

THE



BULLETIN

July, 1961

Number 22

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Date Lines

The National Bureau of Standards in January set 5760 years as, the new, more accurate half-life of Carbon 14. This is almost 200 years more than the half-life of 5568 formerly used in calculating C14 dates. Without rendering unusable the dates already published, the longer half-life weights the probabilities heavily toward the plus or older extreme. Thus a date given as $10,000 \pm 250$ years, using the longer half-life, is much more likely to be 10,250 years than 9750.

Applying the above information to the date of 9652B. C. ± 600 years obtained from the Raddatz Rock Shelter in Wisconsin excavated and reported by Warren L. Wittry in "Wisconsin Archaeologist", Vol. 40, No. 2, we can see that primal occupation of this site approaches 12,000 years. It yielded an "Archaic" type of material described by Wittry (see NYSAA Bulletin 19) as falling into pattern with that of Modoc Rock Shelter in Illinois which, in its lowest level, using the longer C14 half-life, dates at about 11,000 years. The geology of Raddatz, as interpreted by Robert F. Black, shows that the vicinity became permanently ice-free and non-boreal about 10,000 years ago and soil levels thereafter lie in simple chronological super position. Hence two deductions can be made: (1). an "Archaic" or usufructian pattern of culture was established in the upper mid-west at the same time that the herd-hunting, fluted point making killers of extinct bison were roaming the same region and fluted point makers were camped at Bull Brook, Mass.; and (2) there is no reason in glaciology or cultural distribution why a 10-12,000 year old usufructian pattern of culture did not exist in New York.

Pali Aike cave, at the southernmost tip of Chile, excavated by Junius Bird about two decades ago and one of the first early-man-in-America dates published when the first almanac of C14 dates was released in 1950, has been re-tested. First given an age of 8639 plus or minus 450, it now has been raised to slightly more than 10,000 years, thus adding almost two millenia to the question--when did man have to have entered Alaska to have traversed the length of North and South America by 10,000 years ago?

Another South American date, 16,375 plus or minus 400 years, has been obtained from bone bearing marks of human industry and apparently, associated with an El Jobo (type artifact, a thick, lanceolate point) big-game hunting complex. The excavator was Jose Cruxent, discoverer of the El Jobo complex.

From Headquarters

The Society for American Archaeology held its annual conference at Columbus, Ohio, this year, on May 4, 5, and 6. Though many of the papers were, as usual, in specialized areas of archaeology some made contributions to the elucidation of the main structure of American prehistory. There are, with several individual modifications (see Griffin in this issue) three principal views of this structure. The first is that the Amerind is mainly of Mongol origin and blood and therefore could have entered the New World no earlier than the precipitation, out of a proto-Mongol Asiatic population, of the Mongol proper, at about 8000 years ago. This view is obsolete in so far as it is used as an explanation of the first peopling of this hemisphere but a modification of it has the bulk of Amerind population transferring from Asia to the New World after the Mongolization of East Asia. Don Dragoo's "Archaic Hunters of the Upper Ohio Valley" is a good exposition of this view.

According to the second view the earliest tribes came as big-game or herd animal hunters, the so-called paleo hunters, and from these there culturally evolved the "Archaic" or hunter-collector pattern of subsistence. John Witthoft's Notes on the Archaic Cultures of the Appalachian Mountain Region, "Bulletin No. 21, espoused this view.

The third view is advanced in Brennan's "No Stone Unturned." It holds that the initial habitation of the hemisphere was by people with a non-stone projectile point technology, the diagnostic artifacts of which are chopping tools (usually of pebbles), oval or round bifaces and large spalls used as knives and/or scrapers. These people were foragers, that are primitive gatherers, and they evolved into three different patterns of subsistence; the hunter-gathering pattern we know as "Archaic" or usufructian, the specialized hunter or herd-hunter, and the boreally adopted hunter of the Arctic and sub Arctic.

Though evidence of the chopper., non-stone projectile, forager basic pattern of living posited by Brennan has turned up all over the country, at Tule Springs in Nevada; at Lewisville in Texas, in Witthoft's DeTurk industry, in the state of Washington as reported by Robert Greengo, at the Smith farm site in Maine where it is called the Kelly phase by Douglas Byers, and in the Thumb district in Michigan, as well as in many other places; and though Frederic Johnson has recognized this stage with the name "Unspecialized Lithic," many archaeologists continue to doubt its existence.

Noteworthy testimony to its existence was given at the SAA Columbus meeting as follows:

J. L. Giddings, in the abstract of his "Cultural Continuities of Eskimos" says:

"The earliest evidence (in the Eskimo area, but not Eskimo) thus consists of crude chopper-tools and percussion bifacing, followed much later by notched points, then the microblade-side blade-burin combination---, " etc.

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Jeremiah F. Epstein, in "Paleo-Indian Horizons in Northeastern Mexico", said: "The data indicate that Northeastern Mexico has a paleo-Indian horizon characterized by a heavy biface and chopper-chopping tool industry. These heavy tools do not appear to have persisted into the Archaic and neo-American horizons in the same area. "

(Note: They do persist into the Archaic of the Hudson River and into the ceramic period where they are associated with Point Peninsula pottery. Their accompaniment is the pattern of narrow-bladed stemmed or pinch-stemmed projectile points believed to be proto-Lamokoid.)

Reporting on excavations at a deep, stratified site in Fraser Canyon, British Columbia, Charles E. Borden, at the SAA conference, gives the tool inventory at the C14 dated 20 ft., 6700 year level as: cobble choppers, scrapers, hammerstones, an abrader, chipped knives and lanceolate projectile points; at the 8150 year level as: cobble choppers, hammer and anvil stones, crude and fine scrapers, knives, bi-pointed leaf-shaped projectile points; at the 25 ft. level, not yet C14 dated, as: choppers, scrapers, one projectile point and stake holes.

The first or direct Mongol-immigration view fits one fact of physical anthropology very well--the round-headedness of most Amerinds at the time of white contact. In order for either the second or third views to hold water it is almost imperative that an evolution from distinct long-headedness to round-headedness be accepted as having taken place after America was occupied by Asiatic emigrants.

