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BULLETIN OF THE
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TOWARD A CHRONOLOGY FOR MASSACHUSETTS
Benjamin L. Smith

The Symposium on Site Characteristics sponsored by the Research Council of the M.A.S., the results of which were published in the Bulletin for April, 1944, touched off a course of events which eventually led to an effort by the Council to solve some of the problems surrounding the Sequence of Cultures in Massachusetts.

On November 8, 1944, a proposal was sent to the Research Council members suggesting that a meeting be held in an attempt to establish such a sequence, and the statement of considerations read in substance that reports on new sites were constantly being added to the existing lists, but that with understandable caution the authors seldom attempted to fit their sites into the picture, but simply left them hanging in the air, so to speak. This was natural since no sequence of cultures had been established but, it warned, if the trend continued the situation would eventually become so confused that only those devoting their entire attention to archaeology would be able to cope with it.

On the receipt of this notice, several Council members expressed the opinion that the time was not ripe for the establishment of a definite cultural sequence, but others wished to examine the subject more closely. A meeting was held on January 20, 1945, and the matter was exhaustively explored.

A long preliminary discussion took place regarding:
1. The area to be covered by the proposed sequence.
2. The extent of our knowledge at that time.
3. The characteristics of certain important sites at Holyoke, Plymouth, Middleboro, and Winthrop.
4. Various artifacts which might serve as age indicators.

It quickly became apparent that the extent of our exact information was discouragingly meagre, and it was decided that any attempt at chronological arrangement should be limited to sites which had been scientifically excavated. These proved to be few in number.

It was also decided that the contents of isolated graves, while valuable for indicating that certain influences had been at work in the area, were untrustworthy as cultural markers unless found in direct association with a cultural level in the ground.

A discussion was held regarding the value of such artifacts as sinkers, plummets, ulos, hexagonal slate points, and other ground slate objects in general as chronological diagnostics, and it was decided that none of them, considering the present state of our knowledge, could be considered infallible indicators of any particular period of time. This approach was therefore abandoned.

It was further concluded that Massachusetts should not depend on work done elsewhere, but should build up her own chronology and then, as a clear picture began to emerge, it could reassume its proper relation to other established cultural relationships.

At this point Mr. Ripley Bullen reviewed for the Council the status of our knowledge of stratigraphy as determined by scientific excavation in Massachusetts. The value of this information is based on the archaeological axiom that in identifiable, superimposed layers, the bottom layer is older than the top (unless disturbed) and that implements from these layers bear the same age relationship.

Mr. Bullen reported that superimposed layers had been identified by excavation at:
1. The Hoffman Site at Ballardvale
2. Seth's Swamp at Wellfleet
3. Foster's Cove at Andover
4. Davis Farm at Sudbury
5. Cliff Shell Heap at Truro

He stated that at all five of these sites there was evidence to support our taking the first definite step in the establishment of a Stratigraphical Sequence for Massachusetts. The following articles will develop this material and the nature of this first step will be thoroughly discussed.

For the Research Council 1945
Concord, Massachusetts
March, 1946
EVIDENCES OF TYPOLOGICAL STRATIGRAPHY AT
SETH'S SWAMP SITE, WELLFLEET, MASSACHUSETTS

Howard Torrey

In the town of Wellfleet, Massachusetts strange as it may seem, is an Indian village site at which an archaeologist works at actual risk of his life! This alarming state of affairs exists there in that quiet Cape Cod community because the site happens to in part serve as the town dump for everything from ashes to garbage, and in consequence is infested with prodigious numbers of enormous rats, which both townpeople and summer residents take such delight in shooting. 'Tis even risky to go near the place wearing a grey suit; and to pop one's uncovered head up out of an excavation there—why, 't would be positively suicidal! The site, however, is of such interest as to in part compensate for this drawback, for in all seriousness it constitutes one of the few known to date in Massachusetts that seem typologically stratified.

The following account is based on work done at intervals during 1936. Due to hazard cited, plus unpleasant odor from the garbage and difficulties imposed by intermittent competition by collectors, the work was of exploratory nature.

This seat of former Indian occupation at Wellfleet is located in the northerly part of the town, on Cole's Neck, formerly a point a mile and a half or more in length extending westerly into the former estuary of the now diked Herring River, and lies at the southwest end of Seth's Swamp, which is centrally located thereon, about a third of a mile from the end, and now being filled by the dumping. The location is somewhat over a quarter of a mile in from a once excellent canoe landing place on the Neck's southerly shore. The area of past habitation is small, in greater part level or near level, raised enough above the swamp (elevation 10') to provide dryness; site and swamp are collectively surrounded by higher ground, (elevation 25' to 70'), which gave some protection from winds. The wet area or its predecessor, a shallow pond, even though the only outlet was by seepage, probably served as a source of fresh water; trails along the neck's shores led to trapping and hunting areas; while the river provided easy access to nearby shellfish flats and fishing grounds.

The soil at Seth's Swamp Site consists of a sandy loam merging into thin subsoil underlaid by clean yellow sand. Throughout the site the division between the latter is clear and sharp, except at a few points of disturbance, and conforms approximately to grade contours. Loam and sand contain evidence of occupation. Together, evidence of long occupation—but here is the interesting and seemingly important fact: loam and sand contain radically different evidence.

