

THE ONTARIO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY



ARCH-NOTES

No. 68-5

MAY 1968

EXECUTIVE

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237 Lord Seaton Road,
Willowdale, Ontario.

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The next meeting of The Ontario Archaeological Society will be held at 8 p.m., Wednesday, May 15th, in Room 570, Sidney Smith Hall, University of Toronto (Room 570 is on the lower level of Sidney Smith Hall, 100 St. George Street, Toronto - two blocks north of College Street).

Speaker: MR. ALLEN TYYSKA

Topic: "HURON SETTLEMENT PATTERNS" (ILLUSTRATED)

Mr. Tyyska will provide a fuller understanding of the importance of checking and recording all those seemingly unassociated soil stains and disturbances one runs across while assisting in the excavation of an Indian site, and how the plotting of such features has contributed to our knowledge of prehistoric and early historic Huron settlement patterns.

THE APRIL MEETING

Last month Mr. Pat Hartney spoke on Human Osteology and its application to the study of Ontario's prehistory. He began with a description of the various steps required in gaining proficiency in the subject, then turned to the history of the science itself. This was followed by a summary of our present knowledge of the nature of bone and how bone grows. Pointing out that knowledge of the growth pattern in bone allows us to determine the age of an individual at death, Mr. Hartney explained why certain bones were more useful than others in determining this and the sex of an individual (The latter can be determined with better than 90% accuracy when a complete skeleton can be studied).

Turning from the study of individuals to the study of groups of individuals, Mr. Hartney showed how the morphology of a skeleton - the shape, or the presence or absence of certain features - can reveal cultural

affinities, and referred to study programs now underway in Ontario and New York State to determine the morphology - and morphological drift - of various prehistoric groups. This is expected to take some time, for it requires comparisons of many anomalies to establish relationships.

Mr. Hartney pointed out that skeletal study not only reveals much about the normal variations in healthy individuals and groups of individuals, but also changes in structure brought about by physical shock and disease, diet and mode of living, for all these leave distinctive marks on the skeleton. Evidence of the effect of these forces is sometimes quite fragile, however, and can be destroyed by careless handling of the trowel during excavation. For this reason, Mr. Hartney felt it best to let an experienced excavator uncover skeletons.

Mr. Hartney brought with him a number of specimens to illustrate various points in his talk. The interest shown in these prompted Mr. Hartney to volunteer his services in a program of Human Osteology for the membership next fall, if the response then is sufficient.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NEWS

Our bank balance on April 17th, as reported by treasurer Procter, was \$1536.01.

A letter has been sent to the newly-formed Canadian Archaeological Association, expressing O.A.S. interest in their activities and requesting more details.

President Axelson will report at the May meeting on the action taken by the Executive Committee on the Archaeological education and Ontario Site File motions carried at the March and April meetings.

During the weekends of April 27-28 and May 4-5, the O.A.S., with the co-operation of the City of Oshawa and assistance from several members of the Oshawa and District Historical Society and local high school students, excavated some 33 five-foot units at the Macleod site, Oshawa (Borden designation: AlGr - 1). This will be reported more fully in Arch-Notes after Miss Joyce Holloway, Projects Co-ordinator, submits her report to the membership at the May meeting. We can say, however, that a quick glance through the field notes and a random sample of artifacts indicates that we are working on an early 16th Century Iroquoian site.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

Mr. Harry Bosveld, of the Hiram Walker Historical Museum, Windsor, has, with the voluntary assistance of Mr. Stan Wortner, just completed the salvage excavation of two sites in Kent County; one (AdHm - 1) a Late Woodland campsite near Kent Bridge, and the Other (AcHo - 2) a loosely-flexed Red Ochre child's burial near Big Point. The latter, accompanied by a string of copper beads, appears to have been placed in a bark-lined grave.

For the remainder of the summer, Mr. Bosveld intends to continue with his Cedar Creek - Point Pelee (Essex County) archaeological survey, begun earlier this year.

