PORTEOUS (AgHb-1): A PROBABLE EARLY GLEN MEYER VILLAGE IN BRANT COUNTY, ONTARIO

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ABSTRACT

The small, homogeneous Porteous village on the outskirts of the City of Brantford has produced significant new data towards the definition of an early phase in Glen Meyer development. Dating circa 700 A.D., by radiocarbon, definite longhouses with internal refinements are the earliest known to date for southern Ontario and, indeed, for much of the Northeast. Artifact analysis indicates that Porteous falls between the generically earlier Princess Point complex and later Glen Meyer components of southwestern Ontario.

INTRODUCTION

The small, homogeneous, 1½-acre Porteous village (AgHb-1) is located at the southeast end of Brantford, just west of the Grand River "Oxbow" (Fig. 1). Initially recorded by Frank Waugh (1903: 77), the site takes its name after former owner and renowned dairyman Mr. R. Porteous, and lies at 43^0 07' 50" N. Latitude by 80^0 13' 30" W. Longitude in Brantford Town-ship, Brant County, southwestern Ontario. The village extends lineally along a well-drained sandy ridge 15 feet above a former creek which once drained Mohawk Lake to the meandering Grand River. Recent dumping and filling operations by the City of Brantford sanitation department has altered this former drainage pattern. Surface collections by Messrs. Thomas and Ian Kenyon in 1967-68 indicated that Porteous held promise, particularly with regard to potential settlement pattern data. Accordingly, on June 23, 1969, a reconnaissance under Dr. Noble was made on the site and it was apparent that the nearby dumping activities were dangerously encroaching upon the village. Thus, in October 1969, salvage operations were undertaken with an ever-changing crew of 48 McMaster University students and other interested helpers. Under the field direction of the senior author, a total of 2611 square feet was uncovered using standard excavation techniques. For rapid recording of floor features, cross-tape measurements proved most adequate in this salvage situation. The primary basis of the following report centers upon the description and analysis of the data recovered in 1969.

THE VILLAGE SETTLEMENT PATTERN

Measuring approximately 520 feet long by 140 feet wide, the small Porteous village covers an **area** of approximately 1½ acres in a "cigar-shaped" configuration (Fig. 2). Search for palisading around the village by means of two 5-foot wide test trenches through the village's southwestern perimeter failed to reveal any definite feature of defense.

MIDDENS

Rich midden deposits were not found at Porteous. Rather, loose remains disturbed by shallow 9-inch deep ploughing occurred throughout the village, and indeed such scattered remains helped in determining the site limits. Undisturbed soil profiles did occur along an old fence line overlooking the steep creek bank bordering the northwest periphery of the village. Here, the soil profile includes an upper deposit, 9-14 inches thick, of grey-black Burford loam overlying sterile orange-brown sandy subsoil. Artifacts, particularly chert flakes, occur throughout the loam, but best preserved are those items recovered from the subfloor pits within house structures.

HOUSES

Two definite longhouses have been mapped at Porteous (Fig. 3). Superimposed across one another, both houses are rectanguloid in outline with rounded ends. While one house is complete,

