

NEWSLETTER OF THE  
SOUTHEASTERN ARCHEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

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Vol. 10, No. 1

Morgantown, W.Va.

Nov., 1966

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SOME PENULTIMATE SCRAPS FROM THE EX-EDITOR'S SCRAPBASKET

The editor's chair is not an easy spot to vacate, as I have found to my own dismay. I suppose that most archaeologists have skeletons in closets, if not in their file drawers; and I must confess to more than my fair share. Those of you who have kept track of the last five year's of Conference goings-on know only too well that the appearance of the last three BULLETINS covering the Proceedings of the 19th, 20th and 21st Conferences makes everything look as if the slate were clean, but what about 17 and 18? Well, what indeed! Therefore, I herewith present the Proceedings of the Seventeenth Conference, and hope that number 18 is not too far behind. The Conference has a new editor to see this issue to the press, but some "Old Business" still appears, so it seems.

One really significant reason, at least to me, for presenting these old Proceedings is to record the last Southeast Conference that John Goggin presided over as host at the University of Florida. It so happens that the first Southeast Conference that I ever attended was also one of John's in Gainesville, back in 1951. This shortened transcript has been edited to present material that is still viable, and also to follow the will of those who did not wish some of their papers published.

Before multitudes of Libraries descend in wrath at the reuse of the "Newsletter" after starting the BULLETIN as the new name of the Conference publication, let me offer these good and sufficient reasons. The "Newsletter" has never been formally killed; also with this use of numbers 1 and 2 of Volume 10, we finish the series on an even note, but more important, allow the Conference Proceedings to appear on the shelf in the orderly fashion of occurrence, if not in the order of publication date.

The Seventeenth Southeastern Conference was held on November 4th and 5th, 1960, at the University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida. John M. Goggin was the host and the Conference Topic was "The Transition from Archaic to Woodland". For the most part, the subject was confined to a discussion of the distribution of Deptford pottery. For better or for worse, all three sessions were tape recorded. Session I, began with announcements by Goggin and a Welcome to the University by Dean Ralph E. Page. The Reports on Current Field Activity were chaired by Hale Smith, and these have not been published. The Second Session focused on the Conference topic and is reproduced in most of its entirety. The last Session was chaired by Antonio J. Waring, Jr., and covered a number of topics; since some of these last papers have been superseded by subsequent publication, or were withheld from publication by their authors, none have been printed herein.

Stephen Williams.  
Peabody Museum  
Harvard University

PROCEEDINGS  
OF  
THE SEVENTEENTH SOUTHEASTERN ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

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## THE TRANSITION FROM ARCHAIC TO WOODLAND

### A Symposium

Sears (Presiding): I hope that this will be an informal working conference. Since the Deptford complex, as a series of pottery types, was originally defined in the Savannah area, and since it's possible that Deptford may have started in this area, Tono Waring from Savannah will begin the afternoon's wrangling. Tono had something to do with perpetrating the original type descriptions.

WARING: I define the Archaic as lasting through fiber-tempered times, at least in the general sense, in the south you have a perfectly well-defined preceramic complex that comes on up into it.

As I see it, the transition into Deptford doesn't lie within Georgia. The Refuge site seems to be in between Deptford and Archaic. It is a big swamp area in the middle of the Savannah River Delta about a mile from the east bank. The site itself is a very modest shell midden, an intrinsic part of the diking system of the Savannah Game Refuge, rapidly being eroded by the river. A small stratigraphic cut was made across the top. On the bottom was plain fiber-tempered with very little decoration. We then ran into a very crude simple stamping. In the middle level was a large streak of gravel in which was an interesting change to simple stamping. It became almost indistinguishable from Deptford, and was frequently found over-stamped with dentate stamping. There was also a rather crude punctate, resembling Thoms Creek. This is sand-tempered ware on Woodland-type shapes with rounded conoidal bases.

One other interesting trait was interior decoration. Lines of punctate would be carried down inside the lip of the sherd or even at random. Another trait that doesn't show up subsequently is a sherd hone like an abrader, used as sandpaper. The outer surface would be almost completely worn off.

I have seen occasional sherds of this Refuge material from the Deptford site itself. As far as I know, it doesn't occur south of the Savannah, but is very localized. Griffin has scattered sherds from around Buford; I have seen collections of Gene Waddell and some other collectors in Florence, S.C. One fairly good site north of Charleston, in Christ Church parish, has half a shoe box full which seems to fit into this Refuge series.

It appears to me that any transition from the fiber-tempered level to Deptford, as far as is evidenced at the mouth of the Savannah, originates somewhere in the central area of South Carolina. The mouth of the Savannah from fiber-tempered times to pure Deptford, was apparently fairly unoccupied.

As for the range of Deptford types at the Deptford site, there is a great variation in the check. It appears on the same paste from a mosquito net size check to checks the size of my thumbnail. Linear check is predominant in the early levels of Deptford, taken over lately by the bold check. I think the complicated stamp we call Brewton Hill is late in the Deptford complex as are tetrapodal supports which don't occur at Refuge at all. Whatever the Swift Creek manifestation is, it is something that occurs here and is reflected later in Deptford and Wilmington levels.

Voice: I think there has been confusion for years about check size. The type description covers only the bold check end of it, but that is not a description of the Deptford complex of check stamped pottery.

V: Even the linear check varies. You will get a herringbone check within wide lines with narrow lines between, and the midzone, midline at a tangent.

V: What about this material referred to as the Omler complex? Is Omler Stamped supposedly connected with the latter part of this?

WARING: It's the rectilinear complicated stamp; diamonds enclose diamonds.

It looks like a Deptford paste but more fine. Definitely very similar.

V: The surface treatment found on Refuge material is almost identical to the surface treatment found on fiber tempered pottery in Alabama. It is the same random punctate and dentate stamping.

V: What about Mossy Oak?

SEARS: When I find Mossy Oak it's in Deptford contexts. We have reports from central Georgia on sites with nothing on them but Mossy Oak, and not with the grooved paddle material. So we can't shoot it until we know how that situation resolves itself.

V: A few years ago Dave Chase recovered some material from Fort Benning, where a road was being put through the glades. There are good specimens there, although the sites are small and on the rivers.

WARING: The Deptford site itself extends over more than 70 acres on high bluffs, and before, it was completely oriented to marsh and swamp. These sites are now covered with sediment.

WAUCHOPE: I've taken two very large samples of Mossy Oak and Bold Deptford type of simple stamping and separated them on the basis of that. They do blend and merge. Taking all the very fine Mossy Oak versus the very distinct Deptford, there was no statistical change or difference between the paste, type of temper, thickness, decoration or shape. Of course, you can't stamp a site on one criterion unless something else gives a sign, but I question the wisdom of stamping new ceramic types with every change in one trait.

