

DATA BOX

311

ENVIRONMENT, MAN,

AND MAYMAYGWAYSHI:

the dimensions of past human
cultural impact in the Lake of
the Woods area

part I - 1976

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RESEARCH MANUSCRIPT SERIES

JUNE 1977



Ontario

Ministry of
Culture and
Recreation

Historical
Planning and
Research Branch

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DkKp-8 (BALLYNACREE)

This site is located on the south side of a bay at the west tip of Tunnel Island in the Winnipeg River, two kilometres from the entrance to the river. A gently sloping rock face provides a good small boat or canoe landing area, and the site lies on a broad flat area approximately 30 metres by 25 metres. The 4,780 artifacts were recovered by surface collection and from four square metres of test excavation--over 4,200 of these are glass seed beads from a single concentration. A permanent datum point has been cold-chiselled in the sloping rock face at the river edge of the site. Soil horizons consist of a loose dark brown loam over a mottled dark/light brown layer, with a light brown sand underneath. Within these horizons Laurel, Blackduck-Selkirk, and Fur Trade period components were excavated in three centimetre levels.

Features encountered were a hearth at a depth of 14 centimetres with Laurel ceramics and burnt bone in association, and a series of four post moulds one of which contained a Blackduck rimsherd. Prehistoric ceramics included late Laurel, possible transitional Laurel, Blackduck, and Selkirk, and some 19th century cup fragments were also recovered. Lithic raw materials are varied, with Hudson Bay Lowland chert, Knife River chert, Lake of the Woods chert, various types of quartz, felsite, rhyolite, and steatite. The historic period is represented by the seed beads, a "Dixon" clay pipe stem (1876-94), a Jew's harp, "Flow Blue" refined white earthenware, square-headed nails, and porcelain buttons.

The site, though not large, is relatively undisturbed and (together with DkKp-9 below) would serve as a useful control excavation for Woodland and Historic cultural continuities of the Lake of the Woods planning area. Selected artifacts are shown in Figure 9, and site data is summarized in Site Summary Sheet 5, Appendix C.

DkKp-9 (BALLYNAMORE)

This site is also located on the western tip of Tunnel Island, across the bay directly north of DkKp-8. The 813 artifacts were recovered by surface collection and from four square metres excavated in three centimetre levels. There were five visible horizons in the matrix: humus, loose dark brown loam, mottled light/dark brown loam, light brown sand, and finally bedrock. Cultural affiliations present in the recovered materials include Archaic, Laurel, Blackduck-Selkirk, and Fur Trade era.

Lithic raw materials included various types of quartz, felsite, rhyolite, Lake of the Woods green and black chert, Hudson Bay Lowland chert, and an unidentified banded chert. Ceramics included at least eleven Laurel vessels and eight Blackduck/Selkirk vessels--there being evidence of fusion of these two latter cultures on the ceramics. Glass seed beads and a copper "tinkling cone" comprise the historic component, which is in close contact with the Blackduck/Selkirk materials. Features encountered were a hearth or steaming pit at a depth of 14.5 centimetres, and a concentration of quartz and felsite detritus at 18 centimetres which probably represents a male activity area. As mentioned, this site and DkKp-8 are both small, relatively undisturbed habitation areas which would serve as good control excavations for the area's culture history.

A view of the hearth feature is shown in Slide 5, and selected artifacts are shown in Figure 10. Site data is summarized in Site Summary Sheet 6, Appendix C. A permanent datum point has been cold

