

THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF COASTAL NEW YORK

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TRAIT TABLE, SHANTOK ASPECT—*Continued*

CATEGORY	TRAIT	PANTIGO	FORT CORCHAUG	FORT SHANTOK
Metal				
Projectile points	Triangular, straight base, brass		1	
	Triangular, concave base, brass		1	
	Triangular, concave base, with perforation		1	1
	Triangular, concave base, iron		1	2
	Cylindrical, hollow, copper			4
Fishhooks	Curved copper hook			1
Beads	Cylindrical, copper	x		4
	Cylindrical, brass	x		
	Barrel shaped, copper	x		
Needles	Perforated iron			1
Awls	Iron awls		1	8
Knives	Iron blades, fragmentary			14
	Iron blades with handles	4		
	Fragment of sword (?) blade		1	
Jew's-harps	Iron jew's-harp		1	1
	Brass jew's-harp, marked "R"		1	
	Brass jew's-harp			2
Kettles	Iron kettles	4		
	Brass kettle, bark on rim	1		
	Copper kettle handle			1
Spoons	Cut from brass kettle	1		
	Brass, fragmentary	1	1	2
	Brass, silver plated, with plain, trefoil, and seal ends	6		
Buttons	Pewter, fragmentary	2		
	Disc shaped, pewter	x		
	Hemispherical, pewter	x		
	Hemispherical, brass	x		
Miscellaneous	Iron armor (?) plate, fragmentary		1	
	Iron ax head			1
	Iron hammer head			2
	Iron scissors			4
	Iron hoe			1
	Iron bullet mould			1
	Iron gun lock			1
	Iron hasp			1
	Iron hook			1
	Iron key			1
	Iron bolt		1	
	Iron nails		12	x
	Iron wedge		1	
	Brass bell			1
	Brass ferrule			1
	Brass wire			1
	Brass comb	1		
	Brass buckles	2		
	Brass thimbles, perforated	x		
	Brass box, cylindrical	1		
	Brass ring	1		
	Copper sheet, sharpened edge		3	
	Copper tinkler, iron pellet	1		
	Copper pennies, English, 1728 ⁴	2		
	Bronze pipe, L-shaped			1
	Pewter dishes, fragmentary	2		

Shell

Perforated East Indian cowry

1

TRAIT TABLE, SHANTOK ASPECT—*Continued*

CATEGORY	TRAIT	PANTIGO	FORT CORCHAUG	FORT SHANTOK
	Silver religious token	1		
	Fragments of iron, copper, brass	?	x	x
Glass				
Vessels	Green "sack" bottles	3		
	Green bottle, fragments		6	x
	Clear bottle, fragments		1	x
	Amber glass pitcher, Venetian	1		
✓ Beads	Cylindrical to spherical, many colors	x		x
Buttons	Hemispherical, iron eyelet		1	
	Spherical, iron eyelet	x		
Pottery				
Glazed ware	White, porringer, Delft	1		
	Black on yellow, pitcher, Staffordshire	1		
	Black on yellow, mug, Staffordshire	1		
	Black on yellow, base of vessel, Staffordshire	1		
	Blue on gray, sherds		1	x
	Brown, sherds		12	x
Kaolin pipes	Plain, obtuse elbow	5		
	"RT," obtuse elbow	1		
	Plain, obtuse elbow, disc-heel		x	x
	"EB," obtuse elbow, disc-heel		x	x
	Tudor Rose, obtuse elbow, disc-heel		x	x
	"IA," obtuse elbow, disc-heel			x
	Stems, stamped with <i>fleur-de-lis</i>		x	x
	Miscellaneous fragments		125+	100+
	Stem reworked into bead		1	1
MISCELLANEOUS				
Blankets		x		
Finely twined textile		x		
Medicine bag, "homespun," with human hair attached		1		
Charred rope				x
Bones of horse			x	x
Bones of cow				x
Bones of pig				x

EAST RIVER ASPECT

LATE PREHISTORIC TO HISTORIC, *CIRCA* 1100-1700 A.D.

The East River aspect occurs about the mouth of the Hudson River, extending northward from Staten Island through Manhattan Island into the northeastern corner of New Jersey, and eastward through the mainland of southeastern New York State to western Long Island. The aspect consists of four foci: Massapeag, Clasons Point, Rosenkrans Ferry, and Bowmans Brook.

