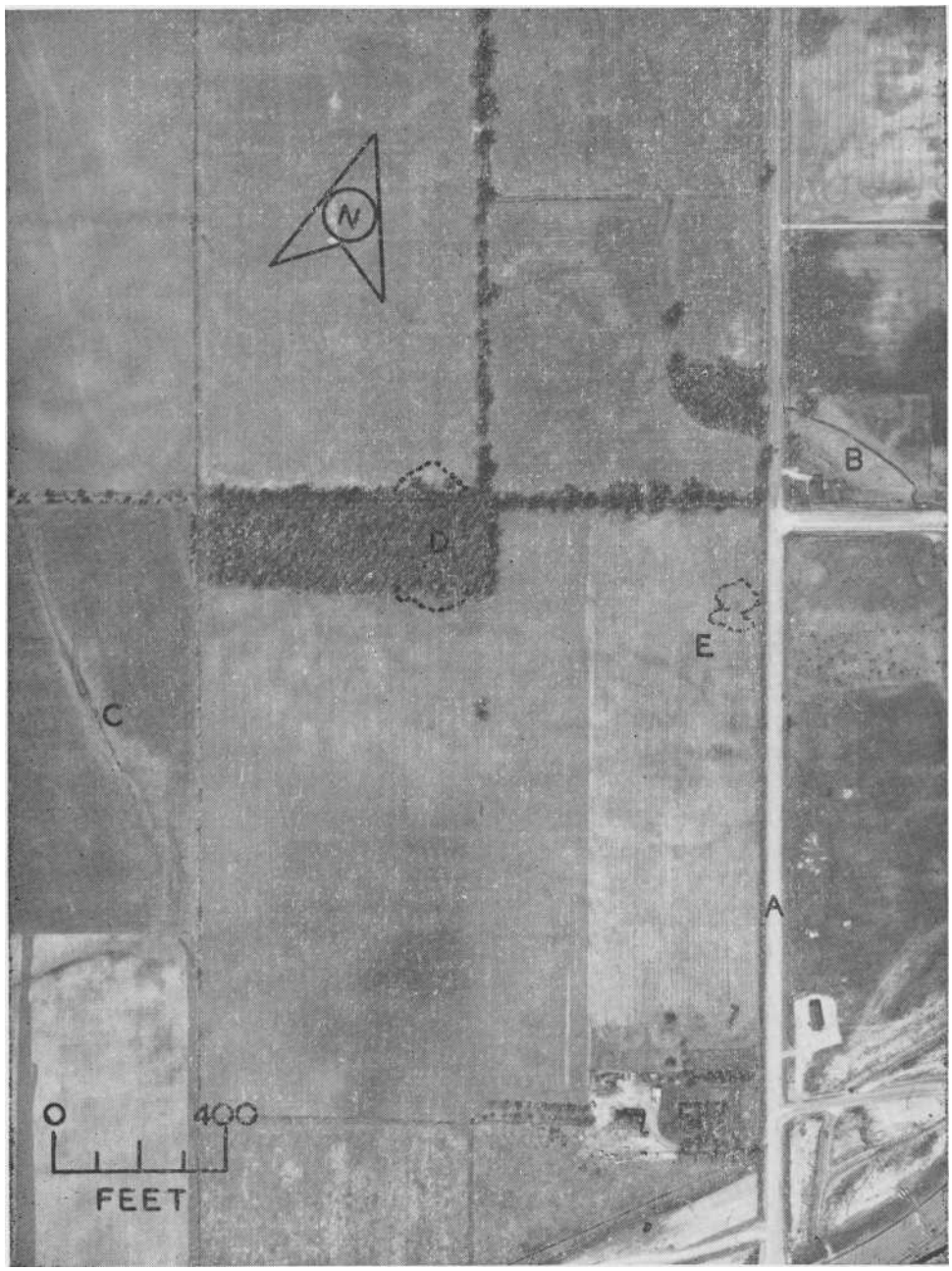

PLATE 1

IROQUOIAN DEVELOPMENT IN THE ROUGE WATERSHED, ONTARIO—PART I:

by

WILLIAM S. DONALDSON

(Received November 11th, 1964)

The Elliot Site

ABSTRACT

A late Uren Iroquoian settlement in which hunting and fishing and the cultivation of corn and tobacco are evident is described. The site was occupied over a short period of time, including at least some of the summer, was apparently undefended and without a palisade. Pottery was manufactured at the site during its occupation.

INTRODUCTION

During the course of their work in the Rouge Watershed, just east of Toronto, Ontario, The Ontario Archaeological Society excavated a series of sites which have provided us with some very useful information on the early development and distribution of the Iroquoian tribes in Ontario.

In an attempt to provide the reader with this information and an interpretation of its meaning, the writer presents here the first of a series of reports covering the entire Rouge project.

THE ELLIOT SITE

This site is located on Lot 23, Concession 3, Scarborough Township, York County, about a mile north-east of Agincourt, Ontario. Its eastern edge is cut by McCowan's Road at a point where it tops the crest of a large hill. This hill is bordered on the east and west by small feeder streams of the Highland Creek. These streams converge some 900 yards to the south (Plate I) .

In the spring of 1960, Douglas Clarke, a student at Agincourt Collegiate Institute, discovered undisturbed refuse deposits in a small

PLATE I

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH OF ELLIOT SITE

A. McCowan's Road.
B, C. Small feeder streams of Highland Creek.
D. Outline of surface distribution of ash and cultural debris in Woodlot Area.
E. Outline of surface distribution of ash and cultural debris in East Field Area.

woodlot, half way up the western slope of this hill. He reported his find to his uncle, Dr. C. H. D. Clarke, an active member of The Ontario Archaeological Society, and arrangements were soon completed with the owner of the land, Mr. Hugh Elliot, of Agincourt, to excavate the site.

Mr. Elliot was unaware of the deposits in his woodlot, but had surface collected for a number of years from two ash areas in the tilled field further up the slope, near McCowan's Road.

THE EXCAVATION

During the spring and fall of 1960, a total of 775 square feet were excavated in the woodlot and along its southern edge. The following spring saw an additional 225 square feet excavated at the southern edge of the woodlot and a new area of 175 square feet opened up in the tilled field, just west of McCowan's Road.

These excavations produced no recognizable settlement patterns, but a few small, dish-shaped fire pits and ash lenses were encountered in the woodlot excavation.

The cultural deposit seldom exceeded six inches in depth and, with the exception of two test trenches in the field area, this was all removed by trowel and brush. Spot screening was used to check the thoroughness of this work. No stratification or stylistic change was encountered in either of the excavated areas.

The undisturbed subsoil was a yellowish clay loam.

