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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Benjamin L. Smith

With this issue of the Bulletin, we celebrate the first ten years of our Society's existence. During that period, we have grown from a comparatively small, but enthusiastic group, to a membership of close to three hundred.

From a young, letter-writing association of amateur and professional archaeologists, whose efforts were largely uncorrelated, our expanding membership has steadily worked toward our goal of first stating, then working, toward the solution of a multitude of problems relating to the Archaeology of New England in general, and Massachusetts in particular.

We have been directed toward stating our problems, and devising ways and means to solve them. We did not know the number or location of many of our most important sites in Massachusetts. Therefore, our Site Survey, under the chairmanship of Ripley P. Bullen, painstakingly collected this information from our members, and plotted it on the U. S. Geodetic Survey Maps. Each site was given a master number with which to catalogue his specimens.

New England has been for many years an archaeological step-child. New England sites, and the artifacts from them, lack the spectacular appearance of those in other parts of the country, and the world. Hence the larger museums, with staffs and funds at their disposal, generally selected the sites most likely to reward them with unusual relics and information, which would justify the time and money spent.

New England felt our pre-history to be important to us, and since few of us were able to expend the necessary time and funds in other areas, we concentrated upon the less spectacular sites in our own localities. We dug out the old records, and read the reports of excavations by investigators of a bygone day. We studied the exhibits in the museums. We asked questions. Most of them could not be answered, and many cannot be answered today. Out of the welter of information, and misinformation, came the realization that New England archaeology had been sadly neglected, and that an organized plan of procedure was imperative.

Our earliest efforts were directed toward stating our problems, and devising ways and means to solve them. We did not know the number or location of many of our most important sites in Massachusetts. Therefore, our Site Survey, under the chairmanship of Ripley P. Bullen, painstakingly collected this information from our members, and plotted it on the U. S. Geodetic Survey Maps. Each site was given a master number with which to catalogue his specimens.

We found that various descriptive terms applied to artifacts meant one thing in one district, and something else in another. We attempted to bring order out of this chaos through a standard system of artifact classification. Several systems have been suggested, by Frederick P. Orchard, Ripley P. Bullen, and Benjamin L. Smith, and this problem is still unsolved, although much progress is being made. At least we are beginning to talk the same language.

A Bibliography for New England was needed, and our committee, under Donald F. Brown, assembled and published an excellent list of titles. This needs to be brought up to date, as there is a long list of new titles to be added.

Our past President, Dr. Ekblaw, an eminent geographer, stirred our interest in geographical characteristics, and several papers have been presented, thus enlarging our understanding of the importance of this subject.

There was little knowledge of stratigraphy in New England, because few ordinary sites had been dug with this feature in mind. There is now beginning to emerge a definite stratigraphical pattern. However, much more work is needed before the number and extent of the stratified sites becomes thoroughly established.

There was little knowledge of the relative importance of certain types of arrowpoints, or their relation to each other. A pattern has been suggested by the results of a series of excavations. This needs further confirmation.

The pottery of New England was not well understood, and much work on the subject was done by the late William J. Howes, Mr. Bullen, and William S. Fowler, among others. "A Classification of New England Pottery" just published by Mr. Fowler will help to clarify this problem.

Several soapstone quarries in various parts of the State were exhaustively studied, and compared with a few of the more famous ones of Rhode Island and elsewhere. The reports of these digs are of considerable value, and they helped our understanding of the use of soapstone, although the stratigraphical position of it is not yet too clear.

Historical research proved of great interest to some of our members, and Dr. Henry Howes published his now famous "Prologue to New England" in 1913. We would like to think his interest in this subject was engendered entirely by the Society. We fear, however, the reverse may be more accurate. The Historical Committee, under Mr. Charles Sherman, continues to dig into the records of the past, and to uncover facts of interest and importance. Mr. Henry Hornblower, II is presently at work on a reconstruction of the earliest settlement at Plymouth which, upon completion, will be of National importance. It is based on facts, disclosed by excavation, and historical research.

The problem of the interplay of tribal influences from outside Massachusetts upon the residual cultures has challenged the best minds in New England, and much has been learned regarding their effect upon pottery, and stone artifact characteristics. In this field the surface has hardly been scratched, and these problems may never be entirely solved, yet we can point with pride to some definite progress.

Certain spectacular grave cultures in widely
scattered areas of New England have received close scrutiny, and opinions regarding them are coming closer to a true understanding of their characteristics, and chronological position. This whole intriguing problem will probably be much clarified by publication of the results of work done since the war, and the motivation for, and the distribution of, the use of red ochre may be better understood in the next few years.

Such are some of the problems faced by the Society upon its organisation in 1939, and studied by it in the past ten years. But, first the personnel for the job had to be trained; and who of that early group will forget the reading we did, the lectures we listened to in our first group meetings, and the excitement with which we approached our first field work?

Shortly, reports of the results of our efforts appeared in the Bulletins. Papers were presented at our meetings. The groups enlarged and became chapters. New members clamored for admittance, and our membership increased - at times alarmingly. Could we safely absorb these people as fast as they were admitted? Fortunately, many among the new members were professional archaeologists, trained in our finest schools, and they lent valued assistance. Many of our amateurs studied hard to improve their knowledge and techniques, and, luckily, not all of the new members wished actually to dig the sites. Some preferred research, compilation and interpretation of existing and newly uncovered material, and, as noted above, much has been learned through their efforts.

Committees are now at work on historical research. A new code of excavation is in preparation which will aid, and, in some measure, standardize our work.

Geographical relationships are under constant study, and we hope to learn much from them. Trait and site characteristics have been compiled for reference when needed, and at this writing much new material awaits the sanction of the Research Council before being released for publication.

In this issue of our Bulletin, the Committee in charge has attempted to present an overall picture of the growth of the Society in the past ten years, together with thumbnail sketches of the chapters, and a composite history of the Society itself.

It has also presented a rather general survey of the New England archaeological picture as it stands today, with the hope of directing the attention of our members toward the solution of many of our problems.

And now, in closing, I wish to acknowledge the great debt owed by the Society to the officers and workers who have made our growth and attainments in the past ten years so substantial.

I call upon each member of our Society to devote his attention to the orderly solving of the problems which confront us, and to work as one of a harmonious team in the same scientific tradition which has so completely proved its worth in the successful attack upon the secrets of atomic energy. Our problems, when solved, will not change our present civilization, but they will reveal the secrets of older ones.

January, 1949
Concord, Massachusetts

Maurice Robbins

The motivating forces in the organization of the Massachusetts Archaeological Society were the need for insuring cooperation between professional and non-professionals to increase their knowledge and to raise the quality of their work, and a large dose of that gregarious instinct which seems to be over-developed in all who are attracted by the romance of archaeology. The concept of such a society was not that of any one individual and it was not original with us; many of our sister societies are much older than we. It seems to have been in the minds of many persons who were simply waiting for some group willing to take upon themselves the task of calling a meeting of interested persons.

In December of 1938, such a group met at the Museum of the Robert S. Peabody Foundation at Phillips Academy, Andover, Mass., to discuss the possibilities. This self-appointed body took upon itself the calling of a more formal meeting of a larger number of persons. A letter, outlining the proposed organization and setting a time for a meeting, was mailed to a selected list of persons known to be interested in archaeology. On March 25, 1939, nearly all those bidden gathered at Phillips Academy, Andover and decided to attempt the organization of a society. Temporary officers were chosen, a constitution and by-laws was accepted, and a second meeting appointed for April 3rd. Thus was our Society born, ten years ago on March 25, 1939.

In reviewing the first ten years of our existence I have tried to keep in mind the fundamental purposes for which we are organized and the problems which we are dedicated to solve. The more detailed history of our Society will be found in the histories of the various local organizations which are printed elsewhere in this Anniversary Number of our Bulletin. The success which we have had in keeping to these purposes and the extent to which we have solved these problems is the true measure of the worth of our Society. The pleasure which we have had of meeting together each spring and fall, renewing our friendships and discussing our work, is most enjoyable, and, in a sense, the papers which we have given or listened to are a part of our work, but our justification for existence is in our accomplishments. The sites which we have dug and placed on record, the problems which we have recognized and solved, these are the significant landmarks along the path by which we have traveled, and it is of these, for the most part, that I have written.
The summer of 1939 was a hectic one for the officers and committee men of this new organization. The problems we had so glibly talked about had to be defined before an attempt could be made to seek their solution and few of us were able to state them in a satisfactory manner. We created a Project Committee, the forerunner of our present Research Council, a Bibliography Committee, and a Site Survey Committee, into whose hands was committed the first work of the infant society, and a Membership Committee charged, of course, with the vital task of expanding the scope of the organization.

The first Bulletin of our Society was published in the fall of 1939 and in it we find these various committees clamoring for attention: The Project Committee is declaring itself to be the coordinating body of the society and suggesting the creating of an Historical Research Committee, a Committee on Artifact Classification and a Conservation Committee. The Site Survey Committee has already organized its work and is ready with a detailed plan for reporting and recording sites.

At this stage in our existence we contemplated sponsoring excavation work on a society wide basis and had selected a site on the island of Nantucket as our first project. From June 26th to August 26th of 1939, a number of our members found a way to get to Nantucket and to participate in the one and only Society "Dig." Although this work was carried to a successful conclusion over a period of several years, due mainly to the interest and devotion of our first Secretary-Treasurer, we found that if a representative number of members of the Society were to engage in field work as organized groups, it would have to be done on a local basis. The problems of time and transportation were too complicated to admit of any other solution.

The first Annual Meeting of the Society was held in October of 1939 at Holyoke, Mass., and we entered upon our first winter season placing the emphasis upon our Site Survey and Bibliographical projects.

During the fall of this year our first local organization was begun in the Southern District. This group started work in September at W/39/64 otherwise known as the Faulkner Spring Site in Taunton, Mass.

We had good cause to rejoice as we greeted the new year, our membership had grown from the original twenty-eight to seventy-six, our Site Survey Committee boasted of some five hundred recorded sites, two excavations were in progress, and interest was running high.

1940

During the spring of 1940 local organizations were effectuated in the northern, central, Connecticut Valley, and Plymouth areas and later in the year at Cape Cod and on the island of Nantucket. Both our Society meetings in Attleboro for the April meeting and at Worcester in October were well attended and enthusiasm continued high.

Field work during the summer season was carried out in all of the organized areas. The Society-sponsored work at Nantucket was continued, the Southern MASSACHUSETTS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY 51 group was working at Faulkner Spring, the Central group at the Dolly Bond Steatite quarry in Millbury, up in the Connecticut Valley work had begun at two sites and down in the old mother colony of Plymouth the sand was flying. The good work of the Historical Research Committee was showing up in our Bulletins in the "Original Narrative Reprints" which have continued to the present to be of so much interest and assistance to our readers. Somewhere about this time Lee Hall set began to compile his collection of Ethnological references which were destined to become the most complete file of reference on New England Ethnology in existence.

Our approach to the chronological problem in New England at this time is well illustrated by the following quotation from Volume 1, Number 4 of our Bulletin, - "One poor man, officer of a sister society of ours, was quoted in a column back-page article in a New England newspaper as saying that certain New England Indians were 5000 years old, and expanded on what things were like then. Whether he actually said that or not we shall never know, as reporters like nothing better than a chance to twist what one says. The outcome of it all was that his ill-considered remark resulted in his society becoming the laughingstock by that reason."

1941

The year of 1941 was a banner year for our Society. Membership increased to one hundred and fifty-three, our Site Survey Committee was reporting one thousand and thirteen sites on its maps, and the Bibliography Committee published a list of nine hundred titles. Our April meeting was held at Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, Mass. and our Annual meeting in October found us at Plymouth. In this year the Project Committee gave way to a Research Council under which were grouped the various working committees of the Society, thus consolidating the archaeological work of the organization under a single control. Early in the spring we announced the opening of a Society office at the New England Museum of Natural History on Berkeley Street in Boston and our Society was chartered or incorporated at a meeting held at the Hotel Hixon in North Attleboro, Mass. on November 29th.

A new era in the history of our society was ushered in with the election of a new slate of officers at our Annual meeting. The first three years of our existence were busy indeed but were comparatively uncomplicated. The Society was new, everyone was personally interested in its development, full of ideas, and ready to give of their time and effort in carrying them out. The task of the officers was light indeed when compared to those of the period to follow. Although we knew it not, we were about to enter into a most trying period.

1942

When our sister societies were deciding to abandon their activities in the face of difficulty, when gasoline shortages were making traveling a thing of the past, members were either entering the military service of their country or working long hours in civilian activities, our new president, with characteristic determination was searching for ways and means of continuing the activities of our Society without interfering with the war effort. His letter to the membership, published in the News...
Letter of December 1942 so demonstrates the spirit of our Society at that time that it will bear repeating here:

"Due to the current emergency, our organization, which has until recently enjoyed a rapid and healthy growth, is faced with the necessity of curbing many of its activities for the duration. Many of its members have entered the service, others are doing valuable work in civilian defense, and little time remains for any type of archaeological research.

