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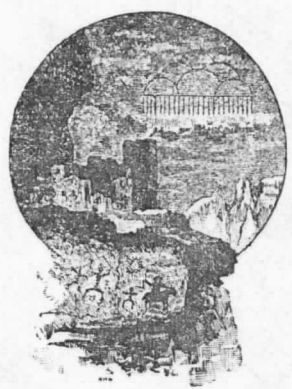
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AN INTRODUCTION
TO PAWNEE ARCHEOLOGY

BY
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The border is carved with zigzag lightning symbols. The emblem of the sun, 5 inches in diameter, with 4 long and 12 short rays, is neatly cut into the upper part of the piece, which is further embellished with brass-headed tacks (Nebr. Hist. Mag., x, 3, 1927, p. 192). It is a most unusual and attractive piece of work and was very likely made by Indian craftsmen. Fragments of other nicely decorated boards have been recovered, but none is sufficiently large to permit a good reconstruction.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Wooden boxes and chests, bound with leather or metal and studded with large-headed nails, are not uncommon, though always in fragmentary condition. Wooden-backed mirrors, sheaths, and numerous other odds and ends are frequently found, nearly always with rows of nails as ornamental features. The clumsy workmanship probably indicates that most of them were made by the Indians themselves, in imitation of the white man's articles. Occasionally a better piece is recovered, perhaps with a lock or hinge, these being probably imported and trade articles. Pipestems of light carved wood have been found in a few cases but were too fragmentary for accurate restoration.

MISCELLANEOUS OBJECTS

GLASS BEADS.—These were in very extensive use by the Pawnee after the arrival among them of white traders. Small white, blue, and red beads, of transparent glass, are by far the commonest, especially in graves, while black appears relatively infrequently. Tubular porcelain beads, less than one-half inch long, are also found, though not very plentiful. Large, irregularly shaped blue, red, and colorless beads, mostly translucent, have been regarded as of Indian manufacture because of their crudity (pl. 8, *n*). Samples of these were submitted to M. W. Stirling, of the Smithsonian Institution, for examination and were pronounced by him to be trade material from the Hudson Bay Co., probably via the Missouri.⁸² All of these were from the Hill site, abandoned about 1810. There is thus no positive evidence that the Pawnee ever manufactured their own glass beads, though the custom was followed by the Arikara, Mandan, and other upper Missouri River tribes in historic times.⁸³

METAL WORK.—Iron and copper become increasingly common with recency. Iron "squaw" hoes, gun parts, axes, chisels, bridles, stirrups, knives, and innumerable other odds and ends abound on the

⁸² Letter of Oct. 13, 1930.

⁸³ Lewis and Clark, 1922, vol. 1, p. 233. However, excavation at the Burkett site in April 1931 yielded a number of turquoise-blue, glass beads of rough manufacture and imperfect glass. According to Dr. W. D. Strong, these are closely similar to a native-made specimen of glass work secured by Dr. Mathew among the Arikara in 1870, now in the National Museum.

EXPLANATION OF PLATES

PLATE 1.—Pawnee earth lodge and house site. *a*, earth lodge near Pawnee, Okla., in 1905. Photo by Nebraska Historical Society. *b*, general appearance of lodge floor, house 1, Hill site; diameter 44 feet, depth 16 inches. The center has been excavated slightly below the floor level.

PLATE 2.—Vegetal material and textiles from the Hill site. *a*, tubers of *Apios tuberosa*; *b*, seeds of bush summer squash (*Cucurbita pepo melopepo*); *c*, pits of chokecherry (*Prunus virginiana*); *d*, pits of wild plum (*Prunus americana*); *e*, grains of charred flint corn (*Zea mays*); *f*, charred corncobs; *g*, *i*, fragments of bison-hair textile; *h*, hank or rope of bison hair; *j-l*, rush matting.

PLATE 3.—Pawnee vessels from various sites. *a* and *c* are from Palmer site; *a* is $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches high and $4\frac{7}{8}$ inches in maximum diameter; *c* is $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches high by $4\frac{7}{8}$ inches in diameter; *b* and *d* are from the Hill site, both restored; *b* is $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches by $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches across; *d* is 7 inches tall and 6 inches in diameter.