This summer, Mr. Willem Loos will spend much of his time excavating two Laurel sites in the vicinity of Sioux Lookout, Ontario. If time per-

mits, he intends to investigate two Archaic Old Copper sites as well.

Mrs. Astrid Maak will spend part of her vacation in Germany this summer assisting the Rhineland Regional Museum in their excavation of an early medieval palatium.

With our members spread over such a wide area, news sometimes travels a bit slower than it would in a small, centrally-located group. A case in point is the return home last month of Mr. Ross Channen, Simcoe County Museum, after a two-month stay in the hospital. Also just out of the hospital is our treasurer, Miss Lorna Procter.

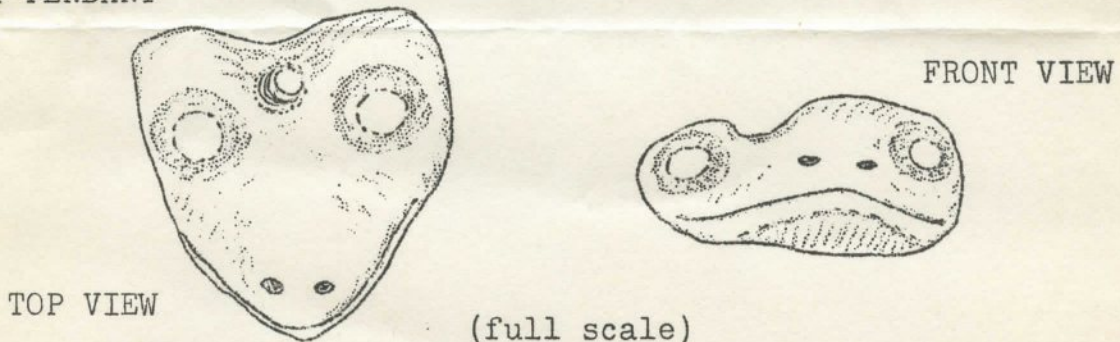
The following eight members have joined the Society since the last issue of Arch-Notes: -

Mr. Paul Maunder, Oshawa, Ontario;
 Mr. Morgan Tamplin, Winnipeg, Manitoba;
 Mr. Harold Groves, Toronto, Ontario;
 Mr. Philippe Methot, Toronto, Ontario;
 Mr. William H. Ennis, Brewerton, New York;
 Miss Lynn Niedermeier, Don Mills, Ontario;
 Miss Velma Orok, Toronto, Ontario;
 Mr. Richard H. Field, Jr., Toronto, Ontario.

THE CLUES CLOSET

by R.D. Axelson D.V.M.

AN EFFIGY PENDANT



This artifact, carved out of a hard, crystalline, rusty-red, ferrous-bearing rock, is a pendant depicting a frog's or snake's head. The nostrils and mouth were formed by carving depressions into the stone, and the eyes were made by pecking out a circle to leave a raised centre. A little off centre between the eyes is a suspension hole. This was formed by drilling from both sides - a wider drill having been used on the face.

This artifact was given to the writer by the Rev. B.P. Squire, of Consecon, Ontario, and was found by him while excavating a stratified site near Consecon, Prince Edward County (see "The Squire Site, Consecon" by B.P. Squire, O.A.S. Publication NO. 4, Jan., 1958. pp 4-17). It is only one of many interesting effigies found on this site which, according to Rev. Squire, has produced material dating back to the Archaic Laurentian. Recovered from the same level as this effigy were several ground slate projectile points.

As mentioned in ARCH-NOTES 68-4 April 1968 Dr James E. Fitting from Michigan has donated to our library a large selection of his publications. In view of our close relationship with Michigan but an unproportionate absence of Michigan material in our library collection, it is particularly gratifying to acknowledge this donation. In view of the number of items however, your reviewer is not able to comment individually.

