

THE BULLETIN

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Contents

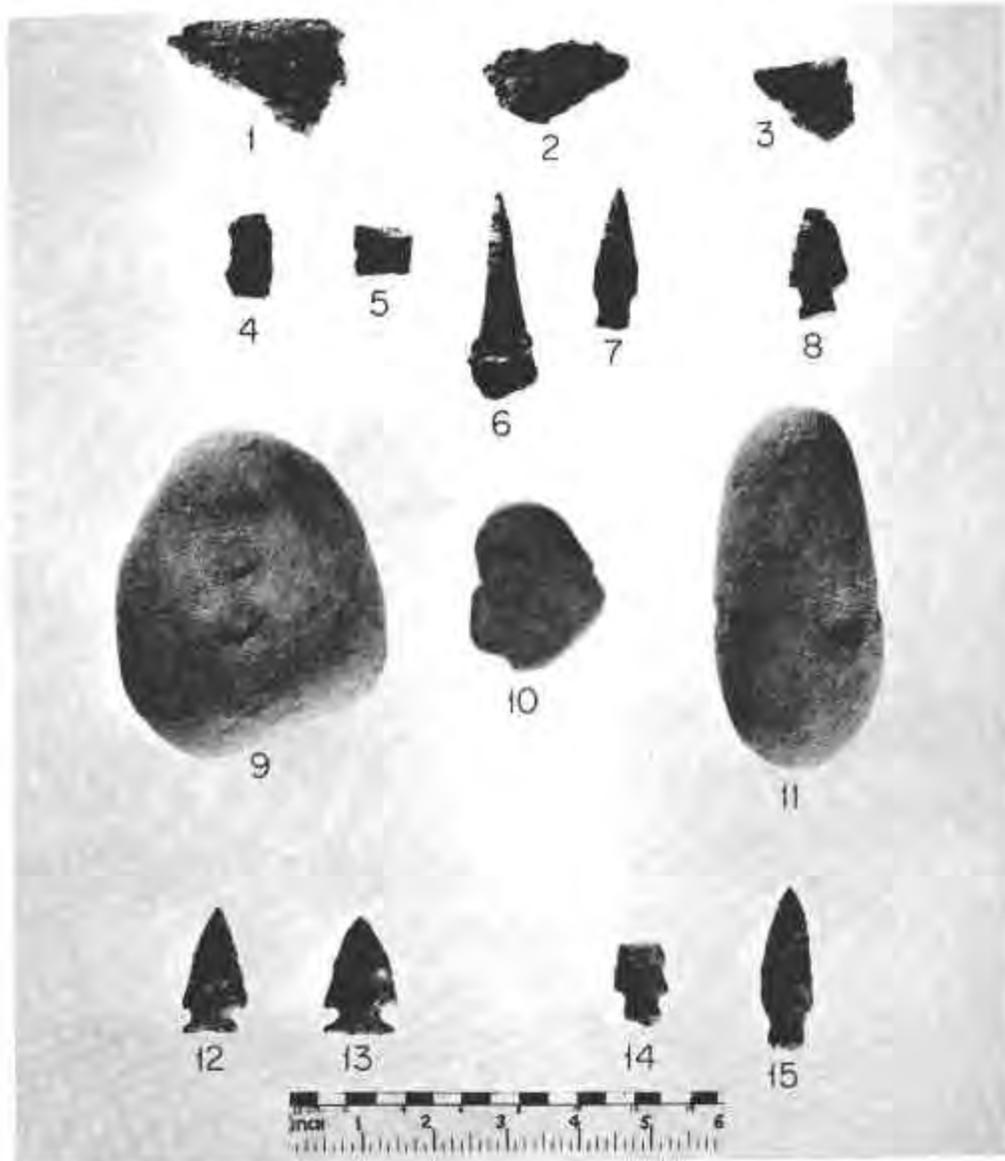
The Davenport Creamery Site, Delaware County, New York Robert E. Funk and Howard Hoagland	1
Inference of the Northern Dispersal of Cony Projectile Points and Net-impressed Pottery, Based on Data from Coastal New York Edward J. Kaeser	11
The Satisfaction Site Paul L. Weinman and Thomas P. Weinman	15
Pictures of the 1971 Annual Conference at SUNY Binghamton	20



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THE DAVENPORT CREAMERY SITE, DELAWARE COUNTY, NEW YORK*

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Howard Hoagland

Van Epps-Hartley Chapter
Upper Susquehanna Chapter

INTRODUCTION

Charlotte Creek is an important tributary of the Upper Susquehanna River, discharging into the larger stream directly opposite the city of Oneonta, in Otsego County, New York. The creek has a total length of approximately 24 miles, arising to the northeast in hilly terrain in Otsego and Schoharie counties on the divide between the Susquehanna and Schoharie (Hudson-Mohawk) drainages. The maximum elevation of this country reaches 2500 ft. From mouth to headwaters the creek flows through a valley of medium breadth (average width .5 mile), lined on both sides by rounded hills with an elevation of 1500-2000 ft. For most of its length it lies within the Town of Davenport, in Delaware County, within the Glaciated Appalachian Upland (Fenneman 1938).

Archeological research in the Upper Susquehanna Valley has been conducted, more or less sporadically, by professional archeologists for several decades. Most of the work has been done by William A. Ritchie, who excavated a number of important sites of the Owasco culture (Ritchie 1934; 1938; 1939; 1969: xxiv-xxvi). Recent activity by amateur archeologists has brought several informative sites to professional attention, including the late Archaic Castle Gardens site near Binghamton (Wilcox n.d.) and the Middle Woodland Fredenburg site near Otego (Hesse 1968), in 1964, an archeologist hired by the National Park Service surveyed the valleys of seven major tributaries of the Susquehanna River, which would be inundated by reservoirs to be constructed by the U.S. Corps of Engineers as part of a proposed regional flood control project. Charlotte Creek was one of the streams surveyed. No sites of consequence were found, though some surface sites were examined and tested. In this survey no particular attention was paid to alluvial flats, except where surface traces of occupation were reported by farmers or collectors. Such locations usually pose considerable difficulties for surveyors; many are under cultivation during warm months of the year, or have fallen into neglect, resulting in a dense growth of weeds, including shrubs and grasses. Furthermore, Indian living floors are frequently buried two or more feet deep in the silt, a factor rendering their discovery unlikely even by several strong men digging test pits with long-handled shovels.

Nevertheless, recent years have seen a growing recognition by archeologists that many sites are to be found in the flood plains of major streams throughout North America. Some of these sites are stratified and have yielded crucial data on regional sequences. New York state waterways are no exception. Important sites have been discovered and excavated on the flood plains of the Hudson, Mohawk, Schoharie, and Susquehanna Rivers (Ritchie 1965: 124-131; Ritchie and Funk n.d.; Funk n.d.). Several sites of this kind have been located by Howard Hoagland, who resides in Davenport, on the flats of Charlotte Creek. Though small, these sites show considerable promise in helping to resolve some current problems of New York prehistory.

The Davenport Creamery site is situated on a small, trianguloid portion of flood plain in the village of Davenport Center. The field of several acres containing the site is bounded on the south by the old roadbed for the New York Central Railway tracks. Just to the west is a small branch of the main channel of Charlotte Creek. To the north the border is Kortright Creek, which joins the Charlotte at the northwest corner of the flat after flowing northwestward out of the hills to the south. Just opposite the site on the other (west) side of the creek is Pine Lake. On the gravel bank near the site and adjoining the railroad bed -is a large building which once housed a creamery, now used by the Town Department of Public Works. The site owes its name to this structure.

COVER ILLUSTRATION: Artifacts from Strata 2 and 3, Davenport Creamery site. Figs. 1-11, from Stratum 2; 12-15, from Stratum 3. Figs. 1-3, fragments of soapstone vessel; 4, small utilized prismatic flake knife; 5, base of possible Orient Fishtail point; 6, ovate-based drill; 7, Orient Fishtail point; 8, narrow stemmed Lamoka-like point; 9, pitted stone; 10, notched netsinker; 11, hammer-anvil stone; 12, 13, Brewerton Side-Notched points; 14, 15, probable Bare Island points. Material: figs. 1-3, soapstone; 4-8, 12-15, eastern Onondaga flint; 9-11, graywacke.

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DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION

The site was discovered by Hoagland in the spring of 1967 in the course of test-pitting what appeared to him to be a promising location. No surface traces gave a clue to what lay underneath. In one small test hole Hoagland unearthed three small side-notched projectile points from the silt well below the surface. He also noted a moderate abundance of burned earth, fire-cracked stones, and flint flakes. In the fall of 1968 he informed Funk of his discovery. In April of 1969 Funk, with State Archeologist William A. Ritchie and David R. Wilcox, also of the State Museum and Science Service, visited the site with Hoagland and excavated a 15 by 5 ft. test trench plus a 5 by 5 ft. square in what appeared to be the heart of the site. Clear evidence of stratification was observed, some artifacts were recovered, and two hearths exposed. These results indicated that full-scale systematic excavations might produce data of interest.

The side-notched points from Hoagland's test pit resembled some late Archaic and Middle Woodland forms, yet could not be placed in the typology of Ritchie (1961). Soapstone sherds were also found in the test trench. We suspected, therefore, that data could be obtained on late Archaic manifestations of the Susquehanna Valley, in possible stratigraphic relationship to a Transitional (soapstone vessel-using) component.

Permission to excavate the site was generously granted by Mary Capiello of Schenectady, one of the owners of the field, through her lawyer, Mario Pacelli. In May, 1969, Hoagland and Funk established a grid system divided into 5 ft. squares (see Figure 1). Digging, largely by Hoagland, continued through the fall of 1969. Funk participated in the work on several occasions, assisted for two days in August by students enrolled in a field methods course offered by the State University at Albany. Hoagland also received considerable help from other members of the Upper Susquehanna chapter, New York State Archeological Association, principally his wife, Florence; James and Vera Groves and their daughter Penny; Charles Walshe and his sons, Jeffery and Steven; and chapter president Calvin Behnke and his wife.