In the loam, from among the grass roots down, there is a quantity of camp debris: shells; charcoal; ashes; potsherds; an occasional fragment of steatite pot; pieces of bone, both worked and unworked; also sundry kinds of bone implements, such as awls, bodkins, chipping tools, etc.; numerous chips and rejects; also stone implements, largely of the chipped varieties; and a few pecked and ground types such as celts, hammer stones, rubbing stones, etc. In the uppermost debris there is occasional evidence of white contact in the form of buckshot, musket balls, sun flints or homemade nails. This cultural deposit is distinctly stratified by ash and shell,
also stratified typologically at least to the extent that small projectile points are more numerous in the upper portion and large, in the lower (1). The sherds in this deposit, or at least many of them, show by contour of horizontal fracture surfaces that pots were built up by coiling a rod-like piece of clay. Many of the sherds are decorated on the exterior surface with a more-or-less complicated pattern of designs made by impressing cord or coarse fabric. Others are undecorated. So are all interior surfaces and finished edges of rim fragments. The average color of clean exterior surfaces is Snuff Brown on the Ridgway scale. All sherds in the loam have one common feature - all contain crushed shell as a tempering medium (Fig. 26,A). The projectile points in the loam are, with few exceptions, fashioned from either felsite or quartz, which appear in a ratio of about 4 to 3. The ratio of arrowheads to spearheads is approximately 4 to 1 (2). One thing that attracts observation is that these specimens are in most part lightly built, i.e., they are rather thin. The most noticeable fact regarding the projectile points found in this culturally rich loam, however, is that all are triangular (Fig. 25, A).

In the underlying yellow sand, or at least in the upper six inches thereof, is far less a quantity and a far more limited assortment of cultural material - just potsherds and stone implements. All are far more heavily patinated than those in the loam. Occasional storage and refuse pits dug in the loam and subsoil extend into this sand. Elsewhere the sand shows no evidence of disturbance. Neither does it show, as in the case of the loam, evidence of having in part accumulated during use of the site. The deposit seems to have a complete absence of geological stratigraphy. Nothing indicates the means by which cultural remains became imbedded. Furthermore, no typological stratigraphy is obvious (1). The sherds in this sand in part show, like those in the loam, that pots were formed by coiling. Some bear a border of impressed, and/or, punctated decoration on the exterior surface - being the impressions of fabric and/or, unusually those of bone tools of sundry shapes. In some instances a punctate type of decoration is applied over traces of an impressed type. Some are plain. Some bear an impression of fabric on the upper portion of interior surface. Most of the rim fragments are notched on the finished edge. Some sherds have been roughened by differential erosion. These sherds in the underlying sand, unlike those in the loam, are grey-brown (Drab, Ridgway) and tempered with grit, i.e., crushed rock (Fig. 26,B). The stone implements in this sand are largely of the chipped varieties. A few are adz blades, hammer stones and rubbing stones. Projectile points found in the sand are made of a variety of materials, including felsite, but quartz is entirely absent. Some are fashioned from material that is unusual and colorful. Some of the larger specimens are found broken, with parts still in approximate contact (3). The ratio of arrowheads to spearheads is approximately 1 to 4 (2). The latter vary greatly in shape. A noticeable fact is that, size for size, specimens in the sand are in the main more massive, i.e., are thicker and heavier than those in the loam. Perhaps the most striking thing about the projectile points found in this seemingly undisturbed underlying sand is that practically all are stemmed (Fig. 25,B).

Thus it may be concluded that at Seth's Swamp site we seem to have evidence of two separate and distinct periods of occupation. In the loam, or topsoil, are cultural remains of shell, bone, pottery and stone deposited by accretion - remains of no great antiquity left by a people who tempered pot clay with shell, who made triangular projectile points exclusively, and whose principal weapon, as shown by a preponderance of small points, was the bow and arrow. All, including the evidences of white contact, indicate that the people were Algonkians. In the underlying yellow sand, are cultural remains of pottery and heavily patinated stone only, deposited by means not
now evident (4) - time resistant remains left by an older people who occupied the spot probably before it was mantled with true soil (5), who used grit to temper clay, who commonly fashioned stemmed projectile points and who, a preponderance of large points seems to indicate, either made far less regular use of the bow and arrow, or saw its introduction. They were a people whose principal weapon was, or had been, the spear. Now, however, nothing identifies the wielders. In other words, potsherds and projectile points found at Seth's Swamp site seem quite definitely to indicate typological stratification and suggest consecutive occupation by two culturally distinct peoples (6).

(1) No records were kept of depth at which specimens were found within the layer.

(2) Specimens having a length, or extreme dimension of 1-3/4", or more, are considered too large to have served as arrowheads.

(3) Probably broken by pressure incidental to occupation.

(4) Probably gradually covered by slope wash that was, all the while, being disturbed and kept devoid of stratigraphy by occupation.

(5) Periods of time involved undetermined.

(6) Pecked and ground implements in the loam vary from those in the sand, and may also denote typological stratification, but were recovered in insufficient quantities to adequately base descriptions, comparisons and conclusions.

Reading, Massachusetts
February 16, 1946

Fig. 27 Implements from the Peaked Hill Site
THE PEAKED HILL SITE

Ross Moffett

This site is located in the dunes about two and three-fourths miles northeast of the center of Provincetown, Massachusetts, and near the Peaked Hill Coast Guard Station. More specifically, it lies midway between Pilgrim Lake, formerly an inlet from Cape Cod Bay, and the Atlantic Ocean. The site is one quarter of a mile from each of these bodies of water, being, in fact, in the narrowest part of Cape Cod, (Fig. 27). In the Pilgrim Lake direction is a range of high bare dunes, and a belt of low dunes, partly grass covered, extends from the site to the ocean beach. The Indian remains are distributed over approximately one fourth of a mile of the lower levels of a long hollow which here runs parallel to the coast line.

While this region is now subject to more or less constant change, due to the movement of the dune sand, in earlier times it was probably one of this forest growth, which lasted at least through late Indian and early colonial days and was finally destroyed by fire, is confirmed by the eroded edges of a well marked layer of dark soil, heavily charged with charcoal and small pieces of unburned wood, along with the remains of stumps and logs. When burned, the woods were not unlike the present pine woods around Provincetown.