- FITTING J.E. 1963. "Thickness and Fluting of Paleo-Indian Projectile Points" reprint pp 105-6 AMERICAN ANTIQUITY vol 29 no 1 July 1963
- FITTING J.E. 1963 "An Early Post-Fluted Point Tradition in Michigan: A Distributional Analysis" reprint pp 21-25 MICHIGAN ARCHAEOLOGIST vol 9 no 2 July 1963
- FITTING J.E. 1964 "Some Characteristics of Projectile Point Bases from the Holcombe Site, Macomb County, Michigan" reprint pp 231-8 MICHIGAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE, ARTS AND LETTERS vol xlix 1964
- FITTING J.E. 1964 "Notes on Bifurcate Stemmed Projectile Points" reprint from TOTEM POLE vol 47 no 4 April 1964
- FITTING J.E. 1964 "The Michigan Archaeologist" reprint pp 45-47 MICHIGAN ARCHAEOLOGIST vol 10 no 2 June 1964
- FITTING J.E. 1964 "Ceramic Relationships of four late Woodland Sites in Northern Ohio" reprint pp 160-175 WISCONSIN ARCHAEOLOGIST vol 45 no 4 Dec 1964
- FITTING J.E. 1965 "A Quantitative Examination of Paleo-Indian Projectile Points in the Eastern United States" reprint pp 365-371 MICHIGAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE ARTS AND LETTERS vol L 1965
- FITTING J.E. 1965 "Late Woodland Cultures of Southeastern Michigan" Anthropological Papers no 24 Museum of Anthropology, University of Michigan.
- FITTING J.E. 1965 "Studies in the Natural Radioactivity of Prehistoric Materials" Anthropological Papers no 25, as above
- FITTING J.E. 1965 "A review of..."Hopewellian Studies" edited by Caldwell and Hall, Illinois 1946" reprint pp 285-6 AMERICAN ANTIQUITY vol 31 no 2 part 1, Oct 1965
- FITTING J.E. 1965 "Observations on Paleo/indian Adaptive and Settlement Patterns" reprint pp 103-109 MICHIGAN ARCHAEOLOGIST vol 11 nos 3-4 Sept-Dec 1965
- FITTING J.E. 1966 "Radiocarbon Dating and the Younge Tradition" reprint p.738 AMERICAN ANTIQUITY vol 31 no 5 part 1 July 1966
- FITTING J.E. 1966 "Archaeological Investigations of the Cardinian-Canadian Edge Area in Michigan" in MICHIGAN ARCHAEOLOGIST vol 12 no 4 December 1966
- FITTING J.E. & HALSEY J.R. 1966 "Rim Diameter and Vessel Size in Wayne Ware Vessels" reprint pp 208-211 WISCONSIN ARCHAEOLOGIST vol 47 no 4 Dec 1966
- FITTING J.E. 1967 "The Camp of the Careful Indian: An Upper Great Lakes Chipping Station" reprint pp 237-242 MICHIGAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE, ARTS AND LETTERS vol LII 1967.
- GREEN A.R. & FITTING J.E. 1964 "A Turkey Tail Cache from Southwestern Michigan" reprint pp 83-88 MICHIGAN ARCHAEOLOGIST vol 10 no 4 December 1964
- Newly arrived from Great Britain are three donations from our member Iain C. Walker, in reply, we suppose to the publicity we gave Mrs Sansoucy Walker in April 68-4 ARCH-NOTES (page 5). Good for you, Iain !
- WALKER I.C. 1966 "A Pipemaker's Mark from Gouda, The Netherlands, Then & Now" reprint pp 747-8 AMERICAN ANTIQUITY vol 31 no 5 pt 1 July 1966
- WALKER I.C. 1967 "Historic Archaeology - Methods & Principles" photocopy pp 23-34 HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY 1967
- WALKER I.C. 1967 "Clay Pipes from the Fortress of Louisbourg" reprint pp 187-193 AMERICAN ANTIQUITY vol 20 no 3 June 1967.

