

led to those famed Iroquois tribes—the historic Huron, Petun, Neutral and Onondaga—are relatively well known. We know that corn was being grown before A.D. 1000 and that beans were acquired before A.D. 1450. Sunflower seeds and squash were also present but their dates of introduction are still unclear. Tobacco smoking appears to have become prevalent among these Iroquois people by A.D. 1350.

With the introduction of European goods, diseases and intrigues, the agents of these preceding 11,000 years of history become the subject matter of other disciplines.

Archaeological Work in Eastern Canada, 1966.—Of the eleven major archaeological field projects in 1966, more than half were supported in full or part by the National Museum of Canada contract system. Ontario led the way in activity with the following parties and projects: J. N. Emerson, University of Toronto, continued research on the historic Huron village of Cahigue visited by Samuel de Champlain in A.D. 1615; K. C. A. Dawson of Lakehead University excavated a Laurel village and burial mound site occupied before the birth of Christ; W. A. Kenyon of the Royal Ontario Museum investigated a burial mound along the Rainy River; K. Kidd and R. Vastokas of Trent University were involved in the excavation of a number of sites in the Trent River Valley; J. Bond of Windsor University directed a student excavation of a village site occupied by a little-known Late Woodland population; and J. F. Pendergast of Ottawa continued his investigation of prehistoric Onondaga sites of the St. Lawrence Valley.

In Quebec, C. A. Martijn of Montreal completed a three-year archaeological survey and excavation in the Lake Témiscouata region in the southeastern portion of the province. René Ribes of the Musée d'Archéologie, Trois-Rivières, continued work on sites in the St. Maurice River Valley. Finally, the Société d'Archéologie préhistorique du Québec of Montreal carried out excavation on a large and vitally important multi-component site at Pointe-aux-Buissons on the St. Lawrence River.

In Nova Scotia, salvage excavations were carried out by J. Erskine of Wolfville, N.S. Helen Devereux of the University of Calgary completed her third year of survey and excavation in central Newfoundland which was concentrated on the archaeological identification of the extinct Beothuk.

Prehistory of Western Canada

Western Canada, for the purpose of this discussion, is the area lying west of the Province of Ontario and Hudson Bay, and south of the Arctic littoral, i.e., the Provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, and most of the Yukon Territory and the Northwest Territories. It is an area of extremely varied topography, climate and natural resources, features that strongly affected the distribution and density of the aboriginal population.

The date of man's first arrival in the area, coming from northeast Asia via the Bering Strait, remains uncertain. The crucial factors include the chronology of the advances and recessions of the Cordilleran and Continental glaciations, the question of the extent and duration of contact between the two ice sheets, and the problem of the length of duration of the Bering Strait land bridge—matters still in dispute. Human occupation has been documented south of the area within the period of the last major advance, indicating penetration of Western Canada at some earlier date. However, evidence for such earlier movements, still under study in Western Canada, cannot be summarized at the present time. The oldest cultures recognized date no earlier than 9,000 to 11,000 years ago.

The latter are represented by surface finds of projectile points of styles attributed to early big game hunters elsewhere in North America. These are relatively large lanceolate forms characterized by longitudinal fluting, and probably used as points for spears or darts. Two major styles, an earlier Clovis and a later Folsom form, are differentiated in terms of degree of fluting and other attributes. Where found to the south of our area, the earlier type is often associated with kill-sites of mammoth or mastodon, and the latter with various