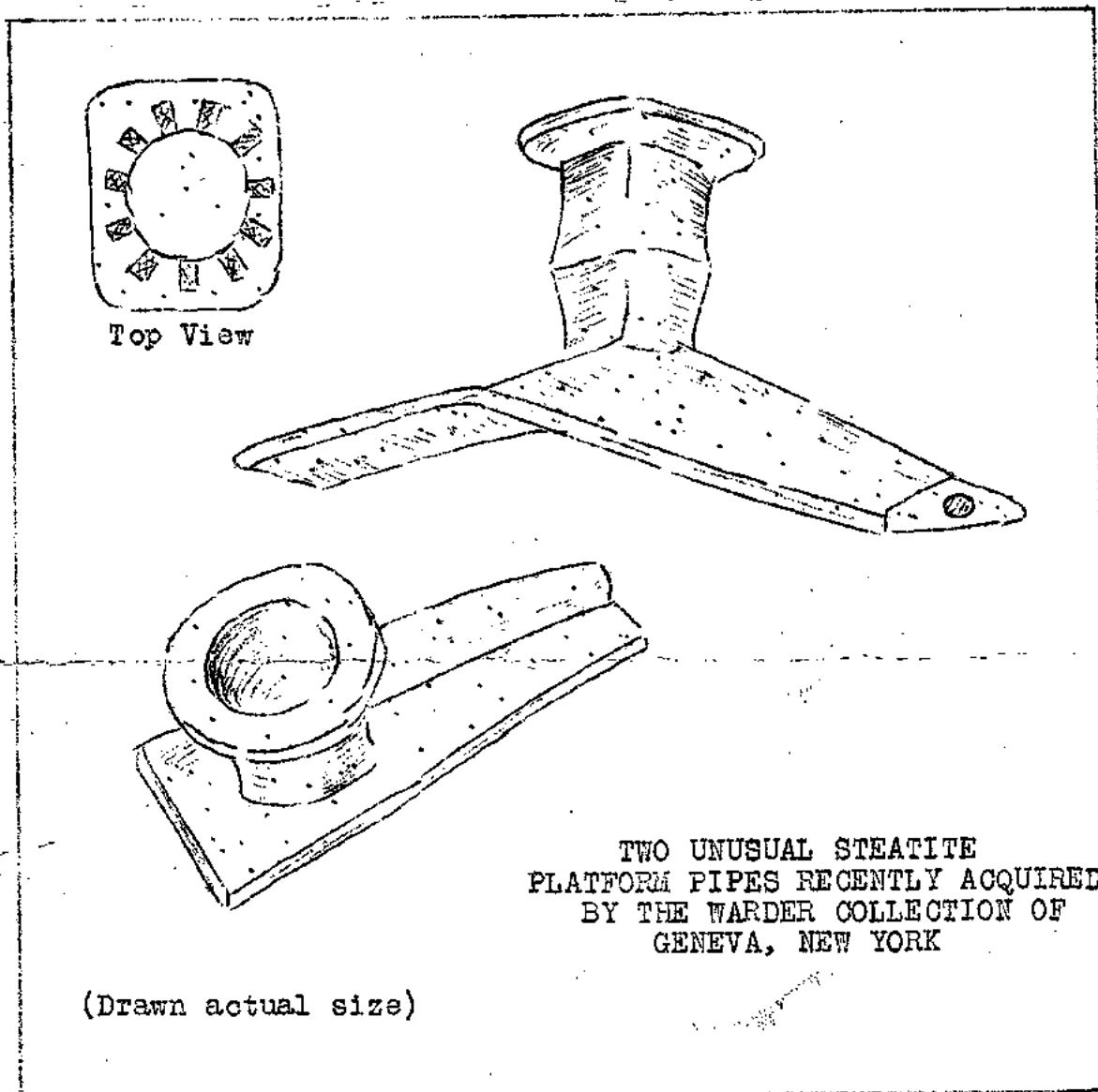


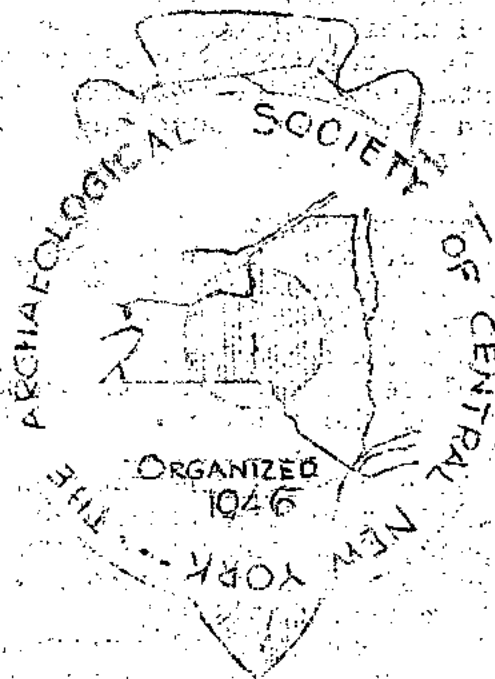
THE BULLETIN OF
 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
 OF CENTRAL NEW YORK
 DIVISIONS OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY



VOL. V SEPTEMBER NUMBER 7
 1950

The BULLETIN of the Archaeological Society of Central New York is published monthly, except during July and August, in the interest of all phases of archaeological and historical endeavor pertaining to central New York State. Regular meetings of the A. S. C. N. Y. are convened at 8:00 P. M. on the second Thursday of each month at the Cayuga Museum of History and Art, Auburn, N. Y.

The A. S. C. N. Y. is part of the Division of Anthropology of Cayuga Museum of History and Art, Auburn, N. Y.



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THE SO-CALLED STAR BEAD.

by

Harrison C. Follett

Research conducted over a period of years indicates the importance of keeping accurate records of the various types of beads found upon the Indian Village sites. They are most important in identifying the period of occupation. For example, in Cayuga County the small plain red Venetian bead occurs on all sites from 1600, to and including the period of 1750. After this they became nearly extinct for the reason that the manufacture of them had ceased about 200 years previously.

Research conducted by the writer over a period of several years has failed until recently to locate definitely the origin of the so-called star bead, which is found in predominating numbers on certain sites in western central New York. Probably a half dozen have been found on eastern sites or in Cayuga County but they are very rare.