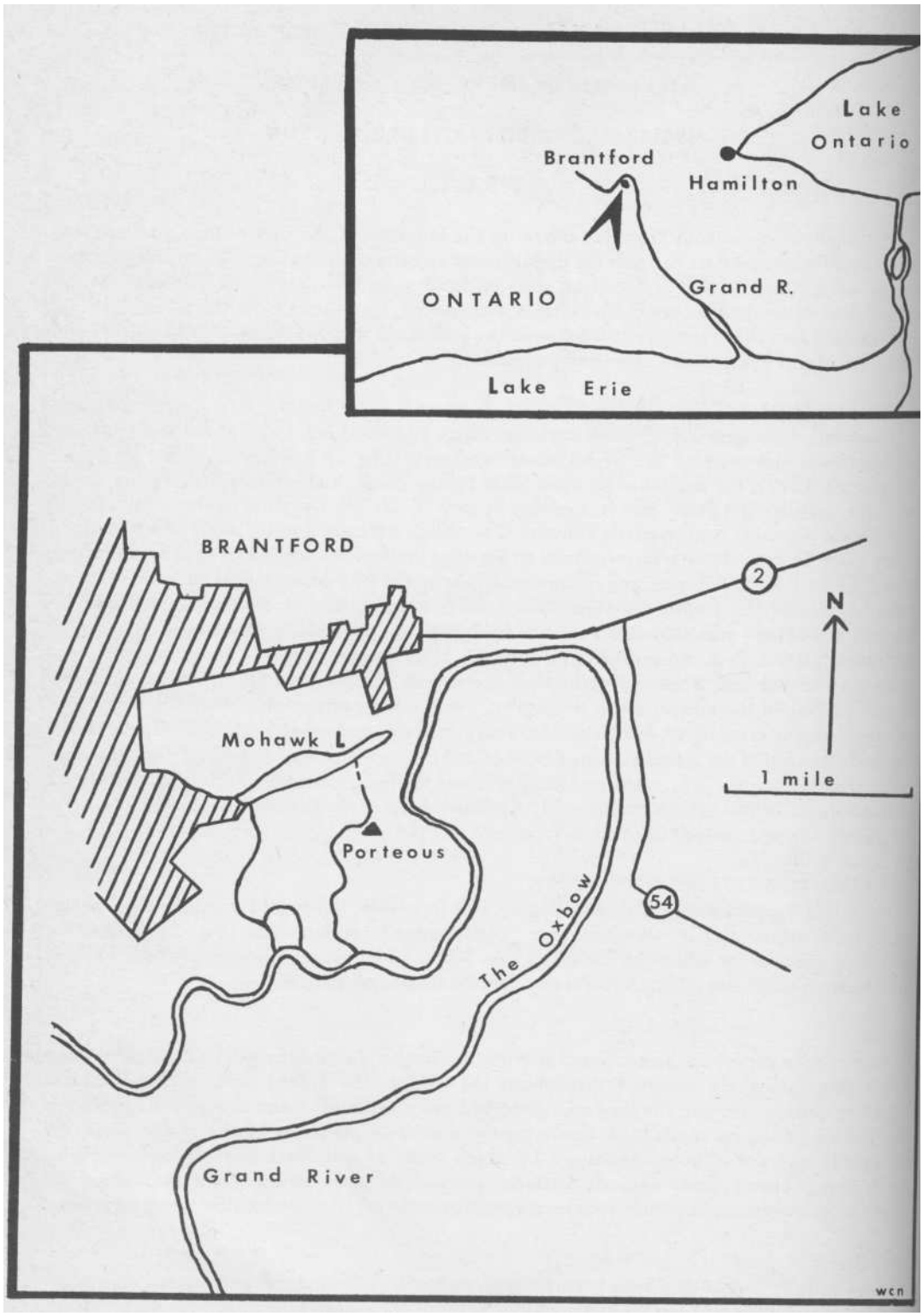

FIGURE 1. THE OXBOW AREA

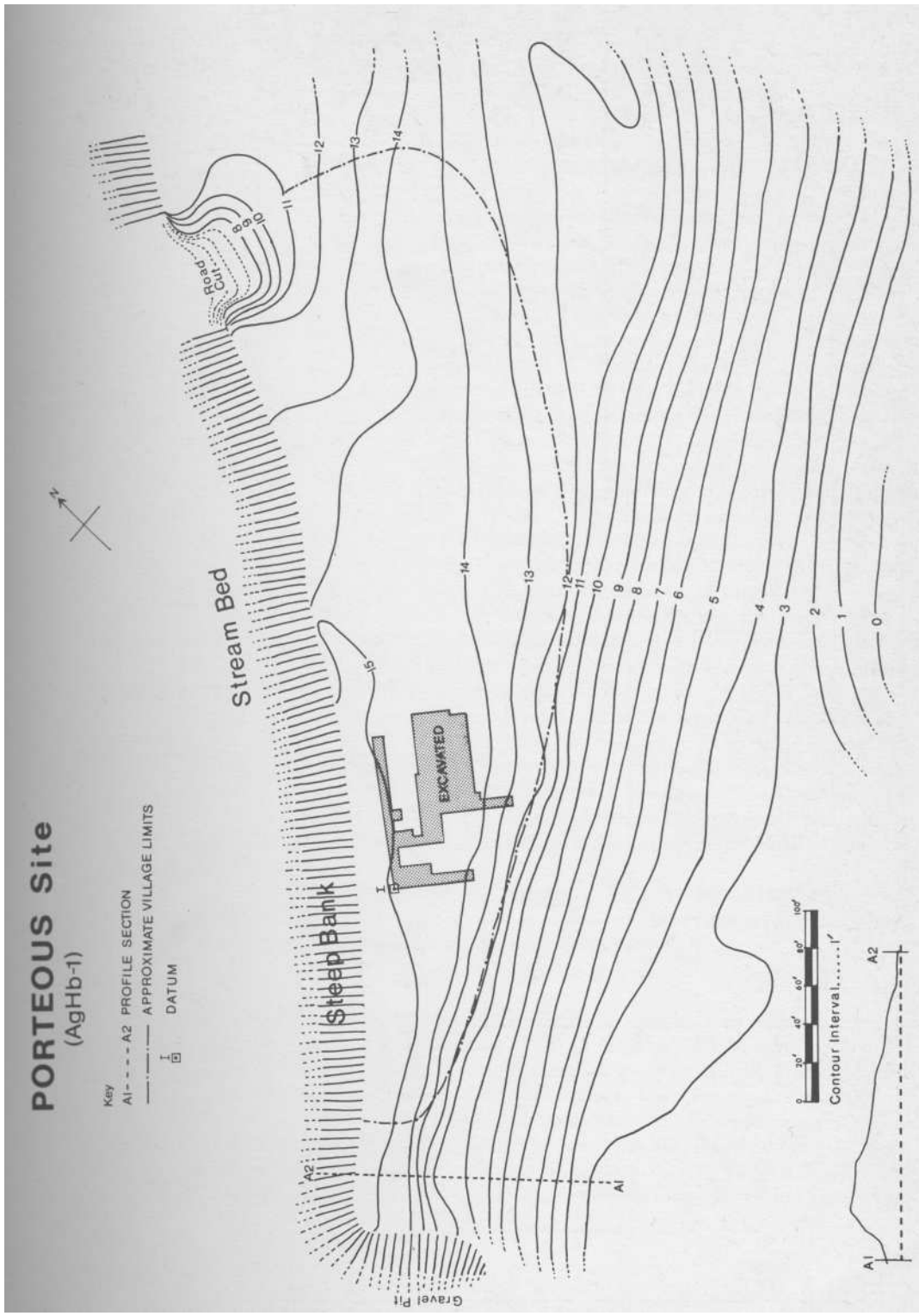

FIGURE 2. PORTEOUS SITE MAP

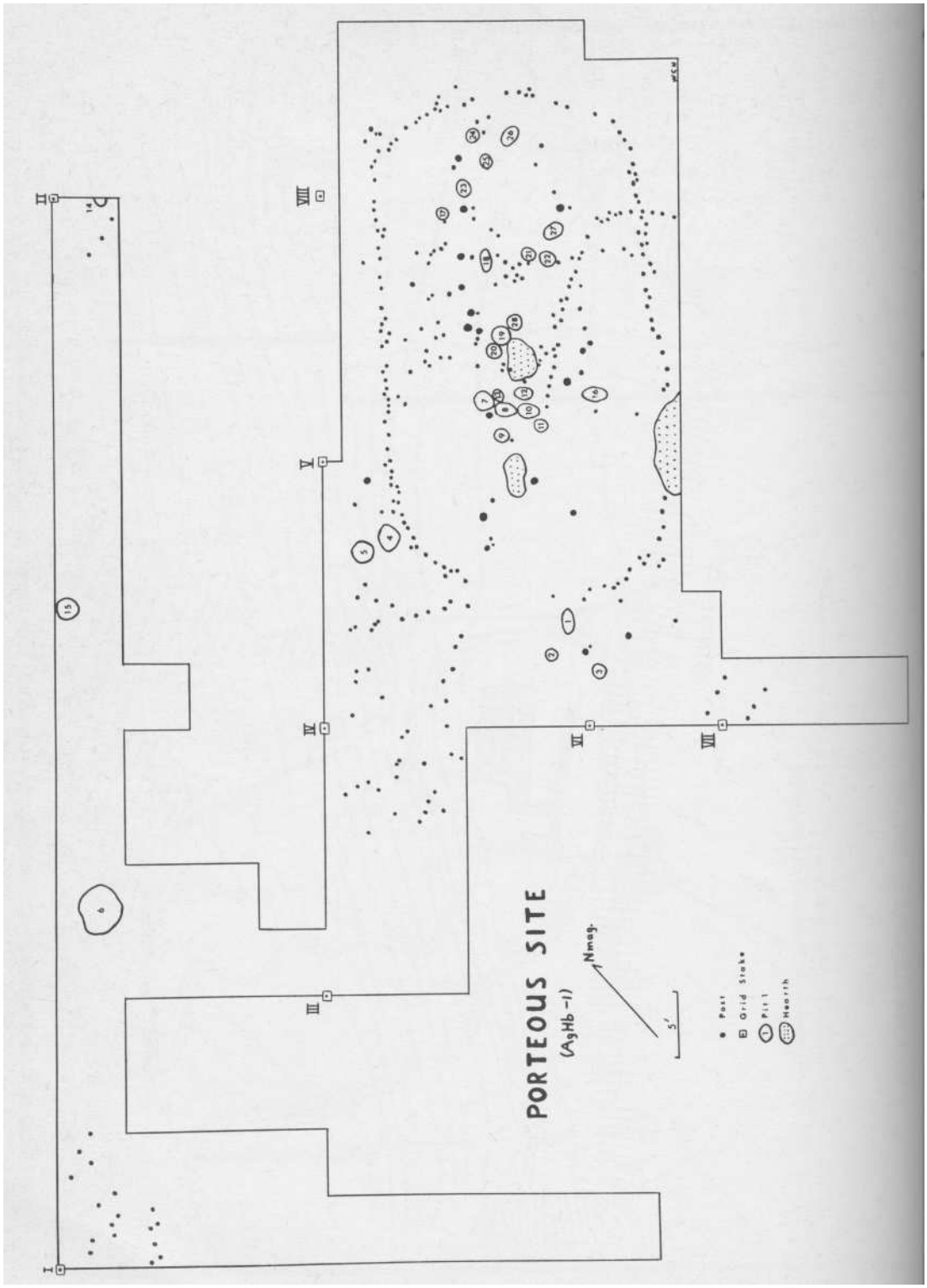

FIGURE 3. PORTEOUS SETTLEMENT PATTERNS

the second remains incompletely exposed.

The complete longhouse, measuring 37 1/2 feet long by 20 feet wide, is oriented roughly northeast to southwest, with entranceways through both ends. The sharpened exterior wall posts, averaging 2½-3 inches in diameter, have been twisted 4-11 inches deep into the subsoil, and bound the house in a closely-spaced single line. Seemingly separating the interior north-eastern end of the structure is a single wall of partition posts creating a cubicle 12½ feet by 20 feet. Perhaps this cubicle once served as a storage area.

Elsewhere in the interior of the complete house, two 40-inch diameter hearths are centrally aligned 5½ feet apart. Small hearthposts, 1-1½ inches wide, flank the more central of the two hearths, which is also surrounded by a conglomeration of at least 8 pits.

Seventeen pits can definitely be ascribed to the interior of the complete Porteous longhouse; they include pits 7-10, 12-13 and 17-27. All are oval to circular in outline, with depths ranging between 2-10 inches into the subsoil. Pits 7-10 and 12-13 contained only mottled soil and ash, thereby presenting few leads as to their probable function. However, pits 17-27 not only served as repositories for ash, but also for loose items of cultural refuse (Table 1). Notable, the only pits to produce faunal remains, numbers 17, 24 and 27, all lie within the cubicle at the eastern house end. Charred corn kernels occurred in pits 19 and 21.