A total area of 1175 sq. ft. was excavated to sterile subsoil. Notes were kept on physical stratigraphy for each square, and despite the inexperience of many of the diggers, proved generally adequate for the reconstruction of accurate profiles (Figure 2). Features were also mapped where they occurred, but notes as to their structure, contents, and stratigraphic position were sometimes incomplete. Balks were left, where possible, between adjoining squares and removed near the close of the excavations (Plate 1). The basic digging method comprised the removal of discernible soil layers, one by one, until sterile subsoil was reached. The precise positions of most artifacts were recorded. Counts were made of cracked rock and chips in most sections, but this was not a consistent practice. Charcoal samples for radiocarbon dating were collected by the present writers from several features. In November 1969, Hoagland donated the entire collection and notes from the site to the New York State Museum.

PHYSICAL STRATIGRAPHY

Four soil members could be readily distinguished throughout most parts of the site (See Plate 1 and Figure 2). Just below the hay-overgrown surface was a dark brown topsoil, Stratum 1 A (Hue 10YR 3/3 on the Munsell chart), 6 to 8 in. thick. This appeared to be the modern plow zone, largely silt, containing considerable debris of modern origin, rusty iron nails, crockery, glass, etc. Below this level was a light brown silt zone, Stratum 1 B (Hue 7.5 YR 4/4) which averaged 8 to 10 in. thick. In the central area of the site this zone seems to have been disturbed to its base; it yielded sporadic historic objects and in some squares plow streaks were sharply delineated, intruding slightly into the underlying stratum. In the western part of the grid the layer seemed undisturbed. Furthermore, Stratum 1 A was lacking there (see Figure 2). Apparently the central area had been cultivated at some time in the recent past prior to the episodes of flooding which subsequently deposited another foot of silt, which now constitutes the plow zone.

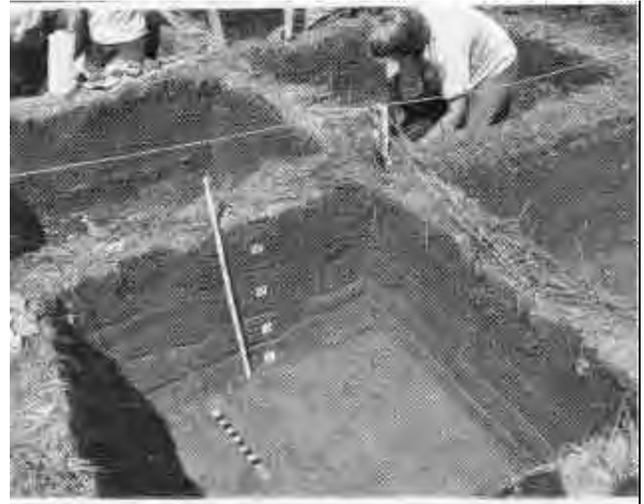


PLATE 1. Excavations in progress at the Davenport Creamery site, showing silt strata labeled from top to bottom.

Below the light brown stratum was Stratum 2, a yellowish-red (5 YR 4/8) silt zone which varied in thickness from zero to 8 in. This zone occurred throughout most of the site, but in certain areas was indistinguishable from the surrounding brown silt matrix, or pinched out completely. It rested upon a brown, compact, clayey silt, Stratum 3 (5 YR 4/6) which extended to unknown depths. In some test pits this layer was sounded to over 3 ft., showing greater hardness and higher clay content with increasing depth.

Using a Hellige-Truog Soil Testing Kit, pH readings were taken on each of the four strata. In every case the values were medium to strongly acid (pH 4.5-5.5), thus accounting for the absence of unburned refuse bone or bone implements on the site.

CULTURAL STRATIGRAPHY

Stratum 1A (modern plow zone): As previously noted, considerable historic debris occurred in this level. Also found in the excavations were: a broad, corner-notched point, rather thick, with trianguloid blade, showing considerable resemblance to certain Middle Woodland types, especially Jack's Reef Corner-Notched (Ritchie 1961: 26-27) (Plate 2, fig. 1); a broad side-notched point, untyped but similar to several points from the underlying Middle Woodland component; the bases of two large, broad bifaces, probably knives, one of which conforms to the Petalas blade type, identified on Middle Woodland sites in the Hudson and Schoharie Valleys (Funk n.d.); two simple anvilstones, bearing shallow oval or irregular scars from pounding; and two anvilstones displaying small shallow conical pits, of the form frequently referred to as "nutting stones". Other aboriginal cultural debris consisted of occasional flint chips and fire-cracked stones.

Stratum 1B (light brown zone): Though disturbed, in large part, by cultivation, this zone produced the majority of Indian artifacts on the site. Some artifacts occurred in its upper levels, but most, including potsherds, were found at or near its base, probably because (1) this level was not as thoroughly churned by the plowshare as higher levels and (2) the main living floor may have been near the lower level. Of 381 artifacts recovered from Stratum 1B, 76 occurred in features intrusive from this zone into Strata 2 or 3.

FEATURES

A total of 41 features are listed for the site. Most can readily be assigned to the Stratum 1B occupation. Others are of less certain provenience, some perhaps originating in Strata 2 or 3. It is also possible, due to the relatively compact layers, that all of the features originated in Stratum 1B.

Most of the features were hearths, oval or circular in oral outline, and basin-shaped, ranging from 6 to 66 in. in horizontal dimensions; the majority were 10 to 18 in. in diameter. The smaller features were approximately 2 to 11 in. deep. In this basin-shaped category are placed 22 features. Another group of 8 features, on the available data, were merely patches of burned soil, with or without cracked rocks, charcoal, calcined bone, chips, etc. Three or four of these features were found on top of Stratum 2, hence probably originated in Stratum 1B. However, at least one example appears to pertain to Stratum 2. Two charcoal-stained soil patches constitute a third group. Also, there is a group of 8 features, probably hearths, indeterminate in form and content due to a paucity of notes. Another variety is described below.

Nearly all of the basin-shaped features contained, or were surrounded by, fire-reddened silt, while in their fill were varying quantities of burned stones, charcoal granules, calcined bones, chips, and artifacts. The most important of these features, Feature 1, was also the largest and most productive of artifacts (see cross-section in profiles, Figure 2). It measured 66 by 40 in. at the rim, and from its point of origin near the bottom of Stratum 1B to its base in Stratum 3 it was a maximum of 8 in. deep. Overlying it was the light brown silt of Stratum 1B; this material interpenetrated the uppermost burned stones in the feature. These stones, some of which were medium-sized cobbles, rested in fill of gray-brown charcoal-flecked earth. Directly below was dark soil containing much charcoal, some of which occurred as embers. The immediately underlying silt was burned red. The feature may have extended to greater depths; the yellowish-red silt of Stratum 2 seemed to extend beneath the feature without a break, but seemed to dip in conformity to the base of the hearth. Numerous fire-cracked stones were in this vicinity. However, no charcoal, potsherds, or other artifacts were present in the zone.

Charcoal samples were saved from Feature 1 and other features for possible radiocarbon dating.

Feature 38 is unique to the writers' experience; it is the major portion of a conoidal-based, rocker-stamped pottery

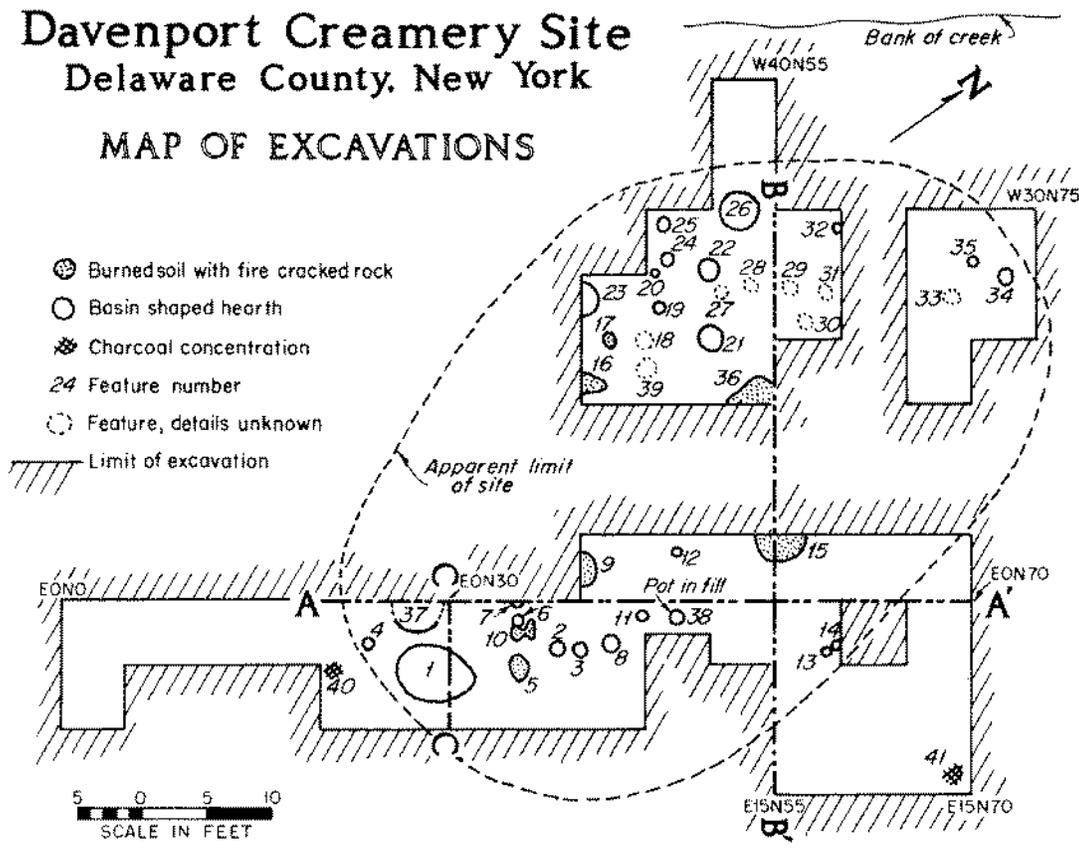


FIGURE 1. Map of excavations, Davenport Creamery site, showing distribution of features and apparent boundary of occupied area.

vessel set in a basin-shaped hearth, surrounded by firestones and charcoal. The overall feature was 10 in. in diameter, and 11 in. deep, whereas the pot measured 8 in. across. Part of the rim was intact, though the vessel was extensively cracked from the weight of overburden. The pot was filled with gray earth, with bits of burned bone at the bottom.