SEARS: But Bob, I think about 75% of the pottery types in the southeast vary from 10 or 15 others only in decoration.

BOB W: But it isn't right that, for example, Hiwassee Island Complicated Stamp differs from Etowah Complicated Stamp only in the temper.

SEARS: I'd like to talk a little about Deptford material I've dug recently on sites which are mostly Deptford and may have something to do with this transition.

One of the biggest Deptford sites, apparently, is the Deptford part of the cluster of sites lumped together as the Willey Brown area. There may be as many as 25 to 30 acres of shell midden at this site. The other relevant material is at the Tucker site, known to many of you as one of Clarence B. Moore's sites, where he dug the Tucker burial mound.

At Willey Brown we have ridges, lines, and semi-circles of shells (mostly oyster), and virtually nothing else. We got very little change within the Deptford material here and little within Deptford at Tucker, so I think we can handle them together for these purposes. The Tucker site on Alligator Harbor has a thin shell midden, in terms of the amount of shell in it. Along the shore line it's rather thick in spots. The site was apparently occupied all the way from Deptford up to Ford Walton, as there are some Fort Walton sherds that keep turning up. Most of the surface material is Weeden Island. More often, the sherds you pick up will be Wakulla check stamped. Underneath the Weeden Island is a different midden of clam shell rather than oyster and containing Deptford complex pottery. I discovered rapidly at Tucker that I cannot sort the majority of Wakulla sherds and Deptford sherds with check stamping. There's tremendous overlap in paste and about 75% overlap in check size. But in both of these cases we are dealing with the total complex, which in the check stamp is the linear stamp and a simple stamp. This is one of the cases where some of the simple stamp is grooved paddle, classified as Deptford, and some of it is Mossy Oak.

Associated with the Deptford complex, toward the end of the Deptford period at Willey Brown, and all the way through at Tucker, are a number of odds and ends which reflect a change in Deptford. They seem to indicate that there is about to be a change from Deptford to something else. On rims, we begin to get a variety of notching, which we know better from Early Swift Creek. Some of it apparently is just a paddle used to paddle the rim, but in some cases, the edge of the paddle actually notched it. In a few instances, something else is used to produce a

notched effect. That definitely comes in with the bold Deptford complex.

Another element which appears is a variety of complicated stamping still referred to as Brewton Hill, supposedly associated with Deptford. When it shows up in full Deptford association, its principal characteristic is that it's heavy and rather crude. I'm inclined to classify most of the sherds not found in Deptford context as Late Swift Creek. Apparently, what happened is that when they first started to carve complicated stamps instead of check stamps on their paddles, they did a rather crude job, although later they produced some of our most beautiful stamps. But the sherds at this level are hard to handle. They carry on the lip notching and tetrapods at both these sites which are a part of the Deptford complex.

A few sherds of Dunlap Fabric Marked show up as part of this complex. At the Tucker site, part of the complex is also a fiber-tempered plain ware which we don't find on the northwest coast except in association with Deptford.

At Tucker site again, in full Deptford association, is a type of rocker stamping. It reminds Jim Griffin of the Tchefuncte or Indian Bay type of stamping. This is not too surprising because Tchefuncte sherds have shown up in Deptford collections and in an intermediate complex, the Bayou la Batre material. You get both Tchefuncte tradesh sherds and Deptford trade sherds in the Mobile Bay area which is half way in between.

The temporal equivalence seems to balance out quite nicely. At the mouth of the St. Johns this apparently goes on into a variety of Early Swift Creek. Check stamping drops out while complicated stamping becomes finer and stays on the same vessel shapes with rim notches. The next level in that area is later complicated stamps and plain ware.

Life gets complicated at the Tucker site. Most of you know I am a firm adherent to the theory that the only difference between Deptford and Early Swift



Creek is that they carved their paddles differently. This is a straight linear evolution and therefore, all Deptford Indians should have become Early Swift Creek Indians. Out of thirteen holes at Tucker, with good stratigraphy in all of them, we didn't find any level which had mostly complicated stamp. Apparently, what we have at this site is a continuum of check stamping. Complicated stamping never becomes important. Instead of complicated stamping and Weeden Island coming in, you get plain ware increasing. Perhaps this may have something to do with the Alabama site I mentioned this morning, which is the plain ware Weeden Island site without complicated or check stamp.

Long ago I became interested in three burial mound sites on the Gulf coast, the Crystal River Complex mounds. The main burial mound is the Pierce site, a complex one. These mounds were included in the Santa Rosa-Swift Creek complex. In Moore's published accounts there wasn't any complicated stamping on anything. This is the freak pot level--the pots shaped like horns from Pierce, the Crystal River Negative Painted, the incised pot with a human hand and bird on it. I discovered that one of the pots at Yent has this same kind of rocker stamping which Ford and Griffin pointed out looks like Tchefuncte. The sherds I have in full Deptford context are this same type of stamping, making it possible to date this freak ware level as late Deptford. There are a series of internal consistencies between these mounds which group them together apart from mounds such as Green Point and Huckleberry Landing, which have a lot of Early Swift Creek in them. With this complex, a lot of the odd pottery from all three mounds can, by the stratigraphy at Tucker, be dated as late Deptford. That includes Bugger Bottom or Cartersville checked stamped.

You pull three mounds together, date them as late Deptford, and you can assume that they are earlier than mounds with a lot of complicated stamping. But where does this date in terms of what is happening elsewhere? It apparently dates at the late end of the Hopewell sequence of the Illinois Valley and Ohio.

There was one time in my career as an archaeologist when the Indians did something they were supposed to do. I have here one of three sherds from Tucker with brushing, a row of hemiconical punctates, and a plain rim, similar to Bugger Bottom check stamped and probably part of that complex. A while ago another sherd came through the mail from Ohio with a picture of one potsherd from the embankment at the Turner site. From illustration and description we now have a new pottery type -- three of which are from the Tucker site and one of which is from Ohio. This checks in with other things. The three Florida Santa Rosa-Swift Creek mounds are the only ones with T-shaped lipped vessels, also characteristic of the Illinois and Ohio Hopewell. The type there in sand temper is called Brangenberg Plain, on which they are now finding negative painting.

The waters are not sufficiently muddled. Six months ago, I figured that Deptford went into Early Swift Creek. Now it dates at the late end of the midwest Hopewell sequence instead. Comments?

S. WILLIAMS: I see no reason why Crystal River may not date with the late material at Turner, but I don't see that you can take the whole Deptford complex and move it into this late material.

V: When we're talking of Late Deptford is it what others call Santa Rosa-Swift Creek?

V: The catch is that three mounds classified as Santa Rosa-Swift Creek now seem to be manifestations of Late Deptford.

V: Then they would be earlier than Santa Rosa-Swift Creek, which has a Hopewell-like pottery.

