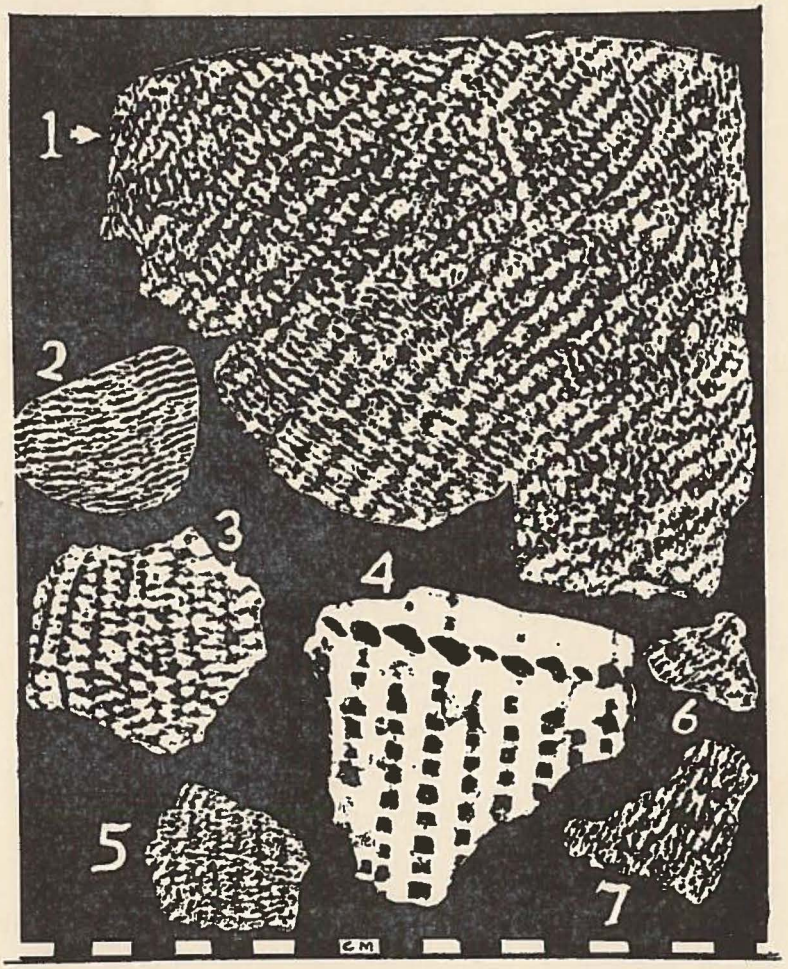
Delaware Archaeological Board

The ARCHEOLOG

NEWS LETTER OF THE SUSSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

H. G. Omwake, Editor



Sherds 1, 3, and 5, illustrated here, were painted with white then rubbed with black lithographic crayon. Sherds 2 and 4 where painted black then sandpapered to make the surface come out light while the depressions remained dark. The contrast was increased in photographing until the result was black and white. For sherd No. 1 a piece of clay was given a basketry imprint then allowed to dry so it could be broken to fit into a large Townsend site fragment. Sherds 6 and 7 were put in to fill an otherwise dark corner. One is basketry and the other is cord-roughening. See article, "Basket-mold and earth-mold pottery" in this issue.

Vol. 2 No. 2 Lewes, Delaware April 27, 1949

CONTENTS

THE ARCHEOLOG

Volume II, No. 2 Lewes, Delaware

H. Geiger Omwake, Editor

RAYMOND E. STEELMAN

It is with a deep feeling of regret that we announce the death, on Saturday, April 16, of our fellow member, Raymond E. Steelman. His death marked the end of the courageous struggle he had waged for more than a year against a virulent cancerous infection which attacked him about the time our Association was formed.

Ray Steelman, along with Charles Robertson, shared the credit for having located the now-famous Townsend Site. Long interested in the collection of arrow-points and other Indian objects, these two men roamed the country near Lewes in search of likely sites. It was on one of these exploration trips that they came upon the quantities of oyster and clam shells which deep plowing of the Townsend Site had brought to the surface. Ray and Charles reported their find to our president, Ken Givan, and from that point on the story is too well known to warrant repetition here.

Although his illness soon made active participation in our dig impossible for him, Ray did experience the excitement and the thrill of excavating several of the refuse pits. The material which he recovered is now part of that which specialists of the United States National Museum have under study. Without doubt, the evidence recovered from the Townsend Site constitutes a major contribution to the archaeological knowledge of the eastern United States. Had it not been for Ray's interest in Indian lore, this contribution might never have been made. And it is good to know that to the final day he lived he maintained his interest in the progress of the dig and in the activities of our Association.

To his widow and to his children the sincere sympathy of each of our members is extended. To his memory this issue of THE ARCHEO LOG is dedicated.