ARTIFACTS

Of the 381 artifacts from Stratum 1B or its associated features, 333 are potsherds. At least five pots seem to be represented. Some 137 sherds, including a large rim section (Plate 2, fig. 9) are from the pot found in Feature 38. The vessel was all-over decorated by rocker-dentate impressions; the everted, rounded lip bears a row of conical punctates. The paste is medium-grit tempered. On the outer surface the colors range from a predominant reddish brown to gray. The mean thickness of the sherds is 10 mm. The pot is assigned to the Point Peninsula Rocker-Stamped type (Ritchie and MacNeish 1949: 102-103).

A second rocker-dentate stamped vessel represented by 10 decorated sherds, including one rim fragment and 4 plain body sherds, also averages 11 mm in thickness.

A third pot, also rocker-dentate stamped, survives as only 3 neck and body sherds having a mean thickness of 9 mm. The fourth vessel is identified from two fabric-marked rim sherds, glued together as one section (Plate 2, fig. 5). The lip is rounded. No body sherds of the pot were found. The surface color is gray-brown, the temper coarse grit, and the mean thickness is 11 mm.

Several rim sherds and a number of body sherds pertain to a plain-surfaced round-lipped pot, probably of Point Peninsula Plain type (Ritchie and MacNeish 1949: 103) (fig. 7). The surface is brown in color. The tempering material is

medium grit. Mean thickness is 10 mm. A sixth pot may be denoted by one cord-malleated neck sherd and two smoothed-over-cord body sherds; no possibly associated rim sherds were found.

The remaining sherds in the collection are largely rocker-dentate impressed, and difficult to assign to any particular vessel. In thickness, color, and paste characteristics they match the other sherds described above.

A strange assortment of stylistically diverse projectile points, all chipped from eastern or central New York Onondaga flint, was recovered from this cultural horizon. Two of the points were untyped narrow-bladed, moderately thin, very symmetrical side-notched specimens. One (Plate 2, fig. 15) is 54 mm long, 22 mm wide, and 8 mm thick, with a haft width of 13 mm. The other (fig. 16) is about 45 mm long (the tip is missing), 19 mm wide, and 6 mm thick, and the haft width is 12 mm. Probably closely related, i.e. manufactured by the same cultural group, are three small broad, triangular-bladed side-notched points (Plate 2, figs. 17-19). They range from 30 to 36 mm in length, 20 to 21 mm in breadth, and are 5 mm thick. All have haft widths of 11 mm. As a group the five thin side-notched points most closely resemble the Long Bay type, tentatively named and defined by Ritchie as a minority form in the Point Peninsula tradition; this type is described in the revision of his 1961 manual on typology.

A third variety of projectile point consists of four generally larger, broader, relatively crude side-notched specimens (figs. 20, 24-26). Three whole points vary in length from 40 to 50 mm, in width from 26 to 29 mm, and in thickness from 6 to 9 mm. Haft widths are 19 to 21 mm. Once again, these are untyped; one point (fig. 20) resembles the Brewerton Side-Notched type (Ritchie 1961: 19-20), but lacks basal grinding.

Three Fox Creek Stemmed points (plate 2, figs. 12-14) are also present. This type is equivalent to "Steubenville Stemmed" as it was defined and tentatively assigned to the Middle Woodland period in the first edition of the Ritchie typology (Ritchie 1961: 51-52). It has now been placed beyond question in the Middle Woodland period of central and eastern New York as a result of recent researches on stratified and single-component sites (Funk 1968; Hesse 1968; Funk n.d.; Ritchie and Funk n.d.; Kaeser 1968).

Found in a feature which appeared to originate in Stratum 3 was a classic Jack's Reef Corner-Notched point (fig. 8)

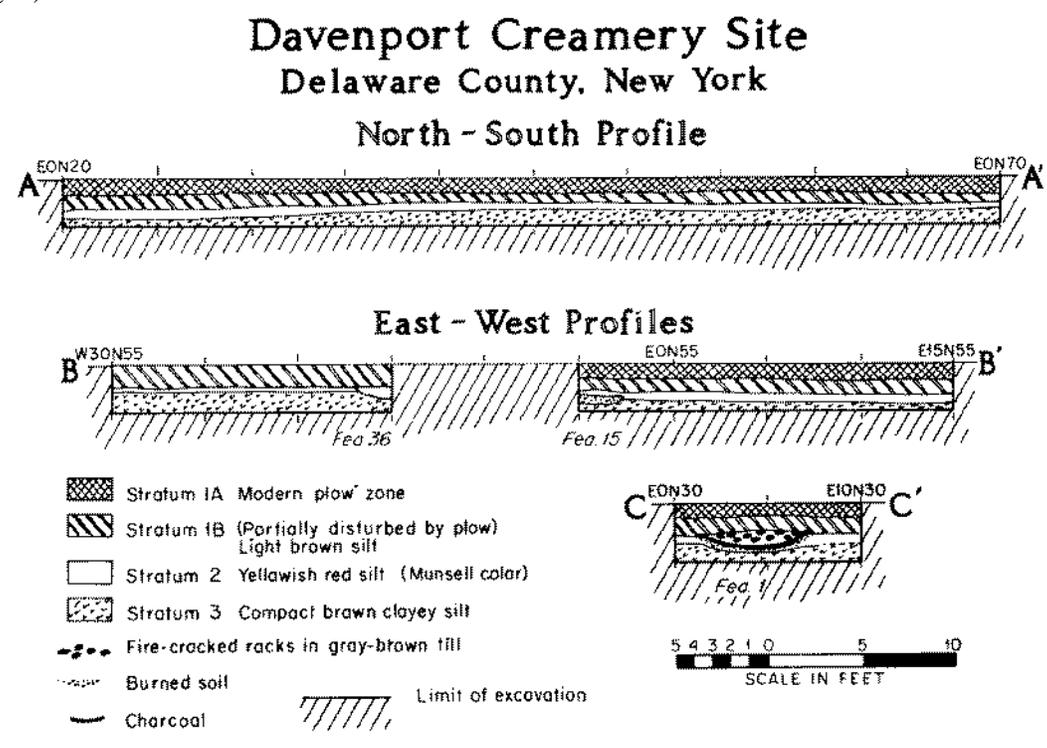


FIGURE 2. Stratigraphic profiles, Davenport Creamery site.

(Ritchie 1961: 26-27). Though no sherds were associated, this point is assigned to the ceramic period component on the assumption that the level of origin of the feature was higher than the excavator believed.

In addition, four probably Archaic to Transitional points came from Stratum 1 B or in two cases from an associated feature. These are a Perkiomen point (Plate 2, fig. 22); a Snook Kill-like point (fig. 21); a probable Susquehanna Broad point; and a crude stemmed point (fig. 23). Since nearly all of the other artifacts from the level are of Middle Woodland provenience, and since Archaic horizons are represented in lower levels of the site, it appears likely that these points are intrusive through the feature-digging activities of the Middle Woodland campers.

One of the surprises on the site was the discovery of a superb example of a Petalas blade (Pl. 2, fig. 10), a large broad biface form known since 1963 to be of Middle Woodland origin. Prior to this find the distribution of this style appeared to be confined to the Schoharie and Hudson Valleys (Funk n.d.). This example is 135 mm long, 62 mm wide, and 14 mm thick. It is very symmetrical, displaying the characteristic outline with greatest breadth of the convex sides near midpoint. The broad, shallow percussion flake scars are typical of the form. Like the blades from eastern New York, this one was almost certainly a knife, since it shows edge-polish resulting from heavy use.

Other bifaces from the level comprise 4 point fragments; 2 small ovate knives (fig. 27); 3 knife fragments (fig. 28); a thin end scraper on a retouched point tip fragment of classic Meadowood form (Ritchie 1965: 190); and a possible drill midsection (fig. 11). A single utilized flake was found; there are no retouched uniface or flake tools.

In the rough stone category are: 11 simple pebble anvilstones, 4 of which are scarified on both faces; 2 pitted or "nutting stones" (fig. 29); 4 hammer-anvilstones, three of which are bipitted (fig. 30); 1 abrading stone; and 1 small, notched pebble netsinker (fig. 31).

Stratum 2 (yellowish-brown zone): Relatively few artifacts were unearthed. Most significant are three fragments of a soapstone pot, found in the southern part of the site within 15 feet of each other (Front cover, figs. 1-3). One (fig. 1) is a rim section, with rounded lip. The pot was smoothed on interior and exterior. The mean thickness is 10 mm.

Bifaces consist of one Orient Fishtail point (Ritchie 1961: 39) (Cover, fig. 7), 50 mm long, 16 mm wide, and 7 mm thick; a narrow stemmed Lamoka-like point with unfinished base (fig. 8), 45 mm long, 21 mm broad, and 6 mm thick, with a haft width of 11 mm; the basal portion of a thin stemmed or lanceolate point, possibly an Orient Fishtail variant (fig. 5); and 3 point fragments. Additional chipped stone items include a large ovate-based drill (fig. 6) and a small retouched prismatic flake knife (fig. 4).

Rough stone tools were fairly numerous in this level. The list includes 2 simple anvilstones; 1 anvilstone with shallow conical pits, possibly a nutting stone (fig. 9); 5 hammer-anvil stones, 3 of them bipitted (fig. 11); 2 pebble hammerstones; a possible hammer or chopper displaying a roughly flaked edge; and a notched netsinker (fig. 10).

Three ceramic potsherds of Middle Woodland affiliation were reported to have been found in Stratum 2. If this placement is correct, it is probable that the sherds were intrusive from Stratum 1 B.

Stratum 3 (brown clay-silt zone): Definitely recovered from upper levels of this zone was a small group of objects largely referable to Archaic habitancy of the site. Two points (Plate 3, figs. 12, 13) are of Brewerton Side-Notched type (Ritchie, personal communication); the other two points (figs. 14, 15) are of narrow stemmed form, and are similar to the Bare Island type (Ritchie 1961: 14-15), although the specimen illustrated as figure 15 could possibly be interpreted as an Orient Fishtail variant. Also from the stratum are 2 point fragments, a Meadowood drill (Ritchie 1965: 192), the tip of a large knife, and an ovate knife.

