THE BULLETIN

March 1963 Number 27

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Contents

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PREFATORY

The subject of trans-Atlantic cultural contact between Europe and America in pre-historic times is not a highly popular one among archaeologists, though there has been a recent mild revival of willingness to discuss it, as the following article points out. This willingness reflects, no doubt, a growing awareness that much of what was so patly assumed to have been infused by migration from Asia shows no sign of having come from that direction. Woodland pottery, for instance, has been posited as being an almost direct Asiatic import. The difficulty is that it cannot be found along the line of travel between Asia and its American centers in the Mid-west and the Northeast. To have got to its American centers it would have had to pass through Manitoba. But Richard S. McNeice in his "An Introduction to the Archaeology of Southeast Manitoba" (1958) writes "The present archaeological evidence is categorically opposed to such a hypothesis," that is, that Woodland pottery did pass into its American centers through Manitoba. And how else could it have got here if it did not pass through Manitoba?

There are, of course, possible explanations for the appearance of Woodland pottery other than by importation from either Asia or Europe. But the failure of evidence to show up along the Asiatic route is becoming acute, and the climate of opinion is warming somewhat toward the trans-Atlantic route where, since it is across water, the lack of evidence is self-explanatory.

This slight thaw in the willingness to examine the case for trans-Atlantic contact may in time bring about a thorough search for evidence. What constitutes evidence is the nub of the matter. The find of a cache of Bronze Age tools in New England would constitute evidence of an irrefutable kind. Though copper was traded throughout the eastern half of the present United States from the time of the Old Copper culture of Michigan and Wisconsin as early as 7500 B.P, there was no tin with which to alloy it to make bronze. Therefore bronze, which was in Western Europe at, perhaps, 3700 B.P., would have to be of import origin.

But a lack of evidence so decisive does not destroy the case for trans-Atlantic cultural contact. The Neolithic farmers among whom came the Megalithic builders referred to in the following article were, as the designation plainly states, in a lithic industrial stage. True, no indubitable European Neolithic artifacts have been recovered in America, but here we come upon another possibility.

At the climax of the last glaciation the sea was 350 ft. lower than at present, according to some authorities, and as much as 420 ft. lower, according to others. As it rose, over the following 10,000 years, with the melting of continental ice, it encroached on former dry land, turning the high places into islands. Eventually, with the last great upsurge of about 6000 B.P. --when the sea rose 45 ft. in a matter of about 200 years to 10-12 ft, above present level--these islands were submerged. It is not too much to believe that any people living on them had the good sense to get off in time.

The only way they could have got off is by boats which, being island people, they probably knew something about. Once embarked, however, they were more likely to go where wind and current took them than to head for a place on a map that didn't exist.

But we have no idea what the cultural inventory of these island people would have been, and it is therefore not likely that we would recognize it if we saw it in America. Or, to put it another way, the cultural inventory may be what we are looking at in the Northeast without knowing it. The marine upsurge of 6000 B.P. is, however, probably too early for the kind of Megalithic architecture described in the following article, if it came from England or Ireland. Stonehenge has a C14 date for its first major stone emplacement of about 4000 B.P. Megalithic builders of 6000 B.P. would have had to come from the Mediterranean area. The sea rise from 10-12 ft. below present levels to 10-12 ft. above at between 4200 B.P. and 3800 B.P. is better timed for the forced removal of Western European Neolithic peoples.

The following article appears in THE BULLETIN, not because it supports any pet theory of the editor or any trans-Atlantic contact advocate of his acquaintance, but because it brings attention to an archaeological enigma that can only be archaeologically resolved. The Bird-Viscelius conclusion that William Pattee built the structures found on his farm is unsatisfactory as it now stands. There is less evidence that he did build them than that he didn't. The only motive that can be ascribed to him for putting together such unprecedented architecture is that he was "eccentric." But it cannot be proved that he was eccentric unless it is proved that he built these structures and it can be shown for what eccentric use he built them. There is no doubt that he used them, as any thrifty New Englander would have, but are these the structures a thrifty New England farmer would have built himself for any New England farming purpose?

A POSSIBLE MEGALITHIC SETTLEMENT COMPLEX AT NORTH SALEM, N.H.: AND APPARENTLY RELATED STRUCTURES ELSEWHERE IN NEW ENGLAND

Andrew E. Rothovius Milford, N.H.

The crude and unscientific excavations carried cut in the 1930's and 1940's by the opinionated amateur, William B. Goodwin (died 1950) at the famous Pattee's Caves in Nor' h Salem, New Hampshire, seriously damaged what may still prove to be a site of radical importance to American prehistory. Not only did he destroy vital soil profiles and disturb meaningful associations, but his fantasy that the place had been built by Tenth Century Irish monks so distorted attitudes toward the site, that when an archaeologically competent examination was finally carried out (by Bird and Vescelius, 1955) it was solely oriented toward proving or disproving this assertion.

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The "Irish" theory was, of course, thrown wholly out of court by Bird and Vescelius, but the unfortunate sequel was that no work of any scope has since been undertaken to determine with finality the true origin and purpose of the great stone arrangements on Pattee's Hill and the possible related significance of the nearby cliff, honeycombed with strange arcades, galleries, and crevices.

It is the purpose of this paper to describe the actually existing structures at Pattee's Caves, as well as the associated artifacts and the surrounding topography, with the hope of attracting a sufficiently serious attention to bring about a new and thorough investigation and a re-evaluation of the negative conclusion drawn by Bird and Vescelius that, in the absence of positive contrary evidence, the megaliths had to be taken as the work of their one-time allegedly eccentric Yankee owner, Jonathan Pattee. For, to have accomplished these works, Pattee would have had to conceive and execute a mighty architectural effort entirely out of character with New England Colonial building techniques, having no known parallel or precedent for them.

Even less is the Pattee's Hill cultural manifestation in keeping with anything known of American aboriginal occupancies. No culture yet found on this continent possessed a specifically megalithic type of construction. The North Salem structures appear, in fact, to be most readily comprehensible as a settlement pattern referable to those of the late Neolithic farming communities of western Europe, after these had come under the influence of the "megalith missionaries" who, between 5000-3500 B.P., spread their "doctrine" of massive stone ceremonial construction from the Mediterranean lands to as far north as the Orkney and Shetland Islands.

In the now widely accepted opinion of Dr. Geoffrey Bibby of the Danish State Museum of Antiquities, drawing on the earlier hypothesis of W. J. Perry, the thousands of megalithic ("great stone") underground vaulted tombs, (or shaft-or passage graves as they are variously called) barrow mounds, and sacred precincts such as Stonehenge, found from Spain to Sweden and through the British Isles, were not so much the architectural expression of any specific culture or people, but rather the material evidence of a religious cult or belief that originated in the Mediterranean area. Carried far and wide by its devotees along the tin, copper, and amber trade routes of late Neolithic and early Bronze Age Europe, it appears to have been characterized by a belief that the immortality of the soul could somehow be assured by the burial of the dead in gigantic stone tombs. Fertility rituals and sacrifices, centering about the worship of an earth-mother, seem to have constituted the religious practice.

In some areas, megalithic construction was adapted to providing communal shelter for the living, instead of being limited to tombs and ritual shrines. Through later variations of megalithic construction, however, certain features remained prominent until, with the advent of the Iron Age Hallstatt peoples and their crematory usages, the technique and practice of cyclopean building in stone lapsed in central and western Europe between 3000 and 2500 B.P. These persistent features included the dry-walling, frequently incorporating stone blocks of colossal dimensions; the corbelled vaulting, that toward the end became more of a flat slab roofing; the trilith (uprights-and-lintel) entrances, as characteristic at Stonehenge and in the megalithic tomb gateways of Brittany and Ireland, as in the famed "Lion Gate" at Mycenae in Greece; and the lateral chambers and votive wall niches, often with cups and bowls cut or hollowed out from stone. Many of these megalithic traits seem to be duplicated in the Pattee's Hill structures.

