

## AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF METROPOLITAN WINNIPEG

1968 and 1969

The Excavations

During the two seasons of archaeological survey in the Metropolitan region (Fig. 1), four test excavations were conducted on sites located by the survey. Mr. Ian Dyck was responsible for two small test excavations in 1968, and the writer conducted two further tests in 1969.

W.S. 15

This site is a low oval mound. It is located one and a half miles west of Sturgeon Road on River Lot 6A, Parish of St. James, in the city of St. James-Assiniboia. The area consists of cultivated farm fields and was brought to the attention of the survey party by Mr. Jack Brown of the same city.

The mound measures 45 feet east-west by 12 feet north-south and it is approximately 3 feet high. Any exact measurements were hampered by the cultivated nature of the area.

The purpose of this excavation was to determine whether or not the site was a true prehistoric mound. Two test pits were placed in the site. Pit A (Fig. 2) was an east-west trench 10 feet by 2 feet in the west end of the site. Pit B was a northeast-southwest trench 20 feet by 2 feet in the main part of the site.

Pit A yielded a flake at 8 inches, a chert core at 11 inches, and a fragment of tooth enamel at 18 inches. The original surface was reached at a depth of 28 inches below the surface of the mound in the west end of the pit. Mr. Dyck reports no evidence of human disturbance to this point. The east end of the pit was excavated to a depth of 40 inches with no apparent human activity in evidence. Pit B contained only a few small rocks and rodent burrows. Excavation was halted at 33 inches when a yellow-black clay horizon was reached.

To the south of this site are three other prehistoric sites. W.S. 3 is a known prehistoric mound located about two miles southeast. It was excavated by the University of Winnipeg Field School in 1969 under the direction of Dr. Ronald Nash of the Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature. However, there does not seem to be any similarity between the two sites. W.S. 5 is a very productive habitation site relating to the Besant occupation phase. The question of mounds being built by these people has not been answered, and no connection between the mound and this site can be presumed in this case.<sup>1</sup> W. S. 4 is a possible prehistoric mound, but a root cellar placed in it yielded only large limestone blocks.

From the present evidence, it appears that W. S. 15 is not a prehistoric mound. Rather, it appears to be a natural feature of the terrain. The evidence to support this is derived from the nature of the soil. The mound was 3 feet in height, but a yellow-black clay interface was encountered at 33 inches in the center of the mound. The interface most likely represents

the top of the B horizon which would not be above the original prairie level in a man-made feature. Moreover, the only area in which the original surface was reached was on the extreme west end of the feature in Pit A.

#### W.S. 32

Due to the former prominence of the Forks area during the Fur Trade and Settlement eras, the Metropolitan Corporation and the Manitoba Archaeological Society expressed special interest in the area. Extensive survey was conducted in the region during both seasons. Library material was consulted and the Canadian National Railway provided information on the freight yards which are located here.

In 1968, Mr. Dyck attempted a series of small test pits to confirm some observations which he had made from viewing the river bank. The bank had indicated a confused arrangement of artifacts ranging from prehistoric material to recent trash. The excavations confirmed that this was characteristic of the area.

The 1969 survey expressed a special interest in the south bank of the Assiniboine River where the railway construction was less extensive. Two lines cross the area -- the main line on top of 15 feet of fill, and a lower freight line. A small undulating treed and seemingly disturbed triangle of land exists between the two lines. There is a small unstable area between the freight line and the Red River, and a curling club occupies the land between the main line and main street.

The conclusions drawn from this extensive research of the Forks area indicate that it may no longer be profitable, or even possible, to conduct meaningful archaeological excavations in the area.<sup>2</sup> A brief review of the forts located here has been given above,<sup>3</sup> and any further data must come from historical sources. Any remains which do exist now lie under the Canadian National Railway tracks, freight shed or paved roadways, or under a ready-mix cement plant and piles of gravel.

#### W.S. 33

W. S. 33 is a large campsite containing numerous artifact concentrations on and between a series of natural levees of the Assiniboine River. The area is a 50-acre market garden owned by Mr. J. Kuypers on Lot 1, Headingly, on the south bank of the Assiniboine River. A series of small fields has been created by leaving rows of trees and placing roadways through the area. All the fields have produced some archaeological material. There is an indication that the site may continue west into the adjoining field, but crop prevented an extensive survey of this area.

Mr. Kuypers granted permission to excavate provided that the excavations did not hinder the normal garden work. The area along the trees was investigated and three spots were chosen for pits.

Excavation was begun using a shovel and a screen. Screening proved to be almost impossible due to the natural cohesiveness of the heavy clay soil and continual wet weather. After a few attempts to screen the soil, this technique was abandoned and the excavation proceeded with the use of trowels only. At this time, all three pits were opened and one individual excavated each pit. Arbitrary 6-inch levels were employed.

Pit 1 was located on the top of a levee which had yielded a large quantity of material. It was in the corner of the field near a row of trees, and according to the owner the only disturbance in this area had been caused by the clearing of trees; no cultivation had been conducted here. The pit was excavated to a depth of 24 inches below the surface with no definable stratigraphy. The top consisted of dark clay which gave way initially to a mottled dark and light clay-sand mixture and finally to a light brown clay. This appears to be the result of leaching and attests to the relatively undisturbed nature of the soil. The total cultural remains recovered from the test consisted of one small chert biface at 15.5 inches below the surface, one worked flake from near the surface, seven unworked flakes, two round nails, one fragment of glass, and a few hundred bone fragments. The identifiable bone material has been classified as that of domestic cattle.

Pit 2 was located between two levees on the edge of the trees in the largest and most productive field. The area was undisturbed except for some minor clearing. The profile bore this out, as the upper horizon was formed of humus from the decaying vegetation. The humus graded into a mottled humus and dark clay horizon and finally into solid dark clay at 15 inches. This is a result of leaching processes in the soil. This unit yielded the only excavated point from the site (Fig. 3) at a depth of 6 inches, two worked flakes, eighteen unworked flakes, and numerous fragments of charred bone, none of which was identifiable. Excavation was halted at 15 inches below the surface when the clay (B horizon) was reached in the entire pit, as this horizon had been sterile to this point.

Pit 3 was the only one which was placed in a cultivated area. It was situated in a recently cleared and tilled area on the edge of the main field, and was the closest pit to the river. The soil was greatly disturbed, but it was generally similar to Test Pit 1. Four bone fragments, three from near the surface, comprised the total artifactual material recovered. None of the fragments was identifiable.

In addition to the field work described above, laboratory studies were carried out on the Kuypers' material. The large surface collections from each year were combined and analyzed. The results of these studies have been summarized in Tables 1-4. Tables 1-3 present the quantity of material collected, while Table 4 presents some data on the projectile points recovered. In Table 4, tentative point types have been assigned where possible in order to establish a relative chronology for the site.

As part of a thesis project, Mr. Les Leonoff conducted an analysis of the raw material in a portion of the surface collection. This sample, and a sample from another site within his "Assiniboine Drainage Zone" yielded Selkirk Chert (40%), Swan River Chert (20%), Knife River Flint (20%), and other (20%). Mr. Leonoff suggests that a frequency distribution of raw materials such as this represents a "zone of transition" in the types of material used by prehistoric cultures. A "zone of transition" is defined as an area in which three or four raw materials are used and each represents about 20% of the material used (a zone which contains 50% or more of one material is considered to be dominated by this material). The relatively high percentage of Selkirk Chert (40%) present in this sample indicates that there is a tendency toward dominance of it, but this may be explained by its relative accessibility. Selkirk Chert can be found in outcrops along the banks of the Red River near Winnipeg, while Knife River Flint, which is a much better material for knapping, would have to be imported from North Dakota (Leonoff 1970:49-50).

