

ANTHROPOLOGY

Chairman, ROBERT E. PACE, Indiana State University
EDWARD V. MCMICHAEL,
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ABSTRACTS

Use of Historical and Archaeological Evidence to Reconstruct the Cherokee Past. EDWARD DOLAN, DePauw University.—Archaeologists frequently use historical documents to identify remains of proto- and early historic sites. By combining archaeological and historical evidence, errors in interpretation of some local histories may be corrected. An example is discussed from the early historic Cherokee area.

Exploratory Examination of the Oxendine Site. ROBERT E. PACE, Indiana State University.—The Oxendine Site is located along a 250-yard sand rise, adjacent to a vestigial finger of the Greenfield Bayou in Vigo County. Information derived from surface and controlled excavation shows it to be a late summer and fall campsite. Recovered materials suggest that it was occupied off and on by peoples of the Riverton Culture, and later Woodland cultures. Except for brief Adena-Hopewell and Mississippian interludes, seasonal exploitation of an Oxendine type of microenvironment appears to represent a major form of adaptation along the middle Wabash Valley.

NOTES

Test Excavations At The Daughtery-Monroe Site (12-Su-13). EDWARD V. MCMICHAEL and STEPHEN J. COFFING, Indiana State University.—In late June and early July, 1969, the authors conducted test excavations at the Daughtery-Monroe Site, in northern Sullivan County, Indiana. The site is located on the east bank of the Wabash River, opposite Hutsonville, Illinois, and approximately 35 miles southwest of Terre Haute, Indiana. A 5-by-15-foot trench was excavated on the north side of this circular village and two 5-by-5-foot squares were dug on the east and west sides respectively. Below a 9-inch thick plow zone, a general village midden extended 15 to 20 inches below the surface, and below this eight pits were found. The latter were of two types: three basin-shaped shallow refuse pits; and five deeper, circular to oval, straight-walled pits, assumed to be used originally for storage, but also eventually used for refuse. Artifacts and non-artifactual debris were plentiful, including 3267 pottery sherds of the Embarrass Ceramic Series, much animal bone, some worked bone, ground stone, and chipped flint. Of the pottery, simple stamped surfaces account for 53% of the sample; cordmarking 26%; and plain surface 19%. Chipped stone included one Lowe Flared Stem projectile point and one triangular type; ground stone included 3 grooved sandstone abraders, 1 unfinished pendant and a bi-pitted stone; and worked bone included 1 bi-pointed pin, 4 awl tips, 1 cut and per-

forated deer toe bone, 6 turtle shell cup fragments, plus many unworked bone fragments. This village is definitely one of the La Motte Culture which is well represented, although largely uninvestigated, in the middle Wabash Valley. It is a later Woodland culture and probably dates between A.D. 500 to 1000, and in some way reflects prehistoric Southeastern United States cultural influences upon Wabash Valley prehistoric cultures.

The Continued Excavation of the Van Nuys Site: A Probable Late Woodland Occupation. ROGER J. FERGUSON, Ball State University.—The Van Nuys Site, Hn-25, (IAS-BSU) was recorded as a possible Woodland occupation site in 1967, and there was speculation that it was related to the Commissary Site, Hn-2, (IAS-BSU) which is believed to be a Late Woodland cemetery. The Van Nuys site is located in Henry Township, Henry County, Indiana. The 1969 excavation was continued north and west of the 1968 grid in order to further delineate the site. Various excavation techniques were used to ascertain the profile of the 1968 post hole assemblage. The depth of the excavation exceeded the 1968 depth by at least 12 inches in order to not miss evidence of multiple components.

One hundred-fifty body sherds were excavated in 1968, and one rim sherd identified as Late Woodland and similar to Albee Mound material. There were but 15 fragmented sherds recovered in 1969. The 1969 excavation of the perimeter of the previous profile did not yield a single post hole between the 22-inch to 30-inch level. The 1968 excavation yielded approximately 500 post holes that ranged in size from 1 inch to 9½ inches in diameter. The post holes were found between the 22- and 24-inch level and had a 5-degree tilt in an easterly direction. The holes that were recorded in 1969 were found at the 10- to 20-inch level. They were 2 to 2½ inches in diameter with no tilt.

The hypothesis of multiple structures and a permanent settlement was formulated in the 1968 excavation. The findings of the 1969 excavation do not support this hypothesis. The lack of occupational rubbish and the limited number of post holes found at the 22- to 24-inch level cast doubt upon the 1968 hypothesis. The post holes found in 1969 are few in number and the interpretation that they actually are post holes is debatable. The vast number of post patterns found in 1968 were the same diameter (2 inches) and each had a 5-degree easterly tilt. It is unlikely that such posts could support a sizeable structure. They were shallow and none were tapered and since all holes tilt in an easterly direction, it is unlikely that they were supportive. The possibilities of their being the remnants of trees is offered.

The decision prior to the excavation of Hn-25 in 1969 was (1) to delineate further the profile, and (2) to establish the components. This was adequately accomplished. It was recommended that no further excavation be undertaken at the Van Nuys Site but further site surveys should be continued to definitely establish an occupation area for the Commissary Site, Hn-2.

OTHER PAPERS READ

Who Were the Oneota People of Minnesota, Iowa, and Wisconsin?

ELIZABETH J. GLENN, Ball State University.

Environmental and Racial Factors in Ostoporosis: A Design for an Investigation. ANTHONY J. PERZIGIAN, Indiana University.