

occurrence in the Plateau of projectile point types like those of the Prairies, as well as the finding in Alberta of Plateau artifact types. By the end of this period on the coast of British Columbia, the Northwest Coast culture based on fishing and shell-fish collecting and recognizably similar to that of historic times, is in an early stage of development.

During the period from approximately 1 A.D. to the beginning of historic times, further development in the Prairie area centred around a dramatic increase in the importance of bison hunting. This shift followed the general adoption of the use of buffalo jumps, a hunting technique which consisted of driving the animals over cliffs or steep declines, where they were slaughtered by hunters waiting below. Concomitant with the increasing use of this technique is a continued diminution in the size of projectile points, culminating in the appearance of small, triangular, corner-notched and side-notched forms used as tips for arrows rather than for darts. The appearance of new tool forms for hide-working further reflects the concentration on bison hunting.

Another innovation of this period is the introduction of pottery-making. Occurring only sporadically in the early part of the period, ceramics gradually increased in importance, both in the Prairie area and in the Boreal Forest. Some of the wares show close relationships to the pottery of the woodland region of Minnesota or of the Middle Missouri area of North Dakota, while others seem to occur in Canada only and possibly are of northern origin. Evidence for the spread of population into the area is the presence in southern Alberta of an earthlodge village clearly derived from those of the Missouri.

Beyond the Prairie region, mixed economies continued to prevail, as combinations of hunting of a variety of birds and mammals, fishing, and shell-fish collecting. That relationships with the south continued is shown by the appearance of small corner-notched and side-notched points typical of the Prairie region in areas as far away as the southwest Yukon. In the Barren Grounds, even less information is available than for the previous period; occupations by both Eskimo and Indian groups are indicated, with the former gaining ascendancy in the early historic period.

In British Columbia, the way of life based on salmon fishing continued to develop, with increasing evidence for the importance of wood-working. Here also, small side-notched points made their appearance at about the middle of this period, gradually replacing earlier forms, and indicating the continuation of contact with the area east of the Rockies. Some time during this period the Athabaskan language stock may have spread to its present limits, which embrace a large portion of Western Canada.

Trade goods finally began to appear in the archaeological sites of Western Canada, ushering in the historic period. At this point, if not before, identifications of archaeological complexes with historic tribes can often be made. Such attempts are made difficult by the large-scale displacement of one group by another which resulted from the introduction of the fur trade and the use of fire arms and, in the Prairie area, of the horse. Nonetheless, the assignment of archaeological sites to such widely separated groups as the Salish and the Cree proceeds with growing confidence as excavation continues.

Archaeological Work in Western Canada, 1966.—During the 1966 season, archaeologists were engaged in a large number of field projects throughout Western Canada. Institutions and personnel involved included the National Museum of Canada (J. V. Wright, W. N. Irving, G. MacDonald, R. Wilmeth, J. P. Cook); the University of Manitoba (W. J. Mayer-Oakes, D. C. Jayes, J. V. Chism); the University of Saskatchewan (Z. S. Pohorecky, H. T. MacKie); Saskatchewan Museum of Natural History (G. C. Watson, A. J. Ranere); University of Alberta (A. L. Bryan, R. Gruhn, R. Bonnichsen, F. Taylor); University of Calgary (R. G. Forbis, B. Reeves, C. E. Eyman, J. F. V. Millar, W. C. Noble); Provincial Museum and Archives of Alberta (R. S. Kidd); University of British Columbia (C. E. Borden); Provincial Museum of British Columbia (D. N. Abbott). In addition to these investigations, valuable work was carried out by the provincial archaeological societies of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.