TABLE 1

## PREHISTORIC ARTIFACTUAL MATERIAL RECOVERED FROM THE SURFACE

W.S. 33

ITEM	NO.	WT. (GRAMS)
Projectile Points	39	-
Bifaces	42	732.5
End Scrapers	32	199.5
Side Scrapers	12	133.0
Drills	1	1.0
Spokeshave	1	5.0
Retouched Flakes	122	1305.5
Cores	18	2164.5
Unworked Flakes	985	5336.5
Hammer Stones	3	-
Ground Stones	1	-
Pottery Sherds (Body)	12	-
Bone and Shell	-	9178.0

TABLE 2

## HISTORIC ARTIFACTUAL MATERIAL RECOVERED FROM THE SURFACE

W.S. 33

ITEM	NO.
Knives (Butcher)	2
Square Nails	1
Dinky Toy	1
Marble	1
Glass Fragments	2
Metal Object	1
Porcelain	31
Crockery	14
Coal	3

TABLE 3  
EXCAVATED ARTIFACTS FROM W.S. 33

TEST PIT	LEVEL	ITEM	NO.	Ar
1	1	Side Scraper	1	3
1	1	Retouched Flake	1	3
1	1	Unworked Flakes	2	3
1	1	Bone Fragments	80	3
1	1	Round Nails	2	3
1	1	Glass Fragments	1	3
1	2	Unworked Flakes	2	3
1	2	Bone Fragments	81	3
1	3	Bifaces	1	3
1	3	Unworked Flakes	3	3
1	3	Bone and Teeth Fragments	135	3
1	4	Bone Fragments	4	3
2	1	Projectile Point	1	3
2	1	Unworked Flakes	4	3
2	1	Bone Fragments	17	3
2	2	Retouched Flakes	1	3
2	2	Unworked Flakes	9	3
2	2	Bone Fragments	52	3
2	3	Worked Flakes	1	3
2	3	Unworked Flakes	5	3
2	3	Bone Fragments	19	3
3	1	Sterile	-	3
3	2	Sterile	-	3
3	3	Bone Fragments	1	3
3	4	Sterile	-	3

TABLE 4

## PROJECTILE POINTS RECOVERED FROM W.S. 33

Art. No.	T.T.	R.M.	L.(mm)	W.(mm)	W.N. (mm)	T. (mm)	Remarks
33-1	N.A.	S.C.	29.7	21.1	N.A.	6.1	Frag.
33-2	Ox. (?)	G.C.	30.9	21.5	18.5	5.4	Ear Frag.
33-3	N.A.	G.C.	17.0	17.0	N.A.	4.3	Tip Only
33-4	Dun. (?)	G.C.	33.7	25.5	16.7	6.9	Reworked
33-5	Ox.	S.R.C.	35.6	20.5	15.4	6.7	Frag.
33-6	Han. (?)	G.C.	21.8	16.3	13.5	6.6	Reworked
33-7	Han. (?)	G.C.	14.8	18.0	13.1	6.4	Frag.
33-8	Han. (?)	G.C.	13.5	17.0	14.2	7.4	Frag.
33-9	Han. (?)	G.C.	25.8	15.2	11.6	6.4	Frag.
33-10	Ox. (?)	L.C.	32.1	20.0	19.0	5.8	Frag.
33-11	Ox. (?)	L.C.	28.3	17.4	13.6	5.3	Frag.
33-12	Ox.	S.R.C.	30.8	20.8	N.A.	5.7	Ear frag.
33-13	And. C/N	G.C.	25.9	16.3	8.5	4.8	Frag.
33-14	Han. (?)	G.C.	13.7	18.3	14.1	6.8	Frag.
33-15	P.L. (?)	S.R.C.	28.3	17.2	10.9	5.4	Frag.
33-16	Ox.	S.R.C.	47.7	42.8	37.4	11.6	Reworked
33-17	Tri.	B.C.	26.6	18.3	N.A.	4.2	Burinated
33-18	P.L.	G.C.	44.2	23.0	10.2	5.5	Frag.
33-19	P.L.	G.C.	43.4	22.1	12.2	6.3	Burinated
33-20	P.L.	G.C.	52.7	22.9	10.5	6.5	Frag.
33-21	Ox. (?)	Qzite.	29.3	17.1	13.0	6.3	Frag.
33-22	W. S/N	Qz.	36.1	19.3	13.2	9.4	Crude
33-23	W. S/N	L.C.	34.6	19.3	12.1	7.8	Crude
33-24	N.A.	L.C.	18.5	20.8	N.A.	5.1	Tip Only
33-25	L.T.	S.R.C.	14.0	N.A.	N.A.	3.6	Frag.
33-26	And. C/N	L.C.	25.1	15.8	9.5	4.3	Reworked
33-27	W. S/N	S.R.C.	39.5	16.8	10.1	7.2	Reworked
33-28	W. S/N	L.C.	35.6	18.4	13.4	7.5	-
33-29	Ox.	G.C.	37.4	27.3	21.8	4.8	Reworked
33-30	N.A.	B.C.	30.6	26.8	N.A.	6.9	Mid-section
33-31	N.A.	S.R.C.	15.1	17.1	N.A.	5.8	Mid-section
33-32	N.A.	S.R.C.	18.6	16.2	N.A.	5.5	Tip Only
33-33	L.T.	Qzite.	19.5	15.4	10.6	5.0	-
33-34	N.A.	S.C.	31.0	20.8	13.1	7.0	Frag.
33-35	Wpg. O.	S.R.C.	37.4	22.1	N.A.	6.9	-
33-36	N.A.	G.C.	16.0	19.9	15.7	3.7	Reworked
33-37	Han.	G.C.	33.2	21.6	12.6	7.8	Reworked
33-38	W. S/N	G.C.	25.1	16.6	13.5	4.6	Frag.
33-39	N.A.	G.C.	30.7	20.6	N.A.	6.5	Tip Only

## Abbreviations used above:

N.A.	Not Applicable	T.	Thickness	L.T.	Larter Tanged
Frag.	Fragmentary	Ox.	Oxbow	Wpg. O.	Winnipeg Ovoid
Art. No.	Artifact Number	Dun.	Duncan	S.C.	Selkirk Chert
T.T.	Tentative Type	B.C.	Brown Chalcedony	G.C.	Grey Chert
R.M.	Raw Material	Han.	Hanna	S.R.C.	Swan River Chert
L.	Length	And.C/N	Anderson Corner-Notched	L.C.	Limestone Chert
W.	Width	P.L.	Pelican Lake	Qz.	Quartz
W.N.	Width at Notches	Tri.	Triangular	Qzite.	Quartzite
		W. S/N	Whitshell-Side-notched		

Finally, Mr. Dan Hilderman briefly analyzed the faunal remains from W.S. 33. As near as could be determined from the small sample, all the faunal remains could be attributed to domesticated animals such as cow, pig, and sheep (D. Hilderman, personal communication). This conclusion is consistent with the facts; Mr. Kuypers reported that there were very few bones on the fields until recent years. During the last few years, he had begun to import fertilizer which he feels contained the faunal remains of butchered animals. Indeed, many of the remains illustrate marks made by a saw.<sup>4</sup>

In conclusion, the findings at the Kuypers Site may be summarized as follows:

1. most of the lithic tools recovered occurred on the surface (Figs. 3-5) one biface and one point came from the excavations;
2. most of the identifiable points fall within the Middle Prehistoric period (see Table 4);
3. the identified faunal remains are intrusive to the site;
4. the site in general is very disturbed due to cultivation and tree clearing.

W.S. 33 is a large campsite dating to the Middle Prehistoric period with some indication (eleven potsherds -- see Fig. 7) of limited use in late Prehistoric times. The site is currently a productive market garden, and further excavations would be difficult and, most likely, unprofitable.<sup>5</sup>

#### W.S. 88

W.S. 88 is a late prehistoric campsite on the Red River south of Winnipeg. It is located near a small channel which carries excess river water across a neck of land at times of high water. Following the unusually high water of 1950, in which the entire neck of land was submerged and about one foot of top soil was removed, pottery, projectile points, and hearths were exposed. At this time, the site was visited by Mr. Walter M. Hlady, Dr. C. T. Gonsalves, and Mr. Alan Simpson.