WARNING: In Savannah, the transition is not clear. You have Deptford supplanted by Wilmington at the mouth. And the freak material begins to show up at the end of the sequence.

V: This cord-marked material, showing up as early as Middle Woodland in a Deptford context, comes in entirely locally. It looks as if the Tombigbee River in Alabama

is loaded solidly with cord-marked sites, but there's no line on it in Georgia.

BENNY KEEL of FSU:

This was received from Dr. Fairbanks while he was bed-ridden in the hospital.

The Elsom mound, or the Delt mound, has the site designation number of JE 53, Jefferson County, the fifty-third site. It is located five miles northeast of Lloyd, Florida, about 24 miles east of Tallahassee. It's an oval mound, about 85 feet by 65 feet. The long edge is to the north and south. It has a height of eight feet.

The mound seems to be of the continuous use type described by Dr. Sears. It's constructed of a fine, silty loam. The mound fill itself is very leached, making it difficult to tell much about the organic material within it.

The situation of these mounds is interesting. There is a fairly large pond about a mile to the northeast, about 25 miles from the coast, and there is no major river in the immediate area. There have been four burials uncovered, all of them bundle burials. Two of them were near the surface, one about a foot under, the other a foot and a half under; the other two were down deep in the mound, about a foot and a half from the bottom. A primary mound structure has not yet been determined.

The preliminary estimate of the pottery shows that the majority of the decorated sherds are Deptford Bold Checked Stamped with tetrapodal supports. We have three complete Deptford Bold Check Stamped vessels with tetrapodal supports and at least two other bases. Another major type is Deptford Simple Stamped. The minority types include a sandy transitional ware with fiber temper. There's a small amount of a complicated stamp that is probably Swift Creek. At this time we've found no incised or rocker stamped ware. Dr. Fairbanks feels that we have a late Deptford population coming into contact with Swift Creek influences out of the northeast, merging with the burial mound complex coming across from the west. This would indicate that the burial mound complex was present at this site prior to the introduction of this rocker stamped decorative pattern.

We have a Carbon 14 date, by Humble Oil Company, of 2850 BP, or 890 B.C. Standard deviation is 110 years. The sample was from the sub mound humus, and some of the charcoal was consolidated from bits of charcoal that were from the lower part of the mound. Therefore, this isn't a terminal date for the Deptford period here.

In North Alabama I worked on a site on Little River in the Coosa Basin. The Little River meanders out of the north until it meets the Chatanooga, where it turns southwesterly and flows into the Coosa. On one of these points is a very large terrace overlooking the lower terraces and a very large site. Away from the river are two burial mounds. A portion of the site was excavated by Austin Miney and also by David De Jarnette. I excavated the smaller mound. In one area they recovered five or six steatite bowls, and very little pottery.

In both mounds the mound fill contained 96-98% limestone tempered ware, of the plain and brushed types: Mulberry Creek Plain or Flint River Brushed. The area immediately west of the small burial mound was also mostly limestone tempered material. What minor amounts of Deptford Checked Stamped there were in this small mound were probably brought in with the mound fill, as were the limestone sherds.

Another area of the site is completely sand tempered except for 26 sherds which are McElvey Plain, a clay grit temper type found in one intrusive feature in the adjoining five-foot square. These types consisted of simple stamped and checked stamped materials. Like Dr. Wauchope, I can't see any difference between Gunterville Simple Stamped and Deptford, and I'm starting to call it Deptford. The checked stamped is, as far as I can tell, Deptford Check Stamped.

In the limestone-tempered area we did get some cord-marked pottery. In fact, what wasn't brushed ware was cord-marked. This is limestone tempered, which Heimlich called Flint River Cord Marked.

Choctawhatchee Bay, Deptford-Santa Rosa period: **BILL LAZARUS:**

Since you were there, Dr. Sears, during the summer, we have been turning up more Dunlap, at which Fairbanks was quite surprised. It is in Deptford association and he also got Deptford Bold Stamped from the base of the mound.

SEARS: At a meeting of the Florida Anthropological Society, a couple of years ago, your chart showed Deptford collections or sites, Santa Rosa-Swift Creek collections and sites, and Santa Rosa collections and sites which were explained as being those sites which had Santa Rosa material, rocker stamped and incised ware, but not complicated stamp.

LAZARUS: This is true. Out of a hundred sites there are only three or four that would qualify in this category, but we have that type of rocker stamping which you have here, sometimes with a broad, rounded line, typical of what we call Santa Rosa.

SEARS: It definitely appears to be clay tempered. There does seem to be in these pure Santa Rosa sites a definite Marksville element. It is the only place I have seen any Marksville sherds. Marksville is nice, soft paste, with the dentate rocker impressions and designs that are at least curvilinear and might conceivably have something to do with a bird. Most of the rocker stamping which shows up is either this Tchefuncte-like material at one end or it goes all the way in the other direction and looks like Issaquena and Troyville.

V: What about cross-hatched rims? I'd be skeptical about calling anything Marksville until you have dug at least one cross-hatched rim along with this.

SEARS: I haven't seen a one anywhere, but I tend to agree with that. But if there are any along the coast at all, they are in this little section around Fort Walton.

RIPLEY BULLEN: Florida West Coast from Crystal River south.

The west coast of the Florida peninsula is a long way from the heartland of Swift Creek. It is also peculiar in that the middens do not contain the kind of pottery you find in the burial mounds. In the stratigraphic tests I've dug in middens south of Tampa Bay and one or two north of Tampa Bay, I found no decorated

pottery--just plain all the way down. Two tests shed light on the change from Deptford to Swift Creek: one of them at John's Island at the mouth of the Chappawichita River, the other at Crystal River.

At John's Island, you do find decorated sherds in the midden, beginning on limestone temper. The lowest material, is St. John's Incised and Pasco Incised, the immediate coastal fiber-tempered which I refer to as transitional. Then we have a concentration of Deptford sherds. Above that is a peculiar arrangement of various decorated sherds which made little sense to me eight years ago. There are Swift Creek Complicated Stamp sherds in this zone. There are both Swift Creek curvilinear and rectilinear complicated stamped sherds. Higher up you get into the local equivalent of Fort Walton. It looks like a gradual change in time over a long period in which influences from the north arrived, then finished themselves.

At Crystal River there is a Deptford zone of about five feet. Just above the Deptford zone there were two or three sherds which might be referred to as Crystal River Punctate or Crystal River Incised. They are unique in that they had punctated zones which were countersunk from the general surface and had micaceous paste. Some of these things were at the Crystal River site in the midden and substantiated Willey's early placing of some of the early Crystal River types. Later on you get some complicated stamp sherds and it seems again to follow a normal sequence from Deptford through a Santa-Rosa-Swift Creek, Weeden Island period up to the top,

These two tests do show a change in time in the industrial products of the Indians, and I emphasize the point that Goggin mentioned earlier that we have a few sherds of micaceous paste. They not only have that paste, but the decoration is different from the rest of the sherds at the site, which do not have micaceous paste.

