

THE



BULLETIN

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LET THIS BE THE YEAR

This issue should be in the hands of NYSAA members in time to remind you to pack for the Annual Meeting at Glens Falls on April 7-8 with Auringer-Seelye Chapter as host. At the time of writing, however, we had received no information about the program and therefore cannot say what kind of papers are wanted or to whom they should be submitted.

Let it be said here that if THE BULLETIN is the skeletal structure of the NYSAA, these annual meetings are its flesh and blood. Printed matter is pretty dry stuff when compared with the face-to-face communication of the people who have questions to ask and the people who can, if not answer, at least respond to them. Whether an annual meeting is successful depends not alone on numerical attendance but on the animation of those who attend. The more people attend and the more they attend in the spirit of having an archaeologically good time, the more enriching an experience an annual meeting can be. Attendance should not be conducted as a mere sitting and listening, a waiting to be impressed. It certainly imposes an obligation to react and to express. The best paper in the world is hardly the beat paper in the world until it gives rise to discussion worthy of its merit. Papers are written to evoke, not to tranquilize.

The annual meeting is convened not only for the transaction of necessary organizational business but as an archaeological market, where ideas (not artifacts) are freely exchanged, and everybody goes home richer in knowledge than he came. It has long been the suspicion of the editor that our annual meetings are not more widely attended because there exists a feeling that the atmosphere may not prove to be congenial. The recent practice of holding annual meetings in smaller, less formal communities, rather than in the intimidating splendors of public edifices like the State Education building, has dispelled the circumstantial stiffness. No other stiffness ever existed. The professionals among our membership have always been approachable and responsive. The "old hands", those non-professionals who have earned places for themselves in archaeology, got to be old hands by talking archaeology with anybody willing to speak the language--or to listen to it. Those who have never attended an annual meeting before need not fear for any lack of fraternization. They have only to declare themselves in.

We have never had an annual meeting that drew an attendance of 100. Let this be the year.

NOTES and NEWS

*Julius Lopez, Fellow of the NYSAA, and a contributor of work of permanent value to Eastern Archaeology, died on December 5. He was the zealous spirit behind much of the salvage archaeology done in the urbanized environs of New York City, and there is nobody who can adequately take his place. The founder and executive

director of the New York City Archaeological Group, he undertook the thankless task of making what still could be made of the vestiges of aboriginal occupation left in one of the most intensively developed locales in the world. He had already made much of it and certainly would have made a great deal more had he been spared. Your editor, who considered him a friend, once asked him why he did not attend NYSAA Annual Meetings, where he could have contributed so much in enlightenment and in camaraderie. He answered that he always meant to, but at the last minute yielded instead to the temptation to go digging. He would, he told me, get around to attending meetings when he got a little older. There was so much digging to do, he said. He dug and he wrote, and what he accomplished, as well as the fine man he was, will be long remembered.

* Subscribers to *American Antiquity* may already have noted that one of the signatures to "Four Statements for Archaeology," a manifesto on methods, ethics, and standards for archaeological work, is that of Sigfus Olafson of the Mid-Hudson chapter. Since the eleven-man committee which wrote the statement did so at the official direction of The Society for American Archaeology, Mr. Olafson's membership on the committee bears witness that he is one of the best-known and most highly respected non-professionals in the country. Permission is being sought to publish the manifesto in THE BULLETIN.

* It was by way of a joke that your editor asked Dr. Marian White at the Eastern States Archaeological Federation meeting at Williamsburg, to her face, "What ever happened to Marian White?"--the implication being, why hadn't she been writing anything printable lately. Whatever she answered then, the squelch complete did not come until the editor's return from Williamsburg, when he found in the mail a fat (155 pp) volume "Iroquois Culture History in the Niagara Frontier Area of New York State," No. 16 of The Anthropological Papers of The Museum of Anthropology, University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, \$2) by, of course, Dr. Marian White, Fellow, NYSAA. This is her doctoral dissertation, and a reputation-making piece of work it is. While arrangements are being made for a full-dress review by one of our Iroquois specialists, the following quotation from Dr. White's conclusions will have to serve:

"The chronological framework for the Niagara Frontier Region appears to be on a firm footing. The differences in the attributes and attribute combinations of pottery, pipes, projectile points, and settlement pattern support the same arrangement for the sites in this order: Oakfield, Kienuka, Shelby, Buffam Street, Eaton, Goodyear, and Green Lake. Under the assumptions made at the beginning of the study these differences are the result of temporal differences, and the arrangement is the chronological one from early to late."

*Peter P. Pratt, archaeologist for the Fort Stanwix Museum, is offering for sale through the museum an Oneida glass bead sequence from 1585-1745, including French, English, and Dutch types. The photographs are in color. Address: Fort Stanwix Museum, 117 Dominick St., Rome, N.Y.

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*Permission has been requested by and granted to The Arkansas Archaeological Society to reprint "The Percentage of Recovery in Salvaging Beads from Disturbed Burials" by Robert Graham and Charles W. Ray (NYSAA Bulletin No. 23) in their January Newsletter, John Witthoft's "Notes on the Archaic Cultures of the Appalachian Mountain Region," NYSAA Bulletin No. 21 already reprinted in the Maryland Newsletter in the spring, is scheduled for another reprinting, this time in the New Hampshire Society's periodical.

*A bibliographical reference for Iroquois specialists, submitted by Dr. Ted Guthe (Fellow, NYSAA) before he left for Tennessee is the following: "Saint Among the Hurons" (biography of Jean de Brebeuf), Image Books, Doubleday and Co., Garden City, New York, 1956.

*New York was represented at The Eastern States Archaeological Federation Conference at Williamsburg, Va. a by two papers. They were Jerome Jacobson's "Archaeology at Tottenville, Staten Island," (see Bulletin No. 23) and L. A. Brennan's "Archaic and Paleo: Concept and Terminology."

* Marshall Seelye of Auringer-Seelye Chapter brings our attention to a new phase of archaeological malfeasance, poaching, with the following submission to The Bulletin:

"We hear about many kinds of delinquents-- child, parental, tax delinquents. I would like to bring to your attention another kind, the collectors who pretend to be archaeologists.

"Having obtained, from archaeologists, knowledge of a site that has produced materials or promises to produce, they take themselves to it forthwith, working in parties. While some walk about, looking things over with a scholarly air, the others go to work digging, picking, and collecting.

"It is always a site being dug legitimately by somebody else that they plunder. Grid stakes are pulled up, trenches are dug or caved in, fire hearths are scattered, and burials are desecrated. Weeks and months of hard scientific labor are undone. Irreplaceable knowledge is lost; the value of the site itself is lessened.

"In Merry Old England poachers were severely dealt with, as were claim-jumpers in the Old West. Unfortunately there are no archaeological police to enforce good behavior, but there is a tradition of ethics that considers even a tent pitched in the wilderness secure in its privacy.

"The archaeological code among professionals and non-professionals alike is that nobody enters the site of another unless guided by the one digging it. Those who do not observe this code should be shunned and, if necessary, exposed."

*An archaeological problem of another kind has been energetically attacked by The Frederick M. Houghton Chapter, which has sent the following account:

"The encroachment of industry, roads, and homes on known or suspected Indian sites is a prime source of irritation and frustration to all archeologists. The Frederick M, Houghton Chapter of the NYSAA has in some small measure taken action to help prevent the needless loss of such artifacts and attending data.

"The public announcement in Buffalo newspapers that twenty new park sites have been okayed in the Western New York area prompted the executive board of the Chapter to devise a plan to monitor any chance contacts. Since picturesque locales along creeks and streams with natural features intact were logical choices, probability seemed high.