The annual erosion of material continued with cultivation and flooding. Some of the artifacts were collected by the owner, Mr. S. A. Lasko of Lot 216, St. Norbert. During the spring of 1969, the site was again visited by a crew from the University of Winnipeg under the direction of Mr. John Mori. At this time, it was very productive, and Mr. Mori felt that a test should be conducted. The Metro survey crew undertook this task in August of 1969.

The objective of the test was to determine the depth and the extent of the site so that a full scale excavation could be conducted the next season if it warranted such an undertaking. Four test pits were placed at random in the areas where the most surface cultural remains were collected. The pits were about 3 feet by 3 feet and were excavated using a shovel and screen. All the pits were excavated to a depth of 18 to 24 inches before they were abandoned, while one small test was continued to 33 inches, where water was encountered. Generally, the top soil, a dark heavy clay, ranged from 3 to 12 inches below the surface. A mottled transition zone separated the top soil and the light brown clay below. The following conclusions were reached from these data:

1. the A horizon has been completely eroded, at least near the channel. Mr. Lasko supports this deduction;
2. the dark clay represents the B horizon which is now the top soil. This may have contained some artifacts, but most of the material probably lay

- on or above it;
3. the light brown soil represents the C horizon which is, understandably, sterile.

The entire collection of artifactual material excavated was four pottery fragments and a few small bone fragments, all of which were found within the plow zone. Very little material was recovered from the surface due to the presence shortly before of the University of Winnipeg crew. All of the surface artifacts were placed in the hands of Mr. John Mori, who was to prepare a report on the site.<sup>6</sup> However, it appears that the artifacts relate to the Blackduck tradition as it has been described by MacNeish (1958). There may also be some southern influence, but without looking closely at the material this cannot be substantiated.

In conclusion, W. S. 88 is a Late Prehistoric campsite of the Blackduck focus. Surface artifactual material is abundant, but continual flooding and cultivation have destroyed any trace of permanent or semi-permanent habitations which may have existed at the site.

#### Summary and Conclusions

Prior to 5000 B.C., nomadic bands of big game hunters, known as Paleo-Indians, roamed the plains, but there is no evidence of their ever having been in the Winnipeg Region. Pettipas (1967) has outlined the Paleo-Indian occupation in Manitoba.

The first phase represented in the metropolitan area is Oxbow. This is a Northern Plains manifestation which was originally identified at the Oxbow Dam Site in southeastern Saskatchewan where the Oxbow level was radiocarbon-dated at 3250 B.C.  $\pm$  130. Oxbow points occur in southern Manitoba, southern Saskatchewan, and south-central Alberta. In southeastern Manitoba, MacNeish named a similar point type "Parkdale Eared" and dated it much later in time. In reality, this type is Oxbow and probably dates about the same time as those further west.<sup>7</sup>

Very little was written exclusively on Oxbow until Ian Dyck (1970) completed a thesis on two Oxbow sites in central Saskatchewan. He found that the technology was confined mainly to stone chipping. Tools consisted of projectile points, drills, choppers, bifaces, end scrapers and flakes. Only three bone artifacts were found, all in one site. The principal mode of subsistence was bison hunting, with some deer, elk and moose remains occurring in one of the sites. Settlement was probably in terms of small seasonal camps indicative of a band level of organization.

The Winnipeg Survey has produced two sites which relate to this phase. The collection from W.S. 33 contains at least five Oxbow points, and W.S. 99, a site on the Seine River southeast of Winnipeg, yielded some Oxbow points in the land-owner's collection. No other sites yielded this type of point.

These sites, W.S. 33 and 99, also contain projectile points relating to the next phase, that of the McKean-Duncan-Manna Phase which probably dates from about 2000 B.C. until 1000 B.C.<sup>8</sup> McKean points were excavated by MacNeish at the Cemetery Point and Larter sites (note: the Larter Site was included in the survey as W.S. 84). MacNeish (1958:78) placed the McKean points in the "Whiteshell Focus", which he dated at 3000 - 1500 B.C. Mayer-Oakes (1970:111) reports McKean points from the Grand Rapids Reservoir in northern Manitoba, but the most extensive research has been done by Leigh Syms (1969), who postulates a movement of the McKean Culture through Saskatchewan and into Manitoba by way of the Swan River Valley. The movement was then south and east across the province.



The McKean Phase is represented by the three related point styles, ovate bifaces, end-scrapers, rough choppers, and flakes. The people were primarily bison hunters, but fish may have supplemented the diet in some areas. The settlement pattern appears to have comprised small seasonal camps occupied by small groups. The bison-hunting subsistence pattern probably indicates small, nomadic bands (Joyes 1969:218).

It has been suggested that the Pelican Lake Phase was an indigenous development out of the McKean-Duncan-Hanna Phase (Joyes 1969:220). The dates for this phase range from about 1500 - 500 B.C. throughout the Northwestern Plains where it is found. MacNeish's "Larter Tanged" points probably represent the Pelican Lake style in southeastern Manitoba, but they are wider and thicker than the specimens from the Plains.<sup>9</sup> MacNeish (1958:100-101) assigns them to the Larter Focus, which he dates from 1500 - 500 B.C.

In addition to the projectile points, the technology involves lamellar and prismatic end scrapers, ovate bifaces, and flakes. Two sites outside of Manitoba have shown that the atlatl was also used (Joyes 1969:219-220). The principal food source was the bison, which were hunted using pounds and jumps (Forbis 1962; Reeves 1966). The campsites are small and suggest temporary occupation by fairly small groups. The bison hunting economy suggests the presence of nomadic bands which probably coalesced into larger groups for seasonal bison hunts (Joyes 1969:220).

Within the Winnipeg Survey material, there are two sites which represent this phase. One is W.S. 33 which contains six projectile points similar to Pelican Lake and/or Larter Tanged points. The other is the Larter Site, W.S. 84, from which the "Larter Tanged" point was named.

The Late Prehistoric period began with the appearance of the first ceramics -- those of the Laurel Tradition. Laurel ceramics are found across northern Ontario, northern Minnesota, Manitoba, and into east-central Saskatchewan (Wright 1967:132). Wright has postulated an Asiatic origin for this ceramic complex.<sup>10</sup>

MacNeish (1958:81-82) found Laurel pottery in both the Anderson and the Nutimik Foci, with the Anderson Focus being the earlier of the two.<sup>11</sup> In the Winnipeg Survey material, there are no distinguishable Laurel sites, but one site on the Red River in St. Vital, W.S. 94, contained a few body sherds which may relate to Laurel pottery.

The Laurel Tradition dates between 500 B.C. and A.D. 800. The pottery consists of coconut-shaped vessels with vertical to slightly outflaring rim profiles. Decorative techniques may involve pseudo-scallop, dentate stamp, or push-and-pull impressions. A smooth variety is also known. Wright (1967:100) feels that the pseudo-scallop type is the earliest and the dentate stamp the latest. On this basis, he feels that the Laurel ceramics in the Anderson and Nutimik Foci are very late (Wright 1967:107).

One of the important associations with northern Ontario and Minnesota Laurel is large burial mounds. To date, no direct association between Laurel and mounds has been made in Manitoba (MacNeish 1958; Mayer-Oakes 1970; Penny 1970: personal communication). In addition to the ceramics, there are chipped stone and bone tools. Subsistence seems to have been geared to a Woodland existence with the hunting of woodland animals and fishing. The settlement pattern reflects small nomadic bands in small, briefly occupied campsites along waterways (Mayer-Oakes 1967:372-374).

One important site in the Winnipeg Region is W.S. 5, a Besant site in St. James-Assiniboia. It was first located by Mr. Jack Brown of St. James Assiniboia, who has a large collection of Besant points and other lithics from the site.

The source of Besant has not been positively established,<sup>12</sup> but it is known that these materials were found throughout the northwestern Plains from about A.D. 300 - 500 (Joyes 1969:221). The points are similar to MacNeish's Anderson Corner-notched point, the principal point type in the Anderson Focus which MacNeish (1958:90-91, 101) dated at 500 B.C. to A.D. 500. However, the Anderson Focus also includes Laurel ceramics.