The writer has corresponded with Joseph Quinlan of Dansville, N. Y., a member of the Archaeological Society of Central New York, an enthusiastic and ardent devotee to the subject of Archaeology, with many years of experience in excavating in western New York. He has accumulated one of the largest and most complete collections of Indian artifacts known of in this part of the country.

Quinlan writes in regard to the Chevron or Jamestown bead, as it is locally called, that the Jamestown bead should rightly be called the Wood bead, from the name of the manufacturer and that this Chevron bead was made at Murano, Italy. They are scarce for the simple reason that they are expensive to manufacture and were made by expert bead workers. They were made in the 14th Century and are found all over the world, in Africa and America especially. They came in with the Spanish conquest and were first found in America by Hodges on the Spanish level at Hawchuh, New Mexico and were probably brought in by de Niga in 1539 or by Coronado in 1540, (See Orchard's Beads and Bead Work, 1929). It is called the Jamestown bead because of the knowledge that a bead factory was at Jamestown, Virginia, established in 1622, "to make cheap trade with the Indians". A bottle factory was built at Jamestown in 1608 and was the first industrial plant in America. The site of this plant was excavated in 1948 and did not produce any beads. East coast sites, known as first European contact sites, abound in these beads. (See American Antiquities, July 1940)

The writer's communication with the Pennsylvania State Anthropologist states that the bead factory site had not up to this time been located. Time, however, will undoubtedly reveal its location.

