

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES # 18

INDIAN NOTES  
AND MONOGRAPHS

EDITED BY F. W. HODGE

A SERIES OF PUBLICA-  
TIONS RELATING TO THE  
AMERICAN ABORIGINESNOTES ON IROQUOIS  
ARCHEOLOGYBY  
ALANSON SKINNERNEW YORK  
MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN  
HEYE FOUNDATION

1921

034563

LIBRARY  
NATIONAL MUSEUM  
OF CANADA

52	IROQUOIS
	<p>Town destroyed by Sullivan's army is erroneous.</p> <p>Approximately three miles southwest of this site lies the Jesuit mission village explored by the writer and Mr Cadzow, on the south bank of Great Gully, which will be described later in detail.</p> <p>Possibly these three sites correspond with the three Cayuga non-palisaded villages visited by Wentworth Greenhalgh in 1677.<sup>14</sup></p> <p>About two miles farther south, in the village of Scpioville (lot 26, Scpio), is another Jesuit station, remarkable for the religious articles and the profusion of red shale or catlinite beads and pendants which it has revealed. Here again Adams found many artifacts, including several pipes of native origin. If the writer is not mistaken, one of these was the often-illustrated raven pipe which subsequently found its way into the Douglas collection now in the American Museum of Natural History. Mr Benjamin Watkins, who formerly lived on this site, presented to the Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation, quantities of beads, a stone carving of a human</p>
	INDIAN NOTES

CAYUGA	53
<p>face, and several clay pipe-bowls (figs. 17, b, 18, a, 23, a); he also spoke of finding a bone comb in a grave here, which was carved to represent two bears, squatted on their haunches, facing each other. Local farmers have effigy pipes, crucifixes, Jesuit rings, medals, beads, axes and brass kettles.</p> <p>Five or six miles southeast is a site on Big Salmon creek, in Venice Center, where Jesuit relics have been found. Here the writer and his party spent several days in digging, in company with Mr Adams and alone, in 1916 and 1919, but only disturbed burials with a few beads and metal objects were found. In Mr Adams' note-book, which he kindly lent to the writer, he says that he found in graves in the sand bluff east of the creek, Jesuit rings and polychrome Venetian beads, brass kettles (one over the skull of a skeleton), guns, pipes, and an earthenware jar placed upright in a brass kettle. This may be the small jar shown in pl. x.</p> <p>One long, red-glass bead, and several wampum and discoid shell beads, an iron knife and kettle fragments, were all that</p>	
AND MONOGRAPHS	

Lot 113, Ledyard in the  
village of Sciopo, N.Y.

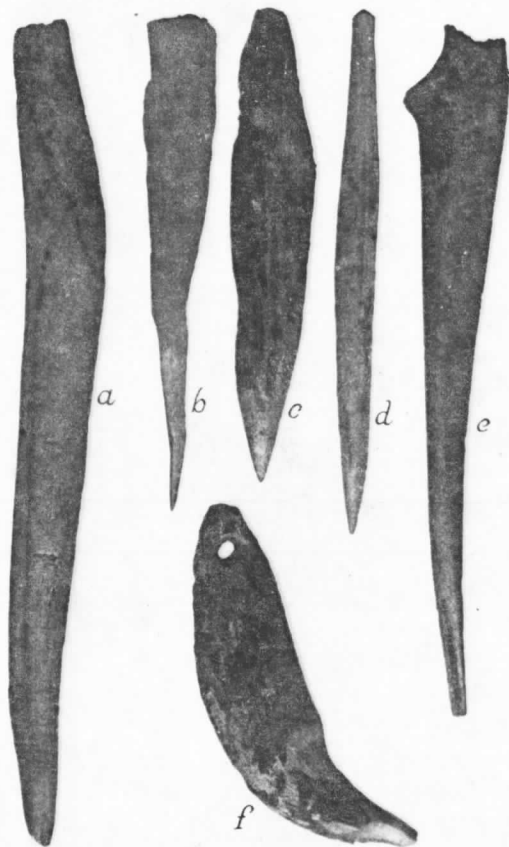
Great Gully site - cemetery I

CAYUGA	59
<p>against the northeastern corner of the grave, at an angle of 45 degrees. The upper right arm lay parallel with the trunk; the lower arm was at a right angle with it. About six inches in front of the finger-bones was a deposit consisting of an iron bullet-mold of small caliber, part of a metal knife-blade, a piece of a native clay pipe of the Pan-Iroquois line-and-dot pattern, and four large and handsomely engraved bone tubes (fig. 7). The remains of a flat, narrow, wooden object, nearly six feet in length, probably a bow, lay under the body and extended from head to feet; six inches before the face was a small pile of round or barrel-shaped red-glass trade beads, with at least one tiny blue polychrome "star" bead. With these was a cylindrical fragment of brass, two or three inches long. Near the skull were two small sherds of native pottery, and scattered throughout the grave soil were scraps of brass kettle, flint chips, and bits of white and colored china.</p> <p><i>Grave 2.</i>—This grave, which was four feet east of grave 1, was 5 ft. 10 in. long, by 4</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">✓</p>
AND MONOGRAPHS	