From his experience at the Avery Site, Joyes (1969:222) feels that Besant may be associated with "Avery Corded Ware" rather than with the Laurel Ware, despite similarities that exist between the Besant and Laurel assemblages. Other sites in southwestern Manitoba contain Besant material, but they have no direct ceramic associations. W.S. 5 has at least one fragment of pottery, but this sherd is not identifiable.

The Besant people were Plains bison hunters who supplemented their diet with deer, antelope and rodents. The campsites may represent fairly lengthy or repeated occupations by moderately large groups. Again, the social organization seems to have comprised bands with some seasonal multi-band groupings for communal bison hunts (Joyes 1969:223-4).

Probably the best represented phase in the Winnipeg region is the Blackduck or Manitoba Phase which dates from A.D. 800 to historic times.<sup>13</sup> It appears to be an indigenous development from Laurel (Evans 1961:132) and is found in northern Minnesota, northern Ontario, and Manitoba. At least four sites from the Winnipeg Survey can be definitely assigned to this phase (W.S. 36, 53, 88 and 102), and six other sites which contain pottery most likely belong to this phase.

Blackduck pots are large globular vessels with cord-wrapped stick impressions on the lip and rim. These are often accompanied by oval or rectangular punctates. The body frequently shows evidence of paddling with a cord-wrapped paddle.<sup>14</sup> The assemblage associated with the pottery contains small triangular notched and unnotched projectile points, ovoid and lunate knives, trapezoidal end scrapers and rectangular side scrapers, drills, tubular pipes, unilaterally barbed harpoons, awls, and bone spatulas and fleshers. Subsistence was primarily based on fish and wild rice, but on the Plains bison and deer were hunted. Habitation sites were located on or near navigatable waterways and the social organization was comprised of the nomadic band. Mound-building activities have definitely been attributed to this phase (Evans 1961:155; MacNeish 1958:49-50; Mayer-Oakes 1970:371-372).

The final phase in the prehistoric period is the Selkirk Phase. It is typically associated with the introduction of fabric-impressed pottery. MacNeish (1958:79) dated it from A.D. 1350 - 1750<sup>15</sup> and suggested that it was introduced from the north or northeast. It was closely associated with the Blackduck Phase, having large globular vessels with fabric impressions on the body and rim and punctates around the rim. The remainder of the assemblage contains projectile points of the "Prairie Side-Notched", "Selkirk Side-Notched" and "Eastern Triangular" styles, as well as ground stone and bone. Subsistence in the boreal forest seems to have been based upon deer and fish while in the Parklands it was based on bison. The settlement pattern involved large seasonal

camps, and the social organization was probably based on the nomadic band with some possible larger seasonal groupings (Mayer-Oakes 1967:369-370; Joyes 1969:331-332).

In the Winnipeg region, no sites have been located which can definitely be attributed to the Selkirk Phase.

The historic period was sub-divided in Chapter 3 into three periods of development: (1) the Fur Trade era, (2) the period of agricultural settlement, and (3) the events leading to and following the formation of the province and the city.

The only site definitely associated with the Fur Trade era is W.S. 32, the Forks area. Although the artifactual material recovered from here was not indicative of any particular time period, the site designation represents the fur posts which were formally located in this area.

The first site identifiable with the agricultural settlement is W.S. 38, the former location of Fort Douglas which was built by the Selkirk Settlers in 1812. A number of other sites along the Red River in North Winnipeg would also fit within this period, for example W.S. 13 (circa 1830) and W.S. 22 (circa 1840-50). There are also sites of this nature along the Assiniboine River, e.g., W.S. 50 (circa 1850) and along the Seine River (W.S. 92 and 93, circa 1855).

The final period is well represented, mainly by structures such as the present Anglican Church in Middlechurch (W.S. 81). The church was constructed in 1875 and has been used ever since. There is a number of houses along both the Assiniboine and Seine Rivers as well as the Red River. The most recent site is W.S. 16 near the International Airport. The site is a former garbage dump of the City of Winnipeg and is now Westview Park. During the construction of the park, fragments of crockery and old bottles from 30 to 50 years old were recovered.

#### Future Research

The Manitoba Archaeological Society should consider, as part of its activities, an analysis of the historic artifacts from the Winnipeg Survey sites. By far, the largest portion of the artifacts were historic, and they have not been fully researched. The artifacts by themselves do not provide an adequate body of data on which a project can be based, but when they are integrated with the growing corpus of information on historic artifacts in Manitoba, there may be an adequate base for a project. The project could call on the data from Lower Fort Garry and that reported by Dr. Mayer-Oakes (1970) from the Trailrace Bay Site at Grand Rapids. There are also the data from Fort Riviere Tremblant on the Assiniboine River just across the Manitoba border in Saskatchewan which has just been completed by Hugh MacKie. In addition, during 1967 a small historic survey was conducted throughout Manitoba in conjunction with the Glacial Lake Agassiz Survey. All in all, there is a large volume of data from which to draw comparisons.<sup>16</sup>

Future prehistoric archaeological research in the Metropolitan region would be most fruitful in the undeveloped areas of the city. However, members of the Manitoba Archaeological Society should monitor construction activities in their neighbourhoods. Historic research can still be done within the confines of the city. Such a project as proposed by Mr. Ian Dyck (1968:7-8), should involve an historian, an historic archaeologist, and an ethnographer who

is interested in the history of the various ethnic groups within the region. These are all areas where very important research could be accomplished, and the most fruitful method would be to co-ordinate all of the activities into one well-organized project. A valuable starting point would be with the original Selkirk Settlement, using all the available records and maps, an accurate reconstruction could be accomplished. One very important group which should not be overlooked is the Metis, since they represent the group having the longest continuous occupation of the region in historic times.

In conclusion, the aims of the survey have been fulfilled. The survey has located and recorded 111 prehistoric and historic sites; it has assessed the condition of the Forks in regard to the fur posts formerly located there; it has tested some of the sites within the Winnipeg region and it has made some recommendations for future research.

#### Footnotes

<sup>1</sup> However, mounds are part of the "Sonota Complex" (Newman 1975; see also Footnote 12, below) which is closely related to the Besant Complex (Syms 1977:92).

<sup>2</sup> Nonetheless, Parks Canada may soon be putting this prediction to the test, as plans are going ahead to explore the Forks area archaeologically under the Federal-Provincial ARC Agreement.

<sup>3</sup> See Manitoba Archaeological Newsletter, Vol. XII, No. 1 & 2, pp. 12, 13.

<sup>4</sup> In a subsequent faunal analysis, however, James Whelan (1974:19) noted that

the results of this preliminary analysis do not agree with the expectations of Hilderman and Dickson....Of the fourteen identifiable specimens five represent native, non-domestic species that fall in the category of food animals. These species include Lepus americanus, the snowshoe hare, Bison bison, as definitely identified and Alces americana, moose, and Lepus townsendii, the jack rabbit, as possible.

The other nine identifiable fragments were Felis domestica (Domestic cat), Bos taurus (Cattle), Sus scrofa (pig), and Equus caballus (horse).

<sup>5</sup> Subsequent excavations by the University of Winnipeg Field School produced a "fair inventory of artifacts", the observation that W.S. 33 has an undisturbed "treed component" and the impression that it is a "very significant site" (Steinbring, written communication, 1979).

<sup>6</sup> Mr. Mori died in an automobile accident before the report was written.

<sup>7</sup> That is, ca. 3300 - 2000 B.C. (Reeves 1973:1236). However, the excavations at the Cherry Point Site, on Oak Lake, Manitoba, are taken to indicate that the Oxbow Complex persisted as late as the 10th century A.D. (Haug 1976:44, 59).

<sup>8</sup>The Cherry Point project also indicated long-term persistence of diagnostic traits of the McKean Complex (Haug 1976:59).