The documentation of the Massapeag focus as the culture of the Massapequa and the occurrence of European trade material in a few of the sites assigned to the earlier Clasons Point

focus indicate that the East River aspect represents the culture of the Algonkian-speaking peoples who inhabited the area in historic times. Specifically, the Wappinger, western Metoac, and some groups of Delaware appear to have carried the culture designated as the East River aspect.

Village sites are situated on or near tidal streams and bays. The type of dwelling is unknown from archaeological evidence, but documentary sources suggest the use of rectangular and possibly round houses consisting of pole frameworks covered with bark or skins.

are catalogued as having been excavated from the top layer or from depths ranging from 8 to 16 inches. This is corroborated by Skinner's description of the pottery from the top layer and the later pits.¹ One grit-tempered sherd is of the type Van Cortlandt stamped. Clasons Point stamped is represented by seven grit-tempered sherds. Twelve grit-tempered sherds are identifiable as Bowmans Brook stamped, a type present in one of Skinner's later pits according to a catalogued specimen at the Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation. Two grit-tempered sherds are Bowmans Brook incised. Fourteen grit-tempered cord-marked sherds are evidently from the bodies of the East River vessels represented by the types listed above. Similarly, another 14 plain body sherds, one of which is shell tempered, may have had a similar provenience.

While few of the East River style sherds are catalogued as to vertical occurrence, it is evident from Skinner's published descriptions that they came from the upper layer and from the later pits. The shallowest recorded provenience for a Windsor sherd is 20 inches, and the deepest recorded provenience for an East River sherd is 16 inches. It is justifiable to state that the stratigraphic evidence at hand shows that the East River style is later than the Windsor style.

It is impossible to segregate the non-ceramic specimens completely as to cultural affiliation and vertical provenience. Harrington did not record the depth of each find, and Skinner is often vague as to which layer an artifact or group of artifacts belongs. It is necessary to combine the lower and middle layers and refer to them as Throgs Neck I and II. Similarly the top or upper layer is combined with the later pits and called Throgs Neck III.

Skinner's published account summarizes the non-ceramic content of the site, and a study of the plates and figures makes it possible to apply the same classificatory terms that are used throughout the present analysis.²

Projectile points are of stemmed, side-notched, corner-notched, lozenge, fishtail, pentagonal, ovate, and triangular forms. Skinner found that the lozenge-shaped points belong to Throgs Neck I and II and that they are absent in Throgs Neck III. Triangular points

are common in Throgs Neck III and rare in Throgs Neck I and II. Fishtail points seem to have been found at all levels, but not in large numbers. No data are given for the other forms. Knives are of the broad-bladed, stemmed form. The remaining lithic traits associated with Throgs Neck I and II are the fully grooved ax, the three-quarter grooved ax, the celt, the perforated bannerstone, perforated pendant, sherds from steatite vessels, the plain hammerstone, the pitted hammerstone, amorphous abrading stones, the rectanguloid chopper or hoe, the notched netsinker, the grooved netsinker (or club head), the paint stone, and amorphous fragments of mica. Varieties of bone awls are present, including the rough splinter, ground splinter, notched splinter, splinter with articular end retained, deer ulna, and spine of the horseshoe crab. Flakers are of the antler tine and antler cylinder varieties. Other antler objects include wedges, tool sockets, and conical projectile points. Animal tooth pendants may also belong to the lower layers.

Throgs Neck III is distinguished by the predominance of triangular projectile points, bone work of a better grade, shell artifacts in the form of a bead and a shell cup, and a few European trade objects, including a triangular projectile point of brass, kaolin pipestems, ✓ pieces of glazed crockery, lead bullets, a blue glass bead, gun flints, and bottle glass.

As stated earlier, the provenience is not always clear, and the above lists should be taken as approximate inventories of the horizons. The best evidence for cultural superposition is to be found in the pottery. The data indicate that the Clasons Point focus of the East River aspect (Throgs Neck III) overlies the North Beach and Clearview foci of the Windsor aspect (Throgs Neck I and II). Lack of stratigraphic data makes it impossible to determine whether or not the presence of the type Vinette interior cord marked indicates distinct occupation prior to the Clearview focus which could be attributed to the North Beach focus of the Windsor aspect. If this could be demonstrated the sequence would be: Throgs Neck I, North Beach focus; Throgs Neck II, Clearview focus; Throgs Neck III, Clasons Point focus. It is clear, however, that at this site the Windsor aspect is earlier than the East River aspect. In the Trait Table, Windsor Aspect, the contents of Throgs Neck I and II are included in the Clearview focus.

¹ Skinner, 1919, 69-70; Fig. 3.

² Skinner, 1919, Pls. 3-7; Figs. 1-3.