The contention was put forward in "No Stone Unturned" that Amerind physical types of usufructian (hunter-collector) cultures had indeed become progressively more round-headed, the trend being either because of or accelerated by a soft diet of shell fish, ground or pounded meals of seeds, grains, nut meats, etc, and flesh reduced to easier masticability by cooking in stews, first in caulked baskets and, later, in ceramic pots. In an otherwise friendly review of "No Stone Unturned" in the Pennsylvania Archaeologist that most NYSAA members probably read, editor Vernon Leslie took testy exception to this contention, viewing it as a violation of the axiom of genetics that acquired characteristics cannot be inherited. But this was a complete misunderstanding of the contention. Round-headedness caused by head binding or the use of the cradleboard would be an acquired characteristic and could not be inherited, as the axiom holds. But the round-headedness resulting from a softer diet over millenia is a form-functional adaptation, well illustrated in the porpoise, an erstwhile land mammal so form-functionally adapted to marine life that it can literally swim to death the shark, one of the oldest of marine natives. Form-functional adaptation is the net of two tendencies: the accentuation of that over all form and those organs and limbs which are most efficient in the environment, and the reduction or atrophy of what has subordinate utility. The shape of the human foot seems to be changing in this way, the little toe disappearing and the foot growing longer and narrower. What seems to happen in round-headedness as a form-functional adaptation to dietary softness is that the mechanical pull of jaw muscles is lessened, and not only do they become lighter but the cranium, which is the mechanical structure that supports them,

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does not need to be so thick, nor so long and narrow to sustain the pull. As the cranium lightens, and the cross-cranial tensions lessen, the bone is plastically reshaped by the balance of other forces, one of which is certainly the growth of the brain. It is sometimes forgotten that living flesh is a form of matter like any other substance and is subject, in addition to its own biological laws, to the same mechanical forces and physical laws though these may require millenia to show appreciable effect.

The principles having been set down, the question now in order is: is an actual alteration in cranial form from long to round-headedness observed in Amerind skeletal material? There was testimony to this effect at the SAA meeting.

William S. Laughlin is quoted on the subject from the abstract of his paper "Evolutionary Changes in Eskimos and Aleuts." He says: "The most pronounced change has been an increase in brachycephaly (round-headedness). This is observable both in Greenland and in southern Alaska and the Aleutian Islands.... In addition, there is excellent evidence of short-term plasticity response particularly noticeable in the face of the Angmagssalik Eskimos. The greatest changes appear to have taken place in the areas of greatest population size and antiquity. "

(Particular attention is called to the statement that the "plasticity response" is noted over a "short term." Thus the increasing reliance on a soft dietary staple like shell fish could show an effect in the 4 or 5 thousand years of the building up of the Pickwick Basin shell heaps where, the evidence shows, the population was fairly thick and of considerable antiquity.)

Laughlin also observes "The fact that all skeletal remains from the Eskimo-Aleut area are clearly Mongoloid in distinction to those of American Indians, plus the evidence of population continuity suggests the greater importance of local evolutionary agencies with least emphasis on migration and mixture, and also contributes to the idea of a relatively recent origin of Mongoloid populations."

Marshall T. Newman's paper at Columbus was entitled "Evolutionary Changes in Body Size and Head Form Within American Indian Populations." The following excerpt is from his abstract. "In those New World areas, where the effects of artificial deformation can be largely accounted for, a consistent trend toward brachycephaly is evident. In the eastern United States this evolutionary change was from about 75 to 81 in mean cephalic index over a period exceeding 5000 years. Comparable increases of 5 index units occurred in The Pueblo and lower Sacramento areas. Similar although less certain trends amounting to 2 or 3 index unit increases appear to have taken place in parts of western South America and the Fuegian area. Thus the brachycephalization claimed by Weidenreich to be a wide-spread evolutionary phenomenon in the Old World is paralleled in the New World.

"The exact nature of the evolutionary mechanisms involved in the body size and head form changes is still not clear. Non-genic plasticity alterations (Newman means artificial deformation) however, appear to play only a minor role. Recognition of these dynamics of change in American racial varieties will require methodological adjustments in our current means of studying them."

Whether the plasticity altering factor is a softer diet can be determined only when a series of skulls of soft diet and rough diet people (such as the herd hunters) are available in sufficient numbers over several millenia for comparison. As of now we have one unchallenged herd-hunter skull, that of Midland Man. It is quite long-headed.

Other Gleanings from SAA Conference papers:

Dr. Ritchie (Fellow, NYSAA), summarizing his work to date on aboriginal settlement patterns in New York, concluded: "It appears, therefore, that the potential basis of the clan-structured, long house type of community was present in relatively large villages, with a primary horticultural economy, in New York State as far back as early Owasco times."

Ripley B. Bullen, having obtained a column of congruent C14 dates from shell heaps in Florida, finds that the "Orange", or fiber-tempered, earliest pottery period in Florida and Georgia began at about 2000 B.C. and lasted until 1000 B.C. Bullen says that pottery in the northern United States has been dated to 1200 B.C. and not earlier (though Ritchie has a date on Point Peninsula pottery at about 2000 B.C.). The earliest ceramics traits of northern United States appear at the end of the Orange period in the south. Bullen concludes "Apparently there is no connection between the introduction of pottery in the southeast and its introduction in other parts of the United States."

Point Peninsula extended into south central Canada. Richard B. Johnston has established P.P. affinities for the Serpent Mound there, C14 dated at 128 A.D. plus or minus 200 years.

Correspondence

Your editor has recently had correspondence with Dr. James B. Griffin of the University of Michigan on the subject of the contemporaneity of "paleo-Indian" that is, the big-game, herd-hunting culture with the "Archaic" or usufructian, that is, hunter-gatherer culture--see NYSAA Bulletin 21. Here is Griffin's reply:

My Dear Brennan,

I am going over your typewritten statement here and would like to point out to you that when Ritchie used the term "Archaic" it was not only chronological but it was also a cultural stage, a cultural phase and a cultural level. When the term was picked up in the southeast, the term was not only used to indicate pre-ceramic materials but also was very clearly used to indicate a cultural base or pattern in the terms of the McKern classification which was distinguished from ceramic making, corn growing and more sedentary populations.