Under, but not over, the dark soil layer are many strata, alternating between light sand and reddish brown humus-coated sand. In the absence of more expert opinion, it is my belief that these successive layers have resulted from a seasonal deposition of wind-blown sand over some form of vegetation growing on what was, at the particular time, a surface level. Scattered signs of Indian occupancy are to be found both in the dark soil and in certain of the brown sand strata.

The evidences in the brown sand appear in patches bearing chippings and sometimes implements. Such areas come to light here and there, as the proper stratum is uncovered by the caprice of the wind. The most important of these lies close to the lowest part of the hollow and near that was probably a tiny pond or water hole.

The salient features of the part of the site just mentioned are summarized in the following: An area ten by thirty feet, as gradually left exposed, was thickly covered with chippings, along with several artifacts, broken or discarded in process of manufacture. The brown implement-bearing layer, up to the place where it began to pass under a small dune, was found to have an average thickness of one inch and to contain a small amount of charcoal. Strata above and below were similar in appearance but were without Indian materials. The sand from a space ten by twenty feet was sifted through a quarter-inch mesh, and a large number of chippings, amounting to three quarts, were recovered. In addition, there were several large pieces of broken rocks, which may have served as hammerstones.

Among the artifacts were several fairly large points. These had been broken, but all of the fragments were found and re-assembled. Figure 27, 1-6, and 8, represent these pieces. The rest of the implements comprise the bases of two other large artifacts, and three more complete but smaller points. Two of the latter, one shown in Figure 27, 7, seem to have been discarded because of excessive thickness, and the third, although not bad, was perhaps also considered unsatisfactory. The points are all of one type, being worked off at the base to form a pointed kind of stem. Since several show secondary chipping of the edges, they appear to have been broken, in some cases, in the last stages of the work.

Evidently the materials were covered by vegetation or sand soon after their deposit, as the edges are sharp, with little sign of sand blasting. The artifacts were made from various kinds of felsite; no quartz, it is interesting to note, occurs even among the chippings. The source of the felsite pebbles was undoubtedly the ocean beach opposite the site. It is almost certain that the points represented by Figure 27, 2 and 3 were chipped from one pebble of the banded variety, while two others, one shown in Figure 27, 5, came from a breciated specimen.

A commentary on the reliability of weathering as an indication of age is afforded by the fact that the halves of the last mentioned piece are of different shades.

From the general similarity of artifacts and the smallness of the area in which they were found, the inference is strong that the entire work here was done at one sitting and by a very small number of Indians. Since almost no traces of the aborigines are to be found on Cape Cod below (west of) this site, it follows that the permanent abode of the artisans at this work-shop must have been somewhere in the up-cape direction. It is also reasonable to speculate that they came through Pilgrim Lake by dugout, and that the absence, in this vicinity, of nebbles on
the inside beach was a factor of importance in this episode from the distant past.

The implements definitely associated with the dark soil layer are four triangular points. Three other, which had lain in the loose sand for some time, are identical in type, and these, too, are thought to have come from this formation. Almost no chippings are to be ascribed to the dark layer, and it seems probable that the triangular pieces were lost in hunting—the site is on what would have been the most likely route for deer passing to and from the Provincetown woods. These implements are straight-sided, broad, thin, and of excellent workmanship. Of those illustrated in Figure 27, 10, 16, 17, and 20 are of felsite, 9 is of chert, 18 of quartz, and 19 of quartzite.

Additional scattered materials, picked up on various parts of the site, consist of nine other chipped implements—none is of either of the types described above—a potsherd, and the bottom section of a cel t. The latter, of diabase and exceptionally well made, came from the dark soil, while a small, stemmed, felsite arrowhead, shown in Figure 27, 15, was found in a brown sand layer. It is not possible to determine the source of the remainder. Of these, four are illustrated in Figure 27: 13 and 14 are of felsite; 11 is smooth black chert; 12 is of quartzite. The broken corner-notched point, it may be noted, is of a type rare in this region.

SUGGESTIONS OF STRATIGRAPHY IN EASTERN MASSACHUSETTS

Ripley P. Bullen

Since the question of stratigraphy in Massachusetts was reviewed at the Research Council meeting on February 20, 1945, additional data has been secured by excavation. Reports on some sites producing stratigraphy have been published. This article summarizes the information available at this time, making use of projectile points as possible indicators of chronology. Brief reference will also be made to pottery. Other artifacts may also be shown to have chronological implications, but projectile points are the only stone artifacts available in sufficient quantity for comparisons between sites.

Suggestions of stratigraphy have been found at the following sites in eastern Massachusetts: Hofmann, Foster's Cove, Maud Eaton, Camp Manning, and Pringle sites, in or near Andover; the Davis Farm site, in Sudbury; and the Peaked Hill site, the Cliff Shell Heap, and the Seth's Swamp site, all situated on the eastern part of Cape Cod. These sites are all located in sandy regions. Furthermore, most of them are situated on terrain which might have been subject to sufficient slope wash to preserve the suggestions of stratigraphy which have been noted.

The table on page 58 lists the several types of projectile points according to the zones in which they were found at these nine sites. The classification of types is that published in Volume IV, Number 3, of the BULLETIN (April, 1943). The author is responsible for any errors made in classifying the projectile points. Brief descriptions of the situations at each of these sites will be found below. These are merely supplementary to the tabulation.

Unless it is specified otherwise, small triangular points (Types 1 and 2) and small miscellaneous points (Types 8 to 13 and 19 and 20) are made of quartzite. In contrast to this, and equally characteristically, the large triangular points of Types 3 to 6, are made of dark felsite.
predominantly, and exhibit little patination. The corner-removed types (21 to 25) and straight stemmed points (Type 29) are usually made of felsite, although sometimes of gray slate. Both these materials are fairly light gray in color as the result of heavy patination. Occasionally these points are made of quartz or quartzite.