"A master map on which these sites were superimposed was the first step taken. Next, a search was instituted to glean any previously documented archeological "Information" on the suspect areas. All data pertinent to a specific location was then recorded on a series of file cards. Volunteers were recruited at the regular monthly Chapter meeting and assigned the responsibility to watch for any activity at those locations most convenient to their homes.

"Instructions were given to look for signs in upturned tree roots, bulldozed, scraped, and plowed land. Volunteers were encouraged to contact town halls, planning boards, and workers on the sites, asking to be made aware of any finds. Field notes and photographs are to be made and reported on. Promising finds will prompt further action from the membership. With the network of observers alerted to the possibilities, hope is running high that the plan will bear fruit.

"The ambitious New York State parks program being currently instituted is opening up the same opportunity to other Chapters. We trust that these chances to amplify existing information are not being overlooked and wish everyone 'good hunting'."

THE ARCHERY RANGE SITE, A PRELIMINARY REPORT

Edward J. Kaeser

Long Island Chapter

The prime objective of the writer in his investigations in the area here reported was the attempt to determine a direct association between historic reference to the sale of land by the Siwanoy Indians at a specific location in Pelham Bay Park, County of the Bronx, and the possibility of pin-pointing the sellers last camp site before their evacuation, thus establishing definite material culture traits by analysis of the artifactual remains for the transitional Dutch, English, contact period.

Turning to the meager historical references relating to the Indians who inhabited or claimed ownership of this area once known as Pelham Neck, the Reverend Robert Bolton¹ (1 Bolton, 1881, vol. 2, pp. 34-5) recorded the hotly contested purchase of the northern end of what is now Pelham Bay Park, the adjacent islands and a portion of southeastern Westchester County on November 14, 1654. The land transaction entered into contract Thomas Pell of Fairfield, Connecticut and the Siwanoy chieftains Maminepoe and Wampage, alias Annhook. The latter individual is reputed to have been the Indian who personally killed the religious refugee, Ann Hutchinson, during the Indian vendetta against the Dutch eleven years previous to the Pell purchase² (2 Ibid, p. 33). Traditionally, the land was sold and Thomas Pell became first Lord of the manor of Pelham below the branches of the so-called Pell Treaty Oak which grew a few hundred feet from the west entrance of the present Bartow mansion.

Bordering the salt marsh, south of the mansion, evidence of Caucasian occupation has been discovered. Some of this material, of European manufacture is presumed to antedate Pell's arrival, and if these remains are proved of an earlier date, they are unquestionably that of the British homesteaders who were granted land in the vicinity by the Dutch government of New Amsterdam.

Indians were probably still residing close to the site in 1675 when those living on "Mr. Pell's land" were ordered by a General Court of Assize to surrender all canoes to local constables and retire to their winter quarters at Hell Gate. This order was designed to prevent the local Indians and those of Long Island from reinforcing King Philip in their war against New England³ (3 Ibid., p. 36).

The northern end of Pelham Bay Park retains much of the forest and unchanged shore line that once housed a considerable prehistoric Indian population. The kitchen middens of these vanished peoples are found on the chain of knolls rising above the salt meadows and lithic evidence of their presence in a bygone age is occasionally recovered from the beaches.

The area under investigation, designated the Archery Range site, is situated on the crest of a small rocky knoll approximately 300 yards north east of the Pelt Treaty Oak. The east face of the knoll is set back 75 feet from the water's edge, rising steeply to its highest elevation about 20 feet above high water and overlooking a tidal creek dividing the mainland and the westerly shore of Hunter Island.

The knoll and circumjacent woodland at present supports a fair stand of hickory, elm, walnut, and locust trees. In the low areas are found the edible wild plants, burdock, broad-leaved cattail, carrion flower, pokeberry, and cinnamon fern. Black berries, wild strawberries, elder berries, and the black or rum cherry tree are found in and among the patches of briers growing down to the water's edge. Dogbane, or Indian hemp, is found in the sunlit clearings. The numerous land snails, (white lipped polygyra), found in the midden refuse attest to the sites heavily wooded situation in aboriginal times.

In the autumn of each year large rafts of ducks and Canada geese settle on the water and tidal flats fronting the site. In the warmer nesting season broods are raised by ducks, who take up residence in the salt marshes.

Small mammals commonly seen in the park lands are cottontail rabbit, grey and black squirrel, skunk, opossum, and raccoon. On rare occasions, deer have wandered or were driven into the area from Westchester County.

It is assumed that the site, when inhabited by the Indian, presented a well-drained warm weather dwelling place. The neighboring bay waters and forest afforded, an unlimited food source of both mollusk and waterfowl and, as excavations prove, an ample supply of small and large game.

The abundance of streams of potable water must have been a well-known feature, to attract the many camp sites that ring the shoreline of the park. There are two streams of fresh water 50 yards north of the knoll. One of these streams emerges from the Split Rock golf course lying west of the site, runs the length, of a shallow gully and empties into the salt water. This heavily silted stream produces an unfailing water source even during the driest parts of the year.

From the open water of Long Island Sound the knoll is screened from view by Hunter and Twin Islands, yet, the occupants possessed an unobstructed panorama of the islands and inshore bay waters, whence the movement of a hostile traveler could easily be observed and the family groups alerted to defense or flight into the surrounding forest.

The knoll and encompassing slopes comprising the site has long been known to collectors, and its pitted surface bears witness to thus fact. Many small, scattered concentrations of Indian camp refuse have been exposed and dug out on the north and south slopes bordering the knoll and also throughout the flat meadow to the west which forms the main archery field area. Unfortunately, no published accounts are available describing the cultural material or pertinent data recovered by the previous excavators.

During the course of two seasons of investigation, June 1957 to November 1958,

fifteen straight and L-shaped exploratory trenches, 6 to 9 feet in length by 3 feet in width, were cut into areas of the knoll showing least modern disturbance. Below the sod and topsoil, a compact black carbonaceous midden stratum was traced, mantling an area roughly 5,865 square feet in area, containing whole and crushed hard clam and oyster valves, split animal bone, fire-cracked stones, and waste shop flakes. It is probable that human vestiges occur well beyond this lateral spread.

Top soil and midden thicknesses varied considerably throughout the excavated area, as expected, due to the undulations in surface contour. Natural depressions caused by the uprooting of trees, and catch basins formed by eroded hollows in the sub-surface schistose bed rock held the heaviest concentrations of midden debris and humus overburden. The refuse stratum ranged from a maximum of 12 inches to a minimum of 3 inches in thickness. The thinnest strata mantled near surface bed rock capping the apex of the knoll, hindering the deep rooting of shrubs and dense weeds which would normally hold the accumulation of humus and midden material from wind and rain wash. The yellow, sandy sub-soil, when appearing undisturbed, was excavated at least an additional 6 inches in depth or to bed rock to insure the recovery of intrusive, artifactual material.

Thus far, the trenches have yielded a sample ceramic collection totaling 1,120 sherds assignable to the East River tradition⁴ (4 Smith, 1950, pp, 116-129), and 7 presently indeterminate sherds. Divided into two groups on the basis of temper, 1,111 sherds or 98.6 per cent contain grit as the tempering agent ranging from microcrystalline quartz and/or micaceous grit to coarse angular quartz particles or plates of mica. The remaining 16 shell tempered sherds, 1.4 per cent contain flakes of crushed scallop or possible oyster shell as the aplastic.

Of 612 or 54.4 per cent sherds of the type Bowmans Brook incised, 602 are fine to medium grit tempered, and the remaining 10 sherds contain shell. Following in type frequency are 396 East River cord-marked sherds, 35.1 per cent. Three hundred ninety-one of the latter contain medium to coarse grit, the remaining 5 are shell-tempered. There are 103 very small sherds, 9.1 per cent not attributable to definite known types due to their small size and obliterated surface finish; however, all bear paste characteristics of the East River tradition. The type Clasons Point stamped is represented by 6 medium grit-tempered sherds, 0.5 per cent. Completing the list of East River sherds are: 3 medium-grit tempered Bowmans Brook stamped, 0.3 per cent; 6 plain-surfaced, interior-brushed, grit-tempered sherds, 0.5 per cent; and 1 sherd bearing triangular punctations on the exterior surface containing coarse quartz particles, 0.1 per cent.