The Brewerton Side-Notched points are 44 and 42 mm long, 22 and 26 mm wide, 8 mm thick, and have haft widths of 14 mm. The complete stemmed point is 57 mm long, 19 mm broad, and 8 mm thick, with haft width of 12 mm.

Surface: Placed in this category are the three untyped side-notched points from Hoagland's original test pit (Plate 2, figs. 24). Their precise level of origin is unknown. One (fig. 2) resembles, rather vaguely, various late Archaic point types without corresponding to any of them. Another (fig. 3) is nearly identical to the thin side-notched points in the Middle Woodland component. The third (fig. 4) may also pertain to that component. The only point which is reasonably complete (fig. 4) is 39 mm long; the side of the blade is broken, hence the width cannot be accurately measured. The other two points are 20 and 21 mm broad, and the three points have thicknesses of 6 mm, 6 mm, and 7 mm, respectively.

Also listed as "surface" are 40 potsherds, all body fragments, whose provenience was not kept in the field, although they almost certainly came from Stratum 1B.

Radiocarbon samples: Few features could be attributed, even tentatively, to Strata 2 and 3, and none of the few contained quantities of charcoal suitable for dating. On the other hand, a number of hearths associated with Stratum 1B produced excellent charcoal samples. Feature 1 yielded the largest sample, plus diagnostic artifacts of the Middle

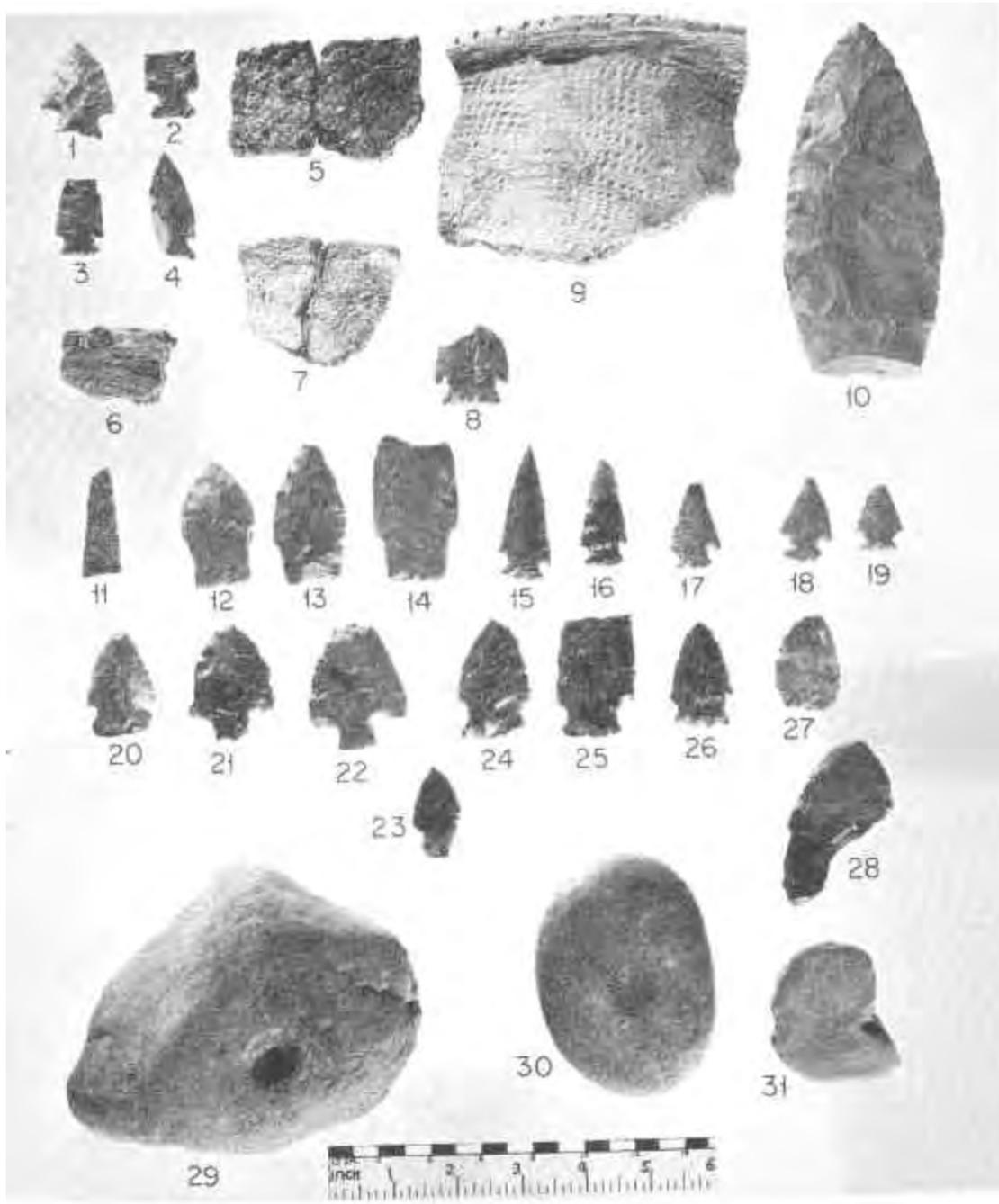


PLATE 2. Artifacts from the upper levels (Strata 1A and 1B), Davenport Creamery site. Fig. 1, plow zone (Stratum 1 A); 2-4, from test pit; all others from Stratum 1B or associated features. 1, untyped broad corner-notched point; 24, untyped side-notched points; 5, fabric-marked rim sherd with rounded lip; 6, rocker-dentate stamped rim sherd with rounded lip; 7, plain rim sherd with rounded lip; 8, Jack's Reef Corner-Notched point; 9, rocker-dentate stamped rim sherd with rounded lip; 10, Petalas blade; 11, possible drill midsection; 12-14, Fox Creek Stemmed points; 15-19, untyped thin side-notched points; 20, 24-26, untyped broad side-notched points; 21, Snook Kill-like point; 22, Perkiomen point; 23, crude small stemmed point; 27, 28, ovate knives; 29, pitted stone; 30, bipitted hammer-anvilstone; 31, notched netsinker. Lithic material: figs. 1-4, 8, 11-28, eastern Onondaga flint; 29-31, graywacke.

Woodland component (thin side-notched points and rocker-dentate stamped potsherds); therefore the sample was submitted by Funk to Isotopes, Inc., in February, 1970. The resultant age determination, A.D. 325 = 95 years (I-4838), is very satisfactory in terms of estimates based on dated Middle Woodland sequences in the Susquehanna drainage and in other parts of the Northeast (Ritchie 1965: 203-265; Ritchie and Funk n.d.; Funk n.d.).

Subsistence remains: A charred hickory nut was found in association with Feature 3, a small basin-shaped hearth originating in Stratum 1B. No other vegetal food remains were found. Several hearths produced fragments of burned mammal bone which, except for a few parts of deer, are unfortunately too small for species identification. These traces, plus inferences from artifact types, constitute the basis for interpretations of the prehistoric subsistence patterns at the site.

Settlement Patterns: The site map, Fig. 1, shows the distribution of features within the excavated area. The features seem to be grouped, with few exceptions, in an oval area about 60 ft. long and 40 ft. wide, with long axis oriented north-south. Open spaces containing few or no features are visible on the northeast, northwest, and southwest. Extensive test-pitting in the surrounding field disclosed no signs of occupancy at any level. Thus it seems that our excavations have succeeded in delimiting the site fairly well, though portions of it remain undug. It was evidently a small camp locus, situated at all times close to the stream bank rather than in some other part of the field.

As noted earlier, the collection of debitage and the counting of firestones were not consistently carried out. However, the available data clearly reveal the numerical preponderance of cracked stones, flint chips and cores in the same squares where hearths were clustered. Artifacts, as might be anticipated, were also most numerous in this area.

Possible post molds were rare, but a few examples were observed in widely scattered parts of the site. These phenomena were poorly-defined, round discolorations in the silt, about 3 in. in diameter.

Analysis of the vertical distribution of features, chips, and artifacts graphically demonstrates that remains of the Middle Woodland component were far more abundant than those of earlier components. The debris of Transitional origin, in turn, considerably exceeds the material traces of underlying Archaic habitation.

The following discussion applies very largely to the Middle Woodland component.

Most, if not all, of the hearths were apparently used simply for cooking food or for warmth. Fires were kindled usually in small basin-shaped depressions scooped out in the ground. Meat may have been roasted directly over the fires, or boiled in pots filled with water. The pots may have been propped up on pebbles, thus explaining the cracked rocks found in most features. Feature 38 may exemplify this method. Pots were probably broken occasionally during heating, so that some sherds fell among the stones. Joints of meat or, more likely, bones broken into small pieces to obtain the marrow, may sometimes have fallen into the fires, resulting in the bits of calcined bone often present in the fill. But it is more difficult to explain the frequent discovery of projectile points, anvil stones, or other artifacts in the features. It seems likely that activities carried on around, as well as over, the fires may have led to the accidental dropping of some items into the basins. Or, refuse may deliberately have been thrown into features no longer in use.

Feature 1 seems to have been unique on the site. There is little doubt that the bed of pebbles and cobbles was laid upon a hot, blazing fire. This suggests that the object was to heat the cobbles rather than to directly heat a pottery vessel, haunch of deer, etc. Possibly something (meat, acorns?) was to be roasted or baked on top of the cobbles after the fire had diminished to glowing embers.

Subsistence remains as previously mentioned were extremely scanty, consisting of one charred hickory nut and highly fragmented burned bones, including several deer bones. On this slim evidence it is postulated that nuts and acorns were gathered, probably in the fall, and that hunting was practiced. These food-getting activities are reflected in the assumed artifact functions. The occurrence of a few pitted stones or "nutting stones" corresponds with the hypothesis that nuts were an important source of food. The predominance of projectile points in the chipped stone collection supports the presumed basic role of hunting in the economy. Biface knives, probably butchering tools, correlate well with the function attributed to points. The wear pattern on the Petalas blade (Plate 2, fig. 10) coincides with the wear on meat knives described by Semenov (1964: 101-106) for the Russian Upper Paleolithic.