My use of the term "paleo-Indian" is restricted to the period before 8000 B.C., more or less, and is applied primarily to the fluted-blade hunters because I sincerely doubt that we have gotten very satisfactory evidence of the existence of another culture type over much of North America. We do have a desert culture concept for whatever that is worth but its existence back at or earlier than the fluted-blade paleo-Indian hunters is something which I have not yet been able to see clearly presented. I would agree with you that the term "paleo-Indian" or "fluted-blade hunters" as I like to call them, are game animal hunting people primarily and that their distribution corresponds to their concentration on this means of economy in the Plains area and in the Southwest and also in the east where it was not necessary for them to be hunting the same types of animals as were available in the Plains.

I prefer to use the term "Plano" for the post-fluted blade types in the Plains for a continuation of the same way of life as the paleo-Indian people up to roughly 2000 or 1500 B.C. In the eastern United States the diversity of environmental potentials

caused the changes which took place following the paleo-Indian styles, and resulted in a considerable diversity of culture types while maintaining common general patterns throughout much of the eastern area. In my terminology it is impossible to have paleo-Indian contemporary with Archaic except in the transitional period when some styles would naturally, as they died out, continue from one level to another. Ritchie's persistence in regarding the Lamoka or Laurentian as Early Archaic is an anachronism in terms of our present knowledge. The Graham Cave site does not have true fluted blades in it but does have the next succeeding level where they should and are associated with Early Archaic forms.

"I do not believe for a minute that the people during the Archaic period were stuck with a single type or pattern of projectile point. Even in Coe's levels there is more variety than you would suspect. There comes to be more variety as one goes up in his stratigraphic column.

"The onset of the Altithermal in the eastern United States, except on the northern borders, is not too important in determining the social relationships between groups. I would agree with you that "Paleo-Archaic" or "Archaic-Paleo" are unsatisfactory and an even worse barbarism than we commit much of the time.

"May I say that Ridley's theory (Bulletin 21) is nonsense. People have toyed with this idea for a long time and I have considerably more familiarity with the Russian and Siberian material than Ridley does. My colleague Greenman has gone off on a binge of North Atlantic movements which leave me completely cold. I am sending you a copy of my little article in Science which was about as good as I could make it at the time I wrote it and also a copy of my article in the Anthropologist.

James B. Griffin, Director Museum of Anthropology."

The reprint from "Science" mentioned by Griffin is from the March 18, 1960 issue, Vol. 113, N. 3403, pp 801-812. Its title "Some Prehistoric Connections Between Siberia and America" sounds somewhat more limiting than the piece is, since it is a pithy survey of northern United-States-Canadian prehistory up to about 500 A. D. It will amply repay the trouble of acquiring a copy, or of going to a library to look it up.

The reprint from "American Anthropologist", June, 1959, Vol. 61, No. 3, Menasha, Wisconsin, is aptly titled "The Pursuit of Archaeology in the United States" and is of special interest because of its exposition of McKern's midwestern taxonomic system.

Also received from Griffin was his "Chronological Position of the Hopewellian Culture in the Eastern United States," Anthropological Paper No. 12, Museum of Anthropology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. \$1. It is of particular interest to NYSAA members because of its temporal placement of Point Peninsula in relation to Hopewell and Adena cultures.

The Gripe Desk

From P. Schuyler Miller, member of NYSAA and half of the archaeological societies in the cosmos, comes the following:

Dear Lou,

"For blanket approval of your distinctly lively and non-parochial approach to the BULLETIN you don't get letters. For leaving out the bibliography to Witthoft's paper, you get a distinct gripe. I trust you didn't know you were going to have to omit it until

the typing reached page 15.

"I have preached for a long time the doctrine that one of the amateur's greatest handicaps is that he (a) doesn't know the literature, and (b) can't get his hands on it when he has heard about it.

"The amateur who wants to keep up with what is being written about the archeology of the area or areas in which he is interested doesn't get exchange publications for nothing, as the pro does. He is extremely unlikely to have access to a library with anything like complete archeological coverage, unless he is in or close to New York, and possibly Chicago, Washington and (maybe) Philadelphia. In my own case, as a Field Associate of Carnegie Museum, I have library privileges as an honorary staff member, but I work from 8 to 5 and the library is open from 9 to 5, so the privilege is hollow unless I want to use vacation days.

"Actually, our amateur may not learn of a pertinent new publication until it is too late to get his hands on a copy. All too often, professional reviews--when they don't come out two years after publication--do not give the price of the publication or the address of the source. Finding the latter is easy if you know how and have a good library in town, but from my book-reviewing I learn that there are small libraries that don't know (or won't be bothered to tell) publishers' addresses; they buy from jobbers. I myself have had the experience of writing to request the price of a publication and getting no answer--presumably because I am not a professional or an institution. I had to wait months to get the Ritchie-Dragoo paper on the Adena dispersal because the New York State Museum hadn't priced the book before publication. The BAE, being strapped for funds, is apparently reducing its print orders, so that a good one like Evans' "Ceramic Study of Virginia Archeology" was exhausted before I learned of it--finally got one from Vince Mrozoski.

"I think I have made my point: bibliographies are especially important to the amateur, who may never learn of important papers and books otherwise. You recognize this with your own abstracts from American Antiquity, et al. May I suggest that in addition to restoring the missing Witthoft bibliography, you try to include a running bibliography of New York State items above all, while they are current and obtainable, and also papers of interest in other journals, such as Pennsylvania Archaeologist, and the Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New Jersey bulletins."

Schuy Miller is, of course, right. No such important piece as Witthoft's should ever appear without a bibliography. The choice of not printing one was editorial only in the sense that the editor has to allot space, and space is what THE BULLETIN is most short of just now. Last year's 58 pages busted the budget and placed the entire financial structure of the NYSAA in jeopardy. For 1961-62 the editor has been given a similar volume of 58-60 pages and this will be possible only if the dues-- are raised \$1. On hand and in prospect is enough material to fill this volume, to say nothing of the reports on developments that will be occurring during the year, since the editor conceives it as his duty to keep the NYSAA membership as widely informed on American archaeology as his time and space allotment permit. The NYSAA membership is now responding handsomely with reports on their work and the size of THE BULLETIN for the next year or so will depend on what the membership is willing to pay for.

