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Small Sites on and about Fort Berthold Indian Reservation,
Garrison Reservoir, North Dakota
By GEORGE METCALF

covered. These fragments, as well as the chips found, carried a heavy encrustation of lime on the lowermost side.

Feature 2 was a fire-reddened, circular area 25 inches in diameter. The center was depressed to a maximum depth of 2 inches, and this shallow basin held a few pieces of charcoal and an inch-thick layer of white ashes. The earth beneath showed thermal effects to a depth of 3 inches. Apart from the small quantity of charcoal and ash, the only directly associated objects were two chalcedony chips which were in the earth fill of the basin immediately above the ash.

The subsurface conditions encountered in this test suggest that the site had served as a camp spot during the time that the dark soil layer was accumulating. Early in this period the occupation had either been of some duration or had occurred often over a fairly long period. Later occupation was evidently much more sporadic. It seems safe to assume that all occupation of the site preceded White contact.

32DU9 (map 1).—This site, located during the 1950 survey, yielded as surface finds at the time of discovery a broken blade, many flakes, bone splinters, fire-cracked rocks, and a few very small cord-impressed sherds. In order to determine more accurately its archeological potentialities, it was revisited by G. Hubert Smith and myself in October 1951, and 2½ days were spent in digging a test trench across the east end of the site.

This site is on the right side of the Missouri, on a small terrace remnant on the left side of Boggy Creek, at the point where that small tributary empties into the larger stream, in the NW¼SE¼ sec. 20, T. 150 N., R. 93 W. Along this stretch of the Missouri River the stream crowds close against the south side of the valley and the upland is cut through by numerous small creeks, the valleys of which have steep, often precipitous sides. This results in long arms of upland, separated from each other by deep coulees and ravines, thrusting out toward the river. The general aspect of the country is bold and rugged in the extreme. Nevertheless it was good country for the aboriginal hunter, teeming with both large and small game. The rugged terrain afforded stalking conditions for men armed only with short-range weapons, and the mouth of every valley offered a sheltered camping spot close to abundant supplies of wood and water.

The site occupies a small triangular terrace, the point of which is downstream (east), with a steep hill-slope to the west, the Missouri River a few yards to the north, and Boggy Creek coulee opening to the southward. The north side of the terrace drops sharply for some 30 feet to the few yards of willow-covered flood plain that separates it from the river shore. Judging from the extent of the thin, charcoal-marked line exposed in the north cutbank of the terrace, the

site can be but little over a hundred yards in length (east-west) with a maximum width of 60 yards and an average of 30 yards.

A trench 30 feet in length, 5 feet in width, and oriented north-south was laid out across the terrace 50 feet west of the eastern tip and divided into 5-foot squares. This was dug to the undisturbed, yellow clay subsoil. The upper part of the terrace proved to be made up of a faintly laminated light and darker soil to an average depth of 5.5 inches, although the actual measurements show this layer to vary from a depth of 1 inch to about 9 inches, the deepest part of the zone being at the center of the terrace, the shallowest on the south slope. Scattered flint chips were found near the top of the layer, only an inch or two below the surface. Beneath the layer, and overlaying the sterile yellow clay subsoil, was a band of dark soil varying from 4 to 9 inches in thickness, but which most commonly measured close to 6 inches (fig. 5). Feature 1 was present in this layer, near the south end of the trench, at a depth of 10 inches below the surface. This was a pit 18 inches in diameter and 6 inches deep, filled with burned stones—flat limestone slabs and granite cobbles (pl. 10). The interstices between the stones were filled with rich, black earth and charcoal. The sides of the pit were blackened, but there was no reddening of the soil although among the stones which formed the bulk of the fill was a lump of red-burned earth an inch or two in diameter. This feature may represent the pit and stones of a sweat-lodge; certainly it was not a hearth.

Charcoal was scanty, but other camp and cultural debris was found throughout the dark layer, the first objects to be encountered coming out generally from a depth of 7 or 8 inches below the surface. Finds became more common at a depth of about 10 inches, and material was present to the underlying yellow clay. The very lowest part of the level, however, contained but little cultural material, and even the presence of some part of the scanty finds from that level may be due to rodent activity.

Apparently there were two occupations at this site. The latest is represented only by a few flint chips and the half of a large glass bead (pl. 11, k) which came from just below the surface. The earlier occupation, evidence of which was encountered at an average depth of about 8 inches, is represented by a handful of rather nondescript artifacts.

From the lowest level of the 150 square feet of area uncovered in the course of this test, came 10 very small sherds, one of which is from the rim of a vessel. In color they are dark gray to black. Tempering is with a sparse amount of fine sand. The paste is compact and inclined to be flaky in texture with some distortion occasionally present about the tempering particles. There seems to be no tendency toward crumbling, and the ware is hard and rather brittle.



Feature 1, 32DU9.



Artifacts from 32DU9.