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ARCHEOLOGY 14

EXCAVATIONS IN AN ERIE INDIAN VILLAGE AND BURIAL SITE AT RIPLEY, CHAUTAUQUA CO., N. Y.

BEING THE RECORD OF THE STATE MUSEUM ARCHEOLOGICAL EXPEDITION OF 1906

BY

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Archeologist

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ALBANY

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right directly before the face and another at the pelvis. Orientation: head northeast, face northwest, right side, tightly flexed.

Grave XIII, pit 22, in trench 3 at 45' proved to be the grave of a child of perhaps 6 years. The bones were fragile and broken and the skull was crushed by the weight of the earth. The grave bottom was 28" below the surface. Before the face was a pottery vessel of Iroquoian form. The rim is missing from an ancient breakage and the pot body is cracked. Orientation: head south, face east, right side, flexed position.

Grave XIV, pit 23, in trench 3 was at 50' on the west side of the trench. This pit was traced down by the disturbed sand in which were lumps of topsoil, charred wood and fire-cracked stone. A badly decayed skeleton of an adult female lay at 52" below the surface in the clay stratum. To the rear of the skull was a pottery vessel having an ancient rim break. The three missing pieces were found in the grave soil and the vessel restored [see pl. 30, fig. 4]. An examination of the break suggested that it must have been caused by a stone or hard lump of earth when the grave was filled. Orientation: head south, face east, right side, flexed position.

Grave XV, pit 24, in trench 3 at 55' was on the east side of the trench. It contained the crumbling skeleton of an adult lying 48" below the surface. It was impossible to discover the position and there were no objects in the grave.

Grave XVI, pit 25, in trench 3 was just north of pit 24. At 42" from the surface the grave bottom was found and in it a deposit of bone dust.

Grave XVII, pit 33, in trench 3 at 65' on the east side of the trench was similar in character to grave XVI. At 48" down there was a deposit of bone dust and a crushed pottery vessel.

Grave XVIII, pit 39, at 13' on the east side of trench 5 contained the crumbling remains of a young adult male. A pottery vessel, F481 was found at the occiput an inch or two to the east. A small triangular flint arrow point was found in the lumbar vertebra and a fragment of a blue glass bead¹ at the pelvis. The grave was rectangular in outline being 35" by 48" and 36" deep. Orientation of the skeleton: head northwest, face southwest, right side, position flexed.

Grave XIX, pit 40 at 17' on the west side of trench 5 was rectangular in outline, being 3' by 4' and 49" deep. The skeleton was that of an adult and so badly decayed that the teeth crumbled at

¹This was the only object of glass found in any part of the site.