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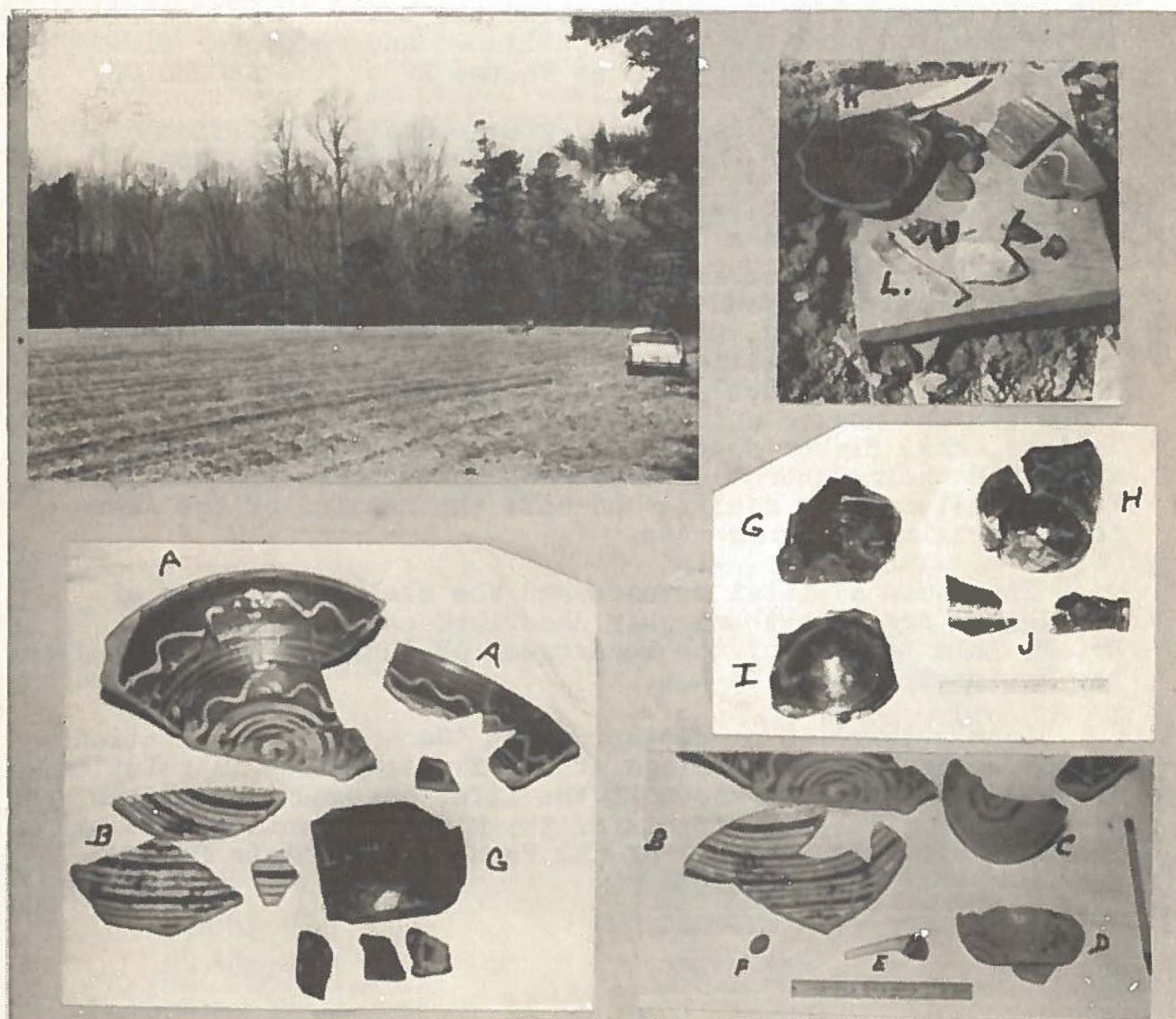
NOVEMBER 1962

3RD TITURS  
GEORGETOWN

Delaware Archaeological Board  
NO. 2

# THE ARCHEOLOG

PUBLICATION OF THE SUSSEX SOCIETY OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORY  
DELAWARE



### NOTICE

At long last the Sussex Society of Archeology and History has received the final revised report on the Townsend Site, and arrangements for its publication are being worked out. It is hoped to have the report published and ready for distribution by mid-year of 1963 as Volume XV of the ARCHEOLOG.

This report includes a plot and general description of the site, analyses of the stone artifacts and of the non-aboriginal artifacts by H. Geiger Omwake, the supervisor and leading resident investigator of the project.

The aboriginal ceramics consisting of about 750 restorable pots, many thousand body sherds and several clay pipes are expertly analyzed, photographed and correlated with other coastal ceramic collections by Mrs. Margaret C. Blaker of the National Museum. Since aboriginal ceramics are the most numerous and the most distinctive remains of the Atlantic Coast Indians, Mrs. Blaker's detailed descriptions of the several types and their decorative treatment must become the lexicon for our attempts to analyze and date the remains of the American aborigines in this area.

The human skeletal remains and the skeletal remains of aboriginal dogs are thoroughly described and discussed by Dr. T. Dale Stewart of the Department of Physical Anthropology, the National Museum.

Lastly there is a chapter on the "General Interpretation" of the archeological findings at the Townsend Site in relation to what is and is not known of the life, customs and culture of the aboriginal inhabitants of the Middle Atlantic Coast by Dr. John Witthoft, Curator of the Pennsylvania State Museum.



# REPORT ON AN ISOLATED DOUBLE REFUSE PIT - INDIAN OR WHITE?

(7-S-~~118~~)

G 13  
by

James L. Parsons, H. H. Hutchinson,  
D. Marine and L. G. Maeyens

This double pit is located on the farm now owned by Mr. Thomas Best to whom we are indebted for permission to excavate it. Historically, the tract of land on which the pit is located was granted to Wm. Fritcher [Futcher] on April 14, 1681, although the grant states that the grantee was already seated on this land (Duke of York Report p. 75).

The pit was discovered by James L. Parsons and is situated on the northwest bank of Arnold Creek, a still navigable tidal stream issuing from Rehoboth Bay (Fig. 1). It is approximately 150 feet from the shore line. One hundred of the 150 feet are set to trees and brush and 50 feet in cropland with the stubble of the 1961 soybean crop still intact. The field surface appears to be level with possibly a very slight slope toward Arnold Creek. The area was readily recognized by scattered shell approximately 9 x 12 ft. in extent. By probing, the still undisturbed shell deposit was outlined as a somewhat kidney shaped area whose overall limits were 6 x 8 ft. (Fig. 2).

After removing about 9 inches of topsoil composed of scattered shell and loam, we exposed the undisturbed shell which confirmed the kidney shape as determined by probing. Parsons began excavating at the extreme southeastern edge and Hutchinson, Marine and Maeyens began at the northern edge. Later these areas were designated "a" and "b" respectively (Fig. 2) after we had removed the upper 6 inches of shell. This disclosed the fact that we were dealing with 2 pits connected by a shallow isthmus.

