

THE WASHINGTON ARCHAEOLOGIST

WASHINGTON ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, WASHINGTON STATE MUSEUM, SEATTLE 5, WN.

NEXT MEETING: Seattle Chapter - Wednesday, February 14, 1962 - 8:00 P M

MEETING PLACE: Washington State Museum
4037 15th Avenue N. E.
Seattle 5, Washington

SPEAKER: TOMMY BOB, the oldest living Samish Indian will discuss the customs and times of the Samish. Tommy Bob was scheduled for January but due to flu, the program was rescheduled for the February program.

When the speaker for the January meeting was unable to attend, Ralph Emerson and Bill Holm supplied a very interesting program on the use of silver in Northwest Coast Art. Bill Holm showed pieces he had made and demonstrated the carving of a bracelet. Ralph Emerson read the first chapter of a research paper concerned with the use of silver in the art of the Northwest Coast. This particular chapter dealt with the early historical accounts of silver noted in the possession of the Northwest Coast peoples during the closing decades of the eighteenth century and the first half of the nineteenth century.

It was shown that silver coinage had been incorporated as a decorative element in objects of native manufacture in this region as early as 1793, some forty years before the date usually suggested as marking the beginning of the silverworking tradition of the Northwest Coast.

Attention was also called to the fact that silverwork had been developed to a high degree of perfection while production was still limited, for the most part, to fulfilling the demands of the Northwest Coast peoples themselves.

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THE WASHINGTON ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S WORK AT 45IS31b

Charles M. Nelson

Abstract: During the summers of 1957-8 the Washington Archaeological Society conducted a dig at 45IS31b, a stratified site located at the north end of Whidbey Island in Island County, Washington. Two components were found at this site, the most recent of which represented a prehistoric phase of the modern aboriginal culture of the area. The earlier component, for which we have no fast chronological date, was interesting from the standpoint of internal culture change. In examining the artifacts from it, it was found that stone chipping decreased through time as artifacts related to woodworking and fishing increased. This trend suggests that the people of the culture represented by this earlier component were gradually reorienting their economy from one based on the hunting of land animals to one more dependent upon the sea.

In the fall of 1957 the Washington Archaeological Society began excavations at 45IS31b. The project was undertaken at the suggestion of Mr. Alan Bryan and with the permission of the State Parks and Recreation Commission. Mr. Bryan's earlier work there had revealed a cultural sequence of importance to the interpretation of prehistory throughout Washington's inland waters. The purpose of the Society's expansion of the original dig was to bring to light new information about the culture sequence and age of the site.

Occupying the western most margin of Cornet Bay, 45IS31b is located in Deception Pass State Park at the north end of Whidbey Island, Island County, Washington; Range 1 East, Township 35 north, Northeast quarter of Section 35 (Fig. 3). Cornet, a small stocking-shaped bay, opens to the north and east on Deception Pass. Its northwest margin is formed by Goose Rock, locally known as Goose Peak, its western and southern shores by gentle-sloping vales, and its eastern periphery by low hills. During a minus tide the bay is emptied, and at high tide its southern third barely covered.

The site lies along its western shore, between the foot of Goose Rock and a small outcropping of igneous rock beyond which the land becomes quite marshy. The Society's excavation was located near the northern edge of the site.

In excavating at 45IS31b the Washington Archaeological Society expanded the area of the previous dig, removing a total of thirteen five-foot squares (Fig. 1). The cultural debris encountered in this expansion ranged in thickness from one foot, six inches in the square farthest west (514), to three feet at the eastern or shore side of the site. Approximately six hundred eighty cubic feet of cultural material was removed, from which forty-two artifacts and quantities of shell and bone detritus were recovered. In addition to this a burial was found in the sterile subsoil in square 4L1 (Fig. 1, Feature F).

Each five-foot square was removed in arbitrary six inch levels for which the datum plane was usually the highest corner of the particular square under excavation. Bone and shell detritus was recorded by six inch levels while artifacts received both horizontal and vertical coordinates. Later profiles were taken and the artifacts related to them.

Stratigraphy

Four strata were encountered in expanding the excavations at 45IS31b (Fig. 2). The first stratum is comprised of the leaf mold and humus at the surface plus a deep black, underlying soil into which the former blend. Stratum II consists of a stratified shell deposit immediately below Stratum I. It varies greatly in its appearance from one area of the site to another. In some areas it is almost solid shell while in others shell is found in less concentrated amounts and contains sizable quantities of ash and loam. The lines which delineate these changes in texture are never clear; rather one area blends gradually into another so that the Stratum's distinctness is always maintained. At the bottom of this stratum an irregular shaped hearth containing white and yellow-brown ash was found (Fig. 2, Feature C). Together Stratum I and Stratum II comprise the first cultural component.

Stratum III is composed of dark black soil containing small quantities of whole and crushed shell in addition to a few widely scattered lenses of shell and of brown loam. For the sake of description and future discussion this stratum may be divided into three layers (Fig. 2, Profile C-C'). The uppermost of these, Layer A, comprises the bulk of the Stratum and is continuous throughout. Its matrix is a dark black soil containing small quantities of whole and broken shell, fishbone, and sizable amounts of mammal bone. Thick lenses of mixed clam and mussel shell, pockets of whole clam shell, and scattered patches of dark brown loam were noted in this layer, as well as small quantities of ash which were sprinkled throughout. Layer B is comprised of a thin, black deposit of earth saturated with charcoal. It originates in the western portion of the dig, in the vicinity of a shallow bank of sand formed by Stratum IV (Fig. 1, Feature E; Fig. 2, Feature E). In most areas of the excavation Layer B formed the bottom of Stratum III. It is not known for certain what its origin is, although its thickness and wide-spread occurrence suggest a forest or brush fire. In the southeast corner of the dig, in squares 7L4 and 8L4, Layer B is underlaid by a third layer, Layer C. Like Layer A its matrix is composed of dark black soil which contains whole and broken shell, some fish remains, quantities of mammal bone, and smatterings of ash. The sample taken from this layer amount to only twelve cubic feet, so it is not surprising that some of the other features of Layer A, such as lenses of shell, were not encountered.

