

SOME DATA ON CLEAR LAKE VILLAGE CULTURAL OBJECTS

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Data on the incompletely excavated Clear Lake village¹ given in this paper concern material excavated by Mr. and Mrs. George Schoenbeck and Anson Simpson, members of the Peoria Academy of Science. It comprises a brief account of recently excavated objects of particular interest and a list of the shells, including the mollusks as identified by Dr. Henry van der Schalie² and the gastropods, identified by Mr. Calvin Goodrich.³

The abundant pottery has included two out-of-the-ordinary items, not yet identified, a rim with cameo decoration and a sherd with two opposite finished edges, which might be described as a 2-inch portion of a band 2½ inches wide.

Other objects of interest were two platform pipes, one made from a fossil and one from clay; a flint spade similar to those of southern Illinois, from the lowest habitation depth; a flat 6-inch polished hematite adz, or blade, from the upper depth; portions of two stone items, not yet identified, described here as bars with transverse grooves. Two shell objects were a disk-shaped bead with crosswise perforation (such as might account for the previously reported shells with variously located cut-out circular portions) and a shell carved into a human face in profile. Occasional shell spoons, made from *Lampsilis ventricosa*, each show an unevenly shaped hole in the center.

Not yet explained are two sharply defined curved compact layers, each composed of charcoal, sooty rocks, and blackened sand, lying one above the other with a layer of other sand between. The relative position, the outline and the condition of the two layers suggest to the

writer layers in the rounded bottom of a pit approximately 8 x 6 feet in size, possibly an unopened roasting pit. A concentration of an unusual number of animal bones, comprising bison, deer, dog?, turtle, beaver, and human bones, lay near by.

The mollusk series, stated to be that of a large river with the exception of one creek species, *Mycromya iris*, comprised 24 species, including *Elliptio dilatatus*, *E. crassidens*, *Pleurobema cordatum coccineum*, *P. cordatum solidum*, *P. cordatum catillus*, *Fusconaias undata*, *F. flava*, *Amblema peruviana*, *Megalonaias gigantea*, *Cyclonaias tuberculata*, *Plethobasus cyphus*, *Quadrula pustulosa*, *Q. nodulata*, *Micromya iris*, *Ligumia recta latissima*, *Plagiola lineolata*, *Actinonaias carinata*, *Proptera alata*, *Lampsilis ventricosa*, *L. siliquoidea*, *L. siliquoidea rosacea*, *Anodonta grandis*, *Leptodea fragilis* (probably), *Lasmigona complanata*.

The presence of a number of *Elliptio crassidens*, a species stated to be more common farther south although known in Illinois River, more or less as a straggler, and the scarcity of representatives of the *Anodontinae* were noted.

The gastropods were identified as 13 species, including *Mesodon pennsylvanicus*, *Mesodon thyroideus*, *Anguispira alternata*, *Anguispira kochi*, *Allogona profunda*, *Pleurosera acuta*, *Physa gyrina*, *Campeloma integra*, *Lymnaea palustris*, *Lioplax subcarinatus*, *Helisoma trivolvis*, *Goniobasis livescens*, and *Anculosa praerosa*. The nearest known habitat of *Anculosa praerosa*, a specimen which had been made into a bead, was given as Grand Chains, Wabash River, Posey County, Indiana.

¹The Clear Lake Village site in Tazewell and Mason counties was originally investigated by the University of Chicago and described by Fay-Cooper Cole and Thorne Deuel in "Rediscovering Illinois," University of Chicago publication, 1937.

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