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N. Russell

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HIGHLIGHTS
OF THIS
ISSUE

- * Analysis of new B.C. Arch. Sites Act
- * Reports on two major excavations

editorial

COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS

The revelation (elsewhere in this issue) that there is not one single archaeological site left intact in Metropolitan Toronto is salutary.

Toronto is - we presume - more urbanized than Vancouver and the money-grubbers of Bay Street perhaps lack some of our western sensitivity to the environment.

Yet there remains a suspicion that if the same thing is not already true of Vancouver, it soon could be.

The Roll of Honor of those lost

locally in Man's Conquest of the Environment is cause for pause: Marpole, False Creek, Locarno, Musqueam, Liquid Air, St. Mungo ... where are they now?

The professionals probably know many other sites that have gone and doubtless some that have survived.

But perhaps it is time we too took stock of these, our non-renewable archaeological resources in Greater Vancouver, and then moved hastily to preserve the fragments.

The

B. C. Archaeological and Historic Sites Protection Act:

a review, by Nick Russell

A Bill to replace the 1960 Act was introduced in the provincial legislature by the government in March 1972. While substantially the same as its predecessor, it includes some subtle changes, in places merely tightening possible ambiguities but in others constituting a significant shift in intention.

The original act has long been regarded as a benchmark in enlightened thinking in North America, and the revised version serves to further this reputation.

However, it still does not go as far as some conservationists wish, and of course introduction of the new act makes the likelihood of further amendments extremely remote.

Furthermore, some of the less desirable elements of the old act have been retained. Likely sticking points include retention of the word "knowingly" in the prohibition sections: damage to sites must not be done "knowingly". It is this virtually unprovable phrase that has prevented the province from prosecuting in at least one palpably culpable case.

Similarly, a clause--new to the act--that developers should not suffer "undue hardship" at the hands of archaeological research will bear some interpretation.

But the most obvious omission is rather more philosophical: an archaeological site still has to be "exceptional" before it is officially "designated" by the government, and only then is it fully protected.

In the 12 years history of the previous act, not one single site was so designated.

So in essence the revised version is not essentially different from the old--somewhat tightened, with a few good ideas, but not immediately clamping down on either the minor pot-hunters nor the developers.

It will remain to be seen whether the Provincial Archaeologist can persuade the Minister to show that the paper tiger really has teeth.

(It still seems incredible that the gentleman who last summer dug a 10-foot deep hole in the precious Glenrose Cannery midden could have got away with it.)

T H E A C T

This is a layman's attempt to interpret changes in the Act and their implications. It should by no means be regarded as an authoritative substitute for the Act itself, which may be obtained for about 25¢ from the Queen's Printer, Victoria.

OLD STYLE

NEW STYLE

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|---|---|
| <p>(1) Title of Act.</p> | <p>(1) "Site" is defined simple as "lan of archaeological or historic significance, and includes land covered by water". (The latter phrase is expected only to include fresh water, not saltchuck</p> |
| <p>(2) <u>Definition</u>
"Archaeological site" and "historic site" definitions depended on sites being <u>designated</u> as such.</p> | <p>(2) Where land or objects are, in th opinion of the minister, "of exceptional archaeological or historic significance" they may be designated as such. If this results in financial loss to the owner, the government will pay compensation.</p> |
| <p>(3) <u>Designation</u>
The Minister responsible could "designate any site as an archaeological site or historic site. There was no indication of what designation achieved. But throughout the act there were references to "archaeological sites" which presumably according to the definition were only those sites which had been designated as such.</p> | <p>(3) Unchanged</p> |
| <p>(4) <u>Acquisition</u>
The government can acquire sites or objects by purchase, gift or lease.</p> | <p>(4)</p> |
| <p>(5) <u>Prohibitions</u>
Although the phrasing has been substantially changed, this section remains the same in intent, and hinges on the word "knowingly": No person without a permit "shall knowingly destroy, desecrate, deface, move, excavate" etc. designated sites, burials, pictographs and petroglyphs. Nor shall they touch sites on Crown land without a permit.</p> | <p>(4)</p> |