Few detailed remarks can be cited regarding the incomplete house structure at Porteous. It is apparent that it too is a longhouse, oriented more east-west than the complete structure. Width of this second house is a matter of interpretation. If the single line of diagonally directed posts running from just north of peg VII is considered to be a southern exterior house wall, then the house would measure 20 feet wide. However, if the second series of posts in a line south of peg VII is taken as a potential house wall, then the diameter of the incomplete house would measure 23 feet. A 20-foot width is consistent with that for the complete structure.

Clearly curving, the east end of the second house can be traced in a single line of wall posts around to and along the northern exterior wall for a distance of at least 43 feet. This establishes a minimum length for the incomplete structure, a length which probably is not far from the maximum owing to the paucity of post moulds immediately to the west. Centrally located in the interior is a large hearth, 7½ feet in diameter, spaced 13 feet from the extreme eastern end. The central alignment of this hearth conforms to the pattern exhibited in the complete house. Pits 1-3 and possibly pit 16 appear to be component features of the incomplete long-house. The contents of pit 3 are somewhat unusual in that four near-identical "snubnose" end scrapers (Fig. 5, 12) were found cached within it. The remaining pits contained the usual fill of charcoal, ash and mottled grey-brown soil.

A third house structure uncovered during the spring of 1971 by Messrs. D. Stothers and W. A. Fox measures approximately 20 feet square. It is not yet clear whether this is in fact a separate house or part of the incomplete longhouse described above.

ARTIFACT ANALYSIS

The artifacts from Porteous constitute part of a newly recognized horizon within the generic development leading from Princess Point (Stothers 1970) to the later Glen Meyer branch of the Ontario Iroquois Tradition (Wright 1966). As such, detailed analyses will be presented here. Table 2 presents a breakdown of the various classes of artifacts from Porteous, combining the totals represented in the McMaster collection with those in Mr. Kenyon's collection (Stothers and Kenyon 1970: 6-7). Clearly, lithics and pottery constitute the most numerous classes, while others, notably worked bone and shell, are poorly represented. The McMaster collection, analysed by the senior author, comprises 2614 specimens or 84 percent of the total assemblage.

TABLE 1
PITS AT THE PORTEOUS SITE

Pit No.	Diameter	Depth	Contents	Shape
1	23" x 9"	6"	mottled soil	oval
2	8"	5"	charcoal	circular
3	13"	3"	4 "snubnose" end scrapers	circular
4	23" x 17"	6"	mottled soil, celt	oval
5	13"	7"	mottled soil	circular
6	40" x 32"	17"	14 pieces of fire-broken rock charcoal, pottery, snail shells, bone	oval
7	17"	3"	mottled soil, ash	circular
8	17" x 11"	7"	mottled soil, ash	oval
9	13"	2"	mottled soil, ash	circular
10	21" x 12"	8 1/2"	mottled soil, ash	oval
11	8"	3"	mottled soil, ash	circular
12	16" x 8"	3"	mottled soil, ash	oval
13	8"	5"	mottled soil, ash	circular
14	7"	4"	flecks of charcoal, pottery, chert, bone	circular
15	14"	4"	mottled soil, ash	circular
16	20" x 10"	4"	mottled soil, ash	oval
17	9"	7"	ash, copious fish bones	circular
18	16" x 9"	5"	ash, 1 body sherd, 2 flint chips	oval
19	15"	5"	charcoal, pottery, bones, corn kernels	circular
20	12"	4½"	ash, charcoal, pottery	circular
21	12"	8"	ash, charcoal, pottery, corn kernels	circular
22	12"	3"	ash, charcoal	circular
23	12"	3"	ash, charcoal	circular
24	10"	10"	ash, charcoal, pottery, fish bones	circular
25	8"	6"	ash, charcoal, pottery	circular
26	16" x 10"	8"	ash, mottled soil	oval
27	13"	5½"	ash, charcoal, pottery, fragmented bone	circular

Note: All depths are subsoil measurements.

TABLE 2
CLASSES OF ARTIFACTS AT PORTEOUS

Class	Number	%
Lithics	1928	62.15
Pottery	1027	33.10
Faunal remains	98	3.15
Shells	27	.87
Pipes and portions	15	.48
Cultigens	5	.16
Worked bone and shell	2	.06
Totals	3102	99.97

LITHICS

Lithic specimens from Porteous are primarily fashioned from cherts, particularly the grey Bois Blanc (Onondaga) type, and the lustrous black Bois Blanc chert, both derived from Devonian deposits which outcrop most frequently along the northeast shore of Lake Erie. A third type of chert, reminiscent of white opaque Ohio varieties, is represented by only five flakes. Rare too are artifacts fashioned from sandstone and grey silicious shale, while black gabro has been utilized only for celts.

Lithics constitute the largest proportion (62.15%) of the Porteous assemblage. Admittedly, 1532 or 79.4 percent of the 1928 items are flakes of one type. or another, which skews the sample, but nevertheless this appears to be typical of sites immediately and generically related to Porteous. The remainder of the lithic assemblage is representative as indicated in Table 3.

TABLE 3
LITHIC ARTIFACTS

Item	McMaster Collection	Kenyon Collection	Totals	%
Flakes	1477	55	1532	79.46
Scrapers	120	20	140	7.26
Cores	94	5	99	5.13
Points and fragments	37	13	50	2.59
Polished stone	25	6	31	1.60
Bifaces and portions	29	0	29	1.50
Bipolar pieces	12	4	16	.83
Drills and portions	14	1	15	.77

Table 3 (coned) . .

Item	McMaster Collection	Kenyon Collection	Totals	%
Pecked stone	5	2	7	.36
Gravers	5	0	5	.25
Paint stones	1	1	2	.10
Drilled pendant	1	0	1	.05
Shale problematical	0	1	1	.05
Totals	1820	108	1928	99.95

POINTS AND FRAGMENTS

Variety in projectile point types is a feature at Porteous (Fig. 5, 1-7), but clearly, triangular forms are the most common as indicated in Table 4.

TABLE 4

PORTEOUS PROJECTILES

Point	McMaster Collection	Kenyon Collection	Totals
Triangular	14	7	21
Side-notched	4	0	4
Stemmed	2	2	4
Corner-notched	0	1	1
Point tips	12	3	15
Point bodies	5	0	5
Totals	37	13	50

Table 5 provides metric measurements for the McMaster specimens. None is ground, and of the triangular forms, 9 are straight-based while 5 have concave bases.

TABLE 5

PROJECTILE MEASUREMENTS

Point type	Length (mm.)	Width (mm.)	Thickness (mm.)	Notch Width (mm.)	Stem Length (mm.)	Stem Width (mm.)
Triangular:	40	23	4	-	-	-
	36	20	4	-	-	-
	34	19	4	-	-	-
	32	16	8	-	-	-
	29	17	3	-	-	-
	27	23	4	-	-	-
	26	13	3	-	-	-
	24	19	6	-	-	-
	28+	22	5	-	-	-
	22+	19	5	-	-	-
	21+	19	5	-	-	-
	21+	27	3	-	-	-
	21+	19	3	-	-	-
	19+	19	8	-	-	-
Side-notched:	29	25	7	4	-	-
	29+	21	6	5	-	-
	29+	31	5	4	-	-
	18+	17	2	4	-	-
Stemmed:	36	16	6	-	14	8
	-	17	5	-	11	11

SCRAPERS

Scrapers are the second most common lithic items recovered from Porteous (Fig. 5, 12-16) Specifically, irregular flake scrapers have the highest incidence (45%), followed by Snubnose (17.1%) and side (16.4%) varieties, as well as four additional types (Table 6). While some may have functioned as scrapers, utilized flakes have been kept discrete from the scraper inventory

TABLE 6

PORTEOUS SCRAPERS

Type	McMaster Collection	Kenyon Collection	Totals	%
Irregular flake scrapers	51	12	63	45.0
Snubnose end-scrapers	18	6	24	17.1
Flake side-scrapers	23	?	23	16.4
Pointed flake scrapers	9	0	9	6.4
Small, oval scrapers	9	0	9	6.4
"Thumbnail" scrapers	7	0	7	5.0
Bifacial scrapers	3	2	5	3.5
Totals	120	20	140	99.8

Of the McMaster scrapers from Porteous, the irregular flake scrapers range between 15-48 mm. in length by 11-31 mm. wide. Snubnose end-scrapers, once probably hafted, range between 18-42 mm. long (28.2 mm. mean) by 11-27 mm. wide (18.5 mm. mean) by 5-11 mm. thick (8.2 mm. mean), while flake side-scrapers measure 17-39 mm. long by 10-23 mm. wide. The pointed flake scrapers (Fig. 5, 16), ranging between 23-33 mm. long (27.7 mm. mean) by 11-24 mm. wide (17.7 mm. mean) exhibit no signs of having been twisted in drill or graving fashion. Maximum diameters of the 2-3 mm. thick small, oval scrapers (Fig. 5, 14) measure 12-19 mm. with a mean of 15 mm., whereas the "thumbnail" end-scrapers, being wider than they are long, range between 16-23 mm. wide (20.2 mm. mean) by 15-19 mm. long (18.4 mm. mean) by 4-6 mm. thick (4.7 mm. mean). Lastly, the bifacially worked scrapers (a resharpening condition?) measure 15-30 mm. long (24.3 mm. mean) by 14-23 mm. wide (19.6 mm. mean) and 7-8 mm. thick (7.3 mm. mean).