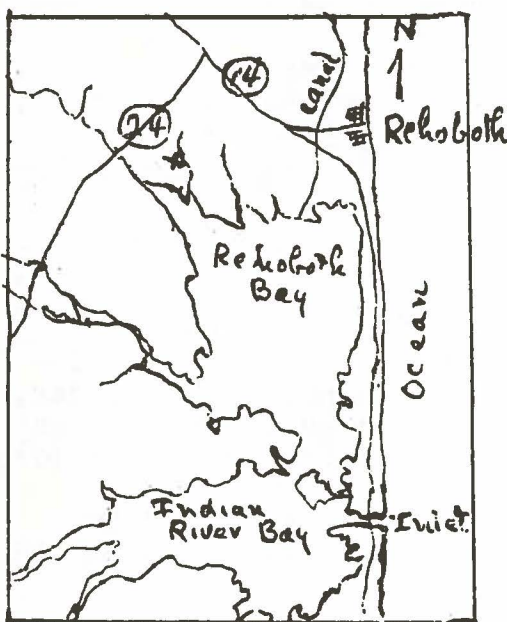


Fig. 1

Diagram of Double Pit

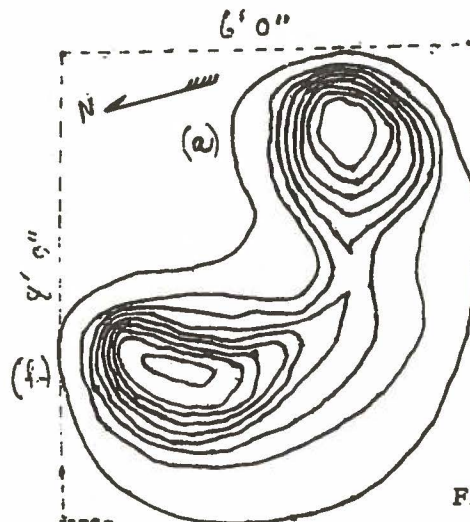


Fig. 2

3" Contour Lines beginning at plow line



After the removal of all shell it was noted that the "a" section (southeastern) was slightly smaller and more shallow (3") than the "b" section. The side walls of both "a" and "b" sections were steepest opposite the isthmus (Fig. 2). The soil to the greatest depth excavated (34 inches below field surface) was composed of brownish clay loam. No sand was encountered.

CONTENTS of the two sections differed only slightly. There was scattered charcoal in both, but the area containing the most charcoal and evidence of fire was a band about 3 feet long with streaks of brick red clay in and along the southwest wall of section "a".

The shell was well preserved and composed of approximately equal parts of hard clam and oyster. The oyster shells were very large - some of them measuring 8-3/4 inches long by 4 inches wide. There was very little difference in the size, distribution and condition of the shell in the two sections except in the fire area of section "a". Only one conch shell (a large "channeled" type, *Busycon canaliculatum*) was found in the "b" section. The tip of the spiral had been broken off, but otherwise the shell was intact except for the characteristic Indian extraction hole on the large globular surface. There was no separation of the shells by layers of sand or silt as is sometimes noted in Sussex County refuse pits. Also there was no soil infiltration between the shells in the lower 15-18 inches. There were, however, thin deposits, probably of calcium salts, on the inside of many of the oyster shells. Three large barnacle shells were recovered.

BONE: Forty-six fragments of what appeared to be lower jaw and leg bones of deer were recovered. All the bone fragments were small and typical of the Indian method of extracting bone marrow. Twenty-four pieces of turtle bone and plate were found, mostly in the "a" section. Also there were nine fragments from a larger animal (ox, moose or equine). Among these fragments one can recognize the head and neck of a femur, trochanter of a femur, a fragment of the innominate bone with the acetabulum and bits of the shafts of bones like the femur and tibia. In addition, the intact femur of a small animal (rabbit?) was found in the "b" section. Two teeth were recovered - one a large molar and the other a pre-molar, both from a herbivorous animal larger than our common deer.

STONE: Nineteen pieces of fire cracked stones and 5 fragments of American brick were recovered - most of them from the "a" section. Only two stone artifacts were found. One of these, a hammerstone from section "a", had pecked depressions for the thumb and two fingers and there was also evidence of much use. The other, found in section "b", was a chipped piece of red jasper 1-1/2 inches long by 13/16 inch wide and 9/16 inch thick, with one end blunt pointed and the other broken or chipped off nearly square. This might be a part of a crude, thick, narrow arrowhead. Both these artifacts were recovered from the interior of the shell mass, but whether they were discarded into the pits or got there by accident we cannot say. However, it is of interest to note that we found four pieces of worked jasper (rejects) on the surface of the field while walking from the cars to the pits - approximately 200 yards.

TRADE PIPE: One unmarked white clay trade pipe was found in section "a". It was intact except for a triangular area of the bowl; only 2-1/4 inches of the stem remain. The inside of the bowl is blackened.



One BRASS BUTTON BASE was recovered from section "b". It measures  $3/4$  inch in diameter with two holes a little less than  $1/16$  inch in diameter at opposite edges of the disk. At the center of the convex surface is a fragment of a knob or eyelet fastened to the disk by two slender prongs that penetrated the disk and were clinched on the inside or concave surface. It looks as though this brass disk is the metal base of a button - the knob-like mass being the remnant of the eyelet and the two holes opposite each other on the periphery are for fastening an upper part.

IRON MATERIAL: These consist of a small handmade spike, two fragments of a thin walled cast iron pot - one with an intact lug, a fragment of a case knife and a circular piece of band iron which Mr. Hume identified as a hoe eye. He said similar ones had been found in Williamsburg, Virginia, and might date from 1740-1760.

GLASS: Parts of at least 4 gin or rum bottles - 2 smaller with round bases  $3-1/2$  inches in diameter, one larger with a round bottom  $4-1/2$  inches in diameter, and one square base  $4-3/4$ " x  $4-3/4$ " - were recovered with fragments of the side walls, necks and mouths (string rim). All the glass fragments were of a golden brown and green color with small iridescent areas. On drying many of the fragments began to shed flakes and granules.

POTTERY: Sherds of Indian pottery were absent. Only glazed white man's sherds were found. Several of these were identical with those found at "The Old House Site", Lewes, Delaware, and examined by Malcom Watkins, whose report is published in THE ARCHEOLOG, Vol. III, No. 4, November, 1951.

These sherds include one white china teapot spout and parts of two large slip-decorated redware bowls. One of these bowls has 3 fragments with a total of eight drilled mending holes, but since none of these three fragments match along the lines of these holes none of these 8 holes are matching holes. There were also the bases of 4 small brown thin-walled glazed bowls and parts of one small gray and blue stoneware bowl. Several matching sherds of a few bowls were found, but no bowl was restorable. It is significant that no sherds of plates, platters or cups and saucers were found, although these ordinarily account for much of the white man's breakage - even in colonial times.