**Hofmann Site**

The Hofmann Site (Bullen, R. P., and A. W. Hofmann, "The Hofmann Site," American Antiquity, Vol. 10, No. 2, October, 1944) is located between a small brook and a swamp, on a small sandy ridge extending from higher land to the northwest.

In the upper zone (loam), associated with the large triangular points shown in the tabulation, ware vegetable- and coarse mineral-tempered sherds. In some places pottery was found in the upper two or three inches of the lower zone (red-brown sand) but never associated with the corner-removed points. There was a suggestion that the average depth of the coarse mineral-tempered pottery was greater than that of the vegetable-tempered ware; consequently, the former might be the earlier.

The corner-removed points, both for arrow and spear, are inclined to be large and heavy (thick). Not a single specimen of worked quartz was found.

**Peaked Hill Site**

This site is discussed earlier in this number of the BULLETIN by Ross Moffet. The upper zone in the tabulation consists of the old sod, beneath the recent dune sand. From this zone, four of the points are of felsite, and one each, of chert, quartz, and quartzite. The lower zone refers to one of the underlying brown sand strata. All of the points from this lower zone are made of felsite. Although felsite chips were associated with them, no quartz chips were found.

**Cliff Shell Heap**

Mr. Ross Moffett, of Provincetown, has kindly supplied information about this site. A portion of the shell heap, about eighteen feet wide, and in places as much as eighteen inches thick, is exposed in the cliff about six feet above the beach at Truro. Over the shell heap is about twelve feet of dune sand. A thin gray layer separates the shell heap from the dune sand, and beyond the area of shell extends between the old sand and recent dune sand. This gray layer is referred to in the tabulation as "upper" while the shell heap is referred to by "lower."

Of the six large triangular points found in this upper (gray) layer, two were directly over the shell deposit, and four came from the extension of this layer beyond the shell. They are made of quartz, quartzite, and felsite. Three are sandblasted.

Twenty-eight of the thirty-four points from the lower zone (shell heap) are made of quartz. The three spear points are of quartzite. The corner-removed points are relatively broad for their length, which is about two inches, and might be classified as "overgrown" types 13 and 14.

**Seth's Swamp Site**

This site is discussed earlier in this issue of the BULLETIN by Howard Torrey. It should be pointed out that in the upper zone both small and large triangular points are associated with each other. This is different from Foster's Cove (see tabulation) where small triangular points were lower than large triangular points. As at other sites, the smaller triangular points are made of quartz and the larger ones of felsite.

The number of corner-removed points shown in the tabulation for the lower zone of this site is incomplete, as indicated by the plus sign. These corner-removed points, both for arrow and spear, tend to be large, wide, and fairly heavy.

It may also be mentioned that the change from coarse mineral-tempered pottery in the lower zone to shell-tempered pottery in the upper zone is analogous to the situation in Andover, where coarse mineral-tempered pottery appears to be older than vegetable-tempered wares. While not duplicated in all details, there are also parallel changes in vessel decoration. (For details see Bulleen in January 1946, BULLETIN; Torry in this BULLETIN.)

**Foster's Cove Site**

A full report of this site was published in the January, 1946, BULLETIN. The intermediate division is an arbitrary zone, five inches thick, measured from the base of the loam (upper zone) downward.

About two thousand sherds of vegetable-tempered and twelve of coarse mineral-tempered ware were associated with the large triangular points in the upper (loam) zone. Six sherds of coarse mineral-tempered pottery were found in the upper two to three inches of the intermediate zone.

In the intermediate zone there was a close association between the small triangular and small stemmed (Types 11-13) points but not between either of these types and the corner-removed points shown in the tabulation for this zone. All the corner-removed points are medium in size and weight.

An eared triangular point, not shown in the tabulation, was found at about the base of the intermediate zone.
The change in materials from patinated felsite in the lower zone to quartz in the intermediate zone and then to dark felsite in the upper zone should be noted. Specimens found in the upper zone (loam), but typical of lower zones, appeared to be associated with lenses of yellow-brown sand which were assumed to have been found in the loam as the result of the digging of pits.

Maud Eaton Site

A report on this site was published in the January, 1946, BULLETIN. In making up the tabulation, specimens from Tests VI and VII have been combined. All the points from the upper zone (loam) are of dark felsite. The large triangular points (Test VII) were associated with fine mineral-tempered pottery having Iroquoian (Mohawk) collars. The notched points of the upper zone (Test VI) were associated with vegetable and coarse mineral-tempered sherds.

In Test VI, coarse mineral-tempered sherds, but no vegetable-tempered ones, were found in the upper portion of the intermediate zone associated with two side-notched (Type 54) points of patinated felsite and some of the stemmed (Types 11-13, 46) points of quartz. These points were also found deeper than the pottery.

One of the corner-removed points from the lower zone is made of quartz. Otherwise the change from patinated felsite to quartz and then to dark felsite is the same as at Foster's Cove.

Camp Manning Site

The site at Camp Manning is located on the northern part of a pitted sand plain near what appears to be an ice block contact slope at the edge of Pomp's Pond in Andover. It is about seventy feet above the pond and on the opposite shore from Maud Eaton. Mr. Arthur Hofmann of Ballardvale has tested this site by a series of fifteen test holes, each measuring about 6 x 6 feet. He very kindly permitted the author to examine his specimens and specimen cards. Hofmann will not finish his excavations for another year. The results shown in the tabulation are preliminary and may be changed by future work. It is not the intent of this article to influence Hofmann when he writes the report on this site at a later date.