The yield of stone artifacts from the trenches has been small indeed. One stemmed and 7 equilateral and isosceles-triangular projectile points were recovered. In addition there are 3 chipped blanks. Rough stone artifacts include 5 notched pebble netsinkers, 2 oval pitted hammerstones, 2 plain oval and 1 bell-shaped hammerstones, 1 combination pitted anvil and hammerstone, 1 notched maul, 1 fragmentary abrading or whetstone, and 5 amorphous fragments of limonite found in a cache, (trench #7).

Resting on bedrock underlying trench 15, a crude micaschist slab-lined crypt was discovered containing the fragmented, bundled bones of a child approximately one year old. The remains consisted of the calvarium, section of left mandible, germs of deciduous teeth, fragments of ribs, vertebrae, long bones, and pelvis. From the discolored matrix of the burial, 2 sherds of East River Cord Marked, 1 Bowmans

Brook stamped sherd and 1 tip fragment of a projectile point were recovered, all believed to be intrusive from grave fill slump as covering stone slabs settled on osseous remains.

One shallow, bowl-shaped pit containing a compact mass of scallop valves and charcoal particles sterile of artifacts was found in trench 11.

The complete absence of European contact material and the predominance of the ceramic type Bowmans Brook incised bracketed by a mere token occurrence of the chronologically early Bowmans Brook stamped and later stage Clasons Point stamped sherds suggests a late prehistoric habitation.

The practicability of contained investigation of the Archery Range site is twofold. First, the site, though extensively disturbed, will not be totally obliterated by construction due to its location on park property. Second, the artifactual remains recovered will help in the determination of cultural kinship to other known sites in coastal New York yielding comparative data.

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THE SAGA OF THE SITE, SAR-A-TA-KE

Fred Stevens

Auringer-Seelye Chapter

The River Indians' name for this locality, meaning "The Track where the Heel Shows," derives from the series of shallow pot-holes appearing then in the bed-rock of the creek at the foot of the last fall before its junction with the Hudson River. The Indians of a later era called the site, "The Place of the Herrings."

Presumably, in the Archaic epoch, small parties of people came here intermittently and over a long time--span, ever increasing in numbers, each group of new-arrivals bringing with them new methods, ideas, improved tools and weapons for their survival. As weather conditions became more agreeable, they settled in a kind of permanency and, following the pattern usual to the northeast, camped on the upper terraces of this Site, Numerous crude artifacts of the Archaic Age have been found on the higher ground of this site by surface hunters.

It was a most desirable site from the Indians' point of view. The water trails led to all points of the compass, with short portages; food resources consisted of the thriving deer herds of the River flats together with the abundance of small game, an inexhaustible supply of several species of food fish, easily caught; water-fowl and wild pigeons whose flocks hid the sun from view; the vegetal foods of the swamps and upper terraces, wild fruit, nuts, roots, and sugar trees. Drinking water from the many springs was in ample supply. Park-like forests spread as far as the eye could see, providing bark for their lodges and plentiful wood for their camp-fires. Near by were sources of flint and quartz for tools and weapons. Clay of the river-banks was suitable for pottery. The location was well-sheltered from the prevailing winds. A Swedish naturalist and his Indian guide paddling their canoe up the river early in the eighteenth century marveled at the beauty of the upper river valley and at the

bountiful supply of nature's goods. Is it any wonder that the Indian, too, was attracted to this place.

About the middle of the Woodland epoch the Indians moved their camps down to the lower levels. This was about the time the Indians here in the north-east were at their peak as to centers of concentrated populations and longest extension of occupancy. True, there is much evidence of an earlier period here on the lower level, but in the main it is from the early through the middle of the Middle Woodland period that the occupation is most evident.

The river then was wider and more shallow than it is today. During the low water of the dry spells of the summer it was fordable at this point. A portage trail ran through the site from up the creek above the falls, down its south bank to the mouth at the river. This was a busy highway during the spring and summer months.

That Sar-a-ta-ke was quite extensive is proven by the fact that the same artifact types of the same materials are strewn over the surface for more than a mile. Excavation north of the creek's mouth unearthed several Indian burials. These burials might have been connected with this site but the evidence was lost long ago.

At the time of excavation, the site was a cow pasture. A local farmer, after looking over my dig, was amazed at the amount of stone that was unearthed, saying, "When I pastured cows here fifty years ago, this was all a lush green meadow, in some spots real dark green, and there wasn't a stone on it big enough to throw at a cow." So from that enlightening remark I knew that from time to time long ago, these stones were all carried in by human hands and then slowly covered over with nature's debris. The accumulated ash and charcoal of campfires that burned for over a thousand years surely would make the pasture grass lush and green.

For one reason or another it has been the popular opinion that this section was the hunting and fishing grounds of the Indian and only small sites of that type were ever found here in the Northeast. Farmers with adjoining farms over a large area throughout this section have been accumulating artifacts for several generations. In the past few years the younger generation farmers have been showing some of these artifacts found years ago by their fathers and grandfathers. These younger men for the most part are well-informed and know what each one represents, the uses and to what age group each belongs. Stone tools of Indian industry certainly do not appear in such numbers on small hunting and fishing sites, the only kind supposed to exist here.

This past summer I had the good fortune to be able to dig on this all but destroyed site. It was an enjoyable and instructive experience in spite of much soil disturbance. Excavation by stratification wasn't of much value, applicable only in small areas. However, by horizontal layering one block at a time, two-and-one-half foot square, to an average depth of thirty inches, I excavated a total of 660 square feet, keeping notes of what was found as to depth and other pertinent data. The soil from this was entirely screened through one quarter inch wire mesh as not to overlook anything.

Excluding pottery, 200 artifacts were found, mostly in fragmentary condition, with a few exceptions. Broken and burned fire rock, pottery sherds, and flint scrap were scattered throughout the upper layers, with a few artifacts showing up occasionally. Just above the lighter colored subsoil, about 25 in. deep, was encountered the most productive stratum, and at times flint scraps of large thin percussion-broken pieces appeared in solid layers. Sometimes pottery sherds would show up en masse,

but rarely more than a few pieces of the same vessel together. Much of this was in a very friable condition. I finished up the season with about one bushel of sherds, many of rim sections. Among these were the apexes of two pointed pots and one sherd drilled for a mending thong.

The stone artifacts consisted of corner-notched, triangular, and narrow and broad stemmed points; spears and knives of the leaf-shaped and ovate type; one fluted point or knife, grooved one side only; choppers and several worked pieces in process; drill and pipe fragments; net sinkers; anvil and hammer stones and combinations of the two; and combination pestle and hammer stone. The paucity of celts and gouges was a mystery, as I believe they should have been here. Little bone of any kind was found, owing to the high acid content of the river silt. An interesting feature of this site was the flakes, chips, and worked pieces of a wide variety of rocks found, with only two being native of this section of the country, flint and quartz. Appearing in small quantities throughout the dig were tan and brown jasper, light blue hornblende, green serpentine, smokey chalcedony, steatite, argillite, mottled slate, several colors of chert and flint, quartz, rose, grey, white, and crystal. Handmade nails, fragments of pottery, china, porcelain, and rum bottles appeared at intervals near the surface.