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| <p>(6) <u>Permits</u>
The government can issue, limit, suspend or cancel permits.
("Suspend" is added in the new version.) Reports may be required.</p> | <p>(5)</p> |
| <p>(7) <u>Private land</u>
No excavation can be done without consent of the owner.</p> | <p>(6) Where excavations are being carried out <u>with consent of the owner</u> on sites <u>not</u> designated or not on Crown land, reports must still be submitted to the minister, and objects may not be taken out of the province.</p> |
| <p>(8) <u>Seizure</u>
Objects removed without a permit or contrary to a permit could be seized by the government.</p> | <p>This section is dropped in the revised version. Presumably "designation" of an object could have similar effect?</p> |
| <p>(9) <u>Penalty</u>
Up to \$500 and/or six months jail.</p> | <p>(8) Up to \$1,000 and/or six months.</p> |
| <p>(10) <u>Preventive Measures</u>
If a site is threatened with destruction, the minister "may" require the destroyers to provide for archaeological work.</p> | <p>(7) If a site is threatened (by developers or other damage), the minister can order a site survey or excavation <u>at the owner's expense</u>. If necessary, development work or other activity will be <u>halted</u> for the research. But such work should not cause "undue hardship" to the developer.</p> |
| <p>(11) <u>Notices</u>
Minister can post signs at sites, referring to the Act.</p> | <p>(9)</p> |
| <p>(12) <u>Agreements</u>
The minister may erect buildings, monuments, notices, etc. where necessary.</p> | <p>(10)</p> |
| <p>(13) <u>Advisory Boards</u>
The minister may create an Advisory Board(s) to advise him on matters relating to this Act. Included should be the Provincial Museum director, the Provincial Archivist, and a U.B.C. archaeologist.</p> | <p>(11) Representatives from S.F.U. and the U. of Victoria are added to the Board. But, strangely, there is still no mention of the Provincial Archaeologist.</p> |
| <p>(14, 15, 16)
(Remaining sections merely refer to the power of government to enforce the Act, and the repeal of the old Act.)</p> | <p>"12, 13, 14)</p> |

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Postscript -some late notes on the amended Act

*Dr. Roy Carlson: "They have removed the most important part, making the act binding on the provincial government and its agencies. The government is really the biggest destroyer of archaeological sites in the province."
(S.F.U.)

*Mr. Bjorn Simonsen: "The Crown is still not bound by the Act, to everyone's chagrin I suppose. But this was because the Provincial Secretary did not feel this was necessary at this time, as we really are getting good co-operation from government departments."
(Provincial Archaeologist)

On designation: "Several sites have in fact been designated, including Milliken, one near Prince Rupert, and a couple of petroglyphs."

On seizure: "Seizure of objects will still be possible under the new act, either under the Designation section or under Section 12, which gives the government power to carry out the intent of the act."

On private land: "This is aimed primarily at the developers, but it definitely will impose limitations on everybody working on private land."

On the Advisory Board: "The Archaeologist cannot really serve on the Board: he in effect works for the Board."

On expropriation: "In the draft bill there was provision for expropriation where necessary, but this has been thrown out because the government's whole policy on expropriation is under review. It may be put back later."

Mr. Simonsen also announced that he had prepared a pamphlet for mass distribution, which will explain the law to laymen, especially tourists, and will be available in places like the Island ferries. The old booklet explaining the act would also be republished, and a new poster outlining the new act will be displayed in post offices.

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THE ADVISORY BOARD:
REPORT ON TWO ACTIVITIES

by Bjorn O. Simonsen, Provincial Archaeologist

The first season of salvage excavations in the Canadian portion of the Libby Dam Pondage ended on October 30 of last year. I will not go into detail concerning the results of these excavations since this has already appeared in a previous issue of "The Midden". I am happy to announce that the Minister of the Department of Lands, Forests and Water Resources, The Honourable Ray Williston, has allocated the sum of \$15,000 to enable the Archaeological Sites Advisory Board to continue the salvage of archaeological sites lying within the area of the pondage. At present, plans are being made to begin excavations about the 1st of April and to continue until funds are depleted. A total of five sites will be excavated. As last year, the field work will be carried out under the direction of Mr. Wayne Choquette.