Basket-mold and Earth-mold Pottery
Orville H. Peets

Far more of the world's pottery has been produced in molds than by any other means, notwithstanding the fact that for long periods this generalization would not have been true. It was not true of the Greeks who made most of their pottery on the wheel, but there is little reason to think it was not true of the Indians who had not invented the wheel. It is much easier to reproduce many typical shapes of Indian pots by basket or earth molds than by coiling, and anyone who may doubt this statement is urged to experiment with both methods.

The Indians themselves gave Cushing the following story of the invention of pottery: It was a Zuni tradition that their forefathers lined baskets with clay so they could parch corn by shaking live embers among the kernels. Clay vessels suited to this purpose and having the imprint of basketry have been found. Clark Wissler, Curator of Anthropology, American Museum of Natural History, speaks of this in his book, "Indians of the United States". While not accepting this explanation of the invention of pottery to the exclusion of other ways it might have happened, he seems to find it "reasonable, natural and logical". Charles F. Binns, director of the New York State School of Clay-working, in his book, "The Potter's Craft", says, "------ it is sometimes evident that clay vessels were constructed as linings to wicker forms". W. H. Holmes in "Aboriginal Pottery in the Eastern U.S." makes a few references-- including two eye-witness accounts-- to the making of pots by lining vessels of bark or baskets with clay. He holds, however, that "the extent to which baskets were used in modeling pottery ..... has been greatly overestimated. Instead of being the rule, as we have been lead to believe, their use constitutes the exception." But, as Archibald Crozier pointed out in his article, "Indian Pottery of Delaware" (Bulletin Arch. Soc. of Del. 1949), Holmes devoted a single paragraph to Maryland and Delaware, and this merely to say that collections from these districts are extremely meagre. This condition is now totally altered and we should be careful not to be too much influenced by a judgement which might have been very different had it been based on present collections of local pottery.

A large proportion of the sherds found on the Townsend Site shows more or less clearly the marks of what is called "cord-roughening" by those who are unwilling to accept the idea of basket-molded pottery on so large a scale. Cord-roughening is produced by what is called a cord-wrapped cylinder. But this "cylinder" may be a twig smaller than one's little finger and it may be wrapped with cord or twisted raffia or any of several cord-like materials used in making baskets. On a small piece of clay I have made in a few seconds a pattern that could easily be mistaken for basketry. I am convinced however that with a little more study we shall be able to decide whether even a small sherd has been cord-roughened or was part of a pot molded in a basket. The cylinder impresses a concave furrow in the clay and when two of these furrows happen to come close together a somewhat sharp ridge is created between them. What seems like a rib in a basket-mold pot is not the mark of the rib of the basket but of the depression between two ribs. This being concave in the basket, is convex in the pot and its salience

is less marked because of the convexity of the surface of the pot. It therefore does not show as a ridge but as a low wave which often needs special treatment to become visible. There is another difference -- perhaps the most important of all though easily effaced by wear: the soft clay, when pressed inside a basket, sinks into the weave and when it shrinks as it dries, it breaks away, leaving on its surface hundreds of little sharp edges visible under the glass. I have found them on many of the Townsend Site sherds.

The authors of "Rediscovering Illinois" say (on page 129, footnote 78), "Cord-roughening is not considered as a decorative technique." In that they are in agreement with the Indian squaws of the Townsend Site, for we find decorations scratched over this surface texture as if it did not exist. If, for the scientists mentioned above and for the Indians themselves, this thing, which some call cord-roughening and others call basketry impression, was not a decoration, it must have had some use -- real or imaginary -- or was merely the incidental effect of some technique. I have three books on pottery but there is no suggestion in them that roughened pots fire better or are stronger than smooth ones. The smooth Indian pots seem to have survived better than the others. The pressure of a basket rib or of a cord-wrapped cylinder on a place that was already a bit thin would constitute a danger and on sherd #1 illustrating this paper there is a good example of a break from this cause. This leaves us with the matter of a technique that would cause these markings which we often find clearly visible even on the bottom of a pot. The basket, used as a mold, would do this.

