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## Vassar Inaugurates Field Sessions in Anthropology

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occurrence of this deformation seems plausible. This is especially true in view of the numerous lambdoid flattenings found today among people who do not practice artificial deformation of any sort. However, in order to give the other point of view on this subject, the following statements of T. Dale Stewart are quoted:<sup>5</sup>

It may be admitted with Hooton, that the lambdoid type of deformity is difficult of explanation. Nevertheless, I am convinced that it is of an artificial nature. Unless some other explanation is forthcoming, the cultural implication seems to be that cradle-boards differing in type or with different accessories were in use in these two parts of the pueblo area (*i.e.*, Chaco area and southwestern Colorado). Since the few cradle-boards that have survived in the region concerned show few differences in the principles of construction, this assumption cannot be verified."

An attempt has been made to tie in the Gallina series with the morphological types set up by Hooton in his studies of the skeletal material from Pecos Pueblo. The results of this attempt indicate that the Gallina people, in certain characteristics, very closely approximate Hooton's "Long-faced Europeans" and "Pseudo-Alpine" types. Next in order of proximity came the "residual," "Large Hybrid," and "Plains" types. These comparisons were made on the basis of absolute means. Because of the similarities between the Pecos groups, themselves, on this basis, it is of even greater significance that four indices of the Gallina series most closely approach those of the "Large Hybrid" type. The use of the indices, representing proportions rather than the absolute measurements, seems of greater comparative value, and throws the Gallina series even closer to the "Large Hybrid" and "Long-faced European" types.

A composite photograph was made of the five best crania of the Gallina series and was compared with the composites of the various Pecos groups. This was found to most nearly approximate the composite of the "Large Hybrid" type, and thus affords additional evidence in support of the above conclusions.

This affinity of the Gallina series with physical groups commonly associated with the Plains rather than Southwestern tribes, causes the enlargement of the Gallina series to proportions of statistical validity to be eagerly anticipated. However, in spite of the regrettably limited amount of data, the homogeneity of the Gallina series is noteworthy.

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VASSAR INAUGURATES FIELD SESSIONS IN  
ANTHROPOLOGY  
RUTH MACKAYE

During the summer of 1939, Vassar College began, under a five-year grant from the Carnegie Corporation, the first scientific survey

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5. Stewart, T. D.: "Different Types of Cranial Deformity in the Pueblo Area," *American Anthropologist*, vol. 39, no. 1, 1937.

of the archaeology of the mid-Hudson Valley that has ever been attempted in this region.

Despite the fact that areas of the state to the west, north and south have received careful attention from the Rochester Museum, the State Department at Albany, the Heye Foundation and the Trailside Museum of the American Museum of Natural History in New York City, this mid-Hudson region which lies as a link between the areas already studied and the Indian trade routes to the north has been woefully neglected. Meanwhile inroads of road-building, erosion and amateur "digging" have been gradually destroying the surface and sub-soil sites. The continuous and intensive occupation of the Hudson Valley since early Colonial times has been an additional factor in the lack of interest shown in the preceding period of Indian occupation. So the need was paramount, and an appeal to the Carnegie Corporation brought forth adequate funds for an extensive study.

The project was announced and begun July 15th, 1939 under the direction of Miss Mary Butler, Ph.D., an associate of the Museum of the University of Pennsylvania who returned from Guatemala where she had been excavating under a private grant from the American Philosophical Society, to take charge at the beginning of the season. The members of the session included two Vassar undergraduates, one Vassar graduate, four members of the senior class of the Poughkeepsie High School (boys), and several additional male and female members who attended for shorter periods than the entire season. The session ran from July 15th until Labor Day.

The survey began with three weeks of intramural study which included lectures of background material in Indian archaeology, in the particular problems of this region, instruction in photography, surveying, cataloguing and in studying the Colonial records and histories of the Hudson Valley. During this period the director also contacted several local amateur archaeologists who knew of sites or who had dug and who owned local collections. During the school period of the first three weeks, correspondence with owners of various sites brought forth permissions to excavate on private lands and other forms of whole hearted coöperation without which the session could not have functioned in so successful a manner. Assistance and advice were secured also from staff members of the various institutions which are studying the adjacent areas.

Fourteen sites were tested in the remaining four weeks covering all known varieties to be found in this area, i.e., rock shelter, camp site, shell midden, workshop, burial. The significant results were the establishment of prehistoric culture stratification with a possible sequence of three periods (at Goat Island) and the discovery of slate semi-lunar knives *in situ*. Other objects found included decorated pottery, bone tools, stemmed and triangular arrow points, scrapers and knives of flint and animal bones.

A further valuable result of this first season was the beginning

of the site-survey which includes the names and addresses of collectors and collections, a bibliography of Eastern New York, and information on known sites in this area not so far recorded by other institutions.

Several loan collections, added to the results of the season's digging, now installed in the museum of the Division of Anthropology at Vassar College, help to illustrate the geographical distribution and chronological sequence in the Hudson Valley area. This museum is intended for the use of all interested persons and for the use of classes in the local schools whose visits to the exhibits will be accompanied by a staff member of the Division who will point out the significant details and will particularly emphasize the need for the detailed and scientific approach to archaeological "digging." One case of the exhibit is devoted exclusively to the *methods* of excavation and includes photographs of students in the field, specimen pages from the field notebooks and journals and illustrated maps.

For the season of 1940, running from July 5th to Labor Day, the plans include the detailed excavation of a certain few sites which will require camping in the field and shifting the expedition from site to site. Applications are being received by the Division of Anthropology at Vassar College and will be accepted up to the number conveniently handled in the field.

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#### NECROLOGY

Ferrand, Livingston, Dr. Professor emeritus, Cornell University; 1903-1914, professor of anthropology at Columbia. Died November 8, at the age of 72 years.

Garner, Ernest A. Professor of classical archaeology at University of London. Born 1862, died 1939, at the age of 77 years.

Gow-Smith, Francis. Member of the explorers club who made several ethnological expeditions to South America. Died November 9, at the age of 46 years.

Morse, William Reginald, Dr. Anthropological research in West China in connection with the West China Union University Medical School at Chengtu. Died November 11, at age of 63 years.

Parkins, Almon Ernst, Dr. Professor of geography at George Peabody College for Teachers, Nashville, Tenn. Died January 3, at the age of 60 years.

Penard, Jean Marie, Father. Catholic missionary. Compiled Chipewyan grammar. Died November 14, at the age of 75 years.

Pinkley, Frank. Superintendent of Southwestern Monuments. Died February 14, 1940, at the age of 58 years.

Quain, Buell. Working on a degree at Columbia. Investigations in Fiji, and a book on Fiji epic poetry.

Smith, Harlan I. Canadian archaeologist, assistant director Natural Museum of Canada. Died at the age of 67 years.