"It is impractical under the circumstances to attempt to continue the normal activities of the Research Council, and the work of the Society must devolve more and more upon the Groups and Chapter activities. The skeletal committee organizations will, of course, be maintained; as, from a functional standpoint, the Society is soundly equipped to face the problems of local archaeology. It is of primary importance that the regular publication of the Bulletin and the News Letter be maintained, and this will be done.

"We are fortunate, at this time, in having active Groups and Chapters throughout the state. These units can continue the work of the Society with a minimum of inconvenience to the members. We must maintain these Group and Chapter activities, and I urge every member to participate in the activities of the nearest geographical unit. These units will, in turn, be more self-sufficient than formerly, and several are planning comprehensive research problems for the winter months.

"In war all of us must keep our minds and spirits healthy and well balanced, as every fighting man knows, there must be recreation and relaxation amid the confusion and strain of war. The enjoyment in archaeology is one of the least costly and most wholesome of human stimulants."

In spite of unfavorable conditions, considerable field work was somehow carried on by several local organizations during that summer season. The Warren King Moorehead Chapter worked in the vicinity of Marion, Mass., and at several small sites in and about Attleboro, the Connecticut Valley Chapter found a way to get to the steatite quarries at Westfield and Wilbraham, some excavation work was done at the Guida Farm site, and at various sites near Plymouth.

Membership increased slightly, a remarkable indication of the continuing interest of our membership during the summer. It is noticeable that Society meetings from here on are held in Boston which was easily reached via the railroad, but it is equally noticeable that these meetings continued to be well attended despite the stress of war time.

1943

The year of 1943 was one of necessarily restricted field activity, but the membership turned to other phases of archaeology which could be enjoyed despite the difficulty of travel. Our Bulletins mirror the tendency to reflect upon and to write about the work of happier years. We were talking about artifact classifications, sites we had previously dug, early narratives, and the like. The W. K. Moorehead Chapter had found a site (The Ford Site) within the limits of a half gallon of gas, the Connecticut Valley Chapter somehow contrived to get to Wilbraham, and the Plymouth Chapter reverted to shoe leather to reach the numerous sites in their area, but for the most part our members were working at more serious tasks on their "lost weekends." Both the meetings of the Society were held in Boston and were well attended. Although our membership declined a bit, our interest did not.

1944

Armchair archaeology continued to be the order of the day through much of 1944. Classifications, geographical distributions, site characteristics, cultural diffusions and influences, methodology, and the like, filled our spare moments. Membership was maintained and interest continued, we were simply taking an enforced vacation from our field activities.

Work continued at the Ford Site in Norton, Mass., and individuals who were adept at bicycle riding spent a few precious hours at their favorite haunts.

Society meetings continued to be held and attended by the old standbys but there were many familiar faces missing. An occasional letter or two bearing foreign postmarks drifted into the secretary's office telling of archaeological interest undiminished by the toll of war.

It was about this time that an interest in applying the techniques of archaeology to colonial sites began to appeal to several of our members. Black Lucy's Garden is a typical example of this sort of archaeology.

Significantly we note that by October of this year our membership had actually shown an increase to a new high of one hundred seventy-nine.

1945

We are over the hump and by April of this year our membership list has started to climb again, one hundred and ninety-three was the figure reported at our Spring meeting. We are still patronizing the railroad to get to our Boston meetings but the attendance is somewhat better than last year. Field work also began to pick up a bit, perhaps we were learning how to stretch our gasoline or maybe we were getting used to walking. Our Bulletins were reporting work at the Holden Site in North Truro, the Rich Site, the Ryder Beach Site, The Railroad Site, all on the Cape, The Foster's Cove Site and Maude Eaton Site near Andover, The Nook Farm Site at Plymouth, and the Ford Site in Norton. Ceramics seems also to have been interesting many of our members, due probably to the work of the Connecticut Valley Chapter and to the Guida Farm discoveries and we read of a proposed classification of design elements and types in that field.

1946

Having successfully weathered the storm, we began to travel again in 1946 holding our spring meeting at the beautiful museum of Natural History in Springfield in the spring and visiting at Plymouth in the fall for our Annual meeting. After a most successful administration, covering what were the most difficult years of our Society, our second president handed over the reins of authority that fall to a worthy successor. The thanks of the Society are due to Lee Hallett for having guided us wisely.
in rereading the Bulletins and News Letters of our Society in search of the material for this paper, I have been impressed by a number of things.

I have come to a realization of the tremendous amount of painstaking work which our Editor has done over the past decade in editing and developing our Bulletin. These nine volumes represent much thought and planning. My hat is off to THE EDITOR.

Secondly, the change in quality and in level of the work being done by the members of the society and the increased complexity of the problems which we are thinking about indicate the progress which we have made over these ten years. From the discussion of Dr. Ritchie's chronology which appeared in one of our early numbers to the "Analysis of the Maine Cemetery Complex" which appeared in our latest volume is a tremendous stride.

A review of the field work of the Society is indeed impressive but an examination of the "armchair" variety of archaeology is equally so. Lee Hallett's ethnological files of traits of the New England Indians, containing more than twelve thousand cards, is probably the most extensive such compilation in existence, our site survey with its thousand or more sites is of considerable value, the work which has been done in pottery classification, in artifact classification, and in historical research is amazing. This is indeed a society of hard workers.

From the very beginnings of our society to the present day our professional brothers have given us their cooperation, without this, given many times to the detriment of their own work, we could have accomplished but little. We owe much to them.

In closing I want to pay a tribute to our most recent past President. The task of reorganizing a society which had outgrown its original Constitution and organization was his lot. It has been accomplished despite a physical handicap which was concealed behind a smile and a hearty handshake. In the years to come the foundation which he has laid so well will support the structure of our society solidly and well.

Attleboro, Massachusetts

WARREN KING MOOREHEAD CHAPTER

Florence M. Tufts

Maurice Robbins might well be called the father of the Warren King Moorehead Chapter. As a Boy Scout leader he became interested in Indians and their artifacts. Nobody remembers when others joined him in surface hunting for Indian relics. In June, 1933, Maurice answered an advertisement from Dr. Moorehead which offered to trade Indian implements. The correspondence which followed led to meetings with Dr. Moorehead and trips with him to inspect camp sites in Southern Massachusetts. Thereafter, until his death in January, 1939, Dr. Moorehead gave advice and encouragement to Maurice and his budding group of amateur archaeologists.

In December, 1938, several of our group went to Andover to discuss organization of a State Society. Following that talk, the group called a meeting of interested persons, as a consequence of which, the Massachusetts Archaeological Society was organized March 25, 1939. An organization meeting of the Southern Group, later the Warren King Moorehead Chapter, was called soon after the Society meeting at Holyoke in October, 1939. Present at this original meeting were Roger Wilson, Lee Hallett, Maurice Robbins, Elmer Tufts, Walter Franke, Sheldon Smith and Earl Bryant.

In the late fall of 1939, the group commenced digging on M-39-64 near Winneconnet. It was the custom to carry lunches and spend the day at the site.
Near the end of the season, it was decided to meet monthly during the winter for the study of archaeology, the first meeting being held on November 18, 1939.

The old Brown Farm in Seekonk, in existence at the time of King Phillip's War, was one of the few homes spared by the Indians. In this historical atmosphere the Southern Group held the first supper meeting with seven members and eleven guests present. These monthly meetings have continued at various places up to the present time. They have served as a medium to hold the interest of the members during the months when field activity is impossible.

On November 16, 1940, as the result of a petition to the executive committee of the State Society, the Southern Group was designated the Warren King Moorehead Chapter.

The Chapter was host to the M.A.S. at the semiannual spring meetings in 1940 and 1941, and also to the Eastern States Archaeological Federation in November, 1945. The Chapter also entertained the Narragansett Geography Council in May, 1946, with a field trip to Grassy Island and an inspection of Indian material at the Attleboro Museum.

The Chapter has undertaken the following digs during the past ten years:

- Faulkner Spring Site (M-39-6) near Winneconnet, Norton, was begun in March, 1939, and continued until June, 1942, when the Army erected Camp Myles Standish, obliterating the site. A report of this work appears in:

  "Two Habitation Floors at the Faulkner Spring Site" - Robbins. (Contributions of the M.A.S., 1941)

- The Faulkner Spring Site - Robbins. (Papers of the Attleboro Museum of Art and History, 1941)

- The Ford Site (M-39-5) at Winneconnet, Norton, 1941, and 1942. A report of this site may be found in:


- "The Pituit Site (M-40-3) is located on the Taunton River in Bridgewater. Work was commenced in 1946. Recognizing the importance of the site and our lack of experience and scientific knowledge, the Chapter invited the Robert S. Peabody Foundation, Phillips Academy, Andover, to take over the work for the summer of 1947. All materials obtained from the site to date have been taken to Andover for study. A joint report is in preparation by Frederick Johnson and Maurice Robbins. Excavation will be continued in 1949.

In addition to the aforementioned digs, work on the Manchester Site (R-2-31) located in Attleboro was abandoned in April, 1941, after a test trench disclosed a serious disturbance to the camp site.

Various members of the Chapter have assisted in excavations in Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey and Nantucket. Other members have given freely and unselfishly of their time in classifying, cataloging and preparing exhibits for the Attleboro Museum, Inc.

At the present time there are fifty-five members in the Chapter. Names of individuals have been intentionally omitted from this report, not because they are unimportant nor because they have not contributed to the development of the Chapter, but because of lack of necessary space. As Maurice said in "The Ford Site, A Protohistoric Station in Massachusetts,"

"As director of the excavation, I cannot omit an expression of my appreciation to the members of the Warren King Moorehead Chapter, who labored on this site, overlooking my failings, enduring my errors of judgement, and moving prodigious amounts of earth, to the end that this paper might be written. To them belongs the greater part of any credit that this accomplishment may attain."

This report would be incomplete without expressing the thanks and appreciation of the Chapter to the Peabody Foundation at Andover, and to the many professional archaeologists and scientists who have given freely of their time to instruct and assist us with our problems.

Atteboro, Massachusetts

W. Elmer Ekblaw

At its semi-annual meeting in Springfield, Mass., Saturday, April 13, 1946, the Massachusetts Archaeological Society approved, without a dissenting vote, a petition from members in the vicinity of Worcester to become the Nipmuc Chapter. The official history of Nipmuc Chapter thus begins in 1946; but the preliminary history of the group extends back through the years to the spring of 1939, when Ripley Bullen and Karl Dodge and their wives, and Lawrence K. Gahan of Worcester, and Mr. C. C. Ferguson of Millbury, attended the organization meetings of the Massachusetts Archaeological Society at Andover. Inspired by the enthusiasm and purpose of those meetings, they agreed to attempt to organize at Worcester a group of persons interested in Indian lore and archaeology.

Ferguson and Gahan, acquainted with most of the collectors of Indian relics, and with others interested in Indian lore, canvassed the locality. They, together with Bullen, arranged for the first meeting at the Worcester Historical Museum, Saturday afternoon, February 21, 1940. Ferguson presided, Bullen was elected Secretary-Treasurer and Gahan, Vice Chairman. After a warm welcome from Zelotes Coombs, President of the Worcester Historical Society, and a few words from Captain Cross, Director of the Worcester Historical Society's Museum, who called attention to the exhibits, Maurice Robbins, President of the M.A.S., explained...
its organization and objectives and Leaman F. Hallett, the development of district groups. Benjamin L. Smith, William S. Fowler, Jesse Brewer, and Ned Brooks were among the out-of-town members who attended and spoke. Of the local members of the group, Lawrence K. Gahan and William C. Lyford took the lead in the program while J. E. Barns read a paper on the site at Mendon and displayed artifacts from it, and T. C. Lyford, Karl Dodge, and Harry A. Cheney showed some of the unusual specimens from their collections.

Ripley Bollen opened the program with an illustrated talk on the Dolly Bond steatite quarry in Millbury.

The second meeting was held on March 30, 1940, at the Worcester Historical Museum. C. C. Ferguson presided and described four types of sites characteristic of Worcester County; Lawrence K. Gahan discussed local archaeology; Benjamin L. Smith summarized archaeological features of his territory; Morton Lincoln exhibited an Indian pipe found near Muddy Pond, West Rutland; and Francis Drake described a number of the most distinctive pieces in his collection, chiefly native Indian artifacts, particularly emphasis upon two large gouges. Several members of the group expressed their purpose of attending the Semi-Annual meeting of the M.A.S. at Attleboro, Mass. on April 13, at which Ripley Bollen was to give an illustrated paper on "Excavating an Indian Soapstone Quarry in Worcester County."