Only two netsinkers were found on the site, one in Stratum 1B, the other in Stratum 2. These provide the only evidence for fishing on the site. Judging from the shallowness of the stream next to the site, a weir would have served better than a net as a method of catching fish.

Flint-knapping is represented by the debitage on the site; this inference finds support in the anvilstones and hammer-anvils in the collections from Stratum 1B and Stratum 2. No ground stone celts or other heavy wood-working tools were found, nor were smoking pipes represented.

The essentially homogeneous distribution of points, pottery debitage, and features in the Middle Woodland component indicates that there was no particular localization of activities. Further, if it is valid to attribute plant food gathering, food preparation, the use and manufacture of pottery, and cooking to women's work, and hunting, butchering, and flint-knapping to men's work, then both sexes were present on the site, no doubt as family units. Since there is so little evidence for fishing in the Middle Woodland component, and hickory nuts were gathered, we suggest that fall sojourns are indicated.

It appears that there was more than one Middle Woodland occupation of the site, because some hearths are very close together or overlapping, hence could not have been in use simultaneously.

DISCUSSION

The Davenport Creamery site was a small camp near the edge of the Charlotte Creek flood plain, utilized by prehistoric Indians very sporadically from the preceramic period through Middle Woodland times. Occupation by Archaic and Transitional groups was extremely light, resulting in the deposition of few artifacts, little debitage, and very few if any recognizable features. Two artifacts--a side-notched drill and a bifacial end scraper--can probably be assigned to a brief visitation by Meadowood people, of the Early Woodland stage (Ritchie 1965: 179-200). The physical effect of the Middle Woodland people was greater by far than that of preceding groups. At this time the area of habitation covered little more than 2400 sq. ft.; at least two episodes of occupation may have taken place, possibly of a seasonal nature. Hunting, gathering and fishing were the subsistence activities, in that order of probable importance. Considerable flint-knapping and other domestic activities such as butchering and cooking were carried out. Evidently family groups resided at the site, as part of small bands. It is difficult to visualize more than 15 or 20 people living comfortably there, within the perimeter of the camp as defined in the excavations. There is no evidence for ceremonial behavior, and no ornaments were found, leaving us with the mildly oppressive feeling that Davenport Creamery was a completely mundane, subsistence-oriented domestic camp. It may have been a temporary way-station for a group moving from spring-summer fishing and hunting grounds along the Susquehanna River itself and into their fall-winter hunting territories in the high ground of the back-country.

The cultural affinities of the Middle Woodland assemblage are difficult to evaluate. A search of the literature reveals that the group of small, thin, side-notched points (Plate 2, figs. 15-19) have no precise counterparts in assemblages from other parts of New York or the Northeast generally. They resemble a side-notched variety found in Early Woodland burials at Muskalonge Lake, Jefferson Co., N.Y. (Ritchie 1955: Plate 1, figs. 1-6). They are also morphologically close to the Long Bay point type, newly defined by Ritchie in his revised typology. The Long Bay points and the forms from Davenport Creamery can be regarded as variants of a fundamental Middle Woodland side-notched point tradition, which characterized Early Point Peninsula (Canoe Point) expressions but persisted into terminal Point Peninsula times (Ritchie 1965: 210-211). The large, broad side-notched points (Plate 2, figs. 24-26) are also untyped and lacking in precise counterparts elsewhere; but points of similar size and shape occur in the Fox Creek phase, a "middle" Middle Woodland manifestation recently described by Funk (1968; n.d.; Ritchie and Funk n.d.) as a result of discoveries in the Hudson, Schoharie, and Susquehanna Valleys. An important Fox Creek component in the Upper Susquehanna Valley, the Fredenburg site near Otego, has been described by F.J. Hesse (1968). Broad side-notched or expanded-stem points occurred as a minority in this component.

Rocker-dentate stamped pottery predominates in the ceramic industry at Davenport Creamery. Though the sample is small, this high proportion is typical of Late Point Peninsula in central New York (Ritchie and MacNeish 1949: Figure 42). The fabric-marked sherd (Plate 2, fig. 5) is not typical of Point Peninsula, being highly characteristic of the Fox Creek phase. In fact, the rocker-stamped, plain, and fabric-marked ceramics, plus the hint of cord-malleated sherds, are indistinguishable from Fox Creek pottery in every attribute. The connections with the phase are strengthened by the presence of three Fox Creek Stemmed points (Plate 2, figs. 12-14) and by the whole Petalas blade (fig. 10); another fragmentary Petalas blade was found on the site, but had to be recorded as "plow zone" because it was not properly segregated in the field.

Possibly these Fox Creek elements could be regarded as from a component separate from the rest of the assemblage; but this seems unlikely in view of the wide distribution of the points and blades on the site. Furthermore, similar "mixture" of elements has been established for components in the Hudson drainage, where it is evident that the Fox Creek phase underwent evolution into Kipp Island-like and Hunter's Home manifestations (Funk n.d.).

An Early Point Peninsula (Canoe Point) midden on the Susquehanna River near Binghamton was explored at the Cottage site by a New York State Museum party in 1967 (Wilcox n.d.). Radiocarbon dated at A.D. 140 ± 100 years (Y-2348), this component yielded small, broad, relatively crude side-notched points, not particularly like either the poorly made or the well-fashioned points from Davenport Creamery. Nevertheless, it is suggested here that the Davenport component represents a stage of development within a regional Middle Woodland tradition, intermediate between the earlier Cottage site and the later Fox Creek phase as seen at the Fredenburg site. The C-14 date of A.D. 325 for Davenport Creamery fits very well with this placement, preceding the Fredenburg date of A.D. 360 ± 100 years (I-3442) by 35 years; it could be older, within the standard deviation. The important type component of the Fox Creek phase in Stratum 3 at the Westheimer site in the Schoharie Valley is dated between A.D. 410 and 450; seriation based on projectile point types also places the Fredenburg site earlier in time than the Westheimer component.

Ceramic seriation and projectile point seriation, backed up by radiocarbon dates, delineate an evolution of the Fox Creek phase into the Hunter's Home phase, through intermediate developments, in the Schoharie-Mohawk-Hudson system. The possible reasons for this convergence with Late Point Peninsula of central New York will not be discussed here. It is important to note that in this sequence, there is a period of coexistence of as many as four point types (Fox Creek, Greene, Jack's Reef, Levanna), at the end of which Levanna points become the exclusive form. A similar association of two or three point styles is demonstrated by the Susquehanna Valley sites. It is likely that the sequence in this drainage also developed in the direction of the Kipp Island and Hunter's Home phases; a component of Hunter's Home affiliation has been excavated at the White site near Norwich (Ritchie 1965: 257-260), and Early Owasco stations seem abundant in the region around Oneonta and Otego (Ritchie 1938; 1965: 280; F.J. Hesse, personal communication).

Thus, in summary, it appears that in the Upper Susquehanna Valley, a Middle Woodland cultural tradition, as yet poorly known, evolved from (1) a thinly distributed stage, something like the Canoe Point phase, dated A.D. 140 at the Cottage site, in which small, crude side-notched points predominated, through (2) an intermediate stage, reflected at Davenport Creamery, dated A.D. 325, featuring well-fashioned thin side-notched points, cruder large side-notched points, and Fox Creek Stemmed points, into (3) the full-blown Fox Creek phase, as shown at Fredenburg's, dated A.D. 360, where Fox Creek Stemmed points heavily predominated, though a minority of stemmed and side-notched points were present. The details of regional ceramic development remain to be worked out.

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INFERENCE ON THE NORTHERN DISPERSAL OF CONY PROJECTILE POINTS
AND NET-IMPRESSED POTTERY, BASED ON DATA FROM COASTAL NEW YORK

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Metropolitan Chapter

INTRODUCTION

To stress the need for problem oriented site excavations followed by published analytical data is hardly necessary. The need is clear to anyone working in the Middle Atlantic Seaboard area. To determine how and why regional cultural sequences developed and probably interacted with each other it is necessary, however, to formulate and explore testable hypotheses.

In Coastal New York and the Lower Hudson Valley, vestiges of many eastern cultures are recovered archeologically. It seems apparent that in this region groups practicing different material culture traditions lived side by side making a definition of a culturally homogeneous area out of the question. If, as I believe, reconstruction is the only legitimate goal of archeology, the initial problem is to separate and attempt to define these co-existing traditions.

If the Midwestern Taxonomic Method (McKern 1939: 308-309) of classification is used in analysis, similarities in artifacts should carry the implication of a common or related history. Unless pottery, projectile points and other elements of material culture, when defined by type, serve as indicators of relative time or cultural relatedness or differentiation, the types are of little historical value in defining units of culture and they can be utilized only in a trait distribution study emphasizing the type as present or absent evidence in purely descriptive reports.

On the whole, I think it imprudent to attribute a trait, or an assemblage of traits, to any taxonomic order, from focus to phase, unless the diagnostic trait or assemblage concept was formulated from collected areal survey data. To validate a concept, an assemblage should be at least basically reflected at subsequent site investigations, and the defining or key traits should be obvious and recognizable as elements of a cultural component by researchers other than the concept's author. When his standard is met, the resultant trait list can be used for the further objective of determining the degree of relationship among the tribal groups or cultures studied and to define the geographical provenience of one's data.

It is within this framework that "The Middle Woodland Placement of Steubenville-like Projectile Points in Coastal New York's Abbott Complex" was formulated, (Kaeser 1968: 826). That study, based on archeological evidence and museum collection inference, is the first to hypothesize the existence of a non-invading, non-indigenous culture group engaged in seasonal gathering activity within Coastal New York. The distinctive pottery and projectile point styles I attributed to the Abbott complex set these people apart from their contemporary Middle Woodland period, Windsor

culture hosts.

