

-CNEA STEERING COMMITTEE 1990 - 1991

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COVER: Felsite PaleoIndian Preform The South Wind Site, North Kingstown, Rhode Island (see article, page 7) illustration by Alan Leveillee Conference on New England Archaeology NEWSLETTER Vol. 9, No. 2 April 1990

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CONFERENCE ON NEW ENGLAND ARCHAEOLOGY _____1990 ANNUAL MEETING_____ SATURDAY MAY 12, 1990

The 1990 meeting of the Conference on New England Archaeology will be held at the Conference Center Meeting Hall, Old Sturbridge Village, Sturbridge, Massachusetts.

Registration and Coffee from 8:45 - 9:30



PROGRAM OF SPEAKERS Each paper will be followed by a 10-minute question and answer period.

9:30 - 9:45 INTRODUCTION Stephen A. Mrozowski, Department of Anthropology, University of Massachusetts, Boston

9:45 - 10:05 THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF MARGINALITY Richard Gould, Department of Anthropology, Brown University 10:15 - 10:35 CENTERING Dena Dincauze, Department of Anthropology, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

10:45 - 11:05 PERCEPTIONS OF MARGINALITY: THE CASE OF THE EARLY HOLOCENE IN NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND Brian Robinson & James Peterson, Archaeology Research Center, University of Maine, Farmington

> 11:15 - 11:35 ON THE MARGINS OF HISTORY Constance A. Crosby, Department of Anthropology, University of California, Berkley

11:45 - 12:00 CNEA BUSINESS MEETING

12:00 - 1:30 LUNCH

1:30 - 1:50 MARGINALITY AND A MIDDLESEX YEOMAN: THE JOHN PEIRCE HOMESTEAD Marsha K. King, The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc

2:00 - 2:20 THE LIGHTHOUSE VILLAGE: A SETTLEMENT OF OUTCASTS IN NORTHWESTERN CONNECTICUT Kenneth L. Feder, Department of Anthropology, Central Connecticut State University

2:30 - 4:00 WORKSHOPS

"Social and Economic Margins: Structuring Archaeological Research"

"Marginal Environments: Structuring Archaeological Research"



CONTRIBUTED PAPER

THE FACES AND PLACES OF MARGINALITY by Stephen A. Mrozowski Department of Anthropology University of Massachusetts Boston, Massachusetts

How does one measure the value of a concept? One way is to ask how resilient it has been or how well it has served the needs of a discipline. By either yardstick, marginality has proven its worth. This years Conference on New England Archaeology will explore some of the ways archaeologists are currently employing the idea of marginality in their work. As a prelude I would like to offer some observations concerning marginality as an abstraction and then provide some examples of how the concept has been used. I will then pose some questions which will hopefully stimulate discussion of the issue.

Each of us, I believe, has a very real idea in our minds of what marginality connotes, of what the faces and places of marginality look like. But are these the faces and places of New England? To begin with, marginality is a relative concept predicated on the existence of the nonmarginal. Attempts at definition beg the same question that so inspired jazz great Les McCann to ask "Try to make it real compared to what". In many cases the "what" is a core area which forms the center of a geopolitical sphere of influence. In others, marginality is defined with reference to an environment more suitable for a major subsistence pursuit like agriculture. Because of the relative nature of the concept and the ambiguities surrounding its use, there are questions which remain unanswered. For example, are margins and peripheries the same thing? Dincauze and Hasenstab (1989:75-76) feel they are different and provide some interesting reasons for making this distinction. Is environmental marginality an important consideration if it cannot be shown to influence behavior or result in economic marginality? Has New England always been, sometimes been, or never been, an environmentally, economically or politically marginal region? It would be difficult to find many areas of the earth that could not be classified as marginal at least at some point in their history. And yet the concept of marginality has been shown to have research value in spite of its relative nature. By reviewing some examples of how marginality has been used we may be able to better understand both its strengths and limitations as a concept.

There are numerous examples to illustrate how marginality has played a role in anthropological research. One of the most common themes involves groups living in what are classified as marginal environments. One example that I found useful for my own research in New England comes from northern Finland where agriculture was introduced after World War II. These northern Finnish communities practice agriculture in the area of the Arctic Circle (Talman 1978; Mead 1976; Varjo 1977). These farmers have relied upon newly-developed strains of grasses which can survive the short growing season, as fodder for dairy cows, their primary source of income (Talman 1978). In an instance like this, environmentally limiting factors have played a part in shaping the agricultural development of this part of Finland. Therefore, the environmental marginality of the region has been an important variable to consider when studying its development (Talman 1978; Mead 1976; Varjo 1977).