As readers of "The Midden" are aware, several reports have been received of an alleged infraction against the Archaeological and Historic Sites Protection Act (1960) involving the Municipality of Delta and the construction firm of Phillips Barratt-Hillier Jones and Partners of Vancouver. Specifically, it was alleged that a large number of prehistoric burials were disturbed during initial clearing operations for a new ice rink being constructed by the Municipality of Delta on land which was part of the well known Boundary Bay Midden.

Unfortunately, the Archaeological Sites Advisory Board was not informed of this construction project until clearing and excavation for building foundations had been completed. Upon hearing of the disturbance at the site the Provincial Archaeologist investigated and met with representatives of both the construction company and the Municipality of Delta. Both parties assured me that they had no knowledge of burials being disturbed during construction activities. However, evidence exists that human remains were disturbed since skeletal

material was found on the surface of the site by a Provincial Museum staff member and, in addition, skeletal material was turned over to Mr. Mike Dixon of radio station CJOR by a worker employed at the ice rink site. This material is now at the Provincial Museum.

Evidence therefore exists that human remains were disturbed, but before charges can be laid, it must be shown that such remains were "knowingly" destroyed, desecrated or altered (Section 5, Subsection 2, Archaeological and Historic Sites Protection Act (1960)). Since neither the Municipality of Delta nor the firm of Phillips Barratt profess to have "knowingly" disturbed burials, the Archaeological Sites Advisory Board has been advised by the Attorney-General's Department that charges should not be laid in this case.

It is unfortunate that sites continue to be destroyed as a result of construction activity taking place on private property and where developers "unknowingly" destroy archaeological material. The problem is one of education and communication. The Archaeological Sites Advisory Board is presently actively seeking the co-operation of private industry in an effort to solve these problems and has proposed changes to the Archaeological and Historic Sites Protection Act that if implemented should help make the Act more effective. The Archaeological Society of British Columbia has been of great service to the Board and the people of this province in adding its voice and influence in the fight to protect our archaeological resources. I hope that the Society will continue to support these efforts in the future.

* * * * *

EXCAVATIONS IN A NATIONAL PARK:
a brief report from Fort St. James

by Donald A. Harris, Archaeologist
National Historic Sites Service
Ottawa

Fort St. James, founded in 1806 at the outlet of Stuart Lake, served as headquarters of the New Caledonia fur district for the North West Company and later for the Hudson's Bay Company, throughout the nineteenth century. This post, as administrative centre for a district that covered almost 90,000 square miles, had under its jurisdiction seven other major posts and a number of sporadically created smaller outposts. These posts, Fort Chilcotin, Fort Alexandria, Fort Fraser, Fort George, Fort Babine, Fort McLadd and Fort Connelly, channelled all of their produce through and received all their supplies from Fort St. James which acted as collection and distribution point for all the goods coming into or leaving the district.

From the time of its inception until the mid-1900's there were four consecutively-built forts on Stuart Lake to house the trading affairs of the two companies mentioned above. Although all of these posts were built in the near vicinity of the current town of Fort St. James, only the last of these partially survives. This group of buildings was built between the years 1884-90 and of the 10 or 12 original structures five still exist. These consist of a two-storey Red River frame warehouse, a Red River frame fish cache, the men's house, the main dwelling house and a small milk house. The last three of these buildings are all of dovetailed log construction. It is this post that is being developed into a National Historic Park by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development in co-operation with the Government of British Columbia.

After the decision to develop Fort St. James as a park was made an extensive research program aimed at its restoration and interpretation was begun. This research has consisted not only of the archaeological research that is being reported here, but also of an intensive historical research of archival material both in Canada and in England pertaining to the post throughout its operational history. As this research has progressed two sets of related problems have emerged: Those pertaining to the physical

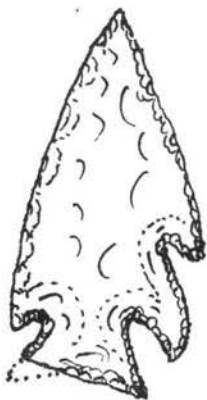
development of the site as a National Historic Park and those arising from the need to provide a broader interpretation of Fort St. James and its relation to the fur trade.