Twenty-seven persons attended the third meeting of the group held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Ferguson in Millbury on May 17th, when the question of summer field work and excavations came up for discussion. The meeting decided to postpone decision upon the projects until some later date. W. Elmer Ekblaw of Clark University spoke on "An Inventory of New England Indian Sites" from the point of view of Indian cultural adjustment to the New England environment.

First activities of the group in the Fall of 1940, were concerned with the Second Annual Meeting of the M.A.S. held at Worcester on October 12th, for which the Central Group was host. Sessions were held at the Worcester Art Museum. Dr. William A. Ritchie who was speaker of the evening gave an illustrated lecture on "Cultural Similarities Between New York and New England" at the annual dinner held at the Bancroft Hotel.

At the next meeting, held on December 11, 1940, with seven members and five guests present, Lawrence K. Gahan was elected chairman; C. C. Ferguson who had served as leader of the group since its organization. It was at this meeting, too, that W. Elmer Ekblaw suggested that the name of the group be changed from "Central" to "Nipmuc" and that activities of the group be centered upon Nipmuc territory. The suggestions met unanimous approval. A program committee was authorized, to include the new chairman and W. Elmer Ekblaw. Wensel Moberg was placed in charge of mapping and classifying sites in Nipmuc territory.

In 1940, Mr. and Mrs. Karl Dodge, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Franke, and Mr. and Mrs. Ripley Bollen moved from Worcester. When the year 1941 opened, only eight members of the Central Group were enrolled as members of the M.A.S. - J. Edward Barns, Harry A. Cheney, C. C. Ferguson, Taylor C. Lyford, Lawrence K. Gahan, Vera M. Whalen, Wensel W. Moberg, and W. Elmer Ekblaw. The first event of the year was a meeting at the Worcester Historical Museum, Saturday, March 29th, at which Leaman F. Hallett and Maurice Robbins of the Warren K. Moorehead Chapter gave illustrated talks on the excavation by their chapter of the Faulkner Spring Site. Because of preparations for defense and possible war, the various members of the group became so involved in such activities that no further meetings were held. On Sunday, November 23rd, consisting of Ferguson, Moberg and Ekblaw surveyed Indian sites from East Brookfield to New Braintree - the shores of Lakes Quaboag, Quaquumquat, Lashaway, and Wickaboag, and the Winnimusset Valley - and decided that the reputed site of the fortified Indian village "Quabagud" on the southeasterly shore of Lake Quaboag afforded the most promising prospect of a successful "dig" for the group, when it should be in position to begin excavations. Accordingly, a letter was written to Mr. Lancelot S. Bedell of the Point of Pines Farm, Brookfield, owner of the land, asking for permission to excavate it. Mr. Bedell in a letter dated November 25th, gladly granted permission on condition that all holes be filled in when the excavation was completed. A letter thanking him was written on November 28th, but within ten days the infamous Japanese sneak attack at Pearl Harbor plunged America into war, and it was not until May 2, 1947, that Mr. Bedell was asked to renew the permit to dig at the Quabagud site. After receipt of his favorable answer, the Chapter started its "dig" there the following Saturday afternoon, May 17th.

It was not until September, 1945, that any attempt was made to reorganize the group. Fourteen persons were on hand for the reorganization meeting which was held September 29th. C. C. Ferguson was elected President by acclamation, Lawrence K. Gahan was similarly elected Vice President, and W. Elmer Ekblaw, Secretary-Treasurer. General discussion of plans ensued, and it was decided to hold subsequent regular meetings at 7:30 o'clock the third Wednesday evening of every month.

At the March meeting in 1946, the group voted to petition the M.A.S. for recognition as the Nipmuc Chapter, a petition which was approved, as we have seen, at the Society's April meeting. The group opened its sixth meeting, April 17th, as an official chapter. At the fifth meeting, too, the chapter voted to enroll as its Charter Members all persons who had been duly elected to chapter membership before January 1, 1947.

After much discussion of summer field activities, the chapter authorized Ferguson and Ekblaw to survey the so-called Bummet Brook site on Chickering's Pond in North Grafton. They reported favorably and permission to excavate was obtained. On June 8, 1946, the site was formally opened by twelve members and three visitors, directed by 21 members of the Warren K. Moorehead Chapter, who were experienced in excavation and who had come up from Attleboro to aid in the opening. The group and its guests met at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Ekblaw and returned there after the "dig" for picnic supper and meetings. The field work for the following summer was concentrated upon the Bummet Brook site with meager results.

At the tenth (the First Annual) meeting of the Chapter, December 18, 1946, Everett W. Talbot was elected President; George L. Carey, Vice President; W. Elmer Ekblaw, Secretary-Treasurer; Lawrence K. Gahan, Director of Research; and C. C. Ferguson, Honorary President for Life. An outstanding program of the year was Dr. Richard Lougee's lecture at the 1947 regular meeting, April 16, 1947, on "Relation-
The year 1947 ended with the twenty-second (the Second Annual) meeting December 12th at the Worcester Historical Museum at which George L. Carey was elected President; Kenneth B. Wetherbee, Vice President; and Mrs. W. Elmer Ekblaw, elected Secretary-Treasurer, all unanimously. At this same session the Chapter voted to hold a dinner meeting the third Wednesday in February, the 19th, 1948. It was postponed to March 17th and was then held at the New Yorker, Worcester; it constituted the twenty-fourth meeting of the Chapter. It was decided to continue the Quabagud "dig" as the field project for the year.

The Chapter was host to the Tenth Annual Meeting of the M.A.S., October 9, 1948. All business sessions were held at the Worcester Historical Museum, and the annual dinner, at the Sheraton Hotel. The Third Annual (the thirtieth regular) meeting of Nipmuc Chapter, a dinner meeting at Howard Johnson’s in Shrewsbury, at which members and guests were present, closed the year 1948 successfully. Kenneth B. Wetherbee was elected President; Barker Keith, Vice President; and Mrs. W. Elmer Ekblaw was reelected Secretary. It was unanimously voted to attempt to increase membership by emphasizing the associate membership and to endeavor to locate a more productive site for a "dig" than the present site at Fort Quabagud, in which interest has stagnated because so few artifacts have been uncovered. The prospect at the opening of 1949 for renewed interest in archaeological study, field research, and other activities appears bright indeed. Membership has apparently stabilized at about thirty for the time being, but a productive "dig" would stimulate substantial gain.

List of Charter Members of Nipmuc Chapter:
1. Armstrong, Laura
2. Ayers, Charles E.
3. Barns, J. Edward
4. Carey, George L.
5. Cheney, Harry A.
6. Doane, Harold
7. Dudley, John C.
8. Ekblaw, W. Elmer
9. Ekblaw, Mrs. W. Elmer
10. Ferguson, Chauncey C.
11. Gahan, Lawrence K.
12. Gleason, Dorothy
13. Greene, Richard H.
14. Harlow, Hiram
15. Harlow, Mrs. Hiram
17. Knox, Mrs. Roy I.
18. Lush, Plyllis Wetherbee
19. MacKinnon, Herbert
20. MacKinnon, Mrs. Herbert
21. Marble, Charles H.
22. McDonald, Margaret
23. Miskovich, Joseph
24. Moberg, Tensel W.
25. Parks, Carl S.
26. Radzik, Alexander
27. Reid, Katherine
28. Stockdale, Charles E.
29. Sullivan, John L.
30. Taft, Norman
31. Tainter, Doris
32. Talbot, Everett W.
33. Talbot, Mrs. Everett W.
34. Tyler, Danford S.
35. Wetherbee, Kenneth B.
36. Wetherbee, Mrs. K. B.
37. Wetherbee, David
38. White, William T.

The Charles C. Willoughby Chapter

Benjamin L. Smith

The first meeting of the Chapter (then known as Group 5) was held in Sudbury, Mass., on July 11, 1940, with the following members present:

Benjamin L. Smith
Ripley P. Bullen
Adelaide Bullen
Frederick Johnson
Harry G. Rice
J. Alfred Mansfield
Douglas S. Byers
Dr. Carlton S. Coon
Frederick P. Orchard
Mr. J. O. Brew

Among the seventeen guests were the following who ultimately became members:

Dr. Ernest E. Tyszer
Dr. Hallam L. Movius, Jr.
Bruce Howe
R. C. Woodbury
Margaret P. Smith
Miss Elizabeth Atkinson
Dr. Phillip Phillips
Frederick Pieanants
Leonard Styles

This was such an encouraging turnout that the future of the group seemed assured and it was formally organized as follows:

Chairman: Harry C. Rice
Secretary-Treasurer: Benjamin L. Smith
Director of Field Work: Dr. Hallam L. Movius, Jr.

The aims and objects of the Massachusetts Archaeological Society were explained to the group, together with a short account of the projects then under way in other sections of the State. It was arranged to hold meetings once a month, at various places throughout the territory, and supper meetings were decided upon. The group decided at once to start field operations with a dig which ultimately became Site M-23-26.

Dr. Movius then took over the meeting and outlined the manner in which the dig was to be operated; the tools and equipment required, and the type of records to be kept. The dig was scheduled to start July 21st.

The dig proved of great interest to the group, and its members quickly realized how fortunate they were to be working under the direction of such an experienced archaeologist as Dr. Movius, who insisted on strict adherence to the methods and techniques he had outlined. Results were quickly obtained, and the importance of the site soon established.
Work at the dig was confined to Saturdays and Sundays, and a large crew was soon at work. The number of workers varied with the weather and genuineness of each individual interest.

Our second meeting was held on August 8th at Concord, Mass., with eighteen members and fourteen guests, among them President Maurice Robbins.

Speakers were: President Robbins, Ripley Bullen, who spoke on the several committees of the Society and their functions. Frederick Johnson, who gave the principal address on the "Aims and Scope of Archaeology in New England."

Three new members joined as a result of this meeting.

Our third meeting was held in Sudbury, Mass., with seventeen members and three guests. Mr. Edward Brooks, our State Secretary-Treasurer, gave us an account of the Society's dig at Nantucket. Dr. Movius reported on progress at our dig.

The principal speaker was Mr. J. O. Brew, who spoke on the "Recognition, Excavation, and General Characteristics of House Floors." This was particularly appropriate, as part of a house floor was just emerging at M-23-26. The members were privileged to listen to a four-cornered discussion of this subject by Messrs. Brew, Movius, Johnson and Brew. The group was beginning to realize the advantages of its high content of professional members.

Our fourth meeting was held October 11th, 1940, in Sudbury with seventeen members and six guests. It was the fourth day of a heavy drenching rain and was a miserable night. Our speaker was Dr. Alfred Kidder, II, whose subject was "Peruvian Archaeology." He was bombarded with questions on this fascinating topic at the close of the talk.

The fifth meeting on December 12th was featured by a talk by Dr. Movius, who probably felt that the group needed a restatement of some of the principles of digging, and a somewhat changed perspective on the entire subject of archaeology. The writer who took six pages of notes on this address found it to be of the greatest interest and value. It was the first of a series given by the Harvard professional group. These addresses could be expanded into an intensely interesting archaeological course.

There were seventeen members and three guests present.

At the sixth meeting, held in Sudbury on January 25, 1941, nineteen members and four guests listened to Mr. T. D. Lockhard who continued the winter series of talks with a discussion of "The Basic Aims and Principles of Archaeology." Those who took notes of this address have in their possession an excellent outline of the methods of establishing chronological relationships in a dig. The talk was extremely valuable.

The seventh meeting of eighteen members and five guests was held in Concord, on February 13, 1941, and the audience heard Mr. Richard Woodbury of Cambridge speak on the "Classification of Archaeological Material." His talk was in part illustrated by comparison of pottery types, and was an excellent outline of the methods used to record and establish the chronological relationships of different dwellings and sites. This meeting did not break up till after midnight.

Meeting eight was held at Sudbury on March 13th and was about ruined by a severe snow storm. Seven members and four guests were present, and heard Mr. W. A. Stallings speak on the subject of "Tree Ring Dating in the Southwest." It was unfortunate that the storm prevented a larger number from hearing this excellent presentation.

The ninth meeting at Sudbury on May 18th was highlighted by a visitation of four members from the Moorehead Chapter at Attleboro. In all there were present twenty-four members and five guests. Mr. Hallett, Chairman of the group committee, introduced our State President, Mr. Maurice Robbins, who gave an illustrated talk on the digs at Norton, Cape Cod, and Attleboro.

Our tenth meeting in Sudbury on June 10th had an attendance of thirteen members and two guests. Dr. Movius introduced Dr. Phillip Phillips who discussed "Archaeological Reconnaissance on the Flood Plain of Arkansas." The productivity of this area as evidenced by many slides made many of us yearn to do some collecting there ourselves.

The eleventh meeting at Sudbury was held on July 16th and the group voted to apply for a charter to become the Charles C. Willoughby Chapter. Dr. J. O. Brew was then introduced and spoke on "Field Methods in Archaeology." The address was illustrated by slides of his field work at the Awatovi pueblo in the Southwest. In the course of this talk, Dr. Brew amazed the group with proof of the fact that the people of Awatovi mined and used coal.

