The Archaeological Society of Ohio

Officers
President—Dana L. Baker, 1976
West Taylor St., Mt. Victory, Ohio
Vice President—Jan Sorgenfrei, 1976
7625 Maxtown Rd., Westerville, Ohio
Executive Secretary—Frank W. Otto, 1976
1503 Hempwood Dr., Cols., Ohio
Treasurer—John J. Winsch, 1976
6614 Summerdale Dr., Dayton, Ohio
Recording Secretary—Dave Mielke, 1976
Box 389, Botkins, Ohio
Editor—Robert N. Converse, 1978
199 Converse Drive, Plain City, Ohio

Trustees
Ensil Chadwick, 119 Rose Avenue, Mt. Vernon, Ohio 43050, 1978
Wayne A. Mortin, Scott Drive, Oxford Hts., Newcomerstown, Ohio, 1978
Charles H. Stout, 91 Redbank Drive, Fairborn, Ohio, 1978
Alva McGraw, Route #11, Chillicothe, Ohio, 1976
William C. Haney, 706 Buckhorn St., Ironton, Ohio, 1976
Ernest G. Good, 16 Civic Drive, Grove City, Ohio, 1976

Editorial Staff and Publishing Committee
Editor—Robert N. Converse, 199 Converse Drive, Plain City, Ohio 43064
Associate Editor—Martha P. Otto, The Ohio Historical Society, Columbus, Ohio 43211
Regional Collaborators—
David W. Kuhns, 2642 Shawnee Road, Portsmouth, Ohio
Charles H. Stout, Sr., 91 Redbank Drive, Fairborn, Ohio
Jeff Carskadden, 2686 Carol Drive, Zanesville, Ohio

Back Issues
Back issues of the Ohio Archaeologist may be purchased at the following prices:
Ohio Flint Types—$4.00 per copy
Ohio Stone Tools—$3.00 per copy
Ohio Slate Types—$5.00 per copy
Back issues 1964 to 1974—$2.00 per copy
Back issues prior to 1964 if still in print—$5.00 per copy
Write for prices on out of print issues
Make all checks or money orders payable to the Archaeological Society of Ohio and send to 199 Converse Drive, Plain City, Ohio 43064.

STANDING COMMITTEES
PROGRAM COMMITTEE
Martha P. Otto, Chairman
Ed. R. Hughes
Richard Stanbaugh
Frank Otto
John Winsch
Robert Converse
MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE
Richard Stanbaugh, Chairman
Ed. Gall
Summers Redick
Don Casto
Carroll Welling
Steve Parker
Robert Harter
Tom Stropki
John Vargo
David Scott
David Kuhns
Douglas Hooks
Steve Kelley

FRAUDULENT ARTIFACTS COMMITTEE
Robert Converse, Chairman
Ernest Good
Jack Hooks
Steve Fuller
Philip Foley
Don Bapst
Jan Sorgenfrei
David Scott

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
Alva McGraw, Chairman
Dwight Shipley
Gilbert Dilley
Norman Wright
David Kuhns
Robert Converse

EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY
Dave Mielke, Chairman
Charles Stout, Sr.
Marilyn Harness
Wayne Mortine
James Murphy
Ed R. Hughes

STANDING COMMITTEES
NOMINATING COMMITTEE
Jan Sorgenfrei, Chairman
Robert Converse
Jack Hooks
Ensil Chadwick

AUDITING COMMITTEE
Donn Buck, Chairman
Mike Kish
Ensil Chadwick

EXHIBITS COMMITTEE
Frank Otto, Chairman
John Winsch
Myers Campbell
Steve Fuller
Kenneth Black
Jim Ritchie
On Wednesday morning March 26th a bill was presented in committee by Representative John Scott, Republican of Fairborn, Ohio, to restrict and limit digging and excavation or otherwise destroying Indian burial sites. This bill was brought about through the efforts of an Indian group of Greene County who call themselves the Four Points Intertribal Council. Six people dressed in Indian regalia appeared as proponents of the legislation and claimed among other things that Indian burial grounds were not difficult to discover, that every prehistoric burial had artifacts of a ceremonial nature buried with it, and that there was little to learn in Ohio by further excavation of earthworks and mounds. They also claimed to represent all Indians—presumably in the United States as well as Ohio—and professed to be Shawnee Indians whose ancestors’ graves were being desecrated. Aside from the fact that there is not a single living person who can demonstrably establish himself as a descendant of any prehistoric Ohio Indian, the thought which immediately springs to mind is, do these people really represent all the Indians in Ohio and what portion of a mans ancestry determines whether he is Indian, Irish, or Lithuanian. To be quite frank, of the six people who appeared, only one looked as though he had Indian ancestry—the other five looked no different than an average American of European descent. One spokesman named Jerry Pope of Yellow Springs, Ohio, called himself Chief Tukemas of the Shawnee Nation, and I wondered, as he addressed the legislative committee, about the Indian beliefs and ceremonies—which were mostly fantasy—whether his chiefdom was one to which he was born or elected and if elected by whom.

At any rate, the provisions of House Bill 418 would pass into law some restrictions of great impact to the professional as well as the non-professional archaeologist and to anyone else interested in American prehistory. While the motives behind such a bill sound lofty and idealistic—and possibly appealing to the public in this day of minority causes and torch bearing by well meaning people for the seemingly downtrodden and abused—they are unworkable from a practical standpoint. For example, it would require a ninety day waiting period if any Indian burial is found—or even what is thought to be an Indian burial—during which an archaeological investigation—even the tradition and lore professed by modern Indians. Our knowledge of European prehistory is based largely on the excavation of prehistoric graves. What would we know of the Celts, the Vikings, or Cro-Magnon Neanderthal if it had not been from excavating their graves. The results of archaeological work have done as much to enhance the history and tradition of the prehistoric Indians as any other single factor—this bill would to all effects and purposes end any further additions to this rich heritage.

Dana L. Baker, President
The Meuser Miniatures
by Robert N. Converse
Plain City, Ohio

The late Dr. Gordon Meuser of Columbus, Ohio, had the largest and most complete collection of Ohio slate artifacts ever assembled. Over the years he had encountered a number of undersized and miniature specimens which he kept separate in a small frame. Although I do not recall the exact number, there were probably around 70 pieces in his original collection. At the first auction of the Meuser collection the miniatures were sold but a number of other pieces had been added to the original collection making the total 117. The added pieces include two rose quartz banners and a number of pipes.

Very probably many of these small pieces were beads or remnants of larger or salvaged artifacts, but most are actually undersized examples of larger types of ornaments and tools. The small reel shaped banner in the lower row right and the tiny Adena keyhole pendant in the upper right corner are extremely interesting as is the miniature pestle lower row center and the extremely small container in the fourth row from top center. Two tiny geniculates lower right corner and left side sixth row from top and two small butterfly banners are very rare.

Many materials are represented such as shell, banded slate, hematite, and sandstone. Exotic materials include steatite, Ohio pipestone, rose quartz, and cannel coal.

A few specimens are possibly not authentic—the celt in the second row top center and the notched ovate to its right are somewhat suspect.

As with all the Meuser pieces the location where the piece was found or obtained is clearly marked in India ink as well as the catalogue number.

All in all the collection is one which took a lifetime to assemble. It is doubtful that such a collection will ever again be put together. Fortunately, the Meuser miniatures are now in the possession of Max Shipley of Columbus, Ohio, who has preserved them intact.

Note: Three miniatures in the right side of the picture were omitted due to the composition of the sixteen photographs which were used to make up the full picture of the collection.

FRONT COVER
The beauty of Ohio pipestone is shown in the color cover. All examples are from the collection of Max Shipley of Columbus, Ohio, and represent some of the rarest and most beautiful prehistoric artifacts made of Ohio pipestone. This lustrous stone, native to Ohio, is found in the southern part of the state principally in Scioto, Lawrence, and Gallia counties. It ranges in color from a pale gray to a maroon red or greenish black with various shades and mottlings of these colors. It is believed that heat and fire changed both the hardness and color of some of these pieces often turning it a deep orange.

In the upper left corner is a Hopewell effigy of an otter. Directly below it is a Fort Ancient pipe carved in the likeness of a parakeet. Beside it is a Hopewell monitor pipe of greenish black pipestone. On the right is a human effigy Erie pipe of orange-red. In the center is one of the finest Intrusive Mound pipes ever found. The bird is a merganser duck and the pipe is of red-yellow pipestone. Below it is a bust type birdstone of gray pipestone and to its right is a yellow-gray keeled pipe. The human effigy is a Fort Ancient pipe and the small monitor pipe is a miniature Hopewell pipe from a mound near Harmony in Clark County. At the bottom is an extremely fine Erie pipe of gray and red pipestone.
Fig. 1 (Converse) The Meuser collection of miniatures. This unique collection was assembled by Dr. Gordon Meuser during his fifty years of collecting. The board on which these pieces are mounted measures 24 inches by 48 inches. For scale the pendant in the upper right corner is 2-1/4 inches long.
A Summary Report on the Archaeological Survey and Testing of the Perry Nuclear Power Plant Area, Lake County, Ohio

by David S. Brose and Alfred M. Lee
Case Western Reserve University
Cleveland, Ohio

The following report is designed both to illustrate the nature of contract archaeology and its limited "hard returns" for cost expended, and to document a Late Archaic campsites in Lake County, Ohio.