In the absence of any significant Indian artifacts together with the presence of considerable amounts of white man's goods, it was thought advisable to have the latter analysed by an expert. Accordingly, Mr. Henry Hutchinson took the colonial material to Mr. I. Noel Hume, Chief Archeologist of Colonial Williamsburg, Va., on April 24, 1962.<sup>1</sup> Mr. Hume said that he could speak with some authority on old glass, but that his opinions on old pottery would be "educated guesses" only. The following data are taken from Mr. Hutchinson's notes made during Mr. Hume's examination of the material:

1. Teapot spout: English, first made in 1740.
2. Trade pipe: possibly English between 1730-1770, but we should check with H. Geiger Omwake.
3. Brass button base: common during the period 1600-1700.
4. Earthenware bowl, Pennsylvania manufacture, 1700-1800. (Fig. A, Coverplate)
5. Imitation Staffordshire, made in Pennsylvania, 1700-1800. (Fig. B, coverplate)



6. American copy of German blue and gray stoneware, 1730-1830. (Fig. C, coverplate)
7. Square bottom bottle: probably English, 1660-1760. (Fig. G, coverplate)
8. Sides and bottom: probably English wine bottle, 1740-1760. (Fig. H, coverplate)
9. Bottom of a "Pierpont" type bottle, 1700-1800. (Fig. I, coverplate)
10. Neck with "string rim" Pierpont type bottle. (Fig. J, coverplate)
11. Similar to Williamsburg "jail bowls", 1764-1799. (Fig. K, coverplate)
12. The only datable iron article was the eye of a hoe, which has already been described.

DISCUSSION: As regards interpretation, this isolated double pit offers the greatest challenge we have encountered in our work on refuse pits in Sussex County, Del. Was the material deposited by an Indian or by a white settler? While the vast majority of Indian refuse pits in this region are single, occasionally non-intrusive double pits are encountered, here-to-fore only in established camp sites.

The location of this double pit (on the bank of Arnold Creek), its size, depth and shape were typically Indian. The contents, composed mostly of large oyster and clam shells, the large "channeled" type conch with the tip of the spiral broken off and the typically Indian hole on the large convex surface, the fire cracked stones and fragments of American brick, the wide distribution of charcoal and its local concentration in section "a" - all except the brick are characteristic findings in genuine Indian refuse pits. On the other hand, a total absence of Indian pottery and stone artifacts (except for the finger-faceted hammerstone and one atypical jasper arrowhead, both of which may have been accidental intrusions) has never been reported in the Indian refuse pits of Sussex County. In addition, the presence of relatively large numbers of Colonial bowl fragments, parts of 4 rum or gin bottles, the brass base of a button, the teapot spout, the trade pipe and the iron articles clearly establishes the dominance of white man's refuse.

The large slip-decorated redware bowl (numbered A on coverplate) which measures 11 inches in diameter at the rim, 6" at the base and 3-1/2" high requires further discussion. There were eleven fragments found; eight of these matched and made up about 1/4 of the entire bowl. Two additional rim sherds matched but did not fit the restored part. There were 8 drilled holes - 4 in line about 3/4" apart and 1/2" from the edge on the left side wall of the large restored piece, 3 in line on the left side wall of the smaller fragment similarly spaced, and one hole on the bottom of the large piece. Seven of the holes fitted neatly a 3/32" steel drill and one fitted a 1/8" drill. There was slight but irregular chipping both on the unglazed (outer) and glazed surfaces so that we could not decide from which side the holes were drilled. The sides of the bowl were uniformly 5/16" in thickness while the bottom was 7/16" in thickness. These holes were obviously drilled with an iron tool, as there was none of the bevelling or counter sinking effect which is so characteristic of Indian mending holes made with stone drills. When Mr. Hume saw these mending holes, he said it was very unusual to find mending



holes in cheap slip-decorated earthenware. We had recovered fragments of similar bowls both in size and decoration (Pennsylvania slipware) from "The Old House Site" (Trading Post?) which C. Malcolm Watkins of the National Museum dated as having been made any time in the 18th century, but none of the fragments contained mending holes. (The Archeologist Vol. III, No. 4, 1951).

We too share Mr. Hume's opinion that it is unlikely a white man utilized this method of mending his cheap earthenware pots. Further, we are of the opinion that it would be unique for any early settler or any white man down to the present time to dispose of his trash in a manner so similar to the Indian method.

#### CONCLUSIONS

1. All the data presented - the location, shape, size, depth of the isolated double refuse pit and its contents suggest the work of an Indian despite the absence of Indian artifacts (the 2 stone artifacts may have been accidental) and the presence of much white man's trash.

2. We have tentatively dated this pit around 1750-1770 at the time the Nanticoke Indians were abandoning their colonial reservations and migrating to the Susquehannock Country.

3. This pit according to our interpretation may have been the work of an Indian who remained behind either because of age, illness or degradation, and if so, might well be entitled "The Last of the Nanticoke" (with apologies to James Fennimore Cooper).

4. The data reported here present an ideal basis for differing opinions and interpretations.

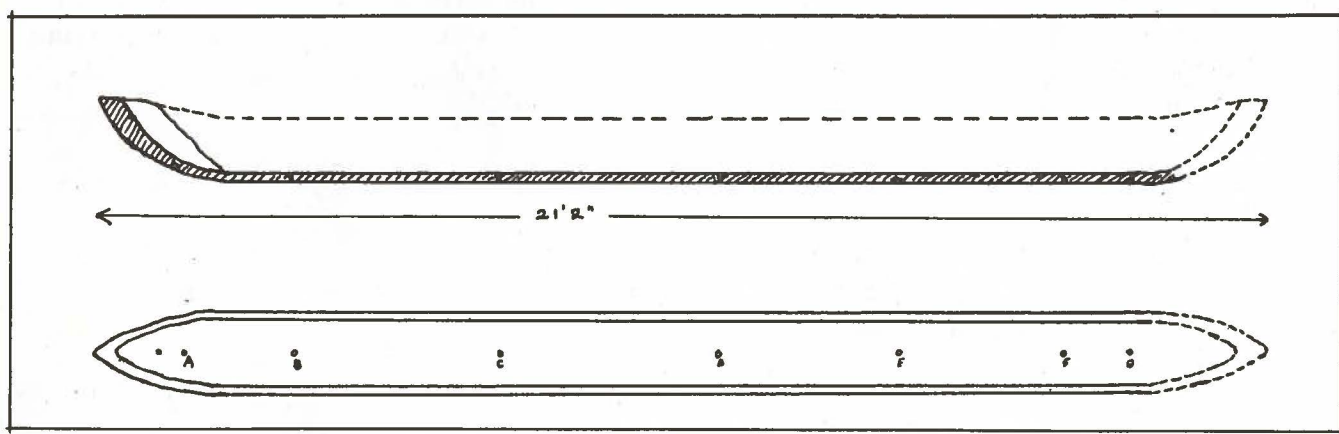
#### References

1. Hume I. Noel, "The Glass Wine Bottle in Colonial Virginia." Jour. of Glass Studies 1961 Vol. III, 91-117.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### LEONARD POND DUGOUT CANOE

H. H. Hutchinson



This canoe was found lying in the main channel of the south prong of Leonard Pond Run, (Wicomico County, Maryland) at a point about four hundred yards downstream (westerly) from the dam and bridge where Run Ridge Road crosses this prong at what is locally called "Williams Pond". The spot where the canoe was found would be covered by 4 to 5 feet of water when Leonard Pond is full of water. Leonard Pond had been drained of water all summer when the canoe was found by Scout Bert Culver late in August 1962. Scout Culver reported the find to his Patrol Leader Brian Gibson. Since they could not



move the whole canoe, and the water was rising in the pond, they chopped off the prow of the canoe and salvaged it. Later they brought other members of the Patrol and recovered the bottom. As found the canoe had part of one side intact, reported to have been about 2" thick. In salvaging the bottom, what was left of the side was lost. Both banks of the main channel are fairly heavily covered with swamp growth. When the remains of the canoe were brought to Scout Headquarters in Delmar, Del., it was washed with a hose. No preservatives were applied.