For the New England archaeologist working in agriculturally marginal areas, the Finnish experience offers an opportunity for comparison. Much like New England during the nineteenth century, Finland has been feeling the effects of industrialization over the past generation. Part of the pressure being felt in the agricultural north is the loss of children to the industrial urban centers in the south and in Sweden (Talman 1978). While individual variables, like the draw of better land in the west and ecological instability, have been considered as forces behind the depopulation of northern New England hill communities, the Finnish example provides archaeologists with a more complete picture of the variety of forces which can affect farm abandonment (e.g. Gould 1987).

As noted above, it seems difficult to consider marginality without thinking of core/periphery models, a central theme of New England archaeology for the last decade. Due in part to its adoption by the Massachusetts Historical Commission (1979), archaeologists working in the Commonwealth have become accustomed to conducting their research in a core/periphery framework. Assuming for the moment that margins and peripheries share some affinity, lets look at how core/periphery models have been used.

In historical archaeology, Paynter's (1982) work stands out as an example of how core/periphery models can be employed. In looking at how spatial organization can lead to the stratified societies, Paynter describes core and peripheral areas with respect to the accumulation of surplus:

"Core areas and peripheral areas... are by no means discrete wellbounded entities. Because distance is continuous, and because surplus has to be distributed, the process of accumulation is better considered a spatial gradient. One extreme, the core, is dominated by the accumulation of surplus, whereas the other, the periphery, is dominated by by extraction." (1982:43; see also Wallerstein 1979:18-21)

As someone whose primary focus is urban archaeology it seems only logical that I would view these cores as urban centers and the periphery as the rural hinterlands. This carries with it, however, assumptions which may not always be supported by empirical data. For one thing, there is a tendency to see the urban centers as being controlling forces in the lives of those in the rural hinterland. Wallerstein (1974:119-120) for example, notes that during the Middle Ages towns sought control of their own markets by limiting outside competition for goods produced in the hinterlands or what Dobb (1946:95) referred to as "urban colonialism". The trade off for the farmers in the countryside was the acceptance of lower prices in return for a steady, reliable market for their goods. This same approach was taken in the sixteenth century by English merchants with urban craftsmen (Dobb 1946:128) and later still, England with her colonies in Ireland and North America (Dobb 1946:206). In all these instances a core area or group of core individuals are using their positions to exploit marginal areas and, in some cases, marginal groups. Intertwined in all three examples, however, is the image of rural hinterland, urban craftsman and colonial periphery as passively accepting the situation, something which was not always true (e.g. Johnson 1982; Schmidt and Mrozowski 1988).

Another issue pertaining to peripheral communities concerns what they supplied to core areas. Wallerstien (1974:20) notes for example that prior to the emergence of the European world economy during the sixteenth century, most long distance trade involved luxury goods and was dependent upon the wealthy. Historical archaeologists working in New England need to remain cognizant of this facet of long distance trade when borrowing models from those working in preindustrial European contexts. It was only during the period of colonization that a shift in the character of long distance trade took place and bulk goods became the focus. Luxury goods remained an important part of the trade, but it was primarily for the urban elite and in some cases often involved smuggled items (Schmidt and Mrozowski 1988). The point is simply that although core/periphery models are useful they are, like most models, not meant to mirror an often more complex reality. This does not lessen their utility, but it serves as a reminder that all abstractions are subject to contextual variability.

Core periphery models, although developed by western geographers based on the study of western society have, nevertheless, proven useful in the examination of prehistoric and protohistoric Native American society. Dincauze and Hasenstab (1989) for example, present a persuasive and interesting argument for viewing Iroquoian "cultural uniqueness" as due in part to their geographical position on the margins of the Cahokian sphere of influence, Cahokia being the core. One of the more thought-provoking observations made in the paper is the identification of Iroquoia as a margin of the Cahokian core in contrast to the peripheral communities along the Ohio River (Dincauze and Hasenstab 1989:75-76). Their primary justification for this distinction is the "absence of elites, and to a buffered involvement, if any, in the exchange network at that time" (AD 1200-1400). This distinction between margins and peripheries, as noted above, is a significant one for New England specialists and is therefore a question worth pursing further.