O.A.S. LIBRARY - New Donations - continued

- Another major donation has arrived from the University of Western Ontario to complete the available holdings of Dr Wilfrid and Mrs Elsie Jurys' works :-
- JURY W. & JURY E.M. 1952 "The Burley Site" Bulletin no 9 London 1952, reprint from Ontario History vol xliii no 4 1951 (A stratified site near the Port Franks flint workshops with an Early Woodland (Vinette) level C14 dated at 2620 yrs b.p., with Uren and late prehistoric Neutral occupations over)
- JURY W. 1952 "Preliminary Report of a Survey of the District of Huronia for the Huronia Historic Site and Tourist Association" London November 1952 (Informal tour, observations and recommendations, many of which have since been implemented).
- JURY W & JURY E.M. 1956 "The Nine-Mile Portage from Kempenfeldt Bay to the Nottawasaga River" Bulletin no 11 London 1956 (Ontario's most famous Indian portage, substantially developed and used by white settlers and British military circa 1814-1817)
- JURY W & JURY E.M. 1965 "Sainte-Marie Among the Hurons" (A paperback edition of Canada's most widely circulated account of archaeological work)
- JURY W 1965 "Copper Artifacts from Western Ontario" reprint from WISCONSIN ARCHAEOLOGIST December 1965 (London area copper artifacts in the U.W.O. collection are illustrated and described.)
- JURY W 1968 "Location, Source and Description of Fluted Points in the Museum of Indian Archaeology, The University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, Canada" (List made available to O.A.S. Ontario Fluted Point Survey)
- BULLETIN NUMBERS where given apply to the Museum of Indian Archaeology, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario.

OTHER DONATIONS

- BOSVELD H.J. 1968 "A Suggested Adjustment in the Borden Scheme of Site Designation as applied to Ontario" Hiram Walker Hist. Museum, Windsor.
- ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY "Stones and Bones Newsletter" April 1968 & May 1968 (Fantastic Miscellany of news and views)
- ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF CANADA "Anthropological Journal of Canada" vol 6 no 1, 1968. Contains (i) "The Socio-Political and Economic Influences related to the Production and Distribution of Salt" by James R. Moriarty (ii) "The Archaeological Education of Abbe Henri Breuil" by D.W. Josselyn (iii) "A Possible Cremation Burial from the Susquehanna River Valley" by Wm A. Turnbaugh (iv) Review of W.A. Ritchie's "The Archaeology of New York State" by Thos E. Lee (11 pages)
- ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA "Newsletter" no 23 April 1968. This progressive group has (i) procedures for reporting sites to official repositories (ii) an archaeological training programme comprising a correspondence course with actual fieldwork, graded to determine student efficiency (iii) reprints of their own and other publications available, including "An Archaeological Field and Excavation Manual" @ \$1.50 U.S. (iv) and not surprisingly in view of the forgoing, a membership in excess of 1,000 !
- DEWDNEY Selwyn 1968 "The Year of the Round-Up (Pictographically Speaking)" being ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM Archaeological Newsletter no 35 April 1968 (After some years recording rock paintings and carvings, Mr Dewdney is now turning to the problem of determining age and origin, a search all over Canada, into U.S.A. and Russia, where dated rock paintings exist 3,000 yrs)
- MANITOBA ARCHAEOLOGICAL NEWSLETTER vol IV no 4 Winter 1967 (Summary of all work in the Province in 1967, involving Manitoba Archaeological Society, University of Manitoba, University of Winnipeg, University of Calgary, University of Saskatchewan and the National Museum of Canada. Ontario could well follow this example, which it set in the first place through the short-lived "New Pages of Prehistory" series.)

MANY THANKS TO ALL OUR DONORS. Members - please file fieldnotes and other MSS with the library. Make sure your name appears in the next Library Index.

ONTARIO ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE DEBERT SITE,
NOVA SCOTIA.

(MACDONALD George F. "Debert: A Palaeo-Indian Site in Central Nova Scotia" NATIONAL MUSEUM OF CANADA Anthropology Papers number 16, Ottawa, February 1968. Available free on request to the National Museum, also from O.A.S. library. pp207, 16 tables, 31 photos, 26 figs.)

