

ANTHROPOLOGY

Chairman: WILLIAM R. ADAMS, Department of Anthropology,
Indiana University, Bloomington 47401

EDWARD DOLAN, Department of Anthropology,
DePauw University, Greencastle, Indiana 46135, was elected
Chairman for 1972

ABSTRACTS

A Brief Synthesis of Indiana Prehistory. B. K. SWARTZ, JR., Department of Anthropology, Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana 47306.—Indiana was subdivided into three physiographic zones, Moraine and Lake, Tipton Till Plain, and Valley and Upland, and its prehistory was examined on this backdrop through six developmental stages, Lithic (usually termed Paleo-Indian in North American archaeology), Archaic, "Intermediate" (a provisional stage specifically formulated from an Indiana point of view), Woodland, Mississippian, and Woodland-Mississippian (a fusion of the two preceding, rather than a stage in itself.)

A Second Report on Earthwork Seven, the New Castle Site, a Portion of the Southeast Quadrant—1971. GARY M. HEATHCOTE, YASUO TOYODA, and B. K. SWARTZ, JR., Department of Anthropology, Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana 47306.—Earthwork 7, Hn-1 (IAS-BSU), is a small "sacred enclosure" located on the southern periphery of the New Castle Site complex. Descriptively, the earthwork is a low-lying natural knoll, measuring 67 feet by 81 feet, surrounded by an aboriginally excavated interior ditch. Excavations in the southeast quadrant this year revealed the presence of plain Woodland Ware sherds within the disturbed fill strata of the interior ditch. No diagnostic features, such as post molds, were discovered, and only one lithic artifact, a pecked stone ball, was found *in situ* within the earthwork.

Continued Excavation of Earthwork Four, New Castle Site, Indiana. HAROLD G. STACY and B. K. SWARTZ, JR., Department of Anthropology, Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana 47306.—For the past 6 years excavation has been carried on a panduriform mound known as Earthwork Four. This year the major portion of the northeast quadrant of the east mound was excavated. A total of 15 features were uncovered in the 39 5x5 foot excavation units excavated during the 1971 Summer Field School. These included three human cremations, one probable post hole, one unique soil formation, a bird burial, four ash and charcoal lenses, one group of rocks surrounding a piece of red ocher, two fire hearths (one with post holes), and two features of fire cracked rocks. During the excavation six scrapers, five pieces of nondescript pottery, two cores, three points, and a post hole filler from Feature 2 were unearthed. A rusted piece of metal and a square nail were found 48 inches below the surface in units N1-E3 and N2-E3, and another piece of rusted metal was found at the base of the mound in unit S1-E3. Also in unit S1-E3 the unexcavated portion of a cremation was uncovered. A portion of this earthwork had been excavated, possibly Redding's work in 1890.

Aerial Photography in Archaeological Survey. ROBERT E. PACE, Department of Anthropology, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, Indiana 47809. —Where extensive areas are to be searched for archaeological sites, carefully planned and executed aerial photography lends invaluable assistance. While aerial film will record a few obvious sites, its greatest value lies in identifying relationships of surface natural features, land-use patterns, and back-road networks. With this information and topographic maps, surface survey can proceed more rapidly and efficiently. At specific sites, aerial film may record evidence of archaeological features not apparent to the surface observer.

Archeology of Tell Hesban, Jordan. ROBERT LITTLE, Department of Anthropology, Indiana University, Bloomington 47401. —Tell Hesban, or ancient Heshbon, is a city mound at the edge of the plain of Moab in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. It has an elevation of 895 meters above sea level and is 26 road kilometers southwest of the capital city of Amman. It is 30 kilometers east of the north end of the Dead Sea.

The first time it is mentioned in history, it was a Moabite city, then a capital city of the Amorites of the Late Bronze Age.

It was continuously occupied from that point by Israelies, Greeks, Romans, Christians, and Arabs. It was last mentioned by Arab writers in the 14 century A.D.

The first expedition to Heshbon, sponsored by American Schools of Oriental Research and staffed by 45 technicians and 165 native workers was scheduled in 1967 but had to be canceled. There was 8 successful weeks in 1968, then canceled again in 1970, and another successful 8 weeks in 1971.

Much material has been recovered and analyzed, but since the second season has only reached Iron III and possibly II and in only some of the areas, it is too early for final conclusions. About 5 more seasons will be needed to develop a clear picture of 4,000 or more years of continuous history at one location.

The Commissary Site: A Woodland Cemetery. GLORY K. HOUCK and B. K. SWARTZ, JR., Department of Anthropology, Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana 47306. —Concentrated effort was made to discover a burial left in 1968 that would allow the reconstruction of the grid system established in 1966. Stakes from the original grid and a burial corresponding to the 1968 provenience were exposed; but, the missing lower limbs of the burial and its closeness to the edge of the site cause doubt that it is the 1968 burial.

A total of 13 individuals in 9 designated burials were exposed and removed. Five individuals were removed from one unit alone. The possible 1968 burial was associated with a great number of artifacts, including beaver incisors, worked chert objects, bear canines, antler tines, a tortoise shell rattle, and the remains of what may have been a "medicine bag." In

association with another individual in the same excavation unit were an expanded stem elbow pipe of steatite and two shouldered knives.

The Henry County district soil scientist identified the dark brown soil surrounding burials as gravelly silt loam, identical in texture to the soil found in the valleys of the Big Blue and Little Blue Rivers. In his opinion, the normal subsoil of the site had been removed and replaced with the soil transported from the valley beds.

Special emphasis was placed on stratigraphy and outlining of burial pits.