BIPOLAR PIECES

(Fig. 5, 17). A total of 16 bipolar pieces occur in the lithic assemblage, 12 of which are represented in the McMaster collection. Bilaterally crushed, they range in size between 17-33 mm, long (25 mm. mean) by 15-26 mm. wide (20.8 mm. mean) by 6-10 mm. thick (8.1 mm. mean), and are of the opposed ridge variety defined by Binford and Quimby (1963). Often such specimens are referred to as "piece esquilles" or wedges.

DRILLS AND PORTIONS

(Fig. 5, 8-11). Of 15 specimens, variety is exhibited in the Porteous drills. Five portions in

the McMaster collection are drill tips, while 9 specimens represent complete or basal pieces. A single tip occurs in the Kenyon collection.

The drill bases appear to be of three varieties: T-shaped (2 specimens); rectangular (6 specimens); and irregular (1 specimen). Drill tips measure 21-31 mm. long by 5-11 mm. wide.

GRAVERS

Five gravers occur in the assemblage (Fig. 5, 18-19). All but one have a single graving point, whereas the sole multiple graver has two prongs. These specimens are part of the McMaster collection.

BICONICALL Y DRILLED PENDANT

(Fig. 5, 21). Recovered in 1969, this reddish sandstone pendant measures 42 by 47 mm. in diameter by 8 mm. thick. Biconically hand-drilled, the single centrally-spaced suspension hole tapers from 10 mm. to 3 mm. in width.

POLISHED STONE ITEMS

Polished stone is represented by a total of 31 items, 25 of which are complete and fragmentary celts. The 5 complete celts in the McMaster collection range between 55-131 mm. long (74.6 mm. mean), by 35-77 mm. wide (47.6 mm. mean), by 11-53 mm. thick (21.8 mm. mean). Five whetstones and 1 mano complete the polished stone inventory (Table 7).

TABLE 7

POLISHED STONE SPECIMEN

Item	McMaster Collection	Kenyon Collection	Totals
Celt fragments	14	4	18
Complete celts	5	2	7
Whetstones	5	0	5
Mano	1	0	1
Totals	25	6	31

BIFACES AND PORTIONS

(Fig. 5, 22-23). Of 29 bifaces and portions in the McMaster collection, 22 are fragmentary pieces. Complete bifaces are roughly fashioned and occur in two shapes: ovate (5) and linear (2).

PECKED STONE ITEMS

(Fig. 6, 20). Table 8 lists the relatively small number of pecked stone specimens from Porteous. The anvil stones include unifacially and bifacially pitted examples, while the single cylindrical ha[m]merstone is pitted at both ends. The hammerstone measures 55 mm. long by 47 mm. wide and 33 mm. thick.

TABLE 8

PECKED STONE SPECIMENS

Item	McMaster Collection	Kenyon Collection	Totals
Anvil stones	4	2	6
Bipolar hammerstone	1	0	1
Totals	5	2	7

CORES

Seventy-seven of the 99 core specimens are rough broken pieces (Table 9). An additional 5 specimens represent exhausted circular nodules. The core tablets are somewhat unique in that 5 specimens exhibit parallel flake flutes 3-4 mm. wide. While this falls within the range for micro-blade detachment, the cores have not been prepared in any manner. Two bipolar cores, readily discernable and separate from the bipolar pieces, complete the core inventory.

TABLE 9

PORTEOUS CORES

Type	McMaster Collection	Kenyon Collection	Totals
Rough cores	74	3	77
Core tablets	14	1	15
Core nodules	5	0	5
Bipolar cores	1	1	2
Totals	94	5	99

FLAKES

The 1530 chert flakes from Porteous can be analysed according to shape and place of detachment (Table 10). The majority are irregular (85.1%) in shape, while expanding flakes with well pronounced percussion bulbs rank second in frequency (7.5%). The 30 McMaster linear flakes recovered are blade-like and 8 of them measure less than 11 mm. wide (5.1 mm. mean). Others ranging between 11-14 mm. wide have a mean of 11.6 mm. Many of the utilized flakes may have served as scrapers, but this is uncertain. Finally, 30 decortication flakes retain rind sections.

Completing the Porteous lithic assemblage are 2 paint stones and a single shale problematical.

TABLE 10 LITHIC FLAKES

Type	McMaster Collection	Kenyon Collection	Totals	%
Irregular and fragments	1277	26	1 303	85.1
Expanding	109	16	125	7.5
Linear	30	11	41	2.6
Utilized	33	0	33	2.1
Decortication	28	2	30	1.9
Totals	1477	55	1532	99.2

POTTERY

Of a total 1027 specimens in this class, the following sub-classes are represented: body sherds 949: rim sherds 76; and juvenile ceramics 2. It is apparent that most vessels taper in shape from a straight to everted lip down through a shoulderless mid-zone to a thickened conoidal base. In some instances, castellations ring the pot rims.

RIM SHERDS

Only those rim sherds with an intact lip are considered analysable with respect to six select attributes investigated. These attributes include: exterior decorative techniques; lip decoration; interior rim decorative techniques; rim shapes; punctates and bosses; and castellations. No attempt is made to classify the rims according to "types."

All 76 rim sherds are analysable for their exterior decoration. The data presented in Table 11 clearly shows corded stick (44.7%) to be the dominant technique. Also notable, however, is the incidence of plain (11.8%) and incised sherds (9.2%), two techniques which increase in frequency on later developmental and fully developed Iroquois village sites. In this regard, we **have** at Porteous a trending transition in decorative techniques of the nature expected by Ritchie and MacNeish (1949). The presence of stamping techniques on Porteous rims is notable.

TABLE 11

EXTERIOR RIM DECORATION (Including Castellations)

Decorative Technique	McMaster Collection	Kenyon Collection	Totals	
Corded stick	24	10	34	44.7
Plain	7	2	9	11.8
Cord malleated	6	2	8	10.5
Incised	4	3	7	9.2
Corded punctate	4	2	6	7.9
Smoothed-over cord	6	0	6	7.9
Linear stamp	2	1	3	3.9
Suture stamp	1	1	2	2.6
Cord and incised	1	0	1	1.3
Totals	55	21	76	99.8

Lip decoration is another rim attribute studied. Of 55 specimens in the McMaster collection, all but 10 display decoration. Most Common is corded stick (28) obliquely applied across the lip surface, 10 plain lips follow in frequency, while 9 smoother-over cord, 4 incised and 4 grooved lips make up the balance. Three of the grooved lips have been executed with a corded stick depressed horizontally along the lip centre; the fourth grooved specimen is incised.

Table 12 presents the above lip data correlated with exterior rim decorative technique. Corded exteriors generally have corded lips, whereas plain lips are not necessarily found only on rims with plain exteriors. Incised lips are expectedly restricted almost exclusively to plain or incised rim exteriors.

TABLE 12

LIP DECORATIONS AND CORRELATIONS

Rim Exteriors	Corded Stick	Plain	Smoothed-over Cord	Incised	Grooved	Totals
Corded stick	18	2	1	0	3	24
Plain	1	4	1	1	0	7
Cord malleated	3	0	3	0	0	6
Smoothed-over cord	2	2	1	1	0	6
Corded punctate	3	0	1	0	0	4
Incised	0	2	0	2	0	4

Table 12 (coned) .. .