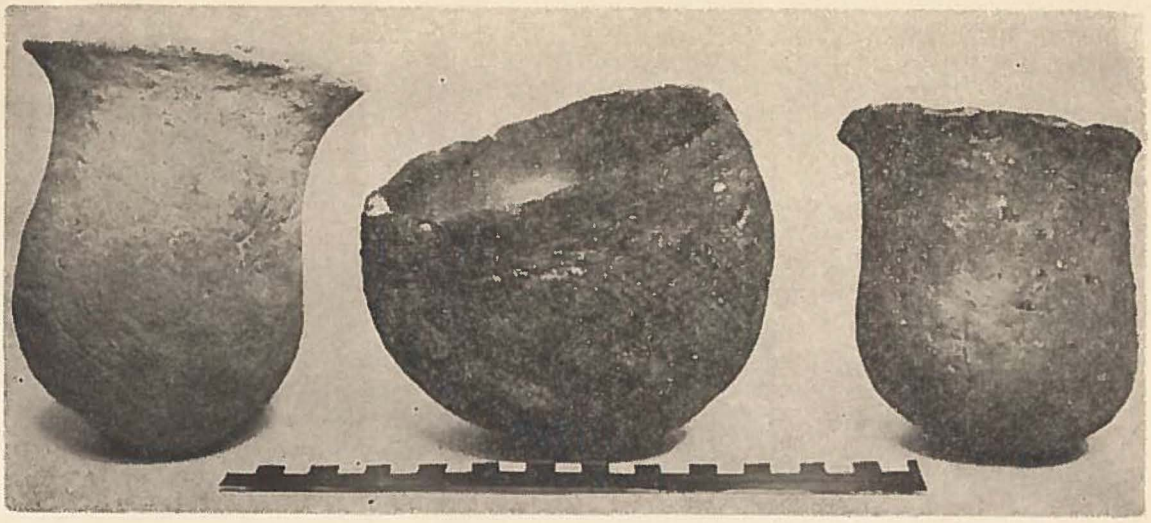
Due to the shrinkage of the clay, which may be as much as one to six but seems to be about one to ten in our local clay with shell added, a pot could easily be taken out of all but baskets constricted at the top. Those could be partly unwoven, and we must consider that a basket could be used as a mold after it was discarded as a basket.

In the opinion of many authorities baskets were used for boiling water before pottery became common. Some tribes have used them for this purpose until recent times. Watertight weaves are usually quite flexible, so such baskets were sunk in the ground and the water was heated by dropping hot stones in them. What would be more "reasonable, natural and logical" than that some squaw, exasperated by a leaky basket and knowing that burned clay was water-proof, should line a basket in the ground with clay and fill it with embers from the nearby fire? Guided by this image, I made my first experiment with the crown of an old straw hat, which once had been high and round but now was as flat as a deflated balloon. I put it in a depression wheel, I pressed it around with a rapid circular movement, getting a good inner surface but, as I might have expected, uneven walls. However it fired well and I fully intend to make some succotash in it. I have found that the clay must be laid in pieces of a regular thickness so that a norm is established. The later smoothing, if done with equal pressure, does not upset this norm. Coiling could be used but it requires two hands to handle the coil well and this can hardly be done at the bottom of a narrow basket or earth mold. But in large rim sherds one can often detect regular bands which suggest that coiling was used as soon as it became easy

to do so. A coiled pot is usually carried up for three or four courses and then allowed to dry for at least an hour so it will support later work. These stages are not needed when working in a basket, but if the pot were carried up much higher than the rim of the basket, this requirement would be found. Some Indian pots were plainly brought higher than the basket for greater freedom in forming and decorating the rim. For that reason a sherd from the body of the pot is more significant in deciding whether it is basket mold or not.

It is the nearly whole pots and large sherds that will decide this question. If a small cylinder is wrapped in a material like those used in the weft of baskets, and if it is wrapped so that the spaces between the turns of the cord are about equal to the diameter of the cord, and if it is applied with a fairly regular spacing and always in the same general direction, it can produce a pattern on a small sherd that, if somewhat worn, could be mistaken for basketry under our present somewhat lax examination. In a whole pot there must be always a large number of repeats not only in following the circumference of the pot with the cord-wrapped cylinder but also in covering it from top to bottom -- or from bottom to top as would have to be done in the case of a large coiled pot laid up with several pauses to permit hardening. This cord-wrapped cylinder could not be bent, but on the surface of our sherds there are many places where the "rib" is bent sharply. But the question we should most like to have answered by those who support the cord-roughening theory is: Why?

(Editor's note: Mrs. Margaret Blaker, who is presently engaged in making a thorough ceramic study of all the pottery recovered in the course of excavations on the Townsend Site, has been asked to compose a reply to the suggestions advanced in the first half of this article by Mr. Peets. It is hoped that we will be able to publish her comments in an early issue of THE ARCHEOLOG. The second half of Mr. Peets' article is continued on the next page.)



Basket-mold and earth-mold pottery

Earth-molded Pottery

Any attempts to arrive at a chronology in the case of the Indians is made very difficult by the survival, in some tribes or in some places, of ways logically regarded as primitive. The existence of basketry before pottery seems, however, to be generally accepted. From the way they are made and from the materials used, baskets tend to be circular in cross section. A pot molded in a well made basket would reflect the nearly perfect circle of the cross section of the basket and also the regular curve of its side. If we consider basket-molded pots to have been the earliest manifestation of pottery, we have an explanation of the careful symmetry of pots made by methods that, in themselves, would not conduce to perfect symmetry. In making my first earth-mold pots I supposed the ideal of a circular and somewhat conical pot to exist, but the method used tended to produce this result, so it may not be necessary to postulate this ideal in this case.