Material Culture

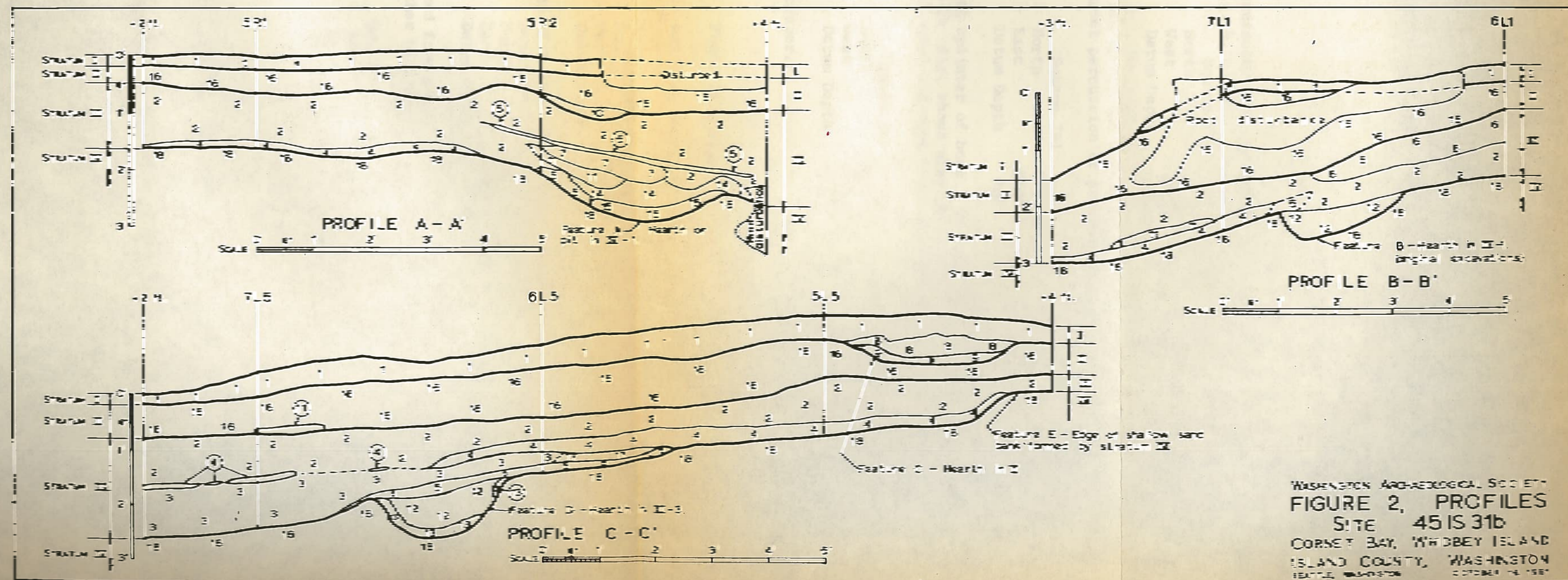
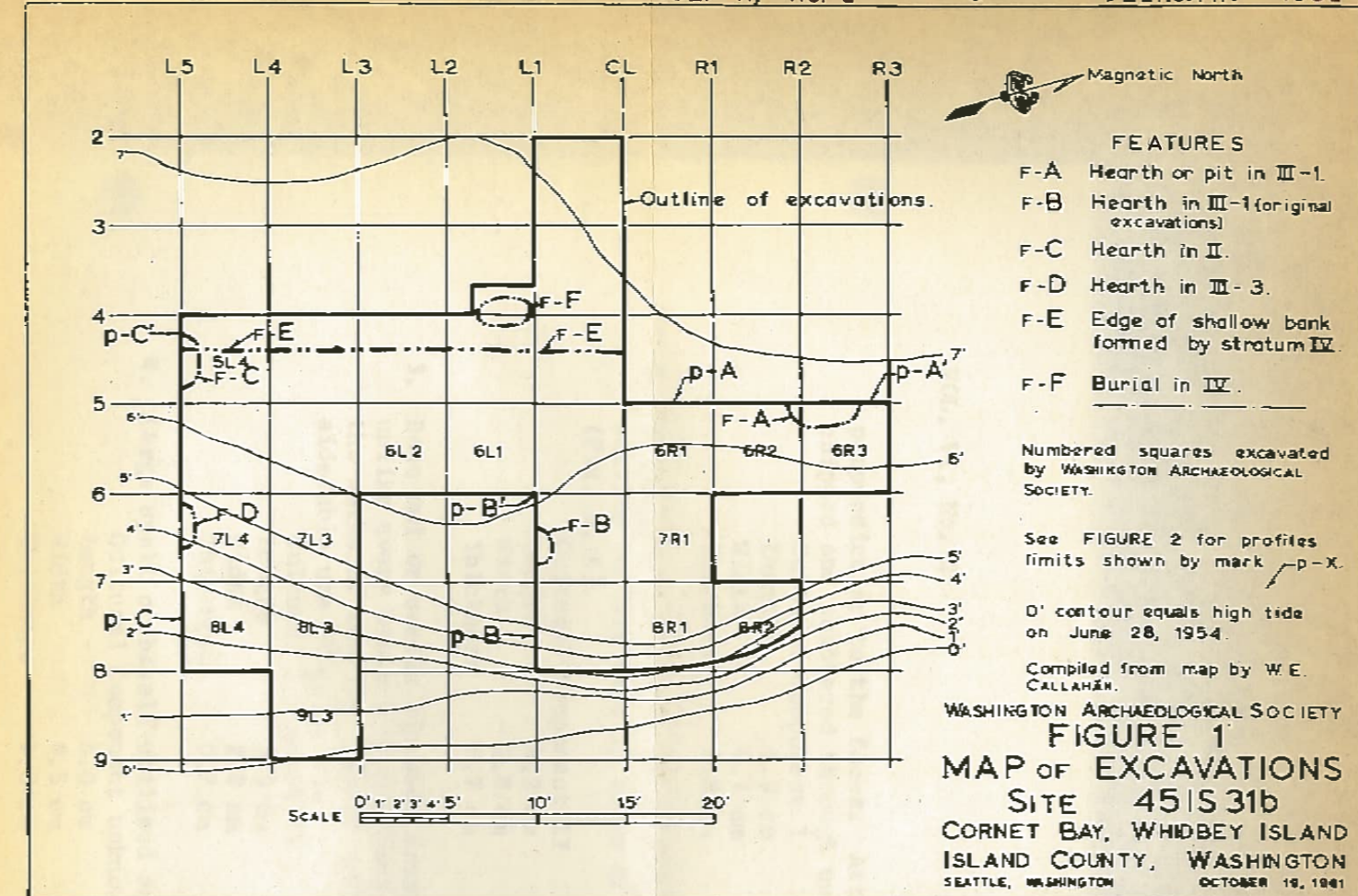
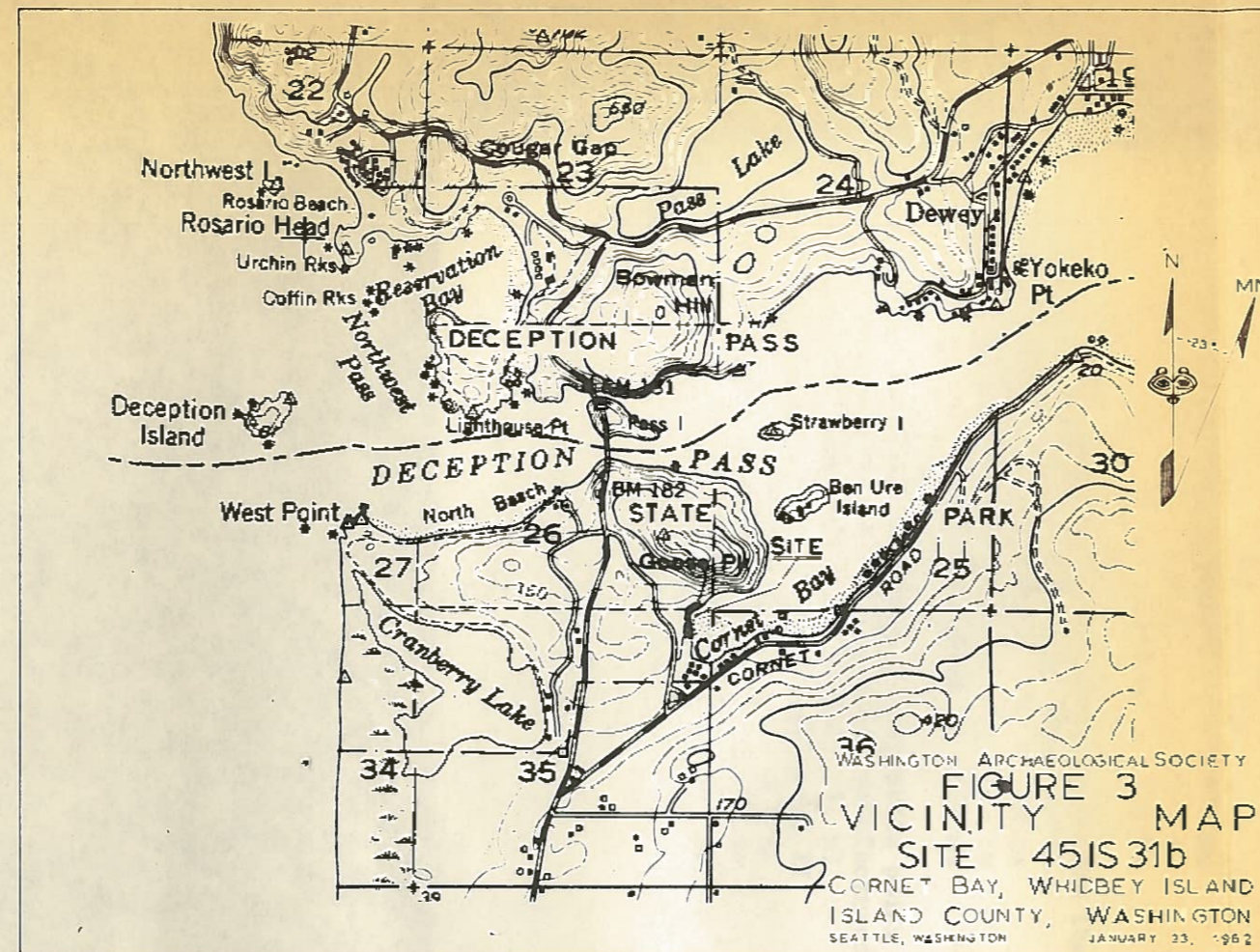
Since only forty-two artifacts were recovered from the entire dig, and since they vary a great deal in kind, material, and use, the following catalogue will be presented in preference to a typology.

