

New York State Archeological Association  
THE BULLETIN

December 1954

Number 2.

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Felicitations

The New York State Archeological Association extends its good wishes to Dr. William N. Fenton, who, on July 1st, assumed the duties as Director of the New York State Museum and State Science Service, His appointment fills the vacancy left by the resignation of our past President, Dr. Carl E. Guthe.

Dr. Fenton needs no introduction to most workers in this area. His studies among the Iroquois, which have appeared in various publications of the Smithsonian Bureau of American Ethnology and other prominent journals, are familiar to all. Qua!

Postal cachet cites President-Emeritus of N.Y.S.A.A.

An honor in the form of a special postal cachet, hand-stamped on all letters which passed through the Fishers, N.Y., post-office, was conferred upon Dr. Arthur C. Parker late last March (1954). The distinction was bestowed by the Six Nations of the Iroquois and cited Dr. Parker as "the recognized champion of his people." Arthur Lewis of the Mohawk Turtle Clan is postmaster of the village of Fisher.

The cachet read: "Dr. Arthur C. Parker/Gawaso Waneh/Archeologist-Historian/ Author-Humanitarian/ He Honored His People and is Honored by Them"/. It concluded with "The Six Nations" above which were depicted the Long House, the Tree of Life, a pipe, a turtle and a pair of Indian faces in profile.

Chief Clinton Rickard, president of the Indian Defense League of America, referred to the cachet as "a way in which to say we are grateful for all Dr. Parker has done for us. If any man deserves honor, surely he does".

It was pointed out that the recipient of the citation had organized the Indian Arts Project (WPA); played a key role in the establishment of American Indian Day and served as consultant on Indian affairs under several U.S. Presidents.-CMK

Harrison Colvin Follett

Harrison C. Follett, pioneer in New York archeology, passed away in June, 1954. One among the first workers, he was active in the Seneca country during the early 1900's, together with Frederick Houghton, Alvin H. Dewey, E. G. Squier and others. Instrumental in producing the first maps of many village and burial sites in this area, these, together with his field notes, were liberally used in many writings - including Parker's "Archeological History of New York (1920)".

At one time, during his residence in the Rochester area, Mr. Follett was fire chief of Avon, N.Y. and, at another period, mayor of the same community.

His Seneca studies were followed by work on the Lamoka site and subsequent emphasis on archeology of the Cayuga country, including active participation in the founding and later activities of the Archaeological Society of Central New York, Auburn.

Mr. Follett spent his last few years living with a daughter in Lima, N.Y. During this period he contributed many writings to the Auburn group's publication and frequently visited current digs on the Seneca sites which were the object of his former activities.

#### Membership in N.Y.S.A.A.

Membership in the New York State Archeological Association is open to all, irrespective of residences, who are interested in, and subscribe to, the objects of the Associations. These are stated as promoting "archeological and historical study and research covering the artifacts, rites, customs, beliefs and other phases of the lives and cultures of the aboriginal occupants of New York State up to and including their contact with Europeans; to preserve the mounds, ruins and other evidences of these people; to maintain facilities for the preservation and display of archeological and historical records and materials; to cooperate with the various Chapters of the Association and with all similar organizations in effecting a wider knowledge of New York State archeology and to help in securing legislation for needed ends; Indians, particularly those now residence in New York Staten with the particular end in view that the ancient wrongs and grievances against them may be righted agreeably in accordance with their just desires both as to property and citizenship; to publish papers on the results of field work and research of members or other matters within the purview of the Association".

Both chapter memberships and membership-at-large are available. Advantages to be derived from chapter affiliation are the instructive and social benefits of regular meetings and field trips. All but junior members may vote and hold office in their chapter as well as in the Association and the Eastern States Archeological Federation of which they are automatically members. Even the members who cannot readily attend chapter meetings benefit by the fact that chapters purchase and distribute, gratis, reprints of some papers of special interest from publications not subscribed to by a member. Chapter members also receive the publications of the Association - "Researches and Transactions" as well as "The Bulletin" as issued. Others may purchase publications at the established prices.