A small hole was dug -- or bored -- in sandy subsoil by revolving a clam shell. It was dug down until the wrist was below the surface. The walls to the entrance to this hole were made hard and smooth with the palm of the hand, using a circular motion. The bottom of the hole was pressed with the outside of the fingers until it was also smooth and hard. A small, somewhat circular piece of clay that had been pressed out to the thickness desired for the walls of the pot was put in the center of the bottom; then small flat pieces were laid in regular courses. If they over-lapped, they were pressed to remove the ridge, and any holes were filled up, but no attempt was made to rub them together because they could move easily -- not being held as they would have been in a basket. When all the pieces were laid in, pressure was put on the inside of the neck of the pot with the palm of the hand applied radially. This so expanded the clay that it was held very tightly inside the hole. Then

the hand was wet as for turning on the wheel, and with a circular motion the inside of the pot was worked until it was smooth. In the upper part of the pot this was done holding the thumb straight out, the four fingers being slightly curved toward the outside of the pot. The hand held in this way fits nicely in to the average Indian pot of this type, the curve between the thumb and the index making the flare in the rim that is commonly found in the smaller pots which have this compound curve.

The rim dries first and if there is any dampness in the sand, it may take several days for the bottom to become leather dry. When it reaches that state, pot may be dug out and turned up on its rim on soft sand so that the sand on the bottom and sides can be brushed off. There are sometimes what seem to be small cracks, but they are where two pieces of clay have pushed sand toward each other. These may be brushed free of sand and filled with soft clay, most of the pot being still damp enough for the clay to stick. One often finds marks of grasses on such pots which might prevent this action of the sand.

(Editor's note: The originality exhibited by Mr. Peets in planning and executing the experimental manufacture of pottery which he has described is most commendable. Those of us who heard him describe his experiments in making arrow points will realize that in his research we are witnessing the sort of thing which leads to the advancement of knowledge. The Association is fortunate in numbering among its members one who does not take for granted the assumptions on which much archeological thinking has been based.

Mr. Peets is not convinced that the pitted stones which have been assumed to be hammer stones were actually used as the name indicates. He is planning experimental work on this subject and it is hoped that another of his valuable articles will be available for publication soon.)

Laboratory Processing of Potsherds

Mrs. Margaret Blaker, Aide
Division of Anthropology
U. S. National Museum

1. Cleaning

Woodland pottery and unpainted, unslipped pottery in general can usually be successfully washed. Sherds should be held under a water tap or dipped into a container of water and brushed carefully but thoroughly on both surfaces and along fractured edges with a small hand brush having soft (not Nylon) bristles. Sherds should be handled individually to prevent their becoming waterlogged; large numbers of sherds should never be allowed to soak in the washing container.

Sherds which are too soft or too crumbly for washing can be reasonably well cleaned by brushing with a dry hand brush. Extremely fragile material should be impregnated with a thinned Ambroid solution applied with a soft artist's brush. It is to be remembered that when the Ambroid hardens it will also harden and unite any sand or foreign material which may be on the surface of the sherd. Careful manipulation of the brush when applying the thinned Ambroid can serve the additional purpose of flushing away foreign material.

Sherds from a given site should be washed by lots representing separate trenches or pits and laid out to dry on separate wire racks, sheets of blotting paper or other convenient drying space.

2. Marking

If sherds from a given trench or feature, such as a pit, have been bagged together but have penciled depths or any other annotations on the individual specimens, this information should be transferred to a small slip of paper immediately before washing and placed with the sherd on the drying rack immediately after washing. As soon as the sherds are dry the depth or other designation should be marked on the interior surface of the sherd with India ink and the slips discarded. The trench or feature number should also be marked on all specimens in the lot at this time. There is not much danger of the inked numbers rubbing off the relatively porous surface of pottery, although this often happens in the case of bone and stone; but if sure permanence is desired, each number may be brushed with a film of lacquer or colorless nail polish.

3. Mending

Ambroid, Duco Household Cement, or similar preparations may be used and should be thinned with Ambroid thinner or acetone to about the consistency of raw egg white. After both broken edges have been coated and the sherds joined and pressed firmly together, excess Ambroid should be carefully removed from the surface with a small spatula or old razor blade. If an especially neat result is desired, as for photographing, any remaining Ambroid can be removed from the surface with a small piece of cloth moistened with Ambroid thinner

or acetone. The joined sherds should be placed in a sand box until thoroughly dry, or otherwise supported in the desired position, as with fillets of Plastocene placed across the interior surfaces.