SEARS: It really behaves just the way Jim Ford says it should.

GOGGIN: Florida North West Coast

In Florida we have peoples who were making fiber tempered pottery before

Deptford. These people definitely seem to have been concentrated along the St. John's River and the adjacent Atlantic coast. There is fairly good evidence in several places, for example, at South Indian Fields, that the very last of the fiber-tempered pottery had considerable sand mixed with it. When we look at fiber tempered pottery outside this drainage area, the St. Johns and adjacent coast, we find very little of it and it almost always tends to have some grit. Most of the fiber-tempered pottery in very shallow sites around here tends to be of this kind. The few fiber-tempered occurrences we run into along the Gulf coast north of Withlacoochee River also seem to have a gritty paste. I am postulating that during fiber tempered times much of northern Florida outside of the St. Johns River and the Atlantic Coast was unpopulated, or populated by people whom we have not yet recognized. At the end of fiber tempered times, or towards the end of St. Johns River, these people began to move out. This brings up the matter of Deptford.

For the last ten years or so we have been working steadily on an archaeological survey of the west coast of Florida north of the Withlacoochee River up to the bend. We have now covered about half of this coast and have found a great many sites. Willey, when he wrote the ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE FLORIDA GULF COAST, did his field work on the north west coast and depended primarily upon published materials elsewhere. He points out that this particular area below the bend was basically unsuitable for Indian occupation and therefore, had few sites. This is a reflection of Moore rather than reality. The coast is very distinct; it is a marshy coast, grassy marshes coming down to the sea for miles. Wherever a bit of high land touches the Gulf or one of the creeks comes into it, there is an archaeological site. Over half of these sites are Deptford and/or Santa Rosa-Swift Creek. One of these sites, to which we have been going for many years, is Sherd Island.

From the beach we have 10,000 or more sherds and artifacts of all kinds. Except for two Weeden Island sherds, one from the top six inches of one test, and the other from the beach, everything else is earlier than Weeden Island.

In addition to pottery there is a great quantity of interesting non-ceramic artifacts: pendants of slate, hematite pendants, objects made from materials foreign to Florida, and a variety of raw materials.

Before I talk about Deptford at Sherd Island, I will set up two types of Deptford material which we find in Florida. One we can call crummy or generalized Deptford, which has a wide distribution from the mouth of the St. Johns River south and westward over to the coast. The other I call highly specialized Deptford which seems to be imported from Georgia because much of it is micaceous. This includes beautifully made dentate--linear check stamping. We find a great variety of odd sherds that are hard to place. They are the most distinctive type of pottery in the southeast--Eshampla Bay pottery. Great areas have been cut out and neat, very distinct, punctates have been made in these cut-out areas. They are not Florida material because of the mica in the clay.

In our general beach collection at Sherd Island we find not only Deptford material with bold, linear, and very fine stamping, but a great variety of complicated stamps including some of the nicest I have seen in the southeast. We also find steatite vessel sherds and a little fiber tempered pottery. Our test there suggests the following sequence: At the very bottom six inches we get steatite, fiber-tempered pottery and Deptford material together. Whether this is a mechanical mixture or a culture mixture cannot be determined. Then we have a major zone of Deptford Linear and Checked stamped pottery, together with Swift-Creek Complicated Stamped pottery. After the middle midden there is a rapid decrease in all decorated material until you get into the upper part, which is completely plain pottery. This sequence is suggestive of the situation at the Tucker site.

What impresses me is the movement of this actual Georgia material into this whole area below the Florida bend. These are not occasional sherds: every site has Georgia sherds. They occur again and again with this Georgia stone and artifacts, raw and finished material. I suggest that there must be some type of a major



movement of peoples involved in this.

V: Is it the bulk of the material which makes you feel that it is a movement of people rather than trade?

GOGGIN: The material is so close to the classic Georgia material as described in the original pictures and drawings. If it were trade, it was on an order not known elsewhere in Florida at any other time. The fact that this was distributed along the coast and not at all in the interior suggests to me a new movement.

KELLY: I'd like to get a breakdown on what you call Crummy Deptford and the specialized or developed Deptford, for it seems to me that it accords with something we had widespread over the northern portion of the southeast. I refer to the checked material and later on, many Swift Creek complements still called Cartersville, definitely crummy material that is very weak, has inferior paste and no deep linear cuts, the equivalent of the Deptford you find in the south along the coast, that is all over the north and northeast Georgia, West Georgia and Central Georgia. There is also some development of this phase of what we call Deptford pushing out into Florida and into Alabama.

GOGGIN: I feel that repeated movements of trade and seasonal migration resulted in the great concentration of materials in Florida.

KELLY: I have the distinct impression that you have a sharper Deptford series at most of the south Georgia sites. I think part of our difficulty is that there is a huge territory there for which we have no survey data whatsoever.

V: If you have this developed Deptford on the coast extending down to Florida and across to the wastes of Georgia and northwest Florida, it seems to indicate that these people must have had a similar ecological adaptation which justifies this type of trade.

V: How do you interpret the difference between the good Deptford and the crummy Deptford? Is the crummy Deptford deteriorated late Deptford, or a formative Deptford?

SEARS: I suspect that it is a matter of time. Deptford is about to die and be re-

placed or turn into the Swift Creek horizon.

**STEPHEN WILLIAMS: Pottery Complexes in the Lower Mississippi Valley.**

I want to talk about the early pottery complexes in the Lower Mississippi Valley. The first we have is the fiber-tempered ware, or what we have termed Bluff Creek Punctated and Wheeler Plain. We find much more of the punctated than the plain. We have only a double handful of fiber-tempered sherds and almost all are punctated. This material is at the Jaketown site, some new occurrences at Poverty Point and a few others. It is not very important in the Lower Alluvial Valley itself. Using the evidence of Bob Rand's excavation near Jackson on the Pearl River a couple of years ago, where Poverty Point objects and fiber-tempered pottery were found, I think it's safe to say we are on the very fringe of the distribution of fiber-tempered pottery. In fact, the occurrence at Poverty Point is practically the only occurrence on the west side of the Mississippi River.

About the same thing can be said of what we term the Tchula complex, made up of a series of pottery types and varieties including: Jaketown, Simple Stamped, Tchefuncte Stamped, Tchefuncte Incised, Tammany Pinched, Lake Bourne Incised, Orleans Punctated, and a plain wate recognizable because of the Tchefuncte-like paste.