The twelfth meeting was also at Sudbury. There, on August 11th, 1941, thirteen members and two guests listened to Mr. Bruce Howe outline the progress of work at M-23-26. A letter was sent to Mr. Willoughby, requesting permission to use his name for our chapter, and he replied on September 2nd that he "felt greatly honored by our request and accepted with great pleasure." He was eighty-four years old at the time, and confined to his house by illness. Formal application to the Executive Committee of the State Society to become a chapter was filed on August 23, 1941.

The thirteenth meeting was held at Sudbury on September 18th with nineteen members present. Dr. Movius gave an informal accounting and comparison of the 1941 work at M-23-26 with that of the previous year. He attributed much of the improvement to the series of winter lectures. Errors of omission and commission in the 1940 work were pointed out, and it was demonstrated how our lapses in keeping proper records had made the interpretation of some of our 1940 results difficult or impossible. He did, however, express his satisfaction over the definite progress made by the diggers toward our ultimate goal of scientific excavation.

We Become a Chapter

At our fourteenth meeting on November 13th in Sudbury, Group 5 of the M.A.S. was dissolved and the following officers were elected to service for the coming year:
Chairman: Benjamin L. Smith
Assistant Secretary: Elizabeth Atkinson
Treasurer: Harry C. Rice

The chairman read a letter from the President, authorizing us to become the Charles Clark Willoughby Chapter, and the members unanimously elected membership to twenty-five. Dr. Carlton S. Coon and Mr. Bruce Howe then spoke on their excavation of the cave sites at Tangier in Northwestern Africa. Slides, photographs and artifacts added to the clarity and interest of the talk.

The fifteenth meeting was held on December 11, 1941, at South Sudbury. Three new members raised our total to twenty-eight. Sixteen members listened to Mr. Frederick Pleasants speak on "Some Aspects of Primitive Art." His talk, which was abundantly illustrated, covered in part the art of the Bushmen of Africa, and Maori of New Zealand, the Benin of West Africa and the Pre-Columbian Indians of Mexico.

The sixteenth meeting, also at South Sudbury, was on January 15, 1942. Dr. Movius introduced Mr. Robert White of the Peabody Museum who spoke on the "Excavation and Preservation of Fragile Bone Material." This was a technical and highly important lecture and all members wished they might encounter a skeleton at M-23-26 next season. They never did.

The seventeenth meeting was held at South Sudbury on February 19th. Nine new members were present which indicated the restrictive effect of the war. Many members were engaged in defense work. Tires had to be conserved and gasoline was getting short. It was decided to postpone any decision regarding future plans until the March meeting. Members were asked to volunteer for research work on the State Society Committees as it was felt that excavation in the spring might prove to be impossible. Mr. Benjamin Smith spoke on "The Nipmuc of the Concord and Sudbury River Villages."

The eighteenth meeting was held on March 11th at South Sudbury and it was voted to hold bi-monthly meetings in the future, in view of the restrictions of the war effort. Sixteen members were present. Mr. William Kelly of the Peabody Museum spoke on "Pre-historic Ancestors of the Yuma Indians of Arizona."

At this point the pressure of war caught up to us. The dig at M-23-26 was filled in and all attempts to hold meetings of our wide flung membership failed. The members turned to war activities. Enlistments decimated our ranks and we decided to wait until the end of the war before resuming our activities, except for those relating to the State Society. During the reconstruction period following the war we made several attempts to reorganize the Chapter. Meetings were called in the spring of 1946 and again in 1947, but so few were able to attend that the matter was dropped. A spring meeting in 1948 was called but the same situation existed. Finally, at the insistence of Mr. Mansfield, whose war service had been interspersed with collecting in far flung fields, it was decided to hold a meeting regardless of its size.

The nineteenth meeting, therefore, was held in Concord on September 25, 1948, and a small but enthusiastic group of old members and guests laid plans for a series of meetings in the Fall. New officers were elected as follows:

Chairman: J. Alfred Mansfield
Secretary: Benjamin L. Smith
Treasurer: Harry C. Rice

Tentative dates were set for the next meetings and a program of intense instruction was laid out.

The twentieth meeting, also held in Concord, was slightly larger and even more enthusiastic. The meeting was devoted to a discussion of the Excavation Code prepared by the State Society Committee, which code happened to be available. Much benefit was derived from this study as it changed the ideas of some of our more restless members.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 20th at Sudbury and we hope with the active nucleus now back at work that many of the old chapter members will rejoin. The future looks bright.

Several of the members of Group 5 felt the urge to write and a list of their accomplishments is as follows:

Massachusetts Archaeological Society Bulletin Publications.

Vol. I, No. 1 - Report of the Project Committee - Benjamin L. Smith, Chairman
Vol. I, No. 1 - Instructions for the Site Survey - Ripley P. Bullen
Vol. II, No. 2 - The Taxonomic Approach Redefined - Douglas S. Byers
Vol. II, No. 1 - Dolly Bond Steatite Quarry - Ripley P. Bullen
Vol. II, No. 3 - Report of Site Survey to February, 1941 - Ripley P. Bullen
Vol. II, No. 3 - A Standardized System for Classification and Description of Stone Implements from New England - Frederick Orchard
Vol. II, No. 3 - Letter to the Editor - Benjamin L. Smith

(With the exception of 1 page, Group 5 filled this whole issue.)

Vol. III, No. 1 - Preliminary Bibliography of the Archaeology of the New England Indians - Donald F. Brown, Chairman
Frederick P. Orchard

It may seem presumptuous for the group to claim such writers as Byers, Byers and Bullen, but in the year 1948 they were in regular attendance at our meetings.

At this point the Chapter became inactive and it is no longer proper to claim the Andover group of authors.
The following year, the organization of the Massachusetts Archaeological Society, in May of 1910, invitations to the first meeting of the Connecticut Valley Group were extended to those interested in archaeology in the neighborhood of Holyoke. The late William J. Howes of that city, the first Vice President of the Society was most instrumental in the original development of the movement in the Valley. It remained for William S. Fowler, Society appointed Chairman of the group, to organize and expand the work of this body.

The May meeting was held in Holyoke at the Home Information Center to which came interested individuals from localities far and near. Local speakers were encouraged by the presence of the Society's President, Maurice Robbins, Secretary-Treasurer, Edward Brooks, and other Society members from the eastern part of the State. As a result of this meeting, many new applications for membership in the Society were received from those present, including Dr. and Mrs. H. H. Plough of Amherst, Mr. and Mrs. Aaron C. Bagg and Frank H. Jones of Holyoke, Walter S. Rodman of Granville, and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Wright of Springfield.

In October of the same year, the second meeting of the group was held at the home of the Chairman, and from this meeting stemmed many of the rules of procedure which became the customs of the group as time went on. The conception back of the successful growth of the Connecticut Valley group was one of integrating the members by suitable reference to their independent archaeological interests. Such reference accompanied the written call for meetings, and served an important purpose of giving each member a personal stake in the activities of the group and Society. In this way, cultural, domestic and industrial individual backgrounds were cemented together in a unified effort to advance archaeological research of the region. As a result, monthly meetings that were both social as well as archaeological in nature were a success from the start, with enthusiastic attendance. At each meeting there was both a short field study of some particular class of artifacts as well as a main speaker on some archaeological subject. Many times such speakers were found among the members of the group.

By the time the second year had reached, the group had grown in membership from a scant ten to some twenty or twenty-five in number. It had voted to assume Chapter status and had decided to become known as the Connecticut Valley Chapter. Harold W. Mohrman of Springfield became its first Secretary, and William S. Fowler was retained as Chapter Chairman. From then on, the activities of the Chapter were steered over a course of research, but one not so academic and technical in nature as to prevent universal interest of all participants.

Through a communication from a Mr. Rising of Munsondale, location of the aboriginal steatite quarry in Westfield was learned and permission obtained to excavate there for the first time since its original discovery by Professor Emerson of Amherst College. For the succeeding three years, the Chapter continued this excavation with notable discoveries, all of which were adequately reported in the Society Bulletin and in American Antiquity. By this time, research enthusiasm had mounted and had stimulated a growth in membership to about thirty-five, with an average attendance at meetings of over twenty members. Monthly meetings were continued through the fall and winter months with excavation and field research conducted through spring and summer. By now, the Chapter had become known as one of the most active in the State Society, in spite of certain disadvantages imposed by World War II, in which America had become heavily involved.

In 1943, it was decided to continue study of the steatite culture through excavation of the Wilbraham quarry, previously excavated by Doctors Chapin and Baldwin of Springfield and later by Dr. Putnam of Harvard University. It was felt that more could be learned by comparing the stone traits of this site with those already revealed at Westfield. Accordingly, work was started that year on the new site in which attention was concentrated on an examination of the tailings of the largest man-made crater at the quarry. The three ensuing years were devoted to research at Wilbraham with outstanding success. Reports were written by W. J. Howes for the Bulletin and by William S. Fowler for American Antiquity. Much of the recovered stone material is now the property of the Museum of Natural History in Springfield.

In 1946, the Chapter elected Harold W. Mohrman to Chairmanship and Carl W. Hanson was continued as Secretary, which office he had held for several years. At this time, the Chapter with a membership of over forty had become one of the largest groups in the Society. Since then its meetings are held at the Museum of Natural History in Springfield, rather than in the homes of various members. Research continues at the rock shelter in Wilbraham and at the Guida Farm camp site in Westfield, formerly excavated privately by the Heye Foundation of New York.
At a meeting held at the R. S. Peabody Foundation in Andover, on February 26, 1942, the Essex County Group was organized. Ripley Bullen was elected Chairman. At the fourth meeting on December 16, 1942, Miss Grace M. Harriman was elected Secretary-Treasurer. Nine meetings were held in 1942, that of December 16th being the last one. After that, no more meetings were held until October 3, 1945. This was due to the rationing of gasoline and the fact that our members came from widely separated towns which were not adequately served by public transportation.

At the meeting on October 3, 1945, Ernest Dodge was elected Chairman and J. Frederic Burtt was elected Secretary-Treasurer. Two meetings were held in 1945. At the meeting of October 3 it was voted to change our name to the Northeastern Group.

In 1946, three meetings were held. On December 4, 1946, J. Frederic Burtt was elected Chairman, and Albert H. Woodward as Secretary-Treasurer, these being the present officers. In 1947, seven meetings were held. So far in 1948 we have had five meetings. On March 17, 1948, we voted to petition the State Society to permit us to become a Chapter, this permission being granted at the meeting in Boston on April 10th.

Of our twenty-six meetings, twenty have been held at the R. S. Peabody Foundation in Andover, four have been at the Peabody Museum in Salem, one at the home of a member in Salisbury, and one at the Amesbury Library. The average attendance at the meetings has been seventeen. Notices of meetings are now sent to thirty-nine people.

At the present time we plan to have about nine meetings a year, omitting July and August and also a winter month when the travelling is bad. Meetings are scheduled to start at 7:30 P.M. on the third Wednesday. They are usually held in Andover because that is a central and convenient location and because the Peabody Foundation has been very hospitable. After the business meeting is completed we have a speaker who talks to us about some phase of archaeology, particularly as concerns the former inhabitants of this region and their artifacts. We have been very fortunate in having heard some very interesting speakers, many of whom have been members of our Chapter.

Our first group dig was held in Byfield in May, 1942, and yielded nothing of importance. The second was in May, 1947, at Great Neck, Ipswich. Here the principal find was a burial whose skeleton was presented to the State Society. The third dig was held in the shell heaps on Plum Island from which little except bone fragments was removed. Our fourth dig was held in May of this year at the Johnson Springs site in Middleton. Five burials and several artifacts were uncovered here. We plan to hold at least one dig a year in the future, and more if possible.

Under Fred Burtt's leadership we have an interested membership which is active in attending meetings and taking part in excavations. We shall hardly know how to get along without Ripley Bullen, who has gone to Florida for at least a year. His great fund of knowledge on archaeology was always available to us and his time and energy were always ours for the asking.

