



ARCH NOTES

Monthly Newsletter of

The Ontario Archaeological Society (Inc.)

June-July 1973

73 - 5

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THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Almost another half-year of diverse activities of the Ontario Archaeological Society is behind us, and has been filled, I believe, with archaeologically significant events.

The eight week course in Ceramics Analysis, from February to April, 1973, which was proposed by Charles Garrad and given by Peter Ramsden, was the first formal instruction course given by the O.A.S. in recent years. It was successfully completed by thirty members. The thanks of the Society go to Peter Ramsden for making available his experience and time in order to give this instruction, and to Tom Kenyon for preparing the impressive certificates for those completing the course.

The 1972 Salvage Project, supported by the Archaeological Survey of Canada, of the National Museum of Canada, was brought to a successful conclusion by presentation of the reports on the MacLeod, Boys and Draper Sites to the Archaeological Survey, and receipt of the final payment provided by the contract between this organization and the O.A.S. The medium of publication of these reports, or a condensed version thereof, is still under consideration.

The 1973 Salvage Project Committee, under the chairmanship of Victor Konrad, selected the excavation of the late prehistoric White Site and the further exploration of the similarly dated Draper Site, both of which will be destroyed during the construction of the Pickering Airport. The support of these excavations by the Ministry of Transport, Ottawa, by funds administered by the Archaeological Survey of Canada, is gratefully acknowledged by the O.A.S.

Another salvage project of our Society in 1973 has been and will be excavation of the Cherry Hill Site, surrounding the historic pioneer Cherry Hill House. A generous grant from Peel County Council in support of a month long excavation has given solid assistance to this project. Additional financial aid will, however, be needed to maintain an experienced crew on the site, and support subsequent laboratory analysis, library research and formulation of a publishable report.

O.A.S. members will be welcomed at both the Draper and Cherry Hill Sites, as outlined elsewhere in this issue. A choice between assistance at a prehistoric Huron site and a pioneer Canadian site is thus available to members.

An outstanding achievement during the first five months of 1973 has been the publication of three issues of Ontario Archaeology, under the editorship of Dr. William Hurley. Volume No. 17, as a 1971 issue whose manuscripts were assembled under the editorship of Dr. Conrad Heidenreich,

was released in January, 1973. Volumes 18 and 19, as 1972 issues, were released in April and May of 1973 respectively. Volume 20 as a 1973 publication should be received by O.A.S. members in June, and Volume 21 later during the summer. The continued support of Ontario Archaeology by the Humanities and Social Sciences Division of Canada Council, Ottawa, in the form of an increased grant in May, 1973 is particularly warmly acknowledged.

The resignation of John Reid as editor of Arch Notes, owing to the pressure of other duties, has been regretfully accepted. John's keenness and constant attention in the cause of Arch Notes during the past two years have been greatly appreciated. The new editor of Arch Notes will have the same high editorial standards to maintain. John's resignation is effective with this issue.

A significant event during May, 1973 was the long overdue presentation to the O.A.S. Ottawa Chapter of its official charter. Its acceptance by Clyde C. Kennedy, President of the Ottawa Chapter, was followed by socialization of a sort beneficial to the cause of Archaeology.

During the past five months, the O.A.S. Executive Committee has had many lengthy meetings in piloting the projects already mentioned. Each member of your Executive has also, I am sure, devoted unnumbered hours to furtherance of their various areas of activity. For all these efforts, I believe that the thanks of our Society are due to the members of the Executive Committee.