1. Ground slate scraper fragment manufactured from a large, thin splinter by grinding both faces more or less flat and the scraping edge into a plane,

SOIL DESIGNATIONS FOR THE PROFILES IN FIGURE 2

1. Humus and dark black soil; Stratum I.
2. Dark black soil with shell; Stratum III, Layer 1.
3. Dark black soil with shell; Stratum III, Layer 3.
4. Charcoal saturated soil; Stratum III, Layer 2.
5. Charcoal saturated soil, found in various strata.
6. Dark brown loam; Stratum III, Layer 1.
7. Charcoal saturated soil with shell.
8. Yellow brown ash.
9. White ash.
10. Brown ash.
11. Light brown ash.
12. Gray ash and angular rock.
13. Dark gray ash and soil
14. Light brown ash with whole clam shell.
15. Gray-brown ash.
16. Stratified shell; Stratum II.
17. Brown sand.
18. Light brown sand containing water rolled shell and rocks; Stratum IV.

Editor's Note: The presentation of the profiles is an experiment. Since the use of eighteen symbols, i.e. eighteen varieties of cross-hatching would have been difficult to read, the number itself was used as the symbol. We would appreciate our readers' comments about this minor innovation.



perpendicular to the faces. After manufacture the scraping edge was chipped and shattered through use (Fig. 4, c).

Cultural Component I		Square 6L1	
Length	8.9 cm	North	0'7"
Width	4.7 cm	West	2'9"
Thickness	0.6 cm	Datum Depth	8"

2. Triangular projectile point made of basalt. It has a lenticular cross-section and was made by means of indirect percussion or pressure flaking (Fig. 5, t).

Cultural Component II		Square 7R1	
Length	4.2 cm	North	0'6"
Width	2.8 cm	East	3'0"
Thickness	0.7 cm	Datum Depth	48"

3. Bone awl or needle tip made from a flat splinter of bone. This piece, unlike every other bone artifact from the dig, shows absolutely none of the marks of tooling. It is highly polished and must have seen considerable use (Fig. 5, v).

Cultural Component II		Square 5R1	
Length	3.9 cm	South	0'8"
Width	2.8 cm	West	2'3"
Thickness	0.7 cm	Datum Depth	42"

4. Large spall of basalt utilized as a scraper.

Cultural Component unknown			
Length	8.8 cm		
Width	6.5 cm		
Thickness	1.0 cm	Found in slough.	

5. Small, sharpened splinter of bone which may have served as an awl or barb (Fig. 5, m).

Cultural Component II		Square 5R2	
Length	3.2 cm	South	0'6"
Width	0.3 cm	West	2'1"
Thickness	0.2 cm	Datum Depth	30"

6. Bone chisel, manufactured from the ulna of a deer (Fig. 4, b).

Cultural Component I		Square 5L4	
Length	11.5 cm	North	2'6"
Width	4.0 cm	East	2'6"
Thickness	2.1 cm	Datum Depth	14"

7. Small triangular projectile point flaked from basalt. It is lenticular in cross-section and was manufactured either by indirect percussion or pressure flaking (Fig. 5, k).

Cultural Component II		Square 5L4	
Length	3.5 cm	North	0'0"
Width	1.5 cm	East	3'8"
Thickness	0.4 cm	Datum Depth	20"

8. Antler wedge made from a short tine which was broken from the skull of a deer and ground on two faces to form a narrow bit. The very tip of the wedge has been shattered (Fig. 5, f).

Cultural Component II		Square 7R1	
Length	9.2 cm	North	2'3"
Width	3.0 cm	East	2'10"
Thickness	2.6 cm	Datum Depth	19"

9. Small flat bipointed barb or point of bone.

Cultural Component I		Square 8L4	
Length	5.6 cm	North	2'4"
Width	0.7 cm	East	2'7"
Thickness	0.3 cm	Datum Depth	4"

10. Narrow bitted, antler chisel or wedge. In the manufacture of this piece its basic outline was blocked out by sawing, after which the narrow end was carefully ground into a slightly excurvate bit. While in use at least four splinters were knocked from its base. The bit also shows signs of use. (Fig. 5, e).

Cultural Component II		Square 6L1	
Length	12.0 cm	North	0'10"
Width	2.1 cm	East	1'2"
Thickness	0.3 cm	Datum Depth	4"

11. Crude gouge or chipper, made from a sawed and broken piece of mammal bone (Fig. 5, q).

Cultural Component II		Square 6L1	
Length	7.3 cm	South	2'7"
Width	1.1 cm	West	2'0"
Thickness	0.6 cm	Datum Depth	23"

12. Adzed antler which was apparently detritus in the manufacture of an artifact. This specimen demonstrates a method of cutting and breaking. First the piece of antler was deeply notched along one side with an adze, then simply snapped, the notch sufficing to guide the direction in which it broke. (Fig. 4, d).

Cultural Component I		Square 7L3	
Length	4.4 cm	North	0'5"
Width	4.4 cm	East	1'7"
Thickness	2.5 cm	Datum Depth	10"

13. A round, pointed base of a barbed bone point (Fig. 5, n).

Cultural Component II		Square 7L3	
Length	6.0 cm	North	0'2"
Width	0.7 cm	West	0'8"
Thickness	0.7 cm	Datum Depth	22"

14. Whittled stick cut diagonally at the base and broken at the tip. This specimen was fire hardened after being broken. It may be the fragment of a wooden awl or punch, or could have been used in spreading fish for drying (Fig. 5, p).