We might add to this Tchula complex something not in the Jaketown report, the occurrence of both cord-marked and fabric-impressed types which we have termed Wasp Lake Cork-Marked and Boyer Fabric Impressed. It became apparent after the Jaketown analysis that these varieties have the very characteristic Tchefuncte paste. In addition, there is the "Alexander Series", a sand tempered material. We have Alexander Pinched Alexander Incised, and Alexander Punctated. But is this Alexander material actually part of the Tchula complex? And is it really Alexander? We are quite far from the northern Alabama type area of this description. All I can say is that it looks like material that Jim Griffin said was the Alexander series in southeast Missouri. The addition of these two new types--the cord marked

and fabric impressed is based on more refined classification of the material. It is also possibly based on a change of a point of view -- Jim Ford held that cord-marked pottery did not get into the Lower Mississippi Valley until Marksville times. Phil Phillips told me that this was probably one of the reasons they didn't take a hard look at some of the cord-marked material at the Jaketown site for inclusion in the Tchula complex, for it shouldn't be that early. Certainly in terms of paste, it appears to be in this same complex.

Dealing as we are, however, mainly with surface collections, except for excavated material from Jaketown, these associations are tentative. You remember at Jaketown that after you got through the very concentrated Poverty Point levels and some sterile levels, all the ceramic materials from Tchula up to shell tempered pottery were pretty concentrated and mixed. It is rather hard to go through and pull these complexes together intuitively.

Another important complex is, of course, the classic Tchefuncte complex that includes the Tchefuncte Plain, Incised, Stamped, and Red Filmed, and, as defined by Ford and Quimby, Orleans Punctated, Tammany Pinched, Mandeville Stamped, and Lake Bourne Incised. I would prefer to reserve the term the "Tchefuncte phase" for those sites in the Lake Ponchartrain locality itself and, term McIntyre's published material on the Delta, as a Grand Lake phase some hundred miles to the west around Grand Lake, Louisiana. This would tie in with a feeling I have that if we have this geographic distinction or distribution, careful analysis would find sufficient differences to name a new phase.

A third phase could be set up in the Sicily Island locality, mentioned by Ford and Quimby in their original report, where we find the sites of Lake Louis and Tchefuncte phase material in the Lake Ponchartrain area and with a different ecology. I might mention that the Copell site, which is always brought in with reference to Tchefuncte and which McIntyre in his more recent publication has mentioned as a representative of an earlier preceramic phase, has no reason to be included in Tchefuncte. It was a

burial site and the artifacts in it are Archaic.

A fourth complex is the Tallahatchie complex. This is a phase along the bluffs where the Tallahatchie comes down into the alluvial plain and joins shortly with the Yazoo River. It is a sandy pottery of the types: Thomas Plain, Blue Lake Cord Marked, Twin Lakes Punctated, and Agar Fabric Impressed, which is a variety of Jennings' Saltio Fabric Impressed, and Long Lake Red Filmed. We have about half a dozen good sites of this complex and it appears that we have sand tempering coming down out of the hills into a few sites near the edge of the bluff, which appeared to be associated with burial mounds. If you want more information on Tallahatchie complex burial mounds, write to Mr. Griffin.

A fifth complex is the Cormorant complex further to the north, just south of Memphis, which is still within the alluvial valley. It includes the published types: Coromorant Cord Impressed, Withers Fabric Impressed, the ubiquitous Baytown Plain, and Mulberry Creek Cord Marked (possibly). Interestingly, at both the Cormorant and Walls site, the highest percentages of Mulberry Creek Cord Marked are not in the lower levels but considerably higher up, associated with Wheeler Check Stamp in a phase we have called Walnut Bend Phase. It is true that even at the lowest levels at both sites we have Mulberry Creek Cord Marked, but both these sites had considerable disturbance in them. We are just not positive of the association of the Mulberry Creek Cord Marked. Sites in this complex include the Lake Cormorant Site, Withers, Turkey Ridge, and a number just south of Memphis.

We are just beginning to work out another complex which we have called Porter Bayou, of interest with regard to Indian Bay Stamped. It has a new stamped ware, something like Indian Bay, which we have called Shaw Stamped. It has a cord mark which we feel separates it from the mass of Mulberry Creek Cord Marked, and it has a zoned rocker stamp which seems different from the Manny Stamped, the type material for the Issaquena phase. It seems to be on a general Marksville time level, or possibly earlier.

I was very interested in remarks on the Georgia material concerning lip

treatment which seems to be early there. There seem to be modes which go through a number of these early pottery types in the Valley, including certain kinds of deep notching and rim folding, which takes a later position. This certainly is true in our Mulberry Creek Cord Marked.

Question: Why do you have so many complexes?

WILLIAMS: We have been breaking things down into a lot of complexes because we feel that just telling you that Marksville is before Coles Creek is not too significant.

My rough map on the board illustrates three main regional divisions of North Carolina: the mountainous area, central coastal plain, and tidewater and coastal area. There are three major river systems that drain most of North Carolina: the Catawba flows in a northeasterly direction, turns and goes south through South Carolina; the Yadkin originates in the foothills of the mountains, flows northeasterly close to the Virginia line, then flows southward again and comes out not far from Charleston; the Roanoke has one tributary coming down from the Virginia area and a second one undulating back and forth across the Carolina-Virginia line to the vicinity of Clarksville, Virginia, and then flows southward into the sound area.

With this in mind, we can see several things developing from the early to late periods. First, there is no early pottery, as far as I know, in the Carolina area, in the terms that you have been talking here today. Fiber tempered ware never reached this North Carolina area. The early steatite tempered ware from the Chesapeake and Potomac doesn't get down beyond central Virginia. What we must have in North Carolina is a fairly late survival of the late Archaic known as Savannah River. This Archaic continues in different parts of the state at different periods of time, but the latest surviving of this Savannah River type Archaic appears to be in the headwaters of both the Yadkin and Catawba at the foot of the mountains. The Archaic survival in this area must have continued down to 1 A.D. or possibly later.

In the Piedmont area cord marked pottery appears as the first and earliest type. It is very well made pottery. The forms are simple, ranging from a shallow

hemispherical bowl to fairly deep and conical forms. Flat bases and tetrapods don't occur at all. This has been found in the Roanoke range, the Catawba and the Yadkin range. When it appears, all the Archaic forms, or culture, apparently have disappeared. The broad stemmed projectile points so characteristic of the Savannah River period cease to exist. With this pottery you find only triangular points, the earliest being large but becoming smaller as you progress toward the historic.

Following this first infusion of cord marked ceramics comes a different tradition with a different paste and the appearance of fabric marked as well as cord marked. The early material is very hard, compact, and finely sand tempered. The second wave of infusion consists of crushed rock temper, usually quartz, which is very coarse and granular. The forms remain basically the same, the only difference lying in the presence of fabric markings, as well as cord markings, and a change in the paste from fine sand to crushed rock. The projectile points become somewhat smaller and better made.