Howard Savage,
President

Announcements

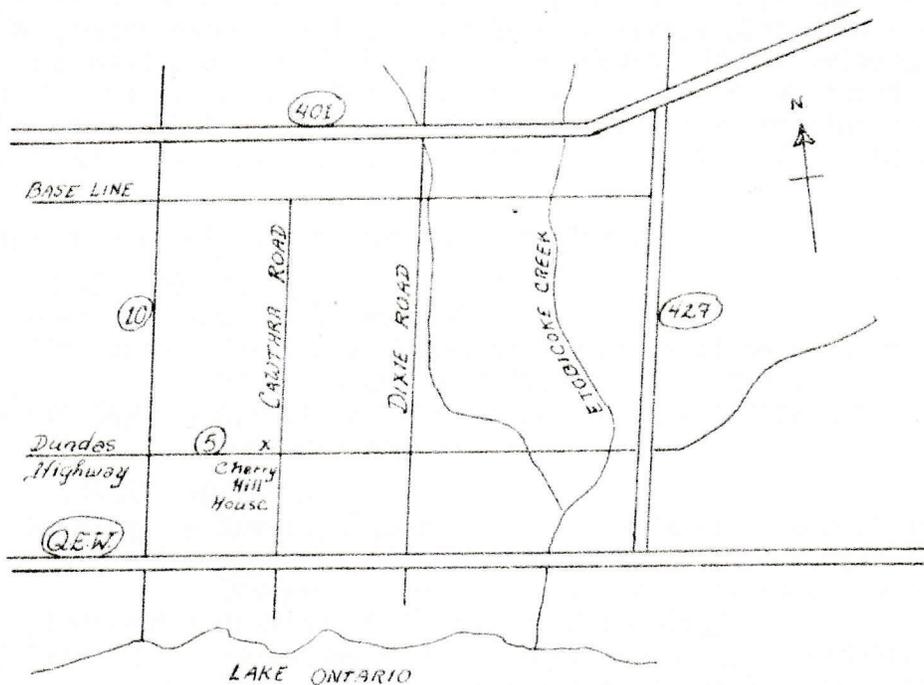
The O.A.S. membership is invited to come out to the Draper Site on the Civic Holiday weekend -- August 4, 5, and 6, 1973. Excavations are being carried out in the ploughed portion of the site. Bring your own equipment and food, and camp for the weekend. Considerable excavation has already been carried out at the Draper Site this summer and there are many interesting features to see.

A map indicating directions to the site appeared in last year's June Arch Notes. For those who do not have the map, the following directions may be useful. Follow the 401 to the Liverpool Road exit in Pickering. Take the Liverpool Road north to Highway 2 and then turn right and follow Highway 2 to Brock Road. Take Brock Road north to the 8th Concession of Pickering (beyond Brougham) and then turn left. The Draper Site is located just south of the road, approximately half a mile beyond the railroad tracks and on the west bank of the creek. We hope to see a good turnout at the dig.

FURTHER EMERGENCY DIGS AT THE CHERRY HILL SITE

The imminent moving of Cherry Hill House from its foundations in late June in preparation for its transportation and restoration, makes further excavation adjacent to the foundations urgent. The route along which the House will be moved also deserves testing. The dig in these areas on 2 and 3 June, under the direction of Marti Latta, recovered some pioneer material and faunal bone, and raised questions about an earlier foundation than the one on which the House now rests.

The O.A.S. plans an emergency dig adjacent to the House on Saturday and Sunday 16 and 17 June, and if the house-moving schedule permits, on 23 and 24 June. If you are interested in recovering evidence and information concerning 19th century Canadiana, please come and bring your lunch. Trowels, shovels, tapes, etc. will be provided by the Society. If needing transportation, contact Dr. Howard Savage at 928-3684, 928-5260, or 485-1259.





June 7, 1973

EASTERN STATES ARCHEOLOGICAL FEDERATION
CALL FOR PAPERS

The Eastern States Archeological Federation will hold its 1973 Annual Meeting (40th Anniversary) in Newark, Delaware, on November 2, 3, and 4. The Archaeological Society of Delaware, also celebrating its 40th Anniversary, is your host and has responsibility for the program and arrangements.

We have scheduled the meeting to be held in John M. Clayton Hall at the University of Delaware. This is a large new conference center providing all the facilities needed for a fine ESAF meeting.

Contributed papers are invited from individuals in the member societies of ESAF in order to complete the program which is now being organized as in the outline shown below. Papers should not take longer than thirty minutes for presentation. A title and brief abstract should be sent either to the writer at the Post Office Box address of the Archaeological Society of Delaware, or to: Ronald A. Thomas, State Archeologist, Hall of Records, Dover, Delaware 19901. We would appreciate receipt of titles at the earliest convenience of contributors. September 17 is the cut-off date.