The overall length of the original canoe was approximately 21 ft. 2 in., the width(inside) 18 in.; side walls were 2 in. thick and estimated to have been about 12 in. high. Height at the prow is 18-1/2 inches. It was made from yellow pine tree at least 100 years old, for that many rings can be counted in the prow. The tree must have been more than 30 inches in diameter.

The bottom of the canoe was flat, both inside and out, and of a fairly uniform 2 in. thickness. It showed tool marks from a sharp steel or metal tool, probably an adze. No definite traces of charred wood or of relatively blunt tools, such as would probably be present if it had been made by the primitive (pre-contact period) Indian method, could be identified. Seven holes approximately 5/8" diam. had been drilled through or partly through the bottom along the approximate centerline of the bottom. These holes are lettered A to G on the sketch. Holes A, E, F, and G were drilled about half way through from the bottom. Holes B, C, and D were drilled all the way through and were plugged with wooden plugs. The purpose of these holes is not definitely understood, but it has been suggested that at one time an attempt had been made to fasten a keel to the bottom by means of pegs through or into these holes.

We believe that this canoe is a valuable relic of early American culture (possibly colonial) and should be preserved. Its exact age cannot be determined, but the workmanship shows its maker to have been a skilled craftsman using steel or metal tools. Incidentally, we have a record of William C. Adams, of near Laurel, Del., paying in 1831 to Daniel F. Walston \$2.00 for "building a canoe". That was when he was paying farm workers 33-1/3 cents per day. We recommend that this canoe be kept in a dry place, out of sun-light, and away from prying hands, but available for inspection by responsible people. Possibly a heavy application of linseed oil would help preserve it.

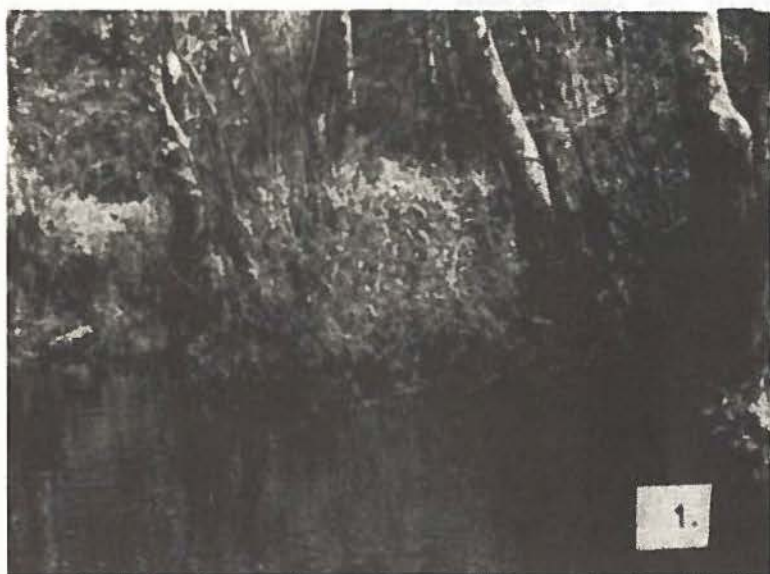
#### FISH WEIR

Bryan Gibson also reported what he thought had been a fish weir that was exposed when the pond was drained. It was located about 100 yards downstream (westerly) from where the canoe was found. Our party investigated this and found several stobs with tops rotted off, set in a line approximately at right angles to the stream bed, though they were covered by about 2 feet of water when we got there. Gibson reported that when he found them exposed they had sticks and boughs interwoven between some of the stobs, but we did not see any of this.

It is possible that there may have been a number of beaver dams along this stream in prehistoric times, and that the Indians may have built weirs and traps in the ponds formed thereby. It is also equally possible that historic man may have done the same in the pond after Leonard Pond was formed. When the pond is full there would be about 4 feet of water over this area. We know that Indians frequented this area from reliable reports of stone arrowheads and one stone axe found in adjacent high land. At present we have no evidence of an Indian village or camp near this pond.

Investigated by H.H.Hutchinson, D. Marine and J. L. Parsons, Sept. 15, 1962.





LEONARD POND  
CANOE

- (1) Site of Find.  
(2,3) Closeup of prow.  
(4) Length  
(5,6) Prow, etc.



## CLASSIFICATION OF ARTIFACTS

## INTRODUCTION

In March 1955 the Site Survey Committees of the Delaware Archaeological Society and the Sussex Archaeological Association met with member representatives of the Delaware Archaeological Board to discuss the question of a mutually understandable system of artifact classification. The question was referred to the two committees with instructions to propose methods of classification and a standardized nomenclature that could be used by both societies and similar groups.

As a result, an artifact classification committee was appointed by the Sussex Society of Archeology and History (successor to the Sussex Archaeological Association). This committee, after reviewing all systems that came to its attention, could find none that it thought would be satisfactory for what appears, in archeological literature, to be the most confused aspect of the problem, the classification and nomenclature of stone projectile points. The committee has therefore concentrated on that phase.

It has been customary to speak of certain types of projectile points. A type usually indicates a certain shape and size, plus certain techniques of chipping, flaking, polishing or grinding and finishing, and sometimes includes the material used. Obviously the many combinations of these various elements would make it possible to have innumerable types.

On the general theory that (a) the size of a point was based on its proposed use - that is, the size of game, etc., (b) the technique was based on the skill of the artizan, (c) the material used was based on availability, and (d) the shape or design was based on local or temporal custom, the committee believes that the shape or design of projectile points is the most important and most practical element for use in archeological comparisons between different areas or sites, and that the proposed classification by design or shape will be of value for comparison of points over a wide area.

THE MULLIN'S SYSTEM  
of  
PROJECTILE POINT CLASSIFICATION

Your Committee herewith presents a system for classifying stone projectile points, and recommends its use in classifying the many collections in Sussex County, in the State of Delaware, and elsewhere.