The presence of Archaic and Paleo-Indian materials in northern Ohio was noted in the early twentieth century. During the succeeding decades surface collections recovered a large typological sample with limited information on location. At the same time detailed geological studies have provided a rough framework to order these types through time. Little, if any, information had been provided concerning the contemporary environment or the prehistoric settlement or economic adaptation; the changing projectile point styles have been regarded as indications of migration from outside the Ohio area.

During the past three years, Case Western Reserve University surveys have located a number of Paleo-Indian and Early Archaic sites within the Lake Erie drainage systems on the Glaciated Allegheny Plateau in northeast Ohio. Initial archaeological testing at several of these large sites reflected a strong locational preference for secondary stream drainage functions down-cutting through high (above 650 feet) fossil lake beach ridges. The probability of encountering significant quantities of early material in the PNPP test areas was thus rather low. The possibility of locating a small ephemeral campsite of this phase was nonetheless real.

Late Archaic sites in the Great Lakes area are poorly reported and widely scattered. There is some suggesting of population decline from earlier periods (Fitting 1970). The sites recorded seem to cluster along major drainage systems well inland. Although there did exist a possibility of encountering a lakeside encampment, the recorded history of shoreline erosion suggested that it was not a significant probability in the test area. During the summer of 1970 with the support of a National Science Foundation grant (GS-3062), Brose directed extensive excavations at the South Park and Greenwood village sites. During the fall of that year several other Whittlesey components were tested in the northeastern Ohio region and the following spring a number of additional sites were located. With the support of another grant from the National Science Foundation (GS-28985) the summers of 1971 and 1972 were spent in a systematic archaeological survey (stratified by ecological parameters) investigating the settlement pattern of the Late Prehistoric period in northeastern Ohio.

The 1972 season was devoted to a statistically-valid archaeological survey of the interfluvial plateau, the headwaters of the Ohio-Mississippi system in northeastern Ohio, and the minor and secondary stream valleys. No new site types recovered were assignable to the post-Middle Woodland period. Small seasonal agricultural villages were located in the poorly dissected regions of the interfluvial plateau. Along the minor recent streams draining directly into Lake Erie a number of very small seasonal camps were located. Most of them seemed to represent specialized extractive activities although in the headwaters of the south-flowing streams several small seasonal agricultural sites were located. Within the PNPP test area several fragments of chipped stone tools and charred fish bone were found associated with ceramic sherds. These archaeological materials were eroding from the sandy river bank along the northeastern margin of the PNPP area. Subsequent testing suggested a small fishing camp had existed there about A.D. 1100 but had been almost entirely lost by shoreline erosion. In addition, a relatively large spring/fall fishing camp pertaining to Phase II/III Whittlesey was located and tested along the lakeshore at Camp Roosevelt, approximately 3.1 miles west of the PNPP area (Brose 1973; n.d.).

Archaeological Reconnaissance of PNPP Area

Following a series of telephone conversations with Mr. Steven Breslauer, Environmental Systems Group, N.U.S. Corporation, an informal meeting was arranged between Mr. Breslauer, Mr. Vyhnalek (representing
the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company), and Dr. Brose. At the meeting in April 1973, Dr. Brose outlined the archaeological nature of the PNPP area suggesting that most habitation in the area was clustered along the major rivers and at creeks on the lakeshore. Small encampments of the early inhabitants dot the lakeshore with great frequency, occurring every mile or two. Larger villages are somewhat less common, appearing every 15 miles or so. The presence of one of these larger communities near the PNPP to the west made it highly unlikely that a similar village would be located at the PNPP. Additionally, the topography and soils at the PNPP render it very unlikely that an ancient burial ground would be present at the site. Finally, the rate of erosion of the shoreline at the PNPP had probably washed most of the shoreline remains into the lake. While artifacts and other archaeological materials, representative of a small transient encampment, were probably present at the site, it is very unlikely that the site contained any unique or major archaeological information. Nonetheless, it was Dr. Brose’s recommendation that an archaeological reconnaissance be made to determine whether any remains of prior habitation can be identified and to investigate in detail the locations which have been so identified.

Subsequently, Mr. Breslauer discussed this proposal with CEI, and they agreed that it would remove any questions, no matter how slight, regarding the archaeological importance of the site, and that it could make a modest contribution to an understanding of the archaeology of the area. Accordingly, they authorized that the study be conducted as outlined.

Archaeological reconnaissance of the proposed nuclear power plant site at Perry, Ohio, was conducted during a period of three weeks from May 22, 1973 to June 8, 1973. Five full working days were required to complete the field survey with crews ranging from three to eight persons. The area covered is about one quarter-section (160 acres). It is primarily meadow and nursery-stock farm land although approximately 30 acres are second growth forest cover or domestic architecture.

With the aid of an aerial photograph, the survey area was divided into smaller plots on the basis of ground cover (Fig. 1). Four major types of cover, each dictating different survey techniques, were encountered in the area. Type A comprised all recently cultivated fields, currently planted in nursery crops. The wooded areas surrounding cultivated fields were designated Type B. Type C areas were those covered by dense vegetation on which direct observation of the ground surface was impossible. Type D included areas around occupied dwellings, yards and lawns.

The survey commenced on May 22, 1973, with a crew of eight. The first day was spent examining a large portion of the open cultivated fields, Area A, on the map. These fields were surveyed under optimal conditions—they were recently cultivated and had subsequently been washed by rain. These conditions had the effect of leaving all hard materials such as stones, as well as cultural material such as chipped flint, pottery, or bone, in plain view on the surface. Survey technique consisted of walking the fields in passes 10 to 15 feet apart examining material left on the surface for evidence of prehistoric occupation. Only one small concentration of cultural material was discovered, on what was designated Site 1, including one complete example of a projectile point Prufer and Sofsky (1965:31) have called the Lake Erie Bifurcated Base type (Fig. 2, right). Although this point type has not been found in dated archaeological context in northeastern Ohio, similar points have been recovered at the St. Albans site near the mouth of the Kanawha River in West Virginia (Broyles 1971). Radio-carbon dates from that site would suggest a date of 5000 B.C. for the Lake Erie Bifurcated Base point. Other material found with the point included two bifacially chipped flint tools (Fig. 2, left and center), neither of which was complete enough for indentification, several flint chips, one of which showed edge modification and wear suggestive of use as a scraper, and three fragments of deer bone.

The material recovered suggests that this site represents a short-term hunting and butchering camp occupied sometime between 5000 B.C. and 3000 B.C. by a small group of hunters bearing a culture referred to as Middle Archaic. An examination of the aerial photograph revealed the presence of a small intermittent stream or spring in this location, suggesting a reason for selection of this site by the Archaic hunters. Little more may be said of these people, as little is known about them. The bifurcated base projectile points occur scattered over a wide area, rarely in larger numbers, suggesting a semi-nomadic hunting and gathering subsistence-settlement base.

A second locality examined was Area C, the land bordering a small stream in the
southwest corner of the survey area. Here technique consisted of examining the stream banks for material being washed out, checking areas of exposed soil, and the excavation of test pits on the higher ground above the stream. No evidence of prehistoric occupation was encountered in this area.

Weather again permitted field work on May 31, 1973. On that day a crew of four finished the examination of cultivated fields, Area A₂, continuing the technique of direct surface observation in passes 10 to 15 feet apart. No further material of archaeological interest was encountered.

On June 1, 1973, a crew of three surveyed the wooded areas on the perimeter of the proposed plant site, Areas B₁ and B₂. The first part examined was the land adjacent to the streams flowing through the woods, and the lake front, perhaps the most likely location for prehistoric occupations. It was tested both by direct observation of the ground surface where possible, and by the excavation of 3- by 3-foot test units where vegetation was dense. Erosion by the lake and streams was heavy in this area, and it is likely that any occupations that may have been present are now destroyed. One small concentration of chipped flint was discovered and designated Site 2. It consisted of several unmodified flint chips limited to a 4-foot area at the edge of the stream channel. Three test units were excavated in the area of the concentration, with negative results. The concentration probably represents the efforts of a small group of hunters who stopped to make or resharpen flint tools.

The remainder of the wooded area, that portion away from water, was found to be subject to sheet erosion, probably the result of water run-off from the adjacent cultivated fields. Ground cover was extremely sparse, making possible direct observation of the surface. The wooded area was therefore examined in 15-foot passes by surface collection. No evidence of prehistoric use of this area was encountered.

On June 5, 1973, test excavations were made as a means of surveying those portions of the site on which ground vegetation was too dense to permit direct observation of the surface, Area C₂ and C₃. The 3- by 3-foot units were excavated through the plowing level, which varied in depth from 0.7 foot to 1.3 feet, down into the underlying yellow clay Wisconsin till (Fig. 3). A total of 15 such test units was excavated, all with negative results.

A series of test excavations was also made in the area designated Site 1. That these units produced no cultural material supports the inference that it was a very short term hunting occupation, and further suggests that the site has already been destroyed by plowing.

Further survey was conducted in the areas designated D₁ and D₂. Here the technique used was one of seeking out areas of exposed soil, and making surface collections. Standard surface collection was also employed in the field adjacent to the plant site, Area A₃, which is to be used for dumping fill. No evidence of prehistoric occupation was encountered in any of these areas.