Prospective members should write to any of the following chapters for fuller information

Auringer-Seelye: -	Secretary, C.W. Hodgins, 24 Gage Avenue, Glens Falls, N.Y.
Long Island: -	Secretary, John H. Busing, 1285 Pacific Street, Brooklyn 16, N.Y.
Mid-Hudson: -	Secretary, Miss Margaret G. Coon, Mulberry Street, Rhinebeck, N.Y.
Lewis Henry Morgan: -	Secretary, Charles M. Knoll, 120 Coolidge Avenue, Spencerport, N.Y.
Van Epps-Hartley: -	Secretary, Edward J. Sheehan, Old Courthouse, Fonda, N.Y.

Persons interested in membership-at-large should write to Charles E. Gillette, Secretary, New York State Archeological Association, at the New York State Museum, Education Building, Albany 1, N. Y.

#### Recent Accessions: N.Y.S.A.A. Library 657 East Ave., Rochester 7, N. Y.

1. Annual Report of the Smithsonian Institutions 1953.
2. Ritzenthaler, Robert E. "Chippewa Preoccupation with Health". Milwaukee Public Museum Bulletin; Vol. 19, no. 4, 1953.

3. Ritzenthaler, Robert E. "Native Money of Palau". Milwaukee Public Museum Publications in Anthropology. 1954.
4. Handbook of West African Art: Popular Science Handbook Series, no. 5, Milwaukee Public Museum, Oct. 1953.
5. Bulletin of the Massachusetts Archaeological Society: Vol. XII, no. 3 (1951); Vol. XII, no. 4 (1951); Vol. XIII, no. 4 (1952); Vol. XIV, special number; Vol. XIV, nos. 1, 3, 4 (1953); Vol. XV, nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, (1954).
6. Museum Echoes (published by the Ohio Historical Society and at the Ohio State Museum) August, July, 1954, Vol. 27, nos. 7, 8.
7. Minnesota History; Summer, 1954. Vol. 34, no. 2.
8. Rapoport, Robert N. "Changing Navaho Religious Values". Papers of the Peabody Museum of American Archaeology and Ethnology, Harvard University, Vol. XLI, no. 2, 1954.
9. Report on the Foundation's activities for the year ended January 31, 1954: Wenner - Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research Incorporated. 1954.
10. Curry, Hilda J. "Archaeological Notes on Warrick County, Indiana". Indiana. Historical Bureau, Indianapolis, Ind. 1954.

#### More Researches and Transactions out of Print

The stock of twelve more numbers of the "Researches and Transactions" of the N.Y.S.A.A. have become depleted and that of five others lowered to the point that sales must be restricted to members only. Unusually high sales of past issues have been recorded mainly through the efforts of the Mid-Hudson Chapter which entered an exhibit at the Dutchess County Fair and sold 55 copies of various back issues. As a result, Lewis A. Morgan Chapter's treasury was enriched by \$57.00.

Proceeds from sale of all of the early issues, which were financed and published by Morgan Chapter, go into that chapter's treasury. But sales of W. A. Ritchie's "Dutch Hollow" report (Vol. XIII, no. 1), and future members, will benefit the Association's treasury; responsibility of financing and publication was transferred to the Association at the time of the Constitutional revision in 1950.

The accomplishment of the Mid - Hudson group serves as a model of what can be done in the way of presenting archeology to the public, supply new members and help bring in money through sales of publications.

Issues which are now out of print are Vol. I, no. 1, 2; Vol. II, nos. 1,3,4; Vol. III, nos. 1,2; Vol. IV, nos. 1,2; Vol. 5, nos. 2,3; Vol. VIII, no. 3. It is suggested that members mark these OP on the list printed on the inside covers of the latest issue of the "Researches". It is also suggested that members avail themselves of other issues which they do not now possess, especially the following, of which only a limited number are available:- "The Morgan Centennial", Vol. I, no. 3 (8 copies) \$1.00; "Western N.Y. Under the French", Vol. II, no. 2 (1 copy) \$1.00; "A Biographical Sketch of Mary Jamison", Vol. IV, no. 3 (1 copy) 50¢; "Government and Institutions of the Iroquois", Vole VII, no. 1(9 copies) 50¢; "A Prehistoric Fortified Village Site at Canandaigua", Vol. VIII, no. 2 (2 copies) \$1.50. These may be purchased from Morgan Chapter; write Charles M. Knoll, 120 Coolidge Ave., Spencerport, N.Y. and make checks payable to Lewis H. Morgan Chapter, NYSAA. Many were published concurrently by the Rochester Museum as issues of its "Research Records" and copies may still be obtained from that institution.