<sup>9</sup>The distinction is not considered valid by other archaeologists however; see Manitoba Archaeological Quarterly, Vol. 2, No. 4, p. 11.

<sup>10</sup>In his more recent writings, however, Wright (e.g., 1972:59) leans toward the thesis that the idea of pottery-making diffused into the central interior of Canada from the eastern United States.

<sup>11</sup>Following Hlady (1970:277), most archaeologists no longer distinguish between foci within Laurel, and simply group all Laurel manifestations under that term.

<sup>12</sup>However, Brian Reeves (1970:171) regards the Northeastern Periphery of the Woodland Edge of the Plains (presumably in Minnesota) as the source of the Besant Complex. More recently, Neuman (1975) has defined the "Sonota Complex", which contains a predominance of tools made from Knife River Flint, projectile points which subsume Besant and Samantha types, bison remains, small burial mounds, and ceramics. Syms (1976:246-52) has identified the complex at the Richards Kill Site and several other sites in south-central Manitoba. Most of the artifacts in Mr. Brown's collection are made of Knife River Flint, which suggests that W.S. 5 is a Sonota Site. If so, it is the most northeasterly known expression of that complex. Sonota dates range from 100 B.C. - A.D. 1000.

<sup>13</sup>Twelve radiocarbon dates associated with Blackduck ceramics at seven sites in Southern Manitoba range from A.D. 780 - 1330 (Tisdale 1978:20).

<sup>14</sup>Current theories hold that "...many of the Blackduck...vessels... seem to have been molded inside a fabric mold, and then removed from the mold prior to firing, or had the mold burned off" (Saylor 1977:6).

<sup>15</sup>Since MacNeish wrote his monograph on southeastern Manitoba archaeology, the lower end of the Selkirk time frame has been pushed back in Northern Manitoba to A.D. 940 (Dickson 1976:3).

<sup>16</sup>To this list should be added the findings of Hugh Mackie (1972) and Terry Tottle (1976) at Pine Fort on the Assiniboine River, those of Dr. J. Steinbring (1977) in the Fort Alexander district on the Winnipeg River, and the emerging inventory of recoveries of the University of Manitoba Archaeological Field School at Fort Dauphin (Monks and Bradford 1978; Fraser 1979).

#### Bibliography

- DICKSON, G.  
1976 Recent Radiocarbon Dates from Northern Manitoba. Manitoba Department of Tourism, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, Historic Resources Branch, Papers in Manitoba Archaeology, Miscellaneous Papers No. 3, pp. 1-56. Winnipeg.
- DYCK, I.  
1970 Two Oxbow Settlement Types in Central Saskatchewan. Na'pao, Vol. 2, No. 2, pp. 1-29. Saskatoon.

- FORBIS, Richard G.  
1962 The Old Woman's Buffalo Jump, Alberta. National Museum of Canada, Bulletin 180. Ottawa.
- FRASER, L.  
1979 A Report of the Archaeological Investigations by the University of Manitoba Field School at the Fort Dauphin Site, EhLx-4, Manitoba, May, June, 1979. Ms, Manitoba Historic Resources Branch.
- HAUG, J.  
1976 The 1974-1975 Excavations at the Cherry Point Site (DkMe-10): A Stratified Archaic Site in Southwest Manitoba. Manitoba Department of Tourism, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, Historic Resources Branch, Papers in Manitoba Archaeology, Final Report No. 1. Winnipeg.
- HLADY, W.  
1970 Southeastern Manitoba Resurveyed. In "Ten Thousand Years: Archaeology in Manitoba", ed. by W. M. Hlady, pp. 269 - 281. Friesen & Sons, Altona.
- JOYES, D. J.  
1969 The Avery Site at Rock Lake: A Prehistoric Campsite in Southwestern Manitoba. Unpublished M.A. Thesis, Department of Anthropology, University of Manitoba. Winnipeg.
- LEONOFF, I.  
1970 The Identification, Distribution and Sources of Lithic Raw Materials in Manitoba Archaeological Sites. Unpublished M.A. Thesis, University of Manitoba. Winnipeg.
- MacKIE, H.  
1972 Pine Fort, Northwest Company Post: A Preliminary Report. Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature, Occasional Paper No. 1, Winnipeg.
- MacNEISH, R.  
1958 An Introduction to the Archaeology of Southeast Manitoba. National Museum of Canada. Bulletin 157.
- MAYER-OAKES, W.  
1967 Prehistoric Human Population History of the Glacial Lake Agassiz Region. In "Life, Land and Water", ed. by W. J. Mayer-Oakes, pp. 339-77, Department of Anthropology, University of Manitoba, Occasional Paper No. 1. Winnipeg.
- 1970 Archaeological Investigations in the Grand Rapids, Manitoba, Reservoir, 1961-62. Department of Anthropology, University of Manitoba, Occasional Paper No. 3.
- MONKS, G. and S. Bradford  
1978 Preliminary Report on Archaeological Investigations at the Fort Dauphin Site, EhLx-4, Manitoba, Summer, 1978. Ms, Manitoba Historic Resources Branch.

- NEUMAN, R. W.  
1975 The Sonota Complex and Associated Sites on the Northern Great Plains. Publication in Anthropology No. 6, Nebraska State Historical Society. Lincoln.
- PETTIPAS, I. F.  
1967 Paleo-Indian Manifestations in Manitoba: Their Spatial and Temporal Relationships with the Campbell Strandline. Unpublished, M.A. Thesis, University of Manitoba. Winnipeg.
- RELVES, Brian O.K.  
1966 The Besant Phase in Space, Time and Culture. Ms., Department of Archaeology, University of Calgary. Calgary.
- 1970 Culture Dynamics in the Manitoba Grasslands 1000 B.C. - A.D. 700. In "Ten Thousand Years: Archaeology in Manitoba", ed. by W. M. Hlady, pp. 153 - 174. Friesen & Sons, Altona.
- 1973 The Concept of an Altithermal Cultural Hiatus in Northern Plains Prehistory. American Anthropologist, Vol. 75, pp. 1221-53.
- SAYLOR, S.  
1977 The 1976 Excavations at HgKx-1, Wanipigow Lake. Manitoba Department of Tourism, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, Historic Resources Branch, Papers in Manitoba Archaeology, Preliminary Report No. 4. Winnipeg.
- STEINBRING, J.  
1977 An Introduction to Archaeology on the Winnipeg River. Ms., Manitoba Historic Resources Branch.
- SYMS, E. L.  
1976 Indigenous Ceramics and Ecological Dynamics of Southwestern Manitoba, 500 B.C. - A.D. 1800. Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, University of Alberta. Edmonton.
- 1977 Cultural Ecology and Ecological Dynamics of the Ceramic Period in Southwestern Manitoba. Memoir 12, Plains Anthropologist, Volume 22, No. 76, Part 2. Lincoln.
- TISDALE, M.A.  
1978 Investigations at the Stott Site: A Review of Research From 1947 to 1977. Manitoba Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs, Historic Resources Branch, Papers in Manitoba Archaeology, Final Report No. 5. Winnipeg.
- TOTTLE, T.  
1976 The History and Archaeology of Pine Fort. Ms, Manitoba Historic Resources Branch.
- WIELAN, J.  
1974 A Preliminary Faunal Analysis of The Kuypers Site, W.S. 33. Saskatchewan Archaeology Newsletter, No. 47, pp. 18-20. Regina.
- WRIGHT, J. V.  
1967 The Laurel Tradition and the Middle Woodland Period. National Museum of Canada, Bulletin 217. Ottawa.

WRIGHT, J. V.  
1972

Ontario Prehistory: An Eleven-Thousand Year Archaeological Outline.  
National Museum of Canada, Ottawa.