One possible place to start would be to demonstrate whether peripheries and margins share different degrees of influence, and then to ask how that influence manifests itself. If people living in prehistoric New England had control over their participation in a Cahokia-centered exchange network it would constitute a very different kind of relationship than those areas where participation was coerced. If, on the other hand, New England was being directly influenced to the point where the local economy was being dictated by core or periphery pressure, than this level of involvement would warrant something more than marginal status.

In the examples discussed above, concepts of marginality have been evoked to describe particular environments, geopolitical relationships, or commercial relations. How shall marginal

groups be defined? While on the surface this might appear to be a simple task, there are assumptions which such perceptions carry that can be misleading. Is the material culture of a marginal group always going to differ from the more affluent group? If so, how will it differ. When Deetz (1977:18) discovered ceramics at Parting Ways, which appeared to be earlier than the African-American occupation, his interpretation of these as old items given to the slaves by their former masters (1977:147) was in keeping with the economic marginality assumed for such a group. However recent investigations at Parting Ways, conducted as part of a University of massachusetts, Boston field school, have clearly isolated the earlier material in a stratigraphic level attributable to an earlier, white occupation of the site. Deetz's interpretation has proved less sensitive to this expression of marginality than to the discovery that the architecture at Parting Ways has West African affinities (1977: 149-153). The cultural marginality of the group is being expressed through architecture. In fact Piersen (1988:99) has suggested that small communities like Parting Ways were established as a way of maintaining cultural values which were poorly understood by whites. Here would be an example of a group choosing to live under marginal conditions to preserve their way of life.

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It should come as little surprise that groups viewed as marginal by some, would have a different perception of themselves. In Lowell, for example, material culture served as an expression of working class culture. It would appear that conscious choices were being made to smoke short-stemmed clay pipes, not because they were all the workers could afford, but because they viewed them as an expression of their status as workers (Cook 1989). Although the personal items of tenement families were often found to be low-cost imitations of more expensive jewelry (Ziesing 1989:168), no such pattern was uncovered in smoking equipment. Here, like at Parting Ways, a marginal group made choices to preserve an expression of their cultural values.

In the examples which have been discussed marginality has either implicitly or explicitly played a role in the interpretation of archaeological data. For the archaeologist working in New England there remain other questions. If margins can only be understood with reference to a core area, can accurate interpretation consider only local variables? Another question involves how groups viewed as marginal by the mainstream define themselves. At Parting Ways and Lowell, examples have been uncovered which point to the importance of material culture in group expression. These questions and more surround the exploration of the marginal. In May, we can all sit back and hear the answers.

CURRENT RESEARCH.

PREHISTORIC SETTLEMENT PATTERNS COASTAL RHODE ISLAND

A PaleoIndian Presence on Calf Neck,

North Kingstown, Rhode Island contributed by Alan Leveillee, PAL, Inc.

Mill Creek is, today, a relatively unimpressive, somewhat polluted, element of the nearby Wickford Cove which, in turn, is related to the larger Narragansett Bay. The shores along the Bay have been the object of considerable archaeological scrutiny. Among the many prehistoric sites identified in this context is South Wind, a small, multicomponent site recently investigated at the data recovery level. South Wind is situated along tidal Mill Creek just north of Wickford Harbor. It, like others in this environ, will soon be impacted by residential development. It was the planned development which

resulted in the initial discovery and subsequent data recovery excavations on South Wind.

During the 1987 site examination of South Wind the recovery of a bifurcate based projectile point (figure 1) at a depth of 40-50 cm below ground surface quickened my heart rate and started Early Archaic wheels spinning in my head. However, by the close of the site examination level fieldwork and analysis the Attleboro red felsite bifurcate stood alone, otherwise unsupported as representing a component of early remporal affiliation on a predominantly Late Woodland site. It did become one consideration in recommending the data recovery program, a small glowing ember of sorts.