Mr. Harry Schoff advises that when he was excavating in Pennsylvania a few years ago, he contacted a man who had a grip full of the beads and was peddling at twenty-five cents each. This would seem to indicate that the place of manufacture had been located. However, Quinlan states that there were many Indian villages in existence about Jamestown, Virginia when the town was settled, therefore it is likely that they had European contact and possessed the beads even before the factory was built.

The writer believes that this should settle the question of the origin of this particular bead.

THE ANNUAL CORN DANCE AT ONONDAGA RESERVATION

by

Betty Mae Wright

The Onondaga Reservation, on August 23rd, was the scene of the 166th annual Corn Festival. This festival follows the trend of early tribal customs of the Six Nations including the adoption rites conferred upon persons who have proved themselves to be deserving of this honor.

The traditional dances and adoption proceedings took place on a raised platform and were presided over by eighty-one year old Chief David R. Hill who proved himself very entertaining master of ceremonies.

The costumes worn, unlike the original Iroquois, were those of the Plains Indians complete with colorfully ornamented feathered headresses.

Among the Chiefs present was the well known Hollywood actor, Chief Big Tree of the Seneca Nation who has held major parts in various movie productions including "She Wore a Yellow Ribbon".

As should be expected, the green corn, for which the yearly Festival is named, was being boiled over an open fire and served with the famous corn soup.

The speaker of the day was Mr. S. T. Betts of the Syracuse American Legion who outlined the origin and history of the Six Nations confederacy. Following his address, Chief Hill, conferred honorary Indian names on Mr. Betts together with three other outstanding members of the Legion.

ROCHESTER MUSEUM AIDS STUDY INDIAN RELICS

Digging of one sort has been completed and now digging of another begins for Alfred K. Guthe, anthropologist at the Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences and Gordon K. Wright, assistant in archaeogeology.

They have returned from an expedition near Akeley, Pa., just below the border of New York State, during which time they unearthed two skeletons believed to be more than 1,000 years old.

For a month, these two scientists along with Howard Lindell of Buffalo, have been digging in an old Indian burial mound. They have uncovered and brought back with them the two skeletons, an Ohio flint knife, flint chips, antler tipped tools, fragments of corded pottery and ornamental gorgets.

All of the evidence points to relics of the Hopewellian culture. The Ohio flint knife is one of the best clues, though the three-corner notched points of flint and the fragments of corded pottery helped to designate the material.

Now, the digging through reference material, books on anthropology, and all the written material on the Hopewellian culture will start. An effort will be made to add new information to that now known about this ancient Indian culture that prevailed sometime between the years of 900 and 1,000 A.D.

The relics found by Guthe and Wright were termed inferior when compared to those found in Ohio, the apparent center of the Hopewellian culture. Like their recent findings, inferior specimens of this culture have been found in the Southwestern part of New York State.

Guthe explained that from what is known, the Hopewellian culture appears to be more advanced than many of the Indian cultures that followed. The term Hopewellian, he explained, does not mean a Hopewell tribe of Indians; rather it was named after the owner of the farm on which the first relics of this culture were found, and it may involve two or more tribes.

One of the biggest problems confronting the scientists, is that they have never found a village site that can be traced to this culture. So far, they have only found burial mounds like the one near Akeley, Pa.

This particular burial mound was opened by Wright about Easter time in 1949.

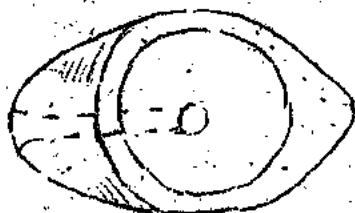
SOCIETY MEMBERS DIG INTO KIPP'S ISLAND ON OUTTING

It was an excellent day from early morning to late Sunday, July 16th for members and friends of the Society.

The group dug deeply into Kipp's Island on the Seneca River for artifacts of the Point Peninsula culture.