The zones shown in the tabulation are arbitrary zones of concentration. Depths are about half that at Foster's Cove or Maud Eaton. The scarcity of material in the upper zone is probably the result of previous collecting, as this site has been plowed and many artifacts are known to have been found.

Coarse mineral-tempered pottery was found in the upper zone and in the upper portion of the intermediate zone. From the tabulation, it will be observed that corner-removed and straight stemmed points were concentrated at lower depths than side-notched points. The triangular point in the intermediate zone is the only one made of quartz.

Pringle Site

The Pringle Site is located on a small plateau between the Shawsheen River and a swamp, about three miles south of Andover. The surface slopes downward slightly from gravel ridges at the eastern and southern edges of the site.

The projectile points shown in the tabulation came from a test covering two hundred fifty square feet. The site has been plowed for the past thirty years by the present owner who advised the author that collectors used to follow his plow every spring and fall. Consequently the inventory for the upper zone is small.

In this upper zone, associated with the triangular and side-notched points, were a hundred sherds of coarse mineral-tempered ware and ten sherds of vegetable-tempered pottery. In an upper portion of the intermediate zone, coarse mineral-tempered sherds, but no vegetable tempered ones, were associated with some of the small triangular (Type 2) and small stemmed (Types 11-13) points. There was also a close association between some of these small points and corner-removed points but not between the latter and pottery. One straight-stemmed and two corner-removed points were deeper. Corner-removed points from this site tend to be large and heavy.

Davis Farm Site

This site is located on the bank of the Sudbury River. The Charles O. Willoughby Chapter of the Society excavated a narrow strip at the edge of a large cultivated field which contained the main part of the site. Adjacent to the excavated area is a fairly high sand and gravel ridge.

Mr. Benjamin L. Smith, as chairman of the Chapter, kindly permitted the author to examine specimens and specimen cards. The classification and interpretation given here is entirely that of the author. It is hoped the excavation, delayed by the war, will be resumed and a report published. Quite conceivably the final conclusions may differ from the suggestions made here.

Dr. Hallam L. Movius in his "First Interim Report of the Excavations at Site M-23/26" in the January, 1941, BULLETIN, Vol. II, No. 2, pp. 17-20,
describes the layers as follows:

Deposit A - Humus, typical slope wash 0-30 cm. deposit, somewhat disturbed, containing Indian and Colonial objects.

Deposit B - Mixed of occupation layer, coarse sands darkened by ash and charcoal, "It yields no Colonial objects, and in the 35-45 cm. horizon there is a definite concentration of implements."

Deposit C - Coarse dark yellow sand, containing some artifacts and the bottom of pits from "B".

Deposit D - Light yellow sand, archaeologically sterile.

In making up the tabulation, points specified as coming from pits were omitted. Also omitted was an eared triangular point found between depths of 55 and 80 cm. Two specimens classified as large triangular (Type 5) points are probably asymmetric triangular knives and not projectile points.

The corner-removed point shown in the tabulation for the occupation layer was at the base of this layer and so below the concentration referred to by Movius.

Supplementary Data

The above covers all the sites in eastern Massachusetts known to the author as having produced definite indications of stratigraphy in terms of changes in types of projectile points. There are, however, several sites producing slight suggestions of a confirmatory nature.

One of the shell heaps at Griffin Island, Wellfleet, investigated by Ethel Boissevain consists of two shell layers, one partly above the other and separated by a sterile layer. Ms Boissevain says in "Observations on a Group of Shell Heaps on Cape Cod", in the October, 1943 BULLETIN, Vol. IV, No. 1, pp. 8-10:

"Arrow points of white quartz and felsite are the most numerous stone artifacts. All but one that were excavated in the Griffin Island and Cove Road sites are triangular. However, a few stemmed points are known from the lower layer at Griffin Island and elsewhere as surface finds. When the total number of finds is so small (7 from Cove Road and 7 plus a few rejects from Griffin Island) it does not seem wise to speak of relative numbers of one shape or another. Nevertheless, it may be significant that the only stemmed point found in situ was from the lower layer of the stratified shell heap."

At the Faulkner Spring Site, excavated by the Warren K. Moorehead Chapter of the Society, only two typical corner-removed points were found. Mr. Robbins advises that both were "found in the yellow soil well below humus". As the concentration of implements was at the junction zone between the humus and yellow soil, these points were found below the concentration.

Mr. William L. Greene of Middleboro has kindly checked for the author the vertical position of projectile points at a large site in Middleboro excavated by the Middleboro Archaeological Society. Triangular points decreased in quantity as depth increased. Stemmed and a few corner-removed points were found at all depths in about equal quantities but their percentage increased as depth increased because the number of triangular points decreased.

John G. Brown in his report on the Jones Pond Shell Heap in East Providence, Rhode Island, excavated by the Narragansett Archaeological Society, says, "grit tempered sherdos were largely found in lower depths than the shell tempered ones." This is similar to the situation at Seth's Swamp and in Andover. He also says, "Triangular points were invariably found in the Trampled (i.e. upper) Layer while stemmed and notched points of various types were found lower.

Conclusions

In conclusion it may be pointed out that at the Hofmann, Peaked Hill and Cliff Shell Heap sites, large triangular points were found in strata above large corner-removed points. At Seth's Swamp, a mixture of small and large triangular points were found over large corner-removed points. At Foster's Cove and Maud Eaton, large triangular and a few side-notched points were over small triangular and small stemmed points which in turn were over medium-sized corner-removed points. At Davis Farm, we have small triangular and small stemmed points over medium-sized corner-removed points. At Camp Manning, the average depth of corner-removed points is greater than that of side-notched points. At Pringle, large triangular points lay above small triangular and small stemmed points which were mixed with large corner-removed points but the provenience of the latter tended to be deeper.