FOOD REMAINS

The recovered food remains included 7 charred kernels of corn and nearly 2000 animal bones. The fragmentary nature of most of the latter severely limited the number of identifiable species but approximately 65 7(were fish bone, with mammal remains accounting for over 25% of the balance. Identification and tabulation of this material by Dr. C. S. Churcher, of the Royal Ontario Museum, has produced the following results:

CLASSIFICATION			INDIVIDUALS (minimum)
MOLLUSCA	Freshwater Mussels		14
	Land Snails		23 (2 types)
	Freshwater Snails		2 (1 type)
PISCUS	Pike		not determined
	Catfish		not determined
	Sturgeon		not determined
AMPHIBIA	Frog		4
REPTILLIA	Turtle		3
AVES	Unidentified		not determined
MAMMALIA	Muskrat	*Ondatra zibethica*	4
	Grey Squirrel	*Sciurius carolinensis*	2
	Groundhog	*Marmota monax*	2
	Beaver	*Castor canadensis*	1

Chipmunk	*Tamias striatus*	1	
Meadow Vole	*Microtus pennsylvanicus*	1	
Fieldmouse	*Cleithrionomys gapperi*	1	
Porcupine	*Erethizon dorsatum*	1	
Red Fox	*Vulpes vulpes*	1	
Black Bear	*Ursus americanus*	1	
Dog or Coyote	*Canis* sp.	1	
Mink or Weasel	*Mustela* sp.	1	
Rabbit	*Sylvilagus floridianus*	1	
Moose or Wapiti	*Alces* sp. or *Cervus* sp.	1	
White-Tailed Deer	*Odocoileus virginianus*	3	(1 faun)

WORKED STONE (Plate II)

Our sample contains little of diagnostic value : a half dozen fragments from polished stone tools, probably adzes; a hammerstone ; a whetstone; a fragment from a steatite pipe; 117 mottled-grey chert flakes, 17 of which have been retouched for use as scrapers (Fig. B) ; and two small problematicals, possibly broken points (Fig. A).

WORKED BONE (Plate II)

The worked bone series includes a carved and polished awl or hairpin (Fig. H), a netting tool, 15 awls (Fig. C-G), a modified beaver incisor (Fig. K), three large bird bone tubes (Fig. J), a polished section of mammal rib, and the tip of an antler punch (Fig. I). Two deer phalanges were gouged out at the proximal end and drilled through the distal extremity, possibly for use as jinglers or cup-and-pin units (Fig. N).

CLAY PIPES (Plate II)

A complete miniature specimen and bowl fragments from 28 other clay pipes were recovered. The miniature and two of the bowl fragments bear a crude zone-incised decoration (Fig. 0) but 5 others have this decoration carefully executed (Figs. P, Q). Two incised ringed bowl fragments approach the classic barrel shape (Fig. L), but a third, with a single crude horizonal element underlain by vertical gashes, has a slight basal projection and meets the stem at an obtuse angle (Fig. M). Two pipes have 3 rows of punctates below the rim, one of which has an additional 2 rows hanging festoon-like around the bowl (Fig. V). One pipe has a series of horizontal and vertical line of punctates with parallel incised lines filling some of the resulting rectangular areas (Fig. U). The remaining 15 bowl fragments are undecorated (Figs. R, S).

Seven of the 25 stem fragments are sufficiently complete to be of diagnostic value. All are relatively short and noticeably flattened on top, one being nearly triangular in cross section. The tips of the stems were neither flared nor expanded in any way (Fig. T) but 2 of the pipes had a small projection at the base of the bowl.

POTTERY

All the pottery from this site has grit tempering, generally from 2 to 3 mm. in diameter, and many of the sherds reveal a laminated structure which has a tendency to split. The colour of the vessels ranges from

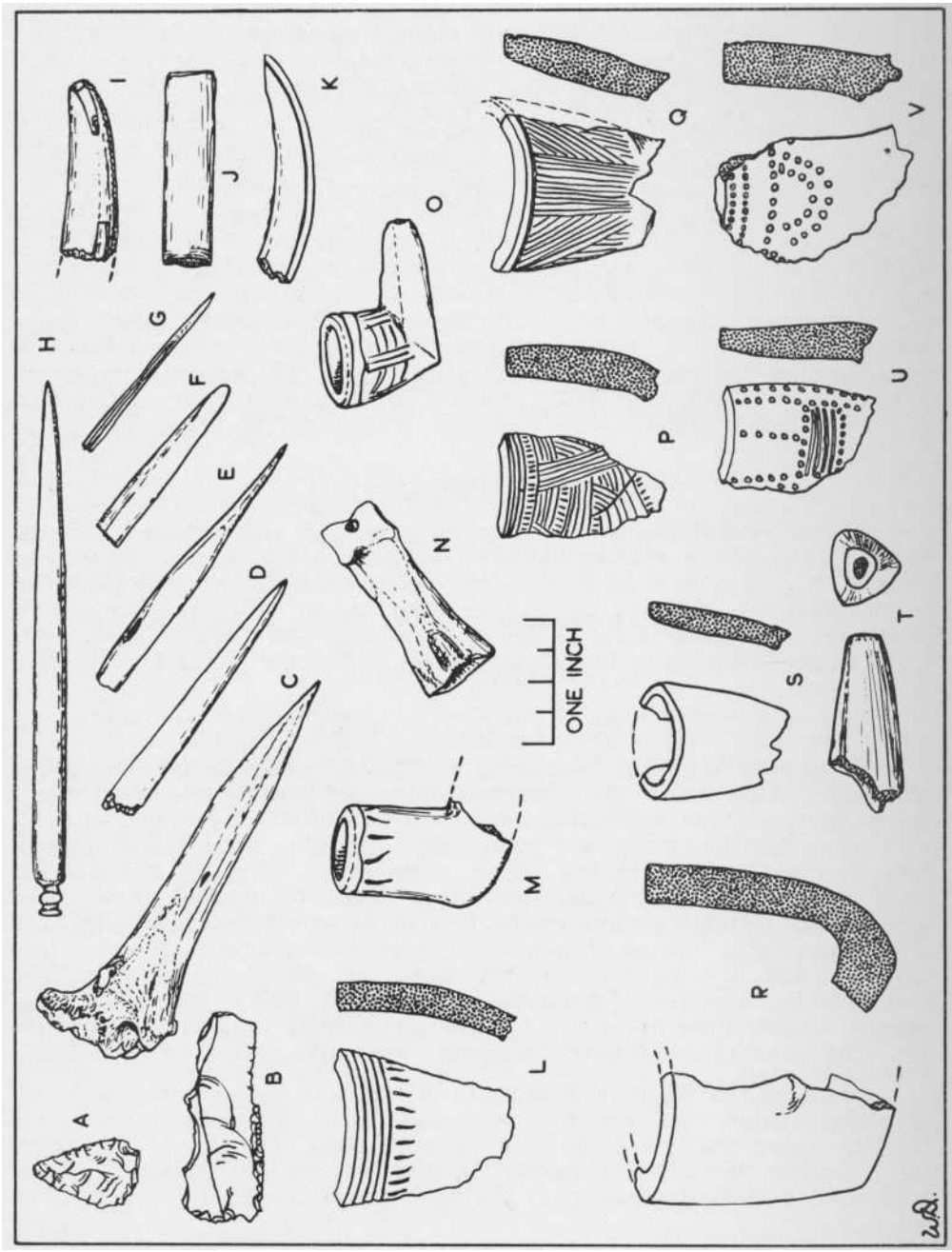

PLATE II

dark brown to orange-buff, but the charred residue of their former contents has stained a number of the interior surfaces black.