Rim Exteriors	Corded Stick	Plain	Smoothed-over Cord	Incised	Grooved	Totals
Linear stamp	0	0	2	0	0	2
Suture stamp	1	0	0	0	0	1
Cord and incised	0	0	0	0	1	1
Totals	28	10	9	4	4	55

A total of 53 sherds have analysable interiors in the McMaster collection. Here again the corded stick technique predominates (36 specimens) over plain (11), incised (5) and smoothed-over cord (1) specimens (Table 13). Correlated with exterior rim decorative techniques, it is apparent that most corded interiors are associated with a corded exterior. Too, plain interiors **have** their highest incidence on rims with plain or incised exteriors. In total, the frequency of interior rim decoration is high - 42 out of 53 cases (79.2%).

Nineteen Porteous rim shapes from the McMaster collection are illustrated in Fig. 4. Aside from 23 straight lips of shapes, a, d, p, q and s, most lips (25 specimens) are either thickened or everted to the exterior. Shapes k, 1 and r are not considered to represent true collared wares, for clay from the lip has simply been folded over in an exaggerated manner to produce a collar-like effect. Shape a is the single most common with 12 examples, followed by shape p (8) and shapes i and o with 5 examples each. All other shapes are represented by 2 or less specimens.

TABLE 13

ANALYSABLE RIM INTERIORS AND CORRELATIONS

Rim Exteriors	Corded Stick	Plain	Incised	Smoothed-over Cord	Totals
Corded stick	21	1	0	0	22
Plain	1	4	0	1	6
Cord malleated	5	1	0	0	6
Smoothed-over cord	3	3	0	0	6
Incised	0	2	3	0	5
Corded punctate	4	0	0	0	4
Linear stamp	0	0	2	0	2
Suture stamp	1	0	0	0	1
Cord and incised	1	0	0	0	1
Totals	36	11	5	1	53

As extensions of rim sherds, it is of interest to note the presence of castellations at Porteous (Table 14), for only now is the antiquity of such features being revealed for the pre- and developmental Iroquois manifestations in the Northeast. At Porteous, two shapes only are found: simple pointed and simple rounded (Fig. 8, 1-3). Two simple rounded forms in the McMaster collection obviously derive from the same vessel, which displays multiple castellations arranged in a scalloped alignment around the rim. Simple pointed and simple rounded castellations are present in the earlier Princess Point complex of southwestern Ontario, guess dated circa 2-500 A.D.,

TABLE 14

CASTELLATIONS AT PORTEOUS

Shape	Decoration	McMaster Collection	Kenyon Collection	Totals
Simple pointed:	Corded stick	2		
	Corded punctate	1	3	
	Plain	1		
Simple rounded:	Corded stick	2	2(?)	
Totals		6	5	11

Punctates and bosses are a distinctive feature of the corded wares at Porteous. In the Mc-Master collection there are 24 sherds displaying punctates below the rim lips, and all but two penetrate from the exterior. Usually a boss accompanies each punctate. An additional six specimens with exterior punctates are represented in the Kenyon collection; they range from 10 mm. to 34 mm. below the lip. Table 15 presents the analysed data for the McMaster specimens. Clearly, the two cases of interior punctates raising exterior bosses are a decided minority; they also have the smallest diameters (2 mm.).

BODY SHERDS

A total of 949 body sherds are represented from Porteous. Six are clearly basal sherds, averaging 13 mm. thick, while all other sherds derive from various pot portions up to and including poorly defined neck areas. The predominance of body sherds range between 3-17 mm. thick with a 6.7 mm. mean, and all are grit tempered. A single mending hole, 6 mm. in diameter, has been conically twist-drilled through the exterior of a smoothed-over cord body piece (Fig. 6, 7).

TABLE 15

PORTEOUS PUNCTATES AND BOSSES

Punctates	Diameter (mm.)	Distance apart (mm.)	Below rim (mm.)	Boss
Exterior	6	10	13	Yes
	5	14	22	Yes
	5	-	-	Yes
	5	-	-	Yes
	4.5	-	9	-
	4	-	19	No
	4	-	-	Yes
	4	-	-	-
	4	-	-	-
	4	-	-	-
	4	-	-	Yes
	4	-	-	Yes
	3	7-8	29	Yes
	3	7-8	29	Yes
	3	7	16	Yes
	3	6	18	Yes
	3	10	-	Yes
	3	15	-	Yes
	3	10	-	Yes
	3	-	25	No
	3	-	-	Yes
	3	-	-	-
Interior	2	8	10	Yes
	2	-	-	Yes
Total	24			

In Table 16 the Porteous body sherds are tabulated according to exterior decorative technique. The overwhelming trend towards plain surfaces is obvious; together, plain and smoothed-over cord specimens constitute 53.4 percent. Various cord treatments are next in popularity, while incising and different stamps are relatively low in frequency. Aside from the plain, smoothed-over cord and cord malleated sherds, the other decorated sherds are primarily derived from the poorly defined neck and shoulder regions.

TABLE 16

Decorative Technique	McMaster Collection	Kenyon Collection	Totals	%
Plain	216	58	274	28.9
Smoothed-over cord	130	102	232	24.5
Cord malleated	122	85	206	21.7
Corded stick	63	38	101	10.6
Incised	36	29	65	6.8
Corded punctate	14	24	38	4.0
Interrupted linear	9	14	23	2.4
Linear stamp	4	1	5	.5
Suture stamp	3	0	3	.3
Dentate stamp	1	0	1	.1
Totals	598	351	949	99.8

JUVENILE CERAMICS

Portions of two different pots can be attributed to juvenile attempts at pot construction. One vessel with an estimated height of 38 mm. has a plain body with crudely incised neck displaying opposed triangles (Stothers and Kenyon 1970: 6). The second vessel is represented by a plain body fragment crudely finger-molded.

PIPES

All pipes from Porteous are ceramic and none is complete. They appear to be obtuse angled with short cylindrical bowls and short rectangular-shaped stems. Decoration, when it occurs, is restricted to the bowl. Table 17 presents the available data on smoking items.

TABLE 17 PORTEOUS SMOKING ITEMS

Pipe Portion	Decoration	McMaster Collection	Kenyon Collection	Totals
Bowls:	Plain	2	2	4
	Corded stick	1	2	3
	Circular punctate	1	0	1
	Dentate stamp	1	0	1
Stems:	Plain rectangular	3	3	6
Totals		8	7	15

WORKED BONE AND SHELL

Very poorly represented are items of this nature. The one worked bone specimen (Fig. 6, 1) appears to be a punch portion or conceivably part of a flat projectile. It tapers from a width of 14 mm. to a broken point 8 mm. wide and has a consistent thickness of 5 mm. The worked freshwater bivalve shell specimen (Fig. 6, 2) is ground along two previously cut edges.

SHELLS

Two species of shells have obviously been utilized for dietary purposes. Of 27 shell specimens recovered, 14 are freshwater bivalves *(Unio sp.)* and 6 are water snails *(Pleurocera subulare)* (Wintemberg 1908: 48). An additional 7 are land snails (Fig. 6, 3).

FAUNA

Of 98 identifiable refuse bones, the following dietary fauna are recognizable from Porteous: Virginia deer, beaver, black bear, various fish, turtle and unidentified birds. Too, a single piece of human cranium is present.

CULTIGENS

Four charred corn kernels testify to agricultural activities by the Porteous people. This is not unexpected since charred corn also occurs at the typologically earlier Princess Point site (AhGx-1) on Cootes Paradise, Hamilton. One walnut shell completes the inventory from Porteous.

BURIALS

No burials have been discovered to date at Porteous. However, it is expected that the burial pattern would closely conform to the single, flexed interments present at the Surma site, Fort Erie (Emerson and Noble 1966: 79).

DATING

Two charcoal samples, analysed by the radiocarbon technique, help to temporally place Porteous within the Ontario Middle to Late Woodland sequence. The first return of 820 A.D. + 100 (1-4972) dates charcoal from Pit 2 within the incomplete longhouse, and a second date of 580 A.D. + 90 (I-5820) dates charcoal from Pit 19 within the complete house structure.