Small triangular points of quartz have been made for a very long period of time, as they are found at Grassy Island, which must have respectable antiquity, as well as at the Ford Site in Norton and at Seth's Swamp on Cape Cod, where they were associated with musket balls and gun flints.

At six sites, Hofmann, Foster's Cove, Maud Eaton, Pringle, Seth's Swamp, and Jones Pond (in Rhode Island), we have coarse mineral-tempered pottery at greater depths than vegetable- or shell-tempered pottery.
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It appears that we are dealing with a period of transition or culture change. Corner-removed and straight stemmed points, predominantly made of felsite are superseded by small triangular and small stemmed points predominantly made of quartz. In some places, these in turn give way to large triangular points made of felsite. Large triangular points appear to be found only in association with pottery.

CONCERNING "AN ETHNOLOGICAL INTRODUCTION TO THE LONG ISLAND INDIANS"

A letter by John H. Morice and a reply by Frank G. Speck

An article entitled "An Ethnological Introduction to the Long Island Indians" in the April issue of this Bulletin affords a basis for a more careful investigation of the present status of the Indian population now living on Long Island.

The author of the article, Mr. Carlos A. H. Westez (Red Thunder Cloud, a Catawba) represents the survivors of the Long Island aborigines as retaining "to some degree, much of their folk-lore, herbal lore and persisting industrial processes." He dismisses in cavalier fashion the findings of William Wallace Tooker and M. R. Harrington, both of whom contributed largely to our knowledge of the Montauks, the Shinnecocks, and the affiliated tribes who inhabited the eastern portion of the island.

Mr. Westez makes light of "historians, poets and novelists (who) have for many years presented their contorted opinions of the Indians of Long Island". He has spent six years among them; lived in their homes; worked with them and attended school with them. In direct contradiction of the views expressed by Mr. Westez we have the published testimony of an elderly resident of Southampton who, in his youth, spent many nights in the cabins of the Indians in preparation for a day's shooting over Shinnecock Neck. The article referred to is much too long to quote in full but may be condensed as follows:

(a) The Shinnecocks had no folk-lore and no traditions worthy of the name. [This is confirmed by the later testimony of Harrington and others].

(b) There were no industries peculiar to the tribe or race in my time" [about 1890]. "I never saw any evidence of Indian basketry, rug or mat weaving or the like that amounted to much. I never saw conclusive evidence of former Shinnecock pottery work."

(c) The original language spoken by the Shinnecock Indians has not been handed down by word of mouth, except for a few words that have been memorized by the old people.

(d) They are poor tillers of the soil and appear to show little interest in gardening on their own property.

(e) They do not care for dancing in any form. [This being contrary to a well know Indian characteristic].

(f) "It has been asserted repeatedly that there are no pure-blooded Indians left in the tribe as the result of miscegenation. This would not have been an accurate or true statement if it had been made when I was a boy. The Bunn, Cuffee, Kellis and Brewer families on the Reservation were pure-blooded Indians as I was then told. [It may be noted that this statement limited the pure-blooded to four families out of forty or fifty families living on the Reservation and this was fifty years ago].

Mr. Westez's references to the Shinnecocks are substantially correct but he does not make it clear that the pure Indian strain is practically extinct. Wickham Cuffee, who died in 1915 at the age of eighty-nine years, is usually regarded as "the last of the Shinnecocks". He and his sister, Mary Ann Cuffee, and their parents spoke the Shinnecock dialect although it had died out half a century before M. R. Harrington made extensive archaeological and linguistic researches at Sebonac in 1902. Harrington described Cuffee as the best example of pure Indian blood among the Shinnecocks although the slight curl of his hair indicated some admixture of Negro."

Harrington said he obtained very little in the way of folk-lore or tradition from the natives. He ventured to hope that "more time devoted to the subject would doubtless rescue more words from oblivion; would accumulate a stock of folk-tales showing the Negro influence on Indian stories or vice
...and would unearth many ethnological treasures from among the dusty contents of the old garrets and lofts at Shinnecock." Also, this devout hope has not been realized and our store of knowledge of Shinnecock lore is no greater than it was forty years ago.

Charles Bunn, aged eighty, a grandson of Mary Ann Cuffee, is a man of outstanding Indian characteristics. His father and two uncles lost their lives in the wreck of the ship "Circassian" on the night of December 30th 1876 when "the flower of the pure-blood Shinnecocks" were washed overboard and perished in the icy waters of the Atlantic near Mecox Bay. A monument to the memory of these men has recently been erected in the Indian burial ground bearing the names of David W. Bunn, J. Franklin Bunn, Russell Bunn, William Cuffee, George Cuffee, Warren Cuffee, Oliver Kells, Robert Lee, John Walker and Lewis Walker.

Industrial survivals are practically non-existent at Shinnecock. There is no mat weaving, no pottery; beadwork is almost a lost art. David Kells and John Hendrick still make oak scrub in limited fashion and Charles Bunn carves decoys out of wood blocks, an interesting survival of Indian industry. For a time the Martine family erected a wigwam at the roadside where they sold such trinkets as beadwork, toy drums and bows and arrows made by the Apache husband, but during the war Martine moved his family to Oklahoma. One of the last Shinnecock customs to survive was the pack-basket which was carried on the back by means of a band worn across the forehead. Miss Abigail Halsey remembers as a child seeing "the tutelary tribe" of Long Island. This is what Abigail Halsey could give us a little knowledge of the tribe.

The Shinnecock Reservation of 640 acres is ably managed by a board of three trustees, elected annually. The inhabitants do not cultivate the land themselves but the trustees are empowered to lease it out for farm use and the income from rentals is considerable.