The present outline of the program is as follows:

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2

- Morning - General Session
- Afternoon - Session emphasizing the application of science and instrumental techniques in archeology
- Evening - Executive Board Annual Meeting followed by a General Business Meeting

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3

- Morning - Special Symposium on the Delaware Indian. Invited speakers are John Witthoft, William Hunter and Ives Goddard. Barry Kent will be discussion moderator.
- Afternoon - Session on Historical Archeology
- Evening - Following a social hour and banquet, Jackson W. Moore, Jr., Staff Archeologist with the National Park Service's Washington Office, will discuss the scope and nature of the National Park Service's activities in archeology.

especially on historic sites. This will include a review of his involvement with the search and salvage of the Bertrand, a stern-wheel steamer which sank in the Missouri River in 1865, and whose cargo was found largely intact.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4
Morning - General Session

This call for papers is being sent to all member society presidents, secretaries and editors. Please inform your society members of this call and acquaint them with Delaware's plans for the November ESAF meeting. Later this year we will send you the formal announcement of the meeting with reservation forms and other information for general distribution to the entire ESAF membership.

Norman A. Nielsen

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Articles

JOURNEY THROUGH TIME: A PROFILE OF PERSIA

Until the 6th century B.C., the Persians were a relatively unimportant tribe inhabiting the region variously known as Pars, or Fars, north of the Persian Gulf. With the emergence of empire, Persia came to denote all the territories acquired by conquest. The name, evolving from the original province through the Greek word Perses, remained in use until the present century. The Persians and their tribal neighbors were of Indo-European stock, sometimes incorrectly referred to as Aryan. properly speaking, this is a linguistic term defining a family of languages, and has no justifiable racial basis. Nevertheless, when the country's name was changed, the Persians turned to this ancient, if misleading, source and 'Iran' came into being. Although this occurred in 1935, Persia continues to be used interchangeably with Iran in informal contexts. Farsi, which owes its existence to the same region that launched Persia, was proclaimed the official language amid a host of lingering tribal dialects.

Persia includes the Great Salt and Great Sand deserts of the central plateau, with major mountain ranges along their western and northern boundaries. These create contrasts that run from low-lying Abadan on the Persian Gulf -- said to be one of the hottest areas in the world -- to the peaks of the Elburz dominated by the 18,500 foot dormant volcano, Demavand, with its year round cap of snow. Between the northern slopes of this range and the Caspian Sea, the country supports tea plantations, rice paddies and a rain forest. Added to the challenges posed by geography and climate are geological factors. In 1968 nearly 16,000 people died in an earthquake that lasted ten seconds. Seismic damage to architectural monuments across the centuries is incalculable, and has compounded the difficulties of analysis for the archaeologist.

The human element is also responsible for loss of data. In addition to the destruction caused by invading armies, modern inhabitants have plundered sites in their search for Luristan Bronzes and other artifacts. The quantity of bits, bridle and other horse-trappings that have flooded the markets, before systematic study could be undertaken, suggests that grassland was more prevalent 5,000 years ago than at present, and this would account for the speed and mobility of the forces which forged the Persian Empire. The Lurs were only one of many nomadic tribes on the central plateau prior to this achievement by Cyrus the Great in 550 B.C. In spring and fall, thousands of Bakhtiaris, Kurds, Turkomens, Qashgais and Baluchis are to be seen on the move with their herds of sheep and goats. Thus, despite modern power dams, oil refin-

eries, and high-rise urban developments, nomadic life flourishes. In Cyrus' time underground water channels called ganats speeded the process of settlement for a portion of the population well out into the desert. Today these channels are still operational in many places even though a number of them are 2,500 years old.

Because Persia was a "crossroads" nation, and once played host to the Great Silk Route caravans, it has been moulded, in the course of 2,500 years, by China, India, Arabia, Ethiopia, Egypt, Greece, Russia and the Near East. Carvings at Persepolis, built in the 6th century B.C., illustrate many of these cultural influences as do the eclectic architectural details. The square plan of the audience halls, and of the palaces of the later Sassanian dynasty, served as the prototype for palaces, caravanserais, mosques and private homes for hundreds of years. Columns gave way to covered arcades along the inside walls of these structures into which living quarters, stables and storerooms were built. Pools were placed in the centre of the court which became the focal point of activity for the people whose windowless exterior walls sheltered them from desert marauders, wind and sand.

The mosques of Islam, introduced during the Arab invasions of the 7th century A.D., developed a main ivan, or niche, so that the faithful could face Mecca. Lesser ivans, also enlargements of an arch of the arcade, were placed in the centre of each of the remaining walls. One or more minarets were added, but the basic pattern remained unchanged. The open court held the worshippers who availed themselves of the pool for their ritual ablutions. Covered mosques are relatively rare in Iran. Masjid-i-Lotfollah in Isfahan is a notable example of this type of religious edifice. Built by Shah Abbas I (1587 - 1629), it lacks the open court and arcades, and houses its minrab and minbar (the Mecca-oriented focal-screen and the pulpit) under a single colossal dome. Probably the most famous covered mosque is the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem.

