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A REPORT
OF AN
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY
AT
OGOTORUK CREEK, ALASKA

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Between the
University of Alaska
and the
United States Atomic Energy Commission

by
Frederic Hadleigh-West
Department of Anthropology
University of Alaska
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PREFACE

Through a grant of money by the United States Atomic Energy Commission, the Department of Anthropology, University of Alaska, was enabled to perform an archaeological survey of the vicinity of the mouth of Ogotoruk Creek on the northwest coast of Alaska. It is at this location, seven miles south of Cape Thompson, that the A E C contemplates an experiment in harbor construction through the use of underground nuclear explosions. It was recognized that Project Chariot (one aspect of the "atoms for peace" program, Operation Plowshare) would, of necessity, be destructive to any archaeological or palaeontological remains in the immediate vicinity. Since this could have meant a permanent loss both to science and the public at large, the A E C decided to subsidize the field studies which would be necessary first, to evaluate the situation, as to the presence of sites, likelihood of destruction, etc., and secondly, to perform such salvage excavations as seemed indicated and feasible in order to mitigate the possible loss.

The principle of salvage archaeology has, happily, been well established among most governmental and private agencies whose activities necessitate destruction work on public lands. There is little need to rehearse here the value of salvage archaeology; suffice it to say that the support of such work surely represents a highly enlightened

position and one most commendable.

The period spent in the field was from 26 July 1959 until 2 September 1959. The personnel involved were the following: Archaeologist (Senior Scientist)--Frederic Hadleigh-West, Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Alaska; Field Assistants--Kenneth E. Howell, then of College, Alaska, and Elmer Ipalook of Kotzebue, Alaska; Laborer--Henry Nashookpuk of Point Hope, Alaska. The latter was hired about halfway through the short field season.

As is the case with any such undertaking, debts of gratitude are incurred on all sides: Dr. Ivar Skarland, Chairman of the Division of Social Science and Head of the Department of Anthropology at the University of Alaska deserves the credit for initiating and following through the proposal for salvage work in connection with Project Chariot. He has, in addition, lent continuing support to all its phases. The administrative officers of the University were also active in the efforts to have this project established and were largely instrumental in the accomplishment of that aim. Dr. J. Louis Giddings of the Haffenreffer Museum, Brown University, was, as always, most helpful and cooperative on the several occasions his advice was sought during the summer. My assistants, Mr. Kenneth Howell, Mr. Elmer Ipalook, and Mr. Henry Nashookpuk, deserve special thanks for the quality and quantity of their work and for the interest they displayed

in its various, and often tedious, aspects. Identification of faunal remains was cheerfully performed by Dr. Otto William Geist of the University of Alaska. Both he and Dr. Skarland also aided in the identification of some problematical artifacts. Professor Charles J. Keim of the University of Alaska lent a very real assistance in his identification and chronological placement of some of the more exotic cartridge cases uncovered. For their support at the Chariot Site, thanks are extended to Messers James A. Sugden, Project Officer for the A E C; Roland W. Wallstedt, Deputy Support Coordinator of the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory; and Ralph Chase, Representative of Holmes and Narver Incorporated of Los Angeles. There were several persons connected in various ways with the Atomic Energy Commission who most kindly interested themselves in seeing this project established. Some of these gentlemen are known to me, some are not, and I cannot bring myself to make the invidious distinctions which would be concomittant to naming those two or three whose efforts are known. To these men a most particular note of gratitude is due; probably the major part of the success in setting up the archaeological project was due to their interest and efforts. Finally, to my colleagues from other disciplines, who were also engaged in various field studies of the area--to these people, thanks. It would be difficult indeed to express the pleasure I had

in their company and the intellectual stimulation gained from the many conversations held with them.

Any success which may have attended this enterprise is due, most largely, to the aid and assistance rendered by these and other people.

INTRODUCTION

The Geographic Setting: The setting for the work described in this report is the lower end of Ogotoruk Creek Valley located approximately $68^{\circ}6'N$, $165^{\circ}45'W$ on the northwest coast of Alaska. Ogotoruk Creek, in that portion of its course of present interest, is aligned in a north-northeast--south-southwest orientation. For convenience, up valley directions will be referred to simply as north. The lowermost end of Ogotoruk Creek is marked by a small lagoon the size of which must vary according to conditions at the mouth. The actual mouth of the creek, where it debouches into the Chukchi Sea, is subject to closure at which times there is evident some damming effect. Communication with the sea is apparently not completely impeded, however, and presumably takes place by a rather rapid seepage through the beach ridge which is composed of fairly coarse materials. The creek for most of its course is a braided stream with a rather low normal flow volume.