Members of this Chapter have published in the Bulletin and in American Antiquity. The Bulletin carried the following papers:

Vol. I, No. 4 - Results of Thorough Excavation and Careful Study - Arthur M. Hofmann
Vol. II, No. 1 - The Dolly Bond Steatite Quarry - Ripley P. Bullen
Vol. II, No. 2 - The Taxonomic Approach Redefined - Douglas S. Byers
Vol. II, No. 3 - Report of the Site Survey to February, 1941 - Ripley P. Bullen
Vol. III, No. 2 - Stone Pavement in Andover, Massachusetts - Arthur M. Hofmann
Vol. III, No. 3 - The Hemsway Site, M/42/42 - Frederick Johnson
Vol. III, No. 4 - The Vinland Voyage - Douglas S. Byers
Vol. IV, No. 1 - Forts, Boundaries, or Ha-Has? - Ripley P. Bullen
Vol. IV, No. 3 - A Proposed Massachusetts Projectile Point Classification - Ripley P. Bullen
Vol. IV, No. 3 - Proposed Drill Classification - Ripley P. Bullen
Vol. IV, No. 4 - Spectrographic Analysis of Some New England Steatite - Ripley P. Bullen
Vol. V, No. 1 - A Strange Deposit of Spearpoints - Arthur M. Hofmann
Vol. V, No. 2 - The Stickney Site - Ripley P. Bullen and Arthur M. Hofmann
Vol. V, No. 2 - An Indian Grave in Chatham, Massachusetts - Frederick Johnson
Vol. V, No. 3 - The Geographer as an Aid in Archaeological Problems - Ripley P. Bullen
Vol. V, No. 3 - A Note on the Pre-Iroquoian Occupations of New York State - Ripley P. Bullen
Vol. V, No. 4 - The Pre-Iroquoian Occupations of New York State - Ripley P. Bullen
Vol. V, No. 4 - A Possible Explanation of Fire-beds or Hearths - Douglas S. Byers
Vol. VI, No. 2 - The Dolmen on Martha's Vineyard - Frederick Johnson
Vol. VI, No. 2 - Black Lucy's Garden - Ripley P. Bullen and Adelaide K. Bullen
Vol. VI, No. 3 - An Indian Burial at South Dartmouth, Massachusetts - Ripley P. Bullen and Maurice Robbins
Vol. VII, No. 1 - A Stone Knife from Salem Willows - Ernest S. Dodge
The history of Group 7, now known as the Massasoit Chapter, began on Sunday evening February 11, 1940, when Jesse Brewer, District Chairman, invited numerous interested persons to attend a meeting at his home. Fourteen people from this district were present, and four guests came from the Southern District, including the President, Maurice Robbins, who gave a talk on the objects of the "Society." After a very pleasant and profitable evening, a luncheon was served by Mrs. Brewer. An invitation was extended to the group for a second meeting to be held in March at the home of Charles F. Sherman.

The second meeting of this district was held on March 3rd at the home of Charles Sherman. Twenty persons who were present enjoyed a talk on the Nantucket Dig given by Ned Brooks and comments on the Boylston Street Fishweir by Dr. Henry F. Howe of Cohasset, a member of this group.

The third meeting was held on March 31st at the home of the chairman, Jesse Brewer. Eighteen members and guests were present. Capt. Herbert Kuhn was elected secretary. At this meeting it was voted that the chairman and William W. Whiting secure the permission of the owner of a well-known Indian camp site for a group dig. Mr. Alfred H. Avery, the owner, a resident of Walden, Mass., answered as follows: "Your letter of April interests me greatly. Also arouses my curiosity. First, that you should be able to locate within a hundred feet square where the Indians used to camp. Second, that you feel after all these years of cultivation there should be anything left to confirm your findings. Have instructed Mr. R. B. Avery of Plymouth to co-operate with you, etc." The summer of 1940 was spent excavating this site, listed as M-12-9. This, the first attempt at scientific excavation started off in high gear. Mr. Douglas Byers, Mrs. Byers, together with Jesse Brewer and William Whiting, while making tests to locate the best place to locate the grids brought to light a skeleton which was excavated very carefully and taken to Phillips Academy, Andover.

The fourth meeting of District 7 was held April 28, 1940, at the home of Adrian F. Whiting with fifteen members and guests present. It was voted to hold the summer meetings at the group dig. Not being able to devote the necessary time to this work, Jesse Brewer resigned.

Adrian F. Whiting who was elected group chairman opened the winter season of 1940-41 with the fifth meeting of the group. These meetings were held in the members homes and were well attended. The custom of serving refreshments after the meeting was carried on to a greater extent as time progressed.

At the sixth meeting, January 19, 1941, also held at the home of Chairman Whiting, the secretary, Capt. Kuhn, tendered his resignation as his army duties required more of his time and he was to move to Boston. Capt. Kuhn's resignation was accepted with regrets, and a rising vote of thanks was extended for the efficient manner in which he had kept the records. Mrs. Willard Whiting was chosen to serve as secretary.
The seventh meeting was held February 16, 1941, at the home of the former chairman, Jesse Brewer. Three present other than the local members were, Mr. Maurice Robbins, M.A.S. President, Mr. Leaman Hallett, General Chairman, Mr. Roger Wilson, and Mr. A. Irvin Studley, all from Attleboro; Mrs. Smith of Providence; Mr. and Mrs. Horry Howe of Cohasset; Raymond Harry of Kingston; and Mr. and Mrs. Willard Whiting of South Weymouth. It was voted that Jesse Brewer act as chairman in the absence of Chairman Whiting, who was to be away for a few weeks. Mr. Raymond Merry offered to act as photographer, an offer which was accepted very gratefully. Mr. Leaman Hallett gave a short talk and suggested that historic Plymouth would be a wonderful place to hold the Society meeting either in April or in October. Mr. A. Irvin Studley gave a little talk on historical research, reading some extracts from very old historical papers found in Taunton. President Robbins gave a very interesting talk about a dig at South Warren.

At the eighth meeting, held at the home of Dr. Howe, and attended by fifteen members and guests, it was voted to extend an invitation to the Society to hold the annual meeting at Plymouth, October, 1941.

The ninth meeting was held at the home of Charles F. Sherman. It was announced by the chairman that the invitation had been accepted and the annual meeting of the Massachusetts Archaeological Society would convene in Memorial Hall, Plymouth.

The tenth meeting was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Willard Whiting in South Weymouth, May 18, 1941. Ten meetings had been held, and the membership was twenty senior and one junior member.

In December, 1942, Charles F. Sherman was appointed Chairman and a meeting was called for December 13th, but this proved to be a hoodoo, as a real blizzard was raging and the meeting had to be postponed until December 20th when nine members and guests met at the home of the new chairman. Miss Jessie Sanderson was elected secretary. Mrs. Adrian Whiting serving as Secretary Pro Tem. Due to the ban on gasoline the members not living on a bus line, enjoyed a two mile walk, even though the temperature hovered around zero on at least one occasion. Meetings were held each month during the winter, and the membership began to increase.

In the spring it was voted to continue the meetings throughout the year. Chairman Sherman continued in office and in March, 1945, when the group had a membership of twenty-four, it was voted that the chairman request the Executive Committee to recognize the group as the Massasoit Chapter. This request was acted upon favorably by the Executive Committee and in open meeting, April, 1945, we were made a chapter.

At the October meeting of the Massasoit Chapter, Charles F. Sherman was elected Chairman; Willard C. Whiting, Vice Chairman; Mrs. Florence G. Whiting, Secretary; and Adrian P. Whiting, Treasurer and Archivist. It was voted that a committee of three be appointed by the chairman to be known as the Sick Committee. Each member of the Chapter was to contribute five cents each month to establish a fund to buy flowers and cards for sick members.

In April, 1947, it was voted that a new site be obtained for a chapter dig. A committee of three was appointed by the chairman to investigate several suggested sites. The committee recommended a shell heap on Foundry Pond, Kingston, Mass., owned by Mr. William Powers. At a special meeting it was voted to accept the recommendation of this committee that we excavate the site, to be known as the Powers Shell Heap, M.A.S. Registration W-41-02. The site was staked out in five-foot grids by Richard Bent, assisted by Chairman Sherman. After the site was staked out and a set of rules drafted to govern the excavation, another special meeting was called and Charles Sherman, who had been appointed director, read all of the most important parts of "Some Methods used in Excavating Eastern Shell Heaps," by Eyers and Johnson, accompanied with blackboard illustrations. The Massasoit Chapter has worked this site two summers and it will probably take another year to complete the dig.

Having held all its meetings in the homes of the various members, the Chapter now boasted a membership of some thirty-seven. It was voted to procure larger quarters to accommodate the well-attended meetings.

Rev. George Marshall of the Unitarian Church was consulted and arrangements were made to have the use of Kendall Hall. An entertainment committee was formed with Mrs. William W. Whiting as chairman; she was to appoint the hostess and aides each month to prepare a dinner which is served at 6:30 P.M. The regular meetings start at 8:30. Dinner is served at an approximate cost of fifty cents. The officers for 1949 are:

Chairman, Charles F. Sherman
Vice Chairman, Andrea Dietlin
Secretary, Mrs. Florence G. Whiting
Treasurer, Mrs. Thelma Brewer
Archivist, Adrian P. Whiting
Chairman, Entertainment Committee, Mrs. Winifred L. Sanderson
Chairman, Sick Committee, Mrs. Gladys M. Sherman

Plymouth, Massachusetts
During the latter part of the nineteenth century several members of the Essex Institute devoted much time and effort in collecting, excavating, and studying Indian material from Essex County, Massachusetts and adjacent regions. These gentlemen made no pretense of being archaeologists and in no instance did they excavate an area which had not been previously disturbed and accidentally discovered by plowing or excavations for roads or other constructions. During the time that these men were interested in the archaeology of Essex County, they worked on many important sites, removing only a portion of the burials and materials which were found. They may have felt that future archaeologists would wish to rework the burial grounds and village sites in this region, and with the passing of time new techniques and more knowledge at the disposal of future diggers would aid in determining the cultural sequences through which the Indians of Essex County passed. Whatever may have been their purposes in describing the sites partially intact, they were commendable, but they did not consider the great commercial developments which were to take place and which were responsible for completely destroying many of the known village sites and burial grounds.

Five Burials from Marblehead

In November of 1874, a party of fourteen persons carried on limited excavations on the land then owned by Isaac C. Wyman, Esq., and which has also been known as Bessom's Pasture, in the town of Marblehead. The purposes of the excavations were to determine beyond doubt that the area was an Indian camp site, and acquire a plausible explanation for the irregular surface features of the land.

Mr. William P. Upham, a member of the excavating party, gave a brief outline of the local Indian history of the region and called attention to a passage in Mourt's Relation which tells of the voyage of ten men who left Plymouth in 1621 with three Indian interpreters to visit the Massachusetts Indians for the purposes of trading. The following report in the Bulletin of the Essex Institute, Vol. 6, No. 11, p. 84, states that:

Mr. Upham hazarded the conjecture, that the old expedition landed, perhaps, at Lynn; that the palisade fort was that which has long been known as the old Indian fort, on the Marblehead and Lynn road, near the junction of the road cut through from Salem a few years ago; and that the hill on which Nanapashemet was killed, was the very hill on which these remains were found. The distances agree very well with those in Mourt's Relation, and the remains of the palisaded fort still traceable conform to the description of the fort which Mourt's people saw. Whether the bones of either of the bodies were those of Nanapashemet cannot, of course, be determined, but there are reasons for supposing that they may have been. The theory is certainly plausible.

It seems Mr. Upham was overenthusiastic in associating the fort visited by Mourt and his party and "the old Indian fort," on the Marblehead and Lynn road. Mourt's "Relation of our Voyage to the Massachusetts" (1622, pp. 124-130) tells that the party left "New Plimmouth" and sailed nearly twenty leagues to the bottom of a bay where they landed and talked with the "Sachim Obbatinewat" who, after much persuasion, agreed to take Mourt and his party to the "Squa Sachim" of the Massachusetts Indians. The "Squa Sachim" was the wife of Nanapashemet who ruled the Massachusetts after Nanapashemet's death. (Ibid., footnote 395). The land occupied by the Massachusetts at the time of Mourt's visit seems to have been in the region of Medford, as the "Squa Sachim" sold tribal lands in Concord, Somerville and about Mystic Pond to white settlers in the 1650s and 1660s. (Ibid.).

Mourt described the area visited in the following words:

On the morrow we went ashore, all but two men, and marched in Arms up in the Countrey. Having gone three miles, we came to a place where Corne had beene newly gathered, a house pulled downe, and the people gone. A myle from hence, Nanepashemet their King in his life time had lived... [Nanepashemet is reputed to have lived at Lynn until the war with Taretines in 1615. After his defeat in 1615 he moved to Medford where he lived until killed in a later war against the Taretines in 1619. (Ibid., footnote 397).]

Not farre from hence in a bottome [The "bottome" is designated as an area in the vicinity of Mystic Pond, Medford, (Ibid., footnote 399).] we came to a Fort built by their deceased King, the manner thus: There were poulse some thirtie or ffortie foote long, stucke in the ground as thickse as they could be set one by another, and with these they inclosed a ring some forty or fifty foote over. A trench breast high was digged on each side; one way there was to goe into it with a bridge; in the midst of this Pallizado stood the frame of an house, wherein being dead he lay buryed. [In 1862 an Indian skeleton was excavated in West Medford which was thought to be that of Nanepashemet (Ibid, footnote 100.).]