(Editor's note: In the cleaning of pottery from the Townsend Site, members of the Association have generally followed the directions which Mrs. Blaker has outlined.

Two points of difficulty have arisen. First, it has been found that marks pencilled on sherds have washed off. To avoid this occurrence several members have resorted to the use of crayon rather than lead pencil. Crayon being of a waxy texture will not readily wash off while the pottery is being cleaned in preparation for matching sherds together. If crayon is used, it is not necessary to transfer pencilled marks from pottery to slips and then back again. Crayoned marks placed on sherds known to fit together at the time of their excavation often make the task of matching them after washing much easier. If crayon is used, the marks should be placed on the inner surface of the sherds.

The second difficulty arises in the effort to glue sherds together. The greatest of care must be exercised to be certain that when they are depressed into the sand box they do not get out of allignment. If there were enough matching sherds to permit restoration, the slightest misallignment will spoil the finished product.)

PROGRESS REPORT OF THE PROJECT COMMITTEE

Since the Jan. 15, 1949 report was published in THE ARCHEOLOG, work has continued to progress at the Townsend Site in a generally satisfactory manner. Ralph Karl, Roger Vandergrift, Bill Ingram,Sr., Bill Ingram, Jr., Jimmy Moore and Geiger Omwake have been active and Rev. Joseph Phillips of Lewes also participated.

A series of refuse pits, numbers 79 to 85 included, along the northern edge of the site was staked out and individual workers excavated them following the usual procedures. Of these pits three contained burials and one held the skeleton of a dog.

In pit 83 there was a flexed burial imposed on top of a loose bundle. The lower legs and the lower arms of the flexed individual had been disarticulated at the knees and elbows and deposited in advance of the remainder of the skeleton, which was otherwise completely articulated. The bundle burial immediately beneath was very loose, the bones being scattered over a circular area approximately three feet in diameter and having become intermingled with those of the flexed burial above because of soil pressures and settling of the refuse overburden.

Pit #81 contained the skeleton of a large dog in an excellent state of preservation.

Pit #84 appeared on the surface to be a refuse deposit of the usual type. However, as its excavation proceeded it became evident that the shell deposit was underlain by soil which had been disturbed. Careful removal of this earth revealed first a fully extended adult burial in excellent condition. To date no other instance of this type of interrment has appeared. Approximately eight inches under the extended burial and along the north-western wall of the pit lay a fully flexed infant in a poor state of preservation. The deposit of disturbed soil continued to a still greater depth and was carefully explored. Fifty nine inches below the surface of the ground lay the partially flexed skeletons of three adult persons. It was obvious that they had been simultaneously buried and that the primary purpose for the original digging of the pit had been for their disposal. The great depth at which they lay is notable, all other burials having been found at depths less than four feet. The excellent condition of the bones may probably be attributed to the fact that they rested directly on the white sand which underlies the site and which provides favorable drainage conditions.

A very badly plow and fire-damaged multiple bundle burial was encountered in pit #80, containing an indeterminate number of individuals ranging from small children to adults. In all, there were the scattered remains of possibly a dozen persons. Several which lay near the surface had been broken up by plow action. Others had been partially cremated by the fires built upon the refuse. Intentional cremation might be suspected, but the small quantity of charred and burned material throughout the refuse material would seem to deny this possibility.

It was necessary, because of the complicated deposit of the

bones, to maintain this pit open for three week-ends. On the second some person, or persons, unknown removed a cranium and several large bones and badly crushed most of the others which had been exposed. The Project Committee reported this vandalism, the fourth such instance, to the local constable with a request that an effort be made to apprehend the thoughtless person or persons involved. To date no information has been discovered which might lead to the establishment of the identity of the vandal. Your committee deeply regrets that some person, or persons, has so little regard for the valuable scientific contribution which the work at the Townsend Site is making to the knowledge of the prehistoric peoples of the peninsula.

Surrounding pit #79 there was an area of disturbed earth which yielded objects obviously of white man's manufacture. A portion of the area appeared to be a trench, or possibly a drainage ditch, which extended in a generally east-west direction for approximately fifty feet. The trench maintained an average width of three feet and varied in depth up to a maximum of forty three inches. It skirted the edges of pits 20, 29, 28, 79 and ran over top of pit 41 to seventeen inches between the others. It was distinguishable from the disturbed soil beneath by its lighter color, having a slightly brownish hue, while that of the soil beneath tended toward black.

It was noted that occasional shells occurred at random depths but that there was a concentration of them from approximately thirty five inches on down to the bottom, and that goods of white man's origin were in direct association with the concentrated shells. Fragments of Indian pottery occurred throughout the disturbed undersoil as well as in the top-soil.