The third phase continues cord and fabric with certain modifications. The fabric becomes much finer. Instead of a cane-like element a quarter of an inch in diameter, we have a reduction to about an eighth of an inch or straw size. The forms vary a bit more, and you begin to get some rim flaring and jar forms with less pronounced conical bases.

So far we have cord-marked first, then cord and fabric, then cord, fabric, and net. The fourth phase introduces contact with the south. Beginning about 1500 A.D. you get the appearance of check stamp and simple stamp with special designs in the Carolina area. There are none outside the mountains earlier than 1500 A.D. It is not until roughly 1600 A.D. that it appears Catawba in any strength. With this you get the complicated built up cross circles and concentric circles and a few other hodgepodge designs.

It took this roughly fifty years to get into the Yadkin drainage. Again, the first elements to appear are simple stamping, check stamping, and feeble efforts of

complicated stamping. In 1700 it appears in the Roanoke. During this period, from 1500-1700, you can see, in many cases, a combination of southern and northern elements. You have first the retention of form with substitution of the idea of paddle stamping for wrapped paddle stamping. At the same time, you get the appearance of new decorative elements such as the rim fold with notched or punctated lower fold. This notching appears in this series for the first time. During the first three periods, there is virtually no decoration at all. Only beginning around 1500 A.D. do you first get usually parallel, crude incised lines, a little rim decoration on net and cord pottery, the appearance of stamping, the rim fold, and finally the flattened bases and incised bowls.

#### SUMMATION: SEARS

Apparently, this Deptford tradition of beating up pots begins on the South Carolina coast and, I presume, has its ultimate roots back into the fiber tempered pottery of that area, through Refuge Site.

For some as yet unexplained reason, after you get this style of pottery manufacture, it spreads out tremendously toward the west. It spreads down the Georgia coast, hits the mouth of St. Johns and attenuates very rapidly upstream. Somehow it sneaks across the bottom of Georgia or the top of Florida and moves out along the Florida northwest coast and down the Florida west coast to some degree. After a certain point, about at Crystal River, you begin to get Deptford sherds in a basically plain ware complex. After this style of pottery spread across this wide area, a number of things happen. In the Georgia area this style is usually followed by varieties of Early Swift Creek and one can suppose that there is some sort of a direct relationship. The evidence that Dr. Goggin has from Sherd Island, and that I have from the Tucker site, indicates that in certain situations, it is replaced predominantly by a plain ware, but then check stamping, in my case at least, comes back in, or really continues on through. You end up with the check stamp that we have as the late marker through this area.

The one new thing that has come out of this from the Mandeville site is that we definitely have a major burial mound complex, sitting at the end of Deptford or at the beginning of Early Swift Creek. At Mandeville practically every potsherd I have seen is an excellent example of the sort of thing we have seen in Yent, Pierce, and to some degree, in Crystal River. The people who built the burial mounds seem to have been in contact with the Hopewellian ceremonialism of the mid-west. It has also been suggested that Copena is involved in this.

**JOHN GOGGIN:** I think we have got to think of people as well as pots. I think these pots are very indicative of people because a great deal of technological and aesthetic philosophy is expressed in these pots. This fiber tempered pottery, which started out both in Florida and Georgia, with plain ware, but eventually ended up with incised decorated ware, is basically flat bottomed with a height equal to, or less than, the width. When we start dealing with Deptford, we are dealing with something completely different. It is a series of elongated, more or less conical types of pots, whose height by far is greater than the width. Instead of a drawn design, the emphasis is on overall texturing. This overall pattern, as we well know, goes all the way on up into the extreme northwest of America. I find it difficult to see how this tradition, representing a completely distinct philosophy of textured surfaces with counterparts in cord marked material all the way up to New York, could derive out of this (fiber-tempered) type feeling for pottery.

**KELLY:** It seems to me that the most obvious time depth in the early material is from the steatite. The early fiber tempered bowls are very closely assimilated to the steatite forms. Down near Bainbridge, where some fiber tempered was coming out in the river, I got some basal sections which give this distinct impression.

**SEARS:** Another relevant point is that there are tetrapods on the bottom of the pot which apparently are an invention at the same time texturing comes in--an invention you can't blame on any other part of the United States as far as I know.



They are strictly a coastal plain feature. This invention might have something to do with the total vessel shape.

GOGGIN: Linton's paper on this topic some years ago points out that these tall pots have certain advantages. Where you have stones you can prop them up and build a fire around them for more successful cooking than if you tried to get a flame under a flat-bottomed pot.

WAUCHOPE: Why are we overlooking fabric marked? While fiber tempered was in the south, there were preceramic varieties in the north, which I believe was not unoccupied. I think they were making fabric-marked pottery then, or very soon thereafter.

SEARS: The old problem of correlation of the temporal relationships between fiber-tempered and fabric marked has never been satisfactorily resolved. About the only way you can do it in the Georgia area, with the evidence available at the moment, is to take the generalized Deptford horizon. In one place on the coast you have fiber tempered under it and in north Georgia you have fabric marked under it. If this horizon is really a horizon, the fabric marked and the fiber tempered are certainly in the same time period. I see no reason why influence from people making textured pots to people making fiber tempered pots could not have produced the transition into Deptford.

Locally, what actually happened between Savannah and Charleston is that the people shifted from fiber-tempered to Thoms Creek and Refuge into Deptford. That, in terms of our local district, produces Deptford pottery. The influence that did that may well be from the north.

## DEPTFORD CROSS-STAMPED: A PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

David Sutton Phelps

One necessarily hesitates to further "split" ceramic typology, particularly after a glimpse at the Bibliography of Pottery Types distributed at the 1965 Southeastern Archaeological Conference. In partial defense, it can be said that splitting has an extremely long precedent, and yet more type differentiation is necessary to fill in the "big picture" in the southeastern United States.

This report is not intended to be a full, formal description of the type Deptford Cross-Stamped. Such definition will have to await more detailed analysis of stratified materials and spatial distribution. On the basis of what is now known, however, a new type designation is required for this pottery in order to provide a flexible framework for ceramic developments in the north central Florida region. This region is approximately defined as all of Florida between the Apalachicola and Suwanee Rivers, and the adjoining section of southern Georgia although the northern extent is not presently known.

The ceramic specimens to be described here were first designated Wacissa Cross Simple Stamped by Smith (1957: 107). His excavations at the Kurz site (8Wa99) yielded the cross-stamped type with those of the Fort Walton Series, but in apparently mixed cultural stratigraphy. The cross-stamped sherds did occur alone in the lowest level of those excavations, however. Following a discussion with Smith, it was decided that Deptford Cross-Stamped should replace the older nomenclature to remove the implication of affinities with the Fort Walton Phase ceramics. No formal definition of the type was published under the name Wacissa Cross Simple Stamped, and this name should now be deleted from the lists.

