

BARRY M. MITCHELL, P. BUTLER\*, J. FORD\* and J. LANCE\*

(Accepted August 16th, 1965)

# The Multi-Component Montgomery Lake Site

## ABSTRACT

This report places on record a description of the artifacts excavated from a site in the National Defence Training Grounds, within Camp Petawawa Military Reserve, near Petawawa, Ontario, which includes a very small sample of European trade goods, suggesting terminal occupation by a contact group, with earlier Archaic, Middle Woodland and Late Woodland artifacts.

## INTRODUCTION

Within the northwest corner of Algonquin Park, in a series of deep valleys, arise the headwaters of the Petawawa River, (Chapman and Putnam, 1951: 129), which, via a number of lakes flows approximately 110 miles southeast into the Ottawa River. Throughout the length of this river, numerous rapids occur, many of which are situated near low plateaux suitable for occupation by Indians. One such location lies 16 miles from the confluence of the Petawawa and Ottawa Rivers, at a widening known as Montgomery Lake.

At the suggestion of Messrs. T. Bruce, A. Denovan, T. Longhurst and G. Matteau, of Deep River, Ontario, an expedition to Montgomery Lake was undertaken in May, 1961, to investigate the surrounding area for signs of occupation by aboriginal groups. This led to the discovery of a quantity of pseudo scallop shell decorated body sherds, but it was not until the spring of 1963 that any serious attempt could be made to determine the extent of the deposit, due to military operations in the area concerned. In May of that year, under the authority of a military permit, an alternate cell system was employed to yield information about the size of the site and also to expose quickly, any artifact concentrations. The code number B<sub>1</sub> G<sub>J</sub>-1, assigned by the National Museum of Canada follows the Borden system of site designation (Borden, 1952).

## EXCAVATION

Five feet above water at the eastern end of the lake and lying due north is a 300 by 50 foot gravel plain, over which one to two inches of recent humus has formed. At the southern end of this low plateau the lake empties through a 100 yard long rapids.

Excavation by controlled levelling was not attempted in the gravel but consisted of trowelling between stones, removing them when exposed

One of circular cross section was 4.5 in diameter and 108 mm long, tapering to a point at both ends. The second was rectangular in cross section (5.2 x 3), pointed at one end only and 104 mm long. These specimens may possibly be interpreted as fishhooks.

PENDANT: 1 specimen (Plate 2, Figure 18)

A circular cross section copper billet, tapering from a diameter of 9.6 mm at one end to a blunted point may represent a pendant. It was 48.3 mm long. It is possible that this may represent a conical copper projectile point.

### MISCELLANEOUS

QUARTZ CRYSTAL: Not illustrated

Two hexagonal portions of quartz crystal were recovered, each approximately 35 mm long.

IRON OXIDE: Not illustrated

Several lumps of both hematite and limonite occurred throughout the site.

### EUROPEAN MATERIAL

In addition to an assortment of kaolin clay pipe bowls and stems, horseshoe nails, etc., was one iron harpoon head. This was a single, bilaterally barbed harpoon with a 4.2 mm circular cross section and an overall length of 205 mm.

Also a small number of blue, white-striped trade beads were recovered on the surface. They were 5.4 long, 2.7 mm diameter at the center, and tapered towards both ends.

### CONCLUSION

The impenetrable nature of the soil at this site has prevented the buildup of any cultural strata that might have existed, and disturbance has compounded the situation.

Predominantly outflaring, uncollared rims with the decorative techniques of pseudo-scallop shell, rocker stamping, incising, etc., suggests a Middle Woodland occupation principally and the presence of castellations with certain decorative techniques indicates a late stage. The presence of Vinette-1 does not detract from this and conforms to the statement of Lee (1952:72) that it may be explained in terms of a slight backwash from New York in middle Point Peninsula times.

The presence of the gouge and a few large polished blades; and the recovery of a collared castellated vessel made by the paddle and anvil method may possibly represent other traditions. From an examination of the material, Dr. J. V. Wright, of the National Museum of Canada has suggested that there are indications of Archaic, Late