The Iranians have never succumbed completely to their invaders; rather, they have adapted their cultural characteristics in a highly individual way. Thus, in the Moslem world that is largely comprised of Sunnis, the Iranians belong to the Shi'i sect. Many points of theological dispute are involved in this distinction, including the number of Holy Imams (religious leaders) each group recognizes. Another result of this individuality is the fact that there is greater freedom to portray human, animal and plant forms than is permitted in Sunni art. Early mosques were devoid of decoration. In Seljuk times (ca. 1050 - 1225 A.D.) indented monochrome brickwork achieved complex patterns of light and shade. It was at this time that the domed roof had its tentative beginnings. Fine early examples of this development are to be found in a pair of Seljuk tomb towers, dating from the 11th century, that were discovered northwest of Hamadan in the 1960's by David Stronach, Director of the British Institute for Persian Studies, and Dr. T. Cuyler Young, Jr. of the Royal Ontario Museum. With the introduction of mosaics and

tiles in the latter part of the Seljuk period, the Persians turned to nomad carpet designs to decorate the walls and domes of tombs, mosques and palaces as well as private homes. Generally, geometric patterns were of earlier date and northern provenance, floral motifs later and from the south. There are, however, exceptions to this rule. Mosaics and tilework reached their most exuberant expression at the time of the aforementioned Shah Abbas I. Typical use of these decorative media may be seen in the Madresseh-i-Mader-i-Shah, a theological college, and the Masjid-i-Shah, or Royal Mosque, in Isfahan. This latter building rivals in magnificence any mosque in the Islamic world. During the reign of Shah Abbas I, the greatest of the Safavid rulers, Isfahan became the capital of Persia, and local as well as imported Armenian craftsmen turned it into a jewel in the desert. Today, the oasis city boasts 84 historical monuments ranging from palaces, bridges and mosques to one of the most impressive bazaars in the Middle East.

Ancient tombs survive from a diverse range of periods and styles. Cyrus' burial place on the plain of Pasargadae (the Roman name for the city of Parsa) consists of a limestone platform rising in six tall steps to support a starkly simple gabled tomb. His Achaemenian descendants, including Darius and Xerxes, were buried in chambers cut in a cliff near Persepolis. The vast cross-shaped facades of these are embellished with carving. Fire worship, reformed by the prophet Zoroaster, was practised during Achaemenian times. Adherents of this religion exposed their dead in unroofed Towers of Silence on the tops of mountains in order not to defile earth or fire by burial or cremation. It seems evident, therefore, that neither Cyrus nor the Achaemenian rulers who followed him practised fire worship themselves although it flourished within their Empire. Today, approximately 21,000 Iranians follow the teachings of Zoroaster.

Moslem burial places vary from unfenced desert graveyards marked by uncut stones, to one-room mausolea, tomb towers, and ornate shrine-complexes of holy persons where the domes and minarets guard rooms ablaze with chandeliers, mirrors and polished marble.

Few countries offer the archaeologist a wider variety of challenges. Sites are abundant from prehistoric as well as historic times, and archaeologists still find it relatively easy to obtain excavation permits. One department of the Archaeological Service of Iran deals solely with requests from foreign Institutions. An enormous amount of work remains to be done.

Geraldine Shepherd, May 18th, 1973.

"HOME-MADE" POTTERY FROM SAINTE-MARIE I

During his excavation of Sainte-Marie I, Professor Kenneth E. Kidd discovered a number of pottery fragments which shared both European and Huron attributes (Kidd 1949: 153). Whereas the general appearance of the pottery is European, the method of manufacture is Huron.

Of the sherds recovered, it was possible to reconstruct enough of one bowl which well illustrates the attributes mentioned in the following discussion. (See illustration 1. However, notice that this is a complete restoration of the bowl and not how it actually appears.) All the sherds belonging to the bowl were recovered from the same five-foot square, 73 0', which was located just south of the northern fireplace inside what Kidd believes to have been the Jesuit residence. (For location of finds mentioned, see map. All the following proveniences will refer to Kidd's reconstruction of Sainte-Marie I.) The bowl is about 3 1/2 inches in height and has the approximate diameter of 6 3/4 inches. The collar is slightly rolled and the sides concave. The thickness of the sides varies from 5/16 inches to 17/32 inches. The bottom of the bowl is flat and its thickness ranges from 9/16 inches to 1/2 inches. There is no decoration.

