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INDIAN VILLAGE SITE AND  
CEMETERY NEAR MADISONVILLE  
OHIO

BY

EARNEST A. HOOTON

WITH NOTES ON THE ARTIFACTS BY

CHARLES C. WILLOUGHBY

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THIRTY PLATES AND FIVE ILLUSTRATIONS IN THE TEXT

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## ARTIFACTS FROM THE SITE

BY CHARLES C. WILLOUGHBY

**General Distribution of Types.** In studying the artifacts from this site, it should be remembered that most of them are of types used at the time of, or immediately preceding, the first intercourse of the northeastern Indians with Europeans. Perhaps the most distinctive stone implements are the mullers or pestles having a flat expanded base, the discoidal stones, and the chipped adze blades. Broadly speaking, these three types are characteristic of an area enclosed by a circle about five hundred miles in diameter, with its center near Louisville, Kentucky, and taking in the greater portion of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky and Tennessee. It is almost wholly within the Algonquian and Iroquoian areas.

The distribution of certain types of shell objects from the site is probably about the same. On the other hand, most of the ordinary forms of stone implements and shell ornaments have, of course, a much wider range.

So far as the distribution of the rarer types of antler and bone objects is concerned, but little data outside of Ohio are available for comparison. Probably the most distinctive and least widely ranging group of artifacts is the pottery. The group seems to be confined principally to southern Ohio and certain portions of Indiana and Kentucky.

**Knives and the Larger Projectile Points.** On plate 5 are illustrated most of the forms of flint knives recovered from the cache-pits and general refuse. It is, of course, possible that some of these may be projectile points, but the greater number were probably knife blades which were hafted in short wooden handles and were employed in the manifold uses to which the implement is adapted. In looking over the large number of tools made of antler, and the chips and refuse pieces of this material found everywhere upon this site, abundant evidence is shown of the efficiency of the flint knife as a cutting implement.

shown in t. The latter was found over the chest of the skeleton of an adult female. There were also three bone beads at the neck and six copper beads near the hands of the skeleton. I have been unable to ascertain with any degree of certainty the probable origin of the European sword guard or the approximate date of its manufacture.

**Glass Beads.** A few globular blue glass beads, about three-sixteenths of an inch in diameter, were found near the skull of a skeleton of a child, by Mr. Swanton. These were of the same kind as those obtained during the exploration by the Museum of the proto-historic Iroquoian cemetery in Erie County, New York.

Mr. Swanton also found fragments of blue beads in three cache-pits, and Mr. B. W. Merwin reports the finding of one such bead in a fourth pit. The recovery of iron objects or brass or glass beads, from at least nine cache-pits and five graves, seems to indicate beyond question that this site was not abandoned by the Indians till after their contact with Europeans either directly or through their Indian neighbors; but the scarcity of such objects, as well as their nature, also indicates that the site was deserted long before the arrival of English settlers.

**Tobacco Pipes.** A large number of tobacco pipes were found, the majority being obtained from cache-pits or by general digging. A few occurred with skeletons. Most of them were made from the limestone of the region. Some were of sandstone, while a small number were of other varieties, including serpentine and red pipe-stone. Two or three rude pipe bowls were found made from sections of deer antler, also fragments of four or five pottery pipes, fashioned of fine clay of a kind very different from that used by the inhabitants in making pottery. Judging by the fragments, these clay pipes resembled those of the Iroquoian and Algonquian tribes of the East, and were probably imported from that section. A considerable number of stone pipes in the process of making were recovered, which indicates that most of the finished specimens secured were made by the inhabitants and were not obtained from the neighboring tribes.

The majority of the specimens were of the simple designs and forms figured in plate 19, a-i. They were usually without ornamentation. A few were ornamented with notches or with designs in incised lines, as shown in a, b, e, and f. A very good figure of