Heretofore, because of inadequate evidence, ceramic recoveries of New Jersey Abbott affinity were expediently explained as Windsor trade acquisitions or as evidence of an alien invasion. The associated broad-stemmed and lanceolate projectile points previously typed as Steubenville were considered as out-of-context recoveries, their antiquity and cultural affiliations indeterminate within this coastal province. The new insight provided by this study stimulated a reevaluation of some of my thoughts concerning material culture elements previously thought to be aberrant and the scope of their diffusion. Current available data places the stratigraphically intermingled Abbott complex and the Clearview focus ceramic and lithic traditions within numerous Middle Woodland components broadcast throughout Coastal New York. The archeological value of these observations was made clear at the Oakland Lake site (Kaeser, ms.) This site afforded confirmation of the sequential character of the Middle Woodland period horizon occupations and their associated assemblages. Through a fortunate combination of stratigraphic and contextual factors, Abbott ceramics and Cony projectile points were again found there in definite association and could be assigned with reasonable certainty to the Abbott complex of Coastal New York. The areal survey evidence of a recurring association of Abbott ceramics and Cony stemmed and lanceolate projectile points with late North Beach and Clearview foci assemblages indicates not only an overlap of specific material culture traditions in time and space but also strongly implies that two separate groups seasonally cohabited Coastal New York sites without entering into direct competition.

A thorough review of my referenced paper would run to some length and take too much valuable space. But, in brief, building on the provenience of Steubenville-like points and Middle Woodland period ceramic associations and their areal and stratigraphic distribution, a foundation was laid for a new interpretive approach for the Middle Woodland period of Coastal New York. The following four points sum up, I believe, the local Middle Woodland period culture sequence and its relationship to groups residing to the west in the mid-Delaware Valley.

1. The diagnostic traits basic to Coastal New York, Abbott complex, have been recognized.
2. "Cony", as a meaningful designation for the distinctive broad stemmed and lanceolate projectile points formerly defined as "Steubenvilles" has been defended.
3. A sequential ordering of the New York Abbott material culture assemblage within the Middle Woodland period coastal sequence has been proposed.
4. A plotting of the geographical distribution of Abbott complex components within Coastal New York and inferential evidence for cultural linkages with adjoining areas has been set forth.

With such a widespread areal tradition of Cony projectile points and defined Middle Woodland period pottery in evidence in Coastal New York and the mid-Delaware Valley, it did not seem urgent or necessary to look further north for possible cultural affiliations or, if affiliations did indeed occur, to attempt to define the mechanisms by which the Abbott complex diffused northward in total, or in part.

My Coastal New York survey was not planned to develop into a larger effort whereby attention would be focused on the northeastern New York region. However, new data from the northeast, added to my observations on the coast, makes timely the enlargement of the study. While I was involved in the restricted Coastal New York to Peekskill search for Cony points and their recurring association with Middle Woodland ceramics, I became aware that similar point finds had been recorded from sites in the upper Susquehanna and Hudson River Valleys. Steubenville-like points of argillite found at Honeoye Lake, Ontario County, and near Elmira, Chemung County, were possibly transported, if their route was directed northward, from the Susquehanna River to the Chemung and Cohokton Rivers. Travel up the Delaware or the Hudson Rivers probably accounts for similar point types in the Schoharie Creek area of Schoharie County. In 1963 I recovered several specimens of the Cony type and pot sherds of Point Peninsula tradition from a destroyed site in Schuylerville, Saratoga County. Because the sample was small and its stratigraphic provenience mixed, I was unable to evaluate the finds. Nor was I able to contact the sites excavators or locate a published site report which might clarify the sequence of culture material deposition.

Aside from confirming the broader geographical distribution of Cony points within a Middle Woodland period context, the available documented data from northeastern New York State was inadequate for me to decide just what material traits could be considered diagnostics or period markers in the northeastern New York sequence. In the absence of adequate data, my study fell short of publishable results. I could not, at that time, expand my research without compromising the data I had available for publication in Coastal New York. Except for the documented references, discussed below, to ceramic ware recoveries from northeastern New York sites producing "Steubenvilles", the literature carried no indications of possible interregional cultural relationships to explain approximately how and in what direction

the point type diffused or whether, as part of a culture complex, the assemblage was modified in diffusion.

1. In a report describing the investigation of the Dennis site, Albany County, (Funk and Johnson 1964: 19) the artifactual inventory from Stratum II, attributed principally to the Middle Woodland period lists:

... besides Point Peninsula pottery, a few netmarked, trailed and punctated body sherds are in the collection. . . projectile points include Steubenvilles (3), Levanna (3), Greene (2), Jack's Reef Pentagonal (1), . . .

It was the presence of net-impressed pottery in this account that first prompted me to ponder whether a Steubenville-like point, net-impressed pottery association also obtained in the northeastern region of the state. Of major interest to me was whether the net-impressed sherds were culturally related to the Steubenville-like point finds or had been accidentally mixed in the collection. Although no definite evidence of contact between this and the area of my survey could be found in the archeological record, the mere fact of net-impressed ware and "Steubenville" point occurrence in the Dennis site collection was significant. Thus, my suspicion that net-impressed and possibly zoned-decorated pottery would eventually be found in unquestionable association with Cony points in northeastern New York State, became a theme for further consideration. Because of the distances involved, some regional assemblage variation would be expected. This supposition awaited the recovery of additional evidence by researchers working in that area.

A review of all the literature I was aware of showed an almost complete absence of mention of net-impressed pot sherds from sites in the northeast producing Early, Middle or Late Point Peninsula ceramics and Steubenville-like points.

It was my assumption, therefore, that not enough pottery bearing this surface finish had been recovered in the northern region of the state to allow its definition as a pottery type, or to warrant explaining its rare existence as the result of trade or trait dispersal by a migrating or wide ranging hunter-gatherer group. Enough of the ware must have been found in reliable provenience however, for it was included in a published illustration of what are, presumably, selected representative specimens of Point Peninsula culture pottery types (Ritchie 1965: 227, Plate 78, No. 20), all of which are defined as to type and described in the text, except the illustrated net-impressed sherd. A further notation, in the same publication credits net-impressed ware as evidence for an additional technique of fishing in the Late Point Peninsula Kipp Island Phase (Ritchie, 1965:243): ... and net impressions on pot bodies.

The text thoroughly covers the material culture characterizing this stage of the Middle Woodland period. The ceramic inventory however, omits mention, description or frequency of occurrence of net-impressed pottery.

2. At a more recent date, a major portion of the Dennis site ceramic and lithic typology was attributed to the Burnt Hill Phase, a Late Middle Woodland manifestation (Funk, Weinman P.L., and Weinman T. 1966). Besides Point Peninsula pottery types and a variety of untyped wares, the Burnt Hill Phase was characterized by Steubenvilles which occurred at one of the four Burnt Hill Phase component sites, but minus the Greene points and net-impressed pottery found at Dennis.

This data, although it is negative evidence to support the proposed net-impressed pottery and Cony projectile point association in the northeast, hinted at a recognition by researchers in that area of the non-affiliation of net-impressed ware with the Point Peninsula ceramic series. Consequently, the status of this relatively unique pottery ware remained, in the Northeast, without affiliation.

3. Most recently, three papers relevant to this problem appeared simultaneously (Funk 1968: 1-7; Kaeser 1968: 8-26; Hesse 1968: 27-32), all of which must be taken into account. In essence, both Funk's and my independent work on this problem ascribe a common Middle Woodland period provenience to Steubenville-like stemmed and lanceolate projectile points. Working independently our efforts, understandably, resulted in a Fox Creek and Cony nomenclature for the same projectile point types. Funk presumably chose Fox Creek from the name of the site he considered to be the type station, and I defined the points as Cony, my acronym for Coastal New York. My reason for designating the types Cony stemmed and Cony lanceolate was to make them useful in further regional distribution studies involving questions of temporal and cultural significance or other interpretive purposes. The Cony designation and the assignment of the types to the Abbott complex evolved through a step-by-step procedure of reviewing site reports and museum collections which demonstrated the Cony points to be definitive constituents of the Abbott complex. Their most frequent and consistent occurrence in association with the recognizable and distinctive Abbott ceramic tradition manifestation was found in the mid-Delaware Valley and throughout the Coastal New York area. This study attempted to present enough data to allow the reader to draw his own conclusions as to the validity of the postulated association.

I do not know what data or criteria Funk used to place the Steubenville-like points within his Fox Creek complex, or if the material assemblage of the Fox Creek complex, which includes the points, had been found by him to recur as

common elements within numerous Middle Woodland components prior to his new designation. At the Westheimer site, it seems to have been the frequency of the points, 49 stemmed and 2 lanceolate, that prompted his decision. The same physical stratum containing the Steubenvilles at this site, however, also contained 6 Greene points, untyped broad stemmed, side notched points, and a triangular point. The pottery from this stratum is attributed to the Middle Woodland period. Specimens of rocker and dentate stamping, cord marking, fabric marking and zoned incising are listed and represented as ceramic styles preceding the Kipp Island Phase. In this ceramic inventory, there is no mention of net-impressed sherd recoveries. Plate 5, illustrating the pottery from the Westheimer sites Stratum 3 (Steubenville point provenience), shows three sherd specimens of what are identified in the caption as fabric-marked, (Plate 5, Fig. 4,5,7). Sherds numbered 4 and 5 in the illustration are clear and the ceramic surface texture is well defined. Without a personal examination of these sherds I cannot be positive of the ware finish. To my eye however, their surface bears the typical stippled, bunched-net impressions characteristic of the net-impressed ware of Coastal New York, the lower Hudson and mid-Delaware Valleys, and the Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, Mockley and Radford Net-impressed series of the Susquehanna River Valley. If these Westheimer site sherds are actually net-impressed, then it is possible that this surface finish, which is stylistically quite different from the types constituting the Point Peninsula ceramic series, have been consistently mislabeled and the researchers have not been fully aware of the character of the ware, including it with Point Peninsula. But the zoned incised sherds are neither illustrated nor described in the text. This omission is unfortunate inasmuch as zoned decorated and net-impressed wares form the chief diagnostic attributes of Coastal New York's associated Abbott and Clearview ceramic traditions. The-zoned incised sherds in this collection, if comparable to Abbott ware in technique of manufacture and decorative motif, would help elucidate the cultural, if not population affinity, between the two regions.