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------|-------------|-------|
| Cultural Component II | | Square 7L3 | |
| Length | 7.0 cm | North | 2'11" |
| Width | 0.7 cm | East | 1'4" |
| Thickness | 0.7 cm | Datum Depth | 31" |
15. Square nail found in the humus layer at the surface of the site. This piece is undoubtedly intrusion from historic times, as are 29 and 40.
- | | | | |
|-----------|--------|-------------|------|
| | | Square 8L3 | |
| Length | 3.2 cm | North | 0'5" |
| Width | 0.8 cm | East | 0'9" |
| Thickness | 0.6 cm | Datum Depth | 8" |
16. Split and ground beaver tooth, used as an ornament or a die for gaming (Fig. 4, k).
- | | | | |
|----------------------|--------|-------------|-------|
| Cultural Component I | | Square 8L3 | |
| Length | 4.9 cm | North | 1'11" |
| Width | 0.8 cm | West | 4'8" |
| Thickness | 0.7 cm | Datum Depth | 15" |
17. Bead manufactured by grinding the top of a tooth flat and then drilling from the flat surface into its hollow root. (Fig. 4, l).
- | | | | |
|----------------------|--------|-------------|------|
| Cultural Component I | | Square 8L3 | |
| Length | 3.0 cm | North | 2'9" |
| Width | 1.1 cm | East | 4'2" |
| Thickness | 0.9 cm | Datum Depth | 16" |
18. Unbarbed bone point fragment. (Fig. 4, h).
- | | | | |
|----------------------|--------|-------------|------|
| Cultural Component I | | Square 8L3 | |
| Length | 6.8 cm | North | 1'0" |
| Width | 1.0 cm | East | 1'5" |
| Thickness | 0.8 cm | Datum Depth | 22" |
19. Large antler wedge bifacially beveled at bit (Fig. 4, a).
- | | | | |
|----------------------|---------|-------------|------|
| Cultural Component I | | Square 8L2 | |
| Length | 10.6 cm | North | 0'6" |
| Width | 3.0 cm | East | 2'2" |
| Thickness | 2.5 cm | Datum Depth | 7" |
20. Scratched and ground concretion, possibly used as an abrasive stone (Fig. 5, a).
- | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------|-------------|-------|
| Cultural Component II | | Square 7L4 | |
| Length | 5.5 cm | North | 0'0" |
| Width | 6.5 cm | West | 4'10" |
| Thickness | 2.2 cm | Datum Depth | 18" |
21. Barbed bone point fragment with a long pointed base and an extremely shallow barb (Fig. 4, i).
- | | | | |
|----------------------|--------|-------------|--------|
| Cultural Component I | | Square 9L3 | |
| Length | 8.9 cm | North | 2' 11" |
| Width | 1.0 cm | East | 1'2" |
| Thickness | 0.6 cm | Datum Depth | 13" |

22. Large, broad wedge fashioned from a flat piece of antler. (Fig. 4, 1).
 Cultural Component II Square 8L3
 Length 11.7 cm North 1'5"
 Width 5.7 cm East 2'5"
 Thickness 2.8 cm Datum Depth 27"
23. Paddle shaped bone point or barb, possessing a broad thin base and a long, round, slender point. (Fig. 5, o).
 Cultural Component II Square 714
 Length 7.4 cm South 1'4"
 Width 1.0 cm East 1'0"
 Thickness 0.3 cm Datum Depth 26"
24. Small sliver of bone, ground to a point and used as an awl (Fig. 4, f).
 Cultural Component I Square 7R1
 Length 4.8 cm South 0'0"
 Width 0.7 cm West 0'4"
 Thickness 0.3 cm Datum Depth 5"
25. Worked bone, probably the base of a barbed point (Fig. 5, c).
 Cultural Component II Square 9L3
 Length 5.0 cm North 0'5"
 Width 0.8 cm East 4'4"
 Thickness 0.4 cm Datum Depth 40"
26. Probable section from the middle of a bone needle (Fig. 5, b).
 Cultural Component II Square 913
 Length 4.1 cm North 2'0"
 Width 0.5 cm East 5'0"
 Thickness 0.4 cm Datum Depth 40"
27. Large, dished, oval, sandstone abrasive. The bottom of this specimen is formed by the natural surface of the rock selected for its manufacture, while its other side has been altered by abrasion, and its edges formed by the removal of several large flakes. (Fig. 6).
 Cultural Component II Square 6L2
 Length 23.5 cm North 3'6"
 Width 18.0 cm East 3'1"
 Thickness 5.1 cm Datum Depth 35"
28. Contracting stemmed projectile point, fashioned from coarse basalt by means of percussion flaking (Fig. 5, 1).
 Cultural Component II Square 7R1
 Length 4.6 cm North 2'10"
 Width 2.6 cm West 3'9"
 Thickness 0.8 cm Datum Depth 24"
29. Round, wooden stake. This item was introduced in historic times.
 Square 714
 Length 13.6 cm
 Width 2.9 cm
 Thickness 2.9 cm Datum Depth 6"-12"

30. Percussion flaked, leaf shaped point of basalt with a thick lenticular cross-section (Fig. 5, d).

Cultural Component II	Square 7R1
Length 9.6 cm	South 1'2"
Width 2.5 cm	West 3'8"
Thickness 1.3 cm	Datum Depth 14"

31. Sharpened splinter of mammal bone, probably used as an awl or barb. (Fig. 4, e).

Cultural Component I	Square 7L4
Length 7.4 cm	South 2'1"
Width 1.2 cm	West 3'7"
Thickness 0.5 cm	Datum Depth 15"

32. Antler tine possibly utilized in the flaking of stone artifacts. (Fig. 5, r)

Cultural Component II	Square 6L2
Length 10.2 cm	South 1'7"
Width 3.0 cm	West 0'5"
Thickness 1.8 cm	Datum Depth 24"

33. Barbed bone point with three shallow barbs and basal thinning to accommodate hafting. This specimen was recovered in four separate places, having been broken behind each barb. (Fig. 4, j).

Cultural Component I	Square 8L4
Length 12.7 cm	North 1'1"
Width 0.8 cm	East 3'7"
Thickness 0.5 cm	Datum Depth 8"

34. Bone chisel or wedge fragment (Fig. 5, g).

Cultural Component II	Square 5R2
Length 12.6 cm	North 3'4"
Width 1.9 cm	East 1'8"
Thickness 0.95 cm	Datum Depth 19"

35. Bipointed, leaf shaped point made from a flake of dense basalt. This point is shouldered in such a manner that its base is equally as long as its body. It is also interesting to note that, due to the configuration of the flake used in the manufacture of this piece, its base is thinner than its point. (Fig. 5, u).

