

II. MANITOBA

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The University of Manitoba has completed its third year of field research on the human and environmental history of Glacial Lake Agassiz. The program was initiated and directed by Dr. W. J. Mayer-Oakes, head of the Department of Anthropology, and was financed by grants from the National Research Council (the first time this body has supported archaeological research) and the National Museum of Canada.

The first year's survey in 1965 concentrated on the massive Campbell Strandline which cuts across western Manitoba from Morden in the south to Mafeking in the north. Field Director Matthew Hill and a crew of two located 235 surface sites, most of which were in the Swan River Valley. Many of these latter sites have representative collections in the Saskatchewan Museum of Natural History.

The field survey in 1966 and 1967 was directed by the author, and included excavation at selected sites. During 1966, the preponderance of the surface material was again located in the Swan River Valley. The existence of true workshop sites with flakes and cores littering the area was established, and stratified sites on present-day lake shores were also located.

In 1967 an intensive program of test excavation uncovered a Black Duck ceramic site on a late "sealed" beach deposit near the University Field Station at Delta on the south shore of Lake Manitoba. Stone rings at Dand were excavated with inconclusive results, and stratified sites as far north as Flin Flon were excavated in the hope of linking early occupation with the drainage and lake history of the province.

At Baker's Narrow, near Flin Flon, late linear punctate pottery was found overlying an archaic blade industry. At The Pas, the same late pottery

overlaid Laurel pottery which was associated with archaic points.

The survey has already initiated two Master's theses in the Department of Anthropology. Leo Pettipas has successfully completed a study entitled "Paleo Indian Manifestations in Manitoba: Their Spatial and Temporal Relationships with the Campbell Strandline" which consists of a detailed examination of early man points (Scottsbluff and Agate Basin) in the province. Dennis Joyes is presently working on the Avery Site, excavated by the Survey in 1966, and has established the presence of the prehistoric Avonlea culture 300 miles east of its previous boundaries.

Professor Mayer-Oakes also initiated an International Conference with NRC assistance entitled "Environmental Studies in the Glacial Lake Agassiz Region", the proceedings of which he had edited in a volume entitled "Life, Land and Water" soon to be published by the University of Manitoba Press.

The University works closely with other Agassiz Research Programs. Zenon Pohorecky and Dennis Anderson have completed their third year of research on the Campbell Beach in northern Saskatchewan. Professor Elden Johnson of the University of Minnesota has conducted a survey of the Minnesota beaches with National Science Foundation support and Kenneth Cole of the University of North Dakota has initiated his own survey of the beaches in that state.

Independent workers in other disciplines include Professor John Elson of McGill University who has traced the Campbell and other strandlines into northwestern Saskatchewan, and Stephen Zoltai of the Federal Forestry Branch who has traced the eastern outlets of the Lake in Ontario.

It is hoped that this concerted effort by these researchers will give us a clearer picture of the history of this huge glacial lake, which covered parts of three provinces and two states and undoubtedly influenced the lives of the earliest prehistoric inhabitants of this continent.