It is exhilarating to have an interest at this time in the Ontario palaeolithic period. For those of us that believe a fluted-point-yielding site or sites will be found in this Province, and perhaps even hope that the fossil remains of some long-extinct Pleistocene beast bearing evidence of death at the hand of man lie yet awaiting discovery, events appear to be moving with ever faster speed and converging from all angles towards such a happy climax.

Such a latter discovery made at Folsom, New Mexico in 1926 marks the beginning of the story. After some initial gradual acceptance and realisation that earlier sites had long shown the same thing yet had been discounted, the momentum gathered and confirmation and enlightenment produced a whole new string of names in our terminology, such as Burnet Cave, Clovis, Dent, Lindenmeier, Sandia, Naco, Lehner. But these distant sites seemed far remote from our corner of the Continent, and generally being "kill" sites yielding minimum data on the way-of-life of the fluted point makers, resulted in more questions being posed than had been answered.

But searches of collections in the north-east revealed that fluted points were far from exclusive to the west and south. Probably every Province of Canada has them, and all the adjacent American States. In fact even now the wide distribution of these unique points is a source of wonder to this writer.

Clearly, with so many fluted points, somewhere must be the remains of the camps where their users lived and worked. But where? And always the second tantalising possibility "if" evidence would be found that the fluted point user had indeed played a part in the extinction of some of the Pleistocene species.

The answer to the question "where" in the north-east produced another string of names, Bull Brook, Potts, Reagan, Shoop, Hi-Lo, all in the U.S.A.

Hope for a breakthrough in Ontario rose with the excavations at Manitoulin's Sheguiandah. Here the ages were pushed back to the era of the fluted point and indeed beyond. In the fluted-point period component the familar lanceolate eared outline points were found, but alas, no true fluted points. The nature of the occupancy of this site also is not fully understood.

As recatly as September last year this writer waxed ecstatically over the "news from Michigan". A series of palaeo campsites separated from Ontario and Canada only by the width of Lake St Clair, the probable home base of people who hunted all over southwestern Ontario, if a Holcombe type point found in Wentworth County can mean that. This superb piece of reserach and study told us for the first time what we are looking for in our search for a palaeo site.

And now, before we have had quite enough time to digest "Holcombe", from the opposite direction comes "Debert", almost as if one had been passed another brick to add to the last in the foundation we are building.

Here at last a Canadian site equal if not superior to any other. From impressive archaeological and related studies a very large amount of data has been drawn for our edification. Debert has provided the earliest firm date for a north-east occupation, some 16 radio-carbon tests having showed explainable variables and a consistent date through 13 samples of 10,600.b.p. This of course is contemporary with the mammoth, mastodon, caribou and musk-ox but unfortunately no remains of fauna survived. The date is that of the Valdres glacial re-advance, the closest ice-cap being but 60 miles, the environment arctic-type permafrost, the mean annual temperature below 0°C. The site itself is largely destroyed by bulldozing but the remainder has yielded 10 complete and 130 broken fluted points, fluted knives and drills, cobble tools, chips and a vast new amount of information on techniques, adaptations, behaviour and generally those aspects which combine to make a "way-of-life".

In the absence of tangible food remains, other sources are drawn on to theorise that the 'raison d'etre' for a site in this exposed elevation is ease of observation of the game animals moving on the plains below, these being caribou. A study of the use to which the chert tools were put brings the conclusion that, while fluted points themselves have no counterpart in Europe, their tool kit and techniques "tie the ancestry of the fluted blade makers securely to a circumpolar artifact tradition, to the Upper Palaeolithic of Europe, and inevitably, whether or not the evidence is yet fully recognised, to Eurasia".

Considering this statement, and the admiration engendered in the reader for the apparent obvious truth in the author's arguments and suppositions, the very last sentence in the book seems to clash, for here he traces the immediate - "late Pleistocene" ancestry of these people to northern Asia.