The survey was completed on June 8, 1973. Much of the time spent that day was devoted to demonstrating the techniques used in the survey for an NUS photographer. Another test excavation was made in the vicinity of Site 1, again with negative results. Further, the site area was subjected to four lines of soil resistivity survey. This technique consists of passing a small electric current through the soil between two probes and measuring the resistance of the soil. Differential soil moisture content, which often is the result of prehistoric use of the land, results in a corresponding differential soil resistance. In this case, however, no significant differences in soil resistivity were encountered, confirming the conclusion that any further evidence of this occupation has been destroyed by plowing.

Conclusion

The area of the proposed CEI Perry Nuclear Power Plant has been subjected to a thorough professional archaeological reconnaissance. Analyses of previous archaeological work in the region lead to the hypothesis that little, if any, evidence for significant prehistoric occupation would be encountered in the test area. The analysis of both black and white and infra-red aerial photographs (provided by Kuchera Associates, Inc.) indicated nothing to alter this hypothesis. During late May and early June of 1973 field investigation of the area was carried out by crews from the Department of Anthropology, Case Western Reserve University, under the supervision of Alfred M. Lee. Stratified surface samples and statistically-determined test excavations were carried out. Finally earth resistivity survey was implemented to determine the presence of the sub-surface features. Field investigation revealed that the PNPP area was occupied by only a small transient hunting camp some time during the Archaic period. This component has been fully analyzed.
The probability of earlier, more deeply buried occupation in the test area is extremely low. Nonetheless, if such a prehistoric component exists it may not be locatable by any limited archaeological testing; for that reason the Case Western Reserve University field crews will again visit the site when significant earth-moving operations begin. Furthermore, should any such prehistoric occupation be encountered during the course of site construction all material and contextual information will be salvaged upon notification.

Brose, David S.
1973 Preliminary report on the South Park site, Cuyahoga County, Ohio. The Pennsylvania Archaeologist. 43(3) 25-47.

Broyes, Bettye J.

Fitting, James E.

Pruer, Olaf H. and Charles Sofsky


Fig. 1 (Brose and Lee) Map of survey area.
Fig. 2 (Brose and Lee) Lithic material from Site 1.
Fig. 3 (Brose and Lee) Typical excavation unit soil profile.
A Dovetail and a Hardstone Bar Amulet
by Floyd Murphy, 16538 Rock Creek Road, Thompson, Ohio

Fig. 1 (Murphy) This hardstone bar amulet was found in Geauga County, Ohio. It is highly polished and is drilled with a pair of conjoining holes at each end of the bottom. One side has been slightly engraved. It is 3 inches in length.

Fig. 2 (Murphy) The 4 1/4 inch dovetail from Lake County, Ohio, is made of colorful Flint Ridge chalcedony.

INFORMATION NEEDED

I am engaged in a program of archaeological research in the Licking Valley — Flint Ridge area which is the subject of a doctoral dissertation at Columbia. I am specifically interested in the Hopewellian occupations of this region and the dynamics of trade involving Flint Ridge flint.

The kinds of information which are of particular relevance would be:
1) The locations of Early, Middle, and Late Woodland sites along the Licking River and its tributaries.
2) The locations of Woodland sites on Flint Ridge and types of occupations they seem to represent, i.e., lithic workshops, permanent settlements, etc.
3) The present location of collections from this area; descriptions or photographs of artifacts from private collections would be extremely helpful and most welcome.

Any additional input which the readers feel would be of value to our work will be greatly appreciated.

Jack E. Bernhardt
Dept. of Anthropology
Columbia University, New York, New York

Two Richland County Finds

The fluted point and the Adena keyhole pendant were both found by Jake Bikar of Mansfield in the western part of Richland County, Ohio.
Some Fine Slate from Southern Ohio

by Mark Long
Wellston, Ohio

Over the past few years I have seen some very fine slate artifacts from Jackson, Vinton, and eastern Ross County. Thought by many to be an archaeological desert, this area produces some beautiful specimens, if maybe not as numerous or spectacular as other parts of the state. I photographed (Figs. 1, 2, and 3) some of the better pieces that have been found by friends who hunt, collect, and treasure prehistoric Indian relics. Some of them are common, others are not so common. I identified most of the pieces as prescribed by Robert Converse's book, Ohio Slate Types. I trust that the craftsmanship of ancient man will be as pleasing to the eyes of this publication's readers as it is to mine.

Fig. 1 (Long) The quadriconcave gorget and elliptical gorget were found together in a mound in Milton Township, Jackson County.
Fig. 2 (Long) The double-crescent banner (rare) in center came from Harrison Township, Vinton County. The two expanded center gorgets at top and bottom of the photograph are from a mound in Lick Township, Jackson County. At left is a bowtie banner from Jefferson Township, Ross County. At right is a drilled coffin-shaped gorget from a mound in Vinton County. The two bannerstones were found on the surface.

Fig. 3 (Long) At the bottom is a quadriconcave gorget from a mound in Vinton Township, Vinton County. At left is an undrilled coffin-shaped piece, and at right is a boat-shaped or expanded-center gorget also from Vinton Township. At the top is a bi-concave gorget from a mound in Clinton Township, Vinton County.
Recently the author published articles concerning strange flint tools which he named "dual-tipped" points (Britt 1974a; 1974b). In these articles he asked to hear from anyone having knowledge of additional specimens. Two more dual-tipped points were reported from Ohio. In addition, a previously-reported specimen is being re-illustrated.

One specimen (Fig. 1a) is fashioned from black flint. It was found prior to 1957 in Wayne County, but is now in the collection of Lar Hothem of Columbus, Ohio. Hothem (written communication, 1974) states, "(this) point shows evidence of a great deal of use, and apparently was re-chipped from an original, broken point. There is heavy basal grinding in evidence, very heavy on bottom of base, a bit less on sides and in notch. In the groove between tips, wear is indicated and the two point tips are not particularly sharp . . . ."

Another specimen (Fig. 1b) was found on the Ohio River near Belpre, Ohio, by Robert B. Jackson of Belpre. He discovered it in a bed of river clams about 6 inches beneath the surface on the bank of the river. It was associated with other artifacts. This specimen is fashioned from light gray chert.

The third example (Fig. 1c) has been reported previously (Stropki 1968: 102, Fig. 1), but is being re-illustrated to make this article more complete. It was found by Thomas Stropki in Jefferson County. It was recovered along with a hafted shaft scraper on an Archaic site. The material is Ohio black flint.

To date, 18 specimens with excellent provenience data have been reported from nine states ranging from Virginia to Oregon (Britt, n.d.). Of these 18 specimens, 33.3% were found in Ohio. The author would appreciate hearing from anyone having knowledge of more specimens from that state.

Britt, Jr., Claude

Stropki, Thomas

---

Fig. 1 (Britt) Dual-tipped points from Ohio: a, Wayne County, in the Hothem collection; b, found near Belpre, in the Jackson collection; c, Jefferson County, redrawn from Stropki (1968: 102, Fig. 1).
Hopewellian "Birdpoints"  

by Jeff Carskadden, Zanesville, Ohio

The problem of "birdpoints" in Ohio is aptly summarized by Converse (1973: 72): "Very little is known about these diminutive points in Ohio. They are not uncommon and yet they are rarely found in large numbers on any site."  Converse attributes these points, though somewhat hesitantly, to the Mississippian period, and cites examples from the Fort Ancient Madisonville site. He points out, however, that they are not reported from other Fort Ancient sites in Ohio. Based on a study of birdpoints from a number of sites in the Muskingum valley (Fig. 1), there is a good possibility that many of them, particularly those of Flint Ridge flint, are actually Hopewell.

The writer has had the opportunity to examine projectile points from a number of Late Woodland and Late Prehistoric sites in the Muskingum valley. At the Fort Ancient Philo site, for example, the exclusive point type was the long, narrow Feurt-like triangle. Nothing that would be considered birdpoints occurred, either in features or in surface collections from the site (Gartley, Carskadden, and Gregg 1974). Other Late Woodland and Late Prehistoric sites up and down the valley are also devoid of birdpoints.

On the other hand, Hopewell sites in the area have yielded a number of these small points associated with typical Hopewelian parallel-sided bladelets, cores, and corner-notched projectile points. These birdpoints are always fashioned of Flint Ridge flint, the chief lithic material used in the other Hopewell artifacts from these sites. Most also have a glossy finish suggestive of heat treating, also a characteristic of much of the Hopewell material. In contrast, Late Woodland and Late Prehistoric triangles in the valley are almost always fashioned from locally available Upper Mercer and river pebble cherts. In addition, most of the birdpoints are corner notched, as are the larger Hopewelian points. Of the Hopewelian farmsteads in the Muskingum valley from which sizable surface collections are available for study, four out of six sites yielded birdpoints. However, the point ratio on these sites is roughly ten large Hopewell corner-notched specimens for every one birdpoint found. Thus birdpoints are a rare type even on the Hopewell sites. However, their small size makes them hard to see in the cultivated fields; perhaps they are more common than indicated by the few found.