While the two dates are not as close as expected, an average date of 700 A.D. with two sigma deviation seems entirely reasonable for this homogeneous component.

COMPARISONS AND SIGNIFICANCE

Published comparative data for Middle Woodland components in Ontario are neither extensive nor fully synthesized to date (see Dailey and Wright 1955); Emerson 1955, 1959; Emerson and Noble 1966; Johnson 1968a, 1968b; Jury 1952; Kidd 1954, 1956; Lee 1965; Mitchell et al 1970; Spence 1967; Wright 1967; Wright and Anderson 1963). However, it is certainly apparent that *regional expressions* are the general rule with differences existing in artifact styles, subsistence economics, settlement and burial patterns. This is not unlike the situation for Middle Wood-land groupings in the southwestern Great Lakes region (Struever 1965).

Across northern Ontario, the Laurel culture (Wright 1967) occurs distinctively distributed from Manitoba to Quebec. In the triangle of southeastern Ontario bounded by the Ottawa, Trent and St. Lawrence Rivers, there are yet other Middle Woodland expressions (Dailey and Wright 1955; Emerson 1955, 1959; Johnson 1968a, 1968b; Spence 1967), while the 5-600 B.C. Saugeen phase (Wright and Anderson 1963) initiates the Middle Woodland period in southwestern Ontario with a distribution encompassing the east shore of Lake Huron (Jury 1952) down to the Grand River's entrance into Lake Erie (e.g., Hunter site). Generic successors to Saugeen are not known in southwestern Ontario, primarily because the 500 B.C. to 0 A.D. sequence of occupation has yet to be clearly formulated. It is clear, however, that Porteous has its origins in southwestern Ontario and not elsewhere in the Province.

Specifically, Porteous arises from the Princess Point complex (Stothers 1970). Initially tested in 1968 by I. T. Kenyon and D. M. Stothers, with full scale excavations in 1969 under W. C. Noble, the Princess Point type site (AhGx-1) on Cootes Paradise, Hamilton, is here guess-dated c. 2-500 A.D. It represents a small riverine oriented settlement with some charred corn, but no decisive house patterns. It is expected that many of the small collections of corded wares distributed between Hamilton, Brantford and Fort Erie to Point Pelee (D. Keenlyside: personal communication) will fall within the Princess Point horizon, or conceivably within a transitional complex between it and Porteous. Sites such as Surma (Emerson and Noble 1966), Neuman (AfGu-3), portions of Middleport (Wintemberg 1948: 15, 65) and the Port Maitland component (M. Knight and M. Franklin: personal communication) are ready examples.

Typologically, Porteous falls transitionaly between Princess Point and later Glen Meyer villages of the Ontario Iroquois Tradition (Wright 1966; Wright and Anderson 1969). This is manifest in artifact styles where triangular, stemmed and side-notched projectiles persist through time as do corded wares, castellations, pipes, drills and blade-like flakes. Too, the subsistence reliance upon riverine, forest and increasing horticultural products places Porteous in a generic and temporal transition towards a more settled, semi-permanent life style.

Most significant are the Porteous settlement pattern data. Small in size, the site does represent an early village in which rebuilding of houses has occurred in a randomly distributed manner. Too, the rectanguloid structures are clear forerunners for longhouses of the later Glen Meyer (W. A. Fox: personal communication) and classic Iroquois periods (Noble 1969; Ritchie 1965; Wright and Anderson 1969). But perhaps most significant of all is the fact that the Porteous longhouses are *internally refined* with central hearth alignments and apparent storage cubicles. At c. 700 A.D., such refinements are 450 years earlier than exhibited elsewhere in southeastern Ontario (Kenyon 1968) or neighbouring New York (Ritchie 1965). Noble (1969) has proposed that such changes are indicative of a maturing lineage system in developmental Iroquois social organization. Certainly with Porteous, the longhouse and its inferred internal rules of lineage residence are already well developed and formalized.

In view of the preceding considerations, it is proposed herein to consider Porteous as being a probable early Glen Meyer expression. The artifact analyses indicate that the site falls within the early limits of this developmental Ontario Iroquois branch, and the settlement pattern data

definitely indicates a semi-permanent mode of village life. Typologically and by radiocarbon determinations, Porteous falls earlier than other Glen Meyer components such as Woodsman, Goessens, Stafford and Smale (Lee 1951; Wright 1966), Krieger (Kidd 1954; 1956), Martin (White 1964), Portage (McCarthy 1962: 2), De Waele (W. A. Fox: personal communication), and the Van Besien site dated 945 A.D. + 90 (I-6167) (Noble 1971). As such, if Porteous is considered to be Glen Meyer, then that branch must extend back at least 300 years earlier than the arbitrary 1000 A.D. time marker previously postulated in the literature (Wright 1966; Noble 1969).

With an earlier extension of Glen Meyer, the temporal position of Late Woodland beginnings in southwestern Ontario also comes under review. Fitting (1970: 143) has proposed recently that Late Woodland in adjacent southeastern Michigan commences c. 600 A.D.; he defines Late Woodland as reflecting settlement and subsistence changes towards a more semi-permanent and horticultural way of life than occurs in the preceding Middle Woodland. Entirely reasonable, this definition can also be applied in southwestern Ontario considering the new data from Porteous and Princess Point. Only future work will validate a similar 600 A.D. application of Late Woodland elsewhere in the Province.

Finally, the evidence from Porteous leaves little doubt that southwestern Ontario emerges as a highly intriguing and important developmental centre for early Iroquois development in the Northeast.

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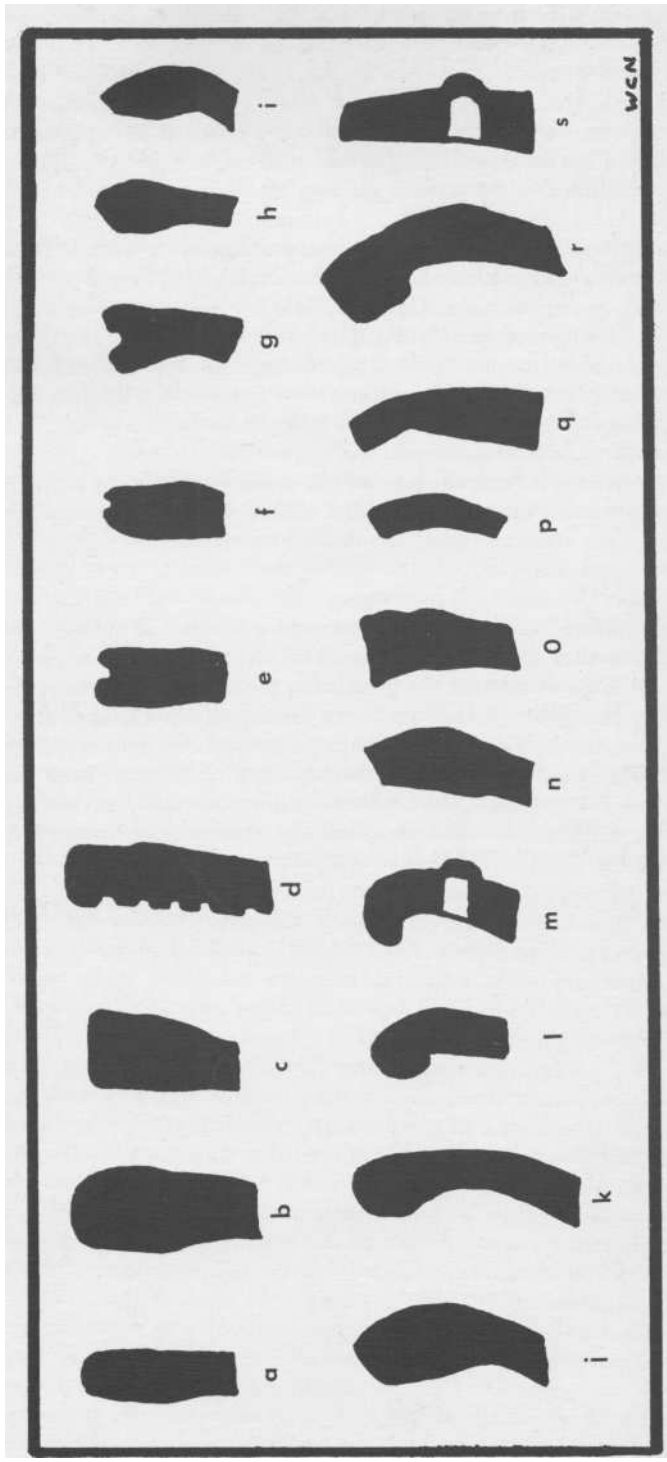