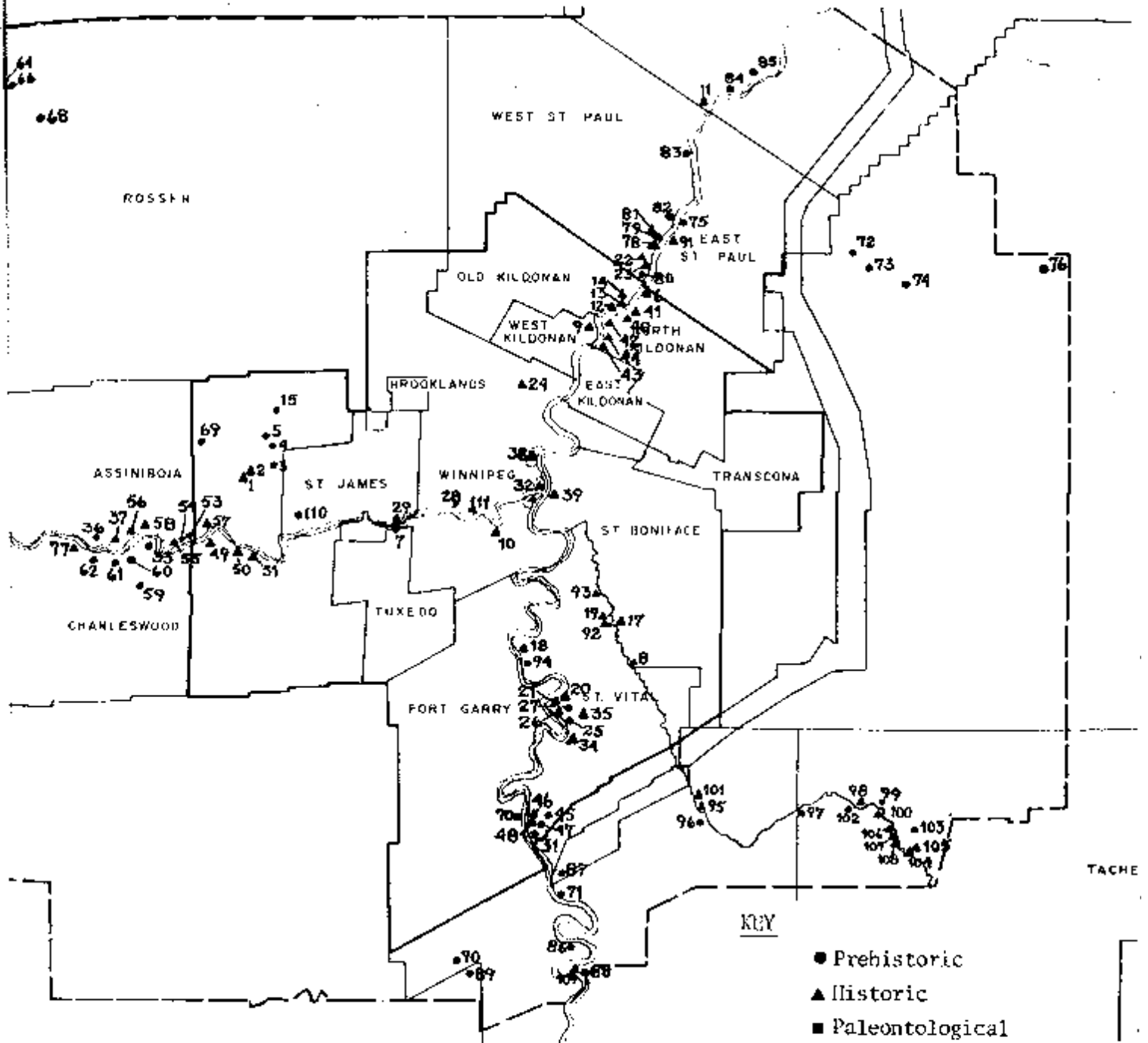


Fig. 1. Distribution of sites documented during the Metropolitan Survey.



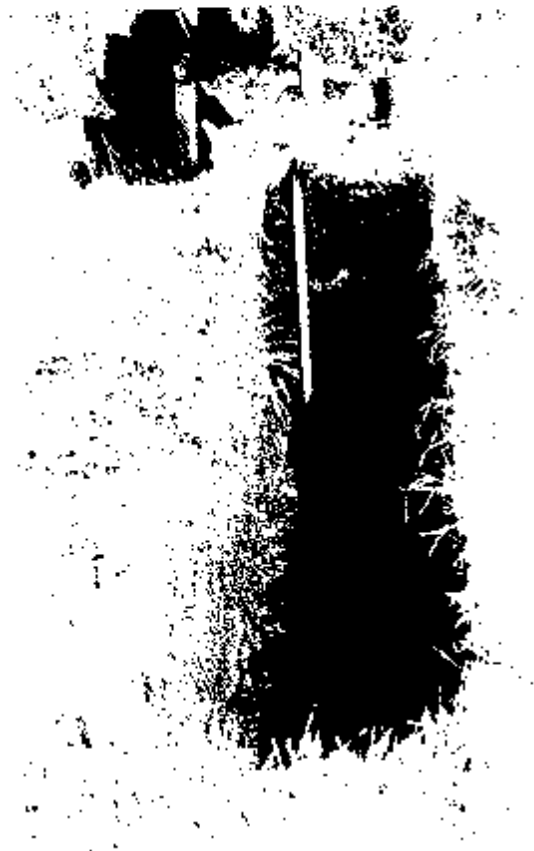


Fig. 2. W.S. 15 Test Trench A looking west.

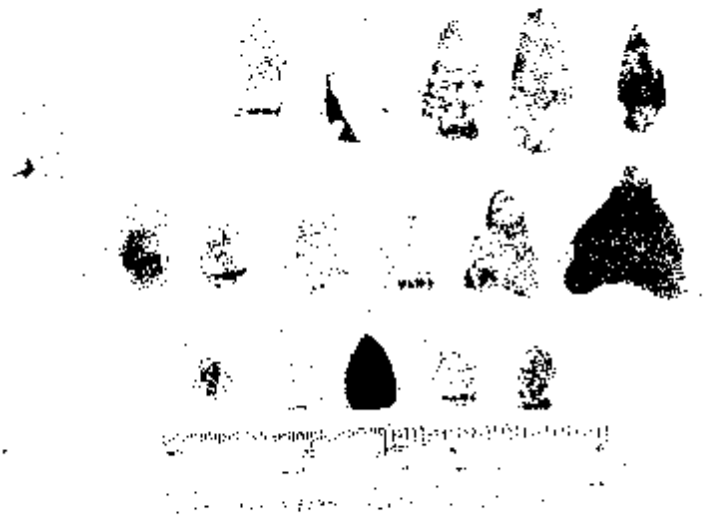


Fig. 3. Some of the projectile points from W.S. 33. The point by itself on the left hand side was found in Level 1 of Test Pit 2. All other points are from the surface.



Fig. 4. End scrapers, ceramic body sherds and a biface from the surface of W.S. 33.

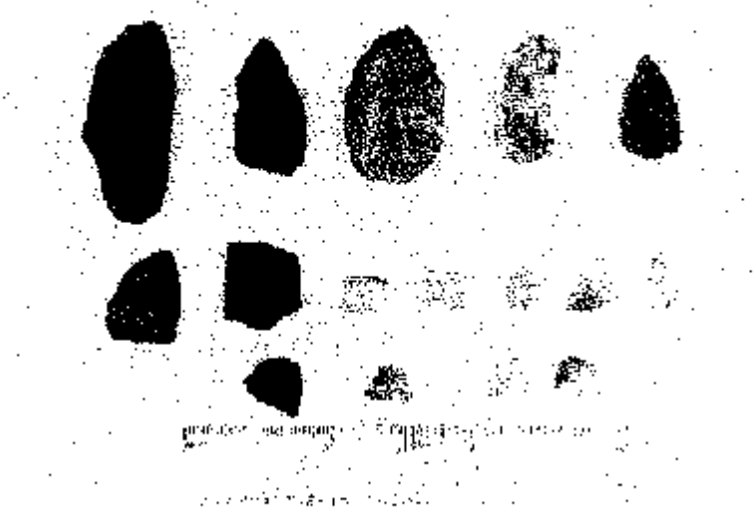


Fig. 5. Bifaces and projectile point fragments from the surface of W.S. 33.