The Debert report establishes a new hall-mark in our understanding of the fluted point makers. It also pushes them further back in time. As recently as last year the O.A.S. published a report on an Ontario fluted point dated by this reviewer as 5,500 years b.p. based on the theories of Dr W.A. Ritchie published more than ten years ago. The progress in the interim has been such that the Debert report argues for a minimum age for fluted points anywhere of 9,500 yrs b.p. and in support of this quotes a variety of authorities, including a revised opinion by Dr Ritchie.

All this still leaves Ontario's fluted-point sites undiscovered, but with augmented evidence of what to look for and where. After reading Debert and Holcombe Beach the uniformity of the site descriptions is evident. The key to Ontario's first fluted point site find will probably be a wide plain, fertile in palaeo times supporting the movement of herds of game animals such as caribou. Distant enough not to distract the game, but near enough for observation will be an elevated gently sloping region of light, probably sandy, soil, here is the site. Not too far away there will probably be a major waterway. The site may be windy and exposed, the physical comfort of the occupants being of secondary consideration to a clear view of the game herd.

Studies of the movements of early post-glacial herds should be matched to similar studies of early post-glacial fertile plains. Once plotted, elevated sandy areas overlooking the plains should then be examined. This site will most likely be west of the Niagara Peninsula, perhaps even on it, for a study of the distribution of the Points reported to the O.A.S. Ontario Fluted Point Survey places 76% of the Points west of the Peninsula with a large concentration - 36% of the total, in the County of Middlesex. Here are vast sandy beaches remaining from post-glacial lakes, today exploited by the tobacco grower and

Indian relic collector searching for the vast array of Indian material left from centuries of continuous hunting. So far the Survey points to only one farm yielding more than one fluted point. Here would be a spot to search (Twp Ekfrid con 4 Lot 22 County of Middlesex) and the writer cannot help but point out that mastodon remains were found on the same farm. On previous occasions the writer has belaboured the idea of examining the Canadian side of Lake St Clair for equivalent beaches to Holcombe on the Michigan side, and has harassed one of our Museum Members in the area so much with the idea as to finally receive this report :-

"As for fluted points, they are coming in so fast and furious we have no alternative but to turn them back. Someone even brought in a wounded mastodon with several fluted points in his behind. Not being a natural history museum, we referred them to the humane society"

Mention has also been made of the Davenport Road gravel beaches in Toronto and of remains found there. St Clair Ave West runs along the top of the beach and present apartment development will give us a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to examine the formations in this beach. At the time of writing huge piles of sand have been mined from this beach for a foundation of a new building just west of the Granite Club. This sand should be examined and the whole area policed.

Not to be overlooked is the possibility that a Fluted Point site lies buried beneath an Iroquoian. A fluted point described from New York as far back as 1897 was dismissed as Seneca because it was found on a Seneca townsite. The writer recently reported a Fluted Point from a farm having a large Petun historic village and probably most farms where a fluted point has been found have also yielded artifacts of more recent vintage.

It is to hoped that all our members, having read the "Holcombe Beach" report, will now tackle "Debert" and as they do so try to visualise in the mind similar localities in their own area. A fluted point-maker site will be found in Ontario sooner or later. There is no reason why such a find should not be made in 1968 by a member of the Ontario Archaeological Society.

FURTHER LITERATURE CITED

- FIGGINS J.D. 1927 "The Antiquity of Man in America" NATURAL HISTORY v7#3
 BEAUCHAMP W.M. 1897 "Aboriginal Chipped Stone Implements" NEW YORK STATE MUSEUM Bulletin v4#16
 FITTING, DEVISSCHER, WAHLA 1966 "The Paleo-Indian Occupation of the Holcombe Beach" UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
 GARRAD Chas 1967 "A Fluted Point from Collingwood Township, Ontario" ONTARIO ARCHAEOLOGY no 10
 GARRAD Chas 1967 "A possible Paleo-Indian Site on Davenport Road, Toronto 9 ?" ARCH-NOTES 67-10
 JURY Wilfrid 1968 "Location, Source and Description of Fluted Points in the Museum of Indian Archaeology, U.W.O. London, Ontario, Canada" (report in files of O.A.S.)
 LEE Thos E 1957 "The Antiquity of the Sheguiandah Site" CANADIAN FIELD NATURALIST vol 71
 MACGOWAN & HESTER 1950 & 1962 "Early Man in the New World"
 RITCHIE W.A. 1957 "Traces of Early Man in the Northeast" NEW YORK STATE MUSEUM & SCIENCE SERVICE Bulletin 358.