A bigger, more frequent BULLETIN can be had by asking for it and being willing to pay publication costs. There are no other costs.

Cloudy Future

It may well be that if certain professionals in archaeology persist in trying to push through state legislatures the kind of stringent antiquities laws your editor has heard about within the last few months there will be no place for state societies of non-professional archaeologists and hence no need for publications like THE BULLETIN.

Professional archaeologist-backed bills that would reduce the amateur to the status of a water-boy have been vetoed, we hear, in Arkansas and Ohio. About the bills that were on the docket in Maine and Massachusetts we have no late word. One bill, as we hear it, would empower the archaeological authority constituted by it to issue licenses to dig at \$50 a site.

As outlined to us the objective of the bills is to bring all digging, even that on private property, under direct state control, with state university anthropology departments handling the administration of the law. It is your editor's inexpert legal opinion of these ill-advised attempts at legislation that they would stand no longer than the first court test. A state may legislate as it pleases for the lands it owns but an extension of its power to control digging on lands privately owned has a distinct odor of totalitarianism. Only a misguided zealot would think in such terms. Where is the distinction to be drawn between violation of an antiquities law and the legitimate use and enjoyment of private property?

The enforcement of anti-digging laws on private land would be a farce, and the results would be to put the responsible non-professional archaeologist out of business while encouraging bootlegging, fakery, looting, and concealment of both artifacts and sites instead of recording and reporting them.

It will serve no useful purpose, as yet, to deal specifically with the promoters of obnoxious antiquities laws. But it must be pointed out that they have adulterated a fine purpose, the preservation of our antiquities for proper excavation and study with an all too evident animosity against all non-professionals. In the real purpose of an antiquities law the non-professional is as keenly interested as the professional, for they meet here on the common ground of scientific attitude. But no bill controlling the search for antiquities is going to gain the approval of state archaeological societies, composed largely of non-professionals, if it does not recognize the existence and acceptably define the prerogatives and functions of those societies, which were founded in the first place to organize non-professional digging as a scientific endeavor.

The bills we have seen would, practicably, place the administration of a controlled digging law in the hands of a single man, certainly a professional and probably one of those who urged the law. What would be the fate of the non-professional in such hands is all too easily forecast. In some instances those who have promoted such bills have tried to proffer backstage assurances to prominent non-professionals that their digging privileges would not be abridged. This kind of politicking can only be condemned. The Republic was founded to be a government of laws, not of men. The prerogatives of non-professionals must be secured by law and not by paternalistic whim.

How fortunately New York stands, for the moment, can only be appreciated by

re-reading in Bulletin No. 6, 1956, the attitude of State Archaeologist Ritchie as expressed in his "Each to the Other," a thorough and objective examination, written while he was NYSAA president, of the proper relationship that should obtain between professionals and non-professionals.

Among other points Ritchie makes is "One hears frequent talk of enacting state antiquities laws to curb wasteful and pointless digging.... I do not think, however, our best solution is to be found in legal sanctions.... I subscribe to the concept of freedom in thought and action, even though the latter becomes more and more of an illusion with the tightening of centralized control correlated with steadily increasing demands upon finite natural resources. But only the aberrant individual can feel free to violate his social obligations to the human community on which he is dependent. " (You should re-read the whole piece.)

The "aberrant individual", that is, the man with law-breaking in his soul, is exactly the man who will pay no heed to antiquities laws. And the most extensive despoilers of archaeological sites, the farmers, sub-dividers, contractors, et al who have a perfect right to destroy sites in the legitimate use of land, cannot be touched by law. Few of us can deny that legislation to curb this kind of devastation is devoutly to be wished for. In the Ossining-Croton area your editor has learned too late of the ruination of four probably major sites, in a total of 50-60 acres, by the bulldozing of subdivision developers. Non-professionals cannot destroy on such a scale as this. It is open to most uncharitable speculation why some professionals overlook this greater evil to attack the lesser one of non-professionalism, if it is an evil at all, since only by educating and using the non-professional can the professional hope to achieve the surveillance and mobilize the manpower to salvage a significant fraction of the prehistoric materials still untouched.

It is a fair supposition that these professionals have not really thought about the preservation of antiquities at all. There is a legal way of protecting them that infringes on the rights of nobody and enlists as unpaid police the largest possible enforcement group, the landowners themselves. If it were permitted by Federal and State statute that a landowner make certain tax deductions for scientific excavation on his land, the landowner himself would see to it that no looting was done. In order to obtain such a deduction, however, the landowner would have to have the amount of the deduction set by State and/or Federal appraisal, probably through a governmental antiquities commission, which would then have more or less control of the kind of excavation done, depending on how the law is written. The benefits of such a law would undoubtedly be that developers and builders would themselves report their uncovering of sites and would re-schedule work in order to obtain deductions through controlled excavation; and in an unpredictable but probably overwhelming number of cases landowners would survey their holdings and report sites, heretofore unknown, asking for excavation. This is not a particularly exotic approach. Buried antiquities are an inherent land value, just as are minerals and oil, and if Texans can claim oil depletion allowances so ought land owners be able to claim antiquities depletion allowances. (Your editor, as a private individual has already written the Hon. Stewart Udall, Secretary of the Interior, about this proposal and you may want to do the same.)

But the above proposal does not solve the problem of who shall be eligible to dig, that is, what is to be the relationship between professional and non-professional. This can be done acceptably only when the legitimacy of state societies which include non-professionals in their membership is legislated and sincerely recognized. The grading,

or classification of non-professional members according to standards of competency and responsibility set or supervised by professionals would be expected as a condition of such recognized legitimacy. New York has made a beginning in such classification by its Fellowship program and in Pennsylvania the Carnegie Museum has organized what is probably the most progressive and fruitful Fellowship program for non-professionals in America, a much wiser attitude than that of the suppression of non-professionals.

How much more in the tradition of true science, which seeks both to learn and to teach, than the prohibitionists behind the ill-conceived antiquities law we have just been discussing does the following quotation from the annual report of the Chenango Chapter show our NYSAA non-professionals to be:

"Individual members have appeared before twenty school, Scout, and adult groups to show slides on artifacts and to discuss Indian occupation of the vicinity. In these programs our Chapter hopes to have improved the general appreciation of the New York State Indian and to have stressed the importance of better preservation of valuable archaeological evidence."