In working out a block to the left of my initial trench, I came upon a mass of sherds that looked to be the fragments of an entire vessel or nearly so, and after carefully troweling these out I had eighty-one sherds. Later, I located eight more, leaving but two missing of a complete pot. As nearly as could be determined, it had lain on its side, about twenty-five inches below the surface in an area of a little more than one-foot square and about six inches in depth. The upturned cup of one side was in large fragments holding the opposing side in smaller pieces, obviously pressure broken. When reconstructed, the pot was of elliptical shape, about 9 in. in height, capacity about six quarts, and diameter at the top, inside measure, seven inches. Edges of sherds were in a friable condition and somewhat difficult to reassemble in order to restore the original shape of this vessel. No cord marking of any kind was visible. The finish was smooth inside and out and could have been done by using a slicking stone. The rim was unevenly rolled to a slight degree, the flattened face having a series of punctate holes, spaced one-quarter inch ground the entire top. This was the only decoration. Originally burned black on the inside, the color had leached out badly. The outside was a medium tan color. The vessel had been fairly well-fired, with quartz, sand, and coarse-burned stone as tempering. The coil method in manufacture had been used, some fractures clearly showing the coil joints.

It would be interesting to know the age of this crude vessel. In conjunction with pottery sherds, which might have been in relation, I found the following objects: two pencil-like stones about three inches in length, with the ends ground to a thin edge a, smooth black stone ground to a blunt point, about five inches long; a type of reamer a round smooth stone fitting the hand, of black color with a rounded face and flat back, showing some wear (it could be a slicking stone or smoother) and a small round thin flint object with a serrated edge, perhaps for roulette marking.

It took me a little over two months to reconstruct this cooking utensil, slightly longer than it took the original potter to complete, possibly a millennium ago.

The events which took place in and around this site have few equals from the

time the white man pushed the Indian out up to the present. The Dutch settlers moving up the river settled here, liking this spot as well as had the Indian tenants before them. They cleared the land, built their cabins, mills, and a fort for their protection. North of the creek they built a mansion in the wilderness for the overseer and his family. The settlement prospered and spread up and down the river flats and up the creek to the head of the old Indian portage. Here they built a sawmill, sawing the logs into rough lumber which was made up in rafts floated down the river fifty miles and used in building homes for more Dutch people.

The English came, but the Dutch stayed on to build, to work, and to enjoy themselves. The constant threat of the French and their Indian pawns to the north became a reality with the Seven Years War and the massacre of the settlers and destruction of the settlement which ensued. Peace came again for the valley, and soon the homes, the mills, and forts were rebuilt but not quite the same. The mansion was more pretentious than before, still housing members of the first family. The settlement flourished once more, and all was well. The wheels of industry turned in several mills, and the people wanted little, being self-sufficient.

One day this all came to an end and again this settlement was caught in the middle of another conflict, the Revolutionary War. Its causes were many, its duration long and painful; but the event contributing to its end was decided only a few miles south of this settlement. With the rattle of drums and marching feet, one of the greatest and proudest armies ever to be assembled on this continent crossed the creek at the old Indian ford, heading south to victory. It had the ablest of officers under Gentleman Johnny Burgoyne, with hired fighting units which up to that time had never been defeated in battle. The pageantry, the color of the uniforms of many different units, the pipers playing, the noise of the never-ending ammunition, cannon, and baggage wagons, and last of all the ragged, dirty, and tired camp followers, mostly women from all walks of life, stealing everything that could be carried away, was a sight that will never be repeated. This great army going south with the German units on the left, keeping along the banks of the river, marched directly over the old Indian campsite. But it was an army that seemed to be dogged with a long chain of unlucky events, which led up to its final defeat on the heights only a few miles away.

Part of the Continental army entrenched on the highlands of the east side of the river were watching these proceedings with great glee. It moved in some strength across the river, setting up a block south of the creek to intercept any move by the invading army to retreat north. But this camp had been set up without much preparation to protect itself from the elements. The Continentals awoke one morning, after much celebration the night before, in the drizzling rain and were in no mood to give battle as the first vanguards of the retreating army moved into sight. So they made a hasty flight back across the river, splashing as they went, each trying to get there first, to the great amusement of their comrades left stationed on the highlands.

With the roll of drums and stacking of arms, the ritual of final surrender took place a short time later on the flats just north of the creek. Except for a few nuisance raids, the war was over for this place. A Tory spy was executed on the highland overlooking the site. The real culprit in this case made his escape, but a man had to be hung. The settlement now quieted and returned to the peaceful pursuits of rebuilding what had been destroyed by the invading army. Sur-a-ta-ke returned once more to farmland with another new mansion across the creek. The host and his

pretty wife entertained at the mansion in grand style. The guests were from the most prominent families of that time. Their visit at the mansion was a memorable one. The gracious living, the mansion with its wide spacious lawns and gardens, the serene beauty of the countryside, all was unforgettable.

The new barge canal with the adjacent tow-path running parallel with the west shore of the river cut through the site, throwing dirt from its ditch down over it. With mules hauling endless strings of boats to northern destinations this place once again became the scene of much activity. A mill was built at the top of the falls in the creek, with a dam for its source of power. A new bridge was built over the creek a little to the west of the site of the old one. The canal, not being large enough to take care of the increased river traffic, was abandoned, and the river channel was deepened to take care of this increase. The gravel and silt was dredged from the river channel and dumped over the lower half of the site with a dike running parallel with and back from, the river to insure against flooding the flats. All of these things have had a part in the destruction of this old Indian camping ground. A new four-lane road and a new bridge built recently totally destroyed the upper and oldest part of the site,

The yacht basin in the river just north of the creek's mouth where, during vacation months, a half-million dollars worth of pleasure cruisers lay anchored, provided me with amusement on still summer nights, since, while digging for artifacts laid down by Indians two thousand years ago I could hear the present-day conversations of the people aboard the boats as they passed back and forth.

THE Q TRADITION AND THE G O HORIZON*

In the Vicinity of the Mouth of the Croton River

Louis A. Brennan

Mid-Hudson Chapter

Excavations by Brennan, Mauck Brammer, and Sigfus Olafson in shell middens at Croton Point over the summer and fall of 1960-61 have confirmed the existence; along the lower Mid-Hudson River, of a lithic-cultural-temporal continuum which we have designated the Q tradition.

At the upriver tip of Croton Point peninsula, called Kettle Rock Point, and at a site about two miles farther upriver called Parham Ridge, the middens of small shell oysters of the Q tradition lie above, and geologically separated from, middens of very large oysters, which deposits we have called the G O or Giant Oyster horizon.

The designation "Q Tradition" springs aptly from the common usage throughout the several cultural stages of the continuum of a grainy, durable quartzite, all of which is apparently derived from water-rolled pebbles. The certain span of this usage is from a pre-ceramic steatite period, through a primary pottery period which produces a Vinette I (there may be two different makers of this type in the area) and into a developing ceramics which has been expertly identified as Point Peninsula. Quite likely, though not yet demonstrated to our satisfaction, is a pre-ceramic, pre-steatite period of inception of the use of quartzite. Though there are some indications in projectile point similarities that the Q tradition people had roots

*Read for the author at the 1961 annual meeting by Sigfus Olafson.

in the G O horizon, the G O horizon people did not use quartzite commonly, if at all.

That the Q tradition is in fact a cultural pattern continuing through change rests on the usage of pebble quartzite, the technology of this usage, the recurrence of certain diagnostic artifacts such as fishtail projectile points and an artifact rather vaguely called a spool-stone, nearly always of gray-greenish sand-stone and the association of these traits with small domelike shell heaps. Even where the midden shell of this continuum seems to lie in a thick bed, it is seen, on excavation, to segregate into discrete piles, leading to the assumption that each heap represents a different camping or stop-over occasion. That these Q tradition people were not of an all-year-round riparian-dwelling and river-dependent culture seems obvious from the total absence of net sinkers or other specific fishing equipment. Though it is not the purpose of this paper to describe the cultural content of the Q tradition in detail, the impression is distinct that the Q tradition people visited certain known oyster beds periodically in probably family-sized groups, exploiting the beds for current food needs, possibly while they were harvesting nuts, seeds, and other keeper foods.