#### Lewis H. Morgan Chapter News

Alfred K. Guthe, president of Lewis H. Morgan Chapter and a member of the Rochester Museum's division of anthropology, continues his teaching of evening

classes at the University of Rochester's extension section. This year's course, a descriptive study of several American Indian cultures, is entitled "The North American Indian". It treats the tribal cultures representative of various areas within the United States and Canada, with an emphasis on the varieties of adjustment revealed by study of these tribes.

The plight of the Indian tribes in this country causes continued concern to interested individuals and organizations. Godfrey Olsen, a Mid-Hudson Chapter member, has directed his efforts to this problem during the past few months and has been active in bringing it before the Association's chapters and archeological groups of other states as well. Lewis H. Morgan Chapter's secretary was the recipient of a communication from Olsen which treated the problem in some detail with the request that appropriate steps be taken.

One of the objectives of this Chapter concerns itself with the welfare of the living American Indian, as is true of the entire Association. Since this fact rendered approval of the membership superfluous, the secretary communicated, in the name of the Chapter, with Senators Herbert H. Lehman and Irving M. Ives and with the White House, as follows:

July 21, 1954

The President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

A primary concern of the New York State Archeological Association is the welfare of the living American Indian. We request that you instigate and support measures and legislation to

- 1) distribute surplus food to the Indian tribes of this country.
- 2) Expand the educational facilities of the Indians, including an increase in the trailer school programs has been started among the Navajo.

Thousands of tons of food are bursting government storage bins and costing American tax -payers thousands of dollars per hour in purchase, storage and spoilage costs. Such distribution as re suggest would accomplish the dual purpose of reducing malnutrition among the tribes and of freeing us of much of the burdensome expense of storage and spoilage. It is suggested that distribution be administered by the tribal chieftans.

We believe that the time to care for our own people is somewhat overdue. The Point Four Program has done much to raise the standard of living of many countries, some of doubtful sympathy to the ideals of the United States of America. We would like to see the Point Four Program at work in our own Country.

Very truly yours,  
LEWIS HENERY MORGAN CHAPTER, NYSAA  
Charles M. Knoll, Secretary

The response was prompt. Both senators approved of the suggestion and assured us that the views were helpful. Senator Lehman went on to explain that "the Department of Agriculture has in operation two programs through which surplus foods are reaching Indian people. In the states, such as New York, where Indian citizens are related to the state government, surplus foods reach Indians as others through the school lunch program, charity institutions and certain summer camps. In states where Indian citizens' major contact with their government is at the federal level, surplus foods are being made available through the Bureau of Indian Affairs to schools and institutions, both on and off the reservations". "During the current session of the Congress, legislation has been

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passed which provides for termination of federal supervision over certain tribes. This legislation provides for educational programs designed to help Indian people participate more effectively in their own local communities and states. It includes, among other things, vocational training, language work and orientation to non-Indian communities".

The White House letter was forwarded to the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, which wrote the following lengthy summary on the problem, under date of August 11, 1954:

"Your organization will be interested to learn that the Bureau maintains a welfare program on Indian reservations whereby needy families, not eligible for public assistance under the Social Security Act, nor receiving general assistance from their county departments of public welfare, receive general assistance each month to provide for food, clothing and other subsistence items. Indians eligible for old age assistance, aid to dependent, children, aid to the blind, or aid to the permanently and totally disabled under the public assistance programs receive monthly payments through their county departments of public welfare".

"Bureau boarding schools and hospitals are equipped to handle food in bulk and do make use of surplus commodities. Wherever practical, surplus commodities are made available to needy Indian families under our welfare program. However, distribution under the welfare program has been limited due to cost of reshipping from the state receiving center, costs of storing and refrigeration, as well as handling and distribution. In some instances plans have been worked out for tribal officials to assume the responsibility for actual distribution such as on the Navajo Reservation and on certain reservations in South Dakota. Another problem for the welfare program is that it is necessary to order in carload lots and such quantities cannot be utilized on some reservations and the result is the need to plan for storage and sometimes refrigeration. At present we are again undertaking a study of the various factors involved in distributing surplus commodities in an effort to increase, if possible, the use of surplus commodities by needy Indian families with distribution the responsibility of tribal officials".