About a myle from hence, we came to such another, but seated on the top of an hill; here Nanepashemet was killed, none dwelling in it since the time of his
death. At this place we stayed, and sent two Sal­vages to look the inhabitants, and to informe them of our ends in coming, that they might not be fear­full of us (Ibid, pp. 127-128).

During the few days that the archaeolo­gical party was in the field they excavated a small area in which were found six skele­tons. Near the position of the skeleton and the interlocking of the bones of one skele­ton with that of another, there is little doubt that all, with the exception of the burial here designated as number five, were made simultaneously.

Another member of the party, Mr. Caleb Cooke, described the skeletal material and the grave contents in the Bulletin of the Essex Institute, Vol. 6, No. 11, pp. 105-106, as follows:

No. 1 of the photographs, in reality, consists of portions of two persons, one of them of middle age, the other, judging from the size and thinness of the pieces of the skull, that of a young person. This can be seen near the pelvis of the adult, and may have been a child buried in the arms or lap of its mother. Some of the bones of the legs of the adult are in reversed position, showing that in this case there was a reburial, or that they were not buried until the body had decayed, and at the burial of the others these were gathered up and placed with them, being laid in as nearly a natural position as possible. This body was placed in the grave with the head pointing in a northeast direction, while the rest were towards the southwest.

No. 2 was found on its back, and had the frontal por­tion of the skull badly crushed in. On the breast was found a shell of Pyrula canaliculata and under one side of the jaw a small dark mass which on ex­amination proved to have been a pouch made of bear's skin, between the folds of which two bones, of some small mammal, the species of which has not yet been determined, were found. Embedded in this mass, on the outside, were several small copper tubes, one of them showing traces of the cord by which they were fastened to the pouch. Behind the ear were found several more of these tubes, making in all eight. These relics are evidently the remains of a pouch ornamented by these tubes, that was hanging at the neck when the body was buried. The tubes were from two inches and a half to three inches in length, and from an eighth to a quarter of an inch in diameter; they were made of very thin sheet copper, rolled up, with the edges just lapped, but not fastened.

Nos. 3 and 4 were facing each other, and with these nothing was found.

No. 5, which is not shown in the large photograph, but the position of which is seen in the stereoscopic picture, consisted of but a mere handful of bones, and was a little out of the line to the northeast of the others, its head about on a line with the pelvis of No. 4. Across the top of the head of this was found a stone pestle, six inches and three-quarters long, and at the side of the skeleton numerous pieces of pottery, consisting of a small cup nearly whole, which by careful measurements was found to contain just a gill when perfect, and the fragments of at least two other vessels, a small bell of European make, of a flattened globular form, thirteen-six­teenths of an inch across by eight-sixteenths high, made of two pieces soldered together, two small blue glass beads, and two small polished jasper pebbles. The bell containing nothing to produce a sound, and the fact that only two beads were found, after a care­ful examination of the soil, lead to the supposition that these beads were once contained in the bell. With all of these bodies was found in varying quantities a dark red substance like ochre, which completely covered some of the bones.

These remains were found at a depth of from twenty to twenty-two inches, and had placed at both ends of each body a large rock upon which they were partly resting.

Burial No. 1 was removed from the site after it had been partially enclosed in plaster of paris and is now in the Peabody Museum in Salem, Massachusetts. As no records of the other skeletons are to be found in the reports or in the museum files, it is probable that they were reburied by the party of diggers upon completion of their work. Although four of the burials may have been made at one time, it does not appear that more than one can be said to have been a secondary burial.

Among the groups of the Eastern Woodland Indians secondary burials were common, but the frequency of such burials was much higher among those Indians which were living under an agricultural hunting economy or pursuing a hunting nomadic life. The Indians who sup­plemented an agricultural economy with hunt­ing and fishing seasonally migrated to hunting territories to carry on these activities, and those individuals who had the misfortune to die in alien areas were returned to native lands where the spirit or the dead would be at ease.

The hunting nomadic Indians of northern New England and the Maritime Provinces also had their burial grounds at which they returned many of their dead. These burial grounds were near the areas considered to be the per­manent homes of the tribes (Speck, 1940, p. 259). During the years of 1632 to 1650, Nicolas Denys lived at Saint Peters, in Cape Breton, and at Nepisiguit, New Brunswick, where he made the following observation of the burial customs of the Indians of that region (1672, p. 439). "The end of the year having passed, and the body dry, it was taken thence and carried to a new place which is their cemetery. There it was placed in a new coffin or bier, also of birch bark and immediately after in a deep grave which they made in the ground." The season of the year re­stricted the time of burial as it was impos­sible to bury their dead after the first hard freeze of fall. Le Clercq who also lived among the Indians of New Brunswick stated (1691, p. 302) that the Indians who died during the winter were enwrapped with care in barks painted red and black and then placed on the branches of a tree about which was built a small lot. Also in the spring, young men took the body to the ancestral burial grounds, where it was interred with the usual ceremonies.
Two views of the Burials uncovered in Marblehead, the upper copied from a stereoscopic view, shows Burial number 5 at the upper left-hand corner.
Objects from the grave in Marblehead. Remains of bearskin pouch at upper right with Burial 2, others with Burial 5. Pottery is shown one-half natural size.
Objects from Burials at Revere and Ipswich Beach: a, beads from Revere; b, objects from the burial at Ipswich Beach; c, d, small pot and pipe, Revere; e, ears of a kettle, Revere.
Pestles and copper kettle from grave at Revere.
Secondary burials have not been commonly reported among the finds of archaeologists working in southern New England. Several factors may be involved which account for the seeming lack of these types of burials for this area. The Indian population of southern New England was heavier than anywhere east of the Rockies (Kroeber, 1938, p. 94) and the culture of this area was built around farming. Farming was supplemented by intensive fishing and hunting in areas adjacent to the permanent village. Consequently most deaths occurred within a relatively convenient distance from the ancestral burying grounds where most individuals were interred. Unlike northern New England, southern New England enjoys a winter in which the periods when the ground cannot be opened for graves is much shorter. There is not the necessity of preserving the deceased for great lengths of time before permanently depositing the remains.

The flexed burial position was widespread among the Northeastern Woodland Indians and a part of their culture complex which had its roots very deep in the remote past. Father Joseph Jouven, also a Jesuit priest and explorer, wrote concerning their burial customs (Thwaites, Vol. III, p. 129):

They bury their dead in this manner: First they swathe the body and tie it up in skins; not lengthwise, but with the knees against the stomach and the head on the knees, as we are in our mother's womb.

Father Joseph Jouven, also a Jesuit priest, wrote about their burial customs and further stated (Thwaites, Vol. I, p. 255) that the deceased was wrapped in this manner that he might be "committed to the earth in the same position in which he once lay in his mother's womb."

In the mythological legends of the Northeastern Indians frequent references are made to mother earth. It was mother earth which supported the animals and vegetation, which in turn supplied all the necessities of life for her children, man. It was from earth that man came and to earth man should be returned upon death.

Flexed burial was general among the Indians of this region during the early Colonial period of our history. Upon adoption of European culture and especially Christianity, Indians largely discarded their burial customs as well as their former ways of life and replaced them by a new cultural pattern. Flexed burial was gradually replaced by extended burial during the middle Colonial period.

The dark red substance like ochre on the bones was without doubt symbolic of an early belief and, like the flexed burials, its presence was also a survival from an early period of Indian culture. As the dead were flexed to simulate the position in which they were carried by their earthly mother, so the red colored substance may have been representative of the blood or placenta which accompanies birth.

As previously stated, none of the burials excepting the double burial at the extreme left of the illustration seem to have been preserved by the party of excavators. As the double burial is mounted in plaster of Paris a complete examination of the bones was and still is impossible. Nevertheless an examination of the bones above the plaster of Paris was made and the information gained from the skeletons revealed that the larger was an adolescent female of about 17 years of age at death. The child, the bones of which were mixed with the older skeleton, died between the ages of 4 and 5 years. The criterion for the age of the child was based on an examination of a fragment of a lower jaw. (1)

With burial No. 2 there were found a "Pyryla canaliculata" shell, a skin pouch, and copper tubular beads. According to Morris (1947, p. 155) and Gould (1870, p.380) the large shell termed Pyryla canaliculata in the report of the Bulletin of the Essex Institute is now known in present day nomenclature as Busycon canaliculatum and is found from Cape Cod south to Mexico. The white columella of this channelled whelk was commonly used by the Indians of southern New England in making beads for wampum belts. The shells were also used as drinking cups and the sharp edges of the aperture used as knives (Rogers, 1914, p. 67).

As may be seen in the Plate II very little of the skin pouch has survived and we must rely upon the description in the Bulletin. Skin pouches as well as other articles made from the fur of animals were not durable and about all that remained from such objects buried with the dead were the portions which were in contact with copper articles such as beads and kettles, sources of copper salts which acted as a preservative.

The eight copper tubular beads are similar to many other beads of this period which have been found in Indian graves of eastern Massachusetts. It is probable that at least two of the beads were made by wrapping thin sheets of copper about small stems of wood, for wood fiber is still preserved within them. The piths or centers of the wood were removed to permit a small cord to pass through the bead. The small cord on which the eight beads were strung was a two-ply twisted cord of a very fine material. Copper beads of similar make and strung on a two-ply twisted cord of sinew were reported among the grave goods at Winthrop, Massachusetts (Willoughby, 1924, pp. 7-9).

The two bones of a "small mammal" within the pouch were found upon examination to be the bones of a small turtle and may have been thought by the person possessing them to have had curative and magical powers. Early historical accounts and recent ethnological studies among the northern Algonkian-speaking

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1. The author is indebted to Mr. Ripley P. Bullen for making a study and report of the skeletal material mentioned in this paper.
peoples mention the use of many objects, and especially the small bones of certain animals, as good luck charms. Objects which were thought to possess supernatural power were used as aids in curing the ill, to bring good fortune when hunting or trapping, and to foretell the future (Speck, 1935, pp. 221-231).

Other grave goods found with burial No. 5 and described on pages 186-187 of the Bulletin of the Essex Institute, Vol. 6, No. 11, comprise a "stone pestle....pieces of pottery consisting of a small cup nearly whole....and the fragments of at least two other vessels, a small bell,....two small glass beads, and two small polished jasper pebbles." Burial No. 5 was not in alignment with the other burials (Pl. I), and from the condition of the bones, which had decomposed to such an extent that it was impossible to preserve any part of the skeleton, we may conclude that this burial took place prior to the others shown in the illustration. The area and outlines indicate a flexed burial of a small person, possibly a child.

The so-called "stone pestle" associated with burial No. 5 is in reality a natural stone of the general shape of a small pestle which has very little workmanship except along one edge and at both ends where primary pecking has been done. It is doubted by the writer that this pecked stone was ever used as a pestle or intended as such. The stone of which it is made is a soft shaley sandstone. Most pestles of this area were made of a much harder rock such as hard slate. This object may have resulted from the efforts of a young person to fashion from stone a small toy pestle which was not completed because of death.

All that remains of the pottery taken from burial No. 5 is shown in Plate II. It is interesting to note that here in one burial are found two types of pottery which are similar in many respects to the small vessels reported from the Winthrop, Massachusetts, burial by Willoughby. As we know that these vessels were of the early period it is not necessary to present an argument justifying that conclusion.

The larger vessel had a globular body with a slightly constricted neck below an Iroquois-like collar. The collar, with modified castellations, is decorated with small elongated impressions. The impressions appear to have been made with some small sharp implement such as a pointed stick or a piece of shell. Three parallel lines of impressions are found on the outer surface of the collar just below the rim. Just above the slight constriction of the neck of the vessel and on the collar is found another series of three parallel lines. These lines, like those on the upper portion of the collar, extend completely around the pot. The arrangement of the design is such that undecorated areas appear on the outer surface of the collar below the castellations. The remaining surface of the collar is completely covered with these small impressions as the parallel lines meet and become compressed at the constricted areas. Below the neck of the vessel there is another series of impressions encircling the pot. Unlike the impressions on the collar which are made horizontal to the axis of the vessel or parallel to the rim, these are vertical. Below this line, the vessel is decorated with the imprints of a cord-wound stick. As the cord marks are hardly discernible in many areas, the surface must undoubtedly have been smoothed over before firing.

From an examination of all sherds of this vessel, which were shell tempered, and 1/4 to 5 mm. thick, there does not seem to be any indication that the pot was made by the coiling method. The color of the sherds are brown to dark brown.

The smaller container is a poorly made, irregularly shaped, and undecorated product of ceramic industry. The vessel is a dark gray color, and is tempered with very little, very fine grit. The smaller container as well as the larger vessel seem to have been made by an unskilled potter and may well be the work of a child.