A SUGGESTED ADJUSTMENT IN THE BORDEN SCHEME OF SITE
DESIGNATION AS APPLIED TO ONTARIO

With the increasing use of the Borden Scheme of site designation in Ontario, it becomes necessary to make an adjustment in order to make the scheme applicable to that portion of Ontario which lies south of the 42nd parallel of Latitude (a portion of Essex County and adjacent islands), the southerly limits of the Borden Scheme.

Accordingly, the following adjustment in the scheme is suggested:

- 1) That the area of Canada south of the 42nd parallel is arbitrarily included within the area designated by the upper case letters "AH".
- 2) The lower case letters designating longitude present no difficulty, as they can be calculated in accordance with the scheme.
- 3) Of the lower case letters designating latitude, "m" has been arbitrarily assigned to the area between 41°30' and 41°40' north latitude, "n" to the area between 41°40' and 41°50' north latitude, and "o" to the area between 41°50' and 42° north latitude.
- 4) Within the system, the lower case letters "a" to "l" inclusive, only, are used to designate latitude; therefore, no duplication will result from the arbitrary use of "m", "n", and "o" in the manner outlined above.

Harry J. Bosveld,
Hiram Walker Historical Museum,
Windsor, Ontario,
April 5, 1968.

VIEWS AND COMMENTS

When Mount Vesuvius erupted so violently that August day in 79 A.D., it wreaked terrible havoc in the city of Pompeii. The eruption was not so violent, however, as to tear it from the shore of the Bay of Naples and hurl it intact across the Tyrrhenian Sea to the sunny shores of Sicily, where last month's issue of Arch-Notes located it.

As in the case with Pompeii, this editorial faux pas was not allowed to remain buried and forgotten. Though our editorial face is red, it is good to know that at least several members read our effort with keen-eyed interest.

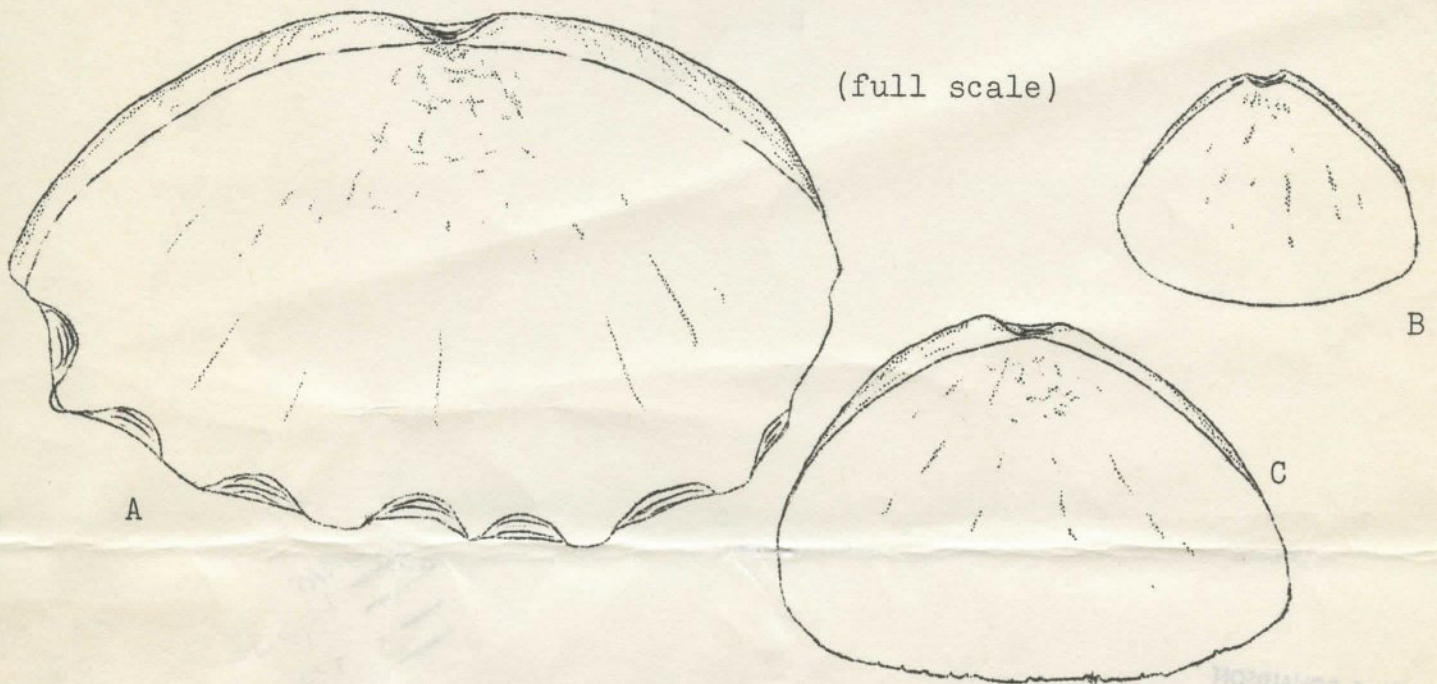
In the March issue of Science Journal (Vol. 4, No. 3, pp 48-54), Kurt Mendelssohn sets forth a convincing argument in support of his view that pride rather than piety was the main driving force in the construction of the Egyptian pyramids. He sees their construction as man's first large-scale technological undertaking rather than an expression of his religious beliefs.