The bowl was manufactured using the paddle and anvil method and the clay tempered with crushed crystalline rock. Some of the grains are quite large, the largest measuring approximately 5/32 inches in length. The bowl was then well fired with the result that the grayish-brown colouring of the outside surfaces is only slightly darker in the middle of the sherds.

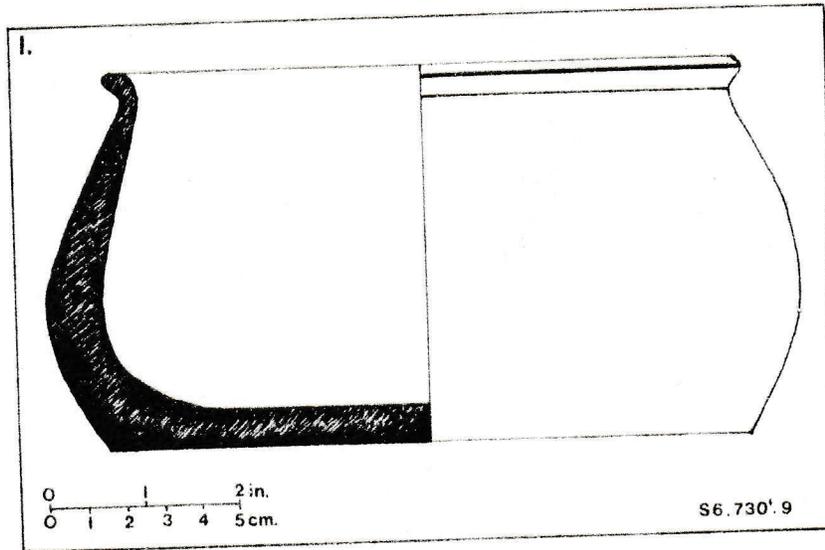
From the above observations the following attributes may be classified as European:

- flat bottom
- lack of decoration

and the following attributes may be classified as Huron:

- paddle and anvil method of manufacture
- grit tempering
- firing

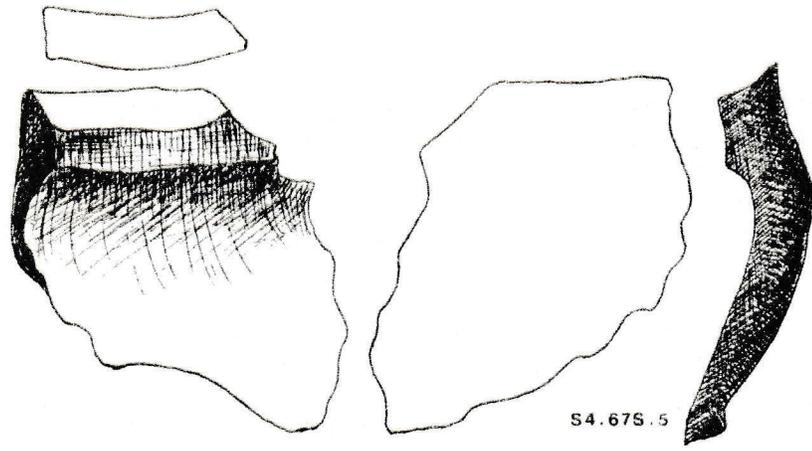
Of course the European attributes leave room for argument. The Huron did make plain pottery and the possibility of flat-bottomed Huron ware is not inconceivable. However, considering that the pottery came from an European settlement, it seems safe to classify these attributes as European.



2a.

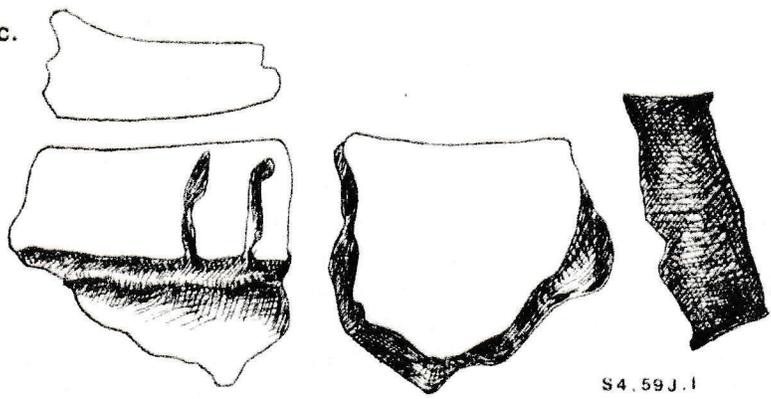


2b.