Among the lucky diggers was Art Seelye of Wolcott, N. Y., who discovered a burial at a depth of about four feet. Accompanying artifacts, as usual on Kipp were few and consisted of one net sinker which was placed on the skull and a rare short stemmed clay pipe with the bowl broken; the broken part of the bowl was missing, however, there was enough to determine the design. Floyd Johnston of Geneva recovered a fine specimen of metate from the refuse at the south end of the Island. Every one at the outing who did any digging was rewarded by the usual pottery sherds and some found arrow heads and a small quantity of broken bone work.

Those who arrived in the morning came prepared with plenty of food and had their lunch at the dig. About six o'clock in the evening the whole group gathered around the cars and brought out a real feed which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.



Top View.



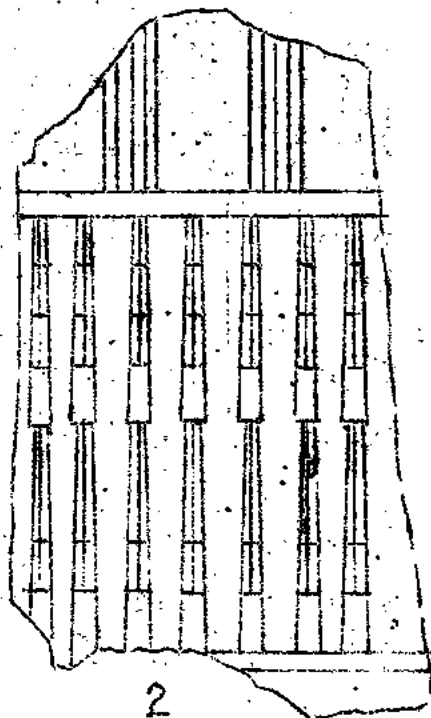
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1. The Kipp Island comb.

2. Fragment of antler comb found in burial at Kipp by Art Seelye on July 23rd.

3. Fish Vertebra drilled to be used as bead also recovered from Kipp by Seelye on July 23rd.

(Drawn actual size)



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INDIAN ARTIFACTS TAKEN FROM CAYUGA COUNTY
FOR 100 YEARS

by
KENNETH N. E. WRIGHT

"The Third Annual Report of the Regents of the University on the Condition of the State Cabinet of Natural History" printed by Weed, Parsons and Company in 1850 was recently purchased by the writer. It was acquired for the writer's library of Indian books and documents to become the first and earliest record of Indian Artifacts which have been taken from Cayuga County to other parts of the country.

It will be an impossibility to obtain a complete record of this material which is lost to this county but whatever records are available will enlighten us as to the vast amount of material that has been recovered from this region.

While the above book lists a comparatively small amount of material and a type not too important, several later publications list great quantities of valuable cultural artifacts which are gone from our region with no record of their whereabouts. As an example, the catalogue of Wm. W. Adams of Mapleton, N. Y., comprising 18,885 pieces, printed in 1886.

It is an outstanding fact that one of the most important aims of the A. S. C. N. Y. is to keep all possible local collections in this vicinity. We aim also to bring back as much material as possible either to the Cayuga Museum or to private local collections so that it may be studied and exhibited as a part of our local archaeological history. An excellent example of the society's efforts is the large collection which was so generously presented to the Museum by Mr. Wm. S. Finney of Dos Cabezas, Arizona. Another example is part of the late D. Sands Titus' collection recently added to the Museum exhibits by his sister, Mrs. Frederic Allen of Auburn.

It is deemed important as a record to list the material from the 1850 State report:

Donations from Lewis H. Morgan, Esq., of Rochester:

Stone Skull cracker - - - - Aurora, N. Y.
Necklace Bead - - - - - Scipio
White chert arrowhead - - - Ledyard
Fragment of pipe bowl - - - Scipio
Six arrowheads - - - - - Ledyard and Scipio
Fragment of earthen basin - Cayuga Co.