It is interesting reading, for Dr. Mendelssohn draws several parallels with present-day social and technological developments.

Members familiar with the large "bust-off" tool reported from the Archaic level of the Inverhuron site by Dr. Walter Kenyon ("The Inverhuron Site" Occasional Paper No. 1, Art and Archaeology Division, Royal Ontario Museum, 1959) might be interested to know that another of our members, Mr.

E.W. Austin, of Port Hope, Ontario, has coined the term "knock-off" for a similar, but somewhat smaller, tool encountered in quantity on Iroquoian sites along the north shore of Lake Ontario between Bowmanville and Port Hope, and as far inland as Rice Lake.

These "Knock-offs" were manufactured by knocking a flake from a (usually) limestone beach pebble to form a tapered tool having a very sharp, thin working edge. The size of this tool ranges from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, and one quarter to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick near the point where the blow was struck to detach the flake (see illustrated sample below). One recovered specimen (Fig. A) is unique in that it has a serrated cutting edge.



A number of these "nock-offs" were found during the 1961 excavation of the Short site, in Bowmanville (Donaldson, 1961, "The Short Site : A Preliminary Report" O.A.S. Publication No. 6), but at the time were assumed to be just some more spalls detached during the manufacture of the many stone net sinkers encountered there. It was Mr. Austin who first suggested their true purpose, and a re-examination of the O.A.S. collection revealed that quite a few "spalls" were in reality "knock-offs".

Mr. Austin feels that these tools are most likely fish scale removers, but notes that they could just as easily serve as a knife or scraper. None show signs of having been used as a chopper, however. That they are tools in their own right is beyond doubt, for several have now been mated to the pebbles from which they were struck, and none of the latter show any sign of use.

A search of published reports has failed to turn up any reference to these tools on Iroquoian sites elsewhere in the province, and Mr. Austin feels that their apparently limited distribution warrants further investigation. He would be pleased to hear from any one able to supply him with additional information on the subject (Mr. E.W. Austin, 236 Cavan Street, Port Hope, Ontario).

Due to space limitations, Part III of "The Reason Why" will appear in next month's issue, as will the Society's revised membership list.

Bill Donaldson, editor, 111 Riverside Drive North, Oshawa, Ontario.