Because current developmental plans call for an interpretation of the post at an 1890-95 period, the archaeological and historical research EXCAVATIONS have been directed toward supplying information to satisfy that requirement. The IN 1971 excavations conducted in 1971 were laid out primarily to retrieve structural information concerning the standing buildings or their contemporaries which have been destroyed or demolished. In the process of fulfilling these objectives exploratory excavations were made around the foundations of the warehouse, the fish cache and the men's house in search of tangible evidence of various fences and boardwalks. Extensive excavations were conducted on the site of the interpreter's house and on the site of the trade store both of which were destroyed by fire in 1935 and 1919 respectively. The central area of the post was also excavated and the foundations of an unexpected structure were uncovered. There is no documentary information relating to this feature, but it may in some way be connected to one of the earlier posts of Fort St. James. In 1972 these excavations will be expanded to include the workshop and forge, the sled and harness shed, the flagpole site and, hopefully, the area around the main dwelling house. There were also several privies on the site which should contain considerable amounts of artifacts.

Indirectly related to the site and its excavation a number of other activities in the general vicinity of the fort were pursued. These included the collection of Douglas fir core samples for dendrochronological and climatological data and the collection of botanical specimens to determine the range and variety of plant species around Fort St. James. In conjunction with this, some ethnobotanical data was collected and correlated with the aid of local Carrier informants who provided Carrier names and usages. It is hoped that this study can be amplified and corresponding zoological material can be compiled as well.

Finally, in attempting to satisfy the objective of viewing Fort St. James as the hub of the New Caledonia fur trade a survey was conducted on the OTHER SITES sites of the other North West-Hudson's Bay Company sites known to have been built within SURVEYED the district. These surveys included the mapping and photographing of standing structures, identification of their building materials and surface collections of the site. Plant specimens were also secured and local residents who might be able to contribute orally to the past histories of these sites were sought.

Preparations are now being made for a second season in Fort St. James and the material collected during the 1971 season is currently being analyzed. It is hoped that out of this work not only will the historic site of Fort St. James be authentically developed, but that a comprehensive picture of the fur trade in New Caledonia and its effects on the settlement of the north-central interior of the province can be drawn.



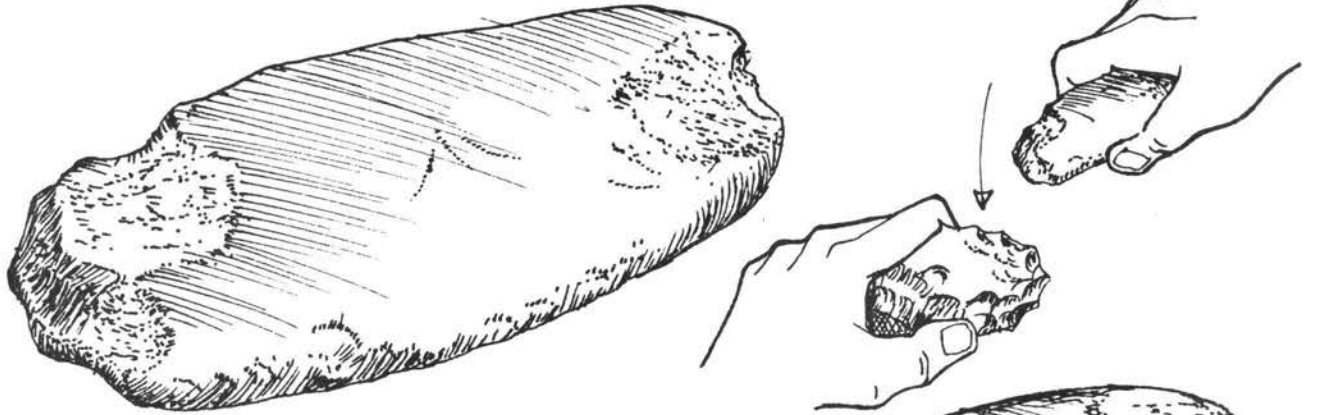
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Flaked basalt point,
one of two surface-
collected at Skawahlooks,
between Katz and Ruby
Creek. Byrnes Collection

Similar points are also
said to occur in the
Lillooet area.