The material so far discovered at Pattee's Hill falls under two headings: the scanty Amerindian artifacts and the megalithic constructions themselves, including a double-entried shaft-barrow termed the "Y" Cavern, plus associated monoliths and the four-and-a-half ton grooved granite slab on pedestals known as the "Sacrificial Stone." There are also a few carvings, but no skeletal remains have been found. Their absence may possibly be explained by the local tradition of skulls having been discovered, 75 or 100 years ago, by boys playing in the crevices of the cliff locus, about 1500 feet west of the main structural complex and separated from it by a sparse mixed forest. Should further investigation locate additional skeletal material in the cliff, the conclusion might be warranted that it had been used for cliff sepulture by the builders of the megalithic structures.

These structures would then appear to have formed a shrine sanctuary on the analogy of Stonehenge and some of the "temple" sites in Malta, with perhaps some concession to purposes of everyday dwelling. There is also a grouping of hollows in the woods between the cliff locus and the structures, which may mark the sites of rounded wood or skin huts in which the postulated builders might have lived.

A superficial examination of the cliff was carried out in the fall of 1959 by Robert Stone, present supervisor in charge of Pattee's Hill, and several other members of the New Hampshire Archaeological Society. This survey yielded evidence of hearths and fire pits, as well as some sherds of pottery, which Frank Ridley, Canadian archaeologist who has excavated Northeastern ceramics, has tentatively identified as belonging to the early Woodland.

Topography of the Site

Pattee's Hill is a 245-ft, elevation of somewhat elongated shape, with its main axis lying northwest to southeast, in the village of North Salem in the southeastern corner of New Hampshire. It is 25 miles due west of the Atlantic coastline and on the east side of a shallow valley down which the Spicket river runs to the Merrimac estuary a few miles below.

Between 1730 and 1759, white settlement spread into this valley from two directions: southward from the center of Scotch-Irish Presbyterian colonization (1721) at Derry; and northwestward from Methuen and Haverhill, settled in the 1650's. A road came into being along the west side of the valley, connecting a string of farms fairly close to each other. On the east side, settlement was delayed much longer; by 1800, there were only some five or six dwellings, two of them taverns, on a road that had been laid out toward Haverhill, passing to the northeast of Pattee's Hill. Between the hill and the immediate valley bottom the land continued uncultivated. The valley border on the east has almost the character of an escarpment, becoming a precipitous cliff of nearly 200 feet in height, that forms the western edge of Pattee's Hill and is the cliff referred to above as containing several arcades, galleries, and overhangs, many of which appear to have been modified by the hand of man from original naturally eroded cavities.

That this modification does not seem to have been effected by modern steel tools, leads to the assumption that the work was done in a prehistoric period.

The largest of the cliff galleries is about 16 feet in length and extends back into the cliff face for 10 to 12 feet. Its height is about 6 feet, with a large overhang of granite

that prevents direct access from the top of the cliff. Large pieces of the ceiling have broken off and now encumber the floor. This damage is typical of that which the entire cliff face has undergone, apparently from seismic causes. Most of the ceilings of the arcades and galleries are badly shattered and there is heavy cracking of the rock walls. Earth shocks of an intensity sufficient to account for such effects are known to have occurred in the immediate vicinity in 1727 and 1755.

In the fall of 1959, in the course of the examination of the cliff already noted above, Robert Stone entered the largest gallery and, after making his way over the heaps of rock rubble covering the floor, discovered in an interstice several native pottery sherds. An attempt was made to sink test pits, but the profusion of rubble prevented this. However, some of the broken rocks were removed and surface scraping carried out, yielding in all a total of 91 sherds from which an almost entire pot could be reconstructed if the various members of the party were to pool the pieces now held by each. Those that have been submitted to Mr. Ridley are considered by him, as indicated above, to be consistent with early Woodland types on the basis of the coil joints, coarse grit interior containing carbon black, and the roughening of the outside surface. (Fig. lA)

In addition to the sherds, a fragment of sharpened porphyry was found that may be the tip of a spearhead. No trace was located, however, of the skulls that the local tradition claims were once found in the cliff crevices.

From the cliff rim, the hill extends eastward for 1800 feet to its eastern terminus in a much more gentle slope than on the western side. In the opposite direction, i.e. north-south, the hill's dimensions are 850 feet across. The summit is distinctly plateau-like and appears to have been scoured clean by glacial action, which left a few scattered erratics. No trace of a Colonial period road crossing the hill has been found.

The soil covering the hilltop is a fine-grained, shallow, wind-deposited silt. In the opinion of Frank Glynn of the Connecticut Archaeological Society, who in 1957-60 carried out considerable independent work at the site, it is easy to clear of brush and weeds and on it "even primitive hand tools can maintain a moisture-conserving mulch that will grow; a small grain crop. " The forest growth is sparse with a predominance of pine, and there are no indications of its having been denser in recent centuries.

The downward slope of the hill from the crest in the direction of the main structural complex is occupied by a network of stone walls enclosing a lay-out of fields of highly irregular shape and dimensions. Glynn has computed the surface area of these fields at 30 acres. They appear to be entirely distinct from the typically rectangular, regularly laid-out fields of the Colonial farmers in the adjoining tracts of land.

Some resemblances can be found in the causewayed camps of the Windmill Hill people, who immediately preceded the megalith builders in the British Isles ca 4000 B. P.; but the Windmill Hill enclosures were laid out in earth instead of stones, were far more regular and concentric in shape, and are believed to have been used for cattle round-ups. (Piggott, 1954.) Glynn considers the best parallel to be in the grain field layouts of the Celtic peoples in Britain, in the period roughly 2500-1000 B.P.

The stone walls rest on bedrock at all points tested; in many cases they have been laid down in bedding trenches cut into the apparent land surface at the time of their erection. The material for the walls, and apparently for the megalithic structures as well, appears to have come from bedrock granite of which large slabs were quarried by the technique of fire-setting. Much debris from this quarrying is associated with the base

of the walling and the bedding trenches at an average depth of 15 inches below the present soil surface.

Two distinct layers of charcoal were noted by Glynn in the area of the field enclosures. As determined by soil-augers and shovel-pits, the first layer is at or immediately beneath the present surface, in the humus, and clearly reflects the slash-and-burn clearing practiced by Pattee, who pastured sheep on the hill in 1828-48. The second charcoal layer is found at the same depth as the aforementioned granite debris and would reflect a similar practice by a prehistoric occupancy, if it were shown to have been related to European parallels. Slash-and-burn clearing was common among the earliest British and Continental European agricultural communities of the Neolithic period and continued through the Bronze Age as a typical practice of semi-nomadic populations that would clear an area, farm it for a few seasons until the soil was exhausted, then move on elsewhere.

From the grouping of circular hollows already noted and hypothesized as hut patterns situated west of the field lay-out, a pathway about 900 feet in length runs through the latter to the megalithic structural complex, which covers three-quarters of an acre. Immediately surrounding it, the regularly enclosed fields are even smaller and more closely clustered than higher up the hill and give the impression of having been cattle or sheep pens. Some, in all probability, were indeed used for the latter purpose by Pattee during his occupancy.