Cultural Component II	Square 7L4
Length 6.1 cm	South 4'2"
Width 2.7 cm	West 0'10"
Thickness 0.8 cm	Datum Depth 30"

36. Small adz or chisel. The bit of this specimen is beveled on one side only. (Fig. 5, j).

Cultural Component II	Square 9L3
Length 5.1 cm	North 1'5"
Width 1.8 cm	East 2'4"
Thickness 1.4 cm	Datum Depth 47"

37. Antler tine, the base of which has been tapered through adzing to facilitate breaking it away from the antler. The entire surface of the tine has also been adzed. This specimen may have served as a flaker or may be another kind of artifact in some stage of manufacture. (Fig. 5, s).

Cultural Component II		Square 714	
Length	10.5 cm	North	1'6"
Width	2.8 cm	West	4'0"
Thickness	2.8 cm	Datum Depth	26"

38. Splinter of stone, possibly utilized along one edge. (Fig. 5, y).

Cultural Component II		Square 9L3	
Length	6.0 cm	South	3'1"
Width	4.5 cm	West	1'4"
Thickness	0.4 cm	Datum Depth	41"

39. Deer scapula, whose articulation has been broken off. The ridge on its upper surface was broken and ground off, its blade punched, and its heavy side polished, probably through use. The artifact may have served some function in the dressing of hides. (Fig. 5, x).

Cultural Component II		Square 5R1	
Length	24.3 cm	South	3'1"
Width	14.2 cm	West	1'4"
Thickness	1.4 cm	Datum Depth	41"

40. Partially charred wooden stake, intrusive from historic times.

		Square 8L4	
Length	13.0 cm	North	1'10"
Width	4.5 cm	West	4'0"
Thickness	1.9 cm	Datum Depth	3"

41. Slate adz fragment (Fig. 5, i).

Cultural Component II		Square 7R1	
Length	4.0 cm	South	3'4"
Width	2.1 cm	West	4'0"
Thickness	0.75 cm	Datum Depth	30"

42. Large boulder chip knife from the hearth seen in Profile B-B' (Fig. 5, w; Fig. 2, Feature B).

Cultural Component II		Square 7C1	
Length	12.7 cm		
Width	10.1 cm		
Thickness	1.9 cm		

Human Remains

In the subsoil beneath the site one burial was found. Due to soil conditions it was in a very poor state, many of the bones such as the digitals, ribs, vertebra, teeth, and spongy portions of joints having been completely decomposed. The bones recovered were badly broken and in some cases parts of them missing. They include most of the long bones, portions of the cranium and mandible, part of one scapula, and a few ribs and digitals. Remarkably, the few bones recovered proved sufficient to reveal the position of the body at interment.