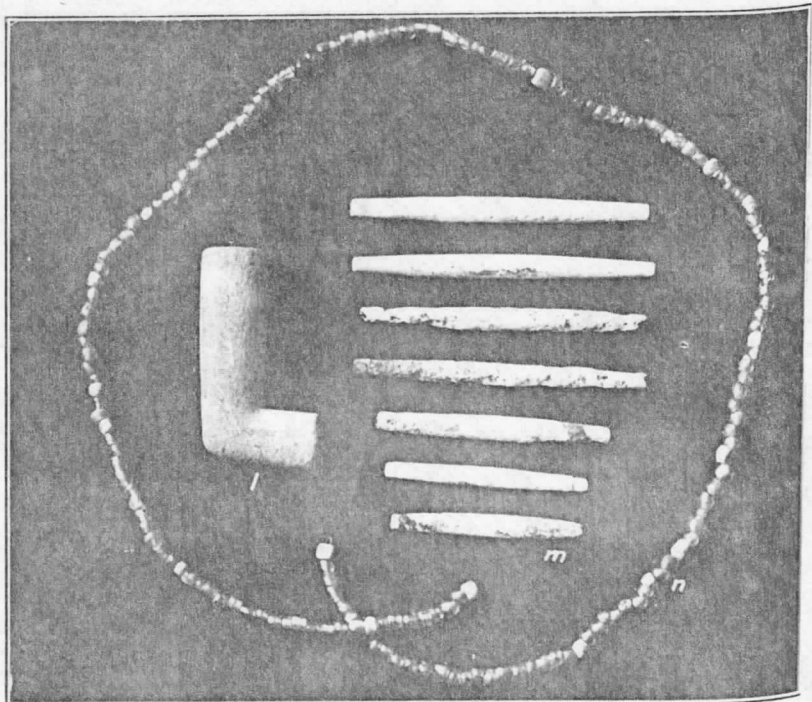
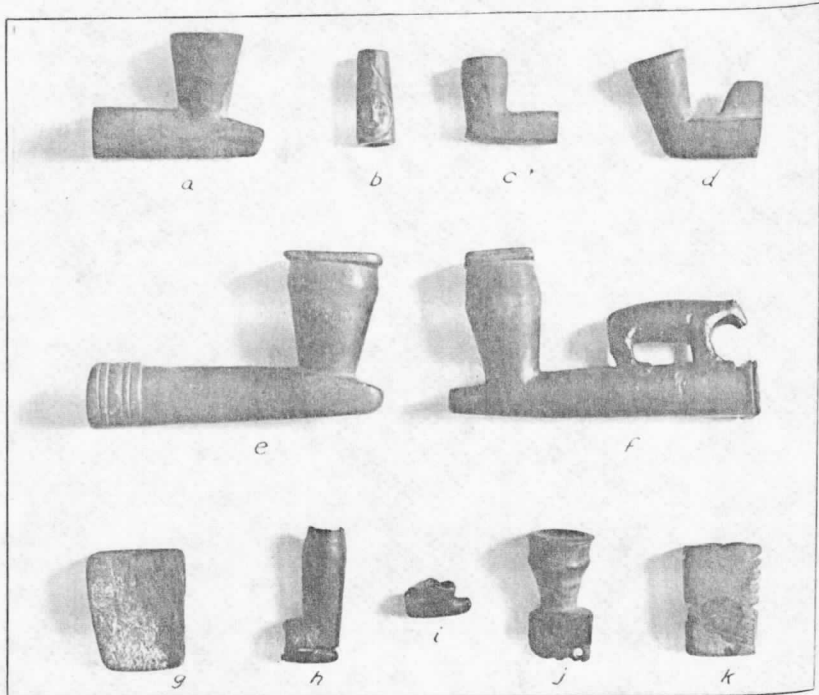
PLATE 4.—Complete vessels, probably Pawnee. *a* is 9 inches tall and $7\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter and shows all of the best diagnostics for Pawnee ware in both form and ornamentation; found on Prairie Creek, near Archer, Nebr. *b* is $5\frac{1}{4}$ inches high by $5\frac{7}{8}$ inches across; found in the Cedar River, near Fullerton, Nebr., and is of uncertain origin. Nebraska Historical Society collections.

PLATE 5.—Pawnee type rim sherds from various historic sites. *a-f*, Hill site; *g*, Horse Creek; *h-n*, Palmer site. *b*, *d-f*, *i*, *k*, illustrate the typical rim design; *a*, *h*, *l*, *n*, show the herringbone motif, second in abundance. Nearly all have lip indentations.

PLATE 6.—Selected rim sherds from Burkett site. All bear lip indentations. Note similarity of *b*, *h*, *j*, *l*, to historic Pawnee motifs (preceding plate). Handles occur on all but *h*, *j*, *l*, *n*.

PLATE 7.—Stonework from Hill site. *a-m* are from graves, one being nearly always in or near the left hand of every adult male skeleton. *a*, *f* $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches long; *j* is $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches long. *n-t* are arrowshaft buffers, of dark-brown coarse sandstone. In *p*, *q*, *r* are shown three perfectly matched pairs, each as found; they measure $4\frac{1}{2}$, $7\frac{1}{2}$, and 5 inches in length, respectively.

PLATE 8.—Pipes and mortuary offerings, various sites. *h*, *i* are from Burkett site; all others from Hill site. They are made of catlinite or some other fine-grained red stone; *a* is of gray material, *g* of coarse red sandstone. *f* is $4\frac{3}{4}$ inches long with a square-topped bowl $1\frac{7}{8}$ inches tall; found with a child burial. *i* is less than 1 inch long. Note straight specimen of cloudblower type, *b*; also perforated keel in *j*, groove about outer end of *h*, and small loop on top of *i*, for attachment of a thong. *l*, gray sandstone pipe, $2\frac{3}{8}$ inches tall by $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches long. *m*, perforated or grooved shell objects probably worn as ear or hair ornaments; longest pair $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches long and three-eighths inch in diameter. *n*, blue glass trade beads, probably obtained from Hudson Bay Company; they are about the size of a pea, very crude, and blue, red, or transparent in color.



PIPES AND MORTUARY OFFERINGS, VARIOUS SITES (HISTORIC PAWNEE).