ft. broad and 4 ft. deep. It contained bones scattered from surface to bottom, where there were three heaps of long-bones representing probably six individuals. The first of these bundles (*a*) was found in the north-west corner of the pit and contained two inferior maxillaries; at the opposite corner was a similar bundle (*b*), with one lower jaw; and in the third bundle (*c*), which lay in the center of the pit, were some infants' scapulæ from bodies not represented by other bones. All the bones were greatly decayed, and the skulls were fragmentary. With bundle *a*, in the northwestern corner, there were no objects; but bundle *c* contained part of a short and narrow wampum belt wrapped around some of the bones. On the southern side of the pit, close by, was an iron trade axe, set upright, blade down. Bundle *b*, in the southeastern corner, had a globular green-glass bead, some very tiny glass beads, and several long, triangular, and tubular beads of red stone, probably catlinite (fig. 24), some of which are notched and engraved.

*Grave 3.*—In troweling over the outer

## INDIAN NOTES



BONE IMPLEMENTS FROM CAYUGA SITES

(Length of *a*,  $5\frac{1}{4}$  in.)

*Grave 5.*—This grave, which was  $4\frac{1}{2}$  ft. deep, held the skeleton of a woman, at length on its back, head to the west, facing over the left shoulder to the north. The right arm was folded across the abdomen, the other was folded with the hand under the chin. At the back of the head was a round hollow in the clay, 8 or 10 in. in diameter, which seemed to have contained a bundle of which the only remains consisted of a decayed black substance. At one side of this hollow was a beautiful carved bone back-comb (pl. ix), representing two panthers rampant, climbing on their own tails, and facing each other with tongues joined. Both flat surfaces of the comb are covered with finely etched designs. At the right knee of the skeleton was the upper end of a human femur that had been sawed off with a stone knife (fig. 5), and at the right foot was about a quart of bones and scales of fish. About two feet above the skeleton was an earthenware pipe bowl (fig. 17, a). The bones of this skeleton were in fair condition, so that it was possible to save the skull.

*Grave 6.*—At a depth of three feet was found the flexed skeleton of an aged woman lying on the left side, facing north. Back of the head was a brass kettle having a capacity of about a quart, in which were a few short deerskin thongs, some knotted. The kettle had rested on and been covered by bark, probably of elm, shreds of which were preserved by the metallic salts of the kettle. The bones of the skeleton had practically disappeared through decay.

*Grave 7.*—At a depth of  $4\frac{1}{2}$  ft. was the skeleton of an infant less than a year old, extended on its back, headed west. The child was flanked by two flintlock guns, both pointed west, with flints affixed, and portions of the wooden attachments, as well as the brass ferules that had held the cleaning rods. At the top of the head, with the blade pointed northwestward, was a cutlass, probably French, with an antique basket hilt of rusted metal, to which had been attached a few round, black, glass beads. Near the waist were two long, cylindrical, shell beads, and about twelve inches away from the feet, at the eastern

68	IROQUOIS
<p>✓</p>	<p>north of that last described. This held the flexed skeleton of an old person, on its back, probably a woman, headed west, facing north, with arms folded across the trunk. The bones, although greatly decayed, were still traceable. Over the left shoulder was a small brass kettle of about one quart capacity, in which were the moldering fragments of a wooden spoon with a broad bowl. Six inches above the skull was a piece of the bowl of an ornately decorated clay trumpet pipe (fig. 15), and a single tiny, round, green-glass bead lay among the bones.</p> <p>The grass grows very green in the spring in a large circle around the spot where these graves were found, but persistent testing yielded no further remains. Those encountered were probably isolated burials. Mr Ernest J. Young has Jesuit rings, stone celts, small triangular flint arrows, glass and shell beads, pitted hammerstones, stone mullers or corn grinders, brass arrow-points and jinglers, and a small, well-carved stone mask, all of which were found on the surface or in graves at this site.</p>
	INDIAN NOTES

SKINNER—IROQUOIS ARCHEOLOGY

PL. X



CAYUGA POTTERY JAR FROM VENICE CENTER

(Height, about 6 in.)