A total of 5249 pottery sherds were recovered during excavation. The discrepancy between this figure and the total obtained in the classifications below is the result of restoration before analysis and the rejection of 1536 sherds as too fragmentary for analysis.

BODY SHERDS

During restoration it was noticed that several of the paddle malleated vessels had been smoothed over in certain areas of the body. Thus some of the sherds from these vessels carry unmodified paddle markings, some have these markings partially smoothed over, and others are entirely smooth surfaced. This discovery complicated the body sherd analysis and should be borne in mind when evaluating the body sherd figures.

All body sherds were examined under a strong, low angle light to detect traces of paddle marks.

In our sample of 2365 unassociated body sherds, 841 were plain surfaced, 3 had been malleated with a cord wrapped paddle, 51 had these markings partially smoothed over, 22 were check stamped, 39 had this stamping partially smoothed over, 71 had been malleated with a ribbed or thong wrapped paddle, 1090 had this marking partially smoothed over, 9 carry what appears to be a very coarse twined cord impression, and 161 have an impression from some woven material, most likely thong or the wooden splints used in the manufacture of baskets. The remaining 76 sherds had been malleated with a paddle of undetermined

PLATE II

CHIPPED FLINT, WORKED BONE AND CLAY PIPES FROM THE ELLIOT SITE

Fig. A	Chipped flint problematical, possibly a broken point.
Fig. B	Chert flake re-worked for use as a scraper.
Figs. C-G	Bone awls.
Fig. H	Carved and polished bone awl or hairpin.
Fig. I	Tip of an antler punch.
Fig. J	Bird bone tube.
Fig. K	Modified beaver incisor.
Fig. L	Clay pipe fragment and cross-section. Ringed Bowl type.
Fig. M	Crude Ringed Bowl Pipe fragment showing projection at base of bowl.
Fig. N	Gouged and drilled deer phalanx.
Fig. 0	Miniature clay pipe carrying crude zone-incised design.
Figs. P, Q	Bowl fragments and cross-sections of zone-incised clay pipes.
Figs. R, S	Bowl fragments and cross-sections of undecorated clay pipes.
Fig. T	Tip of a tapered clay pipe stem, showing end view.
Fig. U	Bowl fragment and cross section of a clay pipe carrying a punctated and incised design.
Fig. V	Bowl fragment and cross section of a clay pipe carrying a punctated design.

nature and then partially smoothed over. This malleation appears to have been done when the clay was quite wet, for the bottoms of the grooves were rough.

SHOULDER SHERDS

The 63 unassociated shoulder sherds were also sorted according to surface treatment. Twenty-seven of these have a plain surface, 29 are malleated with a ribbed or thong wrapped paddle (all but 6 of which have been smoothed over to some extent, in some cases almost effacing the original treatment), 5 are check stamped, and 2 have partially smoothed-over cord wrapped paddle impressions. None of these sherds have a distinctive shoulder decoration, as such, though 4 of the partially restored vessels have one present. In all cases this consists of a single row of oblique paddle edge impressions. The attached neck areas on all of the sherds in this group have been smoothed over.

NECK SHERDS

Only 10 of the 241 neck sherds carry any form of decoration and 8 of these are obviously the lower portions of rim decorations. The remaining 2 carry a complex incising similar in design to that on Black Necked vessels (MacNeish, 1952).

One hundred and thirty-eight of the undecorated neck sherds have a thong-wrapped paddle treatment which has been partially smoothed over (more than half of it nearly obliterated) . Another 85 are entirely smooth surfaced, but 6 have a smoothed-over corded paddle impression and 2 have a smoothed-over ribbed paddle treatment.

RIM SHERDS

Restoration reduced our sample of 304 rimsherds to 157 rim sections from 100 different vessels, which does not include sherds from the so-called "seed" or "toy" pots which were analysed separately and are not included here. These were sorted according to the published taxonomies of MacNeish (1952) and Ridley (1958). Variants and types which did not readily fit their classifications have been described in the text to point out features not readily apparent in the accompanying illustrations. The results of this analysis are set out in Table I and percentage comparisons of the Elliot site pottery with that of five other sites is set out in Table II.

PLATE III

RESTORED POTTERY VESSELS FROM THE ELLIOT SITE

Fig. A Typical Variant "A" Middleport Oblique vessel.

Fig. B Iroquoian Linear vessel.

Figs. C, D "Toy" pots.

Fig. E Iroquoian Linear vessel carrying four castellations.

Fig. F Impressed Oblique vessel.

Fig. G Typical Ontario Horizontal vessel.