The attached sketch (Fig.1) shows the outward appearance and approximate dimensions of the megalithic complex. It appears to be centered on the plaza bounded on one side by the ramp-like wall and on the other by the pedestalled "Sacrificial Slab, and the barrow mound known as the Y Cavern, though actually its shape is much more that of a T.

Some of the other more notable structures in the complex (refer to Fig. 1) are the Well of the Crystals; the Megaron House; the Great Monolithic Slab (probably part of the roof of a structure now collapsed); the Large Dolmen, which may be a rifled chamber tomb; the Pulpit, a semi-circular wall of no clear purpose; the Mensal Shrine and the adjoining dolmen with trilith entrance called "the Tomb of the Lost Souls"; and immediately behind the latter, a barrow through which runs a souterrain (tunnel) called the Large Drain, about 25 feet in length and large enough for a small child to crawl through. (This is not the only drain on the site, of which the drainage system--quickly clearing it of rainwater--is indeed one of the most remarkable features, but it is the sole one to possess the characteristics of a souterrain. The others are merely channels gouged out of the bedrock.)

The Y Cavern or great barrow mound is entered through a doorway at the left end of the crossbar. Along the inner edge of the crossbar is a "couch" carved out of the bedrock which Goodwin insisted was the "Abbot's Bed". Its resemblance to the initiate's couches of the Mediterranean mystery religions of antiquity is apparent. Immediately to its right is the opening of a channel that cuts through the wall of the barrow and emerges 8 feet away, above the "Sacrificial Table." Through this, one's voice is carried rather eerily to the outside.

In the right end of the crossbar is a hearth, or what appears to be such, though no charcoal has been discovered in connection with it. Above it is an opening cut through the ceiling. In this a louvered stone was inserted that acted as a damper and draft con-

troller. This, unfortunately, was vandalized several years ago, but its existence is a matter of attested record.

The stem of the "Y" has several niches and seats cut into its sides, suggestive of ritual purposes. On the wall immediately opposite the exit opening is a stone slab bearing a carving of what appears to be a gazelle-like animal with swept-back horns.

Goodwin claimed that he found the "Sacrificial Table" flush with the ground, and that the 30-inch pedestals became apparent only after he had cleared away the soil and leaf mold that had become packed around them. By so doing he destroyed the priceless record of the soil profiles. (The soil covering of the barrows was also stripped away by him, and though later replaced, is now so disturbed and contaminated as to be of little. or no value for determining the age of the barrows.)

The groove and lip of the "Sacrificial Table" are about one inch in depth and have been cut with stone tools. Immediately to the right of it are other large stone slabs, piled in disarray and probably representing the remains of a large dolmen structure.

The Megaron House was so named because of its resemblance to the "great house" or square-shaped central structure in the towns of the Achaean or Mycenaean period in the Aegean area. It is the only one of the surviving complete structures that is sufficiently large to allow the supposition of its having been used for dwelling. Immediately across from it (see fig. 4) are the foundations of the house and barn that Pattee built at this point in 1826. It burned down in 1855, leaving a cellar hole and foundation walls into which are incorporated stones from the surrounding megalithic structures.

The "Upper Well", or Well of the Crystals, is stone-lined, rounded on three sides, and flat on the fourth. Eighteen feet deep, it has been drained, but seepage has restored about 18 inches of water in the bottom. About a foot of muck, so impacted as to require chipping away, was found at the bottom after drainage. This yielded several crystals of quartz. Crystals of this appearance and magnitude are not known to occur naturally anywhere within at least a hundred miles of the site, and there is no possibility of their having formed naturally in the well. It has been suggested they were thrown in as votive offerings.

Some of the other artifacts so far discovered have also been found in the immediate vicinity of the Megaron. In the summer of 1961, Robert Stone, while digging around its base, came across the stone hand tool shown in fig. 3. No authoritative opinion has yet been expressed on this object, which appears to be of a type more closely resembling European Mesolithic hand axes than similar early Amerindian tools. Two years previously, in 1959, Frank Glynn dug up to the east of the Pattee cellar hole some small sherds of soft yellowish clay (fig, 1A). Together with a few similar fragments found by earlier investigators in some of the structures and considered by them to be a form of Colonial brick, these sherds are believed by Glynn and Dr. Irving Rouse of Yale to be analogous to the Cardial or Impressed ancient ware of the Mediterranean lands, ca 6500 B.P, or prior to the rise of the megalith builders. Comparison has also been suggested of these sherds to Ritchie's Point Peninsula II ceramics of upper New York State.

(The only other major artifact found at the site is the slate stone mace, shovel, or hoe, as it has been variously termed. This was found by Goodwin; exactly where on the site is not clearly stated by him in his confused records. He sent it to Dr. V. Gordon Childe, who felt it resembled a similar object found at Skara Brae in the Orkney Islands off Scotland.)

On the outer slab surfaces of the outer structures (those on the left of Fig. 1) are what appear to be chiseled outlines of the labrys or double-axe well known as a symbol among the Bronze Age cultures of the Mediterranean and quite probably already used in Neolithic times as a marking of ritual significance. The design is most prominent on one of the two monoliths now recumbent on the ground that appear to have been gate posts framing an entrance into the central complex from that direction.

'The Tomb of the Lost Souls" is a rather fanciful name that has become attached to a well-preserved dolmen adjoining the ramp barrow on the left. It appears to resemble similar dolmens in Malta that are believed to have served a ritual purpose of confining the otherwise harmful spirits of the dead, through a system of blind-end chambers connecting with each other. This dolmen has a neat trilith opening on its left; to the right is an upright slab with some crude and highly weathered markings that have been fancied to form the outline of a horned head, possibly a bull's.

To summarize the general appearance and dimensions of the structures, only the Y Cavern and the Megaron are high enough inside to permit walking about without stooping over. In all of the others, stooping is required wherever a ceiling exists. No trace of mortar or of cutting with metal tools has been found in any of the structures. The ceilings are generally of flat stone slabs, though in several instances these are so arranged as to approach very closely to true corbelled vaulting.

Southward of the Large Dolmen (see Fig. 1), a fifty-foot long open drain, cut in a granite ledge, leads to a fresh-water peat bog which it once drained, before becoming choked up with silt. No investigation has yet been made of this bog to determine whether remains of human occupancy may exist beneath it.

From the Well of the Crystals, the pathway bends at a sharp angle to the south, past another well of similar appearance and depth that has not yet been drained. From this, the path continues about 300 feet eastward, bordered by stone walling on either side (a small dolmen is inserted into the walling about halfway down the path, on the right hand side) until it fades out near a small, rounded underground stone-lined chamber called the "Watchhouse." This may have actually been a small barrow tomb long since rifled. Local tradition credits Pattee with opening it after he had found it sealed, but he is said to have found nothing in it.

From records of the city of Lawrence, Mass., about fifteen miles distant, it appears that about1860 extensive quarrying was carried out on Pattee's Hill to obtain stone slabs for use in building the city's first municipal sewage and drainage system. This took place mainly on the southern and western sides of the present structural complex, which may have been several times larger than now, before this severe vandalizing. It may have had an overall pattern of a coherence now lost that would have made possible a more exact referral to the megalithic shrine complexes of western Europe.