Fig. 6. Artifacts collected from the surface of W.S. 13: a door bell and a door knob, pipe fragments, a biface, square nails, a bottle neck, a metal file and a pair of scissors.

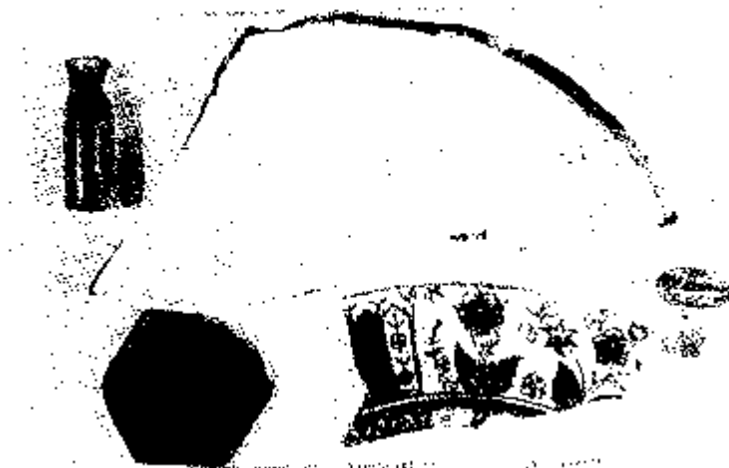


Fig. 7. Artifacts collected from the surface of W.S. 19: a glass bottle and a bottle stopper, two fragments of porcelain and a lid from a tin box.



Fig. 8. Artifacts from the surface of W.S. 19: half of a porcelain bowl, two bottles and a bone toothbrush handle.

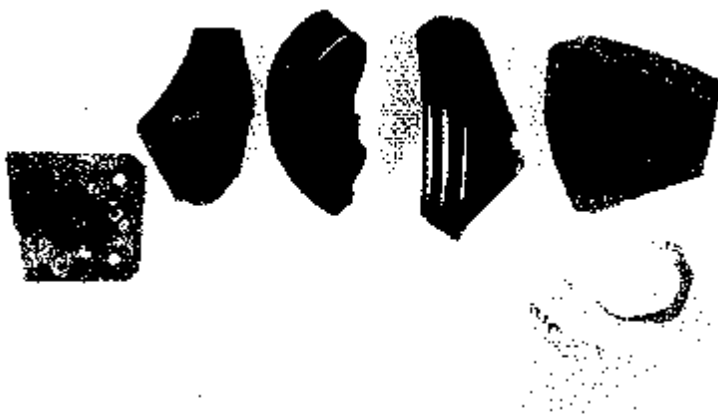


Fig. 9. Artifacts collected from the surface of W.S. 20: bottle glass, metal plate, crockery and porcelain.

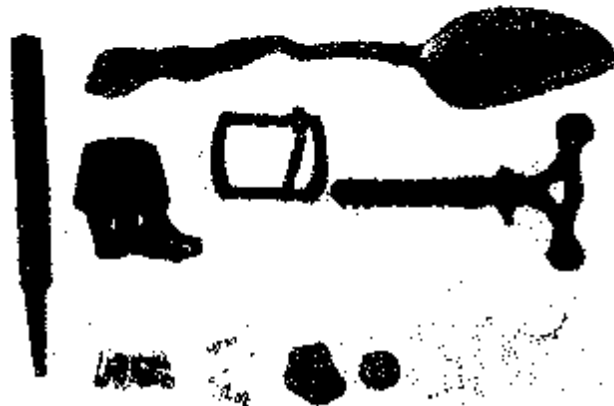


Fig. 10. (TOP) Artifacts collected from the surface of W.S. 46: metal file, spoon, bottle neck, metal buckle and a metal screw.

(BOTTOM) Artifacts collected from W.S. 22: porcelain, a gun flint, a musket ball and pipe fragments.

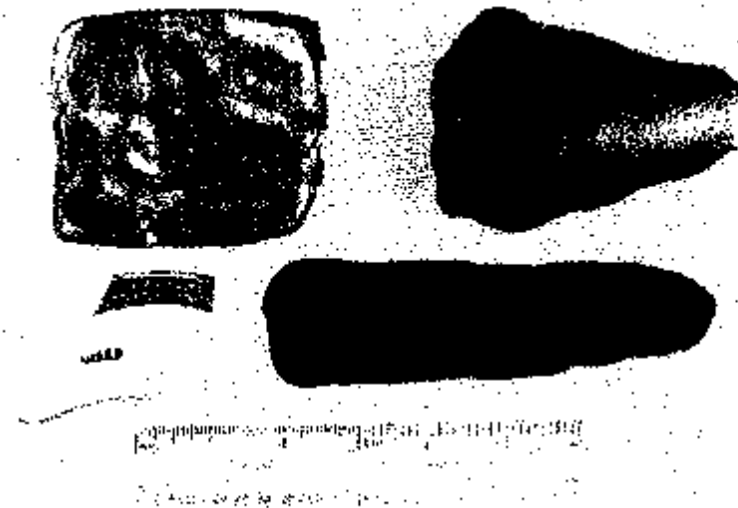


Fig. 11. Artifacts collected from the surface at W.S. 24: lid from a cigarette case, brick fragment, porcelain and an unknown object.

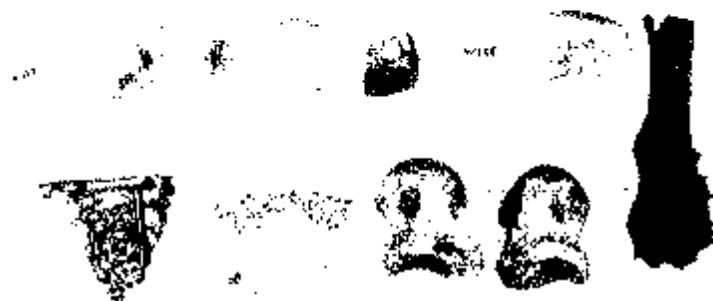


Fig. 12. Artifacts collected from the surface at W.S. 23: scrapers, projectile point, bifaces, a metal clamp, porcelain and bone.



Fig. 13. Artifacts collected at W.S. 37: metal hinges, square nails, buttons, strike-a-light (?), porcelain and glass.

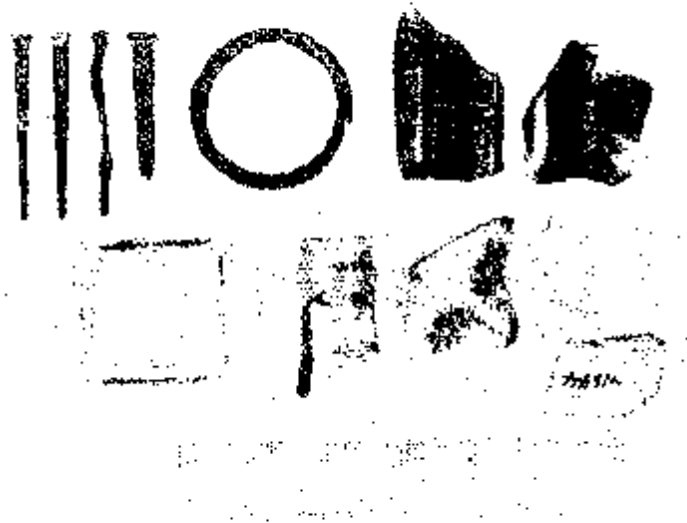


Fig. 14. Artifacts from W.S. 44: square nails, metal ring, bottle glass and porcelain.