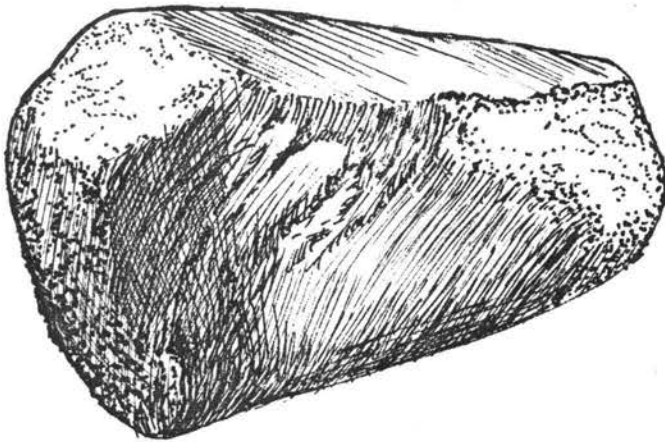
The Society offers its best wishes to Dr. Carl Borden for a speedy recovery from his recent illness.

HAMMER STONES

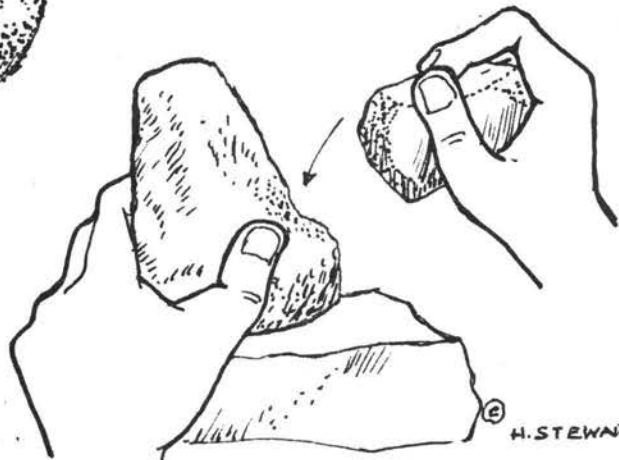


ABOVE and CENTRE.

HAMMERSTONES USED AS FLAKING TOOLS IN THE MANUFACTURE OF FLAKED AND CHIPPED WEAPONS AND IMPLEMENTS.



ANOTHER USE WAS IN THE MANUFACTURING TECHNIQUE OF "PECKING", WHERE THE STONE OBJECT BEING SHAPED WAS PECKED AT BY SHARP, REPEATED BLOWS OF THE HAMMER STONE, TO WEAR AWAY THE SURFACE. [NOTE HOW SHAPE AND WEAR PATTERN OF ABOVE DIFFER FROM FLAKING TOOLS]



H. STEWART '72

ARTIFACTS FROM UBC ARCHAEOLOGY DEPT.
COURTESY — DR. C. E. BORDEN

Often inconspicuous and perhaps not very dramatic, is the HAMMER STONE, a tool of many different uses, found widespread throughout archaeological sites in many areas. Basically it is a smooth stone in its natural shape, but modified through use. In size, the hammer stone can vary from quite a small pebble of a few inches, to a fairly heavy stone held in both hands, but they all have in common the result of hammering. This shows up as a pitted or battered effect at one or both ends, and sometimes along one or both sides also. The battering on the stone surface may be slight, making it easily overlooked as "just another rock", or show evidence of a great deal of use. (Memo to those who work on digs: Check on ALL stones before tossing them out of your pit!)