The method of working the quartzite as well as other pebbles is generally that called the bust-off technique. A boss or rounded end of a pebble was knocked off at a blow leaving a flat striking platform, and this was then stripped down, the flakes being used unaltered or being further shaped and the cores, if they were large enough, being used as choppers or being developed into adzes or other large tools. Frequently enough to be noticeable, obvious blades were detached. These strip blades are descriptively lamellar blades, and they occur increasingly in the latter stages of the Q tradition; with occasional squarish cores, but this cannot be related to known lamellar blade industries and would appear not to have been imported but to have been an indigenous evolution from the basic pebble working technique.

Those who are familiar with the archaeology of this region will recognize that the Q tradition people fall partly into a close relationship with Ritchie's Orient Complex of the transitional period on Long Island, with fishtail projectile points a significant artifact linkage between Long Island and the not too distant--overland at least--Croton River area. C14 dates obtained by Ritchie for the transitional period on Long Island cluster about 3000 B. P. and this will be used herein as one datum point in the placement of the Q tradition and the G O horizon in the chronology of the lower Mid-Hudson valley. But our principal line of argument will follow the sea level fluctuation graphs prepared by Rhodes W. Fairbridge and appearing in *The Scientific American*, May 1960. The Croton River area, where the tide range today is about four feet, is, of course, as susceptible to sea-level fluctuation as the coastline.

The consensus of present evidence, according to Fairbridge, is that sea level began rising sharply at about 6200 B.P. to a level, at 6000 B.P., of about 12 feet above the present. It remained higher than at present for the next thousand years, with some recession and two maxima not higher than the initial one. At about 4800 B.P. it dropped sharply to about 9 feet below present levels and rose again at about 3800 B.P. to perhaps 6 to 8 feet above present. It remained slightly above or at present levels until about 3000 B.P. and then dropped briefly from 3000 B.P. until about 2500 B.P. when it rose again to about four feet above present until 2000 B.P., when it was very briefly at its present level. Using our datum point of 3000 B. P. for the Long Island we can place the Q tradition and the precedent G O horizon within this span between 6000 and 2000 B.P. Broadly, this 4000 epoch of oscillation breaks

down into five periods: high water from 6000 to 4800 B.P., with the highest level, at 6000 B.P., low water between 4800 and 3800 B.P., high water between 3800 and 3000 B.P., low water from 3000 to 2500 B.P., high water between 2500 and 2000 B.P. Fairbridge has assured us in private communication that these oscillations are directly related to climate, warm periods correlating with high water and cold periods with low water.

While shell deposits of the Q tradition exist in many places along the Croton Point shore, the deposits are in stratigraphic position over the G O horizon in a midden that tops a wave cut bank that rises about 11 feet above present mean tide. The bank rises sheer, from the sloping shore to a height of about 7 feet. We had a demonstration during our work of the agencies which have kept this bank sheer, Hurricane Donna, striking from the southwest, slashed off 18 inches from the face of it for a stretch of about 60 to 75 feet with wind driven high water. A Mr. Beneway, who has been acquainted with the location for some thirty years has told us that he remembers when the bank and midden extended at least 20 feet farther toward the river, and we conclude that perhaps 200 square yards of it remaining must be what is left of a midden many acres in extent.

The stratified Kettle Rock Point midden comprises the top 35", plus or minus a couple of inches, of the wave cut bank. Of this the top 15 inches is clearly the Q tradition horizon. The shell is exclusively of the Virginia oyster, with no specimen over 4 inches long and the average about 3.5 inches. Though there are small areas where the shell has decayed to the purplish muscle scars, for the most part it is whole, in the heaps we have described, relatively loosely packed and soil infiltrated. It yields stone artifacts sparsely (though the quartzite is diagnostic), bone artifacts that appear to be crude projectile points, refuse bone and teeth of a browsing animal, almost certainly deer. No pottery has been discovered in the seven five-foot squares so far excavated, but what we tentatively regard as the beginning pottery of the Q tradition is found at this same level a little farther inland at the edges of the entire deposit.

The Q horizon shell rests on a layer of shell much more bleached and so shattered that it has formed a barrier to the sifting down of soil through it. It should be understood here that whereas many shells, like clams, break monolithically, through the entire shell and are eroded away by water rolling or humic acids, like rock, from the outside, oyster shell separates along the plates and produces a much finer kind of debris. The specimens of whole shell in this layer, which is 4 to 6 inches deep, are the largest in the Kettle Rock midden. The largest will go to 8 inches in length, and the average would be about six. The contrast with the Q horizon shell is even more striking when bulk is compared. The two horizons obviously represent two entirely different climatic cycles.

This shattered shell or S S stratum is the only beach represented at Kettle Rock Point for any of the high water levels beginning at 6000 B.P. Below it the shell, relatively intact, of about the same size as in the S S stratum and with a mixture of shells of the delicate-ribbed mussel continues to a depth of about 15 inches. This midden is loosely packed and will not easily hold a trench face. The loose packing is ascribed by us to the fact that water washing up on the S S stratum beach partially drained away through it carrying all soil in it down as a sediment to the base of the midden. This G O midden shell does not appear to have been deposited in domed

heaps like the Q horizon shell, but is an homogenous accumulation. It rests on and in three to four inches of a fine black soil, mucky when wet and devoid of sand or pebbles. This soil would seem to be a combination of a humus in existence when the first shell was deposited and the sediment just described. The sub-soil is of a clay-sandy character full of water-rolled pebbles, cobbles, and boulders, extending to below present water level and obviously glacially deposited. This subsoil was never a beach.

Both refuse and crude artifactual bone appears plentifully in the G O horizon, but any sign of lithic industry is startlingly lacking. The only two pieces showing any sign at all of being man-made are two oval spalls, triangular in section, flat-bottomed, about an inch long. They are very similar and show some edge use. Squamate flakes and strip blades, presumably used to cut muscles of oysters, are common in Q horizon middens, and the two pieces found in the G O deposit may have had this use, but we incline to the conjecture that they were used to cut bone. The negative evidence, then is to the effect that the G O horizon people were of a non-stone projectile point, bone-using culture who were hunters as well as oyster eaters.

That there is but one beach manifestation in the Kettle Rock midden, and it tops off the G O horizon, seems irrefutable proof that the G O horizon was in place before the first high water rise at 6000 B.P. To suggest how deep the midden was then would be the most egregious of estimates: possibly it was three to four feet higher. The S S stratum does not necessarily mark the height of this rise but is merely the last modification of the beach by water that reached this height. Such high water levels were attained at least three times during the period between 6000 and 4800 B.P. while the rise at 3800 B.P. was probably just high enough for a short period to reestablish the beach line, for there is no interlarded soil between the S S stratum and the Q horizon. This would indicate that the Q horizon deposits began to be laid down shortly after 3800 B.P., when an approximately 6 foot rise in water level (1) made the beach here convenient for midden deposit and (2) was correlated with a warm period encouraging to oysters. This is quite early by comparison with the transitional culture dates of Long Island but, since the same dates are confirmed at Parham Ridge site, no attempt will be made here to explain the disparity away.

That a considerable period of time did elapse between the period of the deposit of Giant Oysters here and the small oyster period of the Q horizon is attested by an 8 inch soil layer between the two at the Parham Ridge site about a mile upriver from Kettle Rock Point.

