

## ANTHROPOLOGY

Chairman: BENJAMIN K. SWARTZ, JR., Department of Anthropology  
Ball State University, Muncie, IN 47306

Chairman-Elect: EDWARD M. DOLAN  
DePauw University, Greencastle, IN 46135

### ABSTRACTS

**Preliminary Comments on an Historic Miami Site in the Mississinewa River Valley.** RUSSELL E. LEWIS, Department of Sociology, University of Evansville, Evansville, Indiana 47702.—During the summer of 1976, Ball State University conducted excavations in Wabash County, Indiana in an attempt to locate the site of the Battle of Mississinewa (December 17 and 18, 1812) and associated Miami village sites.

Excavations were concentrated in an area thought to be the former village site of Miami leaders Metosinia and his son Meshingomesia. Dr. B.K. Swartz, Jr., B.S.U., was project director; Dr. Elizabeth Glenn, B.S.U., served as the project ethnohistorian; and, the author served as field director for the excavations and is responsible for the analysis of the fieldwork and artifact assemblage.

Archaeological and archival data indicated the presence of a cabin which could have been occupied from circa 1813 to 1874. The dimensions of the cabin were approximately 10 feet wide by 20 feet long with end posts spaced 4 feet apart and side posts spaced 5 feet apart. The cabin had a fieldstone foundation, dirt floor, a door on each of the long sides, and a pit hearth 15 inches in diameter. Window glass was also present in the cabin floor area. Archival data indicates that such cabins were being constructed on the Miami Reserve at least as early as 1827.

The artifact assemblage has been compared with the artifact assemblages of sites from roughly the same time period, including sites located in California, Georgia, Illinois, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, and Ontario. The assemblage includes most of the items which one would expect to find in a Late Historic (1780-1820) through Civil War era Indian village site. Most of the artifacts were trade items of European manufacture. Some American materials and a limited amount of native Miami materials were also recovered.<sup>1</sup>

Included in the artifact assemblage are the following: a variety of glass and shell trade beads; Dutch, French and English gunflints; gun parts, musket balls, and percussion caps; trade silver including brooches and a tinkling cone; forged and cut nails; iron, brass, copper, lead, and pewter artifacts consisting of kettle and knife fragments, tinkling cones, bells, Jew's harps, etc.; worked bone and antler; glass and ceramic frag-

<sup>1</sup> In addition to the artifactual material discussed here, there were also 420 non-human bone and tooth fragments recovered. E. Joseph Fabyan, B.S.U. Graduate Student in Anthropology was responsible for the faunal analysis.

ments; shell, bone, metal, porcelain, and glass buttons; and English and American kaolin pipe fragments.

The majority of the material indicates that the cabin was probably occupied circa 1830 to 1870, although there is a limited amount of earlier material in the assemblage. For more information and a preliminary site report contact the author.

**The Chert Assemblage of the Daugherty-Monroe Site, A Circa 400 A.D. Village.** GARY A. APFELSTADT, Department of Anthropology, University of Illinois-Urbana, Urbana, Illinois 61801.—Excavations have been conducted at 12-Su-13 for several years to mitigate the impact of proposed levee construction. This report summarized the analysis of the chert remains that were recovered during the 1975 season. Based upon earlier studies, this analysis employed an imposed categorization. It was conducted without microscopic wear-damage analysis, and it was undertaken to determine the patterns of chert utilization and on-site activity. The items are attributed to tool use, flint knapping, firing activity, or unidentified. The artifacts with characteristic firing attributes result from at least two sets of heating conditions. Behavioral correlates of these may be stone boiling, stone hearth, and heat treatment methods of use and preparation. The waste from flint knapping activity was segregated among four categories (i.e., cores, decortication flakes, preparation flakes, bifacial flakes) with the latter three representing successive units of lithic reduction. The chert tool categories include stemmed bifaces, stemless bifaces, core uniface, flake uniface, and blades; they were tentatively grouped into cutting, scraping, perforating, or projectile type functions. From the observation of material type, it is evident that the inhabitants practiced differential use of materials. Non-local materials predominate in the categories of blades, stemmed bifaces, and bifacial flakes, while local materials account for all of the stemless bifaces, unifacial flake and core tools, and for most of the cores, preparation flakes, and decortication flakes. On this basis, it is likely that: a) chert was a multi-purpose resource; b) local materials were used in the range of activities; c) non-local materials were used in a restricted set of activities; d) local materials were transported to the site before reduction to tool forms; e) non-local materials were transported to the site after reduction to tool forms; and, f) tools of both materials were reworked at the site.

**A History of East-Central Indiana Archaeological Study.** B. K. SWARTZ, JR., Department of Anthropology, Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana 47306.—Four periods of scholarly prehistoric study in East-Central Indiana are identified and described: (1) Pioneer Speculative Period (1800-1847), (2) Pioneer Descriptive Period (1847-1937), (3) Professional Excavation Period (1930-1964), and (4) Professional Classificatory Period (1964- ).