The Norwood Phase in north central Florida, the period of initial ceramics, is characterized by two types of fiber tempered pottery; Norwood Plain and Norwood Simple Stamped (Phelps, 1965). The primary surface decoration of Norwood Simple Stamped consists of single dowel impressions laid carefully parallel to each

other; another variety of surface decoration exhibits a second set of dowel impressions laid over the first at slightly acute to right angles (Phelps, 1965: Figure 3g, j). The transition in tempering medium from fiber to sand and/or grit occurs without loss of continuity in surface decoration. In the Deptford Phase the earliest ceramics are decorated with the same type of dowel impressions, but with more emphasis on the cross stamped variety. The dowel stamping technique is eventually replaced by the assumed carved paddle stamping of the standard Deptford Series. At the Williams site (8Ta32), currently being investigated, Deptford Cross-Stamped is the majority type at the base of a stratified Deptford component, and at the Tucker site (8Fr4), Deptford Cross-Stamped and Simple Stamped sherds were nearly equal numerically to Deptford Linear Check Stamped in the earlier section of the site (Phelps, 1966). Deptford Cross-Stamped is liberally represented in surface collections from sites throughout the region.

Typical Deptford Cross-Stamped sherds are shown in Figure 1. The impressions are generally rather deep, forming pronounced lands and a fairly regularly spaced pattern for a single dowel tool. The first two sherds to the left of the upper row in Figure 1 are examples of flattened lips on vertical rims. Rounded and flattened lips on everted rims also occur (Figure 2c). Figure 2a-d shows a range of typical sherds with the corresponding negative design impression in clay beside each. The dowel form is obvious. Figure 2c is the cross-stamped variety of Norwood Simple Stamped illustrated for comparison. Both flat and round based vessels are suggested from current data, and no appendages are known; this apparently reinforces the continuity with the preceding Norwood Series.

In technological attributes, Deptford Cross-Stamped falls closest to Mossy Oak Simple Stamped (Jennings and Fairbanks 1939), but lies well within the range of the entire Deptford Series, (Griffin and Sears 1950). There also appears to be some similarity in surface decoration on Deptford Cross-Stamped and Mossy Oak Simple Stamped, but the "root-wrapped paddle" variety in the last mentioned

type seems to be much more randomly applied than the impressions on the specimens described herein. Willey's (1949: 357) definition of Deptford Simple Stamped for the Florida Gulf coast probably embraces both that type and Deptford Cross-Stamped.

Following the line of reasoning developed by Fairbanks (1962), the Deptford Series suggests a ceramic horizon across the eastern regions of the southeastern United States. The horizon is defined by the Deptford "Big Three"--Linear Check Stamped, Bold Check Stamped, and Simple Stamped--whose surface decoration is assumed to be executed by carved paddles. Apparently earlier than these, but eventually overlapping in time, are Mossy Oak Simple Stamped and, now, Deptford Cross-Stamped, both regional variations which continue the decorative element of earlier fiber tempered series in their respective regions. Due to these considerations, it seemed best to retain the Deptford series nomenclature for this new type rather than introduce a non-associative name. It will be necessary to look closely at these relationships before final definitions are offered.

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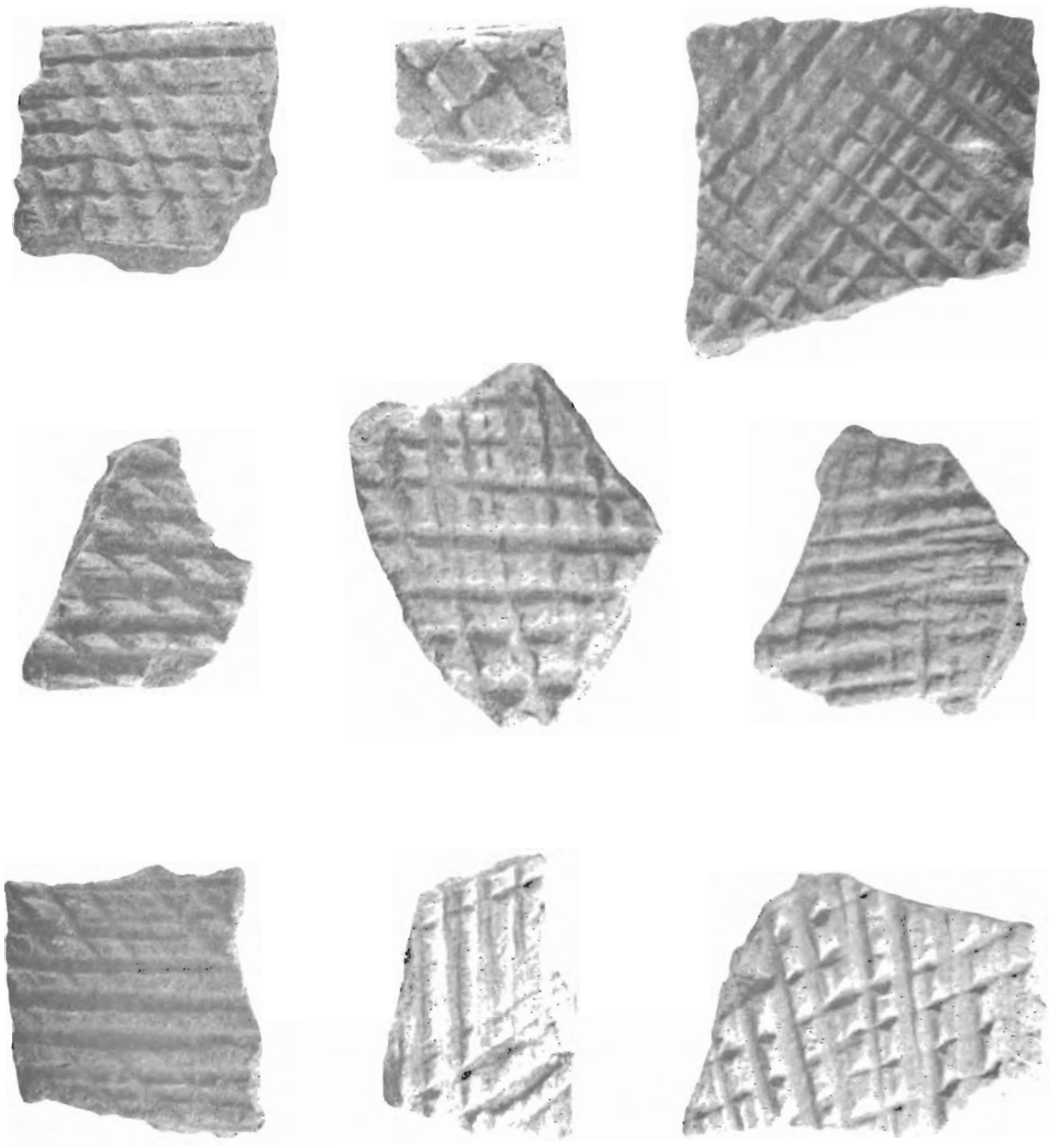


FIGURE 1 — Deptford Cross-Stamped (3/4 actual size).