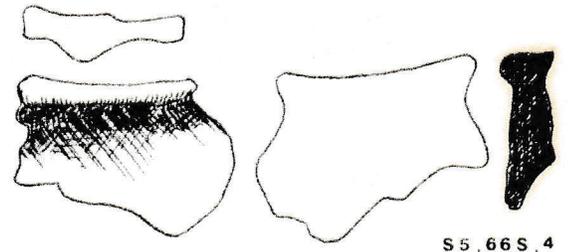
S4.67S.5

2c.



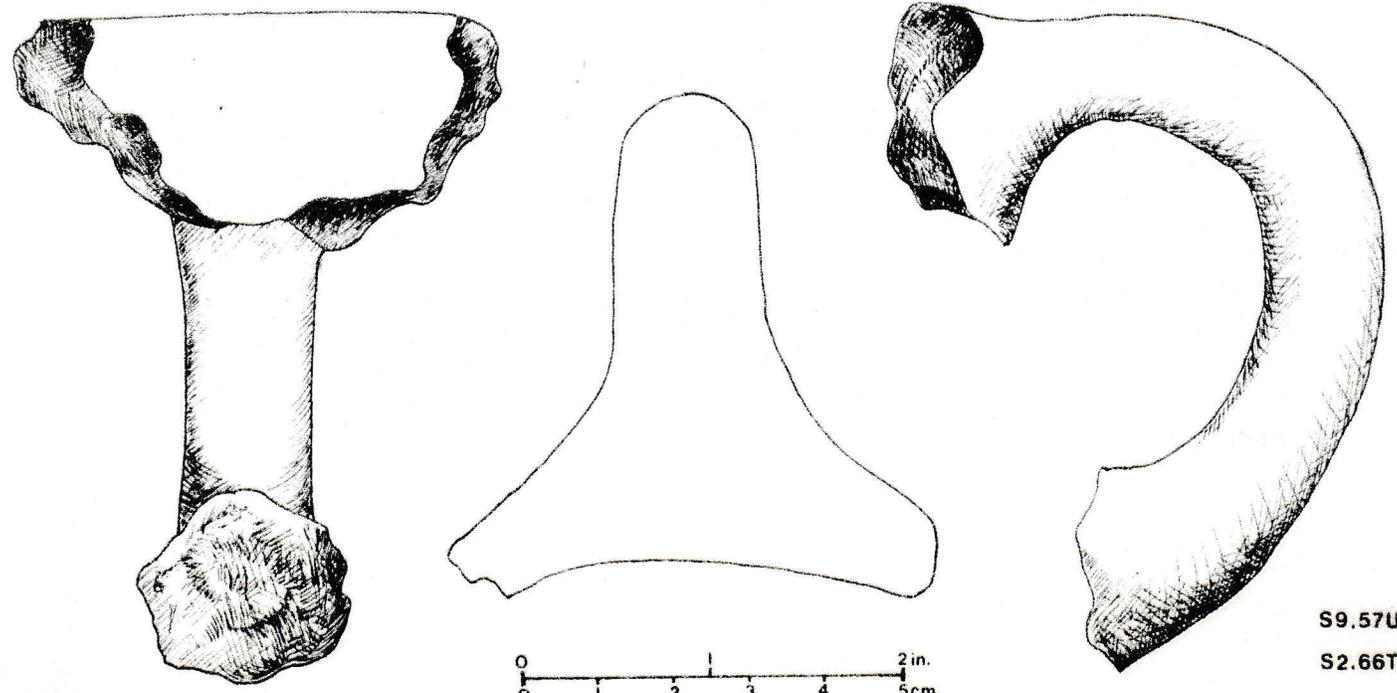
S4.59J.1

2d.



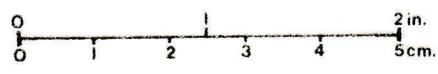
S5.66S.4

3.