"With respect to the need for expanding educational facilities for the Indian children, the problem is mostly on the Navajo Reservation and is being met by the Bureau through the Navajo Emergency Education Program which, among other measures, includes trailer schools which you mention in your letter. You may be interested to know that with the approval of Congress, the program is being rapidly put into effect and is progressing satisfactorily. Although present plans include 36 trailer schools under this program, they are considered to be of a temporary nature and may eventually be replaced by permanent structures if the needs of the communities so dictate and funds permit."

"It is the policy of the Bureau to enroll Indian children in public schools wherever possible and to transfer the operation of Federal schools to the public school districts wherever such arrangements can be worked out. To facilitate this transfer of responsibility to the states, the Bureau has been entering into contracts providing financial assistance to public school districts enrolling Indian children residing upon tax-exempt Indian lands. In addition, the Bureau sought and obtained legislation last year which permits transfer of title to the school districts to Federal school buildings and lands no longer needed by the Government, which will be used for educational purposes by both Indian and non - Indian children.

"In some of the areas arrangements have been worked out for pupils in Federal boarding schools to enroll in nearby public schools, while living in

the Federal dormitories. This enables them to attend school with non-Indian children and to continue their education, which perhaps would not be possible if the Federal Government closed the schools entirely and the children were required to return to their families or relatives".

"Where additional facilities are required as a result of attendance of Indian children, the Bureau cooperates with the public school districts in seeking construction aid under Public Law 815, 81st Congress (64 Stat. 956), as amended, the program under which Act is administered by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare".

"We appreciate your interest in the welfare of the Indian people."

Sincerely yours,

(sgd) Hildegard Thompson, Acting Assistant Commissioner.

All are urged to write to the Senators (Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.); as well as to the White House and the Bureau of Indian Affairs, expressing their views on this subject. (CMK)

The week-end of June 5th and 6th found members of Morgan Chapter conducting a dig on the Hummel Site, Bristol Township, Ontario County (Can 2-3). The public was notified through the usual news-dispensing-media-radio and newspaper. Chapter members were mailed rough maps and directions to enable them to reach the site. About 70 people visited the site although rain-clouds threatened during the entire week-end. The attendance indicates the popular appeal of the project. Many took advantage of the occasion to have a family outing. Digging equipment ranged from mason's trowels through garden tools, spoons, trenching tools, rakes and spading forks to shovels.

The site is located on the Joseph Mack property near the top of a hill. It lies on what might be called a shelf just below and to the south-east of the hilltop. Second-growth timber, consisting of hickory, maple and oak, covers the site.

Archeological interest in this site stems from the presence of an early prehistoric Iroquoian occupation. Richard ("Scotty") MacNeish partially excavated the site in 1947 after Harry Schoff called his attention to the nature of material recovered. MacNeish considers the pottery as transitional between that of the Owasco culture found on the Sackett farm near Canandaigua and the Cayuga. Rim sherds, exhibiting Iroquoian-like designs, although they have been executed with cord-wrapped sticks, have been found here. Certain late Owasco pottery types also occur (Cf. MacNeish, 1952, pp 83-4).

Other material recovered include projectile points of the isosceles and equilateral triangle types, trumpet-bowl pipe fragments, mortars, celt fragments, bone awls, needles and bone ornaments fashioned from the phalangeal bones of deer. An unusual find by Lewis F. Allen and party consisted of a perforated stone disk bearing incised markings. The disk is about one inch in diameter. Franklyn Eggleston found a well-polished, double pointed bone awl which was about 6" long.

Much of this artifactual material was turned over to the Morgan Chapter which has placed it in the custody of the Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences as a loan.

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It is possible that this site was occupied for short intervals of time. Possibly part of several years was spent here. Numerous broken mortars suggest that it was visited during the fall when nuts were available. The adjacent hillside contains several springs - demonstrating the suitability of the locations as a camp site. Additional evidence, pointing to a short - time occupancy, is found in the distribution of the refuse. This is visible on the surface and is concentrated in areas which appear to be oval or circular. These contain an ash deposit, fire-broken stones and burned bone. They are shallow in depth. Whether or not these are lodge sites cannot be stated as yet: although postmolds were noted, no definite pattern was ascertained.