The first-known written mention of the site is the statement in the local town history (1907) that "in the pines on Pattee's Hill is a wild and romantic spot about which the most weird and fantastic legends might be woven." It goes on to intimate that "the caves" had been used by Pattee for storage purposes, but nothing is said about his having built them. Thereafter the structures, which it must be remembered, were then largely covered with earth and leaf mold and thus did have much more the appearance of caves than at present, seem to have been a favorite haunt of picnickers and Boy Scouts, with resulting vandalism of any loose objects and artifacts, until Goodwin, in

1934, enclosed the area within a wire fence. After his death in 1950, the publicity and notoriety the site had acquired through his work led to further repeated serious vandalization, until in 1958 a private corporation took over the area, which it now operates under the name of "Mystery Hill Caves" as a tourist attraction.

It is the contention of a group of interested persons represented by this writer that the accumulated evidence at North Salem deserves more than mere dismissal on the grounds of inconclusiveness, and that a new "dig" at the site, more thorough than any hitherto attempted, might provide highly significant indications of possible contact between the European late Neolithic and early Bronze Age and the early Woodland cultures of Northeastern America. This work should be carried out, if possible, by personnel qualified to interpret both European and American traces and remains of these periods.

In summary, the considered judgment of the writer and his associates is that the construction of the North Salem megalithic structures by Pattee and/or any other Colonial farmers has not been proved beyond the known occupancy of the site by Pattee in 1828-1848, and that in view of the many parallels to similar sites in Europe, North Salem may represent an attempt at colonization by at least one group of late Neolithic or early Bronze Age voyagers who had come under the influence of the megalithic cult of building. Further, that this contact, or others in connection with it, may have been responsible for the introduction of pottery and of mortuary ceremonials to the early Woodland of northeastern America.

Trend of Recent Opinion in Regard to Early Trans-Atlantic Contacts Several writers have recently discussed with growing interest the likelihood of such early trans-Atlantic contacts having actually occurred. Ridley (in Penna. Arch. Bulletin, August 1960) has drawn an impressive series of parallels between the early Woodland pottery and that of northwestern Europe at the same period. Keyhoe (Southwestern Journal of Anthropology, U. of New Mexico, 1962 Spring Issue) has developed the thesis that both pottery and the concept of burial mounds were transmitted to America from northwestern Europe ca 4000 BP. She has in particular pointed out the similarities between the Vinette I of the St. Lawrence valley, about 3500 BP, and the Ertebo11e ware, the oldest Scandinavian ceramics, occurring about a millennium earlier. The time lag may, she feels, be accounted for in part at least by the paucity of evidence thus far from the Maritime Provinces, where a ware ancestral to Vinette I may yet be located and determined to be of European derivation.

Earlier, Ritchie (Recent Discoveries Suggesting Early Woodland Burial Cult, Circular 40, NY State Museum, 1955) concluded that his work in northern New York, especially in Jefferson County, added up to an "impressive body of fresh evidence to support the thesis that the major source of the recognized cultural modification responsible for the initiation of the early Woodland was an actual penetration into the Northeast of a distinctive new cultural group of a relatively high order." North Salem, with its suggestions of some form of primitive rituals, may have been the focus of the penetration indicated by Dr. Ritchie. Many of the grave goods described by him as occurring in the early Woodland burials and crematories, are highly similar to those of the European burials at that period. Of particular interest are the stone pieces that appear to be non-functional wristguards in imitation of the actual ones so familiar in the Bell-Beaker burials of the British Isles and northwestern Europe. (Keyhoe)

The problem of how European man was able to reach America at that early period

has also been considered by, among others, Keyhoe and Bibby. Evidence is cited to show that even with primitive skin boats, small groups could have crossed from the British Isles to Labrador via Iceland and Greenland and then have come down the coast. Moreover, Bibby has pointed out that there is increasingly conclusive evidence that among at least the Bronze Age people of Bohuslan in southwestern Sweden, a people of presumable Battle-Axe or steppe-rider derivation, navigation with oared and sailed galleys was more advanced ca 3500 BP than at any subsequent time in northern Europe prior to the Vikings. Br? gger, as early as 1936, suggested that the Bronze Age was actually the "great millennium" of seafaring and was characterized by a high degree of adventurous spirit and emprise, leading to distant voyages of discovery. (to be continued)

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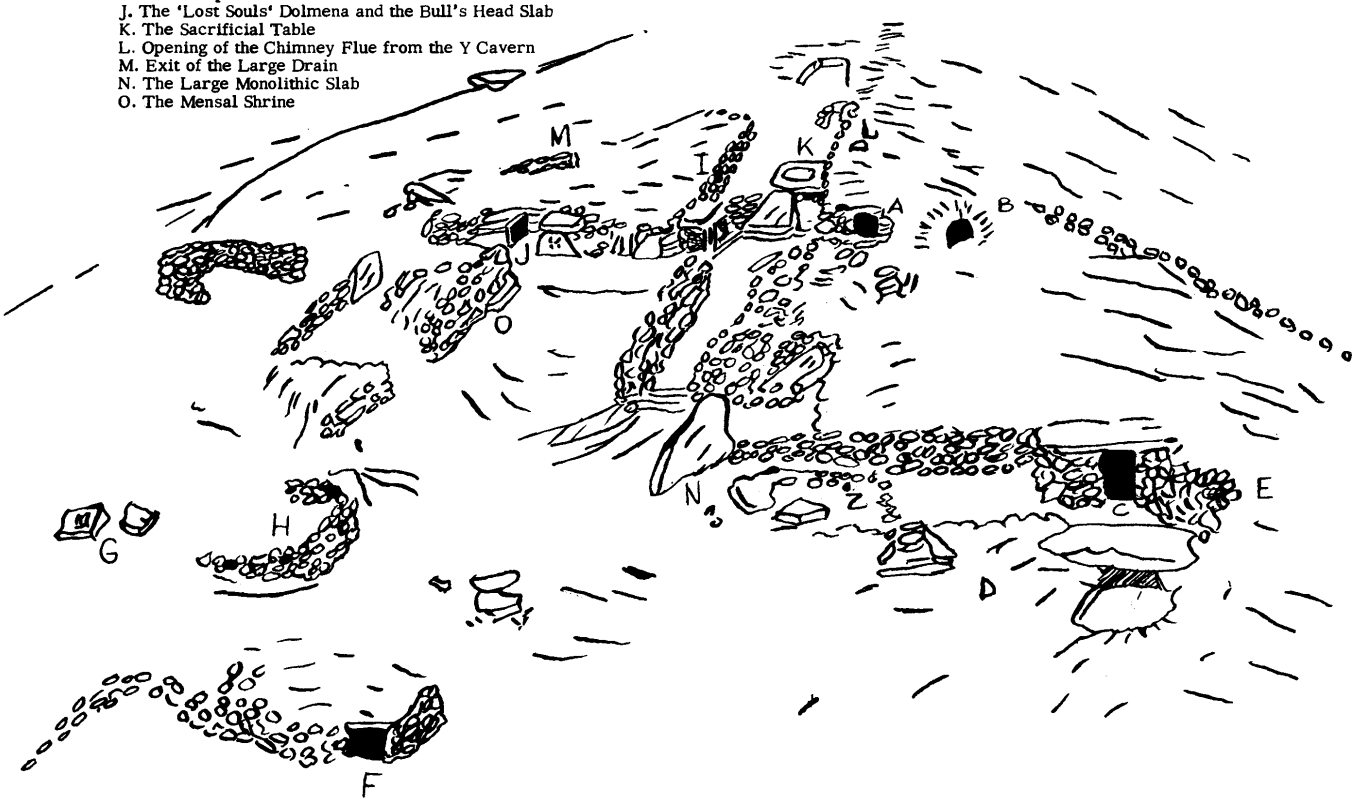
KEY TO FIGURE 1

