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Department of the Secretary of State

Ottawa

PRELIMINARY REPORT ON A  
WOODLAND SITE NEAR DEEP RIVER,  
ONTARIO

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# PRELIMINARY REPORT ON A WOODLAND SITE NEAR DEEP RIVER, ONTARIO

## INTRODUCTION

This preliminary report describes the materials from a site in the little-documented area of the Upper Ottawa Valley. Upon the recovery of surface finds, preliminary excavation was undertaken in the spring of 1952 by Mr. A. Tarc of Galt, Ontario, and the author, and continued for a portion of each succeeding summer until 1963. A site code number, CaGi-1, has been assigned by the National Museum of Canada, conforming to the 'Uniform Site Designation Scheme for Canada,' proposed by C.E. Borden (1952). The closest town with access by highway is Deep River, Ontario, and the site must be reached by boat from there.

The bulk of the cultural material recovered pertains to a Middle Woodland occupation, with later manifestations indicating an Iroquoian component followed by a possible contact group. This site also produced sufficient sherds of the rarer Vinette-1 pottery type to permit reconstruction of vessel form (Mitchell, 1963).

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I wish to express my gratitude to the many individuals who assisted in the preparation of this paper, particularly those whose names appear below.

Mr. D.E. McQuade, of Deep River, Ontario, for assuming complete responsibility for the photographs used in this paper.

Dr. J.V. Wright and Dr. W.E. Taylor, of the National Museum of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, for critical reading and helpful suggestions for the improvement of this paper.

Dr. W.W. Jury, of the Museum of Indian Archaeology and Pioneer Life, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, for helpful identification of some of the Vinette-2 ware and advice on trade goods.

Mr. D. Wilson, the Company of Cutlers in Hallamshire, Sheffield, England; Rev. Father G. Cooper, Deep River, Ontario, and Rev. Father G. Mungham, S.F.M.; for helpful research and advice in identifying trade goods.

Mr. A. Tarc, of Galt, Ontario, and the late Mr. W. Mulligan of Pembroke, Ontario, for their sustained interest in the excavation of the site.

The European artifacts occurred from the surface to a depth of six inches, with most of the material at approximately four inches in the black topsoil. This is considered to be a late contact deposit rather than the remains of a white settlement on the basis of a small white trade bead and the conversion to end scrapers of two well-used (discarded?) gun flints (Plate III, figs. 8 and 9). Four gun flints were recovered, one of which was unused (fig. 7). In addition, the following items were excavated:

### **Iron**

A trade axe (fig. 10) was accompanied by an iron file (fig. 6), and both were surface finds. The axe had separated into two halves indicating that the 'bit' had been forged between the halves. Two handmade nails, 4 mm square in cross-section and 60.5 mm long, with the characteristic faceted head, are illustrated in fig. 12.

### **Brass**

The three-bladed, brass-sided folding knife of figure 11 bears the legend 'Wades Celebrate Cutlery.' Mr. David Wilson of Sheffield, England (pers. comm.), has advised that the makers were in business approximately between the years 1650 and 1812.

A cross (fig. 14), a brass thimble with an iron end cap (fig. 13), a fragment possibly from a brass kettle, and three cartridge cases complete the inventory. One cartridge case is a thin rolled brass cylinder set into an iron base containing what appears to be the remains of a primer cap. The other two are clearly marked '351 W.R.A. Co.'

### **Miscellaneous**

A number of kaolin pipe bowls and stems and a 'white metal' button bearing the legend "Pro Bono Publico" were also found.

## CONCLUSIONS

This site, by virtue of its predominance of collarless, outflaring rim vessels decorated with pseudo scallop shell, overall cording, and dentate stamping, falls into the classification commonly referred to as Point Peninsula. There is also, however, a relatively early Iroquoian component represented.