S9.57U.2

S2.66T.1



The rest of the "home-made" pottery rim sherds confirm to the above type. The shape of the collars varies slightly (see illustrations 2a, 2b, and 2d) as does the quality of the firing. For example, illustration 2a has been very well fired with the result that the sherd is uniform light yellowish brown in colour all the way through, while 2d is very much darker in the middle than on the surfaces.

A pottery handle was recovered from two different parts of the site. (See illustration 3) One piece was found about ninety feet west of the south-west bastion and the other about twenty feet east of the H-shaped fireplace of the residence. The handle is round in cross-section and lacks decoration. Its average diameter is about 21/32 inches, the colour dark brown and the tempering grit.

Since none of the sherds show build-up of charcoal nor any other evidence of fire staining, it seems that the pottery was utilized for storage.

Professor Kidd also recovered a number of very crudely shaped sherds from Sainte-Marie I. They were grit tempered, well fired and averaged about 1/2 inches in thickness. Three rimsherds of this type show some possible decoration. One has two vertical lines above a horizontal line about 1/8 inches wide (see illustration 2c), while the other two show only the horizontal line. The function of these ceramics has not yet been determined. Kidd thinks they may have been moulds (Kidd 1949: 153). If this is the case, the horizontal line may not have been intended as decoration, but as a groove in which the strap binding the two halves of the mould could have rested.

Who, then, made the pottery? Kidd suggests that it was made by the Huron under French tutelage (Kidd 1949:154). But if this is the case, then why has no pottery of the type been recovered from contemporary Huron sites? A more likely explanation seems to be that the pottery was made by the French themselves using Huron methods. Isolated as they were, the Frenchmen would certainly have needed the pottery. The few fragments of European stoneware and green-glazed French terrines vert pottery recovered from the site were not enough to provide the needs of a community the size of Sainte-Marie I. To alleviate this pottery shortage, the French used Huron pottery extensively. Thus it seems logical for them to start making pottery of their own. It would be fascinating to find a passage in the Jesuit Relations concerning the pottery making activities of one of the industrious donnes. But, unfortunately, on this account the Relations remain silent.