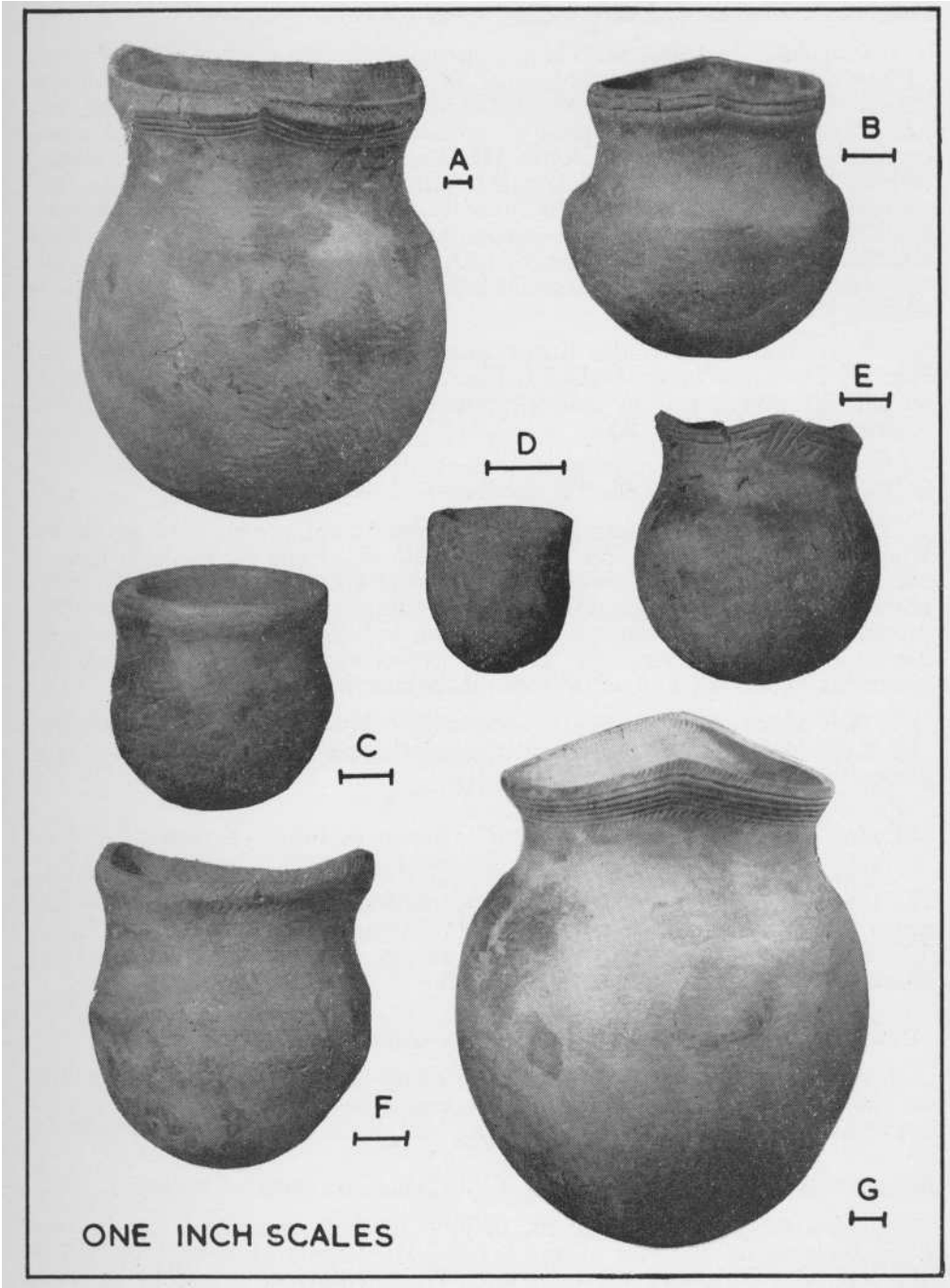

PLATE III

POTTERY TYPES

IROQUOIAN LINEAR (34 rim sections—26 vessels)

Two fully restored vessels are included in this group. One of these (Plate III, Fig. B), though typical in shape, lacks the row of oblique paddle edge impressions or punctates at the base of the collar zone, and has cord markings on the neck — a feature shared by one other vessel in this group. The other (Plate III, Fig. E) substitutes cord wrapped paddle impressions for the usual thonged paddle body treatment and carries 4 low, rounded castellations. (Low, bluntly pointed or rounded castellations were the only type encountered on this site. Emerson (1955) classifies these as "Classic Early".) Only one other vessel in this group appears to carry as many castellations. It too lacks a collar and has a slightly flared rim.

Four vessels have the linear punctation clearly spaced (Plate IV, Fig. D ; Plate V, Fig. J ; Plate VI, Fig. F) . These carry linear punctation on the lip, and a row of interior punctates which fail to raise exterior bosses (Plate V, Fig. K).

ONTARIO HORIZONTAL (32 rim sections—19 vessels)

Twelve of these vessels have a vertical or oblique element below the horizontally incised lines on the rim (Plate IV, Figs. A, B) , two have it above the horizontal element, and 5 have it both above and below the horizontal element (Plate III, Fig. G). On 2 vessels there is a row of interior punctation below the collar zone, but this fails to raise exterior bosses. The rim interior of another vessel carries a row of deep impressions from the end of a reed or hollow bone tube.

The neck areas on these vessels are smooth but, where present, the body area reveals ribbed or thong wrapped paddle malleation and partial smoothing (Plate III, Fig. G).

ONTARIO HORIZONTAL, VARIANT "A" (5 rim sections—2 vessels)

These vessels have the typical shape and horizontal line motif of the Ontario Horizontal group, but are distinguished by a band of criss-cross incising beneath the collar zone and another on the rim lip (Plate VI, Fig. M). One of these vessels carries a row of oblique incising beneath the inner lip and is castellated.

MIDDLEPORT OBLIQUE (10 rim sections—9 vessels)

Five of the vessels in this group *carry* an incised longitudinal line on the lip. In addition, 3 of these vessels have a row of oblique gashes just below the inner lip of the rim. All neck surfaces are smooth.

MIDDLEPORT OBLIQUE, VARIANT "A" (11 rim sections—7 vessels)

These vessels substitute an oblique dentate stamping for the oblique incising on the rim of the typical Middleport Oblique type (Plate III, Fig. A; Plate IV, Figs. G, H). This dentation, produced by tools having two to four bluntly rounded teeth, superficially resembles linear punctation. With one exception, this oblique dentation is also carried on the rim interior (Plate IV, Fig. I).

TABLE I-ANALYSIS OF RIM SHERDS

Plates	Figs.	POTTERY TYPES	Rimsherds	Rim Sections	Vessels
III	B, E				
IV	D	Iroquoian Linear	67	34	26
V	J, K				
VI	F				
III	G	Ontario Horizontal—typical	74	32	19
IV	A, B				
VI	M	Ontario Horizontal—Variant "A"	7	5	2
		Middleport Oblique—typical	13	10	9
III	A	Middleport Oblique—Variant "A"	29	11	7
IV	G, H, I				
IV	C	Middleport Oblique—Variant "B"	41	19	11
VI	A	Ontario Oblique	3	2	1
III	F	Impressed Oblique	27	20	11
V	A, B, E				
VI	C, E, K, O				
V	D	Niagara Collared	2	1	1
VI	J	Unclassified Fingernail Impressed	3	3	2
VI	H	Unclassified Push-Pull Triangular	5	3	2
IV	E, F	Unclassified Neck Decorated	23	9	5
VI	L, N				
VI	I	Unclassified Criss-Cross Incised	1	1	1
VI	G	Unclassified Corded Horizontal	6	4	1
VI	B	Unclassified Collarless Incised	1	1	1
VI	D	Unclassified Complex Rim	2	2	1
		TOTALS	304	157	100