There is a conviction that projects of this type can aid the growth of the Morgan Chapter. A few new members were gained. Such projects can also serve to indicate how bits of information recovered can be put together in aiding the reconstruction of an intelligible story concerning our area's prehistory. (AKG)

C. F. Wray had the pleasure of visiting and studying the collection of the Ontario archeologist, Frank Ridley. Various Huron and pre Huron sites in the Georgian Bay region were inspected. Wray writes that he cannot help but "agree to the sequence suggested by Ridley of Lalande to Huron in a direct transition. (Cf. Ridley's "Lalande Huron paper" in *American Antiquity*-January and July, 1952). The finding, this year, of a Webb-Middleport pipe in a refuse pit on the Lalande site associated with Lalande pottery, supports this transition, as do recently found Lalande-type trumpet pipe fragments in an early historic Huron site (again in the middle of a confined ash heap with no indication of stratigraphy)".

"After years of exploring early historic Seneca refuse, I find the comparison quite striking. First one is impressed by the greater abundance of pottery and pipes in the Huron refuse and then one is startled by the lack of certain trade items - glass beads in particular. Though present in small quantities and of the identical types, the Hurons just did not have the trade wealth of the Seneca. Wampum beads are similarly scarcer. Flint arrow points and bone tools, although identical to their Seneca contemporaries, are likewise much scarcer in the refuse. On the other hand the Huron on refuse contained a vastly greater amount of organic material, layers of charred corn, large sections of bark, etc."

"The apparently early historic Huron site known as "Vints Settlement" has produced pottery types strikingly similar to that earliest historic Seneca station known as the Adams site (narrow collared, incised and with shoulder notching). Very little of the true late Seneca notched and barbed rim decoration is present but a fair amount of Cayuga-Susquehanna high collared ware is found. As already pointed out by Ridley in *American Antiquity*, this may be the result of the historic alliance between the Huron and Andaste".

"As on Seneca sites, the ring-bowl pottery pipe is most common. In style it differs slightly from the Seneca in that it is more bulbous (acorn cup shaped) and usually having a ring of dots under the bottom ring. Also, the ring-bowl goes back into prehistoric times in Huronia, while it is lacking in the Seneca prior to 1600".

"The square-bowl pipe with fluted and engraved stem is next most common on the historic Huron sites. It is identical with its Seneca counterpart but much more common".

"The blowing-face and the pinched-face style effigy pipes are relatively abundant in Huronia. They are scarcer and less boldly styled on Seneca sites. Significantly, they do not appear among the latter until about and after the time of the Huron wars. Animal effigy pipes are similar on Seneca and Huron sites but more abundant at an earlier date in Huronia".

A. J. Hoffman and Clarence Fill have excavated some interesting burials on the Boughton Hill (Victor, N.Y.) site. One contained a necklace of French coins.

Wray and Schoff have discovered a new cemetery on the Dann site. There are about 25 graves. Excavations are incomplete.

#### Long Island Chapter

Mr. J. H. Husing, Secretary, reports continued surface searches on farms for Indian material and the hope to locate an undisturbed Orient Focus site.

This Chapter, at its Annual Meeting, October 31, 1954, elected the following officers:

President:	Mrs. Dorothy Raynor, Eastport, L.I.
Vice-President:	Dr. Havon Emerson, Southold, L.I.
Secretary:	J. H. Husing, 1285 Pacific Street, Brooklyn 16, N.Y.
Treasurer:	James Gildersleeve, Mattituck, L.I.

At the same time the Chapter reported the death on April 7, 1954, of its past President, Mr. Charles Goddard, aged 92 years.

#### Mid-Hudson Chapter

The Mid-Hudson Chapter staged an archeological exhibit at the Dutchess County Fair in Rhinebeck during early September. In a 10' x 18' space were shown, in two museum cases, Stone Age implements with their modern counterparts. Artist members of the Chapter painted back panels; one showing pictorially an Indian village site; the other a cross-section of the flint mine at West Cogsackie. Included in the exhibit were blown-up photographs of various local sites, group digs, culture charts and drawings of Indian manufacturing methods, as well as point collections.