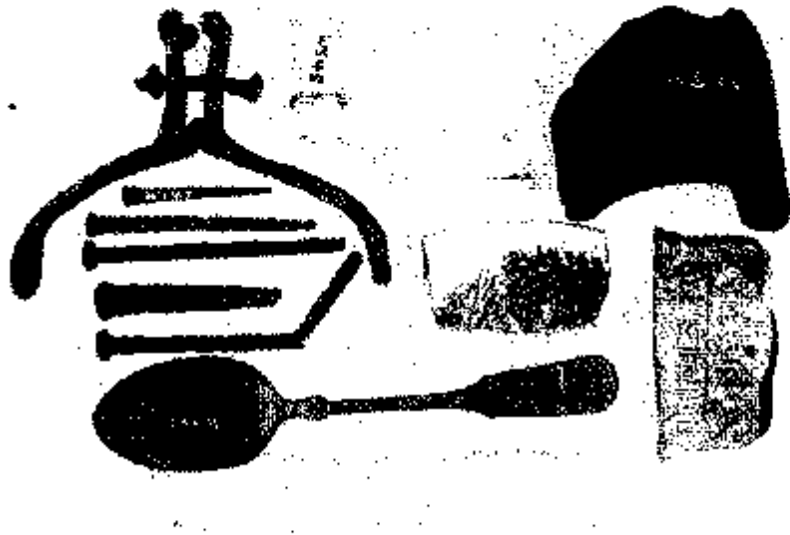


Fig. 15. Artifacts from W.S. 48: metal clamp, square nails, bottle neck, ink well, bottle base, porcelain, spoon and tin box lid.

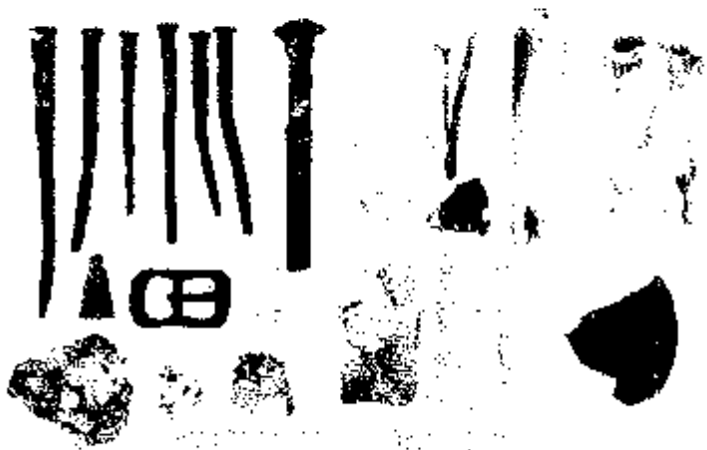


Fig. 16. Artifacts from W.S. 50: square nails, porcelain, bone cutlery handle, bone, bell, metal buckle, pipe fragment, glass and flakes.

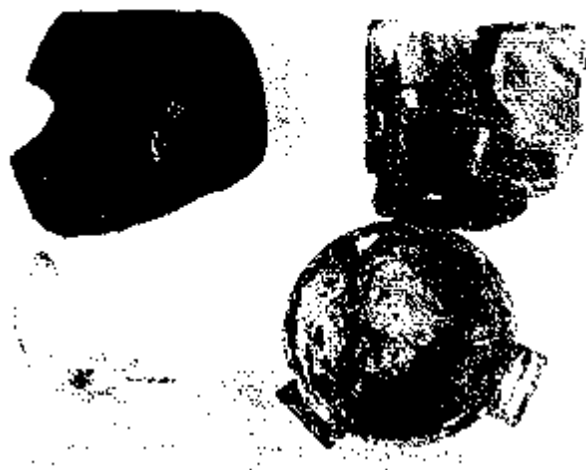


Fig. 17. Artifacts from W.S. 51: melted glass, base of bowl and a metal dish.





Fig. 18. Artifacts from W.S. 51: fragments of a porcelain bowl and a saucer.



Fig. 19. Artifacts from W.S. 52: one copper tea pot.

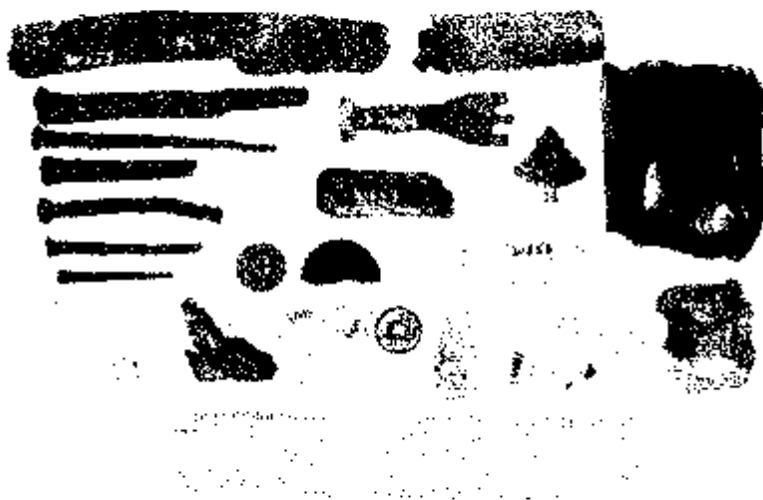


Fig. 20. Artifacts from W.S. 53: knife, fork, square nails, fragments of metal, maple leaf pin, bottle glass, pipe fragments, buttons, projectile points and scrapers.

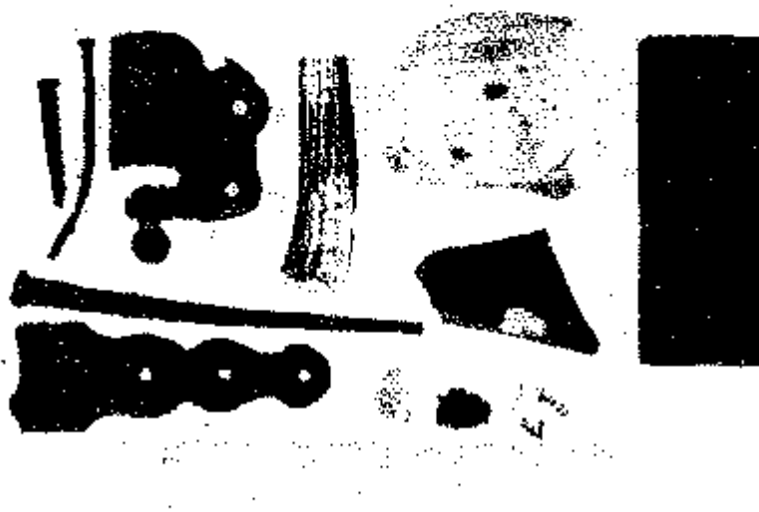


Fig. 21. Artifacts from W. S. 55: square nails, metal hinges, bone handle, crockery, whetstone, projectile point and flakes.



Fig. 22. Artifacts from W. S. 94: porcelain, ceramic body sherds, glass, a flake and bone fragments.

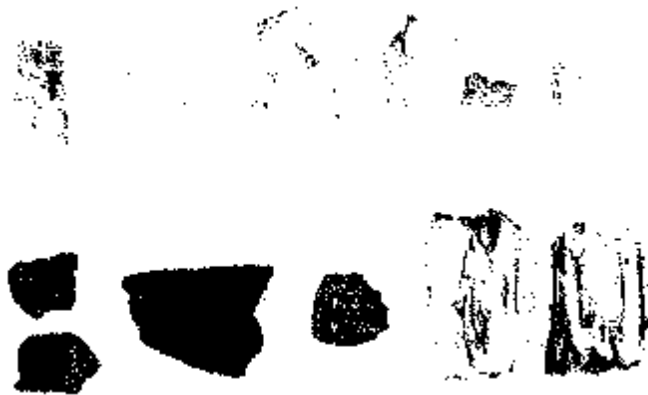


Fig. 23. (TOP) Artifacts from W.S. 84, the Larter Site: end scrapers, retouched flakes and bifaces.  
(BOTTOM) Artifacts from W.S. 102: ceramic body sherds, Blackduck rim sherd, end scraper and teeth.



Fig. 24. An example of the popular dove-tail construction employed in most late log structures.



Fig. 25. An example of an old abandoned barn. The structure is of logs with the siding being a later addition.