A. Main entrance to the Y Cavern barrow mound
B. Exit from the Y Cavern
C. Doorway of the Megaron House
D. Pattee's Cellar Hole
E. The Well of the Crystals
F. The Large Dolmen
G. Gateposts (fallen) with Labrys Carving
H. The Pulpit
I. The Ramp Mound
J. The 'Lost Souls' Dolmena and the Bull's Head Slab
K. The Sacrificial Table
L. Opening of the Chimney Flue from the Y Cavern
M. Exit of the Large Drain
N. The Large Monolithic Slab
O. The Mensal Shrine

MYSTERY HILL

N. SALEM, N.H.

FIGURE I



AREA SIZE-ABOUT 1 ACRE

Drawn by R. E. Stone 2-7-63

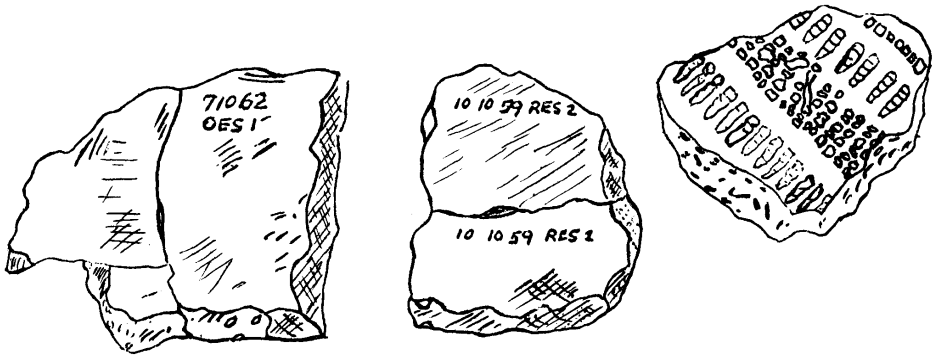
MYSTERY HILL
North Salem, N.H.

POT SHERDS
Found in Cliff Site Adjoining Mystery Hill

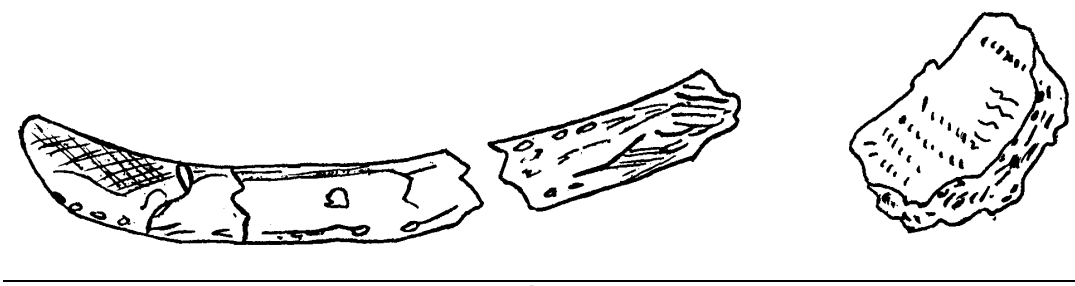
Figure lA

Pot Sherds Found in Site
By Frank Glynn, 1959

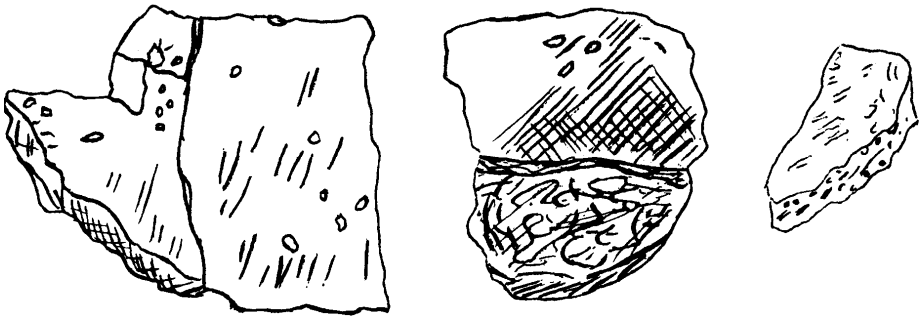
Figure 7



INSIDE SURFACE



EDGE VIEW



OUTSIDE SURFACE

Surface Missing

SCALE-FULL
Sketched by
R. E, Stone 2/5/59

FROM MASSACHUSETTS

Dr. Maurice Robbins reports the following from his Paleo-Archaic site at Assawompsett Pond in Middleboro, Massachusetts:

"Some definite progress has been made in the identification of the source of the chert used by the Paleo inhabitants of Wap. #8. We have been assisted in this study by Dr. Clifford A. Kaye of the U. S. Geological Survey and by Mr. Charles Wray of West Rush, New York. Dr. Kaye has examined a large number of chert samples on our behalf. Some of these samples Dr. Kaye obtained from several New England sources, particularly Maine. We furnished specimens from the area about Assawompsett, and Mr. Wray sent a number of specimens from the Hudson Valley of New York.

"Dr. Kaye describes the chert used at Wapanucket #8 as follows: The silica base an abundance of spicules of various kinds occur.

"Except for some small pebbles of this material at Gay Head (Martha's Vineyard) found in the Miocene Greensands, no material of this description is known from New England, either to us or to Dr. Kaye. The Gay Head pebbles are too small to have been the source of the Wapanucket cherts. A number of samples from the Deepskill and Normanskill deposits of the Hudson Valley were examined by Dr. Kaye concerning which he says, "... the Coxsackie chert is very close, if not identical, to the elusive radiolarian cherts of our (Wap. #8) artifacts. The differences that can be observed are probably not sufficient to point to a different source. They fall within the range of variation of most rocks, . . . Right now it certainly appears that the source of the Wapanucket #8 chert is the Deepskill or Normanskill deposits." Although we will continue to check any and all sources that come to our attention, we are assuming tentatively that the source of the Wapanucket #8 chert is in the Hudson Valley. It is very fine-grained, and the cherts are opaque even on very thin edges. No algal bodies are present, but there is a wealth of marine organisms. The most conspicuous of these are spherical, rather large radiolaria. In addition, foraminifera and may be of interest to note that some of the chert used at Bull Brook is identical with the Wapanucket material. "

THE MORRIS ESTATE CLUB SITE

Edward J. Kaeser .....Metropolitan Chapter

The Morris Estate Club Site is located at the intersection of Balcom and Schurz Avenues in Bronx County, New York, situated on the property of the Morris Estate Community Club, one of many local civic and recreational organizations fronting Long Island Sound and the East River of the Throgs Neck Peninsula. The land, approximately 50, 000 square feet in area, is utilized by the neighborhood members as a picnic grove, playground, and bathing beach overlooking the north shore of the East River.

The club land and beach runs roughly east and west parallel to Schurz Avenue, bounded on the west by private homes and on the east by Preston High School. From the rocky beach the land rises steeply fifteen feet above high water to the rim of the picnic area. Through continual rain erosion and undermining flood-tide action, the shrub-denuded, sand-clay beach embankment is steadily being washed down, leaving the beach strewn with boulders and fan-shaped lenses of tough orange colored clay. A ramp way has been

bulldozed through the embankment crest to the beach for small pleasure craft launching. This broad trench, exposing bare subsoil, tends to accelerate erosion of that portion of the site under investigation in this paper. The flat land above the beach, particularly the western halt of the property, has been stripped of six to fifteen inches of topsoil. From this area of soil removal, it is rumored, an Indian burial was recovered; however, no published descriptive record of the discovery, or identification of the finder, is available.