TABLE II—PERCENTAGE COMPARISON OF POTTERY TYPES

Reference	POTTERY TYPES	Elliot Site	Pound Site	Middleport Site	Uren Site	Barrie Site	Boys Site
R	Iroquoian Linear	26	—	—	15	45	4
M	Ontario Horizontal—typical	19	24	38	48	7	2
—	Ontario Horizontal—Variant "A"	2	—	—	—	—	—
M	Middleport Oblique—typical	9	16	15	—	—	—
—	Middleport Oblique—Variant "A"	7	—	—	—	—	—
—	Middleport Oblique—Variant "B"	11	—	—	—	—	—
M	Ontario Oblique	1	—			—	—
R	Impressed Oblique	11	—	8	21	19	18
M	Niagara Collared	1	.7	2	1	—	—
—	Unclassified Fingernail Impressed	2	—	—	—	—	—
—	Unclassified Push-Pull Triangular	2	—	—	—	—	—
—	Unclassified Neck Decorated	5	—	—	—	—	—
—	Unclassified Criss-Crossed Incised	1	—	—	—	—	—
—	Unclassified Corded Horizontal	1	—	—	—	—	—
—	Unclassified Collarless Incised	1	—	—	—	—	—
—	Unclassified Complex Rim	1	—	—	—	—	—
	TOTAL PERCENTAGE OF SITE SAMPLE	100	40.7	63	85	71	24

Note: M =MacNeish; R—Ridley (1958).

Neck and body areas are either smooth surfaced or reveal partially smoothed-over ribbed or thong wrapped paddle impressions.

A restored vessel in this group carries three castellations (Plate III, Fig. A).

Wintemberg (1928, Plate X, Fig. 9) illustrates an exterior bossed rimsherd which appears to carry oblique dentation similar to that of this group.

MIDDLEPORT OBLIQUE, VARIANT "B" (19 rim sections—11 vessels)

In this group, paddle-edge impressions replace the oblique incising below the lip, and linear punctation or a "stab-and-drag" technique is used in place of the horizontal incising on the lower rim and neck of the typical Middleport Oblique vessel (Plate IV, Fig. C). There is no decoration on the rim interior but castellations are common.

These vessels appear to have been thonged paddle malleated but this has been nearly obliterated by smoothing, especially on the necks.

ONTARIO OBLIQUE (2 rim sections—1 vessel)

The bands of oblique incising on this vessel are separated by two horizontal lines of elongated push-pull incising (Plate VI, Fig. A). There is closely spaced incising on the lip. The writer has followed Ridley (1958) in limiting Ontario Oblique to those vessels having the design applied with an incising tool. If the design was impressed, it was classified as an "Impressed Oblique" vessel.

IMPRESSED OBLIQUE (20 rim sections—11 vessels)

Only 3 of these vessels are typical of this type (Plate III, Fig. F; Plate VI, Fig. 0). On two others the top row of oblique impressions have a stippled surface. Experiments indicate that the sutured edge of a turtle plastron or the grain end of a softwood tool, such as cedar, could produce this effect. On another vessel a similar tool has been walked along the rim to form a design similar to rocker stamping (Plate VI, Fig. K). This stippling tool was used on two vessels that carry

paired rows of oblique punctates on the neck (Plate V, Figs. A, B). The top band of impressions on one of these is cross-hatched (Plate V, Fig. A). On 3 vessels, 2 of which have rolled rims, horizontal elements are present (Plate V, Fig. E ; Plate VI, Figs. C, E) . One of these has deep notches across the lip (Plate V, Fig. E).

NIAGARA COLLARED (1 rim section)

Though the collar on this vessel does not seem to have been formed by an applique of clay, it otherwise seems to fit the requirements of this type (Plate V, Fig. D).

UNCLASSIFIED FINGERNAIL IMPRESSED (3 rim sections—2 vessels)

With a rim diameter of little more than three inches, these vessels are not much larger than a "seed pot". Two rows of fingernail im-

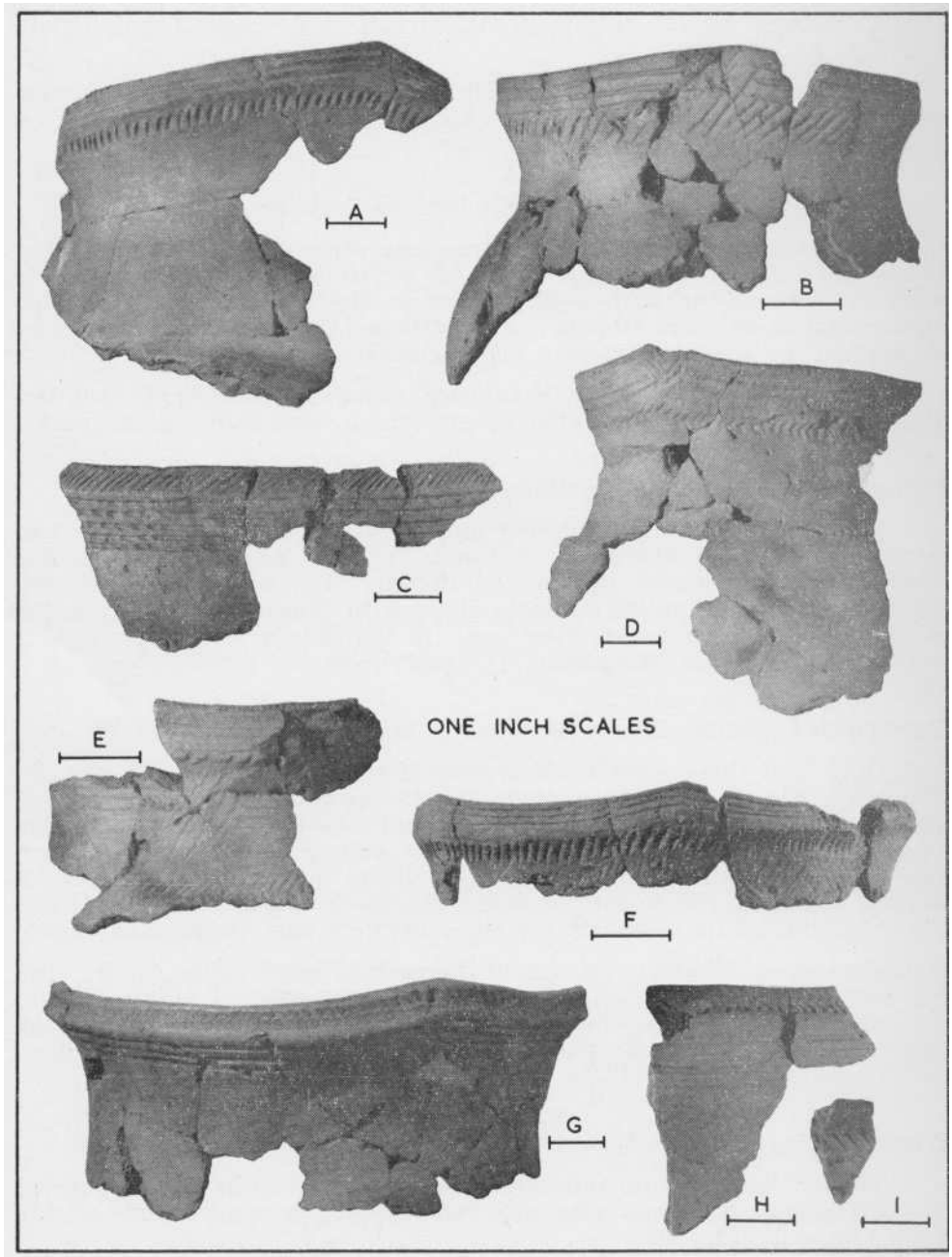

PLATE I V

pressions encircle the outer rim in a manner reminiscent of Ontario Oblique (Plate VI, Fig. J). One vessel carries an additional row of fingernail impressions beneath the inner lip of the rim.