The Shinnecock Reservation has its own church and school, both active and well conducted. The inhabitants are reasonably well housed but make no attempt to cultivate their gardens or decorate their homes. The men who desire to work are employed as gardeners, caretakers or on the neighboring golf courses as caddies. The women are house servants or laundresses but for the most part they take care of their own homes.

Mr. Wester mentions the Montauks as "the tutelary tribe" of Long Island. This is really a misnomer as the ascendency of this tribe existed only for a few years during the lifetime of Wyandanch whom the English settlers, for their own convenience in land trading, designated Chief Saugem of Long Island. Owing to their exposed position at the extreme eastern tip of the island, the Montauks were more susceptible to attack than the other tribes and were thereby for more warlike. They had many clashes with the New England tribes who inhabited the north shore of Long Island Sound and were at last beaten and driven back to East Hampton for protection. After 1700 the tribe died out rapidly and by 1845 they were reduced to three or four families consisting of less than a dozen persons.

The last so-called "Chief of the Montauks", David Pharaoh, died in 1879 and the once great Montauk tribe was officially declared extinct in 1885. At present the Pharaoh and Fowler families, consisting of eight or nine persons, are all that survive. Pocahontas Pharaoh, a full-blooded Indian and the only surviving descendant of King David Pharaoh, does excellent beadwork and specimens of her handiwork may be seen in the historical collection in Clinton Hall at East Hampton.

Strictly speaking, there was no such tribe as Poosepatuck, which was a place name applied to a locality near Montauk where the Unkechaugs lived. This tribe was also known as Patchogue, but that also was a place name. The Poosepatuck Reservation has long been a bone of contention and several efforts have been made by the State of New York to do away with it. In the course of the legal proceedings, it was claimed that seventy years of state education had been a failure and that missionary work ceased when the State took charge. In 1935 a legal move to oust the few remaining Indians from their reservation was opposed by Mr. Morton Pennypacker and the Reverend Earnest E. Eells, Presbyterian minister at East Hampton. All the inhabitants at this time were of mixed stock, the result of intermarriage with the colored race. When the writer visited the Reservation a few years ago, the inhabitants were few in number; they were all largely tinged with negro blood; their dwellings were mere shacks or cabins in dilapidated condition and the entire place had a poverty stricken appearance. "Aunt" Martha Mayne, who died in 1933 at the advanced age of ninety-eight, was probably the last surviving pure-blood. "Chief" Horace Ward claimed pure Indian blood and often represented his people in supporting their claims to the Reservation. Far from being located "almost opposite Huntington" the Unkechaugs lived on the south shore opposite Wading River which is nearly forty miles east of Huntington.

To sum up, the Indians as a race are practically extinct on Long Island; their industries are non-existent, and their admixture with negro blood is not complete. They have little or no recollection of their folklore and of their old habits and customs few have survived. In recent years,
whenever an effort has been made to revive
the celebration of June Meeting or to stage
a pow-wow the suggestion has originated, not
among the Indians, but rather among their
friends who desire to see some of the old
traditions preserved.

Shinnecock Hills, L. I.
October, 1945

Letter from Frank G. Speck

Dear Mr. Morice:

I would not want to take issue with
anyone over the question you raise and which
you have expressed yourself upon so firmly as
to write Mr. Byers and yet I cannot refuse
to discuss the matters which have been im-
portant enough to you to write Mr. Byers
and me about.

I have to expose myself to your criti-
cism at last perhaps in an unfavorable light
by devoting some attention to an attitude
that I, like most modern social-anthropolo-
gists, have long felt inwardly, and needed
expression when the mood became strong
enough to make one bolder than usual in ex-
pressing deep-seated convictions. It is, how-
ever, difficult for an ethnologist, who
sees peoples and cultures in the throes of
change, to make his case in definition of
such traits as folk-lore, industrial crafts,
dialect and folk-consciousness, clear to
another who is an historian or Indian
"primitivist", as many anthropologists have
been. Field studies of modern Indian groups
have for some time now been checked by the
attitudes of writers who have for some
reasons, mostly their own exclusiveness, de-
clared that this or that tribe has been ex-
tinct since "1805", "1828", "1880" and so
on, and that not a whit of folk-lore or cus-
tom exists in the group — perhaps modify-
ing it by "worthy of the name". This at-
titude is now as much out of date as the horse
and buggy and hoop skirt. If one means
folk-lore in the aboriginal character
(genesis, transformation, totemism, etc.) and
so defines it, then there is no question but
that most of the Indian groups from Quebec
to California and Oklahoma have lost it. But
if one means living tradition of spirits,
revenants, animal lore, quips, demons,
locality legends and so on in the series of
tall and short "stories" handed down in
rural communities, Indian and white and
black, all over the countryside of American,
then there is folk-lore in the accepted
sense and plenty of it, lively often, and
mythical (also snappy). It is in our atti-
itudes towards lore that we differ, I dis-
gem — the ethnologist, working over his
social forces, at work in acculturation, and
the historian, whose aim is "purism", con-
centrating on the antique properties of
tribes. Like Mead, Opler, Helsing, Kluck-
holm, Ashley-Montagu and the whole school
of culture-historians who don't stop with
pictures of tribal life of 1800-1870, I be-
long to the same class of thinkers and re-
searchers.

The Journal of American Folk-Lore
expresses this outlook, to cite one modern
organ of publication. Anthropology is
strongly turning that way. It would in-
deed be funny if one who states that the
Shinnecock in the 80's and 90's had no
folk-lore and traditions, were to spend
some weeks in a family of Indians in
Quebec who were hunters and trappers and
"found the same to be true in his eyes".
I have experienced this situation on sever-
al occasions, i.e. judging folk-lore as pure
creative lore, and not as the current tale
telling that one always finds when one be-
comes intimate enough with "Indians" (or
other groups) by eating, sleeping, playing,
grieving and busying in work with them.