Among the objects recovered were gragments of rum and case bottles, yellow "Dutch" bricks, a round-headed straight pin, hand drawn nails, and fragments of white kaolin pipe bowls and stems. Of these items the yellow bricks and the white kaolin pipe bowls and stems offer the best possibilities for establishing a date of occupation.

During the process of exploring the trench and excavating pit #79 it was discovered that there was a deeply disturbed area just to the north of the trench. This feature has been partially explored and appears to have been an excavation for a dug well. It reaches a depth between sixty five and seventy inches and contains objects not essentially different from those recovered from the trench. Indian pottery fragments, chips, and a broken pitted stone have been found in direct association with white clay pipe stems, bricks, etc. The major portion of a large red pottery jar having a greenish grey glaze and containing a heavy sand temper in the clay has been recovered and partially restored. Excavation of the suspected well will continue until it has been completed, although the entire bottom area is continously under water, being below the local water table, and problems of excavation and measuring are extremely difficult.

A complete photographic record has been kept of the progress of all work. Each pit was photographed after it had been prepared for digging and pictures were taken of all important features as they were revealed. All photographs taken to date have been properly labelled and those of each pit placed in separate pocket-type

envelopes along with their negatives.

A new series of half a dozen pits has been located in the southern portion of the site. As they have been assigned to workers they have been given proper numbers, photographed, and recorded on the master map.

The chairman has been assisted in the collection of pottery by several members of the Project Committee. Response to the call for all recovered material has been good. Only the pottery excavated by three workers remains to be transmitted to Washington. In one case there has simply been no response to repeated requests. Fortunately very little material is involved. In another case the pottery, a very small lot, has been misplaced but the worker has indicated that he will continue his efforts to locate it. In the third case arrangements have been made by which a significant amount of goods will be turned over to the committee for transshipment to Washington within the next few days.

Studies of the material are proceeding. Mrs. Margaret Blaker reports that her work is progressing satisfactorily although it consumes more of her time than she should rightfully give to Delaware pottery. Dr. F.M. Setzler, chief curator of anthropology at the U. S. National Museum reported that as a result of our work and Mrs. Blaker's ceramic study all the archeological personnel of the Museum has been benefitted.

Dr. Marshall T. Newman reports that his staff is making slow progress in the work of restoring the skeletal material because of the poor condition of much of it due to plow damage.

The identification of shells sampled from each of the refuse pits has been completed to date by Dr. R. T. Abbott, Division of Molluscs, U.S. National Museum.

Dr. E.P. Henderson of the Division of Mineralogy, U.S. National Museum, has returned, with identifications as to kinds of stone, a selection of all types of artifacts which was sent to him. A preliminary draft of a report on the stone artifacts has been completed by H. G. Omwake.

Roger Vandegrift has been able to gather together the complete series of bone tools and utensils and has his study of them under way.

For the bone and stone studies the chairman secured copies of Wm. A. Ritchie's "An Early Site in Cayuga County, N.Y." and copies of "The Culture of the Keyser Farm Site", by Manson and MacCord. These reports will be followed in the preparation of the results of our own studies.

The U. S. National Museum has asked permission to retain in its permanent collections three of the restored pottery vessels and has forwarded photographs of them for the individuals who recovered them. Excellent photographs of five roulette-marked pipes have been received.

The chairman has caused to be made a series of 41 slides depicting the work at the Townsend Site and showing some of the material recovered. He has shown them to the Zwaanendael Club and the Rotary Club of Lewes and will use them in an address to the D.A.R. of Berlin, Md., in early May. These slides may be borrowed by any member of the Association who may have occasion to use them.

The chairman has engaged in correspondence with numerous persons involved in our work. The full committee has reviewed the letters received and approved the replies to them.

This report, composed by the chairman, has been approved by the members of the Project Committee who met on April 12 to review the progress being made.

Respectfully submitted

The Project Committee

H. G. Omwake, Chairman
Orville Peets
J. A. Moore
Roger E. Vandegrift
Ralph Karl

OF INTEREST

STONE Identification of the stone objects from the Townsend Site as to kinds of stone has been completed by Mr. E.P. Henderson, Curator of Mineralogy, U.S. National Museum. Thirteen lots consisting of all kinds of artifacts were submitted for examination. As might be expected in a country noted for its scarcity of stone, only four varieties were noted, namely, sandstone, chalcedony, indurated shale, and quartz. There was also a piece of fossil wood. Dr. Stewart commenting on the identifications (by letter of 1-11-49) said in part: "Jasper is another name for chalcedony. Both of these classes of stone (i.e. sandstone and chalcedony) vary in color, and the sandstone is almost indistinguishable from an indurated shale."

POTTERY Mrs. Margaret Blaker who is making the ceramic study of the Townsend material wrote on March 22, 1949, in response to a letter from your Editor: "I examined the sherds and your notes for pit # 79 with interest, and I agree that there seems to be no marked difference between the sherds from the two levels. In fact, I think that there are few if any marked differences among the various pits. The theory that they were all in use at more or less the same time is being further borne out by the several instances in which sherds from two or more pits have been found to join."