UNCLASSIFIED NECK DECORATED (9 rim sections—5 vessels)

Four of these vessels have a typical Ontario Horizontal shape and rim decoration, with a complex, incised neck decoration similar to that of Black Necked (Plate IV, Figs. E, F; Plate VI, Fig. N). One of these vessels is unusual in that there are 6 castellations on the rim, which carries a single incised longitudinal line on its lip (Plate IV, Fig. F). Another, with cord-wrapped paddle impressions on the body, carries two rows of fine punctates along the rim lip (Plate IV, Fig. E). Both these vessels have a row of oblique incising beneath the inner rim. A third vessel has a row of fine oblique incising on the rim lip (Plate VI, Fig. N). The fifth vessel in this group is castellated and carries vertical rows of linear punctates on its ill-defined collar (Plate VI, Fig. L). The complex neck decoration on this vessel is separated from the collar motif by a row of oblique punctates.

UNCLASSIFIED COLLARLESS INCISED (1 rim section)

With short vertical gashes below and across the rim lip, this vessel could be considered an Ontario Oblique variant (Plate VI, Fig. B).

UNCLASSIFIED CRISS-CROSS INCISED (1 rim section)

This outflaring, collarless rim section carries a row of criss-cross incisions just beneath the outer lip. The lip itself carries blunt puntates (Plate VI, Fig. I).

UNCLASSIFIED PUSH-PULL TRIANGULAR (3 rim sections—2 vessels)

The short, poorly-defined, channelled collars on these vessels are covered with opposed triangular areas of push-pull incising. Just beneath the collar area is a band of herringbone incising (Plate VI, Fig. H).

PLATE IV

PARTIALLY RESTORED POTTERY VESSELS FROM THE ELLIOT SITE

Figs. A, B	Typical vessels of the Ontario Horizontal type.
Fig. C	Typical vessel of the Middleport Oblique, Variant "B" type.
Fig. D	Iroquoian Linear vessel having the linear punctation clearly spaced.
Figs. E. F	Unclassified vessels which have an Ontario Horizontal type shape and rim decoration, but carry a complex neck decoration similar to that of the Black Necked type.
Figs. G, H	Typical vessels of the Middleport Oblique, Variant "A" type.
Fig. I	Interior view of rimsherd from the same vessel as figure H, showing the oblique dentate decoration.

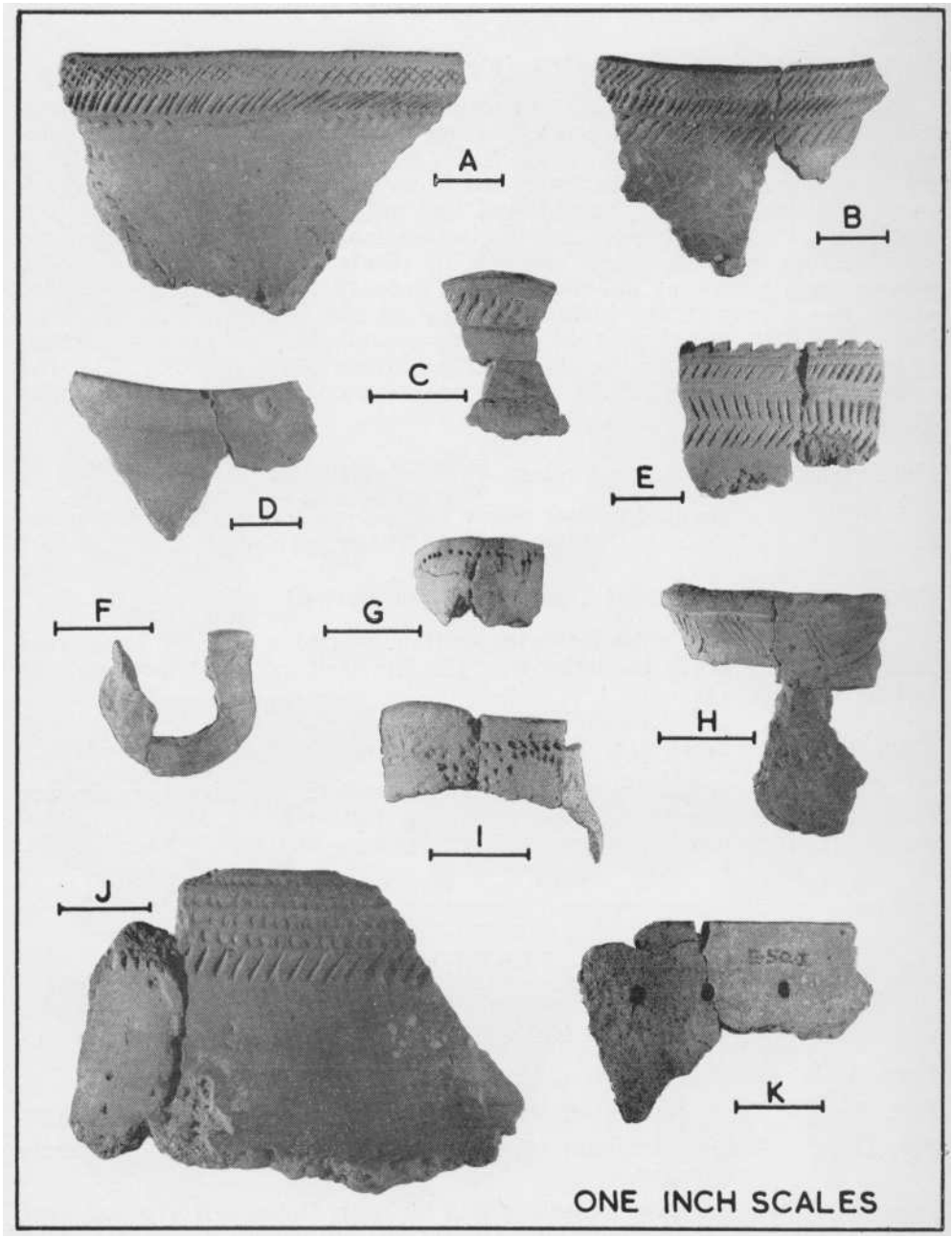

PLATE V

UNCLASSIFIED CORDED HORIZONTAL (4 rim sections—1 vessel)

This castellated vessel has a medium high, poorly defined, slightly rolled collar. The base of the collar zone is outlined by a row of punctates. Above this are 7 rows of horizontal cord impressions, topped by a row of short vertical gashes. The rim lip and interior are incised (Plate VI, Fig. G).