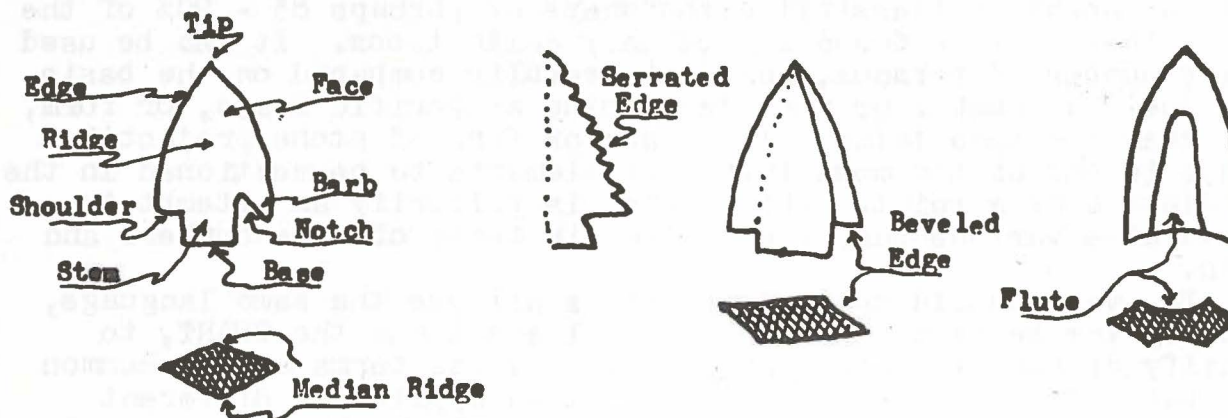
This system is the result of several years of reviewing and testing, and while it is far from perfect, we believe it will embrace a great majority of stone projectile points, and can be used on a state-wide basis. It will afford comparisons between collections listed by different persons unknown to each other, if they follow the system. It will enable a wide survey of collections which will be in such form that analysis and comparison of the various reports can be made on a reasonably accurate basis.

No system has yet been devised that will cover all shapes and sizes, materials and techniques of stone projectile points. There are



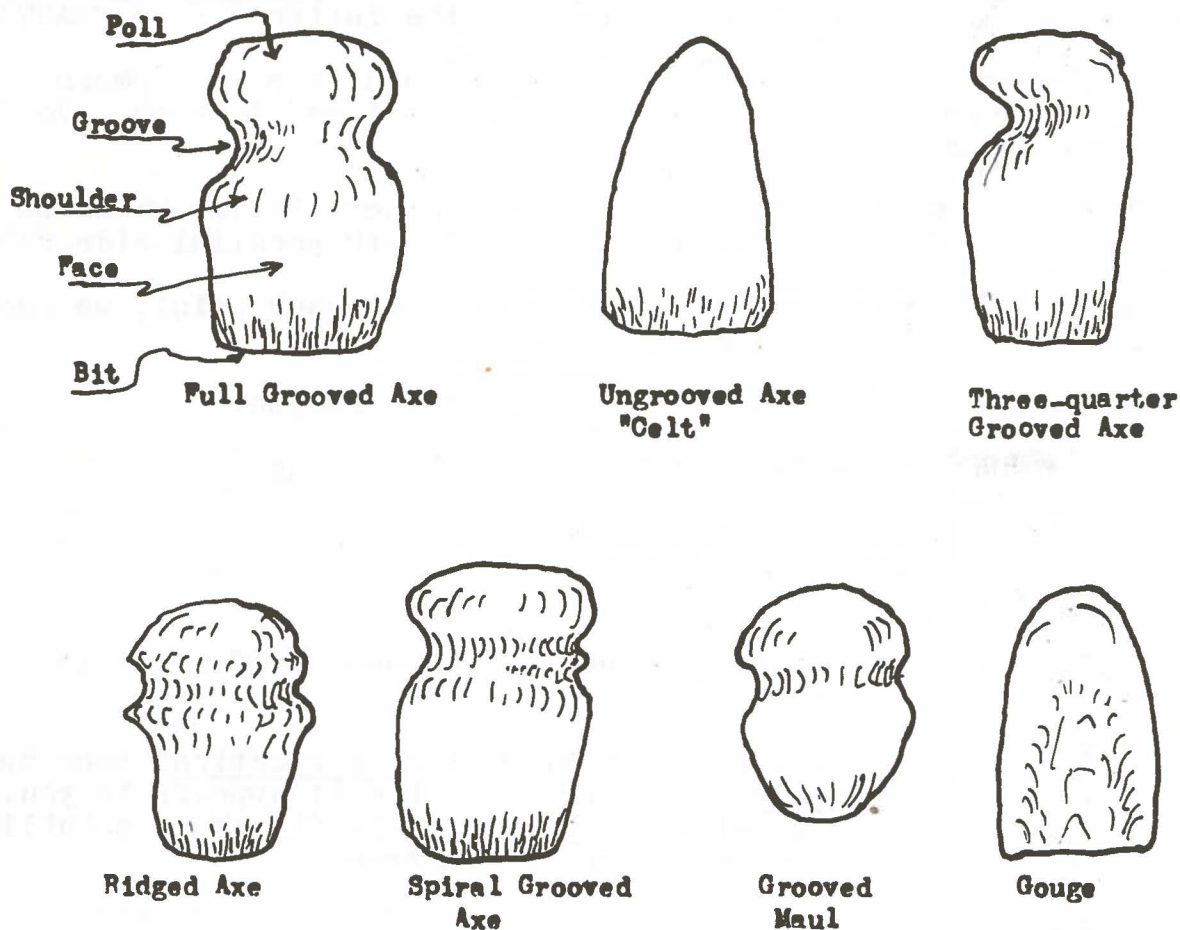
# NOMENCLATURE - PARTS OF PROJECTILE POINTS

Fig. 1



# NOMENCLATURE - STONE AXE TYPES

Fig. 2





probably as many different "points" as there are finger prints of man. Archeologists have devised many systems, most of which are suitable for certain limited needs, but none has been accepted as satisfactory for universal needs. This proposed system will meet our needs in classifying the shape of perhaps 85 - 90% of the points that will be found in ordinary collections. It can be used by any number of persons, and their results compared on the basis that the code number or name describing a specific shape, or form, will mean the same thing. The shape or form of stone projectile points is one of the most important elements to be mentioned in the description of a point. This system is primarily an attempt to standardize various shapes and forms in terms of code numbers and names.

To avoid untold confusion, let us all use the same language, by using the terms as shown in Figs. 1 and 2 and the CHART, to identify different parts, shapes, etc. These terms are in common use, but unfortunately they are sometimes applied to different things by different people. Also some people have other names for these elements; so if we stick to these terms as indicated, we will all be talking the same language, and will understand what is meant.

In order not to write out long descriptions of each of the many different shapes that will normally be encountered, this system gives numbers and letters to make it easier to tabulate a collection:

First - we give a number to each principal body shape. For example, - a long triangular is number 2 (see CHART).

Second - a letter identifies the several common base shapes. For example, - plain parallel side stems get the letter F (see CHART).