The ceramics of this grave are significant for here is found pottery associated with European trade goods which must delimit the time of manufacture of the native material. Certain portions of the larger vessel, such as the castellations and high collar, would place the time of manufacture as late in the history of the ceramic industry of this region, but the cord markings on the body of the vessel would indicate an earlier period of manufacture. The absence of decorative designs on the smaller container could be indicative of another period in the time scale of pottery making.

The above mentioned pottery is typical of a transitional period; a period when influences originating outside of a culture area are being adopted and cautiously applied with art motifs which entered the area and became a part of ceramic art at a much earlier period.

Among the trade goods brought by the first Europeans were certain objects which were highly prized by the Indians, among them were colorful beads and materials which would make a noise. Small bells and metal dangles were traded throughout North America at a surprisingly early date and were common among the various tribes of Indians soon after contact with fur traders. Small glass beads similar to the two beads found in the grave of No. 5 are of a variety of bead which was most commonly used for gifts and for trading between the early Europeans and Indians (Orchard, 1929, p. 82).

An Indian Grave at Revere, Massachusetts

About the year of 1874, a Nathaniel Vickery of Lynn took from a sand hill at Revere, Chelsea Beach, Massachusetts, a very fine
collection of grave goods consisting of two skeletons, a soap-stone pipe, a copper pot, and two ears of another copper pot, the shell of a box-turtle, two Busycon canaliculatum shells, four strings of beads, two of European make, three pests, and a "small Indian made pot."

The only available information concerning Mr. Vickary's activities is found in a manuscript at the Peabody Museum, Salem, by Mr. John Robinson who was for many years a trustee of the Peabody Museum. In this manuscript, entitled "Random Reminiscences," Mr. Robinson wrote:

Nathaniel Vickary also of Lynn, with a shop on Chestnut Street near the old Salem Turnpike, now Western Avenue, was a dealer in natural history specimens and taxidermist. He was reliable and a fair workman when he felt interested, but cared little for his work beyond the birds which he stuffed well. The museum dealt continually with him for many years from 1875 onward. Many good and scarce birds were obtained from him by collectors who bought them into his shop. From him also was obtained the unique groups of specimens taken from an Indian grave at Revere on the edge of Essex County,...... now in the Essex County collection in the gallery case. Vickary was paid $100 for this group in 1882(?)

A thorough study of the museum accession and archaeological records revealed that two skeletons were found by Mr. Vickary in the same or adjacent graves at Revere. One is nearly complete while the other is represented by the long bones, feet bones, innominate bones (no sacrum), several vertebrae, and fragments of the cranium. Both skeletons are heavy set females who died in middle age. The nearly complete skeleton was found in an extended position with the skull under an inverted copper pot. The skull of this individual is low mesocephalic. The lower molar teeth were lost in life and the corresponding upper molars projected downward partially filling the space formerly occupied by the lower molars. Tooth wear is pronounced on the teeth present and carries are present in the upper teeth.

The large copper pot (Pl. IV) found in association with the latter skeleton is similar to many which were used in trade with the northeastern Woodland Indians by the earliest explorers, fisherman, and traders arriving in North America. Acquisition of such a useful utensil was greatly desired by all Indians who had never before seen it. It was used a container as durable. The Indians so esteemed the large copper pot that it soon became a part of the burial goods of a deceased person.

Copper pots were not uncommon burial gifts among the Indians of coastal Massachusetts but they were not included in graves here as frequently as they were in graves of the coastal regions of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and the outlying islands of these provinces. These graves, the Maritime Provinces copper pots seem to have been more widely distributed and to have been in use by the Indians for a much longer period of time than was the case among the Massachusetts Indians. Basque fishermen frequenting the waters of Newfoundland were without question responsible for the introduction of these vessels, and continued use of the islands and main land by these fishermen resulted in barratering and wide distribution of many European goods at a very early date. Although the Indians included large copper pots as burial gifts in graves of their dead only during the very early period of colonization and contact in Massachusetts, they continued the practice for a much longer time in Maine and the Maritime Provinces.

Copper vessels were used for a variety of purposes and as they proved very durable on earth so would they be of equal service in the next life of the owner. As many valuable furs and other trade goods were often interred with the dead, traders attempted to reason with the Indians regarding this wasteful practice. Denys (1672, 129-130) mentions that at times pelts valued at two thousand pounds were placed in one grave. The following quotation illustrates the arguments presented by Denys who wished to prevent the waste of furs, and the explanations of the Indians to justify their acts:

"It has been troublesome to disabuse them of that practice, although they have been told that all these things perished in the earth and that if they would look there they would see that nothing had gone with the dead man. That was said to them so much that finally they consented to open a grave, in which they were made to see that all was decayed. There was there among other things a kettle, all perforated with Verdigris. An Indian having struck against it found that it no longer sounded, began to make a great cry, and said that some one wished to deceive them. 'We see indeed,' said he, 'the robes and all the rest, and if they are still there it is a sign that the dead man has not had need of them in the other world, where they have enough of them because of the length of time that they have been furnished them.'

'But with respect to the Kettle,' said he, 'they have need of it, since it is among us a utensil of new introduction, and with which the other world cannot be furnished. Do you not indeed see,' said he, replying again upon the kettle, 'that it has no longer any sound, and that it no longer says a word, because its spirit has abandoned it to go to be of use in the other world to the dead man to whom we have given it?'

The pipe found by Mr. Vickary and illustrated in Plate III, G, is one of the finest specimens of soapstone pipe found in Massachusetts. Dr. Marland P. Billings of the geological department of the Agassiz Museum of Harvard University said, upon examination of this pipe, that there are quarries of this stone of stone in western Massachusetts and Connecticut and there is no reason to suppose that this pipe is not of New England origin. McGuire (1899, p. 612) and Willoughby (1935, pp. 161-163, Fig. 10, L) have mentioned and figured this pipe in their published reports. Joseph D. McGuire (1902, p. 104) has also observed upon the marked similarity of this pipe to south-
ern specimens of the same type which he classified as the Atlantic Coast Pipes. Except for a few isolated finds the Atlantic Coast Pipes had a very limited distribution as they were reported from the Coastal regions south of the Hudson River to Georgia. Although the pipe from Revere appears more closely related to Southern pipes, one should not rule out the possibility of relationship to other pipes similar in many respects and having a wide distribution throughout the eastern woodland area.

McGuire believed that stone pipes were made with the aid of steel tools and thus concluded that this pipe, as well as other stone pipes, was made after the Europeans introduced and traded steel to the natives. Since McGuire's work, more recent studies of Indian pipes leave no doubt that such pipes were made prior to the arrival of white men on this continent. As the same or similar procedure must have been followed in making most types of stone pipes, the following passage by George A. West (1934, p. 157) concerning the manufacture of the monitor pipe adequately describes the processes involved. Mr. West wrote:

Mr. McGuire was probably not aware of the fact that the Monitor Pipe was drilled and the bowl completed while the pipe was in the rough, and that it was worked down and polished after the drilling of the stem-hole. This is verified by the number of uncompleted pipes of this type found. And still another reason why it is thought that other drills than steel were used, in producing these wonderful stem- bores, is the fact that in several Monitor Pipes, a portion of a stone drill was broken off and remained in the cavity.

The pipe from Revere, although a very fine specimen, is not unique in the area as many other fine pipes of similar shapes, made from sheet copper, sheet lead, pottery, and soapstone have been reported (Willoughby, 1935, p. 183). Existence of other pipes of similar shape and knowledge that Indians of this region were familiar with the art of manufacturing soapstone pipes for some time before the arrival of Europeans (Hadlock, 1917, pp. 49-52) argue for native manufacture.

We know that this pipe was used in historic times as it had at one time a brass ferrule around the stem, however, the presence of the brass ferrule does not preclude possibility that the pipe was made by Indians using primitive tools. The presence of pottery, stone mortars, and shell beads in the same grave with the pipe indicates that all were buried very early in the colonial period before the processes of acculturation had greatly altered the material culture of the Indians of this region.

Unusually long strings of both the long tubular, and the discoidal forms of shell beads found in association with two shells of the channeled whelk indicate that the owner was well versed in the art of bead making. These shells, often used as drinking cups and containers, were undoubtedly kept as material for beads after they were no longer serviceable for utilitarian purposes. Similar shells were often worn as ornaments but the shells found in the Revere graves were not perforated and show no marks of alteration to indicate that they were used as suspended ornaments.

The two strings of shell beads illustrated in Plate III, a, are commonly referred to as wampum. Indiscriminate use of the word "wampum" has caused it to become all-inclusive and applicable to beads manufactured or used by Indians; but in the early historic and later periods this term denoted a particular type of bead used for specific purposes.

Dr. Speck in his memoir on The Function of Wampum Among the Eastern Algonkian (1912, p. 4) discussed such beads, which may be divided into two types representing two periods of development, as follows:

Drawing conclusions as far as we may from published ethnological, historical, and archaeological sources the material divides itself objectively into two chronological periods in approximate correspondence with two types of wampum material. The former of these is a prehistoric period during which the type of bead known as the disc wampum was almost universal in its distribution over the eastern part of the continent if not all over it. This is the common wampum of archaeological sites occurring abundantly in the Iroquoian and Algonkian regions where the later material of the type to be mentioned next became so prominent. The second period seems to embrace the historic and the period preceding it during which the older disc wampum was replaced apparently by the smaller and finer cylindrical or tubular beads. These came into extensive use for ceremonial purposes in the east, primarily among the Iroquois, secondarily among the neighboring Algonkian.

Dr. Speck's conclusions were further supported by a later publication of William C. Orchard (1929, p. 69) who wrote:

No doubt many of the kind shown in fig. 72 [tubular wampum] were in use by the natives before they came in contact with white men, but all that have been recovered are larger and coarser than those which were made with the aid of steel drills. Much of the coarser kind has been found on prehistoric sites, but never any of the smaller variety.

The beads found in the grave at Revere are rather coarse in comparison to the later historic wampum. (2) The tubular beads have

2. Orchard (1929, p. 61) describes the wampum which became a recognized medium of exchange during the early colonial period of this continent:

"The wampum...is to be understood as having the form of small cylindrical shell beads, averaging about a quarter of an inch in length by an eighth of an inch in diameter— not the discoidal beads found at prehistoric sites, although these may have functioned in a somewhat similar way...But the wampum in mind is the cylindrical kind which was made in two colors, white and purple. The quahog, or hard clam (Venus mercenaria), furnished
the following average measurements, length 7/16th of an inch, diameter 3/16th of an inch, and the discoidal beads are 6/16th of an inch in diameter and 3/16th of an inch thick. With the discoidal beads there may be seen several thin dark beads of mussel shell which are of the same diameter as the white beads but are all slightly less than 1/16th of an inch thick. Neither type of bead is finely finished, as very little attention had been given to polishing the outer surfaces; from this evidence one may conclude that they were manufactured in prehistoric times. However, the perforations do not appear to have been made with stone drills as they are neither large in proportion to the diameter of the bead, nor do they taper — features characteristic of holes in prehistoric beads.

The other grave goods found in association with the two strings of beads unques­tionably place the grave and its contents in the early historic period. It thus appears that the owner of these beads made the traditional type of discoidal wampum after the introduction of steel tools. It is very unlikely that wampum had monetary value at the time when these beads were made. It is probable that they were used solely for personal adornment.

The small beads shown in Plate III, a, are European glass beads, ovoid in shape, and averaging three-eighths of an inch in length. They are similar in number to the many varieties which were used as trade goods throughout the Atlantic seaboard regions in the early colonial period. It is impossible to establish a date, other than an approximate one, for the introduction of glass beads to this region. It is evident from Bradford's History of Plymouth Plantation (1856, p. 127) that glass beads were readily accepted by the Indians in exchange for furs and other trade goods in the first quarter of the seventeenth century, and there is no doubt that the frequent visits of fishing, trading, and exploring parties of the sixteenth century were responsible for the introduction of many varieties of glass beads.

Dr. Willoughby (1935, p. 275) observed that:

Many glass beads have been found in New England graves. Among the oldest of these may be mentioned an oval or lenticular form about three eighths of an inch or less in length, having the appearance of white porcelain. These are usually accompanied by a much lesser number of the same shape in dark blue or black. They are found throughout most of the coastal region and were probably obtained from fishing and trading vessels. Sometimes occurring with them are blue or white globular beads of relatively the same diameter (about one eighth of an inch) and occasionally also a few small tubular beads.

2. extensively the material for the manufacture of both colors of wampum, although other shells of a suitable nature as the colummelae of the conch, were used for the white beads.
light gray in color, perhaps due to residue of some preservative which may have been applied by the person making the reconstruction. Detailed examination of the pot revealed the sherds to be of a very hard black paste with no indications of grit or shell temper.

Pestles of various sizes and many with ornamented ends have been commonly reported throughout New England (Willoughby, 1935, pp. 145-157). The stone pestles figured in archaeological and historical accounts refer to the types which were used in crushing corn in mortars. None of the reports brought to my attention indicate that pestles were used in any way other than as pounders or crushers, for the only indications of use were manifested on the end or ends of the implements.

