

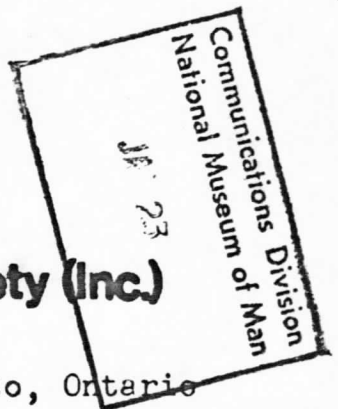
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# ARCH NOTES

Newsletter of

## The Ontario Archaeological Society (Inc.)



P.O. Box 241, Postal Station "P", Toronto, Ontario

January 1974

74-1

### THIS MONTH'S MEETING

A speaker is as yet unnamed for our meeting on Wednesday, January 16th, 1974, but the gears are in motion and an evening will be arranged. It will be held in the Archaeology Lab, Room 561A, Sidney Smith Hall, 100 St. George St., Toronto, at 8 p.m. The original speaker was unable to attend this meeting.

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\*\*\*\*\*ELECTION ISSUE\*\*\*\*\*

LIBRARIANS AND OTHERS NOTE: Arch-Notes was not published for December, 1973. Therefore, the full volume for 1973 was completed with issue 73-7, November.

The O.A.S. Executive would like to wish all members a Happy New Year. We must, however, also remind you that 1974 dues are due. Please use the enclosed loose form, making written remittance payable to the Ontario Archaeological Society. Address as above. Please mark envelopes "re Membership".

Description of European Trade Goods Found on Four Proto-Historic  
Archaeological Sites

By Douglas A. Mannen, R.R. 2, Lynden, Ontario.

Consideration will be given to four sites, namely, Pottruff, Mannen, Cleveland, and Fonger. While the former three are situated directly on the Fairchild Creek drainage channel, the latter lies about one mile up an unnamed northeast tributary. Fairchild Creek drains the northern region of Beverly Township, Wentworth County, Ontario, in a southwesterly direction, eventually turning southeast before joining the Grand River, east of Brantford. (Army Survey 1952, Brantford map 40 P/1, Galt 40 P/8, east half) Topographically, the area consists of high, well-drained, sand-loam soils; these soils are suitable for the cultivation of most agricultural crops.

Documentary evidence depicts the Neutrals as sedentary farmers, fishermen, and hunters, occupying villages of some few acres (Jesuit Relations Vol. 21:195). Some authorities believe that European trade goods were finding their way into the Neutral region by 1580 A.D. (Wm. C. Noble, pers. comm.). Without exception, the type and diversity of European trade goods remains constant across sites. Iron, brass, and sporadic glass beads comprise the collected artifacts. Iron was used in the manufacture of utilitarian tools, while brass and glass became decorative ornaments.

Iron was recovered from three of the four sites. A fragment from the Mannen site was probably a knife part but a positive identification was impossible. The Fonger site yielded a probable mat weaving needle, measuring 147 mm. long, 8 mm. laterally, with a gauge of 2 mm. The eye orifice measures 4 mm. and the tip is bluntly tapered. An iron celt also appeared in Mr. Marshall's collection from Fonger. It measured 94 mm. long, 5 mm. thick, with a bit end of 25 mm. A corroded knife blade, measuring 99 mm. in length, is included in Fonger, as well.

An iron celt was collected from the surface of the Cleveland site (AhHb-7). Extreme corrosion prevented any precise measurements. Although probably not of the same design, a parallel exists between the celts in the Neutral region and those found in Huronia, in particular, the Sopher celt (cf. Noble, 1971:42).

Brass appears to predominate in the total trade good count. Brass was used to fashion rolled tubes, as well as rings and wrist-lets. The tubes were probably hairpieces or beads, the rings for fingers or ears. The brass probably originated from discarded and/or damaged kettles. The accompanying Table shows the distribution of brass artifacts.

In contrast, glass is relatively rare. Only two pieces have been found to date. Both were manufactured glass beads. The Mannen site bead has a light aqua-blue exterior with a clear interior

Table I - DISTRIBUTION OF BRASS ARTIFACTS IN NEUTRAL SITES

	POTTRUFF	MANNEN	CLEVELAND (AhHb-7)	FONGER
ROLLED TUBULAR HAIRPIECES, BEADS	1/ 15mm x 5mm	1/ 23mm x 4mm	4/ 12mm x 6mm 29mm x 5mm 15mm x 7mm 16mm x 6mm	4/ 98mm tapered 19mm x 13mm 36mm x 5mm 16mm x 4mm
CRIMPED BEADS OR HAIRPIECES	1/ 12mm x 4mm			1/ 7mm x 5mm
MISCELLANEOUS FRAGMENTS	3/		1/	2/
ROLLED WRISTLETS				2/ semi-circular
RINGS, WIRE TYPE		1/ DIA. 19mm GAU. 2mm	1/ DIA. 19mm GAU. 2mm	1/ Lost from Walt Lindquist collection.

and is square in cross-section. This bead is a fragment of the original. A light-blue, football-shaped bead with white stripes came from the Fonger site (Kenyon collection). Glass beads seem to be connected with post-1600 A.D. sites.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The writer would like to extend especial thanks to Dr Wm. C. Noble of McMaster University in Hamilton for his assistance and interest. Also, thanks are due Mr. Wm. (Bill) Marshall of Caledonia for allowing the writer to record the Fonger site trade goods. As well as Mr. Marshall, appreciation is due Messrs. Donald Dargie, Thomas Anderson, and James Anderson for use of the Mannen site material. Tim and Ian Kenyon of Hamilton allowed the writer to note the one glass bead in their collection. Also, a sincere thanks to my typist, Mrs. Mary Mannen.

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