4. The final paper is a descriptive report of the Fredenburg site, Otsego County, considered by Hesse and Funk to be an important, single component of the Fox Creek complex. On the matter of importance I must concur for, finally, Steubenville-like points were recorded in a provenience demonstrating the first, in my opinion, convincing evidence of a Steubenville projectile point and pottery association from the northeast. The contextual association was revealed within a large pit designated Feature E, (Hesse: 31):

A total of 199 artifacts were recovered from this pit. They are as follows: 8 projectile points of the Fox Creek stemmed type, 1 knife, 1 scraper, 1 notched shaft abrader, 1 drill, 2 broken tips, 184 pot sherds of the net-impressed type ...

The Fredenburg site pit recoveries appear to be a distinct and easily recognizable assemblage. I cannot foresee any way in which this in situ assemblage can be interpreted as accidental or of the occurrence of net-impressed pottery within this pit being viewed as coincidental. I hope that the data from this excavation has raised new interpretive questions regarding interregional relations. What future approach is to be emphasized in the interpretation of this data will depend on the objectives of the investigators. In summary, the Fredenburg site data sustains my views and expectations resulting from observations in Coastal New York.

CONCLUSION

From the geographic-distributional picture alone, no time dimension inference is possible and the paucity of Carbon 14 dates in Coastal New York prevents the accurate chronological placement of the Abbott Complex. Reliable Middle Woodland period C-14 dates would assist in the correlation of data needed to pinpoint the locale of its earliest occurrence and the persistence of the complex through time. If the Cony point - Abbott ceramic tradition association is shown to have a continuous areal distribution from the mid-Delaware Valley to the northeastern New York state region, however, it is reasonable to deduce that the starting point and direction of diffusion of the assemblage elements to be from the area where they occur in greatest abundance to that area where they occur as sporadic finds.

The recent recognition of the association in northeastern New York of net-impressed and zoned decorated ceramics with Cony projectile points appears to me to be convincing evidence of a cultural intrusion into the Point Peninsula realm. In this respect, it is curiously reminiscent of the Abbott Complex manifestation of Coastal New York, again showing in disruption of indigenous cultural development.

As the areal and temporal gaps are gradually filled in by future field work, I feel certain that Abbott or Abbott-like components will be discovered in the northeast, implying southern cultural affinities more pronounced than any within the Point Peninsula area.

My expectation is that there will be variations from area to area, with the probability of admixture of assemblages of non-related cohabiting groups, these components to be eventually defined by their basic lithic and ceramic assemblage elements. The artifactual remains of the people who inhabited these sites will eventually be recognized as part of a material culture continuum radiating from the general mid-Delaware Valley locale northward through the major river valleys to and possibly beyond the Massachusetts Coast.

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THE SATISFACTION SITE

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Auringer-Seeyle Chapter

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Auringer-Seeyle and Morgan Chapters

Surveying on foot along the eastern side of Cocksackie Creek, Greene Co., New York, in the fall of 1969, we came across a very promising Indian site--judging from the quantity of flint trailings that had eroded from the bank and its excellent physical setting. Located approximately 1 mi. west of the Hudson River and 2 mi. northwest of the village of Cocksackie, the occupied area was near the edge of the creek bank, some 15 ft. above and 20 ft. back from the 30 ft. wide polluted creek. We excavated 11 five-foot squares in the loose brown soil of the refuse-bearing stratum, some 6 to 8 in. thick, in which we found thousands of flint chips, but practically no artifacts. We named this the Frustration Site.

The few artifacts that we did recover were: a stubby, untyped stemmed projectile point that had been broken and modified into a drill; an expanded base drill; a small end scraper; a finely chipped rectangular biface knife; a knife base; 2 utilized flakes; a pebble hammerstone; and 21 fragments of worked flint ranging from crude biface blades to obvious point blanks. The occurrence of these tools suggest some activity other than flint-knapping.

One interesting facet of the site (aside from the lengths of desperation to which archeologists will drive themselves) was the two semi-circular "hot spots" where heavy concentrations of flint chips were found. Possibly two or more men were sitting in different spots, chipping industriously on the Normanskill flint they had probably gathered from Flint Mine Hill 3 mi. to the south. Near the center of one of these concentrations was a pile of 34 thin Normanskill shale slabs

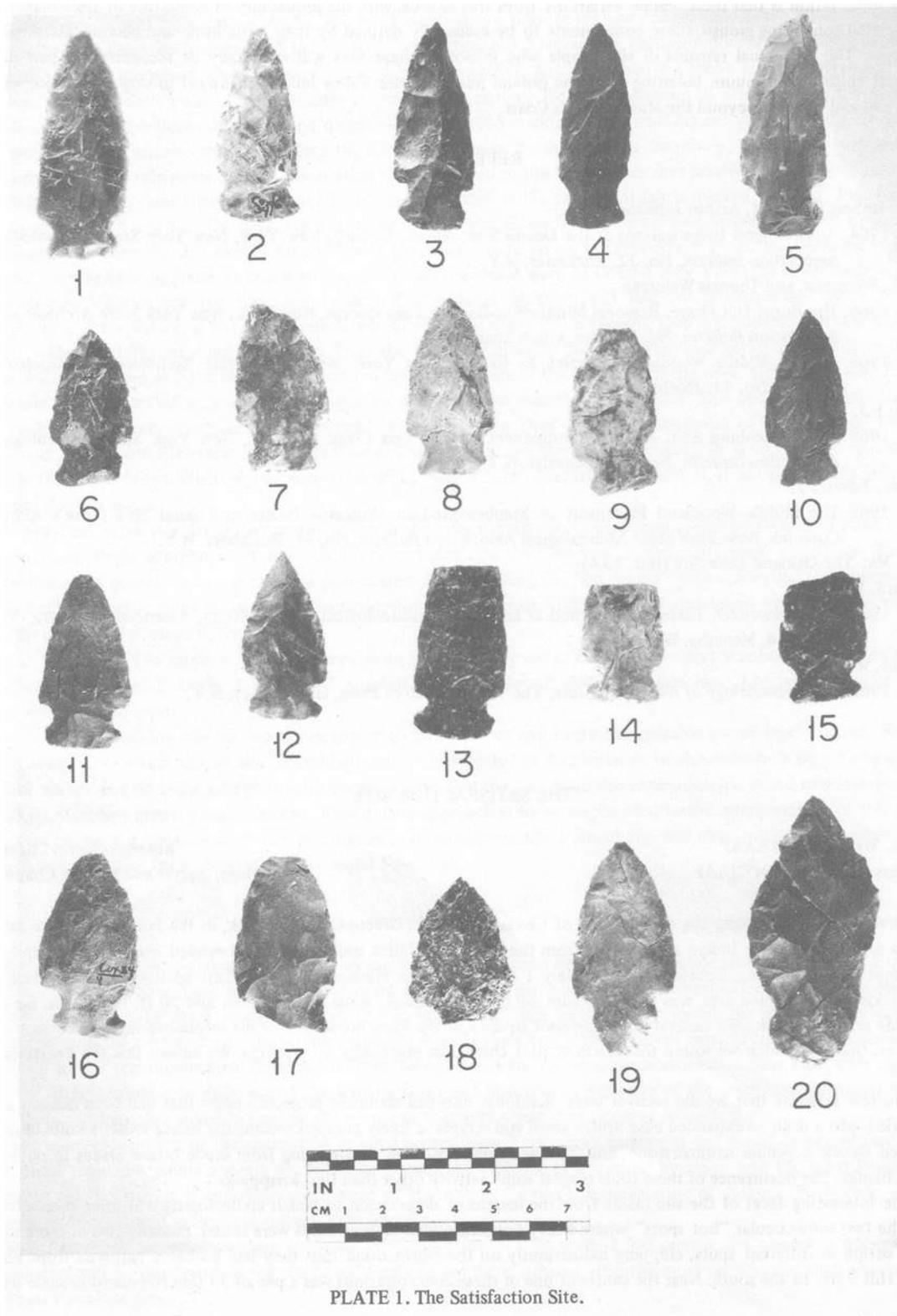


PLATE 1. The Satisfaction Site.
PLATE 1. The Satisfaction Site.