As the data recovery program continued on South Wind, and the nearby, larger Hoskins Park site, it appeared that no additional indications of an occupation earlier than the Late Archaic existed on either site. During the

FIGURE 1 Attleboro Red Felsite Bifurcate Projectile Point from the South Wind Site

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excavation of unit #5, a 2M X 2M pit in the northern section of the site, two biface fragments were recovered. One fragment between 30-35cm, the other from 35-40cm below the surface (illustration on front cover). At the time of excavation they were noted as hornfels biface fragments, possibly Fox Creek, which, sight unseen, appeared to me to make sense considering

the other Woodland materials from the site. During closer inspection in the laboratory, I noted that the biface fragments fit together and differed substantially from Fox Creek preforms. The material was not homfels, but highly patinated felsite, visually identical to Mattapan volcanics we see in the Neponset River Drainage. In longitudinal cross section the biface is slightly concave-convex retaining evidence of a ventral surface with a step fracture termination hinge on the remnant distal end. It is thin, almost delicate, with a maximum thickness of 56 mm. It is 6.58 cm long and 3.03 cm wide. The artifact appears to have been broken during manufacture (and now displays matching degrees of patination of alternate surfaces). Particular attention was paid to thinning the blade with long flakes perpendicular to the medial axis with several scars extending across the entire blade. The proximal blade end was worked to produce a nearly finished base. The base is fluted on both sides. Grinding is evident in one area of the base. These observations lead me to conclude that we are dealing with something other than Fox Creek. I sent several photographs of the biface to colleagues here in New England and let them know that I suspected it was a Late Paleo projectile point preform. Positive responses reinforced my opinion. I was convinced when, upon seeing it, Fred Carty indicated it was identical to preforms recovered from the Neponset PaleoIndian site in Canton, Mass.

Realizing that by my own definition (within the context of the data recovery) a single point could not represent a component, I went back to the other materials from the unit. In that felsite debitage (9 flakes) was recovered in association I believe the artifact was being made, and consequently represents a Paleo presence, on the site. I must point out up front that fate, being what it is, saw fit to have twentieth century kids put a campfire over this particular Paleo deposit. So we not only have the faint trace of ca. 9000 year old material culture, but the distinct imprint of glass, metal and new charcoal above and into the early deposits. I am encouraged however, that a PaleoIndian presence is on the site and, with the cooperation of the landowner, hope to get back to it. I'll let you know.

Recent Investigations in the Sakonnet River Drainage Portsmouth, Rhode Island contributed by Denise Mowchan

A data recovery program at the Eastover Site in Portsmouth, Rhode Island was completed last season under the supervision of Denise Mowchan and Ann Davin. The Middle Archaic component of this site, which was occupied intermittently between the Early Archaic and Late Woodland periods, was the target of these investigations. Cataloging and analysis of lithic and faunal material as well as flotation are currently in progress. Research questions that will be addressed following this analysis center on the relationship between the human occupation of this site and the resources available within the Sakonnet River Drainage over time.

HISTORIC AND PREHISTORIC SETTLEMENT IN THE MINUTEMAN NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK

Continuing Research at the Minute Man National Historic Park contributed by Alan Synenki, Cultural Resource Center, National Park Service, Boston

Two volumes of the inter-disciplinary investigations of Minute Man National Historical Park, located within the towns of Concord, Lincoln, and Lexington, Massachusetts, are being completed under the direction of Alan Synenki of the Archaeology Branch, Cultural Resource Center of the National Park Service in Boston. Editorial assistance is provided by Grace Zwising along with Kurt Faust.

Volume 1 focuses on eight historic-period farmsteads and industrial/artisan sites that date from the mid-17th century to the mid-19th century, including a blacksmith shop, a hop house, and a tanyard. Interdisciplinary research on the eight farmsteads and industrial/artisan sites consisted of documentary research conducted by Joyce Malcolm (Bentley College) and Martha Holland (UMass-Boston), archaeological investigations by NPS archaeologists Jeannine Disviscour, Alison Dwyer, Nora Sheehan, and Alan Synenki, palynological analyses by NPS palynologist Gerald Kelso, and phytolyth analyses by William Fischer. While the results of the research at each of the sites yield important Park-specific management and interpretive information, the results also provide some insight into broader regional issues such as rural participation in the industrial process, and the transformation to agricultural capitalism.

Volume 2 concerns the prehistoric resources within the Park. Archaeological investigations for prehistoric sites are currently being conducted under contract by the NPS to The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.. Principle investigators for PAL, Inc. are Duncan Ritchie and Marsha King. While the primary goal of PAL's work is to statistically estimate the number and kinds of prehistoric sites within selected Park areas, the results also should provide some further insight about prehistoric land use and settlement in the Sudbury/Concord/Assabet River Drainage System in eastern Massachusetts.