Purchased May, 1849 by E. G. Squier:

7 Arrows Cayuga Co.
2 French axes Cayuga Village

Indian Pestle - - - - - Cayuga Co.
 Copper Kettle (grave) - - Scipio
 Scalping knife - - - - - Scipio
 Stone Axe - - - - - Springport
 Terra cotta Pipe - - - - Scipio
 Pottery - - - - - Scipio

The list above is only a small part of the entire "Catalogue of Indian Relics" and many other central New York counties are very well represented.

The 1850 report contains several beautifully colored plates showing wearing apparel of the Indians. This material was purchased by Lewis H. Morgan from the Indians of western New York by "an appropriation for the enlargement of the Indian Collection" of the Regents of the University of the State of New York.

A short summary of only four out of the thirty-eight cases listed in W. W. Adams' catalogue will show the reader the quantity and type of material which has definitely been lost to Cayuga County with no known record as to its whereabouts.

Case #11: 4130 wampum beads from belt found in grave at Fleming, N. Y. Aug. 26, 1886

Case #25: Extra large gorget of silurian slate from Union Springs.

Gorget of purple slate from Farley's Point.
 Gorget of dark silurian slate from throopsville.
 Small gorget of silurian slate from Cayuga
 Odd shaped gorget of variegated purple slate from Union Springs.
 Very fine gorget of green silurian slate from Scipio.

Case #30: 3 Perfect clay pipes, Scipioville
 Face pipe of clay from Scipioville
 Perfect clay pipe from Fleming
 Steatite pipe from Farley's Point
 Bugle shaped pipe from Farley's Point
 Clay pipe with carved bowl from Scipioville
 Perfect clay pipe from Union Springs
 2 Perfect clay pipe from Farley's Point
 Pipe bowl with face finely carved, Scipioville
 Lead Pipe nine inches long from Fleming
 Iron Pipe from Scipio
 Extra long bugle shaped pipe with carved bowl from Fleming.
 Very fine perfect clay pipe with human face, from Scipioville
 Very large perfect clay pipe from Cayuga

Case #31: Banner stone from Scipio
 Banner stone from Cayuga Castle
 Clay pipe from Union Springs
 Chert spear head 5 3/4" x 2 1/4" from Cayuga
 Also quantity of small material

The Indian material of this region which has been acquired by Museums throughout the country is, in most cases, beautifully exhibited and marked as to locality. It has been viewed by the writer in Museums in New York City, Albany, Rochester and several other places and he is thoroughly convinced that it forms a large part in the representative material of this region and is certainly used for educational purposes. However, the question arises; where are the lost collections and how can we get them back to form a part of our local exhibits in our own Museum?

NOTE: The above State Report also lists artifacts from other central New York counties and if it is so desired by the readers, this material may be listed in future Bulletins.

K.N.E. W.

SOCIETY OUTING AT SEELYE FARM

On Sunday, Aug., 13th, several society members visited the farm of Mr. & Mrs. Arthur J. Seelye near Wolcott, N. Y.

Several outstanding collections of Indian artifacts were displayed by Arthur Seelye, the host, his brother Frank Seelye of North Rose and Truman Wilson of Wolcott.

During the day, the group had the privilege of excavating on a very ancient site which has been discovered on the Seelye farm. This is the site mentioned in a recent Bulletin where Folsom Type points have been recently recovered.

Art has been doing a fine job excavating this site as well as several others in this vicinity and is probably one of our most ardent archaeology enthusiasts. It is also learned that Art had made several successful talks to groups on the archaeology of the region, this is excellent and certainly helps to promote our society and its activities.

Those attending the Seelye outing were: President and Mrs. Newton Farwell and their son David; Mr. & Mrs. Floyd Johnston; Mr. & Mrs. John Phillips and Mrs. F. W. Warder, all of Geneva; Mr. & Mrs. Frank Seelye of North Rose and Mr. Truman Wilson of Wolcott.

THE DUCK LAKE SITE

by

President Newton E. Farwell

About the middle of July Art. Seelye and the writer journeyed to Duck Lake, as it is listed in most archaeological writings, otherwise known as Spring Lake, in the northern part of Cayuga County. To the northeast of the lake we found the spot we were looking for and the field was plowed. A search of the surface revealed nothing. After a number of test holes, we struck a rich black refuse layer about fourteen to eighteen inches beneath the surface associated with a slight layer of ash.