Only 12 birdpoints are available for study from the central Muskingum valley. Of this number, nine were on the Hopewell sites. One other was discovered on a hilltop along with a minor amount of Flint Ridge chippage. No other points were recovered from this site. The remaining two are from a multicomponent site producing Early and Late Archaic and Early Adena material. The birdpoints are the only projectiles from this site made of Flint Ridge flint; local river cherts and local Upper Mercer flakes being the lithic materials used in the earlier components. Of the four Hopewell sites producing birdpoints, two sites yielded three each, one site yielded two, and the last site produced just one. There is little comparative data from Hopewell sites outside the Muskingum valley. None were found at the McGraw site (Pi-Sunyer 1965), for example. The readers of the Ohio Archaeologist might try to tabulate birdpoints from their own collections.

The function of these artifacts is uncertain. Converse notes that some appear to be the result of resharpening larger points, while others are extremely well made and probably represent finished specimens. Perhaps they represent a specialized weapon, possibly for small game as the term "birdpoint" implies. They may be the first indication of the use of the bow and arrow, the Hopewells modeling the arrowheads after the larger corner-notched lance points. It has also been casually suggested that some of these points are from toy weapons.


Fig. 1 (Carskadden) Birdpoints from Muskingum valley sites. Also shown for comparison is an average size Hopewelian corner-notched point.
Excavation of an Archaic Open Site
by James Morton and Jeff Carskadden
Zanesville, Ohio

Introduction
In the fall of 1973, the authors excavated a Late Archaic open site in Muskingum County. Its location, along a small creek in a relatively narrow sheltered valley many miles from a major river, is important in interpreting Late Archaic settlement-subsistence patterns in the central Muskingum valley. This site is significant because it shows the archaeological potential of relatively shallow Archaic camps in Ohio.

Numerous post holes were encountered, and their alignments suggest that some of the shelters at the site may have been forerunners of Early Adena circular houses. Charred nuts in some of the post holes and fire pits suggest that occupations at the site may have been during the fall and possibly through the winter.

Excavation
Twenty-three 10-by-10 foot units were excavated, equaling 2300 square feet but only about one-tenth of the total area of the site (Fig. 1). We chose this particular locality because of the presence of a Plano workshop component; we had hoped to find evidence of Plano structures and other features, and possibly get a radiocarbon date for Plano. While lanceolate fragments were found in two features, a date from one of these features, a fire pit (feature 1) was 2180 B.C. ± 100 (I-7604). The tree-ring converted date (MASCA) is 2850-2870 B.C. This determination is in line with the estimated ages of Brewerton-like Late Archaic components from the Ohio valley (c.f. Fitzhugh 1972). A large number of Brewerton points were found on the surface and in the plow zone in the excavated area, though none were noted in the features. Another Late Archaic, non-Brewerton component is represented in the surface collections and will be discussed subsequently. From a detailed study of the chippage from the features and post holes, the state of preservation of these features, the radiocarbon date, and the absence of Woodland material from the site, it appears that all of the features, post holes, and apparent house belong to one or the other of the two Late Archaic components at the site.

Plano Component
A large number of finished lanceolates as well as stage 1 through 3 preforms and other workshop debris were scattered over the cultivated fields along the creek for several hundred feet. A good quality dull black Upper Mercer flint crops out on the hillside directly above the site, and was evidently the chief attraction of the site to the Plano Indians. A detailed report on this Plano component is being prepared.

Brewerton Component
Brewerton-like points (c.f. Ritchie 1961: 72, plate 7) from the surface collection and plow zone are illustrated in Figure 4. Most of the Brewerton points from the site are made of the local Upper Mercer flints. However, these Late Archaic Indians need not have gone up the hillside to quarry flint; they could have easily scavenged from the abundance of lithic debris left from the Plano workshop. While lithic material may have been an attraction of the valley to Late Archaic peoples, nut fragments from a number of features suggest that nuts and other wild plant foods, and possibly the sheltered conditions of the valley were also important factors.

“Gilbert” Component
A number of small side-notched and stemmed points were found at the site which do not appear to be related to the Brewerton component (Fig. 6). They are fashioned exclusively of colorful Flint Ridge flints, mostly glossy pinks and whites, and are common on river terrace sites throughout the central Muskingum valley and other parts of eastern Ohio. The closest point type in the literature is Converse’s Early Woodland variety (Converse 1973: 49); however, they have never been found with pottery in the central Muskingum valley, and so a Late Archaic placement is suggested. Because of the use of Flint Ridge flint for these specimens, compared to the almost exclusive use of local Upper Mercer flints in Brewerton, we suggest a slightly later temporal placement in Late Archaic for these points. For lack of a better name and for purposes of this article we are tentatively calling this component “Gilbert”. Gilbert was a site along the Muskingum River, now destroyed by gravel operations, which yielded a large number of these points. Post hole patterns suggest that structures similar to Early Adena circular houses may have been used in the Gilbert Phase, fur-
ther indication of a fairly late placement in the Archaic.

Features
Fire pits and post holes showed up immediately beneath the plow zone (Figs. 2 and 3). In a few rare instances small flint chips were noted in the undisturbed zone beneath, indicating thin lenses of midden no more than 1/2 to 1 inch thick. However, no identifiable artifacts were noted in this midden and, except for the two Plano lanceolate fragments, no identifiable artifacts occurred in any of the features. In general, post holes were relatively deep, averaging 10 inches below the plow zone, though a few were as shallow as 4 inches; some may have been plowed out completely. Features 23 and 25 (Fig. 4) are suggestive of burial pits, though no bone material of any kind was present at the site due to the highly acidic condition of the soil.

Because of there being more than one Late Archaic component at the site, as well as probable repeated annual occupations of the site during the individual Brewerton and Gilbert phases resulting in the possible rebuilding and overlapping of house patterns, it was somewhat difficult to identify individual structures from the maze of post holes encountered. The larger excavation plan shown in Figure 4 illustrates the post holes and pits as we found them; the smaller inset, on the other hand, shows our interpretation of one probable alignment of posts. Many of the post holes in this alignment contained Flint Ridge chippage, compared to Upper Mercer chippage in the other post holes, suggesting that the structure may be related to the Gilbert phase. It appears to be a semi-circular, wigwam-like house, 25 feet in diameter, with single wall posts spaced roughly 7 feet apart and with two central posts (features 4 and 5). Perhaps this structure is a precursor of later Early Adena houses in the area. One might expect such an architectural transition from the lean-to or wind break to the full-blown unpaired-post Early Adena houses.

Overlays were made of the excavation plan with post holes plotted according to such factors as depths, diameters, pointed vs. rounded bottom, and types and amounts of lithic debris and nuts present in the fill. No other relationships could be positively identified other than the particular structure shown in the inset. The other post holes may be part of this first house, possibly representing various covered entrance-ways and partitions, or just as likely, portions of earlier or later shelters. It has also been suggested that the entire pattern represents a large U-shaped windbreak, open to the south, or a ring of lean-tos or smaller windbreaks belonging to individual family units, with each family having their own individual hearths (features 16, 1, 7, 3, and 46). The readers are invited to provide their own interpretation of the structures present.

Late Archaic Settlement-Subsistence
Brewerton and Gilbert sites along the major rivers in the area can be described as "continuous linear scatter" (Struver 1968: 292), that is, a thin scattering of debris along a river terrace for as much as a mile or more. Concerning this type of occupation, Struver states: "...the continuous linear scatter reflects frequent shifting of the settlement without intention of confining occupation to a few spatially-bounded site locations. The debris left from many reoccupations or a continually shifting occupation gives the illusion of a single, long, shoreline community."

McKenzie (1967) notes similar site patterning for Late Archaic in the lower Scioto valley. Because of the lack of shell at these sites he suggests that they were "...temporarily hunting camps to which people returned for short periods annually or more frequently, each time camping in the same general location but in a slightly different spot." No shell has been noted at central Muskingum valley Late Archaic sites either, though this situation might be due to local acidic conditions in the soil. While river mussels may not have been collected by local Archaic groups, we suggest that the linear sites along the major rivers in this area represent annual summer occupations, where riverine resources, at least fish and river bank animals, were exploited. In the fall these Late Archaic groups would move away from the rivers up into the narrow sheltered valleys several miles away, here collecting nuts and probably other wild plant foods, as well as hunting. The apparent substantial nature of the structures at our site, indicated by the depth and diameter of some of the post holes, and the sheltered conditions in the valley suggest that the occupation of these valleys may have continued through the winter months.

Shifts in subsistence patterns as well as changes in kinship relationships and family composition may have occurred from Brewerton to Gilbert, possibly reflected in changes in architectural styles, though the excavation of more sites in the area is necessary to determine this possibility.

continued on page 22
Acknowledgements

The writers would like to thank Richard Gartley, Linda Foraker, James Bailey, and James Kingery for their help in excavating the site, and particularly the property owners for allowing us the run of their farm. They did not wish to have the location of their farm or their names published because of harassment from relic collectors and pot hunters. However, the site location is on file with the Department of Archaeology, Ohio Historical Society.

Converse, Robert N.

Fitzhugh, William

Fig. 1 (Morton and Carskadden) General view of the site looking up the valley. Piano and Late Archaic debris are scattered all the way to the standing corn in the background. The plow zone has just been removed from the initial 10-by-20 foot section excavated. James Morton is standing in the foreground.