CURRENT RESEARCH IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

An Overview of Current Research and Preservation

in the State of New Hampshire, Organized by Topic contributed by Gary Hume, Richard Boisvert, Parker Potter, Wesley Stinson, and Duncan Wilkie, New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources, Archaeology Bureau,

THE DRAKE SITE

The most important piece of archaeological preservation in New Hampshire for many years is the state's acquisition of the Drake Site (27 BK 16) in Belmont, which was finalized in February 1990. With funding from the Land Conservation Investment Program and an impressive array of other donors, the Trust for New Hampshire Lands exercised its option to purchase the fourteen-acre property, which contains activity areas representing most periods of prehistoric occupation in New Hampshire. Furthermore, Drake is a key location in the larger, National Register listed Lochmere Archaeological District. Ultimately, the Drake Site will become a part of the New Hampshire State Park System, and will be used for a variety of purposes including research, education, and interpretation.

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The State Conservation and Rescue Archaeology Program has been redefined and continues to operate as a public participation program throughout the state. Now operating directly through the SHPO office, SCRAP has been involved in numerous projects over the past two and a half years. These include survey, testing and excavations in the town of Merimack, extensive testing and excavation at the Drake site, survey and testing in Milford, Brookline and Amherst as part of the <u>Souhegan River Research Project</u> directed by Wesley Stinson. The excavations at the Merrimack sites have resulted in the discovery of a small undisturbed Paleo-Indian site. These investigations have provided at least temporary protection of some sites from development. Preliminary results of the Paleo-Indian site excavations will be published in the near future.

Additional testing and mapping are planned for Merrimack and survey and testing are scheduled for this fall for the Webster and Boscawen areas as a result of collections work conducted this winter by Richard Boisvert and Wesley Stinson. The Webster survey and testing will be particularly interesting as a small area appears to have produced evidence of occupation for all periods dating from Paleo-Indian through Contact.

Survey and testing projects are possible in Keene, Claremont, North Stratford and Nashua areas this summer. Contact Wesley Stinson for information about these projects.

CONWAY/OSSIPEE

During the 1988 and 1989 field seasons, Richard Boisvert performed testing and excavation in the Conway/Ossipee area, as a part of the DHR, Plymouth State College field school in prehistoric archaeology. Preliminary analysis indicates a late prehistoric/contact presence on the Saco River floodplain and an intensive lithic workshop site complex on a tributary to Ossipee Lake. Analysis of the workshop complex, which appears to be Late Archaic, is ongoing and will be articulated with previous research on similar sites in Tamworth, NH.

NORTH COUNTRY HISTORICAL AND INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY

Duncan Wilkie, who is employed jointly by the DHR and Plymouth State College, conducted reconnaissance surveys in 1989 in three principal areas of northern New Hampshire: 1) the Cockermouth River drainage around Groton; 2) the Newfound drainage from Bristol to Newfound Lake; and 3) the main stem of the Pemigewassett River from Franklin north to Plymouth. A representative sample of 67 sites was inventoried from all major ecological zones in which the early industries of New Hampshire developed - upland drainages, major tributaries, and a major river. The recorded sites include upland and riverside farmsteads, virtually all types of mills and factories, and, along the major streams, small industrial/urban "nodes.

HISTORIC CONTEXTS

In the area of preservation planning for archaeological properties, the DHR has produced several new planning documents. In 1989, Parker Potter and David Switzer of the Institute for New Hampshire Studies at Plymouth State College drafted a historic context for shipwrecks in New Hampshire waters. The "historic context" is the central preservation planning document recognized by the National Park Service. Organized by time, place, and theme, historic context statements detail known and expected property types, resource evaluation criteria, and also identify data gaps and list preservation goals and priorities - which can include plans for future research. In addition to the shipwreck context, Richard Boisvert has drafted the key prehistoric historic context is supplemented by another planning document, by Boisvert and Potter which sets up the framework for all of New hampshire;s prehistoric historic contexts. Copies of any of these Technical Papers in Historic Preservation are available from the NH Division of Historical Resources.

NEW HAMPSHIRE/QUEBEC CULTURAL EXCHANGE

As part of a new cultural exchange program linking New Hampshire and Quebec, the DHR expects to begin background work for the eventual investigation of a contact period site located along Hall's Stream, in the northernmost part of New Hampshire, an area once known as the Republic of Indian Stream.