FIGURE 4. PORTEOUS RIM SHAPES
(EXTERIORS TO LEFT)

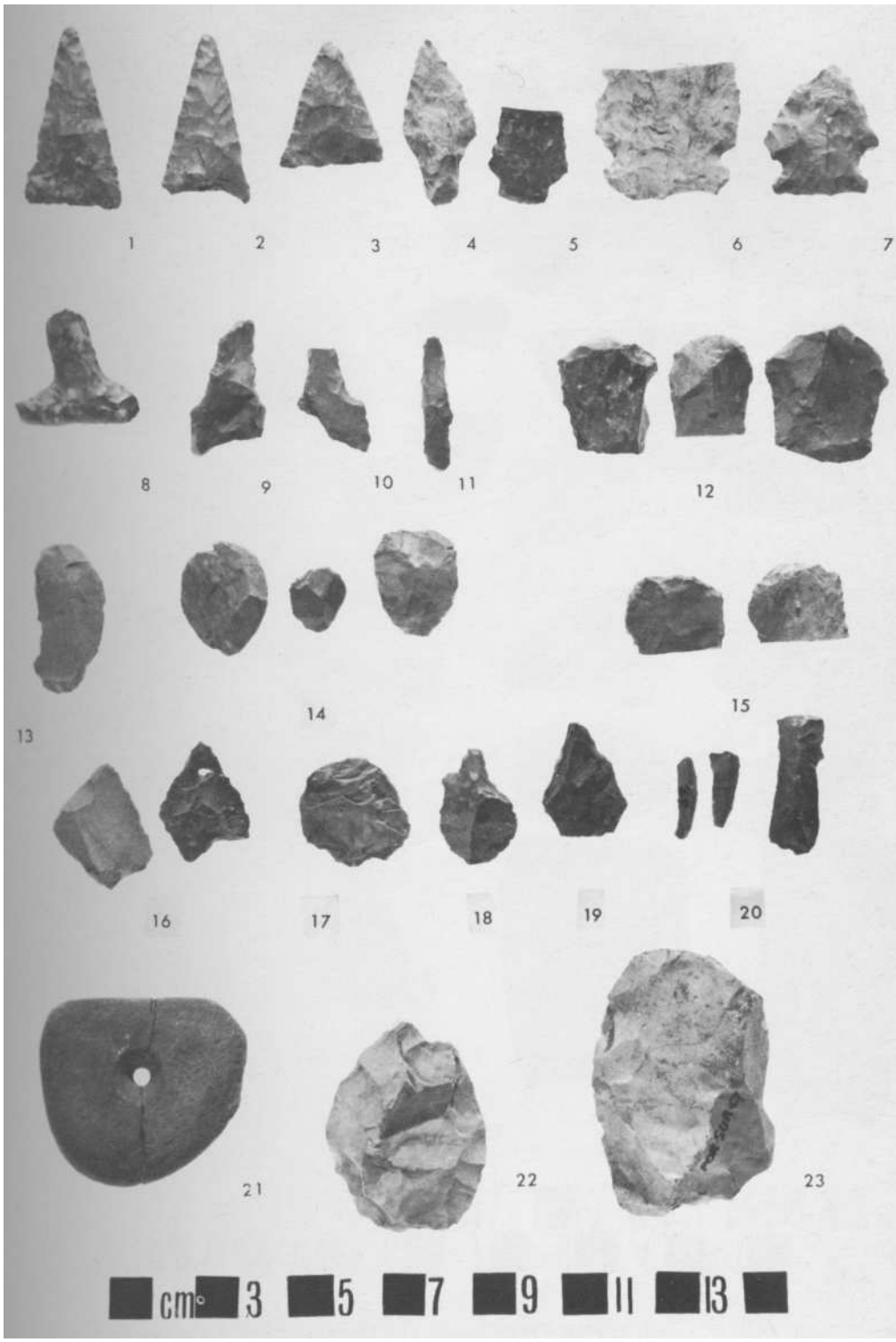

FIGURE 5. PORTEOUS LITHICS

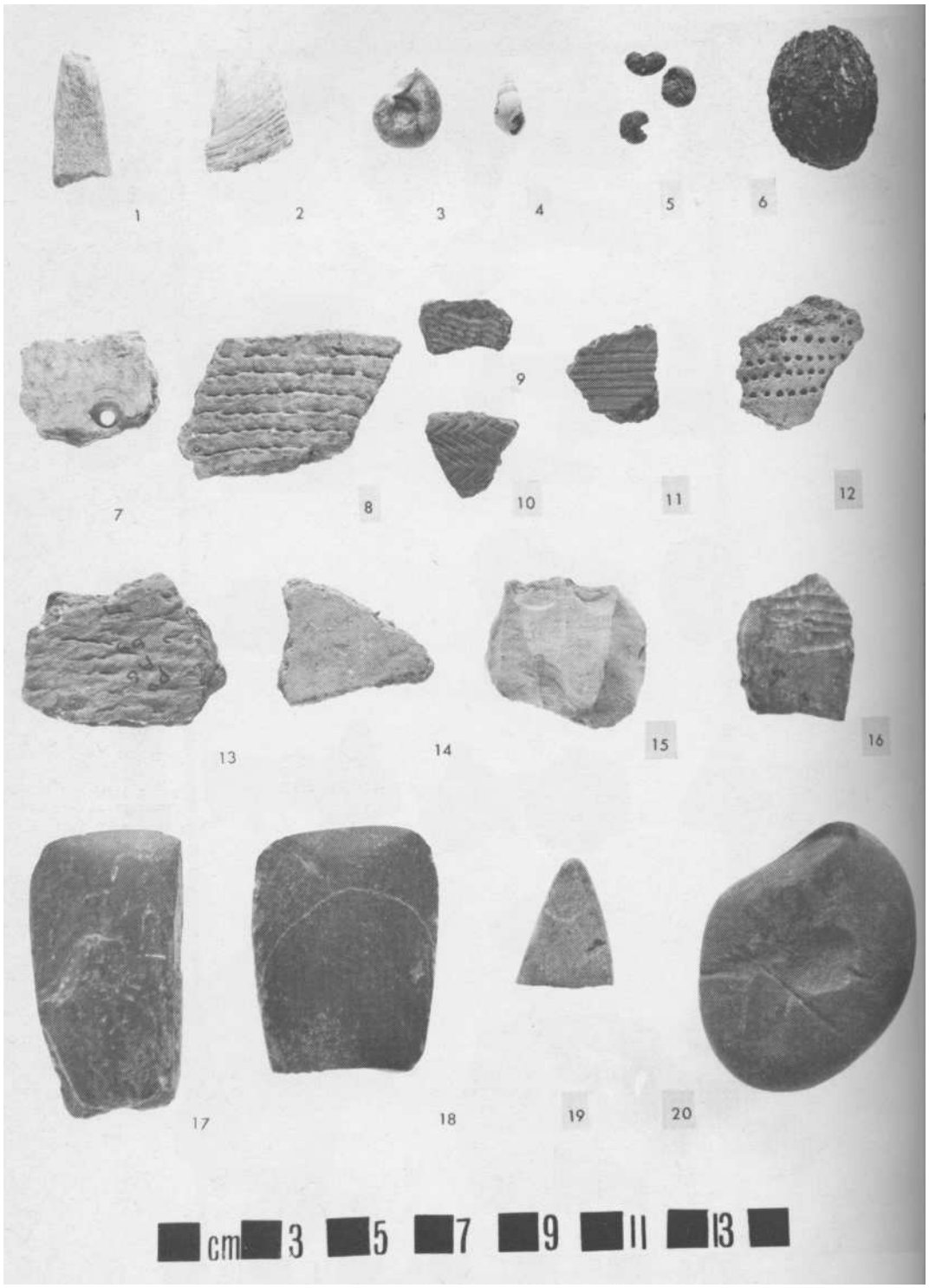

FIGURE 6. OTHER PORTEOUS ARTIFACTS