Approximately 200 to 300 yards eastward, on either side of Schurz Avenue, an extensive aboriginal habitation site was excavated prior to its complete destruction by the erection of homes, (Lopez, 1955, pp. 6-22).

Occasional reconnaissance was conducted during the late summer of 1957 on rainy days, when bathers would not be inconvenienced, and throughout the fall of the year, particularly after violent storms, the beach and embankment profile was surface-inspected in the search for exposed artifactual material and midden debris. The prime survey object was the location of an intact habitation area showing least modern disturbance which would be subsequently excavated after deliberation and approval of the club directors.

At the extreme eastern end of the site, below the sod of the beach embankment profile, a 4-inch thick midden stratum was found composed of oyster and hard clam valves in a matrix of greasy, black earth. Leaching from the midden layer and scattered down the slope were shop flakes of quartz and chert, fire shattered stones, shell, and animal bone fragments. From amongst this rain-washed refuse the following artifactual recoveries were made.

(4) near rim or body sherds, shell tempered

(5) indefinable blade and tip fragments of projectile points.

(1) a cylindrical, pestle. or hammer, of roughly pecked, granitic stone.

(1) tapered end fragment of a cylindrical pestle, limestone.

(4) cup-shaped paint stone fragments, limonite.

The author expresses particular thanks to, Mr. A. Linarello, president of the Morris Estate Club for graciously permitting me to conduct this investigation. Smith's (Smith, 1950 pp. 95-200) monograph was utilized in the analysis and interpretation of the archaeological data.

Excavation

Excavation began in March and continued through April, 1958, the work being done as weather permitted on weekends and holidays. A magnetic north; south oriented grid of thirty four-foot squares was laid out, covering an area of four hundred eighty square feet. The southernmost corner pipe fence post of the Preston School property served as the grid datum point, and the squares laid parallel and adjacent to this north-south oriented fence line, see Figure 1. Four-foot squares were used to keep excavation units to a minimum size to facilitate prompt back filling of the excavation at the end of each day's work. Polyethylene strips were used to line wall profiles before backfilling, allowing the easy resumption of adjoining square excavation.

A thick growth of sumac and a generally uniform four-inch topsoil layer of black, fine-grained earth was stripped from the grid, exposing the surface of the underlying midden stratum. The habitation layer was composed of crushed and whole hard clam, oyster valves and whelks, fire-cracked stones, fragmented mammal, turtle and bird

bones, and randomly scattered shop flakes and cultural artifacts in a matrix of charcoal-laden, black earth. The midden thickness ranged from a maximum of twelve inches, where it filled natural hollows in the undulating subsoil surface bordering the embankment edge, to a few inches or a scattered trace at the west and north grid periphery. Investigation of the eastern edge of the midden was impossible because of its location under the lawn of the Preston School property. The yellow, sandy subsoil was stained brown approximately two inches in depth at the midden junction, presumably by water percolation; this stain may constitute the remains of an original sod-surface line.

Evidence of physical stratification was completely lacking throughout the midden stratum. No distinct lenses of sterile soil or ash were existent to suggest anything but the homogeneity of a continuous occupation for an unknown, but suspected short period of time. The subsoil was excavated well below the midden junction to insure the discovery of intrusive material and identification of disturbed strata attributable to other occupations. However, the few whole mollusk valves and stone spalls recovered in and slightly below the discolored, subsoil junction can be safely considered of general midden origin.

Occupational evidence:

Hearths: Many fire-shattered stones were found randomly scattered throughout the lateral spread of the entire excavated grid, but no instance of a definite, concentrated stone grouping or clearly defined fire pit exhibiting burnt earth and calcined fuel and food remains was found.

Pit 1: At the intersection of squares 2A, 3A and 2B, 3B the midden stratum held to an almost constant 10 inch thickness. Below the midden surface, at a depth of 6 inches, a large mounded concentration of whole oyster valves was uncovered, most of which lay closely packed on edge. The shell mass, oval in outline, measured 7 feet in length, with the short axis of 3 feet. This feature suggested the possibility of a grave, the sharp upturned edges of the shells used as a deterrent to foraging animals. The surrounding 4-inch thickness of midden debris was troweled away to clean subsoil, and the pit contents removed. The emptied, bath-tub shaped pit measured 26 inches in depth from the midden surface to its 20-inch wide by 5-feet long flat bottom or 20 inches deep from the presumed level of origin, 6 inches below midden surface. The usual basal pit lining of burnt earth, shell, and cracked stones typical of local coastal camp site oven pits was lacking. The shell mass, all of large oysters from 6 to 8 inches in length, was so tightly compacted throughout that nearly each individual valve had to be rocked from side to side to allow removal by hand. The piled shells at the top were considerably decayed and delaminating, with the underlying shell refuse and artifactual remains being well-preserved, due no doubt to the tightly packed, shingled nature of the fill and the bone preserving qualities of leaching calcium carbonate. The following are cultural remains recovered from this pit.

Pottery, all body sherds

(5) Vinette 1, coarse grit temper

(28) North Beach brushed, coarse grit temper

Bone and antler

(1) large antler tine wedge, end ground, chisel shaped.

(1) cut, unmodified antler tip.

(1) whole and (4) fragmentary, ground splinter, bone awls.
(1) cylindrical-shaped, ground bone fragment 3/16 inch diameter by 3/4 inch long, unidentified.
(1) fragment of incised bone, 9 diagonal lines enclosed in triangular plat. Either burned, or incisions and bone face rubbed with blue-gray coloring matter; 1 1/4 inch long by 1/2 inch wide.
(1) bone, hair or clothing pin, 3 faceted, knobbed head, 3 1/2 inches long by 3/16 inch pin diameter, similar to (Ritchie, 1944, Pl. 30)
1) shark tooth, species unknown.

Chipped Stone

(1) Corner removed point, white quartz.
(1) side notched, blue argillite point.
(1) corner removed, blue-grey chert point
(1) side notched, blue-green chert point
(2) trianguloid projectile point blanks, quartz.
(1) expanded base drill, blue-green chert.

Rough Stone

(1) double pitted anvil stone, limestone.
(1) 3/4 grooved axe, bit end pecked to shape, unground cutting edge, sandstone.
(1) sidescraper, rectangular limestone spall, containing negative impressions of fossil mollusks, (Kaeser, see bibliography).
(3) cup shaped, paintstone fragments, limonite.

Note: The 3/4 grooved axe was recovered from the extreme base of the pit, partly intruding into clean subsoil. This object illustrates the procedure of manufacture, the groove completed prior to the finishing shaping and grinding of the cutting edge.

Stone circle:

At a distance of 6 feet north west of Pit #1 in squares 3-C, 5-C, 3-D - 5-D, 3-E - 5-E, a roughly 8 feet diameter circular arrangement of large water worn cobbles was uncovered. The stones, many in contact, averaged 10 inches in diameter, their under sides resting on midden-subsoil junction, some upper surfaces exposed and protruding above midden surface. At the southeast side of the circle, in square 3-D, several stones were missing that would complete the circle. This appears to have been the entry-way of a habitation. The area held a 8 to 12 inch layer of refuse overburden. No conclusive explanation for the structures use can be made due to the absence of associated post molds or other shelter construction determinants. It is the author's guess that the enclosure was the foundation of some type of temporary dwelling, the rocks used to anchor the rush mat or hide side-walls, or as a base to bank earth against to drain rain water away from the interior floor. The following domestic objects recovered from the circles floor surface, particularly 2 concentrated groups of pot sherds representing 2 individual vessels, tend to support the shelter theory.