Mammoth

A mammoth femur, rashly identified by your editor as a mastodon femur (he was right about femur anyway) on the supposition that the milieu was right for mastodons and because mastodons are fairly common occurrences on the west side of the Hudson, was turned up in May by a road contractor just outside of Ossining, on State Rt. 134. This seems to be Westchester County's first elephant find. A few days after the femur discovery three ribs came to light and the whole bag was taken to the State Museum.

The locus of the find was a peat bog and there was no chance to excavate since as fast as the drag line scooped up a shovelful the hole filled with water. It was ascertained from the job foreman that excavation was being made only to the level of a gray-blue muck and sand stratum, about three to four feet beneath the present surface of the peat. Brammer, Brennan, and Olafson thereupon searched the shoveled-out muck for datable material and came away with a log (apparently pine) which, if anybody cares to date it, should give an age than which the mammoth could not be older. The muck is evidence of a gentle stream or a pond which occasionally overflowed, and it is presumed that the mammoth sank into the soft bank while drinking and could not extricate himself. The dating of the muck might prove very interesting since the three-foot peat deposit over it does not seem a sufficient accumulation for the 10,000 years that are presumed to have passed since the last elephants roamed the vicinity. For instance, a C14 sampling of peat taken from the 10.55 meter level at Upper Linsley Pond, Connecticut, near this same latitude, has been dated at only 8744 B.P. plus or minus 550. Peat from the 6 meter level at Plissy Pond, Maine, has been dated at 5962 plus or minus 320. The Westchester County mammoth seems to have been resting under one meter of peat at most and re-deposit is not indicated by the geology.

Our Loss

THE BULLETIN is in receipt of the following happy for him, unhappy for the NYSAA, news from Vice-President Ted Guthe:

Dear Lou:

"The big news from this quarter is that I have accepted a new position. I am

moving to Knoxville, Tennessee, this summer. I expect to take on the responsibilities of Director of the McClung Museum, Professor and Head of the Department of Anthropology at the University of Tennessee. The appointment is as of July 1, 1961. I shall endeavor to be there as close to that time as possible.

"I have given long thought to leaving this area but with an offer such as that made me, I felt it necessary for my own welfare and future to move along. I will certainly miss all of you but will see many of the same faces at the various meetings to which I still intend to go. --Alfred K. Guthe"

It will be some time before we can adjust to not seeing Ted beaming avuncularly over a NYSAA symposium. He also sent along a little pamphlet reprint from Museum Service Bulletin of Rochester Museum entitled "Archaeologists Dig into Monroe County History," Oct., 1960. We're wondering whether this will be the last Ted will ever write about New York archaeology.

"In The Looking Glass--Ourselves" *

By Donald E. Lown

Morgan Chapter

For many years people with the same archeological bent as we have spent hours in the field digging, hours over artifacts, cleaning, cataloging, analyzing, drawing conclusions, and writing. Some of the conclusions stand as monuments along our way; some are realized to be incomplete and/or incorrect in view of new evidence (against which all conclusions must be open to be tested).

Throughout the years of activity, the ways and means--the methodology--of our science have been developed through the trial and error (and trial and success) experiences of many persons. Proper methodology does not begin nor end with having carefully dug, recorded, and catalogued. Proper methodology begins as a state of mind. It never ends.

It was Louis Pasteur who said, "Chance favors the prepared mind." His intention is appropriate here since much scientific discovery is the result of chance. One must be in the right place at the right time under the right conditions. The prepared mind is able to grasp as significant those concealed clues which the inexperienced and unknowing may completely miss.

I think that as another digging season approaches it would serve us well for each of us to take stock of ourselves, both individually and as chapter units, inspecting our preparedness. Most of us, I am sure, are familiar with the fundamental principles of basic archeology. But, a periodic restatement and redefinition of some of these ought to be a ritual, "Lest we forget."

I have, therefore, decided to list a set of ideals, basic principles, thought-joggers, or just plain conversation-starters. "They run as follows:

1. Good intra-chapter and inter-chapter communications should be maintained to promote harmony and unity of purpose. We must be able to justify ourselves as groups (chapters) by outcomes which are greater than those which we could produce as independent individuals.

2. Each of us as chapter members should evaluate ourselves critically assuming that as members of an archeological organization: (a) we have a responsibility far above the mere acquisition of artifacts; (b) we should eliminate personal covetousness

*Ed. Note: How seriously most non-professionals take their archaeology, how humble and self-disciplined their approach and how scientific their intent is no better expressed than in the following piece.

and strive for the harmony and hence scientific yield which can be obtained only by selfless, objective, cooperative, scientific research; (c) we should acknowledge the fact that much information may be destroyed by improper methodology. (d) we must seek professional help and/or advice if any, IF ANY, question exists as to how to, why, or what is it. Bear this motto, "If in doubt, call them out!" (does them--the professional archaeologists--good to be able to sneak from behind their desks.); (e) we must seek to obtain and record the complete, accurate story hidden in the ground, for once dug through, that which is not recorded is forever lost.; (f) we should assume that serious study is valueless unless carried to completion. Therefore, all persons doing research should consider it an undeniable responsibility to publish progress reports, findings, and conclusions.

3. Certain practices should be considered. (a) all archeological activities, large or small, should be shared, compared, and added to our cultural accumulation of knowledge; (b) all research which is held to be of a serious or intensive enough nature to warrant exclusive rights to a particular site should be announced to all chapter members (during monthly meetings or via mail along with meeting notices), (c) such exclusive rights should be agreed upon with the land owner. An understanding of the desires and demands of archeological researchers should be fostered in the owner, that he may respect scientific principles and thus deny outside requests to go onto the site, (d) when the specific research has terminated, notice should be given that the site is no longer restricted; (e) exclusive permission on a site is usually done on a seasonal basis. Indefinitely continuous claims to a site ought not to be expected by any person other than an owner-, (f) such serious research should be confined to a single site at any one time; (g) a definite arrangement should be agreed upon concerning the custody of material and the keeping of records when two or more persons cooperate on the excavation of a single site. A prior agreement can prevent later misunderstandings. Some cooperating groups assume that each person should own whatever he recovers. Others agree that all material should be given to one representative of the group. Duplicate records kept in different locations prevents loss by fire, neglect, carelessness, time, etc. The importance of available records cannot be over stressed, (h) and, since we are all striving toward the same goal--the forwarding of knowledge--it seems redundant to assume that we should aid and respect each other's work and encourage cooperative research.