Hilary Stewart

EXCAVATIONS AT TEZLI: A BRIEF NOTE

by Paul F. Donahue

Anthropology Dept.
University of Wisconsin

LOCATED about 55 miles northeast of Anahim Lake, B. C., at the outlet of West Kluskus lake, in present day Carrier Indian territory, is the multicomponent pithouse village site of Tezli (FgSd-1). The site, first recorded and tested in 1970, consists of 45 circular depressions in four clusters representing pithouses, caches, and tent-rings (Donahue, 1971). From 14 June to 18 August 1971, Donahue and a crew of four conducted a multi-disciplinary research project at the site. Support for the project was provided by the National Museum of Man, Ottawa, and The Explorers Club, New York.

OUR primary aims were to determine the cultural and temporal significance of the four depression clusters, collect contemporary and paleoenvironmental data, and survey the immediately surrounding area. Therefore, a detailed map of the 10-acre site was completed and at least one depression in each cluster excavated. Thus far, three depressions have been completely excavated, nine sampled, and two test pits dug away from the depressions.

WORK of an environmental nature was multifold and consisted, in part, of obtaining relatively undisturbed soil profiles by digging the above mentioned two test pits, and the collection of plants and animals and their remains. Included in these collections were tree cores, pollen, seeds, rodents, and fish, to name a few. Daily meteorological records were also kept, and a geological survey of the Kluskus lakes area undertaken.

SITE surveying was directed at Kluskus, Tsacha, Kuyakuz, Pelican, and Fishpot lakes, and 17 sites were recorded. Five sites with a total of 76 depressions, including the 45 at Tezli, were located at West Kluskus lake. 17 sites located The minimum number of depressions at any one site was six. In comparison to other localities in central British Columbia, West Kluskus lake appears to have been an area of dense occupation.

PITHOUSES ranged from a maximum of 11m to a minimum of about 4m. In the course of excavations, postholes, posts, benches, hearths, and other features were exposed. Most pithouses had a central hearth encircled by a bench at some distance from the hearth. Less frequently found were central and edge postholes, although this may be accounted for by the fact that many pits were trenched rather than completely excavated. One unique pithouse may be a menstrual hut. This is believed plausible on the basis of its deep small diameter central pit, and ethnographic analogy. (See Teit, 1900:198) Evidence for tent-like structures is present in the form of three raised earthen rings containing artifacts, but lacking hearths.

APPROXIMATELY 50% of the over 1800 artifacts recovered are utilized and retouched flakes, exclusive of those that may be found in with the estimated 23,000 debitage flakes collected. Temporally and spatially more diagnostic are the projectile points, scrapers, cortex-spall tools, ground stone fragments, microblades and microblade cores, worked bone, and the few historic items. Projectile points have been tentatively categorized as small side-notched, side-notched, flat based corner-notched, expanding stem corner-notched, subtriangular, and fish-tailed.

PRELIMINARY comparisons of selected artifacts at Tezli to those from other sites on the Plateau are now possible. For example, the microblades and cores can, on the basis of their morphology, be correlated with Sanger's (1968:114) Plateau Microblade tradition dating between 5000 B.C. and A.D. 500. As for projectile points, the flat based corner-notched and fish-tailed forms at Tezli appear similar to points reported by Mitchell (1970) for the Poplar Grove site (FaRx-1) on the Chilcotin Plateau. Further south, at the Honest Paul site (EcRh-1) near the Nicola River, Wyall (1971) has recovered expanding stem corner-notched points which appear analogous to those from Tezli. Although some temporal differences exist in regard to the points mentioned for the three sites it is expected that further analysis of the Tezli material will help resolve matters.

THREE radiocarbon dates are available from pithouses at Tezli. A date of 1870 ± 100 B.P. (S-586, NMC-411) or A.D. 80 was obtained on charcoal found above the bench in Pit D, and charcoal on the floor of Pit B gave a date of 1490 ± 100 B.C. (GaK-3280, NMC-416) or A.D. 460. A date of 565 ± 65 B.P. (S-585, NMC-410) or A.D. 1385 was derived from the hearth in Pit EE.