Third - the several base shapes are subdivided into the common treatments given them, and another number assigned to each. For example, - a square shoulder is number 1 (see CHART).

Then, a point with the above three characteristics would be 2-F-1, and called a "long triangular point with parallel side stem and square shoulders."

SIZE is a factor that should be given for each point; we recommend an arbitrary grouping as follows:

"Small" - those less than 1/2" in length.

\* "Normal" - between 1/2" and 2-1/2" long.

"Large" - between 2-1/2" and 4" long.

"Blades" - over 4" long.

\*(In making the tabulation size need not be mentioned if it is "Normal.")

WIDTH. When a point seems to be "out of proportion" then describe it as Wide, or Narrow, according to how it appears to you. We could not arrive at a satisfactory arbitrary figure to establish a dividing line between wide, normal and narrow.



MATERIAL from which the point is made is sometimes very important, and each group should be divided into the various kinds of stone used, and listed accordingly.

NAMED POINTS. If we recognize any point or points that are similar to those with established names, such as Clovis, Folsom, Sandia, Cumberland, Eden, etc., they should be classified according to our system, with the similarity noted on the list.

SPECIALS. Many artifacts are frequently included in collections which are not strictly "projectile points." Knives frequently cannot be differentiated from projectile points, so will automatically be included in our lists. However, drills, scrapers and other special-use stone artifacts should also be listed and described, with drawings if necessary of the different types.

Special treatment should also be noted when present; for example, such things as serrated edges, beveled edges, flutes, unusual flaking or chipping, ground edges, etc., etc.

### HOW TO USE THIS SYSTEM

Let us assume that we are going to classify a collection belonging to a Mr. John Doe, Greengrass Farms, Sussex County.

(1) Separate the collection, if possible, into places of origin. If all were found on the owner's home place that makes it easy, but if they came from several different places miles apart, those from each place should be listed separately. If there are any which have an uncertain origin, put them in one group designated Origin Unknown.

(2) Make out your summary sheet basic data, showing owner, address, place of origin or site name or area from which collected (see suggested Summary sheet, Fig. 3).

(3) Having put all artifacts from one location together, separate them into the several BODY SHAPES, as shown on the chart.

(4) Take each of the above BODY SHAPES groups and classify its points according to their BASE SHAPES, as shown on the chart.

(5) Take each of the above BASE SHAPE groups and subdivide its points by their subdivisions, as shown on the chart.

(6) Start your tabulation by taking each sub-group as in (5) above and giving it the proper number, count those of each different kind of stone, and list in sequence, making note of any "specials" that should be noted. Then you will have a list something like that shown on the summary sheet, Fig. 3.

(7) If there are some points that do not fit into any of those combinations shown on the chart, make sketch, give a temporary code number, describe, and list.

(8) If the collection includes other stone artifacts such as Axes, Celts, Atlatl Weights, Mortars, Pestles, etc., list them with appropriate description and size (with sketches if possible).



Mullins Point Classification System. **CHART** Sheet 1.**BODY SHAPES**

1.. Broad Triangular



2.. Long Triangular



3.. Lanceolate



4.. Concave Sides



5.. Leaf Shape



6.. Parallel Sides



7.. Round Point



8.. Diamond



9.....

10.....

**BASE SHAPES****"A" No SHOULDER OR STEM**

A-1..Straight Base



A-2..Concave Base (shallow)



A-2x.. " " (deep)



A-3..Convex Base (slight)



A-4..Rounded Base



A-5..Pointed Base (sharp)



A-5x.. " " (blunted)



A-5y.. " " (long point)



A-6..Notch in straight Base



A-6x.. Double notch ditto.



A-7.. Notch with rounded tangs



A-7x..Double notch ditto.



A-8..

A-9.,

**"B" CORNER NOTCHED or BARBED**

B-1..Straight Base



B-2..Notched Base



B-3..Convex Base



B-4..Concave Base

**"C" SIDE NOTCHED**

C-1.. Straight Base



C-2..Notched Base



C-3..Convex Base



C-4..Concave Base



C-5..

**"D" TRUNCATED STEM**

D-1..Shouldered



D-2..Barbed



D-3..No Shoulder



D-4..

**"E" TRUNCATED STEM NOTCHED**

E-1..Shouldered



E-2..Notched and Barbed



E-3..Sloping Shoulder



E-4.. No Shoulder






E-5..

E-6..



BASE SHAPES (continued)."F" PARALLEL SIDE STEMF-1..Square shoulder, straight Base F-1x.. ditto rounded Base F-2.. Barbed, straight Base F-2x.. ditto Convex Base F-3..Sloping Shoulder,  
straight Base F-3x..ditto, convex Base F-4.. F-5..One Shoulder only F-6.. Knobbed Stem. F-7.. "G" PARALLEL SIDE STEM, NOTCHEDG-1..Square shoulders G-2..Barbed shoulders G-3..Sloping shoulders G-4.. "H" EXPANDING SHOULDERSH-1..Square shoulders H-2..Barbed shoulders H-3..Sloping shoulders H-4.. No shoulder. H-5.. "K" EXPANDING STEM, NOTCHEDK-1..Square shoulders K-2..Barbed shoulders 

K-3..Sloping "

K-4..No shoulders K-5.. "M" Pointed STEMM-1..Square shoulder,  
sharp point M-1x..Square shoulder,  
rounded point M-2..Barbed shoulder,  
sharp point M-2x Barbed shoulder,  
rounded point M-3..Sloping shoulder,  
sharp point M-3x..Sloping shoulder,  
rounded point M-4.. 



## Model Summary Sheet

Owner: John Doe, Greengrass Farm, Sussex County, Del., Route 113 and 26 north of Ballahack.

Collection from the area within 1 mile of John Doe's farm, and including Site 7-S-155

Classified by: B. E. Faun, Jan. 1962.

Code Number or Shape Number "Design"	Kind of Stone	Size	Description	Quantity
1-A-1	black flint	-	broad, triangular, straight base	25
1-A-1	red jasper	large	"	13
1-A-2x	" "	-	broad, triangular, deep concave base	5
2-A-2x	" "	-	long triangular, deep concave base	3
2-C-3	flint	small	long triangular side notched, convex base	4
2-A-1	"	-	long triangular, straight base	35
3-B-1	yel. jasper	-	lanceolate, corner notched, str. base	12
8-A-5x	quartz	-	diamond, blunt pointed base	6
etc.				

The collection also contained:

- 6 medium size three-quarter grooved stone axes
- 1 small stone gouge
- 15 hammer stones, 3 large sandstone mortars or grinding stones
- 2 broken slate gorgets, etc.

(9) If the owner of the collection wishes a copy of the inventory and classification, make a carbon copy for him, adding the appropriate descriptive name as taken from the chart.

(10) Turn in your reports to the Archeological Chairman as soon as possible after you have finished each inventory.