BUTCHER Cards and announcements sent to our photographer in Florida have been returned as undeliverable, addressee unknown. His return to these parts is anxiously awaited and information as to his whereabouts would be welcomed.

NEWMAN, JR. In the former issue of THE ARCHEOLOG we noted that Dr. "Bud" Newman and his squaw were in the process of welcoming an addition to the family. The little Indian turned out to be a future chief, name of Gregory. Congratulations, Greg, on your choice of parents and congratulations, parents, on your good work.

TRADE GOODS Much of the goods of white origin which were found along the edge of the woods and in connection with the area surrounding pits 28, 20, 79, 29, and 41 was transmitted to Washington for examination. The following extract from a letter of February 4, 1949 from Dr. Newman may be of interest.

"--------Ralph Solecki is here in Washington (c/o Bureau of American Ethnology, Smithsonian Institution) and is anxious to get in touch with you. Solecki and Carl Miller, an archeologist specializing in the middle section of the eastern seaboard, came over and looked at some of your historic specimens. Solecki says that the bricks are definitely Dutch, like the early 17th century brick he found on Long Island. (Editor's note: see "A Seventeenth Century Fireplace at Maspeth, Long Island," Journal of the Washington Academy of Sciences, Vol. 38, No. 10, Oct. 15, 1948) He states that the early colonial documents credit one Vanderdonk as bringing brick over to the new world as ballast. Carl Miller states that the roundheaded pin from Townsend is identical with those brought between 1609 and 1615 to sell for a penny each. Both Solecki and Miller feel that the Townsend pipes show decorations which are direct imitations of Old World pipes with a "pretty definite historic flavor." One, for example, is like Catawba. On the basis of these materials,

Solecki and Miller would consider the pits that yielded them as definitely protohistoric. Upon questioning by me, their interpretation of protohistoric covers the time span from first contact to 50 or 75 years afterwards."

PREXY Our genial president, Ken Givan, has been compelled to sacrifice digging because of his job as a member of the General Assembly where he has ably represented the Lewes-Rehoboth-Milton area. It is a sure bet that he'd like to be able to burrow into a refuse pit and come up with another bead or beautiful pendant. Ken has, however, found time to negotiate with Mr. Frank Sommer, the new anthropologist at the University of Delaware, and hopes to have Mr. Sommer speak at the May meeting of the Association.

MOORE Jimmy Moore is the champion prober for refuse pits. Just when it appeared that the supply was nearly exhausted, he went to work and found half a dozen more which he, Bill Ingram, Sr., and v.p. Karl are now investigating. Incidentally, Jim has also become an expert at uncovering skeletons. Anyone having a few dead people for exhumation should just phone Lewes 3381 and ask for him.

EXHIBIT A somewhat different exhibition has been placed in our own Zwaanendael Museum to represent the Townsend dig. A series of shell specimens, properly identified, and a group of the trade objects and "Dutch" bricks fill the lower shelf of the exhibition case. The upper shelf features restored pottery vessels. The unusual bead and pendant recovered by President Givan were retained because they are unique in this area. After Roger Vandergrift has completed his study of the bone implements, a selection of them will be added to the display.

TOMS Gladys Toms, who volunteered to search the old records in the Georgetown Court House, has been able to dig out several bits of information about the identity of the Indian people who lived in the vicinity of Lewes. The results of her work will be published in a future issue of THE ARCHEOLOG.

PEETS The author of the feature article in this issue of THE ARCHEOLOG has devoted a great amount of time to the problem of trying to determine how the "roughening" of the outside of pottery vessels was accomplished. His original researches and experiments have led to the casting of some doubt on the explanations which have been customarily accepted. As a result of his work it may be necessary to form new concepts and, perhaps, to adopt a new descriptive terminology. His article deserves much critical study. Incidentally all credit for the cover layout of this issue of THE ARCHEOLOG rightfully belongs to him and the Association has benefitted by his generous spirit. He footed the entire bill for the covers and the picture illustration accompanying his article.

DOUGHERTY To Miss Jacqueline Dougherty a student in the Lewes School, goes the appreciation of the Association for cutting the stencils, doing the mimeographing, and stapling together the pages of THE ARCHEOLOG. Thanks, Jack.

INGRAM, JR. In response to the letter from Mrs. Finch, mentioned in the January minutes, Bill and a friend drove to Wilmington to visit with her son and tell him about our "dig". Unfortunately, young Finch was not at home but Bill left a supply of reading material and printed information for him. Nice response, Bill!