INITIAL analysis suggests that the Tezli site has been intermittently occupied over the last 2000 years, and that possibly three separate villages were built at the site. The earliest may have been a winter village of 12 pithouses, arranged in two parallel rows, constructed about A.D. 500. This is inferred by the presence of microblades, and the C¹⁴ date from Pit B. Less certain as a contemporaneous winter village is the cluster of pits on the east side of Kluksus Stream. Of this group only Pit EE, dated to A.D. 1385, was completely excavated. The most recent village is represented by the three tent-rings or surface dwelling remains. The tent-rings are believed to indicate a summer occupation dating to the late prehistoric period on the basis of the artifact inventory and house form.

UNFORTUNATELY, excavations will not be conducted at Tezli during the 1972 field season, however, it is hoped that the project can be continued in 1973. Clearly, a site with the proven potential of Tezli for yielding information concerning the post A.D. period merits further research.

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* * * *

A.S.B.C. DIARY

Meetings: 8 p.m., Centennial Museum Auditorium

May 10 - Annual General Meeting - Guest Speaker - Art Charlton, Graduate Student, Simon Fraser University, on the Belcarra Dig.

Jun 14 - Mavis Balshaw and Bill Lane - illustrated talk on Mayaland Revisited.

Special Events:

Apr. 19 - Visit under the guidance of Gordon Hanson to the U.B.C. Archaeology Lab to view the artifacts, a follow-up to his lecture on the Katz dig. Details to be mailed to members.

Films: Friday and Saturday evenings at the Centennial Museum Auditorium, 8 p.m. Admission - 50c.

May 12 and 13 - "This was the Time" - a day of celebration when the Haida Indians recall the past.

"You are on Indian Land" - Mohawk Indians demonstrating on International bridge between Canada and U.S.A.

May 26 and 27 - "Kenojuak - Eskimo Artist" - stone cut prints from West Baffin Island.

"Out of a Chinese Painting Brush" - Chan Shu-Chi demonstrates his techniques.

"Ancient Art of Peru" - art of pre-Columbian cultures up to the Incas.

"Painting with Sand" - traditional sand paintings of the Navajo Indian Medicine Man.

June 2 and 3 - "The Ancient Egyptian" - use of art and archaeology to show the Egyptian as he really was.

"The Ancient Peruvian" - shows collapse of the Inca Empire and attempts to uncover older civilizations.

Cook-out Demonstration of Indian Foods

May 6 - 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. - can be watched from the Maritime Museum parking lot or from a special area on the beach (\$2.50 per person). For information please phone Mrs. Joy Inglis of the Centennial Museum at 736-4431.

GOING, Going, g o n e . . . in Toronto

Most of the archaeological sites in Metropolitan Toronto have been totally or partially destroyed. None is pristine.

That is the salutary conclusion of an enterprising survey made last year under an Opportunities for Youth grant and just reported in the February 1972 Newsletter of The Ontario Archaeological Society.

The project, supported by Dr. W. Kenyon of the Royal Ontario Museum, and Dr. Conrad Heidenreich of York University, consisted of making an inventory of the Metro archaeological resources. The results:

78% of the sites are destroyed
15% are partially demolished
<u>7% are disturbed</u>
<u>100%</u>

Mr. Victor Konrad, author of the Newsletter report, remarks that prospects for archaeology in what is Canada's second largest city "are dim indeed". Predicting that urbanization and looting would increase, he notes that of the 60 sites identified, only 7% are expected to be left without further development (73% have been developed; 7% are to be developed; plans for 13% are uncertain).

Even seemingly innocent plans for cycle trails along Hydro rights-of-way would increase accessibility and hence looting, he fears.

The OFY study concluded with a call for emergency measures to record sites being developed and to preserve the few remaining sites for "educational recreation" in conjunction with the Parks Department. Other proposals included the placing of commemorative markers at the locations of important demolished remains, carrying out rescue digs on threatened sites, and attempting to build a reconstruction of one or more sites.

Five university students participated in last year's project, which also received funds from the Metro and Region Conservation Authority, and York University Geography Dept.

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