The Archaeology Bureau of the Division of Historical Resources also has on the 1990 agenda the following projects:

LAKES REGION RESEARCH

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1990 will be the first year of Richard Boisvert's Lakes Region P{roject, which will be run in part as the DHR/Plymouth State field school in prehistoric archaeology, and also as an ongoing project of SCRAP, the State Conservation and Rescue Archaeology Program, the DHR's avocational training and certification program. Boisvert's survey and excavation work will be centered on Stonedam Island in Lake Winnipesaukee, and will focus on lakeside habitation sites.

PIKE STREAM SAW MILL COMPLEX

A major excavation will be conducted this summer at a saw mill complex situated in the Newfound Lake Region and sculptured Rocks Natural Area. Directed by Duncan Wilkie, this project is intended for training students enrolled in the Heritage Studies Program, a cooperative effort of the DHR and Plymouth State College, and volunteers in SCRAP. The 1855 mill complex features a millwright's residence, canal, boiler area, central mill, and several associated structures. The site will be fully documented and nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT

The National Park Service

Archaeological Collections Management Project (ACMP) contributed by Linda A. Towle, Cultural Resource Center, National Park Service, Boston

The purpose of this on-going project is to catalog to National Park Service standards, the backlog of archaeological collections at parks in this Region. In the past 6 months, the ACMP staff, under the direction of Linda Towle, has completed cataloguing the archaeological collections at the Martin Van Buren National Historic Site in Kinderhook, New York, Woman's Rights National Historic Site in Seneca Falls, New York, and Fort Stanwix National Historic Site in Rome, New York.

These collections varied in size from 25,000 artifacts from Woman's Rights, 30,000 from Van Buren, to 254,000 from Fort Stanwix. The associated field documentation was also cataloged for each of these collections. The Fort Stanwix collection was cataloged by The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc., and Timelines, Inc., under contract to the National Park Service.

Collection management reports are currently being written for several archaeological collections. Darcie A. MacMahon is drafting the report for the Adams Birthplaces National Historic Site in Quincy, MA. Louis DeCesare is drafting the reports for the Sagamore Hill National Historic Site in Oyster Bay, NY, the Springfield Armory National Historic Site in Springfield, MA, and the Woman's Right site. Maria Capozzi is preparing the report for the Van Buren site.

Two archaeological collections from the Cape Cod Naitonal Seashore are currently being cataloged by the ACMP. These collections include the Great Island Tavern site artifacts, which were excavated under Jim Deetz's direction in 1969-70. Natalie Liberace, Martine Walker and Tom Schley are working on this collection under Maria Capozzi's supervision.

The second Cape Cod collection was generated during the NPS park-wide survey from 1979-85. During this survey, approximately 180 sites were located. A substantial body of field and laboratory records, in addition to nearly 500 boxes of prehistoric and historic artifacts, were generated. Alison Dwyer, who worked on the Cape Cod Survey project, is working on developing and documenting the most efficient method for cataloging these materials to NPS standards.

PETROLOGIC ANALYSIS

Ongoing Research of Prehistoric Lithic Source Areas contributed by Duncan Ritchie, PAL, Inc.

Duncan Ritchie (The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.) and O. Don Hermes (University of Rhode Island, Geology Department) have recently been investigating the use of geochemical (x-ray fluorescence) and petrologic analyses (thin sections) to characterize volcanic rock samples from three major source areas (Blue Hills, Lynn and Mattapan Volcanic Complexes) in and around the Boston Basin province. Results to date indicate that some volcanics (Blue Hill rhyolite) have both distinct geochemical and physical characteristics while others (sections of the Lynn and Mattapan Volcanic Complexes) have similar geochemistry and different visual characteristics. Further investigation of these similarities and differences is expected to provide criteria that can be used to more accurately identify the probable sources of volcanic materials found in prehistoric sites.

It appears that significant amounts of volcanic materials from sources in the Boston Basin area were transported across eastern/central Massachusetts and Rhode Island during the Late/Terminal Archaic Periods. As a first step in reconstructing this pattern of lithic resource use, samples of felsite chipping debris from Late/Terminal Archaic components on two sites in the Sudbury River drainage (Susquehanna Tradition) and upper Narragansett Bay (Orient/Coburn Complex) areas of Massachusetts and Rhode Island were analyzed with x-ray fluorescence to determine their probable source. This analysis confirmed the results of initial visual identification which suggested that these felsites were derived from sections of the Lynn and Mattapan Volcanic Complexes.