Prominently displayed were 17 different "Researches and Transactions"; very kindly sent to the chapter on consignment by the Lewis Morgan Chapter. These were offered to the public at the regular list price. Total sales amounted to \$57.00.

Since the Fair exhibit, nine new members have been admitted. Of the thousands who must have seen the exhibit (local gate is estimated at 60,000) 175 took the trouble to sign the guest book; many of them indicating under a "Comments" their appreciation and interest.

This was Mid-Hudson's second Fair exhibit; the first having been staged two years ago. After two year's experience, it was found that the public is most interested in things local; that the display should not be too technical; that one or more members should be in attendance at all times to answer questions and to interest prospective members as well as to record visitor's leads on new sites and the names of "collectors" together with their addresses etc.

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The project was rated highly successful from the view point of public information and education. It is recommended to other Chapters which might like to try it at Fairs, Sportsman Shows, Hobby Shows, etc.

#### Auringer-Seelye Chapter

Mr. B. Frank Hodges reports that the Auringer-Seelye Chapter has centered its activities mainly on the "exposure and study of our Harris site". Several other areas have been located which afford comparative study. Mr. Wm. H. Rice has partly excavated and recorded an apparently very early site along the Hudson River below Fort Edward. Mr. Hodges is outlining quite an extensive area on the Hudson River above Glens Falls and is testing two other sites, one of which has produced small Lamoka-type points. Comparisons of the tools found on each site seem to indicate an evolution in types and industry which could be expected from occupations with considerable time lapses between, as appears to be the case here: some sites showing no pottery; some but little and considerable on another.

Dr. Francis F. Lucas, a noted scientist, is experimenting with a possible method suggested by time activity and changes in and about post holes as found on several of our sites. However, sufficient work has not been done to enable one to designate a positive resulting method. The purpose of the experiments is to devise a method of dating which can be applied to time sequences of as little as 500 years.

Commenting in particular upon the Harris site, Mr. Hodges has offered the following:

"No complete analysis has as yet been made of artifacts uncovered at this Chapter's Arthur Harris site. That it has been a big station in the past is evident from the area it covers around which was once the shore of an arm of Lake George - the lake now being about three miles away".

"It appears that there may have been more than two strata of archaic occupancy and this summer several small rims of prehistoric Mohawk pottery have been found at one small point on the site showing it's acceptability as a living site to different peoples".

"It is about the stone work so far found of the Archaic pattern that the writer would like to comment on and in particular crystal quartz. Not over two miles away is a worked vein of this which probably was the source but the enormous amount of fractured pieces found in the small area of our digging needs notice for it exceeds all the cherts, chalcedony and quartzite pieces brought on to the site some of it, the blue chert, from a mine eight miles away. It is significant when taken into consideration with the enormous percentage of scrapers of every kind exposed here in relation to points and knives. Scrapers seeming to predominate by three to one. Yet, not a single point or knife of quartz (except one rumored) has been found. The writer has compared the size of the pieces of fractured quartz with all the other types of chert scrapers that have been found and is impressed by the fact that they are all about the same size as the average scrapers; that all seem to have a bevel plane with edges that appear to have been worn by possible scraping".

"It seems to indicate that here was a village engaged in an enormous amount of skin working; that an edged piece of crystal quartz made a better scraper for

skins than the sharp-edged cherts, not being so liable to cut the skin. In the absence of points or knives it seems the only plausible answer for the presence of so many pieces of this quartz within the house sites and around the anvil stones found therein. This possibility is brought out here with the thought that others may have found this preponderance of crystal quartz pieces on sites that have been recorded and would care to write this chapter describing a similarity".

#### Van Epps-Hartley Chapter

The Fall Chapter meeting was held on Saturday evening, October 16, at which Mr. P. Schuyler Miller, President of the Pennsylvania State Archaeological Society, was the guest speaker. Mr. Miller, a former active member of this chapter, presented an outline of the conditions confronting archaeologists in the Monongehela-Allegheny-Ohio River area.

Chapter members are engaged in a "dig" on the Chapin Site. Some of the pottery sherds carry unfamiliar decorations which are the basis of considerable discussion during the weekly Wednesday work-night.

Eight members of the chapter attended the recent annual meeting of the 'Eastern State Archeological Federation at Pittsburgh, Pa.

