

## THE WASHINGTON



## ARCHAEOLOGIST

NEXT MEETING

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March 12, 1958

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8:00 P.M.

Walker-Ames Room, 3rd Floor Parrington Hall, University of Washington Campus

The March meeting will be devoted to a SYMPOSIUM ON THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF SITE 45KT6. This discussion, which has been planned for several months, will synthesize current knowledge from the excavations and laboratory sessions which resulted in the recently published Preliminary Report. Taking part in the symposium are: Mr. Charles Nelson who will present an illustrated discussion of the site and the geographical situation; Dr. William Massey who will discuss the artifacts and their archaeological significance; Mr. James Garner who will outline the cultural position of this site and its materials. In a sense this presentation will mark the end of the preliminary study of this site and the beginning of the final research for publication of our first season on the Columbia River. Materials from 45KT6 will be on display.

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DR. JAMES B. WATSON, Chairman of the Department of Anthropology, spoke to the Society at the February meeting on Stone Age People of Highland New Guinea. Several years ago Dr. Watson was in the interior section of Western New Guinea making a study of these primitive people and their way of life.

Ranking second in size among the islands of the world, New Guinea is located south of the equator and to the north of Australia. The western part of this island is controlled by Holland while the eastern section is under Australian government. Approximately two and one-half to three million people live on New Guinea which was completely untouched by white man until about 1860. After this time there were small colonizations and trading points along the coast, but it was only in 1930 that any exploration of the interior portion was done. Here most of the people still live in the Stone Age raising small gardens and hunting.

Dr. Watson worked in a part of the highlands which was first seen by white men only twenty years ago. At that time Australian law forces and missionaries entered this section. Prior to their arrival the natives spent much of their time fighting with other tribes, but at the present time this activity is fairly well controlled by the law forces.



Bows and arrows are such an important part of the lives of these people that you would be able to find as many as a hundred different styles of arrows among them. They grow magnificent gardens which are carefully fenced to keep the wild pigs out. Sweet potatoes, taro, yams, sugar cane, corn and tobacco are the chief crops. Clothing is made from bark and often not sufficiently warm for the cool nights and rainy days. Rainfall in the area, which is 5500 feet high, is about two or three times as much as falls in Seattle.

The New Guinea natives vary in size from pygmy types to about five feet seven inches in height. In color they range from dark to fair. In addition to his talk, Dr. Watson showed us many lovely 35 mm. slides of the country and its people.

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#### DIG - DIG - DIG

#### CORNET BAY SITE MARCH 15-16

We need a good turnout of workers to get this site finished before we start a new one on the Columbia. Only five people turned out for the February dig. Let's make it at least twenty-five this time. Get out your camping gear, old clothes and trowels and we'll see you there next week end. If you need more information on how to get there or what to bring, call Lee Tracy, Activities Chairman, GL 1233.

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#### PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

This committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. Charles Heller, has been meeting to make plans and get ready a display which will be shown for the first time the week beginning April 14th in the National Bank of Commerce, 5th and Olive Street Branch. This display will include a miniature replica of a trench, photographs and maps and some of the artifacts from 45KT6. Working with Mr. Heller on this committee are: Dr. and Mrs. William Massey, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Nelson, Del Nordquist, Dick Gent, and Kathleen McKay.

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#### PRELIMINARY REPORT - SITE 45KT6

Copies of the Preliminary Report on Site 45KT6 will be available to all members of the Society at \$3.00 each. Included in the report are a set of photographs of the Site, the artifacts found and of some of the hard working diggers. Since we need to know how many more copies to make up, place your orders now.

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#### BRAZIL ARTIFACTS

Artifacts from the Karaja Tribe in Brazil will be on display at the March meeting. As you may recall, last year the W-A-S voted to give \$25.00 to Borys Malkin who was going to South America to purchase whatever articles of interest he could obtain to be presented by the Society to the Washington State Museum. We have received these artifacts and wish all members to have an opportunity to look them over.

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## FLAKED STONE SCRAPERS

Dr. William Massey

Archaeological sites which are characterized by lithic tools commonly contain more Scrapers than any other class of artifact. For example, Folsom culture sites have many more kinds of scrapers than any other kind of artifact. This situation is especially true where the economy of the natives was based upon hunting, fishing, and gathering. The importance of this type of tool is reflected in its great numbers. Scrapers were used for a variety of purposes including wood-working and hide and skin dressing.