Fig. 3 (Morton and Carskadden) Close-up view of a Late Archaic fire pit (Feature 3) which appeared immediately below the plow zone. The pile of fire-cracked stones on the right was recovered from the half of the pit that had been excavated at this point. Charred nuts were also abundant.

McKenzie, Douglas H.

Ritchie, William A.

Struever, Stuart

Fig. 2 (Morton and Carskadden) View diagonally across the initial 10-by-20 foot cut showing three fire pits (features 1 (foreground), 7, and 3) and two post holes. The depression between the post holes and feature 7 is a rodent burrow.
Fig. 4 (Morton and Caruskadden) Excavation plan of the Late Archaic site showing the post holes and pits uncovered. The smaller inset is of the same area and shows the outline of one of the structures identified from the maze of post holes.

Fig. 5 (Morton and Caruskadden) Various Brewerton and related Late Archaic points from the plow zone of the excavated area and general surface collection.

Fig. 6 (Morton and Caruskadden) Late Archaic "Gilbert" points from the plow zone of the excavated area and general surface collection.
The flint collection of Dick Johnson, Marion County, Ohio, is one of the finest in the state both in color and quality. Many of these pieces were collected in the latter part of the 1800s by Elmer Bondley of Prospect, Ohio. Shown are fluted points, Adena blades, dovetails, knives, Archaic side notched points, a pentagonal of Flint Ridge striped flint, birdpoints and Archaic types. All flint is Flint Ridge material.
Some Flint Ridge artifacts from the collection of Ernie and Dorothy Good, Grove City, Ohio. Hopewell, Adena, and Archiac types are shown. Large colorful bevel of yellow, white and purple Flint Ridge flint was a personal find of Dorothy Good.
A Pipe from the Meuser Collection

by Roger Mayne, Columbus, Ohio

This pipe is made from a crystalline stone which did not lend itself well to prehistoric sculpture. It is loaf-shaped with the bowl in the top and the stem hole in the end. On the front is a human face while the balance of the pipe is carved in a series of scrolls apparently representing hair or a headdress. The data on the pipe indicate that it was found in the fairgrounds, Newark, Ohio. It is interesting to note that a number of mounds and walls were located in the Newark fairgrounds—now obliterated—and at least one other human effigy was found there in the late 19th century.

(Associate Editor's Note: The circular earthworks at Mound Builders Park, now a state memorial, once enclosed much of the fairgrounds.)

A Hardstone Gorget

by Roger Mayne, Columbus, Ohio

In Figure 1 is a fine hardstone rectangular gorget. It was formerly in the Barret collection, Chillicothe, Ohio. Made of a fine-grained yellow and black gneiss, it is smooth and highly polished. The drilling was done from the bottom with two conical perforations.
A Paleo-Indian Site in Vinton County

by Mark Long
Wellston, Ohio

The spillway at Lake Rupert in Clinton Township, Vinton County, empties into Little Racoon Creek. Within 1/4 mile the creek swings to the south and passes through a big marshy bottom. Thousands of years ago this bottom must have been a big swamp near which Palaeo-Indians apparently lived and hunted. Occasionally places in this bottom land will be plowed; one particular area seems to be producing some projectile points from the Paleo era. The points in Figure 1 were found several years ago by Stan Tar-
chalski and Jim McIntire of Hamden, Ohio. They all were discovered in this immediate area, but during the last two years my friends and I have not found any more Palaeo-Indian material. The fields produce artifacts from the Archaic, Adena, and Late Woodland eras also.

Fig. 1 (Long) Four Paleo points from Vinton County, Ohio. Only the beautiful black point (second from left) has fluting on it. The two on the right are of poorer quality, and the point on the left is a Plano projectile.
The Keifer Mound Excavation

by Charles Stout, Sr.
91 Redbank Drive
Fairborn, Ohio

The Keifer mound is in Clark County, Ohio, near the southwest corner of Fairfield Pike and Old Mill Road in a densely wooded area. It has been recorded with the Ohio Historical Society as archeological site 33-CI-28. Although this mound is just about 100 feet from the intersection, it can only be seen from the road in the winter months because of the thick underbrush. My son first saw it while driving along the road with a friend during November 1973. There were some doubts at first whether or not it was a mound because of an old building foundation nearby. We then contacted Mr. Wilbur H. Keifer who, along with his brother Joseph, owns the property. He proceeded to tell us some very interesting history of the area.

The Keifer family traveled by horseback into Clark County from Sharpsburg, Maryland, in 1812. Wilbur's grandfather moved to the present location in 1852. He explained that the old foundation in question was from a scale house built about 1854. Farmers brought their grain and livestock from many miles around to have them weighed for marketing at the scale house. Only recently was it destroyed by fire. His grandfather had said the mound of earth was there before the scale house and was believed to have been built by prehistoric people. This belief was strictly speculation, however, and only could be confirmed by examining the contents of this small conical knoll. Mr. Keifer was very gracious and gave permission to let us excavate, for he, too, was curious about whether or not it was truly a prehistoric mound.

A close friend, Dr. John Winsch, expressed his desire to help since he was interested in archeology and wanted experience in excavating. So my son and I decided to make it a three-person project. Our first duty was to clear the mound surface of underbrush and to stake it off into grids 5 feet square. The mound measured 37 feet on the north-south line and 40 feet 4 inches on the east-west line, and was 28 inches high. A number of historical features were noted on the surface. Vehicle tracks from what appeared to be heavy equipment passed over the southern edge of the mound. The scar of a small trench 3 feet wide extended from the west edge 9 feet toward the center. The bottom of this trench, when excavated, proved to be 6 inches above the mound floor. Much broken glass and other rubble was on the surface and in the leaf mold on the mound. This material probably dated to the days of the scale house.

Our first excavating was started at the northern edge of the mound. A check for postmolds on the perimeter revealed nothing in the way of a house pattern. Two fence postmolds were uncovered along with wire and staples that were part of a holding pen for livestock at the old scale house. We proceeded to dig a trench 10 feet wide through the center of the mound along the north-south line (Fig. 1). Starting at the outer edge at ground level and working toward the center allows proper drainage in inclement weather. Good drainage is necessary to protect profiles and features. (I have seen poorly-planned digs with a couple feet of water standing in the excavation.) The removed soil was purposely piled in ridges at the east and west edges of the mound. The trench was then widened to 30 feet by excavating an additional 10 feet on either side. However, to limit the overall moving of soil, we piled the dirt this time high in the center of the first trench to facilitate easy restoration of the mound by back filling as we excavated (Fig. 2). We have learned in the past that rebuilding a mound can be very time consuming if this method is not used. By continued digging in this manner, we established a grid pattern which covered the bulk of the mound.

As the map (Fig. 3) indicates, 26 full grids and 8 half grids were excavated to expose completely the central area of the mound. The grids were also numbered in the order in which they were excavated. The first artifact (A) (Fig. 4, Table I) was found in grid 5, only 6 inches from the surface of the mound. It was a large stemmed blade of chalcedony that appeared to have been exposed to fire. Part of the stem was missing. Although the fire exposure and closeness to the mound surface did not seem important at the time, it did, however, prove to be a distinct manifestation as the majority of the remaining items were found in the same circumstances. Much of the flint was fire popped, broken, or discolored by heat. Missing pieces indicated the artifacts had been subjected to fire else-
where before being placed in the mound.

The excavation became more interesting when we got into grid 7. Here we encountered a large area of red burned earth that extended into several other grids. It varied from 6 to 10 inches in thickness and contained many flecks of charcoal and tiny fragments of incinerated bone. These bone fragments upon close examination proved not to be human, but some evidence of cut or worked edges indicates that they had been ornamental or utilitarian before being well incinerated. Scattered near the base of this burned area where several artifacts (B-F) (Figs. 4 and 5). A large stemmed blade with beveled edges (C) had been badly damaged by fire; part of it was missing. It apparently had been a very fine knife. Also in this group were a celt (Fig. 5), a fine leaf-shaped blade with a ground base (F), and two stemmed projectiles (B and D). Three well worn abrading stones (not shown) were found in close association with the celt.

Grid 11 produced three very fine specimens, two in very close association. They were a tally-marked keyhole pendant (I) and a fine Robbins stemmed blade made of Flint Ridge chalcedony (J) (Fig. 6). The close association of the two pieces seems to add further proof that the makers of keyhole pendants and the Robbins points were of the same time period. Also found in this grid was a red banded slate gorget (H) (Fig. 7). Upon close examination, one can see that it originally had been biconcave, but it probably was broken and then worked into its present form, which resembles an expanded-center bar gorget. Other slate objects found in the mound were an undrilled gorget (N) and a fine expanded-center bar gorget (V) with a missing end. Patina visible on the broken surface shows it was fractured in ancient times.

