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ALGONKIANS OF LAKE NIPIGON: AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY

K.C.A. DAWSON



Virgin Channel site ⁷⁴ c. 1763 - 1821

coloured phenocrysts, it has large button eyes on long stalks. The fan-tail is broken but head ridging indicated that it had a ridged back. The eyes are tilted, the jaw undercut and the beak long and heavy. Based on the form and tilted eye it is the same as those illustrated by Townsend (1939, Pl. 167, Fig.'s C & D). This is believed to be the furthest north such a recovery has been reported.

HISTORIC GOODS

Four items were recovered, one small white bead, one soft metal clothing buckle, one burnt heavy brown glass bottle fragment and one broken retouched fragment of an English gun flint (Woodward 1951) suggesting a middle historic period occupation (circa 1763-1821).

CONCLUSION

The site is a small early Initial Woodland period camp of the Laurel Cultural Tradition. The ceramic recovery gives little clue to the time of occupation for the dragged stamp decoration technique is constantly represented in the Laurel culture (Wright 1967: 121). The birdstone, however, is characteristic of the Early Woodland period. Such items barely survived into the roughly contemporary Saugeen Tradition to the southeast (Wright 1967: 127). Its presence suggests southern influences not previously recorded in the region. The absence of other evidence suggests that it is a residual manifestation. The historic goods indicate a much later historic occupation.

ALBERT ISLAND SITE (DiJc-1)

Albert Island is one of a cluster of islands at the mouth of South Bay at the bottom of Lake Nipigon. The site located at the south end

Sutherland site c. 1684 - 1821

1, Variety B, Blackduck rim. Four of the body sherds appeared to be plain, eight very coarse fabric impressed and the balance cord malleated.

LITHICS

Three scrapers were recovered. One a large triangular isosceles heavily patinated end scraper from the prehistoric stratum was 37 mm. long, 30 mm. wide and 11 mm. thick. The distal dorsal end was 30 mm. in length with an angle of $72^{\circ} \pm 5$. The end was roughly straight. Both dorsal margins also had sparse retouching. The size, all over heavy patination and the flaking is suggestive of a Shield Archaic tool. The second scraper from the early historic stratum appears to be a broken end scraper which has been retouched. It was probably a triangular oblong variety. The distal dorsal retouched margin was 21 mm. with a $69^{\circ} \pm 5$ angle. It was straight with retouching at the junction of the right margin, which while broken appears to have been rounded. The junction with the left dorsal margin is pointed. The left dorsal margin itself is concave and continuously retouched. The black to grey flint, the flat ventral surface and the general contours of the third recovery from the historic stratum suggest that this was originally a British gun flint (Woodward 1951). It is 8 mm. thick with two margins retouched, 25 mm. and 12 mm. in length and converging. In addition, eight flakes scattered in the two upper strata were recovered. All are local materials.

HISTORIC GOODS

Eight beads and two knives were recovered from the Historic period. One of the beads was a small opaque white bead, round in cross-section and oval in vertical section, Pratt Type 93, (1961: 15). Five are

longer, round in cross-section and tabular in vertical section. One is translucent blue and four an opaque white in colour (op. cit.: #112 and 110). These would appear to be from the middle Historic era (1763-1821). Other beads recovered may be earlier. One is a broken medium size cone opaque red wood tube bead Class 1 (Kidd and Kidd 1970). One is large broken tube bead, opaque dark blue reminiscent of the early French types (Pratt 1961). The French period is also suggested by what appears to be a French clasp-knife of the hawk bill blade type, the presence of which places it between 1670 and 1760 according to Quimby (1966: 69) or in the early Historic era (1684-1763) on Lake Nipigon. The presence of a butcher knife, Type 3, also indicates a French presence (Garraod 1969: 8). French fur traders were established on the lake as early as 1684 (Ontario 1878: 197-108).

Historic goods recovered from the top stratum suggested continuous use of the site into the historic present. They include a small butter knife, a bipointed awl or needle, miscellaneous fragments of tin (?) and tin foil, probably from cans, two wire round nails, a fragment of light sheet copper, a copper piece from a canoe, a piece of delf ware, what appears to be decaying paint and a center fire brass cartridge marked Dominion 410 Made in Canada. These are from the late era (1821-1890) up to the present.

BONE REFUSE

Eighteen split and broken fragments of large mammal bone were recovered from the pit. Three are burned. All appear water eroded. The analysis is not complete.

Ombabika site

c. 1763 - 1890

typical of the Terminal period.

In the Cummins collection two end scrapers and five side scrapers were recorded. Metrical data was not recorded in sufficient detail to permit detailed comparison. One end scraper was a trapezoidal oblong, medium ridged variety. It had a retouched straight oblique left distal dorsal margin. The margin is 15 mm. long and 7 mm. thick. The other end scraper was a small oblong trapezoidal variety with a roughly straight retouched distal dorsal margin which was 4 mm. thick.

Three of the flake side scrapers were straight margin side scrapers, one was an irregular margin and one was a converging margin.

There were two large plano-convex flake scrapers. One manufactured from a large decortification flake has a roughly straight retouched right ventral margin 44 mm. in length. It is 54 mm. long, 31 mm. wide and 9 mm. thick (Pl. III, No. 20). The other is retouched along the left dorsal margin and around the end. It also has ventral retouching along the entire left margin and portions of the right margin thus it may also have served as a knife. In addition, eleven flakes of local grey to brown flint were recovered.

OTHER

One bone awl was recovered as well as 14 large mammal, two bird, and three fish bones and seven fragments of beaver teeth. The analysis is not completed. Two trade beads were recovered, one small milky white tubular bead and one a tiny light blue bead. In addition, a fragment of kaolin pipe stem, two square nails and two fragments of iron were recorded. The recoveries appear to be from both middle and late historic eras.