#### Interesting Items in other Journals

AMERICAN ANTIQUITY, Volume XX, No. I. (July, 1954) contains several items of interest to archeologists in the Northeastern region.

"Trade Goods Research Techniques" - by Kenneth Kidd, is essentially the paper presented at the annual meeting of the N.Y.S.A.A. in Rochester, 1953. It will be remembered that, despite Mr. Kidd's inability to be present, his paper was read. Various problems of his research are discussed; some of the source materials he found and, of course, his bibliography will prove valuable to workers on historic archeology in New York State.

In "The Frank Bay Site, Lake Nipissing, Ontario", Mr. Frank Ridley reports on his findings over a period of years. This site is stratified and eight cultural complexes can be recognized. These range from one containing lamellar flakes (Mattawan complex) through Point Peninsula to contact Huron. His report will provide interesting reading to those concerned with the cultural sequence of the Northeast and to those desiring detailed descriptions of artifacts and pottery found in northern Ontario.

This same issue of American Antiquity also includes two short accounts of interest to us. Fort Massapeag, Long Island, is briefly discussed and a scale drawing is presented by Carlyle Smith. He tells us that this site has been bulldozed prior to building operations. An interesting note on the use of infrared photography in fieldwork may also prove valuable to some.

AMERICAN ANTHROPOLOGIST, Volume 56, No. 4 (part I) - August, 1954. This entire issue deals with work and problems in the Southwest. It contains a collection of papers presented at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association (Tucson, Arizona, December, 1953).

Among the contributions one will find:

1. "Southwestern Archeology - Its History and Theory", by Walter Taylor.

2. "Transition to History in the Pueblo Southwest", by Erik K. Reed.
3. "Some Problems in the Physical Anthropology of the American Southwest", by J. N. Spuhler.
4. "American Indian Linguistics in the Southwest", by Stanley Newman.
5. "Intercultural Relations in the Greater Southwest", by Ruth Underhill.
6. "Southwestern Studies in Culture and Personality", by Clyde Kluckhohn.

Each paper is discussed by one or more authorities on the subject.

Although presupposing an acquaintance with the area discussed, certain articles will be found stimulating to some readers and other papers may interest a few. Various problems and approaches considered exist or could be followed in the Northeast. This collection of papers and the comments of others, with regard to them, well illustrate the many facets involved in an attempt to comprehend the history and prehistory of a geographic and cultural area. (AKG)

Marine shells in the Prehistoric Sites  
On Eastern Long Island, N. Y.  
Roy Latham

This data on marine shells is based on records found in sites, on the eastern half of Long Island, which were occupied prior to the European settlements.

Fifteen species of mollusks were in the diet but only eight species were a dependable source of food. Six species of shellfish were the chief items on the menu of the natives of eastern Long Island.

The hard clam or quahog was first in abundance on all sites examined; the soft clam was second; the scallop third; and the oyster a close fourth. The whelk or conch was used in large quantities during the warmer months.

A summary of marine shells for this period shows no discoidal beads, no wampum; a few partially worked columellae of the whelk; no cups nor other utensils, only five drilled pendants and one effigy trinket. Crushed shell was common in pottery paste. Corrugated scallop and mussel valves were used for decorating pottery vessels. Edges of clam shells show wear from scraping but none are sharpened to a cutting edge: their use is doubtful. Small univalves, which are native far south of Long Island, were imported for beads.

One is impressed by the dearth of articles made from marine shells where the material is so plentiful.

No wampum was found during this period on the sites, although it was very common in the following trade period.

Abstract of  
"The Enigmatic Orient Culture"

By, William A. Ritchie, State Archeologist  
New York State Museum and Science Service

The Orient culture is known only from four burial sites on the eastern end of Long Island and no full account of the excavations of these sites conducted

by the discoverers, Roy Latham and the late Charles F. Goddard, of the Long Island Chapter, N.Y.S.A.A., has ever been rendered. A short summary appears in the writers "Pre-Iroquoian Occupation of New York State (1944) and a brief article by Mr. Latham was published in the December, 1953, issue of "The Pennsylvania Archaeologist".

All four sites are situated on the summits of prominent sand hills and are characterized by large and deep burial pits and in some instances by smaller surrounding pits.