A crude, narrow-stemmed spear (10) (Fig. 4) of the heavy-duty variety was found in grid 15. It seemed to be more of a puncturing device because of its thick diamond-shaped cross section. Another version (D) of this type was much shorter in length. These projectiles seem to resemble Converse's (1973:47) Heavy Duty variety, except they are not weak-shouldered. Since they are found from Archaic through Adena times, perhaps this broader shoulder type could be classified as a later version. A large, well-made stemmed blade (W) (Fig. 4) was found in grid 23. Although fire damage was in evidence, further damage had been inflicted on this blade in recent years. It was found 6 inches below the surface directly under the wheel ruts where heavy vehicles passed over the edge of the mound in modern times. A fine Robbins stemmed blade (Y) was uncovered in grid 32. The barb on one shoulder was missing so about 100 pounds of surrounding soil was sifted through window screen mesh, but failed to produce the missing fragment. Three uniface Flint Ridge blades of the knife-scraper type (L, Q, X) were also found in the mound. A couple blade fragments, numerous flint chips, and cracked stones were in the mound fill. This material indicated the mound was probably constructed from the soil of a nearby habitation site.

Summary: Many missing parts of the fire-damaged artifacts indicated they were burned elsewhere and carried to this location. There were two distinct levels in which the artifacts were found, either on or near the mound floor or else 6 to 8 inches from the mound surface, as Table I indicates. Those near the surface are believed to be intrusive offerings made from time to time. If this idea seems strange, please consider that we do the very same thing every Memorial Day when we place flowers on the graves of our loved ones. The projectiles showed two basic styles in craftsmanship and shape. Either they were crude percussion-flaked tools for rough usage, or the very fine specimens that reflect perfection and pride. It has been said that pride and compassion go hand in hand. If it is true, then the Adena must have been very compassionate prehistoric people. In general, the information from this mound does not seem to add much to what is already known about Late Adena manifestations. However, after comparing these discoveries with those from twelve other mound excavations in which I have participated, I believe an amazing discovery has surfaced in the science of archeology which rates special attention. A discussion of this idea will appear in a related story entitled, "A New Mound Classification" (Stout 1975). Photography by Charles Stout, Jr.

Converse, Robert N.
Stout, Charles

Note:
Many mounds are fast disappearing due to progress and construction. There is a possibility of a housing development being built on
the site where this restored mound is located. When we expressed our concern for the preservation of this mound, the owner agreed that it might be preserved by building around it. Maybe the development could even derive its name from the site.

![Table I: Description and provenience of artifacts from Keifer mound.](image)

![Fig. 3 (Stout) Plan view of Keifer mound excavation.](image)

26
Fig. 1 (Stout) Excavation of the Keifer mound in progress.

Fig. 2 (Stout) The Keifer mound after restoration.

Fig. 5 (Stout) Hammerstone, abrading stone, and celt.

Fig. 6 (Stout) Pendant and Adena point.
Fig. 4 (Stout) Various flint points.

Fig. 7 (Stout) Slate artifacts from the mound.
1974 Surface Finds
by Jerry Hagerty, 13660 County Home Road, Bowling Green, Ohio

Fig. 1 (Hagerty) Iron trade tomahawk found in Plain Township, Wood County, Ohio.

Fig. 2 (Hagerty) Large flint knife found in Plain Township, Wood County, Ohio.

Licking County Artifacts in the Hooks Collection
by Jack Hooks, Mansfield, Ohio

Fig. 1 (Hooks) A farmer found the sandstone Adena expanded center gorget and two Adena points of Flint Ridge flint in a mound between Brownsville and Gratiot.

Fig. 2 (Hooks) This banded slate double crescent was obtained from a farmer near Granville by Phil Kientz many years ago.
A New Mound Classification by Charles H. Stout, 91 Redbank, Fairborn, Ohio

The early archeologists of this country had claimed three basic types of mounds existed, namely burial, effigy, and signal mounds. The signal mound has long since been discredited, and is no longer recognized. Although only two remain, they are divided into several form and cultural types. It is my intention to show that still another type of mound truly does exist. Of 12 mounds in southwestern Ohio that I have excavated myself or with others, three of them will fall into this new classification. The mound type in question has too many corresponding traits to be denied. The foremost criterion is that no trace of a burial, either cremated or in the flesh, is found within the structure. This trait immediately rules out the burial mound, and being of the low profile, conical type rules out the effigy version.

So what then do we have? The absence of a burial of any type has confused many archeologists in the past. It is always our first thought that the soil has a high acid content, and has caused a more rapid bone deterioration. However, as most of us know, the bone outline can be traced in both soil color and texture, even long after it has disappeared. Cremated bone fragments seem to be preserved much longer due to the removal of bacteria at the onset of decomposition. When I first encountered a mound without a burial (Stout 1968), it, too, was a confusing situation. The second mound of this type (Stout 1970) was passed off as a coincidence, although I really thought otherwise. When a third such mound was excavated (Stout 1975) it in no way could be taken lightly.

After comparing the findings of these three mounds with nine others with which I have been involved, a surprising similarity was noted among the three non-burial mounds. Here are some of the matching factors. The first, of course, being the fact that no human remains are present in any form. Second, they are all low conical mounds less than 3 feet in height. Third, there is no sign of post-molds or any other sub-floor anomalies. Fourth, the offerings are found at two distinct levels, one being rather centrally-located near the mound floor, and the other widely scattered on a level 6 to 8 inches below the surface of the mound. The latter are believed to be intrusive offerings made from time to time after completion of the mound. Fifth, one or more burned areas (not hearths) are found at various levels, but not on the mound floor. Sixth, the absence of shell offerings or fragments was noted. Seventh, fire exposure or fire damage was prevalent on the most of the recovered artifacts. Missing pieces indicated they were burned elsewhere and then placed in the mound. Eighth, all artifacts recovered appear to belong in the Middle to Late Adena culture. The re-occurring characteristics suggest strongly that this mound type justifies a classification of its own. It is felt that if other archeologists who have experienced this same situation would reexamine their findings, more mounds of this type would come to be known.

How can we name a mound of this type? To simply call it a non-burial mound certainly would not be in context with the reason it was constructed by the prehistoric people; they surely had a specific name for it. Since archeology is a highly controversial and speculative science, perhaps a name can be derived in this manner. It can be assumed that not all Adena were buried in mounds because if they were, their population would have been quite small. We know the Adena people were of a ritualistic nature, so let us speculate on what might have taken place in these instances. Possibly a person might have died on the spot where the mound was constructed. His remains were then removed to whatever location was customary to his people or family, and burial practices were carried out. Believing that his spirit stayed where he took his last breath a mound with offerings was constructed on that spot in his honor. The offerings were to be his spiritual possessions.

Although this idea is only speculation, it has to be one of many possibilities concerning the origin of this mound type. Many archeological features have been named through speculation, such as the sacred circles in the Hopewell culture. We do not know for fact the actual reason that the sacred circles were constructed, but we accept the name given to them for want of a more factual one. This situation puts a certain aura and mystery into the science, which makes it more interesting. Since no concrete explanation can be given for this newly found mound type, and for the same reasons just stated, I would prefer to have it called a “spirit mound.”

Note:

Although the Water Wheel Mound is believed to fall into this classification, it is not considered a prime example because it was built on a habitation site of an earlier culture, and has been under cultivation for many years. The other two, however, are in undisturbed virgin ground.

Stout, Charles
A New Engraved Adena Tablet

by Martha Potter Otto
Ohio Historical Society
Columbus, Ohio

Archaeologists, particularly those working at museums, are accustomed to being asked to examine unique examples of prehistoric artistry that usually turn out to be just another grooved ax or water-worn stone. But occasionally, an individual will unsuspectingly report an object that has exceptional scientific value. Such an incident occurred when Edward Low of Reynoldsburg, Ohio, brought the engraved stone shown in figures 1 and 2 to the Ohio Historical Society's Department of Archaeology in May 1971. He had discovered the piece in what he considered a mound north of Parkersburg, West Virginia, in 1942. In his words, Low, just a boy at the time, had excavated a shallow trench in the mound to make a game of war more realistic. As he was leaving the site at the end of the game, he picked up two stones from the dirt pile, one with scratches on one side and grooves on the other, the second just with a few grooves on each face (Fig. 5). For thirty years, Low kept the two stones, not really knowing what they were. When he married and raised a family, he permitted his children to take the engraved stone to school for "show and tell". Finally, he brought it to the Ohio Historical Society to satisfy his curiosity about its significance. Needless to say, Mr. Low was surprised at the staff's enthusiasm about the piece, proud of his contribution to archaeology, and amazed that the thing had not been broken a thousand times over while it was in his possession.

The mound where the tablet had been discovered was supposedly on an elevation in the curve of Little Pond Run overlooking the fairly broad valley of the Ohio River in the vicinity of Beechwood, now a part of northern Parkersburg. Mr. Low stated that the site had been destroyed but that a portion of a second mound was still standing in a housing development now occupying the locality. Mr. Daniel B. Fowler of the Section of Archaeology, West Virginia Geological Survey, has been unable to locate any records of a mound (or mounds) in question; the nearest known prehistoric sites represent a later period. There are, however, mounds recorded farther north in the vicinity of Vienna and Williamstown.

The Low tablet comprises a roughly rectangular slab of fine-grained sandstone of a pale brown (10YR 6/3 on the Munsell scale) color. The dimensions of the piece are 123.0 mm. in maximum length, 121.0 mm. in minimum length, 80.5 mm. in width at the upper end, 83.0 mm. at the lower end, and 8.0 mm. to 9.0 mm. in thickness. The engraving on the obverse face is fine, some lines being less than 1.0 mm. wide, and rather faint in places. Nevertheless, the hand producing the engraving was sure—there are no stray incisions or obvious mistakes. On the reverse face (Fig. 3) are at least ten distinguishable grooves worn into the stone apparently when bone tools (awl?) were sharpened on the gritty substance. The narrowest of these grooves is 6.0 mm. wide while the others are approximately 10.0 mm. in breadth.