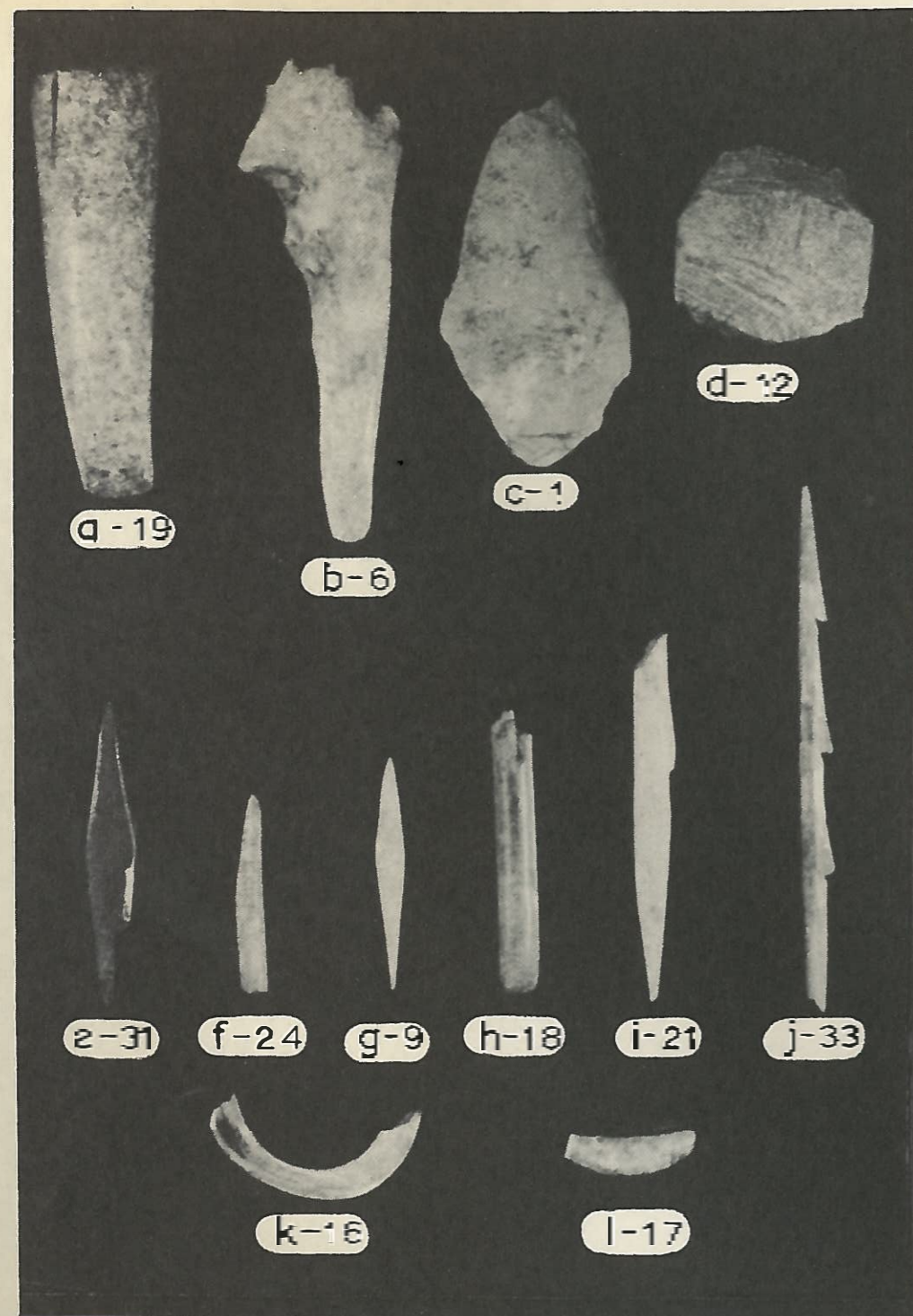


FIGURE 4
Artifacts from Cultural Component I

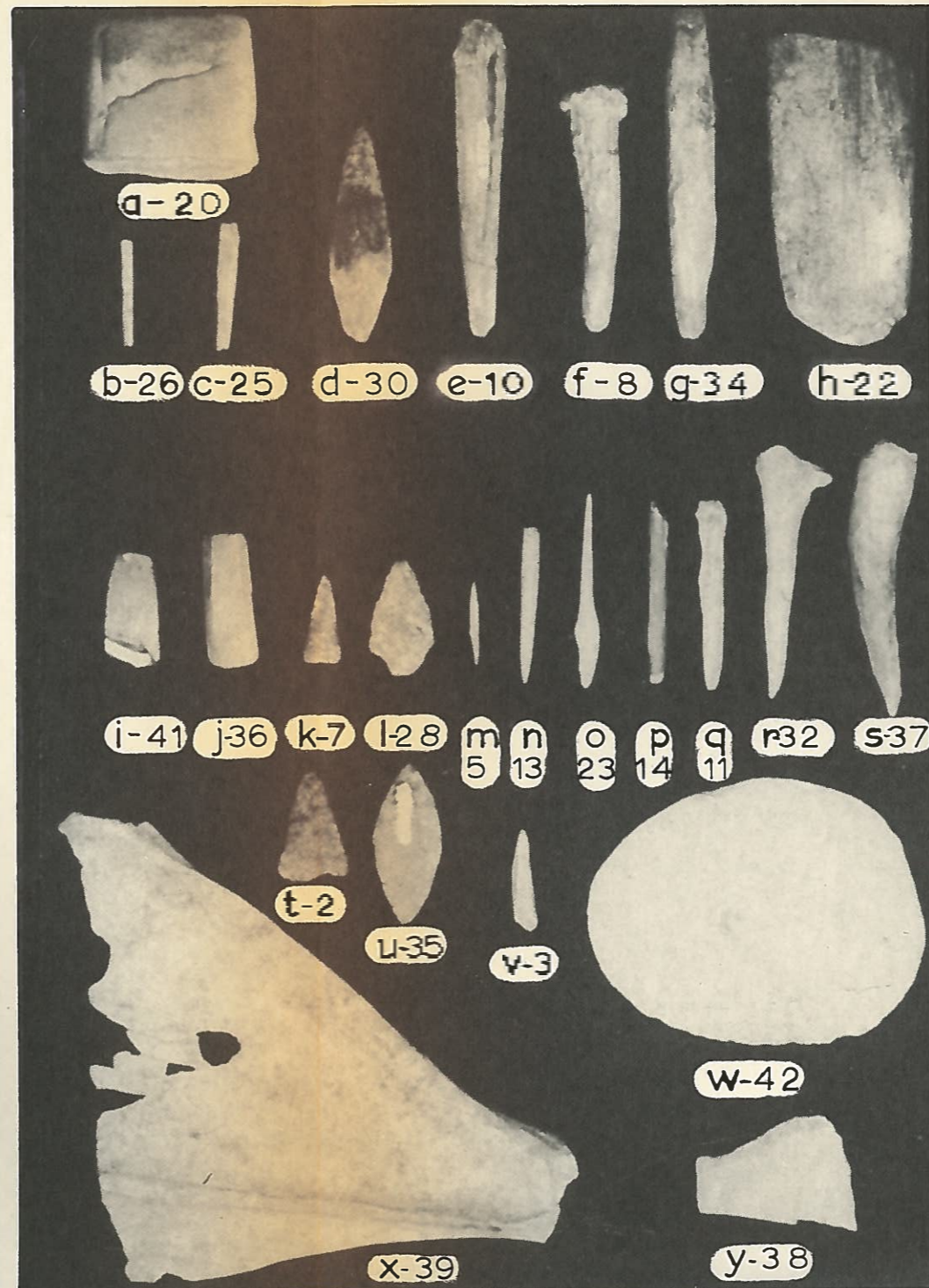


FIGURE 5
Artifacts from Cultural Component II
LEVEL 1 a-h; LEVEL 2 i-s; LEVEL 3 t-y.



FIGURE 6
Abrasive stone from Cultural Component II, LEVEL 2.

The bone was evidently inhumated in a shallow pit originating from the surface of Stratum IV. It was laying in a flexed position on the right side, facing away from the shore of Cornet Bay, with the spine oriented roughly in a north-south direction.

The most important feature of the burial is its location in, or rather under the site, for the inhumation was prior to the deposition of cultural debris in that area. The grave was placed in a shallow bank of sand which runs parallel to the present shoreline of Cornet Bay. It is in the vicinity of this bank that Layer B (carbonaceous layer) of Stratum III originates, in some areas beginning at the bank's lip and in others as much as a few feet behind or above it. In the area above and surrounding the burial, Layer B directly overlaid Stratum IV, clearly indicating that the burial must predate at least the major portion of Stratum III. However, in the southeast corner of the Society's excavation (sqs. 714 and 814), Stratum III develops its third layer, Layer C. It is possible that the burial is associated with the deposition of it. If this were the case then the inhumation took place at the northwest corner of what at that time comprised the site. But there is still another possibility.