Parham Ridge is a, very small and inconspicuous peninsula that is a peninsula by reason of the two shallow embayments that enclose it from the north and south. It is a narrow hogback of a ridge, scarcely wide enough for occupancy, rising from about 12 feet above present water level at its inland end to 45 feet above present level in a bluff that overlooks the river. The distance between these two points is about 90 feet. The flanks of the ridge are so steep that at times when the water was significantly higher than it is now the most favorable beaching spot would have been at the inland low level end, and it is quite likely that during some periods Parham Ridge was at least a high tide island. It is for this reason that we believe Parham Ridge to have been desirable for occupation and, in fact, was occupied only during periods of high water. On the slope to the river from the bluff, considerably gentled now by erosion, at about 12 feet above present water level there is a Q horizon midden with Q tradition in primary pottery. Since there is steatite only and no pottery on the Ridge itself, the

water was obviously receding from its last significant high, at 3500 B.P. and the Ridge was never reoccupied, since water was never high enough thereafter to make the back entrance and the climb up the ridge attractive. This period of occupation for the Q horizon on the Ridge would then fall between 3800 B.P. and 3500 B.P.

The Q horizon on Parham Ridge afforded a typical assemblage of artifacts, much quartzite and several large quartzite tools, steatite, fishtail and cognate side-notched points, spool stones of gray-green sandstone; a perfectly round discoidal finely polished on two faces and pecked about its perimeter which is larger than, but exactly like, other discoidals in Q tradition deposits, many hand mullers, a pebble pestle, strip blades, a squarish core, and the characteristic small dumps or heaps.

The Q horizon midden, where it lies over the G O horizon, is about 8 inches thick. Immediately below it is an 8 inch layer of soil with few pebbles in it and of the yellow color which is imparted, according to our experience, wherever oyster shell is deteriorating in quantity. When dry this soil becomes very much like a hard pan and can be worked only with a pick. The question that arises immediately about this soil is how it could have been formed at all, in this location on top of a ridge much more subject to erosion than to soil building processes. There is simply no higher ground from which it could have washed in. Therefore it has to have been formed by the chemical and mechanical decomposition of the G O midden over which it lies and the humus accumulation of the vegetation growing on it. But Fairbridge, when he inspected this soil, gave it as his opinion that it had considerable content of preformed soil which must have been wind deposited. Under present conditions aeolian deposits are most likely, since the prevailing winds blow directly off several square miles of water. But the Hudson at this point is a fairly uniform five to six feet deep, and during periods of low water what is now Haverstraw Bay was several square miles of, probably, mud flats. Such conditions were constant between 5000 B.P. and 3800 B.P. It does not strain credulity to believe this 8 inches of soil is the credit balance between the enumerated soil-building forces and erosion between 5000 B.P. and 3800 B.P.; this gives Parham Ridge to the Q tradition people for intermittent occupation between 3800 B.P. and 3000 B.P. when they descended, never to return.

The artifactual content of the badly decayed 8 inch thick lower or G O midden is scant. Any bone it may have contained must have decayed, but there are small stemmed stone projectile points of the Lamokoid pattern, even smaller unstemmed ones that are little more than stone tips, butt-based small knives, many crude bust off tools that may have been choppers or scrapers, pebble mullers and hammerstones, and some alien chalcedony, one piece of which is a strip blade or blade-like flake. The high position of the midden and the size of the oysters place it in a warm period of high water before 5000 B.P. The artifactual content places it somewhat later than the still essentially non-lithic G O midden at Kettle Rock Point, which dates to at least 6000 B. P. but probably not much earlier.

To summarize the G O horizon is to find in it the traits one would expect to find in a cultural stage antecedent to that of Lamoka Lake which, to all appearances, is considerably in advance of it, probably by reason of acculturative influences. These G O horizon people were constant users of bone, eventually came to make small stemmed Lamokoid points, undoubtedly harvested and mealed acorns and nut meats and used shell fish as a constant though not necessarily staple article of diet. This is the Lamoka pattern as described by Ritchie. No antecedents have so far been

found for the Lamoka culture in the thirty years since its discovery and a trail way up the Hudson Valley seems the last remaining path.

As for the Q tradition people, the first explanation that suggests itself, for reasons there is no time to go into here, is not that they represent quartzite conscious immigrants, but that a stock long resident in the valley began at about 3800 Bo P. to use quartzite pebbles for tool stuff. Their use of quartzite pebbles is exactly analogous to the use of quartz pebbles by their contemporaries on Long Island and flint pebbles in the upper Hudson. That quartzite was in use by about 3800 B. P. we are fairly certain from the evidence of Parham Ridge. But since we have no site to fill the time gap between 5000 B.P. and 3800 B.P., the middens for this low water long period now being at the bottom of the Hudson, we do not know that quartzite pebbles did not come into industrial favor long before this. But they were not used as long ago as 5000 B.P. This suggests that the source of local supply, probably the Croton River gravels, became known or available during the low water period. Continued work on the Q tradition and the G O horizon may necessitate the promulgation of a Hudson Valley aspect of a still unnamed phase that may include the detached Lamoka Lake culture.

ORLEANS SITE YIELDS RELICS*

Wm. A. Monacelli

Democrat and Chronicle Staff Correspondent

An Indian village or summer campsite near Waterport that dates back at least 1000 years has been discovered by Stanley Vanderlaan of County House Road, Albion RD. It brought a team of four workers of the Niagara Frontier Archeological project to the site for several days digging and study.

Heading the group was Dr. Marian White, director of the project, which is cosponsored by the University of Buffalo and the Buffalo Museum of Science. Formerly of Gasport, Dr. White for two years was junior anthropologist at the Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences.

Vanderlaan, an amateur in archeology who has been collecting Indian relics for a number of years, discovered what is known as the "North Site" near the Oak Orchard River Road in the Town of Carlton, some time ago, and has been working the site by himself before calling in the project team.

He had uncovered a number of flint heads, pieces of broken pottery, several flat stones chipped on opposite ends for use as fish net sinkers, a long round stone apparently used by Indians to mash grain, other stones used as honing stones, whetstones, hammer stones, and for other purposes.

A number of other items were found by the Buffalo team, including the remnants of a clay pipe, which fit in clay type with that used in the pottery, giving the archeologists an indication of the time they were used. Vanderlaan also uncovered an unusual item, a round stone on which the image of a man's face apparently had been carved.

Coins found at the same spot indicate the site also was used by early settlers late, among them a silver Spanish coin dated in 1788, with a hole bored through it, indicating that it probably was carried as a good-luck piece. An 1850 military button, a Canadian half-penny, large pennies dated 1818, 1830, and 1832, and a half-dime dates 1839 also were found there.

*Reprint from the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle. See also Vanderlaan's piece in Bulletin 22.

In the party from Buffalo with Dr. White were Miss Faith Karas of Tonawanda, a graduate in archeology at the University of Buffalo; James Chism of Anthony, Kansas, a graduate in anthropology of the University of Kansas, and Attila Markus, an anthropology student at the University of Buffalo. Assisting, too, were Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Bilicki of Albion, amateur archeologists.

The procedure in the study of such sites is to shave off the top soil, which has been mixed through years of plowing, sifting the soil for telltale relics. Then the sandy layer underneath is studied for dark spots in the sand that indicate post holes, garbage pits, fireplaces, and the like, and such areas are marked with small upright sticks that then outline the community. The post holes are dark, Dr. White explained, because of the rotting of the wood there and because the Indians pointed their posts by charring the ends.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

For some time there seems to have existed a felt need among our membership for a bibliography on methods and techniques in archaeology. There are many manuals, text and advanced lucubrations in the field, and the problem for the bibliographer is how to grade these for the varying needs of the membership. Herewith is your editor's list, with quotes where obtainable from pertinent reviews.