UNCLASSIFIED COMPLEX RIM (2 rim sections—1 vessel)

This castellated vessel seems to be an Ontario Oblique type with the addition of 5 horizontal rows of overlapping linear punctates on the upper neck area. Beneath this and along the interior rim is a row of vertically elongated punctates. Along the center of the rim lip is a row of shallow, overlapping punctates (Plate VI, Fig. D).

SEED POTS

Two hundred and twenty-four of the sherds from this site are from what are commonly called "seed" or "toy" pots. Most of these are very small and crudely made, leaving little doubt that they were produced by children. A few, probably made by adults, show finer workmanship and may have served some utilitarian purpose.

Roughly 70% of the body sherds and 62% of the 131 rimsherds in this group are smooth-surfaced and undecorated (Plate III, Figs. C, D). The rest have a textured surface or are decorated with incised, punctated, or impressed designs, often in combination (Plate V, Figs. C, F-I).

FIRED CLAY

Some 98 nondescript lumps of fired clay were found scattered throughout the excavated areas but there was no discernable pattern in their distribution. Their appearance, however, leaves little doubt that they are by-products in the manufacture of pottery.

PLATE V

POTTERY RIM SHERDS FROM THE ELLIOT SITE

Figs. A, B	Variant Impressed Oblique type rimsherds having paired rows of oblique punctation on the neck area.
Fig. C	Decorated rimsherd from a small "seed" or "toy" pot.
Fig. D	Rimsherd from a Niagara Collared type vessel.
Fig. E	Rimsherd from variant Impressed Oblique type vessel having a rolled collar and notched lip.
Figs. F - I	"Seed" or "toy" vessels, showing range of shape and decoration encountered on the Elliot site.
Fig. J	Rimsherd from Iroquoian Linear type vessel, showing clear spacing between the linear punctates.
Fig. K	Interior view of rimsherd from same vessel as illustrated in Figure J, showing the vestigal boss holes.

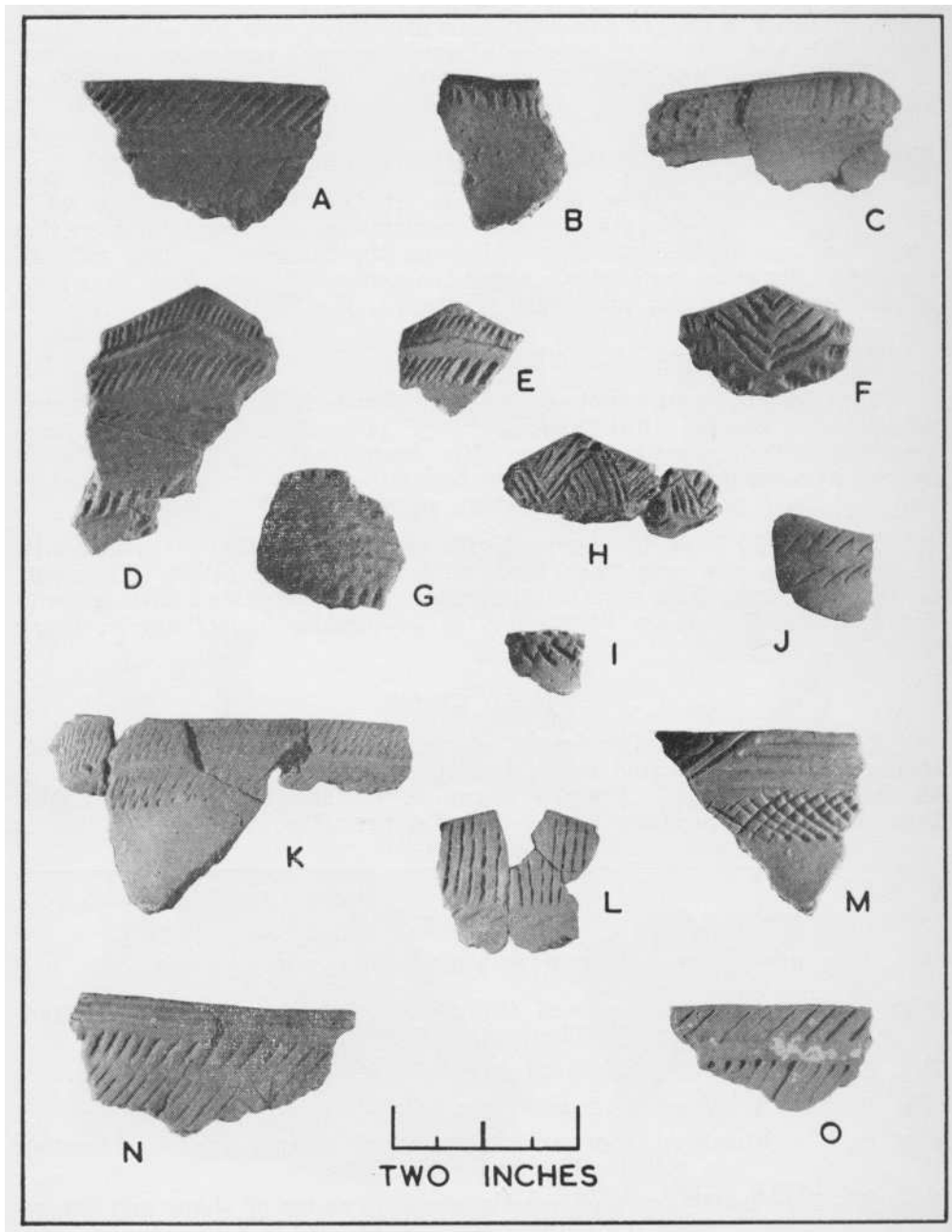

PLATE VI

DISCUSSION

With the exception of a single specimen from an unspecified site in Elgin County (Wintemberg, 1931), grooved and polished bone awls have been reported, as far as the author is aware, only from the Uren (Wintemberg, 1928), Middleport (Wintemberg, 1948) and Guyatt (Bell, 1963) sites in Ontario. Since these sites represent early stages of Iroquoian development, the presence of such an artifact in the Elliot inventory suggests a similar position for this site and points up the need for more information on the spatial and temporal distribution of this item.