Archeology is more fascinating than any story. The account we are working to interpret is actually history, the lives of people who lived hundreds, even thousands of years ago. The artifacts are merely signposts along the way. They are clues toward the bigger story behind. The artifact is as the top of an iceberg. It is only the visible portion of a much more vast entity which must be explored from many angles to be understood. Each artifact, each post-mold, each bit of charcoal, each inch of soil over the fire pit tells its own story. Each is a single page in this book of history. All the pages must be recorded and interpreted in order to show the whole.

The beauty of the flint, the polish on the bannerstone, the design on the potsherd, the joy of the find are not the ends, but merely the beginnings. Our ultimate goal must be the knowledge of why was it made? how was it used? who used-it? how does it compare with related or proximal tribal artifacts? We must answer the ever constant why, why, why, and how. And how! Happy digging.

Riverhaven Sites #1 and #2
Grand Island, New York

Edward Kochan

Morgan Chapter

During the late fall of 1959, while I was speaking before a Boy Scout Roundtable, a member of the audience commented on finding arrowheads as a boy on Grand Island. Acting on what information he could recall as to approximate location, I spent several days investigating the area. Although covered with a light mantle of snow, the recently plowed fields showed an abundance of flint chips along the protected side of the furrows. Severe winter conditions and heavy snow interrupted further investigation until the following spring, when an intensive surface hunt was undertaken.

The site is located on Grand Island at the confluence of Spicer Creek and the east branch of the Niagara River. It stretches approximately one mile north to south, straddling Spicer Creeks is one quarter mile wide, is bisected longitudinally by the East River Road. The terrain, which encompasses the tiny and very old cemetery of Whitehaven, is fairly level and approximately ten feet above the river level, with a crescent-shaped hollow bordering on the river. While the greater part of the area is under cultivation, the low lying hollow is heavily overgrown and swampy in spots.

Inasmuch as heavy concentrations of similar artifacts were found on extreme opposite ends of the site with the intervening area apparently deficient of artifacts, it was decided for the sake of clarification to call the concentration on the southern border, Site #1 and the northern border, Site #2, with Spicer Creek as the dividing line. Constant discing of the fields led to the establishment of the boundaries of the occupation areas. Field charts and maps were made for future reference.

In addition to the Indian artifacts, Site #1 also produced material such as gunflints, trade pipe, china, etc., testifying to an early occupation by white settlers. Through research into early history of Grand Island, we were able to associate the items with an early village and sawmill called Whitehaven, that was established on the site in 1834, continuing as an active town until about 1840 when the sawmill operations were suspended.

Site #1 also produced an area containing large, crude chunks of dark blue flint. The rock level being quite deep, it is most difficult to associate them with any type of stone strata or formation. They may have been deposited by glacial action although they do not have the smoothed and rounded appearance one would expect. Interesting enough, it doesn't appear to be the same type of flint used by the Indian occupying the site, whose artifacts generally were made of a greyish blue mottled with brown variety of flint.

The crescent-shaped hollow is bordered by the Niagara River and a gentle sloping ridge. The ridge which extends northwest from the river bank south of Spicer Creek, intersects the corner of Site #1 and eventually meets and parallels the East River Road. It then sweeps northeasterly to return to the river bank at the northern boundary of Site #2. The southern section of the hollow is under cultivation while the northern section is heavily overgrown and swampy. It was along the base of this ridge in the northern section of the hollow that we selected to dig test holes in the late fall.

With the kind permission of Mr. John Dietrich, owner of the Property and proprietor of the Riverhaven Lodge for which the sites were named, we dug a long series of sample holes resulting in the uncovering of a midden area along the base of the ridge

in the northernmost section of the hollow. The sickly greyish color of the subsoil leads me to believe that the area had at one time been inundated.

A sample trench 30 inches wide by 24 feet long was dug from the top of the ridge down into the low-lying area. The surface layer, which was heavily rooted and completely sterile of artifacts, was composed of a black, sandy humus soil and ranged in depth from 1 inch at the top of the ridge to 8 inches at the bottom. The next layer, also heavily rooted and ranging to a depth of 6 inches, was composed of a slightly lighter black colored sandy soil heavily intermixed with flint chips and gravel-like pebbles. Bone fragments, several projectiles as well as scrapers and drills were found in this level, along with stone tools and one tiny pottery fragment.

Found beneath this level was an ash deposit or midden, approximately 48 inches across and ranging to a depth of 24 inches from the surface. Composed of ash, reddish brown mottled sand and charcoal specks, the pit was hard packed and very difficult to trowel. It contained bone fragments that were shattered and in poor condition, flint chips, and a few clam shells, but no whole artifacts. The excavated material from the trench was sifted and the ash layer troweled. A sample of ash was taken and at present is being analyzed. Also a detailed sketch was made of the trench and its levels.

Further work in the general area exposed a heavy saturation of flint chips and blanks, indicating either a long or heavily occupied work site. Much work remains to be done to uncover the full scope of the midden area, but once again severe winter conditions halted operations until spring. (1961)

The quantities and varieties of flint artifacts would seem to indicate a heavy flint chipping industry. Although side-notched projectiles are predominant, several of the large, broad triangular types were found as were a few of the stemmed Archaic type. Large, thin triangular blades as well as thin ovate or leaf shape blades are plentiful although most were found broken. Several drills have been found as well as a quantity of scrapers of various types. Numerous other flint items have been found that will require further identification.

Bone is fairly abundant although fragmentary and its poor condition necessitates further study for signs of workmanship. A variety of animals, birds, and fish are represented by the bone, but none appear to be human. To date, no burials have been found.

The hammerstones, sinew stones, net sinkers, and several broken celts that were found were predominately of the various pebble stone variety.

Pottery is extremely scarce. Several small potsherds, which I believe to be Early-Middle Woodland, have been uncovered although no rim sherds have been found to date.

We hope to resume work on the site this spring as early as weather permits and will report on its scope and progress as it is exposed.