Full Scale Texts

- (1) A Manual of Archaeological Field Methods, Robert F. Heizer, Ed.; The National Press, 850 Hansen Way, Palo Alto, Cal.
"Covers the entire range of field work, from the preliminary survey of the site . . . to the methods of classification and the recording of data, including sample forms for keeping the records." Invaluable.
- (2) A Guide to Archaeological Field Methods, Robert F. Heizer, Ed.; The National Press, Palo Alto, Cal.; paper \$4, cloth \$5, 162 pp.
"I am not aware of any other source that presents so much information to the basic techniques of dirt archaeology." (from a review of the 3rd revised edition, 1958, by Albert C. Spaulding). The MUST.
- (3) Beginning in Archaeology, Kathleen Kenyon; Frederick A. Praeger, New York. 217 pp., \$4.
"Explains main fields of archaeology, archaeological purposes, methods." Directed to British students.
- (4) Archaeology from the Earth, Sir Mortimer Wheeler, Penguin Books, 3300 Clipper Mill Rd., Baltimore 11, Maryland, 221 pp.
"A most important book on archaeological technique." A classic.
- (5) Digging up the Past, Sir Leonard Woolley; Thomas Y. Crowell Co., 432 Fourth Ave., New York, \$3. 50.
"A very fine essay on the objectives and methods of archaeology." Highly enjoyable.
- (6) Field Archaeology, R.J.C. Atkinson, Methuen and Co. Ltd. 36 Essex St., Strand, W. C. 2, London, England, 238 pp.
"The English point of view... in an elementary manual about pocket size. well-written, easily read.... Although it may seem a bit awkward to recommend the

British manual to the American student, it might suffice until a good, general American manual is written." Though Heizer's (see above) is a good, general American manual, "Field Archaeology" contains excellent sections on "The Interpretation of the Evidence," "The Publication of the Evidence" and "The Cleaning and Restoration of Finds." Highly recommended.

- (7) Approach to Archaeology, Stuart Piggott, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Mass. 134 pp., \$3.
". . . ideas and concepts which direct archaeological operations." Nothing that can't be had from another source.
- (8) Down to Earth, Robin Place; Rockcliff and Philosophical Library, London and New York, 173 pp., \$7.50.
"... is written more for the amateur and interested layman . . . it is very readable. Good, but the price is \$7.50 and it is quite British.
- (9) Method in Prehistory - An Introduction to the Discipline of Prehistoric Archaeology with Special Reference to South African conditions, A.J.H. Goodwin; Handbook Series No. 1, South African Archaeological Society, Capetown, 184 pp.
"Goodwin's discussions of several basic topics are vigorous and sensible." Good, but it is quite British, South African division.
- (10) Archaeology and its Problems, Sigfried J. DeLaet (translation by Ruth Daniels) Macmillan Co., New York, 136 pp., \$4.50.
A general introduction to the methodology of archaeology by a Belgian, Discusses amateurs, among many other subjects. Worth looking into.

Shorter Manuals

- (1) Manual for Beginners in Central Texas Archaeology, Edward B. Jelks, Austin, Texas, 12 pp. mimeographed,
"Intended for people in a specific area, it would be usable and, with virtually no important changes, applicable anywhere, " Recommended.
- (2) Field Methods in Archaeology; Prepared for Archaeological Expeditions of The Museum of Northern Arizona; Harold S. Colton, Museum of Northern Arizona Technical Series No. 1, Flagstaff, Arizona. 30 pp., \$1.
"Although compact and written for south westerners, the methods are generally applicable." Recommended.
- (3) Guide Leaflet for Amateur Archaeologists, National Research Council, Reprint and Circular Series; National Research Council, Washington, D.C.
First printed in 1930; there have been no revisions, apparently, since. Helpful.
- (4) Looking for Artifacts, Vincent R. Mrozowski, The Pennsylvania Archaeologist, Vol. 23, Nos. 2(3-4); Vol. 24, Nos. 1, 2 (3-4); Vol. 25, Nos. 1, (3-4).
About archaeology in our own region. Highly recommended. At last report Vol. 23, No. 2, and Vol. 24, No. 2 were still available; Vol. 25, No. (3-4), a double issue, was available at \$1. 50. Order from Vincent Mrozowski, P.O. Box 368, Aliquippa, Penna.

More Advanced Studies

- (1) Essays on Archaeological Methods, Proceedings of a Conference Held Under Auspices of the Viking Fund, James B. Griffin, Ed. Anthropological Papers of The Museum of Anthropology, No. 8, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 151 pp, \$1. 50.
This is a series of twelve papers "by specialists reporting on specific investigations." Included are two on field methods (one on the use of the bulldozer which most

of us don't carry on our trips), one on the preservation of fabrics, and one on conservation of mural paintings. Some of these papers may be useful to non-professionals, some will not be.

- (2) The Application of Quantitative Methods in Archaeology, Robert F. Heizer and Sherburne F. Cook, Eds. Viking Fund Publications in Anthropology, No. 28. To be purchased from Quadrangle Books, Chicago, Ill. 358 pp. \$7, 50.

Very much on the order of (1) but more so. Jesse D. Jennings, in his review, says, "I learned for the first time the valuable information that the Emeliani short Pleistocene chronology is based on a misapprehension as to current thought about the number of major glacial oscillations that have been identified." Worth the money only to professionals.

- (3) Method and Theory in American Archaeology, Gordon R. Willey and Philip Phillips; University of Chicago Press, Chicago, Ill. 270 pp, \$4.75.

A very much discussed volume of "abstract discussion of method," in this and an earlier version as two essays. It is occasionally quoted to impress but three professional reviewers did not think too highly of the earlier version, or of this, a revision of the earlier version. "The pitiful frame of theory beneath splendid garments of myriad traits and multiple local sequences" in American archaeology is blamed, rather than the authors, for the unsatisfactory product. Forget it, for the present.

- (4) The Archaeologist at Work, A Source Book in Archaeological Method and Interpretation, Robert F. Heizer, Ed., Harper and Bros., New York, 520 pp, \$7. 50.

"The articles in this volume, with a few exceptions, were written as archaeological reports." That is, they are excerpted from the published work of archeologists-in-charge of major excavations. "... it is extremely valuable supplementary reading." Highly recommended, for just this purpose. The non-professional will love it and learn from it.

Anyone who has an item to contribute to this list is invited to do so!

ONDAIRA CHAPTER AND THE PORTAGE SITE AT LEWISTON *

Richard L. McCarthy,

Morgan Chapter

Ondiara Archaeological Chapter of the Buffalo Historical Society is the imposing name chosen for themselves by a group of amateurs who are dedicated to the purpose of discovering and publishing historical facts about the Niagara Frontier, and who share an interest in Indians.

Composed of sixteen adult members and several teen-agers and children, under the leadership of Richard L. McCarthy, the organization was formed in 1956-57 after excavation of the Joncaire Trading Post at Lewiston. Certain artifacts recovered had whetted their curiosity to the point of indulging in further research in the general area. Since that time, their efforts have been largely concentrated at a spot near the beginning of the Long Portage, or carry, around Niagara Falls. This is located not far from the Joncaire Site, where operations will continue during the 1960 season.

Seldom has any group, amateur or professional, hit upon a more productive site. At this place, the record of the Niagara Frontier from a time 4, 000 years ago to the present is written plainly in the soil. The reason is obvious considering the physical characteristics of the region. This is the only spot for many miles where it is possible

*Reprinted from "Pencil Shavings" Staff Bulletin of Lockport Public Schools

to land a boat against the current of the Niagara River at a point where a stream-eroded gully gives access to the top of the sheer cliffs of the Gorge.

