

# Probable Early Migration Routes

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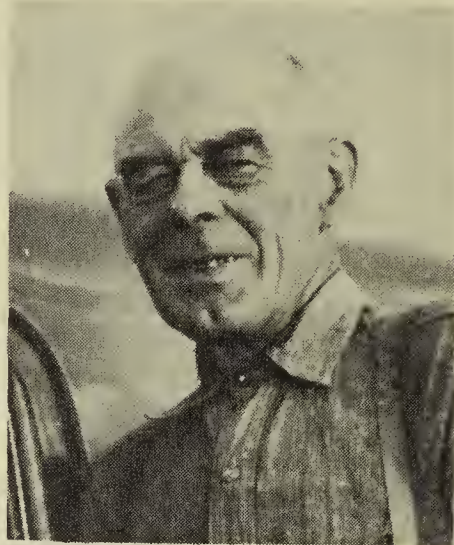
At present the probable migration route of the earliest visitors to North America is a matter for speculation. If they came along the river systems of the north they'd arrive in central Alberta in due course. There, they would have the choice of keeping close to the Rockies or else following the unique drainage system that I have described.

It would, in fact, be easier to travel in a general southeasterly direction towards the heart of the continent, thence to fan out in other directions. One advantage would be the plentiful and varied rock material associated with these channels, especially in the parallel channels and eroded contiguous areas - materials that could be used for making stone tools. The earliest migrants had the pick of the material. The most favored stopping places would be areas adjacent to the channels where consequent streams fed by springs were trapped by the channels.

It seems odd that Mortlach is the only place in Saskatchewan associated with Folsam points. The question arises whether the makers of the points were already practising the method when they arrived in North America. If so, the points could have been left on the southward migration, and other examples could be expected to show up along the possible migration routes. If the method was a later evolution then Folsam man would be in this district at a later expansion from the south and one would look for more examples to show up in that direction.

At the present time I am involved in the job of helping Boyd Wettlaufer carry out some excavating in the Besant valley. It can be exacting work and hard on the knees.

First a square must be staked out of suitable dimensions, say 36" or 48" sides; squared and lined up by compass; the stakes letered and dimension



marks out on top to measure from. Twine is tied around the square. Then at the zero point, as regards altitude, a string is tied around a stake, the surface of the square cleaned and the contours of the surface taken at one inch intervals and plotted on the diagram in the notebook used as a record. Then the scraping of the surface with trowels begins.

When material of archaeological value is exposed, it is measured from at least two stakes. Also a perpendicular from another side and the depth measurements are taken. From this last is subtracted the contour measurement at that point. From a record kept in this way an exact reproduction could be made of the site excavation. There is also much photographing when something of special interest is uncovered.

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Road side-Golf-Course -

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underground homes suggested badgers, although we did not see them. One day a red squirrel warned us not to come too close.

The Cypress Hills Park is truly a naturalist's paradise. We do not pretend to have even approached a complete survey - it wouldn't have been roadside-golf-course natural science if we had.