The design is divided into two sections, the lower being a mirror image of the upper. The main elements are two human full-front faces, each with eyes, prominent nose, small mouth, and a U-shaped line that may be the chin. On the top of the heads are curving elements that may represent hair, the lower figure showing a definite center part. On either side of each head are more curving lines and several circular punctations about 2.0 mm. in diameter that look very much like the wing elements of the stylized raptorial birds on the Wilmington, Wright, and Cincinnati tablets (Fig. 4). Above each face is a pair of raptorial bird heads in profile but with both eyes indicated; these elements are upside-down in relation to the human figures. The final components of the design, a pair of scalloped lines separating the two halves of the composition, may portray the birds' tail feathers.

The second piece Low found is one end of a rectangular whetstone (Fig 5) made from the same material as the larger tablet and nearly the same color. The three worked edges have been carefully ground, although they do not all meet at right angles. On the obverse face are three somewhat rectangular depressions, two roughly parallel to the long axis of the piece and one perpendicular to it. On the reverse face is a large rectangular depression whose depth is about 3.5 mm., nearly half the thickness of the whetstone. A
much shallower groove lies between the large depression and the edge. The longer side of the piece is 54.0 mm. in length, the shorter is 44.0 mm., and the width varies slightly from 39.5 mm. at the end to 40.0 mm. along the broken edge. The piece is 7.5 mm. in maximum thickness. The grooves on the obverse side vary in length from 22.0 mm. to 29.5 mm. and in width from 9.0 mm. to 12.0 mm. The large depression on the reverse face measures 34.0 mm. by 18.0 mm. The smaller groove is 10.5 mm. wide and as much as 26.0 mm. long, although the ends are not well defined. Similar formal whetstones were discovered by Dragoo (1963:88-102) in the upper part of Cresap mound near Moundsville, West Virginia. Others have occurred in Late Adena (Robbins) contexts in the type site at Chillicothe (Mills 1902:470), in the Florence mound, Pickaway County (Morgan 1938), and in two mounds—Clyde Jones and Dayton—near Newark investigated by excavators working for A. T. Weherle of that city.

But the engraved tablet is by far the more interesting of the two specimens. It is quite unlike all the other specimens in terms of its main features — the human faces — but quite similar in the portrayal of raptorial bird elements and the physical arrangement of the image on the stone. Human faces are depicted on the Wilmington and Meigs County tablets (Fig. 4), but in those instances the images are done in a simple "jack-o'-lantern" style superimposed on profiles of raptorial bird heads. The Low specimen faces show more detail, particularly around the nose and chin. The only other tablets showing human features are the Lakin A from Mason County, West Virginia, and the Gaitskill from Montgomery County, Kentucky—both of which have human hands paired with bird legs and tail. The Lakin A tablet also includes a detached human head in the style of the Wilmington and Meigs County human portrayals.

The arrangement of the engravings on several tablets is organized around a center line parallel to the long axis of the piece. The Wilmington, Meigs County, and Cincinnati examples show mirror images of a raptorial bird in profile, while the designs of the Gaitskill and Lakin tablets exhibit a single full-front figure with marked bilateral symmetry. The Low engraving is also a mirror image, but its center line is perpendicular to the tablet's long axis. These compositional elements also characterize other examples of Adena as well as Hopewell and Middle Mississippian art.

The human forms represented in Adena tablets (Gaitskill and Lakin A) have been identified as shamans dressed in costumes representing raptorial birds (Webb and Baby 1957:90). A similar interpretation can be given to the Low specimen; in fact, ethnological data can substantiate this particular claim. Swanton (1946:477-479) includes several eyewitness accounts of the appearance of shamans in some historic southern Indian cultures. For example, Hariot speaks of "conjurers" in Virginia wearing a breechcloth and "... small black birde abue one of their ears as a badge of their office." Beverly, also describing Virginia aborigines, noticed the same costume. The Creeks, according to Bartram, even stuffed the skins of owls "... so well executed, as to almost represent the living bird..." and wore them "... sometimes as a crest on the top of the head..." The Chickasaw "Archi-magus", as Adair referred to their medicine men, decorated themselves with a wreath of swan feathers around the temples and a tuft of white feathers on the crown. Aside from using actual feathers for headdresses, there are precedents for wooden masks carved in bird forms such as those worn by the Kwakiutl dancers photographed by Edward Curtis in 1915 (Fig. 6). The large masks with hinged beaks represent various mythological characters whose exploits are portrayed through dance. Perhaps similar performers are represented by the figures on the Low tablet.

The function of engraved Adena tablets has been ascribed to that vast and amorphous category of ceremonialism (Webb and Baby 1957:96-97; Dragoo 1963:97-100). More specifically, they are interpreted as being specialized stamps to imprint a motif on "... the clothing or the body of a number of individuals on appropriate occasions of the cult to which those receiving the stamp were adherents." (Webb and Baby 1957:96). The grooves that occur on the reverse faces of several engraved tablets and many formally-shaped whetstones are identified as the results of sharpening bone awls (Webb and Baby 1957:97), or of grinding roasted hematite into red ocher for paint pigments. The former claim is substantiated by the association of fine bone awls with some whetstones (Mills 1902:470-471), and the latter in part by Solecki's discovery of hematite lumps actually in the grooves of a whetstone in Natrium mound near Natrium, West Virginia (Solecki 1953:364-365). Dragoo (1963:99) discovered that the grooves in most of the
formal whetstones in Cresap mound were
caked with a combination of red ocher and
what appeared to be ash, or at least were
stained with ocher. Low did not indicate whe­
ther or not there was any pigment imbedded
in the grooves or engraving on his tablet; in
the 30 years that the piece has been out of
the ground any trace of stains, if they indeed
were there, are gone.

With this information derived from the ar­
thaeological record, we can now turn to ethno­
graphic sources for further clarification.
Personal adornment in the form of both paint­ing
and tattooing was a widespread phe­
omenon in the Eastern Woodlands during
early historic times. Some Canadian Indians
painted their faces and bodies with various
colors in order to frighten their enemies, to
increase their own courage, and to “harden
the skin” (Thwaites 1896:279). The patterns
were apparently rendered freehand without
the aid of a stamp or other similar device.
Body painting achieved more than merely
decorative status among the Yuchi (Swanton
1946:531). A man could inherit the privilege
of wearing certain patterns from his father,
but he had to first be initiated into the town
and choose his wife before he could make
his claim to the designs. The face paintings—
worn during ceremonies, ball games, and at
the time of burial—identified the individual’s
affiliation with either the chief or warrior
societies.

Tattooing was also a common method of
personal ornamentation and status definition.
Swanton (1911:56-57) provides several early
descriptions of the Natchez of Louisiana who
tattooed their bodies, arms, and legs with
lines, designs, and even animal figures. The
men were allowed to ornament themselves in
this manner only after they had been suc­
cessful in battle or had otherwise demon­
strated courage. Most women had a line
tattooed across the nose or, if they were wives
of the chiefs or Honored Men, apparently
were decorated with more elaborate designs.
Tattooing performed a similar function in the
Northeast among the Neutrals, Huron, and
others (Thwaites 1896, 1898, 1899a, and
1899b). Besides purely geometric motifs,
their tattoos also represented snakes, eagles,
toads, even what the Jesuits identified as
dragons. The religious nature of some repre­
sentations is clear when a priest, writing of
the tribes at Sault Ste. Marie, described a
type of vision quest. The spirit contacted
during the quest is considered “...the sole
Author of their good fortune...and so they
wear its ineffaceable hieroglyphic,—marking
on their skin as with the graver, the repre­
sentations of the Divinities that they have
chosen.” (Thwaites 1899:141). The methods
of tattooing were quite similar throughout the
Eastern Woodlands. Apparently the Indians
outlined the design on the body first, then:
with awls, spearpoints, or thorns they so
puncture the neck, breast or cheeks as to
trace rude outlines of these objects; next
they insert into the pierced and bleeding
skin a black powder made from pul­
verized charcoal, which unites with the
blood and so fixes upon the living flesh
the pictures which have been drawn that
no length of time can efface them
(Thwaites 1896:279).

If we can now return to the Low tablet and
other engraved specimens, perhaps we can
gain some additional insights concerning
their function. Grooves occur on four sand­
stone tablets—the Low, Berlin, Cincinnati,
and Wilmington—that may have resulted from
sharpening the bone awls for a tatooing cer­
emony. Although the engraved figures have
been interpreted as stamp to print a design
on the skin, the ethnographic data either do
d not mention this process or they describe
designs being “traced” on the body as if done
freehand. The engravings could be repre­
sentations of supernatural beings or tutelary
spirits or, in the instance of the Gaitskill, Lakin
A, and Low tablets, a stylized image of a sha­
man impersonating the raptorial bird, or, con­
ceivably, a mythological being that was half
human, half bird. Another interesting possi­
bility is suggested by Swanton’s (1946:726,
729) descriptions of Choctaw and Chitimacha
mortuary practices. After leaving the body
of the deceased on a scaffold for a prescribed
period of time, “bone pickers”, or “buzzard
men”, or “turkey-buzzard men” (Chitimacha)
removed the flesh from the bones and pre­
sented them to the deceased’s family for
final burial in a charnel house. The fact that
these individuals are named for a type of
bird closely linked with the Adena (Webb and
Baby 1957:101), and that both the prehis­
toric culture and the historic tribes practiced
scaffold burial provide an interesting hypo­
thesis about the meaning of the human-bird
representations on several of the tablets.

