

THE WASHINGTON



ARCHAEOLOGIST

NEXT MEETING - - - September 11, 1957 - - - 7:30 P.M.

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

DR. VIOLA E. GARFIELD, of the Department of Anthropology at the University of Washington, will be our speaker. Her subject will be Totems of the Northwest; she will discuss determination of their age, preservation, and where the totems are found. Two of Dr. Garfield's books were mentioned in our April issue: THE WOLF and the RAVEN (Totem Poles of Southeastern Alaska), and THE SEATTLE TOTEM POLE.

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At the August meeting B. Robert Butler, who was in charge of the excavations in The Dalles Reservoir, spoke on Art Styles and Antler Carvings in this area. Accompanying his talk, Mr. Butler showed 35 mm. slides of the area and of the artifacts he discussed.

Dating from approximately 1400-1800 A.D., carvings were found on bowls, bones, and petroglyphs. One of the most interesting of the petroglyphs was Tsagiglalal which is the emblem of our Society. This face is carved in basalt rock and is about thirty-six inches between the far points of the outline of the eye. Red ochre was rubbed in the pecked out portions of the face. Mr. Butler was told by an old Indian that Tsagiglalal was "she who watches over those coming and going from the earth." Nearby are two other petroglyphs somewhat similar in design.

Many of the bone carvings found in The Dalles Area feature the "Grinning Face" motif. One of the most interesting carved stone pieces found was a frog bowl.

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SPECIAL DIG - 45 KT6 - September 28th & 29th

A special dig has been set up for the week end of September 28th & 29th at West Beverly. Mrs. Charlotte Widrig is making a special trip to the site to take pictures and gather material for her story about our project to be published in the Seattle Times. Let's all be there.

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NEW EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

The Board of Directors, at their last meeting, appointed DR. WILLIAM MASSEY Executive Secretary of the Washington Archaeological Society. Dr. Massey has wide experience in Archaeology, is a graduate of Berkeley, and has spent twelve seasons digging in Baja California. (Members who attended the March meeting will remember his interesting discussion and pictures of his work in this area. In 1950 he worked with the State Parks and Recreation Department digging Old Man House at Suquamish and worked at Painted Rock Memorial at Yakima. Among his other projects was the digging of the only Mastadon found in the Northwest at Port Angeles. Dr. Massey has taught at the University of Washington in History, Geography, and Anthropology with emphasis on Latin America.

Although Dr. Massey has been our speaker and has attended our meetings, many members may not know him personally, so all are urged to attend the September meeting in order to become better acquainted with him. Inasmuch as Dr. Massey is not Curator of Anthropology at the State Museum, proceedings to make the necessary amendment to the constitution will be started at this meeting.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

At the recent Board of Directors meeting the group recommended that the constitution be amended so that a choice would be available for the permanent members of the Board of Directors thereby permitting the organization to affiliate with the State Archaeologist's Office. It is therefore proposed that Article VI of the constitution be changed to read:

Article VI - The Board of Directors shall consist of (1) Director of the Washington State Museum or State Archaeologist acting as Advisory Chairman, term of office permanent, subject to change by elected members of the Board of Directors; (2) Curator of Anthropology of the Washington State Museum or qualified archaeologist acting as Executive Chairman, term of office permanent subject to change by elected members of the Board of Directors; elected members of the Board of Directors to remain as specified.

Charles G. Nelson

ARCTIC ARCHAEOLOGY

(American Antiquity XXII, 4, 1957)

During the late weeks of last summer J. L. Giddings, Director of Brown University's newly acquired Haffenreffer Museum of the American Indian, conducted an archaeological reconnaissance in the Eschscholtz Bay and Buckland River region of western Alaska. Giddings was accompanied by Robert Ackerman of the University of Pennsylvania and Melvin Reichler of Brown University, and his project was supported by a grant-in-aid from the Arctic Institute of North America. The most interesting site of the trip was discovered on the Chukchi Sea Side of Choris Peninsula. There, on the oldest of 9 successive beaches, 3 extraordinarily large oval house pits were found. Diagonally in front of each was a smaller oval pit, probably once a sweat house. None of these depressions had signs of entrance passages. Upon excavation one of

the large pits was found to have had an evenly elliptical floor with diameters of 38 and 18 feet. There was no fireplace, but a large stone lamp found there was the probable source of heat. The construction of the house was based on 2 curved rows of central posts which resembled in plan the floor pieces of an umiak. Giddings estimates that this house was occupied between 3000 and 4000 years ago, and believes it to be the earliest coastal house yet known in the Bering Sea region. Associated cultural material has not yet been described, but Giddings states that it is definitely earlier than the Norton Bay culture, and notes that bone and other organic artifacts were quite well preserved.

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BOOK SECTION

ARCHAEOLOGY OF ZION PARK. Albert H. Schroeder. Contributions by Myrl V. Walker, Russell K. Grater, Katharine Bartlett, Irene Emery, Volney H. Jones, and Ben W. Wetherill. University of Utah, Dept. of Anthropology, Anthropological Papers, No. 22, University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City, 1955. \$2.25.

Schroeder's report describes the material recovered from a surface survey and the excavation of a few sites in and around Zion National Park by the National Park Service, under the direction of the late Ben Wetherill in 1933 and 1934. The Introduction summarizes the archaeological work completed in southern Utah, northwestern Arizona, and southern Nevada from 1875 to the present. The geological and geographical setting of Parunuweap Canyon is described in an excellent section by Myrl V. Walker.