Signed: Warren H. Callaway, Chairman  
Bearnard Mullin  
H. H. Hutchinson, Secretary



from  
INDIAN PORTAGE ROUTE, SHARP'S HILL AREA  
Sussex County, Delaware  
by  
Henry H. Hutchinson

This paper may be considered as an appendix to the article by H. W. T. Purnell entitled "An Indian Portage Route in Sussex County, Delaware," which appeared in the ARCHEOLOG, Vol. 14, No. 1, March, 1962.

In the area known as "Sharp's Hill" and sometimes now called the "portage area", and including two Indian Sites, the Sharp's Hill or Monroe Site (7-S-F3) and the Gordy's Hill Site (7-S-F9), over 1500 Indian projectile points and other artifacts have been collected from the surface, mostly by Mr. Purnell, but also by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hagy, Jack Lewis, and the author. Also the last three persons mentioned have a small collection of artifacts identified as found on one or the other of the two named sites. These are all included in this classification and study.

Our classification herein separates the projectile points by their design. By that we mean the combinations of the several elements, such as body shape, base shape, shape of stem or lack of stem, the location of notches (if any), the shape of the shoulder (if any), etc. Almost any one of these elements of design may be combined with one or more of the other elements, thus making it possible to have almost an unlimited number of designs. A "design" will show the general profile of a point. Do not confuse this design with a "type". A "type" includes the design plus other elements, such as the technique of chipping, flaking, fluting, grinding, polishing, pecking, beveling, serrating, and may include the thickness and the material used.

We use this system of classification by design because the more we read about classification by type the more confused we become. This system overlaps all classifications by type, and it may have as many voids, but it seems to cover a wider range of designs than any other system that we have found, and it lends itself to statistical analysis with a minimum of trouble. The system is called "The Mullin Classification System".

#### KIND OF STONE USED IN PROJECTILE POINTS.

Since the identification of the stone in these artifacts was made by non-professionals, our identification may be incorrect in a small number of cases; hence our use of the qualification "and similar stone". Flint and jasper grade into each other so gradually that the terms may be used interchangeably, and those we have called chalcedony may also belong in the flint-jasper class.

Flint or jasper, quartz, quartzite and rhyolite pebbles can frequently be found in local sand and gravel quarries. Argillite is not very often present.

Many years ago about 225 argillite points were selected from Mr. Purnell's collection from this area and given to Dr. Speck for study, but no report on them has been received. These are included in the figures in column "B" below.



Recently four persons searched the Gordy Hill Site (F9) and collected several hundred flakes and chips. The breakdown of material in these is shown in column "C".

The material of the points now available for study is shown in column "A".

Material	A	B	C
Flint, Jasper & similar material	82%	72%	78.9%
Quartz, quartzite & similar material	8.5%	7.3%	12.0%
Argillite, & similar material	3.0%	15.2%	5.0%
Rhyolite & similar material	4.9%	4.2%	4.0%
Chalcedony	1.0%	1.0%	0
Unknown Stone	0.2%	0.2%	0

#### BODY SHAPE OF PROJECTILE POINTS.

See Table 1.

#### BASE OR STEM SHAPES OF PROJECTILE POINTS.

The figures of only the general base shape or design are given in Table 2. The number of different variations of the base or stem treatments amounted to a total of 109 and is not produced in this report, as we think an analysis of the general base shapes will be sufficient for the present. The complete list of all 109 designs is available at the author's home for study by any interested students.

As there are a small number of points definitely identified with the two named Sites (F3) and (F9) within this portage area we give them separately in Table 2.

#### OTHER SMALL CHIPPED OR FLAKED STONE ARTIFACTS, and SPECIALS.

Scrapers Jasper or flint. 1 pointed stem; 1 corner notched and basal notch, 1 straight base, 1 side notched, 10 small thumb-nail 1/2" to 3/4" max. dimension, 2 oval shaped; and 1 argillite thumb-nail scraper.

Drills 9 jasper, 1 argillite, and 1 chalcedony.

Long thin Specials (unknown use). These are long thin "points" 1/4" to 5/8" wide and 1-1/4" to 2-1/4" long.

- 2 Jasper, long triangular, slightly concave base (2-A-2).
- 1 Rhyolite, long triangular, straight base, slight shoulder (2-F-1).
- 1 Jasper, long triangular, straight base, slight shoulder (2-F-1).
- 1 Jasper, leaf shape, rounded base (5-A-4).
- 1 Quartz, leaf shape, rounded base (5-A-4).
- 1 Jasper, diamond shape, straight base (8-A-1).
- 2 Jasper, diamond shape, sloping shoulder, rounded point stem (8-M-4).
- 2 Flint, long and thin, one end slightly rounded.
- 1 Rhyolite, long thin, one end broken off.
- 1 Jasper, much weathered, parallel sides, 1-1/2" long x 3/8" wide, both ends squared off, but corners slightly rounded.
- 1 Jasper, lead shaped or slightly convex sides, 1-1/4" long x 3/8" wide, pointed ends.
- 1 Jasper, broad leaf shape, 1-1/4" long x 1-1/8" wide, straight base.



BODY SHAPE OF PROJECTILE POINTS.

TABLE 1

Body Shape Code #	Shape	Quantity	Percent
1	Broad Triangular	413	26.6
2	Long Triangular	501	32.3
3	Lanceolate	329	21.
4	Concave sides	14	0.9
5	Leaf shape (convex sides)	162	10.2
6	Parallel sides	16	1.1
7	Round point	3	0.1
8	Diamond	116	7.4

BASE SHAPES

TABLE 2

Base Shape Code Number	Shape (group)	% F3	% F9	% All of portage Area
A	No shoulder or side or corner notches	100	34.5	32.4
B	Corner notched	-	10.	6.1
C	Side notched	-	27.5	21.5
D	Truncated stem	-	-	.9
F	Shouldered, parallel side stem	-	17.5	29.
G	" " " " , notched	-	-	.007
N	" , pointed stem base	-	6.8	10.

POTTERY

TABLE 3

Temper	Surface Treatment	F3	F9
Grit	Cord marked	23.%	13.3%
"	Plain	-	3.2%
	Total Grit Temp.	23	16.5
Shell	Fabric Impressed	20.%	28.%
"	Plain	33.%	28.%
"	Plain, Incised	13.%	-
"	Cord Marked	10.%	24.%
	Total Shell Temp.	76.%	80.%