A Fishing Village on Oak Orchard Creek--0od 6-3

Stanley Vanderlaan

Morgan Chapter

A short distance upstream from Lake Ontario on Oak Orchard Creek is the remains of probably the most heavily occupied prehistoric fishing village in Orleans County.

The site is located on low ground and for many years part of it was used for gardening purposes. It was on this part that in 1958 the writer, assisted by my father, Jacob Vanderlaan, attempted to obtain sufficient archaeological materials to determine what culture and at what time Indians had lived here.

Surface material consisted mostly of netsinkers, there being 200 found by the writer amid scores more given away by the land owner. Dick McCarthy, of Lockport, reports that he has surface hunted here and found over 400.

Three five-foot squares were excavated near what would have been the center of the small village, which covers only one quarter acre. Each of these squares yielded 85 to 97 sinkers. On several occasions two or three dozen would be found together in little pockets. This suggests caches, but they may have been kicked or trampled into abandoned fireplaces or natural depressions. These sinkers were uniformly scattered in other areas. Charcoal was in abundance, sometimes found in pieces 10 or 12 inches long. Depth of the occupation zone varied from 13 to 20 inches. Below the plow line fish bones were found in abundance, as well as turtle and a few small pieces of large bones, probably deer. Fresh water clam shells were also in evidence. Flint was scarce, there being no complete flint artifacts found. Several fragments of points were found, but these were too small to be identified as to types. Three pieces of celts were found and one oval-shaped, water-worn lake stone shows evidence of having been used as a hammerstone, as one side is pitted. Apparently it had been used also for making net sinkers as its edges are battered nearly all the way around.

A total of nearly 600 netsinkers are in the writer's possession from this site and we estimate at least 10,000 are still there. They are mostly oval shaped lake stones and range in size from two to four inches across the long way. One straight pipe stem and two pieces of pipe bowls represent the pipe industry here. Of two pounds of pottery found, nine different pottery vessels are represented. These generally are decorated by diagonal opposed lines. One piece of pottery, which was found at the extreme depth of our digging, obviously belongs to a much older culture, probably Point Peninsula. This was, however, the only evidence of another occupation. All the remaining designs were made by incising.

While the pottery design, in some instances, resembles the Shelby Fort material it is not similar enough to think that this was a Shelby fishing village. It probably fits somewhere in time between Shelby and Kienuka and can be classed as prehistoric Western New York Iroquois.

(See next page for illustrations.)

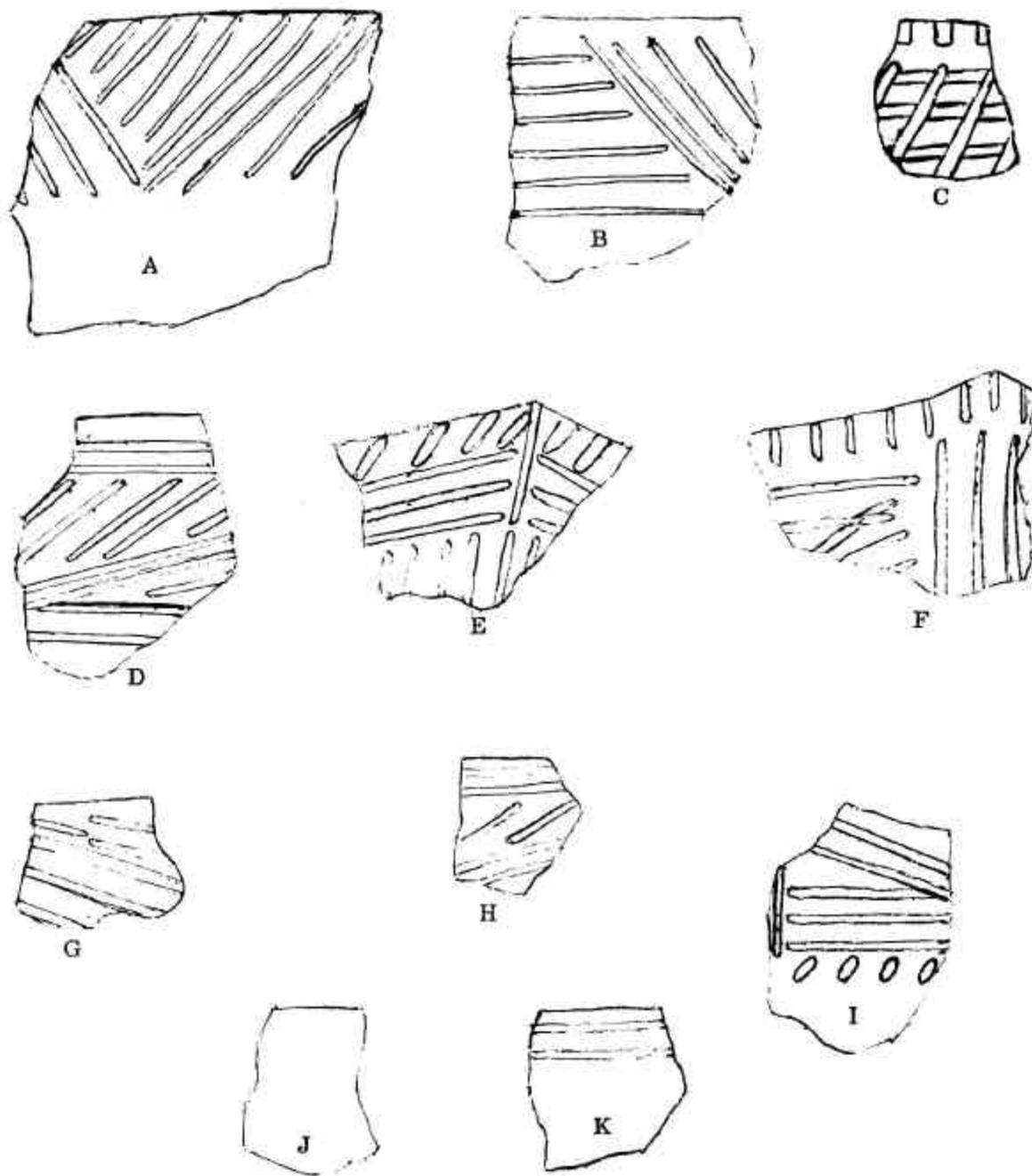
An Approach to Iroquois--White Acculturation Through Archeology

Charles F. Hayes, III

Morgan Chapter

During the 1960 field season the Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences and members of the Lewis Henry Morgan Chapter, New York State Archeological Association excavated at the early 19th century Orringh Stone Tavern site in the town of Brighton, N.Y. Work was begun at the request of the Society for the Preservation of Landmarks In Western New York, which eventually hopes to restore the grounds and the structure still standing as a private home (Guthe 1960:126). From the 1790's and into the first quarter of the 19th century this tavern was a popular stopping place for early travelers entering the Genesee country.