Thus far only negative evidence has been produced to demonstrate an association between the burial and some area in the site. In other words the essence of what has been said is that the burial is not associated with certain strata and layers, and that it might be associated with Layer C of Stratum B. There is still the very real possibility that it is associated with another stratum yet unmanifest in the excavations at the site, or that it is not associated directly with the site at all. Although improbable, the latter should not be overlooked, and the former is very likely in view of certain other considerations which will be taken up in the discussion of the cultural sequence at the site.

Cultural Sequence

Two cultural components are manifest in the Washington Archaeological Society's dig at 45IS31b. The first, Cultural Component I, is comprised of Stratum I and Stratum II. Cultural Component II is comprised of Stratum III. In addition to these there is other archaeological and geological evidence which suggests that a significant amount of prehistory remains yet untapped at the site.

Twelve artifacts were recovered from Cultural Component I. Although this is a small sample, still in association with other materials such as shell and bone detritus, it is enough to be culturally diagnostic. Among the artifacts of utility, which number nine, fishing implements were most common. Recovered were one complete as well as one fragmentary barbed bone point, the fragment of an unbarbed bone point, and a small bone barb, in addition to two sharpened splinters of bone which could have served as fishing barbs or bone points. These last two items may also have served as awls. Only two woodworking implements were found; an antler wedge and a gouge or chisel, manufactured from the ulna of a deer. One ground slate scraper was also recovered as well as one tooth bead, a beaver tooth die, and an adzed piece of antler. The artifacts from Cultural Component I are pictured in Figure 4.

The bulk of this component was comprised of a thick stratum of clam and mussel shell which was rich in the remains of chiton, fish, crab, and sea urchin.

The culture represented by this component was economically oriented to the sea, although a few bones of land mammals such as deer were encountered in the dig, and bear witness to the fact that hunting still had its place in the overall economy. In summation of these facts one concludes that Cultural Component I was undoubtedly the product of the recent inhabitants of the area.

The second cultural component presents a much more complicated problem in internal cultural stratigraphy and basic interpretation. There is little archaeological data with which it is validly comparable, and although the sample is small, numbering only twenty-five artifacts and three features, the material culture changes remarkably during its deposition. Whether this stratification represents real culture change, or just a case of insufficient or chance sampling is difficult to say. Certainly, with only twenty-five artifacts with which to draw comparisons and conclusions the latter deserves careful consideration.

Cultural Component II is composed entirely of Stratum III, which in turn is composed of three layers. From the oldest of these layers, Layer C, no artifacts and only one feature, a hearth, were recovered (Fig. 2, Feature D). The hearth was approximately two feet long and nine inches in depth. It was dug into the subsoil beneath the site and contained many small, angular rocks. Portions of the bottom of the pit were covered with dark grey ash. A similar feature was found at the bottom of Layer A (Fig. 2, Feature B). Again this was a pit dug into the subsoil beneath the site. It was filled with grey ash and angular rocks, and contained a boulder chip knife, probably the oldest artifact from the dig (Fig. 5, w).

A third feature was found, originating at or near the bottom of Layer A (Fig. 2, Feature A). It was housed in a large, shallow depression which extended into Stratum IV. In it were found quantities of grey and brown ash along with a large pocket of whole clam shell, and lenses of charcoal saturated ash. It is not clear whether this feature was used as a hearth, some sort of a storage pit, or both.

Twenty-five artifacts were recovered from Cultural Component II; all from Layer A of Stratum III. In associating these artifacts to be stratigraphy it was found they could be roughly divided into three groups according to their position in the layer. This was accomplished by dividing the layer into three levels, each equal to a third of the whole. The visual results of this grouping may be seen in Figure 5.

This procedure revealed some interesting trends in cultural change which have been summarized in Table I. In it three basic units are treated. The first is stone chipping, which has been further divided into three groups. The first group considers all artifacts directly associated with stone chipping, the second only chipped stone points, and the third chipped stone artifacts other than points. The other major units of the table deal with woodworking implements and fishing gear. The higher the percentage the greater the relative importance a group of artifacts had in the culture of its level. By following these percentages in Table I a clear trend can be picked up. Stone chipping, an industry which was centered around the hunting of land animals, became less important during the deposition of the strata, while fishing and woodworking, arts closely associated with the more recent peoples of the area, became more important. It

would appear then, based on the evidence now at hand, that during the deposition of Cultural Component II the culture gradually changed from one oriented almost entirely towards hunting and gathering to one more dependent upon the sea for its existence.

Table 1: Cultural trends in Cultural Component II (Stratum III, Layer A).
Figures are in per cent of total number of artifacts per level.
Level 1 is uppermost in Layer A, Level 3 lowermost.

	Artifacts associated with stone chipping	Chipped stone points	Other chipped stone objects	Wood working tools	Fishing or sea hunting equipment
Level 1	16.0	16.0	----	50.0	12.5
Level 2	35.0	17.0	----	23.0	20.0
Level 3	66.7	33.3	33.3	----	----

45IS31b holds tremendous potential for future work. The sample from it is small and as such needs to be corroborated. There is a gap between the two components which needs filling, and there is the problem of the burial. Is it associated with the lower portion of Stratum III, or did it originate with an earlier stratum located elsewhere in the site? There are good reasons for believing the latter. The digs conducted there have only begun to sample the northern periphery of the site. Further south, towards the outcropping of rock marking the southern limits of the site, lies the center and older portion of the site. Here the midden is undoubtedly deeper. There is also another factor to consider. Presently the southern portion of Cornet Bay, including the area adjacent to the southern two-thirds to three-fourths of the site, is a tidal flat which is covered by about two feet of water at high tide. Thus most of the site does not have direct access to the open water. This coupled with the fact that in the southern portion of the site there are midden deposits well beneath the average high tide mark, leads one to believe that the potential for earlier strata is very high.

It is sincerely hoped that 45IS31b will not be written off as an excavated site. It deserves a great deal more attention than that.