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 26th MEETING

The ninth meeting of the Sussex Archaeological Association was held on January 26, 1949 at 8 p.m. at the home of Miss Catharine C. Maull, 108 Shipcarpenter Street, Lewes.

The President, Mr. Kenneth D. Givan, presided.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read, corrected, and approved.

The President asked the treasurer, Miss Adele Chambers, to give her report. The report showed a comfortable balance in the treasury.

The President stated that he had been unable to arrange with Dr. Frank Somers, new head of the Dept. of Anthropology at the University of Delaware, for a suitable time for Dr. Somers to meet with the Association during the late fall or early winter but hoped to be able to arrange for the visit in February. As Dr. Somers did not have a car, it would be necessary for someone to drive up to Newark for him and also to take him back. The only time he would be able to come would be on a Saturday.

The President asked the Association to approve a bill covering the subscriptions for the Saturday Evening Post and the National Geographic which had been sent as a Xmas greeting from the Association to Mr. Raymond E. Steelman. This was so approved.

A letter from the mother of Ronald M. Finch, a handicapped student attending Alexix I.du Pont High School, was read by the Secretary. Mrs. Finch had requested information about our Association for her son. The letter was turned over to the Project Committee.

The Chairman of the Project Committee, H. Geiger Omwake, read the Committee's report--"Progress of Activities being carried on at the Townsend Site." He also read to the Association a copy of the Minutes of the Committee meeting of October 7, 1948 and urged all members of the Association to write up their field notes and forward them to the Committee. He also informed the Association that the stone artifacts would be studied by Dr. Henderson and the mollusks by Dr. R. Tucker Abbott.

The Association discussed the possibility that all material found on state owned property in Sussex County be kept here in our Museum.

The Association also discussed the need for publication funds.

The following officers were elected for the year 1949:
President, Kenneth D. Givan, reelected
Vice President, Ralph Karl
Secretary, Catharine C. Maull, reelected
Treasurer, Adele Chambers, reelected
Editor of THE ARCHEOLOG, H. Geiger Omwake

Respectfully submitted,

Catharine C. Maull, Secretary

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR 1949

President----------Kenneth Givan

Vice-President----------Ralph Karl

Secretary----------Catharine C. Maull

Treasurer----------Adele Chambers

Editor----------H. Geiger Omwake

STANDING COMMITTEES

Executive Committee

The Officers
H.W.T. Purnell
Roger Vandegrift

Project Committee

H. G. Omwake, Chairman
Harold W.T. Purnell
Orville H. Peets
Ralph Karl
Roger Vandegrift
James A. Moore

Membership Committee

Catharine C. Maull, Chairman
Ralph Karl
W. S. Corkran

Exploration Committee

Stephen Vaughn
H. G. Omwake, Jr.

The Zwaanendael Museum in Lewes is the repository for collections of the Association.

LIST OF MEMBERS

Benjamin S. Albertson, Jr.
Martin Berdit
Alton Brittingham
Ethel Lynn Burns
Frederick H. Butcher
Edmund S. Carpenter
Adele Chambers
W. S. Corkran
Mrs. Virginia F. Cullen
Mrs. Cecil C. Fulton Jr.
Kenneth D. Givan
Mrs. Kenneth D. Givan
David B. Green
Mrs. J. Rohe Green
Jacob Gruber
Anthony Higgins
Henry Hutchinson
Wm. S. Ingram, Sr.
Mrs. Wm. S. Ingram, Sr.
Wm. S. Ingram, Jr.
Ralph Karl
Mrs. Ralph Karl
Phillip H. Kugelman
Harold V. Lang
Mrs. Harold V. Lang
Jack R. Lawton
William Lynch
Mrs. William Lynch
Catharine C. Maull
Victoria W. Maull
Mrs. Robert Maedler
William N. McCauley
Ernest E. Megee
Henry Michael
James A. Moore
Horace S. Okie
H. G. Omwake, Sr.
Mrs. H. G. Omwake, Sr.
H. G. Omwake, Jr.
James Parsons
Orville H. Peets
Branch H. Phillips
Harold W. T. Purnell
John T. Purnell
Lewis M. Purnell
Charles C. Robertson
Howard Sammons
Warren Schneller
Mrs. S. M. Sloan
William Sloan
H. L. Smith
Edward A. Steelman
Raymond E. Steelman*
W. Vernon Steen, Jr.
Mrs. W. Vernon Steen, Jr.
Gerald Timmons

* Deceased, April 16, 1949

Mrs. Gladys Toms

William R. Tyson

Roger E. Vandegrift

Andrew W. VanSant

Marjorie F. Virden

Molloy C. Vaughn

Mrs. Molloy C. Vaughn

Stephen C. Vaughn

William B. Vaughn

J. Franklin Yeager

HONORARY MEMBERS

Julian G. Townsend

Lr. T. Dale Stewart