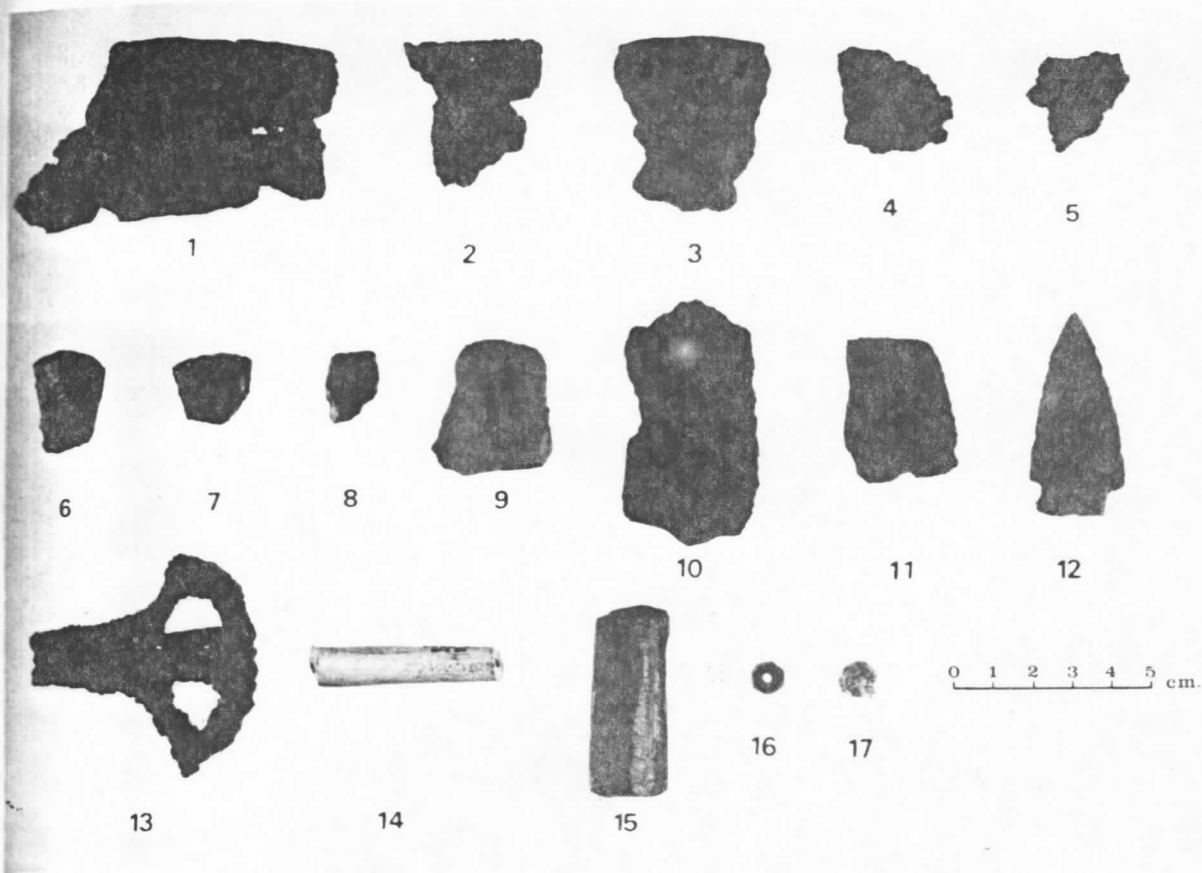


Figure 9 - BALLYNACREE SITE (DkKp-8) ARTIFACTS

1. Rim, cord-wrapped stick obliques, punctates.
2. Rim, cord-wrapped stick obliques over horizontals, punctates.
3. Rim, plain, punctate-segregated exterior bosses.
4. Shoulder, horizontal dentate stamp.
5. Shoulder, dentate stamp horizontals over obliques.
6. End scraper, Knife River chert.
7. End scraper, Knife River chert.
8. End/side scraper, Lake of the Woods chert.
9. End/side scraper, Hudson Bay Lowland chert.
10. Side scraper, Lake of the Woods chert.
11. End/side scraper, Lake of the Woods chert.
12. Projectile point, corner notched, Hudson Bay Lowland chert.
13. Jew's harp.
14. Dixon of Montreal pipe stem.
15. Steatite blank.
16. Blue glass faceted bead.
17. Green glass faceted jewellery stud.