In short, I must say I have lost all
patience with the old-fashioned habit of
pronouncing a people extinct, lost or bar-
en, when someone has noted "death of the
last full-blood". This has happened all
over the East, I must confess. The tribes
from Canada to Florida have been written
of as "mongrels", a hateful word as ap-
licable to Anglo-Saxons, Japs, Irish,
Scottish and Brahmin as to any tribes here.
I would as soon say that the "Jewish mon-
grels" have no folk-lore or tradition worthy
of the name because some ecclesiast said
once they were "lost tribes of Israel." We
all know better but we hold ourselves back.

If you look over my published Bibli-
ography, you will find that I too have been
a grosser offender of the senses of classi-
cal historists than G. Wester, of whom you
complain. I have recorded (extracted, if
one prefers the term) folk-lore, witch-lore,
herbal-lore, hunting-lore and all the lore
in varying amounts from tribes or local des-
cendants of Indians through Quebec, Ontario,
New England, the Middle and South Atlantic
States in almost a score of instances (for
example, Mohican, Wampanoag, Nauet, Nan-
ticoke, Powhatan, Catawba, Houma, etc.);
even Penobscot would be much like that to
one who only "visited" them to question on
their past. As living communities of folk
they are inexhaustible — as few would be-
lieve outside of those who live with them
as one of them for as long a term as pos-
sible.

So you see I am the most guilty one
you could name in pursuit of folk-traditions
For many years I have considered the possibility of surviving evidence of Indian trails, and have often thought of it while roaming the woods with a gun over my shoulder, hoping to discover somewhere some unquestionable trace of an ancient Indian trail.

During the summer of 1937 the wood was cut around the westerly side of the Paty cranberry bog at the south end of Cooks Pond. With this hillside demed of trees a straight line became visible stretching horizontally along the steep side of the hill coming to a stop at the edge of a large sand bank and appearing again on the opposite edge. This line was first noticed

**OLD AGAWAM PATH**

Adrian P. Whiting
MAP OF A PART OF THE TOWN OF PLYMOUTH, SHOWING THE LOCATION OF THE OLD AGAWAM PATH.

MAP OF A MILE AND A HALF TRACT OF PLYMOUTH, MASS., IN 1701.
from a fire tower about a half a mile away, and upon going over to the locality it was found to be a well worn path several inches deep and about two feet wide, running for fully fifty yards along the steep hillside until it came to nearly level land and became indistinguishable. No plausible reason came to mind which would cause white men to travel in this particular locality over the same course for a sufficient length of time to cause such a path to be worn. Therefore, the only conclusion to be drawn, was that the moccasin-shod feet of Indians wore the path; my wish of many years seemed to be coming true.

I seemed to have in mind a recollection of reading somewhere about the Agawam Path running past Cooke Pond, which if true, would certainly substantiate my supposition. At the next opportunity this was investigated. I finally found in "Plymouth Records" Volume Two, on page thirty-two, the following description of a grant of land. It was written as follows, except for the capitalization of the pertinent facts and one question mark.

"The 40 Acres of upland which was Granted to Josiah Cooke in ye year 1637 Lying close to Agawam Path between four ponds was laid out by us the Subscribers on ye 14th of March 1709-10 and is bounded as followeth beginning at a Red Oak marked on 4 Sids and Thence to the pond Thence extending along by sd pond till it comes to the pond Thence extending along by sd pond till it comes to ye land laid out to Nathaniel Holmes Thence bounded by sd Holmes land to a Red oak marked on 4 sides and Thence southeasterly to ye bounds first mentioned".

James Warren
Nath Thomas
Surveyors

This information positively places the Agawam Path between the following ponds: Cooks Pond, Triangle Pond, Great South Pond and Little South Pond, and "close to" the piece of land covered by the quoted grant.

Reference to an ancient map of the "Mile and a Half Tract" will show that the Old Agawam Path separates from the Old Nemasket Path near town Brook just above Dark Orchard, which is now Poor House Pond, and travels in a southerly direction. If this line is extended as I have done on the comparatively recent map of Plymouth, it will be found to arrive at the hillside by the Patty bog, south of Cooks Pond. This seems to constitute positive proof that the discovery of a section of the Old Agawam Path is authentic.

Probably most of the Indian trails became obliterated when the white men laid out their roads, as they would naturally follow any existing Indian trails whenever expedient.

Plymouth, Mass.
July 1944

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**ERNEST S. CLARK**

It is with profound regret that we mark the passing of our fellow member and friend, Ernest S. Clark, of Marion, Mass. Those of us who knew Ernie personally will miss his comradeship, his unselfish sharing of archaeological information, his quaint humor, and his cheerful disposition.

Deeply interested in the welfare of our Society and in the prehistory of his home town, he spent many hours and much effort in finding and recording facts pertinent to the study of the area and its ancient inhabitants.

He was pursuing this favorite task when stricken with an attack that proved fatal. Ernest passed away on Sunday, February 17, and was buried the following Wednesday.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to his daughters, who eulogized him. Marion will never seem the same again without Ernest Clark.

M.R.

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**W. J. HOWES**

On February 3, W. J. Howes, one of the founders of the Massachusetts Archaeological Society died in Holyoke at the age of eighty-one.

Since the formation of the Society in 1939, W. J. had served as First Vice-President. He had long been interested in the Indians of the Connecticut Valley. His primary concern was pottery, on which he had prepared a paper of considerable length. In recent years he worked with Mr. W. S. Fowler investigating soapstone quarries at Westfield and at Wilbraham.

He was a pre-eminent engineer and architect. He brought a careful attention to details, and a meticulous skill in drawing into play in his archaeological work.

The Society loses a loyal friend and a tireless worker; his community, an outstanding and public spirited citizen.