By a fortunate circumstance, the site has been protected from erosion and other disturbances by a heavy layer of clay fill, which was dumped there during construction of the Lewiston-Queenston Bridge in 1851. While removal of the clay fill has created a problem for the diggers, it has insured their discovery of the, original soil strata beneath, which is always an important consideration for archaeologists. Recoveries from three top layers of soil at the Portage Site serve to bring into clear focus the War of 1812, the American Revolution, and the French and Indian Wars, as these struggles for supremacy affected the Niagara Frontier.

American forces embarked from here to take part in the ill-fated Battle of Queenston Heights in 1812, and from this vantage point such of their brothers-in-arms as refused the duty watched the progress of the battle as it raged on the opposite shore. Buttons from their uniforms were found, and the ground is literally sown with shot and cannon balls of all sizes.

Prior to the Revolution, the British had established a fort here, and excavations show it was a sizeable one. The feats of this Fort itself are still largely unknown and its fame unsung, but judging by the quantities of uniform buttons unearthed in the British level, many of the most famous English regiments must have passed through or been stationed here.

The 8th, or King's Regiment, in which both Walter Butler and Sir Isaac Brock served as Ensigns, is represented and so is the 10th, or North Lincolnshires, which fought at Lexington, Concord, and Bunker Hill and helped to capture Philadelphia in 1777. Another famous outfit which lost buttons at the Portage Site was the 17th, or Leicestershires, which was active at the Seige of Ticonderoga and later surrendered with Cornwallis at Yorktown.

The 26th, or Camerons, also left their token here. They fought at Ft. Toconderoga in 1775 and took part in the defense of Quebec. The brilliant Major John André, who was later executed as a spy, received his commission as a Captain while serving in this regiment. The 29th, or Worcestershire Foot, also parted with regimental buttons at the site but this did not deter them from firing on the citizens of Boston, Massachusetts in 1770.

Two buttons particularly prized by Ondiara Chapter represent the 60th, or Royal Americana, which was formed in the Colonies in 1775, and the King's Royal Regiment, or Johnson's Greens, which took part in all the important battles of the Frontier.

Of course, recoveries from the British level of the excavations were not limited to buttons. Both English and Spanish coins were found (Spanish silver was in general use during the eighteenth century, as England minted very little silver at that time), and bits of fine china tea sets and dinner services, along with a small toy soldier, made of pewter, showed that the Fort was inhabited by some of the officers' families as well as by soldiers.

Evidence of French occupation came to light underneath the English relics. They, too, left military buttons along with fine silver cuff links, and many of their characteristics, light-amber gun flints (this type of flint does not occur anywhere in this country), and small metal Crosses.

Both English and French levels contained artifacts made and used by historic Indians-Neutrals, Eries, and other Iroquois types all have been identified. In still lower levels were uncovered the bits and pieces left by pre-historic peoples; the arrowheads

and decorated pottery of the Woodland Indians, and--a most exciting find--their beautiful shell-bead-and-shark tooth ornaments. At the very bottom, just above the pinky-red Queenston shale subsoil, scanty remains of a pre-ceramic, Stone Age culture were recovered. While most of these objects are still being examined and classified by experts in museums, it is not too soon to state that Ondiara Chapter has established that the Portage site is the oldest continuously occupied one discovered in Western New York,

While justifiably proud of this achievement, members of the Chapter feel that its real significance lies in the proof it offers of the very worthwhile contributions which may be made to the science of Archaeology by any group of sincerely interested amateurs willing to follow accepted practices and work under controlled conditions. The fact that they all enjoyed themselves tremendously and added appreciably to their own store of knowledge while so doing is, they think, beside the point, although generally desirable. (Ed.--Mr. McCarthy has been adopted in the Long House Ceremony by the Tonawanda Senecas. He has been actively engaged in archaeology and history research for the past thirty years.)

FOUR STATEMENTS FOR ARCHAEOLOGY*

1. The Field of Archaeology

Archaeology, a branch of the science of anthropology, is that area of scholarship concerned with the reconstruction of past human life and culture. Its primary data lie in material objects and their relationships; of equal importance may be ancillary data from other fields, including geology, biology, and history.

2. Methods of Archaeology

Archaeological research depends on systematic collection of material objects together with adequate records of the circumstances of the finds and relationships among objects and their surroundings. Value attaches to objects so collected because of their status as documents and is not intrinsic. Therefore, collecting practices which destroy data and thus prevent the scholarly goal of archaeology are censured.

Explicit permission of the property owner must be secured before excavation is undertaken. State and federal statutes regarding preservation of antiquities and permits for excavation must be scrupulously observed.

Field techniques aim at preserving all recoverable information by means of adequate descriptive records and diagrams. Although archaeologists may take only a limited sample from a site, the collection should include all classes of artifacts encountered, not excluding any category; all pertinent data, including relationships and associations; samples of faunal remains; and other data to be interpreted by scientists in other fields. The archaeologist does not discard classes of information in favor of a special interest.

Certain basic field records must be kept, including the following: (1) A map of the site showing the surface features of the site and environs as well as the location and extent of the digging. (2) Detailed written records and maps of burials, houses, and other structural or natural features, known or assumed to have significance in the cultural history of the site. (3) Stratigraphic relationships of data must be noted and preserved, either through separation in natural soil layers or by arbitrary levels established during digging. (4) A catalogue of all the specimens found indicating their

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location, stratum of origin, and cultural association. Specimens should be labeled, numbered, and catalogued to preserve their identity as scientific data. (5) Photographs, drawings, and other documentation necessary to clarify the technique of the work and the context and associations of the finds.

Disregard of proper archaeological methods provides grounds for expulsion from the Society for American Archaeology, at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

3. Ethics for Archaeology

Collections made by competent archaeologists must be available for examination by qualified scholars; relevant supporting data must also be accessible for study whether the collection is in a museum or other institution or in private hands.

It is the scholarly obligation of the archaeologist to report his findings in a recognized scientific medium. In the event that significance of the collection does not warrant publication, a manuscript report should be prepared and be available,

Inasmuch as the buying and selling of artifacts usually results in the loss of context and cultural associations, the practice is censured.

An archaeological site presents problems which must be handled by the excavator according to a plan. Therefore, members of the Society for American Archaeology do not undertake excavations on any site being studied by someone without the prior knowledge and consent of that person.

Willful destruction, distortion or concealment of the data of archaeology is censured, and provides grounds for expulsion from the Society for American Archaeology, at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

4. Recommendations for Training in Archaeology

Archaeology is a scholarly discipline requiring knowledge of field techniques, competence in laboratory analysis of specimens, and the ability to prepare a detailed report of the investigations and their implications in archaeology. In times past, a number of leading archaeologists have acquired the necessary skills without formal training, but they, as well as archaeologists trained in scholarly techniques, have spent years in the study of archaeology as a science. The Society for American Archaeology condemns uncontrolled excavation by persons who have not been trained in the basic techniques of field archaeology and scholarship.

The Society for American Archaeology recommends the following formal training as a minimum qualification for persons planning to enter archaeology as a career. Individuals engaging in archaeology as a profession should acquire the B.A. or B.S. degree from an accredited college or university, followed by two years of graduate study with concentration in anthropology and specialization in archaeology during one of these programs. This formal training should be supplemented by at least two summer field schools or their equivalent under the supervision of archaeologists of recognized competence. A Master's thesis or equivalent in published reports is highly recommended. The Ph.D. in anthropology is recommended but not required.

--Report of the Committee on Ethics and Standards. John L. Champe (Chairman), Douglas S. Byers, Clifford Evans, A. K. Guthe, Henry W. Hamilton, Edward B. Jelks, Clement W. Meighan, Sigfus Olafson, George I. Quimby, Watson Smith, and Fred Wendorf. Publication authorized by vote of the membership at the 26th Annual Meeting, May 5, 1961, Columbus, Ohio.