Pottery, all body sherds

(32) Clearview Stamped, coarse grit temper
(69) North Beach Net Marked, shell temper

Bone

(1) tip fragment, ground splinter awl.

Stone

(1) probable hammer, tabular piece of quartz

(1) ovoid, 6-inch diameter, cobble mortar; 3 inch by 1/2 inch cup pecked in surface, encrusted with calcium carbonate deposit.

(1) expanded base drill, quartz

(1) concentrated pile, over 150 plates of sheet mica, approx. 2 inch diameter plates.

Note: the mortar was found beneath a pile of 47 knobbed whelks, each having a hole punched through the outer whirls to extract the meat.

Midden Cultural remains:

Excavation of the midden yielded a surprisingly large collection of artifacts considering the small lateral spread and shallow vertical depth of the grid. Vertical measurements were made from each artifact to midden surface. Due to the shallowness of a large portion of the cultural stratum and the unquestionable rodent and aboriginal churning of the debris these measurements are utilized primarily as an additional check in chronological determination. For the purposes of this paper the recovered cultural material is assigned to 3 zones. The Upper Zone from grass roots through topsoil to 1/3 the thickness of the midden stratum. The Middle Zone, from the base of the upper third to 2/3 the thickness of the midden layer. The Lower Zone consists of the basal third, midden portion downward through the discolored subsoil junction. In the few instances where sherds and chipped stone artifacts of known classification were found vertically out of context, they were added to the assemblage of the zone where they conform.

From the Upper Zone, the only rim and near rim sherds were recovered. Most sherds are small and exterior surfaces badly eroded, precluding positive identification. The paste composition, however, exhibit definite East River characteristics.

UPPER ZONE

Ceramic Type	Temper	Vessel Part	Number of Sherds	Approx. No. Vessels Represented
East River Cord Marked	Fine Med. Grit	Body	15	6
Bowmans Brook Incised	Fine grit	Body	19	4
Bowmans -Brook- Incised	Fine grit	Rim	1	1
Bowmans Brook Incised? (deep crenellated lip, plain) (Unclassified)	Med grit	Rim	2	1
Plain surface, interior brushed	Shell	Body	4	1
Plain surface, single horizontal-line, punctate	Fine grit	Near Rim	3	1

Plain surface, 4 horizontal lines, fine stab and drag punctates	Fine grit	Near Rim	1	1
Very small sherds, East River paste	Fine - Med.	Body	67	?
Total	Shell 4			
	Grit 108		112	15

Upper Zone Stone

(1) isosceles triangle point, blue-green chert
(1) lanceolate, knife, rose-quartz
(1) possible pendant fragment, spoon-handle shaped, ground, black slate
(1) ovoid, steep edge scraper, black flint.
(1) trianguloid, projectile blank, grey chert
(3) notched pebble, net sinkers

MIDDLE ZONE

Ceramic Type	Temper	Vessel Part	No of Sherds	Approx. No. Vessels Represented
North Beach Net Marked	Shell	Body	4	1
North Beach Net Marked	Med. Grit	Body	1	1
Clearview Stamped	Med. Grit	Body	6	2
Total	Shell 4			
	Grit 7		11	4

Middle Zone Stone

(1) Knife, large tip fragment, finely chipped, blue-grey chert
(1) tapered stem, flat base point, purple rhyolite
(1) corner removed point, red-brown shale
(1) ovoid, steep edge scraper, white quartz
(5) amorphous flake; side and end scrapers, argillite, chert
(1) bit fragment, chipped celt or chopper, coarse grained grey chert
(1) mortar shaped, paint stone, chipped and rubbed, limonite
(2) spalls, red shale containing negative impressions of fossil mollusks
(2) notched, pebble, net sinkers

BOTTOM ZONE

Ceramic Type	Temper	Vessel Part	No. of Sherds	Approx. No. Vessels Represented
Vinette 1	Coarse-Med.	Body	5	2
Clearview Stamped	Coarse-Med.	Body	11	4
Total	Grit 16		16	6

Bottom Zone Stone
(2) lozenge shaped, points, quartz
(1) basal fragment, lozenge point, quartz
(1) Steubenville lanceolate (?) point, rhyolite
(1) Steubenville stemmed (?) point, rhyolite
(1) ovoid, end scraper, grey-blue chert
(1) ovoid knife, blue-grey chert
(2) trianguloid, roughly chipped point blanks, quartz
(1) orifice fragment, stone pipe bowl or tube, fine grained, brown lime stone.

By sorting the classified pot sherds into groups representing individual vessels, an estimate of 25 pots are recorded. Sherds with paste characteristics of the East River style predominate, but due to the large number of these small fragments recovered from the Upper Zone, many are not attributable to known types. The unclassified punctate sherds are added to the East River inventory because of their generally similar paste characteristics and close association with early East River ceramics at the Archery Range Site (Kaeser, 1962, pp. ,4-7) and Pelham Boulder Site (Smith, 1950, pp. 185-6) located a short distance northward in the Pelham Bay Park area. In the Windsor tradition, Clearview varieties consisting of 123 sherds assignable to the types; North Beach Net Marked, 74 sherds; Clearview Stamped, 49 sherds dominate numerically the culturally earlier North Beach wares. To this group are tentatively added the 4 sherds resembling Abbott Zoned Incised found out of situ on the beach embankment. The relationship of Abbott pottery types with that of late Windsor is far from clear. The recovery of Abbott-like pottery from the lower level of the Pelham Boulder site (Lopez, 1961, p. 10) strongly suggests a contemporaneous use during the Windsor period. The 5 Vinette I sherds representing 2 vessels and the Vinette I and North Beach Brushed sherds recovered from Pit #1 may represent a chronologically earlier occupation of the site as emphasized by their Bottom Zone vertical provenience.

Only an attempt can be made to determine the cultural affiliations of the non-ceramic artifacts. The one triangular projectile point recovered came from the Upper Zone appeared in accepted context. Stemmed, corner removed, and side notched point forms occur in both the East River and Windsor aspects. The former aspect produces trianguloids in a predominating proportion, making this projectile point type a diagnostic trait of East River components. The Steubenville-like (Ritchie, 1961, pp. 50-52) lanceolate and stemmed points and the lozenge-shaped points recovered from the Bottom Zone in association with sherds of Vinette T strongly suggest a cultural relationship to this earliest of coastal New York' s ceramics. The remaining artifacts, both stone and bone, with the possible exception of the 3/4 grooved axe, are non-specific in cultural identification.

Conclusion

Although the yield of ceramic specimens from this site is not large enough to present adequate comparative data, a study of the vertical distribution of classified artifactual recoveries at the site in general confirms the stratigraphy of cultural sequence found at Throgs Neck I, II, and III and the author's personal observations at the Pelham Boulder site. Early Windsor, North Beach pottery, and lozenge points

occur in the extreme lower level; genetically related later forms of Windsor ware, Clearview, superimpose the former and finally the distinctive pottery and triangular points of the East River aspect dominate the upper level.

As already stated, excavation eastward of the grid was limited by the Preston school fence, thus confining observations to a very small area. The midden refuse, no doubt, continues through the school property, following the shore line and linking the Schurz site. It is my opinion; the area investigated in this paper is but a small outer edge segment of the Schurz Avenue site which produced a volume of cultural remains indicative of intense habitation.

