

Title: Archeologists Pleased With Dig. Page 1/2

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Description: An article about an archeological dig which took place in the former Township of Tecumseth in 1977. During the dig, an archeologist from the University of Toronto uncovered a village that appeared to have had a population of nearly 1000 people.

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Archeologists pleased with dig

TECUMSETH TOWNSHIP - The last six weeks there has been a team of archeologists working in the township on a site on concession 6 at the 10th sideroad.

Professor Martha A. Latta informed us that at the beginning it was a professional crew working there but lately the workers were undergraduate students on a field trip from Scarborough College (University of Toronto).

Professor Latta said that it has been known for some time that there was a site there. The former owner of the farm, Harold Mitchell, reported it at

one time.

Eleanor McCague was instrumental in the dig taking place this year with the O.A.S. being involved as well.

Professor Latta along with teaching assistant David Johnson of U. of T. considers they have had a very successful dig. There have been many of these expeditions in north Simcoe and York but very few in South Simcoe.

Though the finds have been mostly broken articles, they have determined a great deal about the Indians that lived there.

They estimate that the

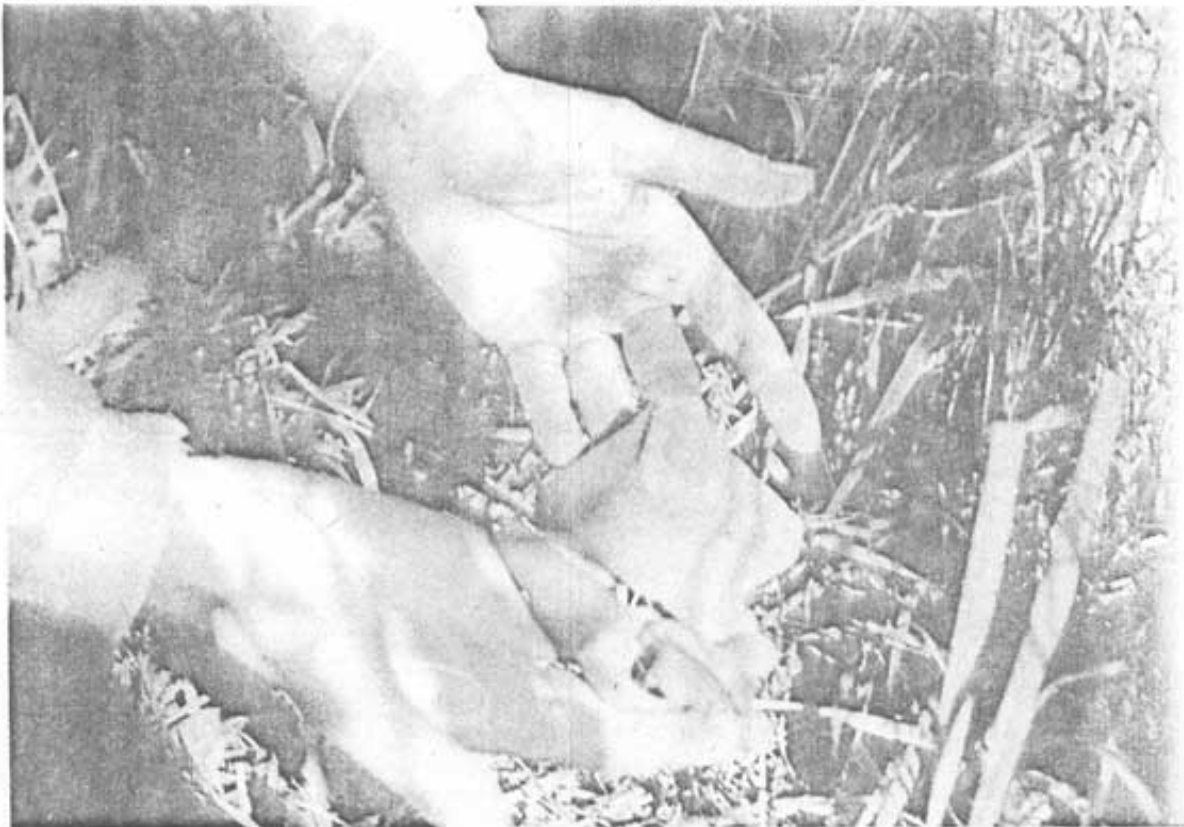
village was two and a half to three acres in size and had 750-1000 people. These people were closely related to the Hurons and lived there between the years of 15 and 1600.

They lived in long houses and survived by hunting deer and fishing. It was also determined that they kept domestic dogs that were somewhere between today's Beagle and German Sheppard and though they were pets were probably used for food when times were bad.

The people who lived there grew and ate corn and smoked tobacco as a large number of pieces of clay pipes were

found. Also found were some arrowheads and pieces of broken pottery and pots.

Professor Latta told the Record-Sentinel that work will continue in the area and she would be very interested in hearing from people who think they may know of a site or who have found any artifacts that would be of interest. She will be only too pleased to come and talk to you and photograph the item you have found. She can be contacted by writing Martha A. Latta, Scarborough College, West Hill, Ontario.



Some of the treasures found in the dig were pieces of clay pipes, pottery and pieces of

broken pots.