Additional investigation into the use of geochemical and petrological data in conjunction with visual macroscopic criteria to source volcanic materials is planned.

PALYNOLOGICAL STUDIES

A Plan to Restore Native Vegetation

at Fort Necessity in southwestern Pennsylvania contributed by Alan Synenki, Cultural Resource Center, National Park Service, Boston

Gerald Kelso of the North Atlantic Cultural Resource Center, National Park Service, Boston, MA, is investigating the location of the 1754 (battle era) forest/meadow interface at George Washington's Fort Necessity in southwestern Pennsylvania through pollen analysis. The land was cleared for pasture in the mid-19th century, and the Park Service intends to restore the native vegetation by the 300th anniversary of the battle. A clear record of original forest, landclearance and 19th and 20th century pasture has been recovered. The preliminary data have established the existence of a previously unrecorded band of alders between the hardwood forest and the meadow proper. Current efforts are focused on establishing the palynological signatures of all plant communities on the park property so that accurate maps of the French and Indian War vegetation may be drawn from the pollen data.

RECENTLY RECEIVED RADIOCARBON DATES_

From Middleboro, Massachusetts...

Date: 790 ± 65 B.P. (corrected for C-13)

Laboratory: Beta Analytic Lab number: Beta 32326

Institution responsible for the excavation: Bridgewater State College

Principal Investigator(s): Curtiss Hoffman

Name of Site: Wankinguoah - Read Co. Locus

Town: Middleboro U.S.G.S. Quad: Snipatuit Pond State: MA

Sample (charcoal, shell, bone, etc.): Charcoal

Describe feature or object that was dated:

Quartz flaking station; small scatter of charcoal was under and around debitage and anvil stones.

Diagnostic artifacts (temporal or cultural) directly associated with the date:

1 quartz hammerstone, 1 (or more) granite anvils, 1 argillite core, 1 quartz preform, 3 casual tools of quartz, and 210 flakes of quartz at all stages of reduction from large cobble to shatter, from within a single 1-meter unit.

Bibliographic references:

C. Hoffman 1990 <u>Wankinguoah Business Park Archaeological Intensive</u> <u>Survey, Revised Final Report</u> on file at MHC From Raynham, Massachusetts ...

Dates: 8430 ±170 B.P. and 8480 ±140 B.P.

Laboratory: Beta Analytic Lab number: Beta 35400 and 33410

Institution responsible for the excavation: The Public Archaeology Lab., Inc.

Principal Investigator(s): Deborah Cox

Name of Site: The Bassett Knoll site

Town: Raynham U.S.G.S. Quad: Taunton State: MA

Sample (charcoal, shell, bone, etc.): Charcoal

Describe feature or object that was dated:

A deep pit feature extending from 88 to 120 cm below the ground surface, filled with charcoal.

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Diagnostic artifacts (temporal or cultural) directly associated with the date:

None

Bibliographic references:

Unpublished Management Memorandum for the Data Recovery Program, Bassett Knoll Estates, Raynham, MA, The Public Archaeology Laboratory, I Inc. files. Report in Progress. From Hingham, Massachusetts ...

Barbara Luedtke (University of Massachusetts, Boston) has received several radiocarbon dates from sites at World's End in Hingham, MA. Two are from small middens that did not produce diagnostic artifacts. The first (GX-15662) is from the Boardwalk site (19 PL 569), and is 895 ± 70 radiocarbon years BP (C-13 corrected). The second (GX-15663) is from the Boulder Cove site (19 PL 570) and is 655 ± 80 radiocarbon years BP (C-13 corrected) Both dates are on soft shell clam and neither has been corrected for the marine reservoir effect, which usually adds one to two hundred radiocarbon years to shell dates from Boston Harbor. These dates suggest regular exploitation of coastal resources by small task-specific groups during the Late Woodland, a pattern that is not apparent for earlier periods at World's End.