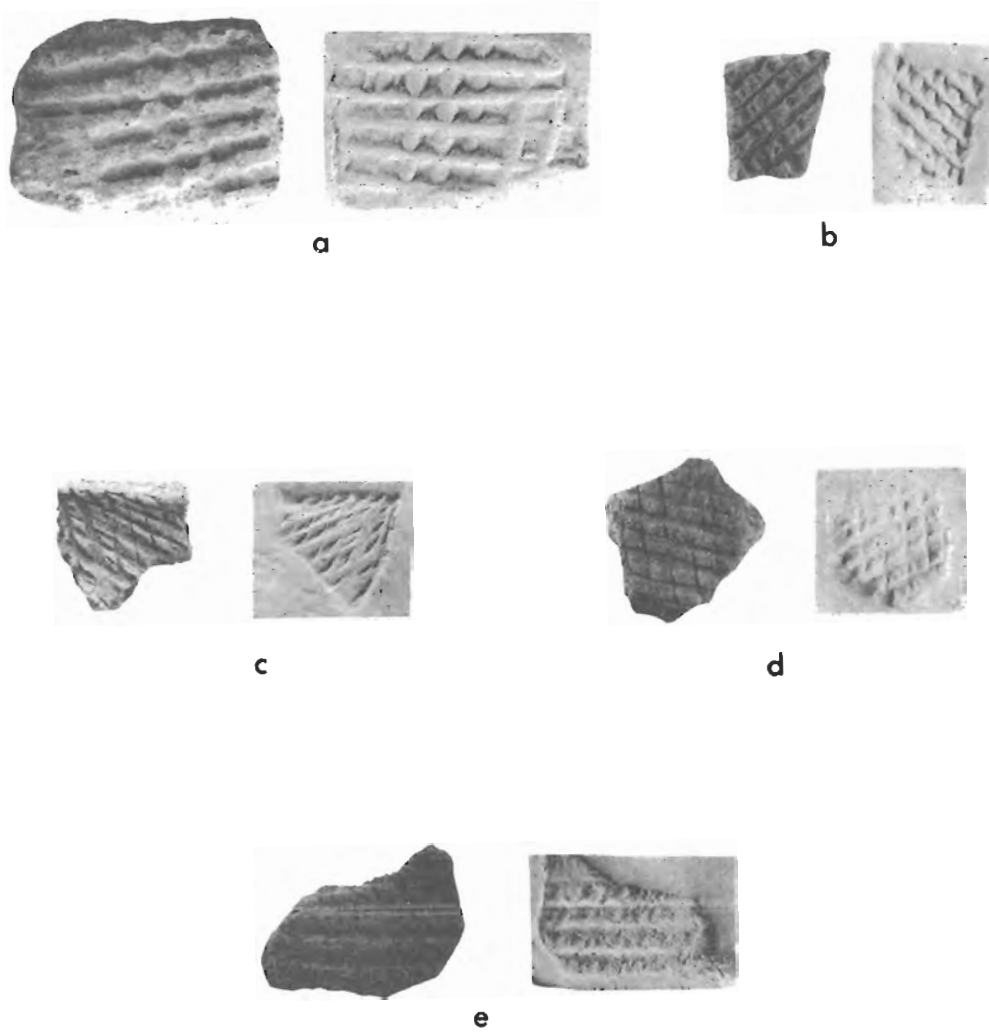


FIGURE 2 — Negative clay impressions of surface decoration on Deptford Cross-Stamped (a-d) and Norwood Simple Stamped (e).

## AN "AFTERWORD" FROM THE NEW EDITOR

First, to exonerate the ex-editor, this issue of the Newsletter has been in our hands since the last meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference, (Macon 1965) and the only real excuse for its delayed appearance is the new editor's procrastination. Except for the appended separate paper by Phelps, this issue was seen through its birth pangs from garbled tapes to moderately intelligible English by Steve Williams, the ex-editor. He had suggested trying to include some of the papers of Session III, but only one of the participants returned a corrected manuscript and that has since been more fully published in the FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGIST, hence none of the papers of the last session are published.

At the meeting of the Southeastern Archeological Conference at Macon (1965) it was the apparent desire of the conference to reduce the time allotted to "Current Research" and devote it to additional papers or other discussion. Since Hester Davis, in her capacity as Southeastern Regional Editor for Current Research for AMERICAN ANTIQUITY, was already distributing to a limited number of workers a summary of Current Research, she volunteered to expand this to a Southeastern Conference function. The plan was to continue "Current Research" as the Conference newsletter and restrict the Bulletin to other Proceedings of the Conference, with this new Newsletter to appear twice yearly. Somehow... (yes dear reader, more excuses) this has not come to pass, but Hester hopes to have a summary of 1966 research out late this year and possibly once we work out mechanics and logistics our ideal of two a year will be realized and the reporting of current research can be totally dispensed with at the yearly meeting. Meanwhile, you can cooperate by getting your reports on current research back to Hester Davis within the requested time.

As for the Newsletter in its old form as proceedings of the yearly meeting, this issue will be the last (or next to the last, depending upon whether we hear anything further from the ex-editor regarding the results of the 18th Conference--on this matter there has been a strange quietness in Cambridge). Also, we hope to issue an Index to the first 10 Volumes of the Newsletter. Broyles' already has this largely completed. This should greatly increase the utility of the Newsletter since there is much data, particularly pottery types, in the newsletter, but finding it is something else again.

The next Bulletin (#4) we hope to have out before the end of the year and more than likely will be Broyles' "Bibliography of Aboriginal Pottery Types of Eastern United States" which has become monstrous in size. The original of this was distributed in limited mimeographed form to members of the conference at Macon in 1965. After many members filled in blanks a supplement was mailed to selected workers, and to further complete the bibliography, Broyles has spent time at several institutional libraries around the country checking out various obscure references to equally obscure pottery types. This herculean (amazonian) job is now largely complete and will be the next publication received by the membership.

The Proceedings of the last meeting (1965) have been transcribed (although the tapes of one session were unintelligible which poses certain problems) and as soon as your delinquent editor gets moving, will be put in some final form and issued as Bulletin No. 5. This, then, is the current status of publications, and we hope the next publication will be much less longer in appearing.

Edward V. McMichael  
Editor/Treasurer  
Southeastern Archeological Conference  
West Virginia Geological Survey  
Morgantown, West Virginia  
October 27, 1966