Since the manufacture of zone-incised clay pipes was discontinued by the Lalonde stage of development (Ridley, 1957), the recovery of eight of these on the Elliot site sets an upper temporal limit for its occupation in the Middleport stage. When viewed as a whole, however, the Elliot pipe series, with its flattened, sharply tapered, non-flared stems and higher incidence of smaller, more-or-less cylindrical bowls, appears to be at an earlier stage of development than that of the Middleport series. The basal projection present on two of the Elliot pipe bowls is a vestige of an earlier Woodland platform pipe tradition.

Seven percent of the Elliot site vessels carry a row of interior punctates which fail to raise bosses on the exterior surface. On the Middleport site, Wintemberg (1948) reports 3 vessels having exterior bosses formed by punching holes from the inside, and another 5, "in which the holes failed to produce nodes." He does not illustrate this latter type but his example of the bossed ware is from the earlier wood-land deposit on this site. Combined, these vessels form less than .5%

PLATE VI

POTTERY RIM SHERDS FROM THE ELLIOT SITE

Fig. A Rimsherd from an Ontario Oblique type vessel.
Fig. B Unclassified collarless incised rimsherd.
Fig. C Rimsherd from a variant Impressed Oblique type vessel, showing rolled collar and horizontal elements.
Fig. D Unclassified rimsherd carrying a complex decoration.
Fig. E Castellated rimsherd from an Impressed Oblique type vessel.
Fig. F Castellated rimsherd from an Iroquoian Linear type vessel.
Fig. G Unclassified Corded Horizontal type rimsherd.
Fig. H Castellated rimsherd carrying an unclassified push-pull triangular decoration.
Fig. I Outflared rimsherd carrying an unclassified criss-cross decoration reminiscent of Middleport Criss-Cross.
Fig. J Unclassified rimsherd carrying a fingernail impressed design reminiscent of Ontario Oblique.
Fig. K Rimsherd from a variant Impressed Oblique type vessel.
Fig. L Unclassified neck decorated rimsherd.
Fig. M Rimsherd from an Ontario Horizontal, Variant "A" type Vessel.
Fig. N Unclassified neck decorated rimsherd.
Fig. 0 Rimsherd from an Impressed Oblique type vessel.

of his sample. Wintemberg (1928) reports that 8 % of the vessels from the Uren site carry exterior bosses, and mentions that, "in others the bulge on the outside is scarcely perceptible." Ridley (1958) classifies 18.5 of the Barrie series and 52.7 % of the Boys series as distinctive bossed types but also mentions that, "on many examples (of the Iroquoian Linear vessels) the exterior boss appears and on others the boss holes are tentatively marked on the interior." Without elaborating, he lists 4% of the Boys sample and *45* of the Barrie sample as Iroquoian linear vessels.

It is evident that by the Middleport stage of development, the Glen Meyer exterior bossing tradition (Ridley, 1958), even in the vestigal form of tentative boss holes, had virtually disappeared. With 7'/(of its vessels carrying vestigal interior boss holes, an earlier temporal position can be claimed for the Elliot site. However, the absence of the exterior boss itself indicates a later position than that of the Uren site.

A similar case can be made for the "push-pull" and dentate techniques of rim decoration. These have both virtually disappeared in favour of incising or trailing by the Middleport stage of development but are still used on the majority of the vessels from the Elliott site, with the Middleport Oblique, Variant "A" and Variant "B" vessels indicating a possible line of transition.

A percentage comparison of the Elliot site pottery types with those from five other published sites in Ontario is made in Table II. It was necessary to equate Ridley's (1958) Impressed Oblique with MacNeish's (1952) Ontario Oblique in this comparison because we had no way of determining what percentage of the latter classification would meet the narrower requirements of the former in the Uren and Middleport series (Wintemberg, 1928, 1948; MacNeish, 1952).

Coefficients of similarity, based upon these comparisons, show that the Elliot site pottery resembles that of the selected sites to the degree indicated in the following sequence which is based on previously worked out chronologies (MacNeish, 1952; Harper, 1952; Ridley, 1958) :

Pound ---------- 28.5 %
Middleport ---------- 37 %
Uren ---------- 47 %
Barrie ---------- 44 %
Boys ---------- 17.5 %

On the basis of pottery type comparisons alone, the Elliot site would appear to be most closely related to the Uren and Barrie sites in this series. Though this relationship is not too close, it should be noted that the Barrie site lies some 50 miles to the northwest and the Uren site nearly half as much again to the southwest. Further, the Barrie and Uren sites, which have been more-or-less equated temporally, have a degree of similarity of less than 50 (% .

CONCLUSIONS

The Elliot site is a component of the Uren stage of Iroquoian development in Ontario. Its cultural remains, particularly the ceramics, indicate a temporal position slightly later than that of the Uren Fite.

Hunting and fishing played a major role in providing food for the inhabitants of this site, but cultivation of corn and tobacco is suggested by the presence of charred corn and clay pipes.

The high percentage of "toy" pots and lumps of fired clay in the artifact inventory confirms the presence of children and the manufacture of pottery on the site.

The homogenous nature of the material from the woodlot and east field areas indicates that they were occupied concurrently or at least within a very short time span by the same people.

Since a settlement pattern was not uncovered, we cannot make a positive statement on the nature of this site, but the evidence of pottery manufacture and the presence of frog and turtle bones in the ash dumps rules out the possibility of a winter campsite only. If the two main habitation areas do represent a single settlement, the 200 yards of apparently unoccupied ground separating them precludes the erection of an enclosing palisade and suggests that defence was of little concern to the inhabitants. The location of the site itself supports this assumption.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author is indebted to those members of The Ontario Archaeological Society, particularly those who braved the swarms of mosquitoes in the woodlot excavation, who gave of their time and effort to provide the field notes and material upon which this report is based. Major contributions to this undertaking were made by Mr. Hugh Elliot, of Agincourt, who generously granted permission for this excavation on his property, Dr. C. H. D. Clarke and his nephew, Douglas, both of Agincourt, for bringing the existence of this site to the attention of the Society, Dr. C. S. Churcher, whose analysis of the skeletal material contributed much to our understanding of the site, Mr. W. E. Renison, for photographing the artifacts illustrated in Plates III to VI of this report, and the Hunting Survey Corporation Limited, Toronto, which provided the aerial photograph used in Plate I. It is a pleasure to acknowledge our gratitude to these people.

EPILOGUE TO PART I

A common question put to the archaeologist is, "What do you do with all the material after you have completed your analysis?" We are happy to report that in this case, largely through the efforts of Dr. and Mrs. C. H. D. Clarke, a representative sample, including all the fully restored vessels, is on exhibit in a permanent display case installed in the Agincourt Collegiate Institute, Agincourt, Ontario. The students of this institute are now provided with a graphic illustration of life in their area long before the arrival of the white man and his records.

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