The third date (GX-15664) is on charcoal found associated with a kernel of maize and with cordwrapped stick impressed shell-tempered pottery in a pit at the World's End site (19 PL 267), and it is 765 ± 70 radiocarbon years BP (C-13 corrected). This is the third site in Boston Harbor at which prehistoric maize has been found thus far. At HL-6, (19 NF 5) a single kernel was found in a level overlying a feature that produced a charcoal date of 1000 + 125 radiocarbon years BP (GX-3649, C-13 corrected). Several kernels were also found at the Calf Island site (19 SU 8) and the average of several dates available now for that site is 600 radiocarbon years BP. Given the usual scarcity of maize remains at prehistoric sites in the Northeast, it would seem that maize horticulture must have been relatively common in the Boston Harbor area during the later part of the Late Woodland period.

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CONFERENCE ON NEW ENGLAND ARCHAEOLOGY

Please submit a brief paragraph on your current New England Archaeological research for inclusion in the next CNEA Newsletter. Also submit any new bibliographic titles for books, articles, reports, etc. in <u>American Antiquity</u> format. Thank you.

Please return by October 1, 1990 to:

Mary Lynne Rainey The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. 387 Lonsdale Avenue Pawtucket, RI 02860

or to your local CNEA Steering Committee representative. If possible send your contribution on a computer diskette (with paper copy) using a Macintosh application or an ASCE file format. Please specify the computer model and word processor operating system used to create your file. Your diskette will be returned to you. Begin by stating your research topic, research questions, and how your data are used to answer your research questions.

NAME:

INSTITUTION:

MAILING ADDRESS:

BIBLIOGRAPHIC ENTRY:

RESEARCH TOPIC:

C-14 DATES (See page 35)

PLEASE MAIL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

| REQUEST FOR RADIOCARBON DATES |
|---|
| Please report C14 dates as fully as possible. |
| Date: +/- B.P. |
| Laboratory: Lab number: |
| Institution responsible for the excavation: |
| Principal Investigator(s): |
| Name of Site: |
| Town: U.S.G.S. Quad: State: |
| Sample (charcoal, shell, bone, etc.): |
| Describe feature or object that was dated: |
| |
| Diagnostic artifacts (temporal or cultural) <u>directly</u> associated with the date: |
| Bibliographic references: |
| |

GENERAL _ ANNOUNCEMENTS_

ROGER WILLIAMS PARK MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND COLLECTIONS AND UPCOMING EXHIBIT

The archaeological and ethnological collections at the Roger Williams Park Museum of Natural History, Providence, Rhode Island, are currently being inventoried, reorganized and curated to meet modern standards. This museum currently houses ethnological collections primarily from North America, the Pacific, Eurasia, and Africa. The Archaeological materials collected from Rhode Island alone number over 5,000 artifacts. While inventorying is still in progress, it can be stated that most of the archaeological collections at the museum are from New England and New York, but all of the Northeastern States as well as Eastern Canada are also well represented. Both the archaeological and ethnological collections are available for scholarly use.

If you are interested in viewing the collections, please contact:

Denise Mowchan Roger Williams Park Museum of Natural History Providence, Rhode Island 02906 401-785-9450, extension 46

Also, as part of the renovations underway at the Roger Williams Park Museum, a new exhibit gallery is being constructed. The exhibit, tentatively titled "Narragansett Bay Worlds", will include several sections on the past and present human use of the Bay. The prehistory of Native Americans within the Narragansett Bay Drainage will be interpreted through the archaeological collections at the museum. A reconstructed shell midden will also be part of this permanent exhibit, which is scheduled to open in the Fall of 1990. As the fall draws near, a specific opening date will be advertised.

THE PETER F. THORBAHN MEMORIAL LIBRARY

In 1989, The Peter F. Thorbahn Memorial Library was created to aid students in their study of Historical Archaeology at the University of Massachusetts, Boston. This gift was contributed by Peter's wife Barbara and serves as an in-house library for the graduate program. If any CNEA members have books, reports, or offprints dealing with history, anthropology, ecology or archaeology, especially historical archaeology that they would like to contribute to this library either contact Steve Mrozowski at University of Massachusetts, Boston, or bring them to the May 12th CNEA Meeting.

CNEA NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION POLICY-

The purpose of the CNEA newsletter is to strengthen communication and facilitate a continuous interchange among archaeologists who work in New England.

To this end researchers are encouraged to submit short abstracts on their current research by topic or region, bibliography, and radiocarbon dates.

One volume of the newsletter will also include a position paper which is solicited by the steering committee addressing the annual meeting topic. Any other submitted papers will be reviewed by the steering committee prior to their inclusion in the newsletter.