Pottery From Ood 6-3



A & B may belong to the same pottery vessel
 Note castellations on E and F
 J is a piece of plain pipe bowl
 K is a decorated piece of pipe bowl

The initial archeological investigation was designed to locate the outbuildings that may have stood at this time. In the course of excavation of an adjoining field an abandoned refuse-filled well, 7' deep, later possibly used as a storage structure, was unearthed. After what appears to have been an intense fire, the entire feature was filled with earth and some refuse. The valuable contribution of the artifact assemblage, dated approximately 1790 - 1830, is that it provides comparative data which may aid the anthropologist in assessing Indian-White acculturation during the latter part of the 18th century and the first quarter of the 19th. This was a period of severe stress among the Iroquois because of the transition from their former villages throughout the Genesee region to reservation life. The guiding definition of acculturation for the study will be that set forth by the Social Science Research Council in 1935 which states that "acculturation comprehends those phenomena which result when groups of individuals having different cultures come into continuous first hand contact, with subsequent changes in the original culture patterns of either or both groups" (Linton 1940:463-464).

One of the sites upon which the comparison can be based is the Sackett site occupation in Ontario Co., N.Y. presumed to be the Seneca village of Kanandaigua which was burned by General John Sullivan on September 10, 1779 (Ritchie 1937:35). Two pits and one burial were excavated here which contained colonial material. These features were superimposed upon an Owasco village. The second site is the Canawaugus site near Caledonia, Livingston Co., N.Y., which existed as a village in the last quarter of the 18th century and became part of the reservation of the same name after the Big Tree Treaty of 1797 when the Iroquois gave up their land titles except for certain areas. Refuse pits and six burials were uncovered yielding a wide variety of artifacts. The third site used is the Big Tree Farm occupation. This was a Hopewellian mound with a superimposed Seneca cemetery near Genesee, Livingston Co., N.Y. and dated approximately 1770 (Ritchie 1938: 120). Refuse pits and burials were also represented here.

The artifacts were chosen from those existing in the Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences. They were excavated by Dr. William A. Ritchie, formerly of the Rochester Museum. In order to maintain as strict control over the data as possible, only material documented by the excavator as having come from refuse pits or burials was used. Artifacts from the topsoil were eliminated from the detailed trait tables, although reference may be made summarily to them in a general manner indicating any similarities or differences in types,

The first step in sorting the artifacts involved the construction of a standard trait table and the listing of the artifacts by categories of materials such as bone and antler, metal, organic, and chipped stone. The initial table is detailed to the point of listing measurements and varieties within major traits. This working table will eventually be consolidated to show only site, short description, trait; and frequency data. Photographs have also been made of the artifacts with both Indian and White material on the same picture for comparison. Although some items known from other Iroquois or White sites of the same period may not be represented in these particular sites, this, of course, does not mean an absence of the artifact in the Genesee area. The major purpose of the trait distribution table will be to indicate the apparent high degree of acculturation favoring the adoption of White trade goods.

The following listings extracted from the detailed trait tables give an indication of

the major artifact types studied and their dispersal among the sites studied.

Distribution Listing

1. Present only at Stone Tavern (White) Site:
 - Metal - European origin--cuff links, door latches, horseshoes, spade, spigot, pewter spoons.
 - Fauna - chicken, cow, passenger pigeon, raccoon, grouse, raven, rattlesnake, shad, sheep*,
2. Present only at the three Indian sites:
 - Bone and Antler - Indian origin--beads, combs, phalangeal ornaments, pipe, punches.
 - Ceramics - European origin--china
 - Indian origin--clay pipes, pottery
 - Chipped Stone - Indian origin--perforators or drills
 - Glass - European Origin--mirrors
 - Metal - European Origin--awls, axes, bangles, bracelets, bridles, brooches, crosses, earrings, file, gun part, hooks (kettle), hoops (barrel), keys (watch), necklace, projectile points, rings (finger), (harness), spring (small)
 - Polished Stone - European origin--beads
 - Indian origin--celt, healing stone, pipe (Micmac)
 - Rough Stone - Indian origin--muller
 - Miscellaneous - European origin-- textiles
 - Indian origin--gourd containers, wooden ladles, shell beads
 - Fauna - grouse, horse, muskrat*
3. Present at Both Indian and White Site:
 - Bone and Antler - European origin- -buttons; combs
 - Ceramics - European origin--pottery, kaolin pipes.
 - Chipped Stone - European origin--gunflints
 - Indian origin--blanks, projectile points
 - Glass - European origin--beads, bottles, glasses, window panes
 - Metal - European origin--buckles, bullets, buttons, chains, coins Jew's harps, kettles, knives, nails, pins, scissors, thimbles, tubes.
 - Fauna - deer, pig, squirrel*

*Bone identification courtesy of John E. Guilday, Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, Pa.

What is expected from this study? As the analysis of the artifacts goes on, the following questions are continually posed: Trait for trait how do the Iroquois sites compare with the White? Were the Iroquois and the settlers selective in their use of materials? What were the economic, social, political, or environmental reasons for the acceptance or rejection of a particular item by either White or Indian? What are the traits that undoubtedly will be lacking in the archeological record that should be considered?

On the basis of the preliminary investigations it is evident that, trait for trait, the amount of assimilation by the Iroquois of White utilitarian and ornamental materials was high. Furthermore, judging from the considerable amount of native Iroquois material (currently deposited in the Rochester Museum) that Lewis Henry Morgan collected in the middle of the 19th century, the degree of persistence of some items not so readily discarded will open a new field of investigation.