Cremations, probably of bone bundles burned in situ, occur on the pit floors and hearths are also reported. Deposits of grave goods accompany the cremations but also exist apart. The most significant contents of these "caches" comprise intentionally broken steatite pots, projectile points very largely of narrow "fish-tail" type, narrow side-notched spear points, elongate gorgets, rude celts, adzes (some grooved), fully grooved axes, gouges, simple grooved or perforated types of the bannerstone, hematite and graphite paint stones, fire-making outfits, and red ocher.

The stone material of many of the artifacts, e.g., steatite, traprock, slate, graphite and hematite, is not native to Long Island but could easily have come from across the Sound in Connecticut and Rhode Island. Moreover, no definite dwelling sites which have produced the Orient assemblage are known from Long Island, or indeed from New England. A thin scattering of the typical "fish-tail" points, paint stones and steatite potsherds is known from a few surface sites both on Long Island and in Connecticut, and Mr. Latham has found such artifacts beneath certain of the shell-heaps of the later (Sebonic) culture.

For these and other reasons, the writer has surmised periodic visits to eastern Long Island, by groups resident across the Sound, for the purpose of conducting elaborate mortuary ceremonialism associated with a shared Early Woodland period cult of the dead which has been discovered and defined elsewhere in New York State (Ritchie, W. A. "Recent Discoveries Suggesting an Early Woodland Burial Cult in the Northeast" - in press).

Additional firsthand information concerning the characteristic local expression of this mortuary cult in the Orient Focus was obtained in the autumn of 1953 by a State Science Service project directed by the writer at the Jamesport Hill site, where prior excavations had left a partially unexplored portion of a large funerary pit. Two undisturbed deposits of offerings were found. on the floor of this deep structure, the first at 51 inches, associated with charcoal from a small hearth; burned bone fragments, some identifiable as foot bones of the deer and perhaps representing a food sacrifice; five "killed" steatite pots; seven "fish-tail" points; a grooved bannerstone; a fire-making outfit comprising a quartz strike-a-light and decomposed iron pyrites; and several flint chips.

The second "cache", situated about five feet to the east of that just described, consisted of a mass of red ocher at a depth of 72 inches in which a gorget and point were embedded, closely associated with a mass of charcoal and sand suggesting a hearth. Numerous pieces of three steatite pots occurred in and around the black sand together with several unidentifiable bits of calcined bone.

In the general vicinity of both offerings and, indeed, at all elevations throughout the pit fill, although more numerous near the bottom, were scattered

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large numbers of projectile points, several spear points, strike-a-lights, bannestones, steatite sherds, and rarely an exterior cord-surfaced potsherd, affording a convincing demonstration of their probable intentional inclusion in the fill of the grave pit.

The potsherds have their closest parallels with Vinette 1 ware and the few partially restorable vessels found by Mr. Latham show that in the main they were modeled after a steatite prototype, although the temper is coarse igneous grit.

Charcoal preserved by Mr. Latham from another of these sites, and the generous sample from the excavations at Jamesport have kindly been accepted by Dr. W. F. Libby at the University of Chicago, and radiocarbon dates are expected to reveal a period of activity fitting into the transitional zone between Late Archaic and Early Woodland I, the period of first appearance of the northern burial cult, both already similarly dated, from the writers's discoveries, at 3,000 and 2,500 B.C., respectively.

Meanwhile, there remain for solution such enigmas of the Orient culture as the location and nature of the settlement sites; a far more precise understanding of the burial features and practices, including the manner of diffusion of the mortuary cult; the source of the dominant and striking fish-tail type of point (possibly a modification of the slender semilozenge form of the Early Woodland period in the southeastern New York area), indeed, the whole problem of definition of Orient as a "culture" as opposed to its present status as a burial manifestation not, however, of Carlyle Smith's North Beach Focus (Smith, C.D. "The Archaeology of Coastal New York", Vol. 43, Pt. 2, Anthropological Papers, American Museum of Natural History, 1950, N.Y., pp. 135-136), since his recent inspection of the Orient pottery has resulted in the modification of his previous view.

#### A Mailing Suggestion

By folding The Bulletin in half and securing it with a staple, the back of this sheet will serve as a mailing cover.

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