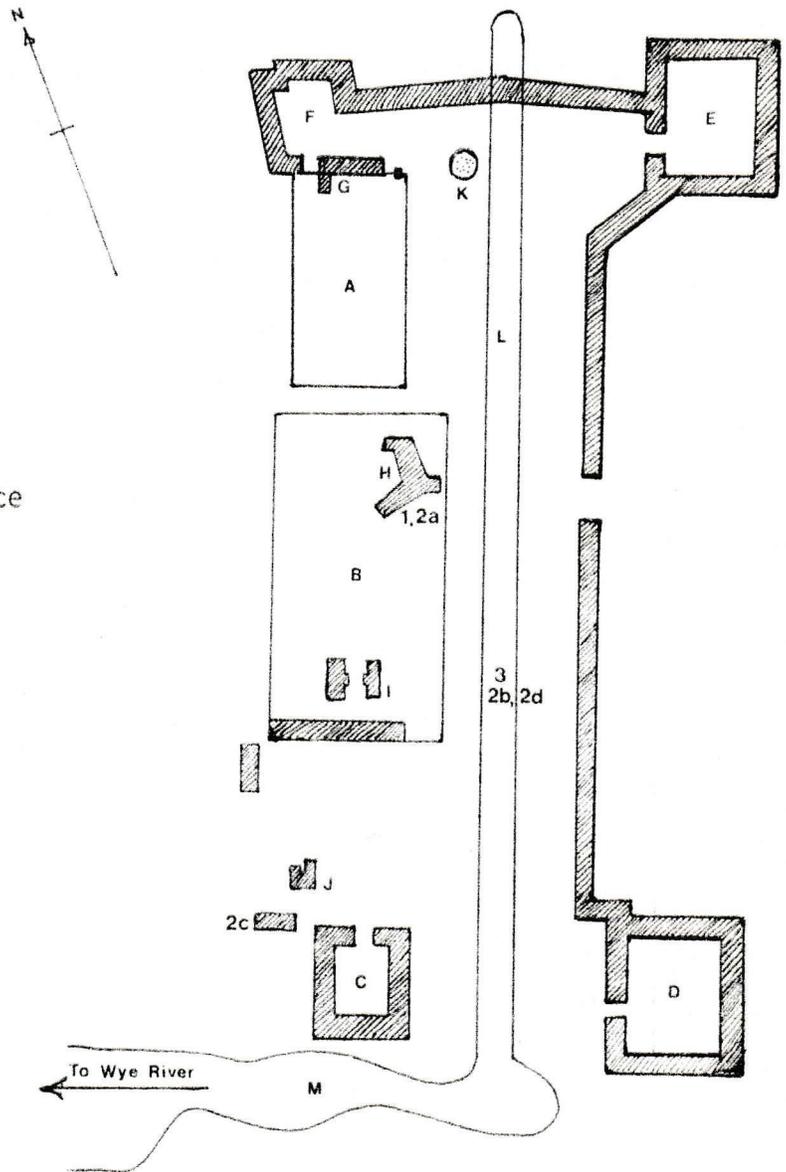
Peter Hamaleinan

KIDD'S RECONSTRUCTION OF SAINTE-MARIE I

Legend:

- A - Chapel
- B - Residence
- C - South-west Bastion
- D - South-east Bastion
- E - North-east Bastion
- F - North-west Bastion
- G - Chapel Fireplace
- H - Northern Residence Fireplace
- I - H-shaped Fireplace
- J - Forge
- K - Well
- L - Central Ditch
- M - Main Moat

-  Stone Foundations
- 1-3 Location of Pottery



Acknowledgements

The writer would like to thank the following persons for their aid in the production of this article:

Professor Kenneth E. Kidd for his advice and kind permission for the use of his plan of Sainte-Marie I.

Mr. Donald MacLeod for his encouragement and constructive criticism.

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Salvage

THE O.A.S. SALVAGE PROJECT, 1972

The reports for the O.A.S. salvage excavations at the MacLeod, Boys and Draper Sites are now on file in the Society's library and are available on loan to all members. The Archaeological Survey of Canada will be publishing the reports in the Mercury Series. An announcement will be made at the time of publication.

RISEBROUGH SALVAGE PROJECT, 1973

Salvage operations were initiated at the Risebrough Site (Ak Gu - 10) on April 30, 1973 and continued through until May 11, 1973. During this period, eighteen two-metre squares were excavated to subsoil, 3,389 artifacts were retrieved, washed and catalogued, two features were discovered and excavated and a detailed contour map was completed for the site.

Although the analysis of the excavated material is presently being carried out and no report is yet available, one can say a few words about the two features that were exposed. Feature No. 1, a trench with postmolds discernable at its bottom limits, was the most important discovery of the excavation. A total of forty-four postmolds were distinguished along the base of the trench that was surely constructed to facilitate the vertical support of the one-time posts. Many artifacts and bone remains were found in the disturbed soil matrix around this feature. The probable function of the row of posts may be assumed to have been a palisade from the large diameter of several of the postmolds. Further excavation of this feature is required.

Feature No. 2, a storage pit with several ash and charcoal lenses yielded numerous pottery sherds, bone fragments and carbonized corn kernels. Flotation analysis will be carried out on the contents of the pit.

Although it was originally assumed that the patterns of the Indian settlement, as they appear in postmolds and storage pits, were destroyed when the interfluvial was bulldozed, it is now apparent that this is not the case. It may be that a great deal of artifactual material has been removed from the top several inches of the site but the settlement patterns, which are located quite deeply in the subsoil, are still present. The Risebrough site, because of its small size, could be completely excavated. If this was accomplished it would provide an invaluable source of archaeological data as well as a unique source of public interest.

M. Kapches

O.A.S. SALVAGE PROJECT, 1973

The 1973 O.A.S. Salvage Project is now a reality. Funds have been provided for salvage operations at the Draper and White Sites by the Ministry of Transport for Canada. The contract for the salvage archaeology is being administered by the Archaeological Survey of Canada. The project is presently underway and the field season will continue until the end of August, 1973. Our field director is Brian Hayden, an O.A.S. member and a graduate student in archaeology at the University of Toronto. A crew has now been selected. We would like to thank all members who sent in their applications. Unfortunately, available funds have allowed us to field only a small crew.

Operations have commenced at both the Draper and White sites. A detailed, contour map of the Draper site has been completed and excavation for settlement pattern studies has been initiated. The White site has also been surveyed and is presently being tested prior to more problem oriented excavation.

The membership will be informed of developments as the excavations progress.

V. A. Konrad

Coming Issue

A large number of library cards compiled by Betsy Gummow will be appended to the next issue.

Next Issue - "Intuitive Archaeology: A Psychic Approach" by Professor J.N. Emerson