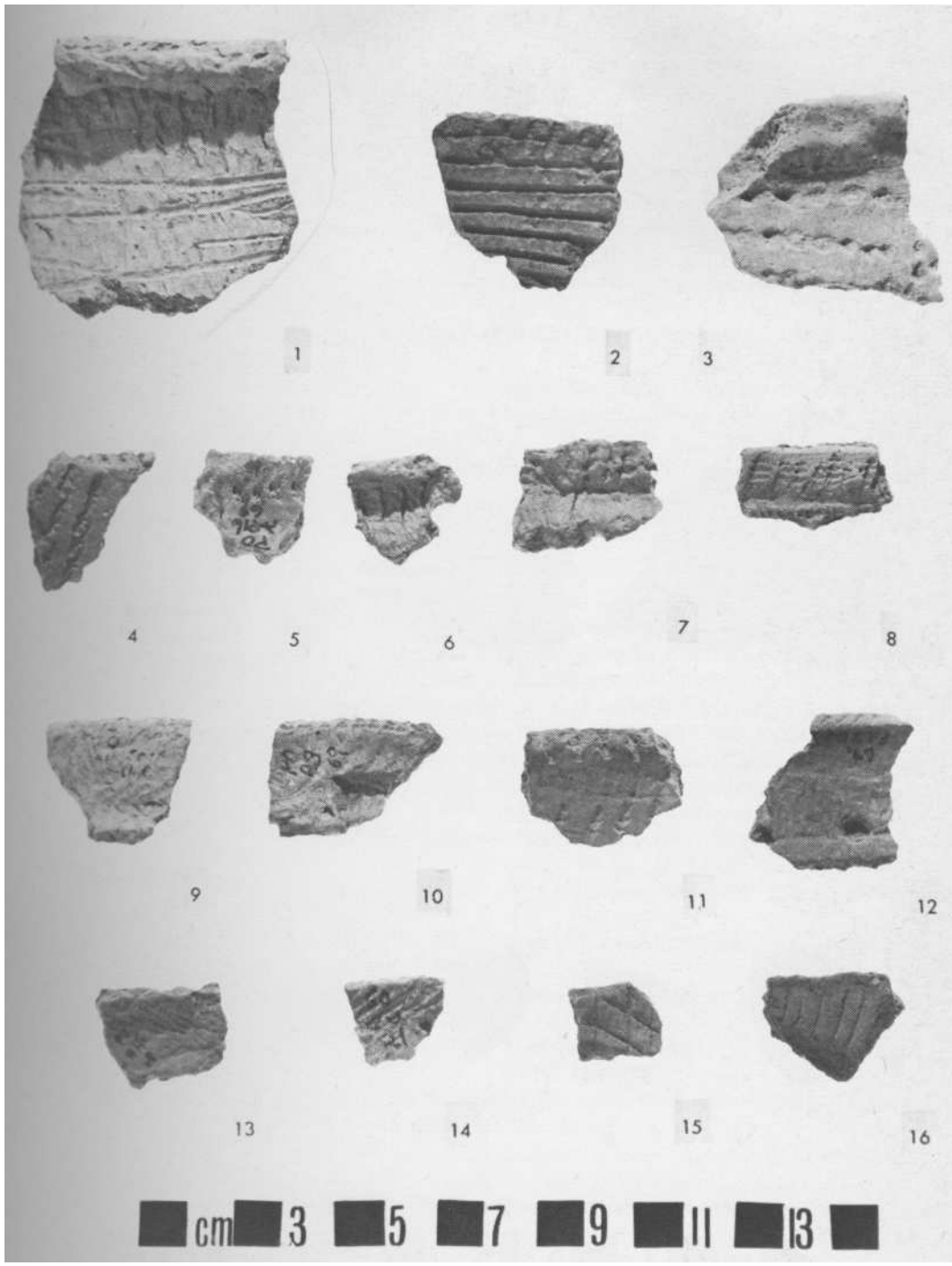

FIGURE 7. PORTEOUS RIMS

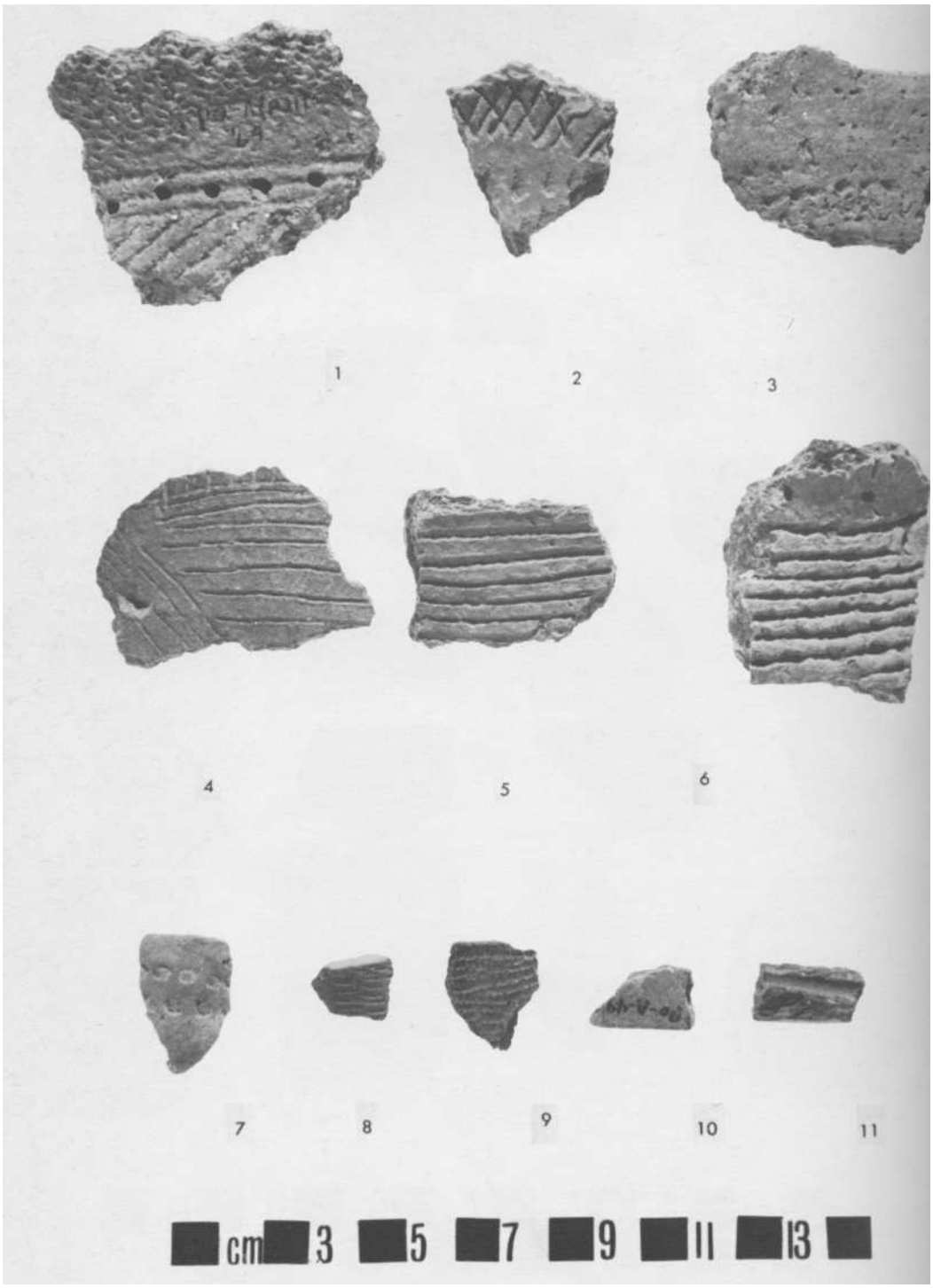

FIGURE 8. PORTEOUS CASTELLATIONS,
NECK SHERDS AND PIPE PORTIONS

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