TABLE 4  
Weathered vs. Un-weathered points

Code No.	Description	Weathered %			w Un-Weathered %
		Int	Argillite	Total	
1-A-1	Broad Triangular, straight base	8.3	4.2	12.5	11.2
1-A-2	" " concave "	2.5	-	12.5	14.8
1-A-4	" " rounded base	1.4	-	1.4	0.9
1-B-3	" " corner notched, convex base	-	1.4	1.4	-
1-C-1	" " side notched, straight base	1.4	-	1.4	6.2
1-M-3x	" " sloping shoulder, rounded stem	2.8	-	2.8	5
2-A-1	Long Triangular, straight base	5.6	-	5.6	3.6
2-A-2	" " concave base	4.2	-	4.2	1.8
2-B-3	" " corner notched, convex base	-	1.4	1.4	-
2-C-1	" " side notched, straight base	2.8	-	2.8	12.5
2-C-4	" " " concave base	1.4	-	1.4	1.5
2-F-1	" " square shoulder, rectangular stem	-	7.0	7.0	18.2
2-M-3x	" " sloping " rounded point	-	4.2	4.2	-
3-A-1	Lanceolate, straight base	4.2	-	4.2	3.7
3-B-3	" " corner notched, convex base	-	1.4	1.4	0.03
3-C-1	" " side notched, straight base	2.8	5.6	8.4	4.4
3-F-1	" " square shoulder, rectangular stem	9.7	2.8	12.5	12.0
3-F-3	" " sloping " " "	-	1.4	1.4	1.0
8-D-3	Diamond, truncated, straight base	4.2	-	4.2	-
8-M-3	" " sloping shoulder, pointed stem	-	1.4	1.4	4.7

TABLE 5  
Body Shapes

Code	Description	% Weathered	% Un-weathered of same design
(1)	Broad Triangular	32	33.5
(2)	Long Triangular	26.5	38.
(3)	Lanceolate	32	23.5
(8)	Diamond	9.8	4.7

TABLE 6  
Base Shapes

Code	Description	% Weathered	% Un-weathered of same design
(A)	No stem, side or corner notches, or shoulders	40.	32.4
(B)	Corner notched	4.1	6.1
(H)	Side notched	18.	21.5
(D)	Truncated stem	4.	0.9
(F)	Parallel side stem	21.	29.
(M)	Pointed stem	8.2	10.



Special Flaking

- 2 Jasper points with broken bases or stems, with very uniform fine flaking giving the effect of a Christmas tree, or herringbone effect. Edges not serrated.

Beveled Edges

- 1 Jasper, long triangular, corner notched, straight base. (2-B-1).
- 1 Reddish quartz, long triangular, side notched, straight base (2-C-1).
- 1 Chalcedony, long triangular, corner notched, convex base (2-B-3).

Fluted points

- 1 Black Flint, 2-3/4" x 15/16" flute full length (6-A-2).
- 1 Black Flint, 2" x 1-1/32", flute 1/3 length (6-A-2).

## LARGE STONE ARTIFACTS COLLECTED FROM PORTAGE AREA.

Axes

- 13 Full grooved axes, granite, basalt, and/or tap-rock.
- 1 Full grooved axes, large, about 11" long.
- 8 Three-quarter grooved axes, granite, basalt and/or tap-rock.
- 3 Three-quarter grooved axes, granite, basalt and/or tap-rock, large, about 10" long.
- 1 Diagonal grooved axe.
- 1 Argillite, roughly flaked out with chipped-out start of groove. About 6" long.

Blanks

- 2 Rhyolite, about 5-3/4" x 3".
- 1 Jasper, about 4-3/4" x 2" (5-F-3, approximate shape).

Celts

- 14 celts, average size, pecked and/or polished.

Mauls

- 2 Full grooved mauls, about 2" diam. x 3" long.
- 1 Full grooved mauls, about 4" diam. x 9" long.

Hammer Stones

- 47 Hammer stones, rounded edges, 17 of which had "finger depressions" in one or more sides.

Balls

- 7 Almost spherical stone balls, not polished, ranging from 2" to 5" diam.

Mortars or Grinding Stones

- 15 Grinding stones, 5 of which had depressions in both sides.

Pestles

- 5 Cylindrical pestles, rounded ends, 1-1/2" to 3" diam. x 8" to 13" long.

Lap Stone

- 1 Polished sandstone, double saucer shape, about 9" diam.

Gorget

- 1 Polished slaty material, broken.
- 1 Chipped slaty material.
- 1 Argillite, one hole through but other hole only half through.

Hoes

- 1 Argillite, roughly flaked blank, 8" x 3-1/4".
- 1 Polished stone, semi-circular in shape, apparently about 1/2 of original.

Paint Pot ?

- 1 Sandstone? hemispherical bowl, depression 1-1/2" diam. x 1/2" deep. Walls 3/4" thick.

Grooved Artifact

- 1 Finely grained sandstone slab with a tapered polished groove.



## POTTERY

Within the past year a few potsherds have been collected from the surface on the two portage sites, Sharp's Hill-Monroe Site (F3) and Gordy's Hill Site (F9). They amount to less than 100 sherds. As noted in Mr. Purnell's paper on this Indian Portage Route in *The ARCHEOLOG*, Vol. XIV, No. 1, March 1962, he had a collection of several hundred sherds from this area which was lost when he was moving from one house to another. Those lost sherds were believed to have been mostly grit tempered but no definite statistical data are available. Under these circumstances no conclusions can be definitive, but as a matter of record the percentages of different types of those available for study are given in Table 3. Also on Gordy's Hill Site (F9) was found a small untempered rimsherd from an Indian pipe.

## HIGHLY PATINATED OR WEATHERED POINTS.

A little less than 5% of the points from this area were deeply patinated or weathered, giving the impression that they were of great age as compared with other points found in the same area. Most of the "unweathered" points looked as fresh as if they had been made only a few months ago, though they must be two or three hundred years old.

It was hoped that the shape or design of these old or weathered points when compared with the design of the younger or unweathered points might give some trend in the use of these shapes or designs through time. A comparison percentage-wise is given in Table 4.

The designs indicated in Table 4 were condensed into Body Shapes in Table 5, and into general Base Shapes in Table 6. From these we can draw certain conclusions regarding the change through time in the custom, habit, or fashion in the preferred design in making points. However, unless the same trend or changes can be found in several other large collections from this Peninsula, such conclusions will be on very shaky ground.

The comparisons in this one collection indicate a declining fashion, style, or custom with time in the Lanceolate and Diamond body shapes, stemless bases, and truncated stems; and a growing fashion, style, or custom with time in the Long Triangular body shape and in corner notched, side notched, parallel side stems, and pointed stems. The Broad Triangular body shape remained at approximately the same popularity in both the "old" and the "younger" groups. Noticeable is the absence in the older group of the following Body Shapes: (4) Concave Side, (5) Leaf Shape, (6) Parallel-sides, and (7) Round point.

The two fluted points found on the surface in this area are of black flint and show no signs of patina or weathering. Fluted points are commonly considered of great age, and their presence here lends weight to the theory that this portage area has been used by man for a very long time.

If this weathering or heavy patinating of stone is, as we think it is, an indication of great age as compared with other stone artifacts in the same fields, then we have here an indication that the earlier natives had a high preference for points with no stems, shoulders, or notches. This is contrary to our former personal belief. However, an analysis of this one collection cannot be taken as conclusive. Many more collections must be similarly classified



and compared before permanent conclusions can be made, or else the age of these designs must be established by well stratified sequences containing more than just a few points in the different strata.

It is hoped that similar studies and classifications of other large collections on this Peninsula from definitely known areas may be made in the near future. Comparisons between such studies may establish some definite relations or differences that may be of value and extend our knowledge of the customs of prehistoric man on the Delmarva Peninsula.

\* \* \* \* \*

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