Several additions can be made to the data compiled in the Schurz site preliminary report. First is the discovery of the ring of stones, postulated as the remains of a dwelling. The recovery of a grooved axe, though possibly fortuitous, in my excavation, was lacking in the Schurz site inventory. The large number of whelks found in the stone enclosure, and turtle shell and bone fragments scattered throughout the midden attest a summer season period of occupation as further evidenced by the absence of calcined, fall ripening nuts in the pit fill and midden debris. The dates ventured * for the habitation of this site range somewhere between the postulated approximate 1000 B.C. to 700 A.D. for the Windsor Aspect. In this area the Windsor culture is assumed to have been replaced or dominated by the East River Aspect about 700 A.D. whose people continued occupancy of the site prior to the early seventeenth century arrival of Europeans attested by the absence of European contact evidence.

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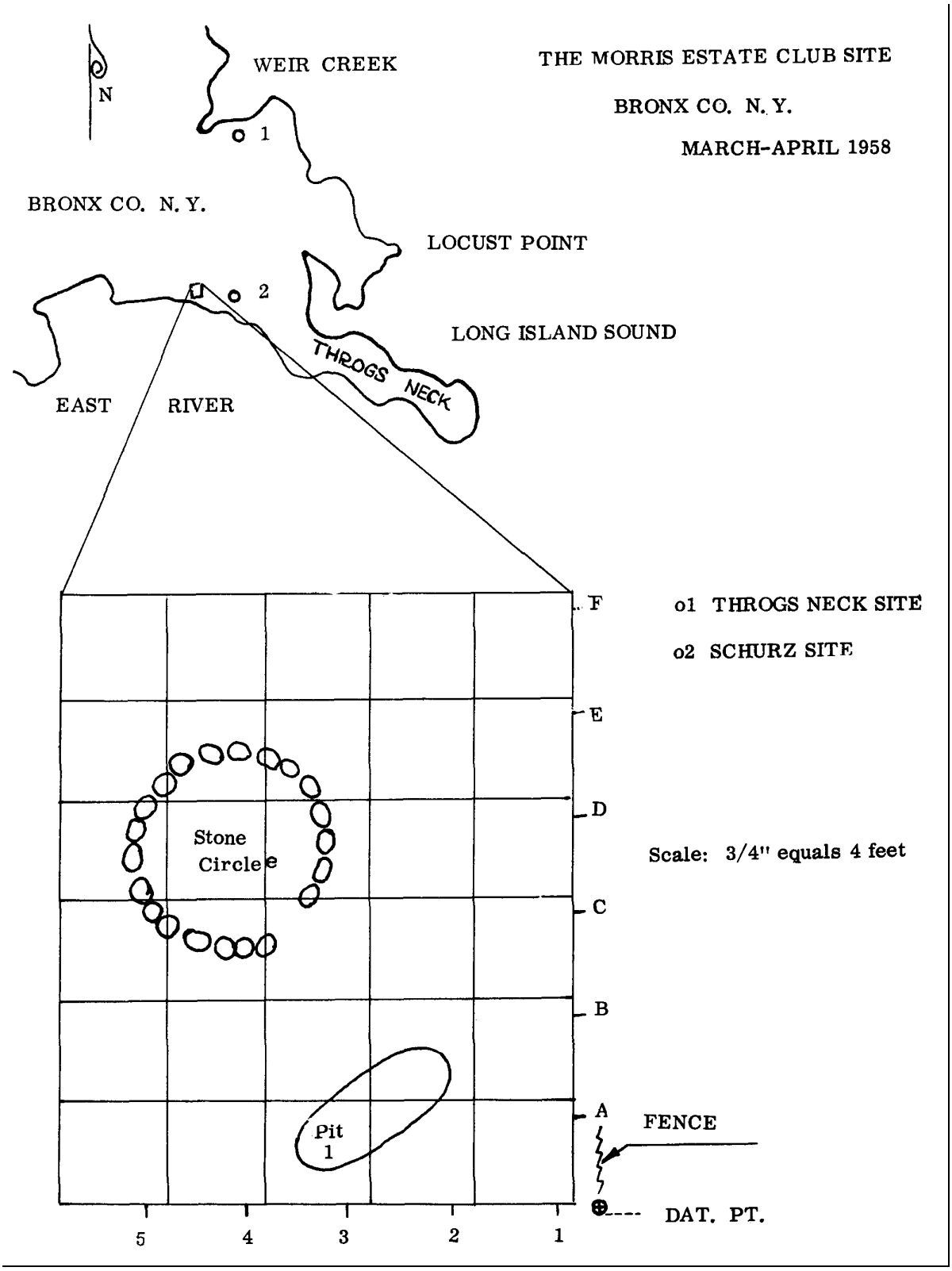
* Smith's 1950 chronology for coastal New York, on which the author says this interpretation is based, was modified by Ritchie (1958) in "An Introduction to Hudson Valley Prehistory." --Editor.


N
WEIR CREEK
1
BRONX CO. N. Y.
LOCUST POINT
2
LONG ISLAND SOUND
THROGS NECK
EAST RIVER
THE MORRIS ESTATE CLUB SITE
BRONX CO. N. Y.
MARCH-APRIL 1958
F
E
D
C
B
A
Stone Circle
Pit 1
FENCE
DAT. PT.
5
4
3
2
1
o1 THROGS NECK SITE
o2 SCHURZ SITE
Scale: 3/4" equals 4 feet

GOOD EXAMPLE

The preceding report by Kaeser on "The Morris Estate Club Site" is a model of how site reports should be written. Those who have sites to publish and don't know exactly how to go about writing them up can do no better than follow this form, paragraph by paragraph.

But this is not to say that the model should be copied slavishly. No two sites yield exactly the same artifacts and/or contextual information. Whatever the excavator finds that is of importance should be given full treatment, after having been given full study and properly stressed. In his report, Kaeser seems to overlook the importance of the occurrence of Steubenville points and pottery, but all the data is here and so clearly presented that anybody who is interested in the concurrence of Steubenville points and pottery can cite the instance.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD WORK IN THE IROQUOIS AREA

Syracuse University, Summer Session, July 1-Aug. 9

A special course in Archaeological Field Methods (Anthropology 205) with 6 hours of credit at Syracuse University will be offered this summer through the courtesy of the State Archaeologist, Dr. William A. Ritchie, of the New York State Museum and Science Service in Albany, who will be serving as Visiting Professor of Anthropology at Syracuse University for the Summer Session. Arrangements have been made to permit a limited number of Graduate Students and Upper Division Undergraduates to be accommodated as student-trainees on excavations to be conducted during the regular digging season on sites in the vicinity of Syracuse.

Student-trainees will register as regular Summer Session students at Syracuse University during the Summer Session registration period. They will pay the usual fees and be entitled to regular student privileges. They will be expected to live in the Syracuse area and to make their own arrangements for room and board and for commuting to the site or sites to which they are assigned.

The excavations will be conducted by the State and, consequently, student-trainees will be under direct field supervision of Dr. Ritchie and his assistants and will be expected to conform to work and instruction schedules determined by them. Students will have the opportunity of learning how to identify sites, strata, and artifacts, to conduct elementary surveying, to take field notes and analyze data, and to receive instruction in the theoretical and conceptual aspects of Archaeology from highly qualified specialists in the field. Students will be expected to purchase their own field clothing and archaeological guides and manuals but will be provided with field note books and digging equipment, which will remain the property of the State. All artifacts and data resulting from the excavations will also remain State property.

This is an unusual opportunity for students interested in the Upstate New York area. Since the number of student-trainees is strictly limited, inquiries should be made as soon as possible. In the selection of candidates, preference will be given to students with previous experience or interest and training in the field of American Prehistory regardless of institutional affiliations.

For further details address inquiries to Gordon T. Bowles, Professor of Anthropology, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Syracuse University, Syracuse 10, N.Y.