Schroeder believes that the Zion region developed independently of central and northern Utah and was more closely associated with southern Nevada and the Arizona Strip, north of the Colorado River. He feels that periodically the more highly developed Basketmaker-Anasazi culture of the Four Corners region made its influence felt in the Zion area. Robert's classification is used to describe the cultural development of the area, even though the author admits that it is not an entirely satisfactory system. Phase names have been withheld until the completion of further work in southern Nevada.

Subsequent sections deal with the excavated or tested sites, and an account of the survey sites. There is a detailed analysis of the pottery; correlations between temper and decorative treatment are noted as are apparent temporal changes. The artifacts recovered from the sites are treated according to the material of which they are made. A section on "Food Items" forms the exception. Five appendices dealing with surveys, skeletal material, netting, and plant remains close the report.

Schroeder undertook the difficult task of preparing for publication from incomplete notes the results of field work in which he did not participate. The generally good job he has done is to be commended, and it places before students of the area a very useful body of material.

Review from:
Dick Shutler, Jr.
University of Arizona
Tucson, Arizona

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(Editor's Note: Since publication of Mr. Butler's paper on Dalles Reservoir Prehistory last month we feel the following portion of Warren Caldwell's thesis on Wakemap will be of considerable interest to our readers.)

THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF WAKEMAP

By Warren W. Caldwell

CHAPTER VI - SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS

The principal conclusions of this study have been presented in the two previous sections. They are again offered here in summary form as a synthetic outline of Plateau prehistory.

- I. Wakemap Mound is a deep culturally stratified site first occupied before 2,000 year B.P. and evidencing a continuity terminated only shortly before European contact.
- II. The cultural pattern is characterized by a developmental sequence based upon a specialized fishing, gathering and hunting subsistence economy.
 - A. Intensity of occupation and ecological utilization increases progressively until the late prehistoric period.
 - B. The material pattern of the late period is substantially that of the ethnographic Wishram.
- III. Wakemap Mound is intimately related to the reported sites of the Dalles and may be considered diagnostic of them.
- IV. Wakemap Mound participates in a web of relationship with ramifications in most portions of the Plateau.
 - A. The McNary Reservoir - The reported sites, particularly those characterized as Middle and Late, are closely related to the Wakemap sequence. It is suggested that a strong upriver trend, from the Dalles into the McNary has occurred.
 - B. The Yakima Valley and Priest Rapids - Although no modern excavations have been made, the artifacts are typologically related both to the Dalles and to the McNary region. The pattern may be characterized as a less vigorous version of the Dalles-Deschutes area.
 - C. The Northern Middle Columbia - A lesser degree of relationship is apparent, however, excavations have been limited and sites are small. Here, cultural ties are to the north as well as to the south although the latter are dominant.
 - D. The Upper Columbia - The typological assemblage indicates the existence of close ties with cultural developments of the Fraser-Thompson region but also, and equally strong, to Wakemap and the sites to the south. It has been suggested above that the Upper Columbia is transitional between the northern and southern Plateau with a trait inventory derived from both foci.
 - E. The Southern Interior of British Columbia - The archaeological pattern here is that which is general in the Plateau (A-D above) with strong ties to the Upper Columbia region. There is also an

intimacy of relationship with the Lower Fraser and the Coast. A culturally intermediate position between the developed Plateau and Coast has been suggested.

- F. The Southern Northwest Coast - An early and mutual interchange of traits is apparent between the Puget Sound - Lower Fraser River and the Interior. This exchange, mingling with a Maritime pattern has produced the "classic" Northwest Coast marine orientation. A process of mutual interinfluencing, Coast and Interior, has persisted into the Recent period.
 - G. The Lower Columbia - An early and close relationship to Wakemap and to the Plateau in general is apparent here. The relationship is a continuing one since the material culture of late sites is basically of a developed Plateau form although definite coastal affiliations are present.
 - H. The Willamette Valley - A basically Plateau material pattern also occurs here. It is conceivably of considerable temporal depth. Relationship to Wakemap is close although the inventory is scanty.
 - I. The Northern Great Basin - It is suggested that an early pattern of basic similarity existed between Basin and the Plateau. The latter is a peripheral, specialized riverine version of the former. Although strong coastal affiliations are present, the Basin tie is a continuing one existing into the Late period.
- V. On the basis of these generalizations, it is possible to erect a tentative systematization of Northwest prehistory. It is urged that this scheme is, in part, conjectural but in its broader outline it seems valid in terms of the available data. It is apparent that the Plateau, Coast and Basin have long been intimately associated in a developmental sense although in the earliest phases the resemblances are more apparent than in the latter. This is no doubt a function of the derivation of much in all three areas from a common, generalized hunting-gathering subsistence base.

In conclusion, the following generalizations are offered:

- A. Cultural development in the Plateau was progressive and cumulative.
- B. There was a definite trend toward uniformity of material culture, apparent particularly in the Middle and Late periods.
- C. Varying external influences and local ecological patterns have resulted in differing regional orientations:
 - 1. The Southern Plateau
Lower Columbia, Willamette Valley, the Dalles-Deschutes, McNary, Yakima and Priest Rapids areas.
 - 2. Transitional - Upper Columbia
 - 3. The Northern Plateau - Thompson, Okanagon Valleys

An abundance of data, ideas and conjectures has been offered in the preceding pages. They make it obvious that the prehistoric patterns of the Northwest are only just now on the threshold of elucidation.

The fruition of current and near future research will bring completion of the pattern.

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The Director of the Bureau of Land Management
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