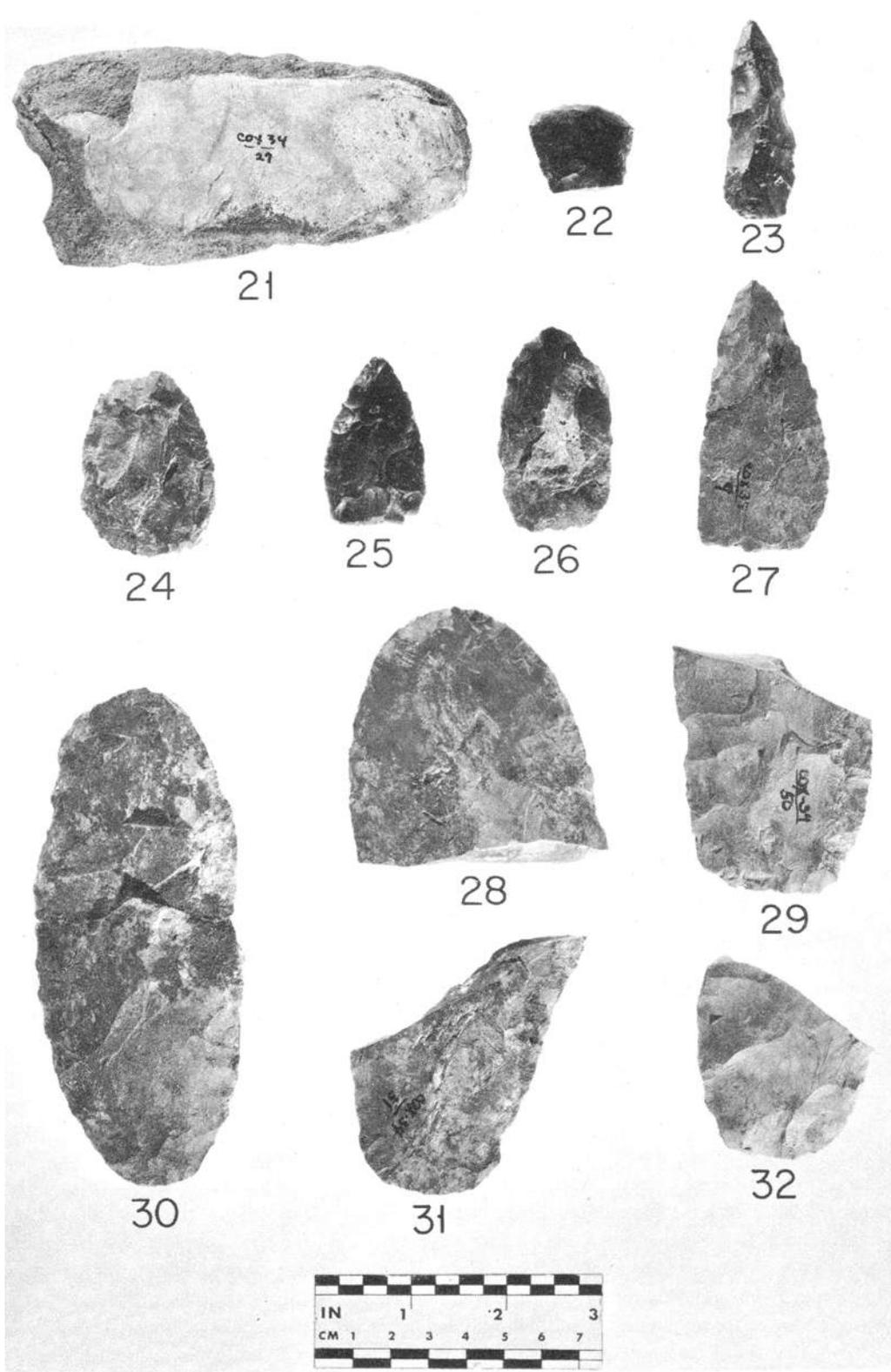


PLATE 2. The Satisfaction Site.

ranging from 2 to 8 in. long and one to 4 in. wide. The purpose of this pile is a mystery. We excavated these chipping areas, until occupational evidence became negligible. The Indian or Indians responsible for the flint litter stayed long enough to do some hunting, leaving a few deer and-or-fox bones, as well as some scraps of fresh water clam shells, before moving on with their numerous (we have no doubt) diagnostic artifacts.

Undaunted though disgruntled, we moved northward along the Creek and at approximately 75 yards from the Frustration Site, came upon another suggestive concentration of flint debris. Harboring some misgivings, we set up a small grid system and began excavations with about the same lack of success as at the Frustration Site. However, as we continued, we joyously discovered a small, though important, single-component site that yielded a good sample of an interesting projectile point style which may be a new type, or variant of another type. We named this the Satisfaction Site (Cox 34).

Located on the property of Howard Lankinoll, the site is situated approximately 10 yds. back from the 20 ft. high bank which peaked approximately 10 yds. back from the water. The previously lumbered but never ploughed surroundings on the east shore were flat, as were the ploughed fields across the Creek, though these were approximately 15 ft. lower in elevation. We excavated 16 five-foot squares, finding the main concentration of occupation to be egg-shaped in outline with the long axis perpendicular to the Creek.

Stratum I was a 4-8 in. thick, brown, medium-fine humic sand that overlay Stratum II, a dark yellowish-brown clayey sand. The cultural material was found at depths ranging from 3 in. below the forest floor to 1 or 2 in. into Stratum II. The predominant style of projectile point was a medium broad, side-notched form with straight to convex base, occasionally showing slight grinding along the base. The blade is triangular to pentagonal in outline. The 10 points which were unbroken, out of a total of 17, averaged 51 mm in length, with a maximum of 58 mm and minimum of 42 mm. The 17 points averaged 23 mm in width with a range of 19 mm to 25 mm. The mean thickness of the 17 points was 7.5 mm with a high of 9 mm and low of 6 mm. In general, they are crudely made, though several showed some aesthetic concern for workmanship. Except for figs. 4 and 9 which were made of Granville Slate, and fig. 1 of Eastern Onondaga flint, all artifacts were chipped from Normanskill flint.

Trying to fit the Satisfaction Site points into previously described types for the Middle and Upper Hudson Valley is difficult, if not (as we think) impossible. There is a striking similarity between several of these and certain Normanskill points (Ritchie 1961: 37 and 91) as well as a number of Sylvan Side-Notched points (Funk 1965: 147). We have suggested in previous articles on the Pickle Hill Site (Weinman, Weinman, and Funk, 1967) and on the Fred Young Site (Weinman and Weinman, 1968) that the notched points of the Sylvan Lake complex gradually evolved to become and/or to be included with Normanskill points in the River Phase. In the instances of the Pickle Hill and Fred Young Sites this is seemingly demonstrated by the mixture of stemmed, expanded-stemmed, and side-notched points (both Sylvan Side-Notched and Normanskill). The difference at the Satisfaction Site was the total lack of stemmed or expanded stemmed points, whereas there is a seeming mixture of the attributes of Sylvan Side-Notched, Normanskill and similar side-notched points.

At the Sylvan Lake Rockshelter, Funk (n.d.) found that Sylvan Side-Notched points first appeared at lower levels of Stratum II in association with stemmed forms and gradually increased in proportion until they equaled the number of stemmed forms at the top. In addition, several Normanskill points were found in context with both Sylvan Side-Notched and stemmed points at the top of Stratum II, strengthening the case for morphological evolution of these varied styles within one tradition, perhaps eventuating in points of the River Phase.

Even as far west as Rochester, at the Cole Gravel Pit (Hayes and Bergs, 1969: 5), there were stemmed points of the Lamoka Tradition which were mixed with expanded stemmed and side-notched points (both Sylvan Side-Notched-like and Normanskill-like) as well as with several that look very much like a number of points from the Satisfaction Site.

In a recent article concerning the Twombly Landing Site in the Lower Hudson Valley (Brennan, et al., 1970: 24) Plate IV shows 2 types (Nyack Side-Notched and Twombly Side-Notched) which, in outline, seem very similar to many of the Satisfaction Site points. In addition, there are a number of stemmed types, though named differently by Brennan, which are similar to Middle and Upper Hudson Sylvan Lake Tradition points. Unfortunately, the shell midden at Twombly Landing II does not appear to be physically stratified well enough to place the various points in vertical, time-relative positions. Add to this the occurrence of pottery and a number of other point styles (particularly triangles and pentagonals), and Twombly Landing II cannot be used to help pinpoint in time these "new" side-notched points. However, those side-notched points illustrated in the Twombly Landing II report indicate that a generic side-notched point style had a long history of development, perhaps occurring in different proportions within numerous micro-social

groups and was diffused widely through the Lower and Middle Hudson Valley.

We also found one complete Adena-like point (fig. 19), another in process (fig. 20), and a possible fragment (fig. 18) of a third mixed in with the side-notched points at the Satisfaction Site. In outline, the one complete point looked very much like the Adena type (Ritchie 1961: 61) except that a slight side-notching is obvious giving the base a Fulton Turkey Tail-like appearance (Ritchie, 1961: 76). Funk, in the third level of the Westheimer Site, a stratified site in the Schoharie Valley (Ritchie and Funk, n.d.), found very similar points associated with fabric marked pottery, and obtained a Carbon 14 date of 570 B.C. (within the dated range of the Early Woodland Meadowood phase (Ritchie, 1965: IX). However, in addition to the Adena-like points, he also found several other types which in no way resemble the Satisfaction Site Side-Notched points.

We believe the Adena-like points at the Satisfaction Site to be intrusive from a later visitation than that of the people who left behind the side-notched points. The total lack of steatite or pottery at Satisfaction supports our contention that the main occupation was not Transitional or Woodland but a Late Archaic manifestation.

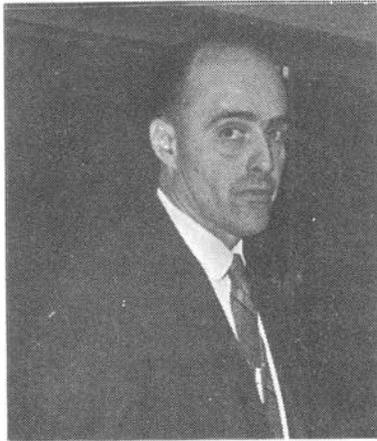
In addition to the points, we found: 7 point tips; a small, chipped quartz crystal which may have been a point; a chipped adz (fig. 21); a plano-convex end scraper (fig. 22); a straight drill (fig. 23); 2 triangular knives (figs. 25, 27); 2 ovate knives (figs. 24, 26); 5 flake knives; 3 flake scrapers; and 13 various worked flint fragments. One whole and 4 broken biface blades (figs. 28-32) were recovered at the site, possibly having been used as knives. These are suggestive of the large lanceolate Petalas blades that Funk (n.d.) has reported for Middle Woodland sites. However, the total lack of pottery at the Satisfaction Site makes doubtful the association of these blades with Petalas blades.

Although we found 2 basin-shaped hearth features (dimensions 12"x9"x3" and 14"x1 2"x3") containing charcoal, the quantity was not sufficient for C-14 dating. Hopefully, with continued excavations in the Hudson Valley, in addition to a detailed reevaluation of certain point styles from Sylvan Lake Tradition and River phase sites, we will be able to learn more of the evolution and modification of these groups. It may turn out that the Satisfaction Site people were a small splinter group that, in some respects, worked out its own way while their cultural relatives went off in another "direction".

The writers are indebted to Dr. Robert E. Funk for reading the manuscript of this report and offering suggestions on certain matters of fact and interpretation.

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Robert Funk, conference speaker.

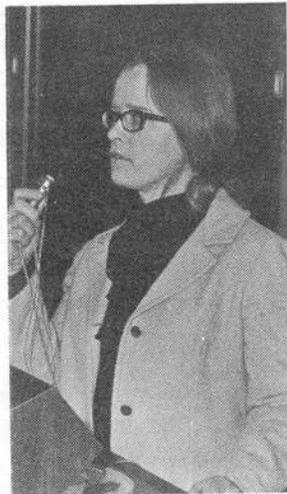


Annual Conference - SUNY at Binghamton, New York - 1971.



Order of the Arrow performs at annual dinner.

Speaker Lilita Bergs asks Association support for laymen exhibits and program.



President Michael J. Ripton presents silver gift to Dr. William A. Ritchie on his retirement.



Executive Committee meeting stretches into the night.



Editor Lou Brennan makes his annual pitch for funds at the executive committee meeting.



Houghton Chapter delegation at the annual dinner.