It is most difficult to realize a refuse layer so devoid of mineral evidence of the aborigines who caused the refuse. There were no bones; occasionally a few stone chips; we did find a few stone scrapers but there was no flint.

There were plenty of burnt stones at the refuse depth, but not on the surface of the ground. This ancient culture must certainly have used wooden utensils, if any.

The Archaeological History of New York records some graves as having been found on this site.

Why do we have to hit upon the sites of such antiquity and just what is the antiquity of this site? Most certainly some of New York States oldest sites are in the northern part of Wayne and Cayuga Counties.

PROGRAM TO BE TOPS AT OCTOBER MEETING

For the program for the October 12th meeting, Prof. Walter K. Long, program chairman, has arranged to have Prof. J. Chester Bradley, entomologist of Cornell University as guest speaker. Prof. Bradley will review his recent trip up the Nile and will show colored slides of Egypt.

Following Prof. Bradley's address, Prof. Long will show three dimension slides taken on his trip this summer to England and on the European continent.

Be sure to attend the October meeting, bring your friends and enjoy the program as well as the friendly discussions and fellowship of the society members.

SCIENCE PROOVES DATE OF PRE-HISTORIC OCCUPANCY IN
NEW YORK STATE

The following was taken from an article in the Ogdensburg Journal dated Sept. 18th, 1950.

Scientific research indicates that New York State was occupied by Indians 5,000 years ago.

The information is based on the radioactivity of charcoal taken from firepits of New York's earliest known sites.

The State Science Service, a part of the State Education Department stated that the new theory was a "direct product of the atomic age" and would "revolutionize archaeological thinking". The work was the result of combined research of Dr. William A. Ritchie, state archaeologist, and Dr. W. F. Libby and Dr. J. R. Arnold of the School for Nuclear Studies at the University of Chicago.

Dr. Ritchie sent the samples of charcoal which were measured for radioactivity and the measurements showed that the tree from which the charcoal came had died between 4930 and 5383 years ago. The findings were checked by similarly measuring materials from Egyptian tombs of which the antiquity is known.

By this method of research, it was stated, it will be possible to determine more accurately the dates of the many pre-historic occupancies in this country.

* P L E A S E *

* Please send in material for the *
* Bulletin. Every one did something this *
* summer; let's hear about it. We need *
* material badly or it is feared the *
* Bulletin will get thin again. Ed. *

THE TOTEM POLE

JAMES L. WARD IN HOSPITAL THIS SUMMER

During July and August, one of our charter members, James L. Ward of Cayuga, N. Y. spent over six weeks in Auburn City Hospital where he underwent a most serious operation.

During his recuperation, Jim spent his time preparing several mounts of artifacts and reading Indian and historical books.

On Sunday, Sept., 3rd, George Dobbs and Ken. Wright were greatly surprised at the arrival of a car on the Travers site near Menard Bridge with Jim and Mrs. Ward aboard. Jim joined the surface hunt which moved to the Montezuma Gladiola Field and on to Moose Wallow. He is back in form and, as usual, came away with the prize of the day, a spear point about seven inches long with only about a quarter of an inch broken off the point.

PROF. LONG IN EUROPE THIS SUMMER

Prof. Walter K. Long, director of Cayuga Museum of History and Art in Auburn and Vice president of the A. S. C. N. Y. has returned from about six weeks in England and on the European Continent.

Prof. Long was a delegate to the International Congress of Museums at the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization held in London July 17th to 24th.

He had the exceptional opportunity to visit the European Continent to make a survey for the U.N.E.S.C.O. Headquarters covering the reaction of the people in seven different countries to the European Recovery Program.

Prof. Long took nearly three hundred three dimension slides thruout his trip and had the privelege to take in excavation work in the Roman Forum.