It is obvious that the task of interpreting the
Adena tablets is quite incomplete. Hopefully,
additional specimens will be found under
controlled conditions by competent field
workers. In the meantime, we must be grateful
for people like Mr. Edward Low who are
curious enough and concerned enough to
report their discoveries. The Low tablet is
now on exhibit in the Ohio Historical Center.

Acknowledgement: The author wishes to acknowledge Bruce R. Baby, associate designer, Ohio Historical Society, for his assistance in photographing the Low tablet.

Curtis, Edward S.

Dragoo, Don W.

Mills, William C.

Morgan, Richard G.
1938 Unpublished field notes, Florence mound, on file in Department of Archaeology, Ohio Historical Society.

Solecki, Ralph S.

Swanton, John R.


Thwaites, Reuben Gold (ed)

1897 Quebec, Hurons, Cape Breton, 1634-1636. The Jesuit relations and allied documents. 8.

1898 Quebec and Hurons, 1641-1642. The Jesuit relations and allied documents. 21.


1899b Iroquois, Ottawas, Lower Canada, 1699-1671. The Jesuit relations and allied documents. 54.

Webb, William S. and Raymond S. Baby
1957 The Adena people No. 2. Ohio Historical Society, Columbus.
Fig. 3 (Otto) Reverse face of Low tablet, shown full size.

Fig. 4 (Otto) Motifs from other engraved Adena tablets: a) Wilmington; b) Wright; c) Cincinnati; d) Meigs County; e) Lakin A; f) Gaitskill; g) Berlin.
Fig. 5 (Otto) Obverse and reverse views of whetstone, shown full size.

Fig. 6 (Otto) Kwakiutl dancers with wooden masks portraying mythological birds (Curtis 1915: Pl. 356)
The Ohio Archaeological Council: The New Kid on the Block

by Martha Potter Otto
Ohio Historical Society
Columbus, Ohio

On Saturday, February 8, 1975, 23 professional archaeologists from various institutions around Ohio met at the Ohio Historical Center to organize the Ohio Archaeological Council, Inc. The impetus for this association has been largely the increasing pressures on the archaeological community to become actively involved in the preservation and management of cultural resources, and the need for better communication among the growing number of individuals seriously interested in archaeology. According to the Council's constitution, the purposes of the organization are:

1) to create a coordinated group of professionally competent archaeologists representing all regions of the State of Ohio to provide consultation, aid and advice to any and all citizens and State and Federal agencies; 2) to serve as a clearing house for archaeological and culture-historical data pertinent to the aboriginal peoples and the early pioneers of the State of Ohio; 3) to promote the conservation and preservation of archaeological sites and records of early culture-history, and to develop among the general public an appreciation of these irreplaceable resources and an awareness of the need for such action; 4) to keep current a master site file and other records pertinent to the archaeology of the State of Ohio; 5) to disseminate, at its own discretion and in accordance with the constitution and bylaws, to the agencies of the State of Ohio, the general public, and to persons with bona fide professional interests, information in its possession; 6) to organize, coordinate and give assistance to archaeological programs within the State of Ohio.

Membership in the Council is open to professional archaeologists and other qualified persons who have a genuine interest in the purposes of the organization and are or have been actively engaged in archaeological research in Ohio. Active members gain that status by being nominated by another active member and approved by the members present at a Council meeting. Persons with only a temporary interest in Ohio archaeology (a graduate student working on a degree, for example) can be accepted as a research member for a maximum period of four years. Ex officio members will include the directors of several museums having established archaeological programs, the director of the Ohio Historical Society, and the president of the Archaeological Society of Ohio. Other institutions that wish to be associated with the group may demonstrate their interest by contributing an annual fee of $100.00 to become supporting affiliates.

At the organizational meeting in February, the Council's officers were elected. The president is David S. Brose, Case Western Reserve University; the vice president is Orrin C. Shane, Kent State University; and the secretary-treasurer is Martha Potter Otto, Ohio Historical Society. The president and vice president serve for two years, while the secretary-treasurer holds that office for three years. Together with the officers, the Council will be governed by four directors elected for staggered terms of two years each. Raymond S. Baby, Ohio Historical Society, and Bennie C. Keel, Wright State University, were selected for two-year terms as directors; serving for one year are David Stothers, University of Toledo, and Kent Vickery, University of Cincinnati.

The Ohio Archaeological Council, Inc. is expected to become a viable organization in its own right as well as a complement to other groups interested in Ohio archaeology and history. Only through everyone's concerted efforts can important information on Ohio's prehistoric and historic cultures be preserved. Anyone wishing further information on the Council may write to the secretary-treasurer.
The Archaeological Society of Ohio will hold its annual meeting May 17 and 18 at the Howard Johnsons Motor Lodge, North at the junction of Interstate 71 and S.R. 161. A banquet and a special program are scheduled for Saturday evening. The annual business meeting will be held on Sunday morning at which time the activity reports of the various chapters will be presented. Displays will also be exhibited on Sunday morning and special awards given to the best Ashtabula points.

The highlight of the annual meeting will be an address by Dr. Stuart Struever, associate chairman, Department of Anthropology, Northwestern University and president-elect of the Society for American Archaeology. Struever will present a slide-illustrated discussion of the Koster site, one of the most important stratified Archaic sites in the eastern United States, with the earliest levels dating to 6500 B.C.. The Koster site was discovered in 1968 while Struever was conducting a long-term archaeological program in the lower Illinois River valley, a program that is still in progress. This project has three dimensions: a) to reconstruct the rich prehistory of this region which extends back to at least 8000 B.C.; b) to train students in archeological field methods by participating in ongoing excavations; and, c) to save as much as possible of the record of ancient man in the lower Illinois Valley before it is destroyed by the northward encroachment of St. Louis.

Dr. Struever is director of the Foundation for Illinois Archeology, a private foundation established in the late 1950's to serve as the recipient of private gifts to support his and other archeological programs currently underway in Illinois. The foundation has been successful in purchasing buildings and establishing a permanent headquarters in the tiny hamlet of Kampsville, Illinois, that serves as the base from which crews of student excavators, botanists, zoologists, and other scientists work each summer.

ASO members will be receiving meeting notices and motel reservation cards soon.
Book Review


The Adena People has been long out of print since its first publication by the University of Kentucky in 1945. This hardbound reprint of the original will be a welcome addition to the library of any serious student who has not had a chance to purchase one of the scarce originals. Although I had glanced through the book some years ago this was my first opportunity to read it thoroughly. Perhaps the most interesting portion of the book is the foreword by James B. Griffin. He discusses the history of the book from its inception, tells of its authors, and of his discussions with Webb, Snow, and Richard Morgan during its preparation. Griffin also corrects some of the more obvious errors present in The Adena People and its subsequent companion publication, Adena People No. 2 by William S. Webb and Raymond Baby. In addition he offers his interpretations of the Adena problem in the light of present-day literature and his own considerable knowledge.

One obvious fault with The Adena People is its lack of illustrations of any sort. Other than a number of photographs of Adena crania only three pictures—bone fragments, the Meigs County tablet, and a restored Adena vessel—can be found. This omission, it seems, could have been corrected by a photographic supplement prepared by a competent archaeologist—an addition which could have enhanced immeasurably the value of this book to the layman. A number of glaring errors—the limited knowledge of 1945 notwithstanding—are present. A major one, for example, is the statement on page 33 that every "sacred circle" is of Adena origin including presumably those in the large geometric earthworks in the Scioto valley.

Despite its errors and misconceptions this book is a compilation of much of the knowledge derived from mound excavation in Ohio, West Virginia, and Kentucky prior to 1945. For anyone interested in archaeology The Adena People should be useful as a reference book as well as an historic volume.

Robert N. Converse

Sustaining Members

John C. Allman
1336 Cory Drive
Dayton, Ohio 45406

Sam Mascarella
16561 Rock Creek Rd.
Thompson, Ohio 44086

Roger C. Hubbell
2497 Dodgeville Road
Rome, Ohio 44086

Earl N. Witzler, Attorney
355 Elm Street
Perrysburg, Ohio 43551

Alfred C. Mahan MD
38109 Euclid Ave.
Willoughby, Ohio 44084

Award winners for the best field find of 1974 at the January 1975 meeting were (left to right) Martha Otto, Bob Burris, Gary Haueman.

Only in Hopewell cores can the wide range of color found in exotic Flint Ridge jewel flint be seen. Hopewell cores are not artifacts in themselves but are the remaining exhausted portions of the flint blocks from which prismatic bladelets were struck. These cores have been found on workshops on Flint Ridge and the surrounding areas and in some cases as far away as Hamilton County. They are always made of the most colorful and highest quality material found on Flint Ridge. Cores in the color picture are from the collection of Ernie and Dorothy Good, Grove City, Ohio.