The lower two of the pestles shown in Plate IV are unique for this area. Both are symmetrical in shape, well finished, and highly polished. The larger, made of a fine-grained pink granite, is 16 1/2 inches long, with a center diameter of 3 inches. The diameter at the ends is 2 1/4 inches. The smaller is 15 1/2 inches long, with a center diameter of 2 inches. This implement, like the one above, has tapering ends which are 1 3/4 inches in diameter. It is made of a fine-grained dark rock, similar to slate. Both pestles were undoubtedly used in the conventional manner attributed to pestles, but unlike others from this area they have wear facets on the surface parallel to the long axis of the implement. The flattened surfaces of each pestle indicate that it was held at both extremities and worked back and forth over another stone on which corn or other food had been placed. Use of the implements in this fashion, similar to the manner of using the mano and metate, would enable the person preparing corn to make a much finer meal or flour. The presence of utensils used in the above fashion indicates that the user had advanced beyond the simple stage of crushing corn and was manufacturing a fine flour which may have been used for many purposes. (3)

The smallest pestle, with an over-all length of 8 1/8 inches and diameter of 1 3/4 inches, was used as a crusher or pounder, as wear is only indicated at one end. This pestle, like the smaller roller pestle, is made of a fine, dark-grained rock and is highly polished on the greater portion of its surface. As may be seen in Plate IV and in Figure 11, one end is ornamented and appears to depict the head of a small animal, such as a squirrel.

In the mythology of the Eastern Woodland Indians the turtle plays an important role, but written references to the turtle are lacking for this area. To attach any significance to the presence of the box turtle in the Revere grave would be pure conjecture. Unfortunately the presence of certain objects in village sites and graves must remain unexplainable until such time as we can find parallels in adjacent areas or definite historical references mentioning their use and place in the culture of this region.

3. See Butler, 1918, for a complete discussion of the uses of corn.
European rolled copper which were wrapped about a small cylindrical object which was removed after the completion of the bead. They, like many other beads of their period, were strung on a two-ply twisted cord.

It is evident from the shape and size of the rectangular piece of copper that it was a small pendant which in all probability was suspended on a cord with the beads. The pendant was made of sheet copper and appears to have been cut from a larger object, such as a copper kettle.

The potsherd is like many reported from eastern Massachusetts and can offer no information other than it was from a thin, grit-tempered, and possibly paddle-stamped pot. Its presence with the other grave offerings indicates the burial took place at a time when the Indians were still employing their native craft of pottery making.

The skeletal remains of the Ipswich burial consisted of fragments of the skull and other bones of a small child, and the mandible of an adult. The child appears to have been an infant about one year of age at death as the anterior fontanelle had not closed, but all the first set of teeth had erupted.

Blue-green copper stains are present on both parietal bones. The stains extend from above the ear toward the top of the head and slightly behind the anterior fontanelle. The stain on the left parietal is rectangular, about 1 by 2 inches in size, and the stain on the right parietal is about 3/4 by 3/4 inches. The right stain is wider and more diffused near the ear than the upper portion. Comparison of the above-mentioned stains with the description of similar stains produced by a brass pin on two skeletons excavated by Bullen and Bullen (1946, p. 5) at Tiverton, Rhode Island, indicates that the stains found on the parietal bones of this infant could have been made by the small string of copper beads and copper pendant.

The mandible of the adult may have been from an adjacent burial. It is improbable that this would be the only portion of the adult skeleton which would be preserved if it had been included in the grave with the child burial. As a few bones of fish and deer accompany the skeletal material, it seems very likely that the person who excavated the area did not differentiate between the animal and human bones. There is no doubt that this grave was taken out in a most unscientific manner and the person who removed the material was not aware of the importance of systematic excavations.

Conclusions

Analysis of the material culture and the skeletal remains of the three burials seem to justify the following additional conclusions. All the burials took place during the very early Colonial period of this region. Simultaneous burials, except in the case of secondary burials, implies mass deaths brought about by war or plague. Those who were buried in these graves may have been casualties of the plague of 1616. Acculturation was rapid, and European trade goods and copper ornaments quickly replaced indigenous decorative materials as mortuary offerings. The natives of northeastern Massachusetts had trade relations with tribes on the south shore of Massachusetts, and accepted and developed traits diffused from the south and west. The pottery illustrates the inadvisability of placing too much dependence upon a study of potsherds as a criterion in establishing a chronology for cultural developments for this area.

Peabody Museum
Salem, Massachusetts
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1936
THE OVAL SCRAPER COMPLEX

William S. Fowler

A widely distributed stone artifact of the Northeast is an implement that has been variously identified as chopper, hoe or scraper. The nomenclature of Ritchie in New York State calls it a chopper and identifies it with early archeal cultures of the region. On the other hand, various collectors in the Northeast, especially in Massachusetts, refer to it as a hoe. That the two artifacts are one and the same has been recently verified through an exchange of samples between the Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences of New York and the Attleboro Museum of Massachusetts. As a result, Dr. Ritchie states that in his opinion the Massachusetts type is essentially the same as that of New York and both should probably carry a new nomenclature, possibly that of scraper.

This type of artifact is faithfully displayed by illustrations (Figs. 12 and 13). It is found in three different sizes measuring 1 to 6 inches in length and 3/4 to 5 inches in width. It has a more or less oval shape, and often occurs with its sides quite straight giving the appearance of a flat four sided rectangular implement. Occasionally, one end is elongated and reduced to narrowing proportions as if for a handle. All specimens are apparently percussion-flaked with chips taken from both sides, so that all edges are centered between both faces and not on one face as is usually the case with snubnose scrapers.

This class of implements is represented by 800 specimens at the Attleboro Museum, Attleboro, Massachusetts. They are a part of the Richardson collection and were recovered from the surface of camp sites in Attleboro and nearby regions. Their relative frequency in this assemblage is represented by the following percentages: Large 18%; medium 50%; small 32%. They are made from ten different stones of which granite is by far the most popular. Nearly three quarters of them are of granite, while the remaining quarter is distributed among the following nine stones arranged in the order of their preference: shale, felsite, sandstone, conglomerate, quartzite, schist, quartz, hornblend, and chert.

In discussing the probable use to which these artifacts were put, it is important to look for worn surfaces to determine the extent of their use. Wear generally appears along two or more edges and often continues over all edges, particularly when the shape is symmetrical. This condition is just as noticeable with the extremely small specimens in most cases as with the large. That both had a similar function is quite probable since all sizes have relatively the same shape, and, what is of equal importance, both have edges with chips removed from either side. While this condition differs from that found in the case of most snubnose scrapers whose working edge is confined to one end of the blade which is bevelled with chips removed from one side only, it should be observed that a small percentage of such scrapers have their edges formed by chips taken from both sides. Therefore, in this respect it may be said that the oval implements now under discussion resemble some snubnose scrapers.

It is enlightening to observe that an important feature of the problematical artifacts in question is that of surface texture. Being usually made of a course-grained stone such as granite, sandstone, felsite, and conglomerate, or roughly flaked when made of smooth stones such as shale, quartzite, and chert, they apparently accomplished their work by scraping. Furthermore, since their edges are always even and slightly convex with no protruding bit, they obviously were better suited for such scraping than for digging of holes or the cultivating of soil.

Another important source of evidence comes from the excavated site of Titicut in Bridgewater, Massachusetts on the Taunton River. Here, stratigraphy adds weight to typological analysis in establishing suitable identity for the oval implements discussed in this report. The Warren K. Moorehead Chapter of the Massachusetts Archaeological Society has excavated this site during the past three seasons and has recovered many of the flat oval blades in question. With scarcely an exception they are made from granite and have all the identifiable traits of this class of artifact.

The site is characterized by several different strata, the lowest and presumably the earliest being of white wind-blown sand deposited in dunes. These are clearly identifiable since their depth varies from about three to six feet below the loam throughout the area excavated. From the several upper strata, which are separated from the artifact-bearing white sand by a sterile stratum, appear artifacts representing nearly every cultural stage commonly identified with the Northeast. However, from the underlying white sand comes new habitation evidence of unknown origin in the form of what evidently were hearths, consisting of reinforced stone walls 4-5 inches high, enclosing small oval fire pits that measure about 9 by 15 inches in area with an opening left in one side of the oval wall, evidently for feeding the fire. Since these hearths (five in number) were undisturbed, they must be assumed to represent...
an early deposition on white sand that probably belongs to the post pleistocene period. Without debating the extent of antiquity of the white sand stratum, the fact that it lies far below all other artifact bearing strata gives it indisputably early implications. Furthermore, since artifacts of the agricultural-ceramic epoch are confined to the loam stratum, it is evident that the white sand, as well as all other artifact-bearing strata below the loam, antedate this period.

From all strata at Titicut have come 32 oval blades, both large, medium and small in size. The loam overburden has yielded 12; pits, 1; junction of loam with yellow soil, 5; yellow soil, 7; and white sand, 3. Two of the latter were in close association with white sand hearths #2 and #5. All of these blades are made largely of granite with a few of shale, and show wear on one or more edges. In no case does this wear appear to have been as a result of hard or rough use which would result in chip fractures, as in the case of axe blades. Instead, it is uniformly distributed over convex edge surfaces as if caused by abrasion against flexible materials.

Conclusion

A careful analysis of this enumerated evidence seems to narrow down the possible functions of the problematical oval blades to that of scraping.

First of all, if they were choppers, it would seem reasonable expectancy to find chip fractures occasionally on the service edges where hard objects had been encountered, but this is not the case. Instead, uniformity is present wherever wear is found. Furthermore, even if it is granted that chopping of soft objects is what actually took place with no chance for damage, it is difficult to explain the presence of medium and large blades with excessive wear, when it is realised that those implements are too light weight to be used as choppers. That all blades were used for the same purpose is an inescapable conclusion since material, shape, wear and method of flaking are identical for all sizes.

Considering now the nomenclature of hoes, there are several good reasons why these oval blades were probably never used as cultivating tools. First, it is obvious that a hoe blade, which was undoubtedly hafted, would show wear on but one edge, probably at the end of the blade. With most oval blades, not only one but two, three, and sometimes all four edges are worn. Furthermore, this condition is found not only in the case of 5 inch blades but in that of those measuring but one inch in length. This being the case, it seems unlikely that they were ever hafted, as would have been required if they had been hoes. Besides this, it is inconceivable that the small blades could ever have served as hoes on account of their diminutive proportions.

Of even greater significance is the appearance of these blades in every culture stratum at the Titicut Site, Bridgewater, Massachusetts. Here they not only occur in association with agricultural pestles, clay potsherds, and grooved axes in the strata of the late protohistoric period in the human, but also with stone axes in the junction stratum, with ulus and plummets in the yellow soil, and finally with white sand hearths on the lowest artifact bearing level. Since it must be conceded that the last two strata are free of any agricultural affinities and probably the junction stratum as well, to continue to link this class of artifacts with cultivating activities in the form of hoes is now a logical improbability.

If then, neither a chopper or hoe nomenclature seems tenable it may properly be asked, what function if any can be ascribed to these oval blades that will be supported by the evidence as presented. As previously stated, surface hardening of such implements appears uniform as though caused by wear from comparatively soft or flexible materials, since flat facets are absent on all worn surfaces. This would seem to indicate the absence of hard materials such as wood from the materials that were scraped. Moreover, since more than one edge of these artifacts usually shows wear, it may be assumed that they were probably held in the hand with a frequent change of position as edges became worn or clogged with scraped matter. Therefore, whatever was their function they probably were not hafted. In fact, many have what seems to be a flaked handle formed at one end. Further, it should be observed that they must have performed a function that was common to all culture levels in the evolution of the North-east where they have been found. From earliest times, when man made his home on the wind-blown white sands of the Taunton glacial-lake area down to historic days, flat oval shaped blades flaked generally from granite were commonly used for some domestic purpose. During this vast interval one industry remained substantially the same. Clothes have continuously been made from skins, whether arctic fauna of seal, muskox and bear, or temperate fauna of deer, fox and rabbit. Here then would seem to be a functional activity for oval blades which would remain more or less the same for whatever stage of cultural development is being considered. In the preparation of hides for clothing they probably performed some scraping function in the removal of fatty matter from the skin. In this connection, it is interesting to note that the three blades from the earliest white sand culture at Titicut are of medium-large proportions, while smaller ones are from more recent culture levels at that site. This may well indicate an accompanying change from large to smaller fauna, on which may be postulated a later development of forests with the coming of a warm lush period of vegetation.

Therefore, until further evidence appears, it must be concluded that the problematical oval blades considered in this report should
probably be classified as skin scrapers. This term would be as suitable for early as for late economies, and would not conflict with the provenience of these artifacts. Consequently, the nomenclature suggested by the author for this type of implement is that of oval scraper.

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