Despite their importance in the study of an archaeological site, scrapers pose a problem because of the difficulty of their classification. Furthermore, because they are not so spectacular as some classes of artifacts, they are frequently ignored or unrecognized by amateurs.

Scrapers appear in a variety of forms but they have certain features in common: (1) they have one face that is flat, or nearly so, and is unmodified by retouch flaking; (2) they have an opposite convex side modified by retouch flaking to produce the working edge of the tool. Classification is based upon form, size, location of the retouching, and relative steepness of the working edge.

There are five major classes of scrapers with as many sub-classes as are warranted by a collection.

Side Scrapers. - These are scrapers with the general characteristics of scrapers and the working face along one or more sides. In form they may be elongate, rectangular, pointed, etc. Generally speaking this is a very unspecialized type of tool.

End Scrapers. - These scrapers have most of the retouch on one end of the tool rather than on an edge. The retouched end is frequently higher and steeper than the opposite end. Sub-class differentiation is based upon outline of the worked end and thickness of the flake from which they are made.

Hollow Scrapers. - These scrapers are like side-scrapers in the sense that the retouch work is generally confined to a side or sides; however, the working edge is crescentic or hollowed.

Discoidal or Tortoise Scrapers. - These tools are round to oval in outline and exhibit variations in steepness and thickness of the convex side. They vary again in the amount of edge retouching.

Thumbnail Scrapers. - These are small implements which are generally oval in outline. They resemble Discoidal Scrapers most closely; they appear as a diminutive version of this major type. Distinction is largely on the basis of size with little intergradation.

In the future, as more sites are described in this area, scrapers will attain a more important place in the archaeological inventory. They are not often diagnostic in themselves, but are of great value in determining the exact cultural placement of sites and horizons. They do represent basic activities of the people who used them.



## PROGRESS REPORT ON SOCIETY DIG

45-IS-31b

CORNET BAY

To date there have been three meetings at the Cornet Bay Site in Deception Pass State Park, during the week ends starting October 26th, November 16th and February 15th. As a matter of record, the attendance at these digs started with 15 for the first, 11 for the second and 5 for the third meeting; the recovery has been 1 artifact for the first, 8 artifacts for the second and 12 artifacts for the third meeting. One might infer from this that the group is becoming more selective and the digging better. We suggest that you come and see for yourselves.

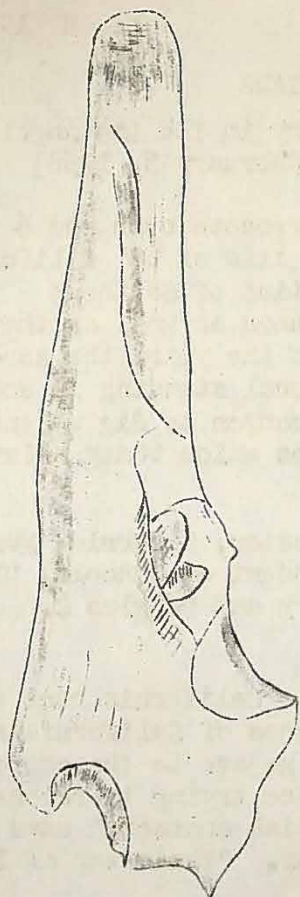
Excavations are being done in squares 5I4, 6I1, 6I2, 7I3, 8I3, 9I3, 7R1, 7R2, and 8R1. See the October and November issues of the Washington Archaeologist, for a map of the exact locations.

Following is a list of the artifacts recovered and a portion of the catalog data:

Spec. No.	Description	Length	Width	Thickness	Square	Depth	Party
201	Whet stone, slate	8.9 cm	1.7 cm	0.6 cm	6I1	10"	McLeod
202	Basalt point IC2	4.2	2.8	0.7	8R1	4"	Nordquist
203	Bone awl pt. frag.	3.9	0.9	0.3	7R1	3.6"	Nordquist
204	Bone frag. worked	3.7	0.9	0.3	7R1	3.6"	Nordquist
205	Bone awl pt. frag.	3.3	0.3	0.23	7R2	2.6"	Nordquist
206	B one tool	11.5	4.1	2.1	5I4	14"	Nelson
207	Basalt point IC2	3.5	1.5	0.4	5I4	20"	Nelson
208	Antler tool frag.	9.1	3.0	2.6	7R1	19"	Tracy
209	Basalt point IBL	8.4	2.5	1.9	7R1	14"	Tracy
210	Bone Wedge	12.1	2.1	1.0	6I1	19"	Withers
211	Bone frag. worked	7.3	1.2	0.6	6I1	23"	Withers
212	Bone frag. worked	4.5	4.7	2.4	7I3	10"	Nelson
213	Bone awl frag.	6.0	0.65	0.6	7I3	22"	Nelson
214	Wood frag. worked	7.0	0.7	0.7	7I3	31"	Nelson
215	Square nail	3.2	0.8	0.7	8I3	8"	Rice-Nelson
216	Beaver tooth worked	5.1	0.85	0.7	8I3	14.7"	Rice-Nelson
217	Tooth bead	3.1	1.1	0.9	8I3	16"	Rice-Nelson
218	Bone frag. worked	6.8	1.0	0.8	8I3	21.5"	Rice-Nelson
219	Bone frag. worked	3.7	1.7	0.75	9I3	13"	Rice Nelson
220	Bone frag. worked	1.9	1.5	0.5	9I3	13"	Rice-Nelson
221	Harpoon frag.	9.0	1.0	0.6	9I3	13"	Rice-Nelson

For the type of site the recovery has been higher than average. The next regular monthly dig or meeting will be at the Cornet Bay Site, March 15th & 16th. The directions again: Proceed in a southerly direction on State Highway 1D from the Cranberry Lake entrance of Deception State Park to County Road 64D, turn left, or east, on County Road 64 and continue to the entrance of the Group Camp. Both turns will be marked with W-A-S signs. The trail to the site is marked. Tools required: Trowel and dust pan. Good camping spot. Bring your own water.





45IS31b/206  
Bone Tool -  
Clam Opener  
Nelson



45IS31b/218  
Bone Tool Fragment  
Rice-Nelson



45IS31b/221  
Harpoon Fragment  
Rice-Nelson



45IS31b/210  
Bone Wedge  
Withers



45IS31b/209  
Basalt Projectile  
Tracy



45IS31b/213  
Bone Awl  
Nelson



## AMATEURS SEEK FACTS ON CALIFORNIA INDIANS

(From story in The Los Angeles Times  
February 3, 1958)

A group of men and women, dedicated to fighting the creosote bush and hot desert sun to gain knowledge of the habits and way of life of the California Indian tribes, form the Archaeological Survey Association of Southern California. Its 175 members know the desert's sand dunes as well as they do their living rooms. On almost any week end throughout the year, the association's archaeologists — amateurs, though with near-professional standing in academic ranks — gather at some remote stretch of desert and canyon to dig up and screen the earth with hopes of finding traces of Indian Tribes which today exist in name only.

President of the association is Dr. Alex Kreiger, director, Riverside Museum, and the vice-president is Dr. Gerald Smith, superintendent of schools, Bloomington. Mrs. Verna Williams, a housewife, is secretary and Douglas C. Huntingdon, sales engineer, is treasurer.

Association members have traveled far and wide in their California hunt for artifacts which will help them fill in the great breaches of California's Indian history. They range from the dry lakes of the Mojave to the canyons and to the seashore. They produce results, too. "We're trying to reconstruct the history of Indians who died out rapidly after Spanish contact," says Dr. Charles Rozaire, editor of the association's newsletter. "Their way of life can only be recovered by archaeological means."

While some 30 projects have been started by the archaeologists, 10 are yet to be completed. Slowed by lack of equipment and publication funds, the group still carries on with the fervent determination to finish the jobs it initiated.

"We excavate and explore under U.S. government permits with all artifacts going to a recognized museum or university," says Mr. Huntingdon. "All information relative to sites surveyed or excavated is recorded and subsequently published in journal form."

"We find that civilization is encroaching upon and in many cases completely obliterating many sites most valuable to our culture history," confides Huntingdon, "we have a program for acquiring mechanized equipment to speed our excavations, thus enabling us to cover more sites before they are destroyed."

What interests the Archaeological Survey Association of Southern California most, usually interests the man on the street the least. Yet the group has banded to patch together, fact by fact, the history of California's Indians. This is a chapter of California culture still far from complete.

Other officers in the club are Dr. M. R. Harrington, curator, Southwest Museum, who is the technical director; Miss Simpson, associate curator of the museum, who is the field chairman, and Russell Belous, history division, Los Angeles County Museum, recording secretary.



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