The valley, at its lower end, is about two miles wide. The ridges which form its walls rise to elevations of over seven hundred feet, with peaks rising another hundred feet and more. The flood plain proper tends to be rather marshy and is occupied by grasses and sedges. The valley floor for the most part is covered with tussock heath vegetation, and with occasional groups of low willows. There are no trees;

it is an area of true tundra.

Climatic data are not presently available for Ogotoruk Creek. Point Hope, twenty six miles to the north, has a January mean temperature of -3.9°F and a July mean of 43.9°F . Average minimum temperature is -13.5° for January with the extreme low recorded temperature being -47° . These figures, of course, reflect the maritime influence on the local climate. The presence, throughout most of the year, of windy conditions greatly increases their feelable effect. The average annual precipitation at Point Hope is 10.21". It may be assumed that these values would closely approximate those for Ogotoruk Creek. Wind conditions, however, in such a hilly environment would probably tend to be more local. Ogotoruk Creek Valley seems to have the reputation of being an exceptionally windy area. Certainly this was true through most of the summer of 1959.

The nearest permanent settlements are Point Hope as mentioned above and Kivalina about forty five miles southeast. The length of time that Kivalina has been occupied is not known; Point Hope, from archaeological evidence, appears to have been a site of Eskimo occupation for some two thousand years (Larson & Rainey, 1948). The question which must arise after a review of the archaeology of Ogotoruk Creek--why there was not a more extensive settlement there--must be explained in some measure by the smallness of the valley itself and, otherwise, by ecological factors which spring in part from the valley size, its

topography, etc. E.g., there is no lagoon here of a size to allow fishing to become an attraction for settlement. In like manner, Ogotoruk Creek is rather small to have served as a salmon spawning stream of any magnitude. The size of the valley would tend also to restrict the numbers of caribou which would find their way into it and remain for any period of time. One factor which should have worked to make the valley at least somewhat attractive to the Eskimo would be the bird cliffs just to the west where thousands of murre nest. Evidently, when weighed against the negative factors, this one became rather inconsequential.

History of Previous Work: So far as is known the only archaeological work done previous to that performed by this survey was a very brief reconnaissance executed by J. Louis Giddings of Brown University and his companion, for the summer in work farther south, Hans-Georg Bandi, a Swiss archaeologist. Giddings and Bandi made their visit to the Chariot Site on 10 July 1959 at the behest of Ernest D. Campbell, Field Coordinator of A E C's Environmental Program there. At that time it was not clear whether or not the contract for this project would come through.

Apparently there was no earlier work in the Ogotoruk Creek Valley.

SUMMARY OF WORK ACCOMPLISHED

Methods of Investigation: The procedures followed and work accomplished in this survey were largely determined by ^{three} ~~four~~ factors:

- (1) Imminence of destruction of sites
- (2) Time available
- (3) Personnel available

The first factor confined the limits of the survey to the region of the mouth of Ogotoruk Creek. After reconnaissance of the area disclosed the presence of four sites, it then became possible to rank these in importance according to their proximity to the proposed crater. First attention then was given that material located within the crater itself. As it happened, one site only was found to occur within this area. Secondary attention was given to material on or about the rim of the crater which would be subject to destruction or disturbance due to the fall back of debris raised by the explosions. In the latter category was one site--the largest of the four encountered. Sequentially third in importance, but actually considered much less so, were sites in the close vicinity which could conceivably be disturbed or destroyed either by the detonations or by some of the attendant activity at Ogotoruk Creek.

Sites were numbered serially as encountered. The prefix "CT" (for Cape Thompson) was used as a regional designation. Where a site might consist of a series of

house pits, these were likewise numbered with the customary "H" per house. Any given unit chosen for excavation, whether house, cache, or whatever, was also given an excavation unit number, or "X" number. If the unit were a house, then the house number would serve for an X number. Where the unit was equivocal as to its definition, or, in any case, was not a house pit, it was designated as "X-". The complete designation for a given house might be CT1, H1; for some other cultural feature, CT1, X2, and so on. Where indicated, a system of quadrants and arbitrary levels was maintained in excavation.

Summary of Results: As nearly as possible work proceeded according to the schedule of priorities outlined above. The entire survey area was covered quite thoroughly by foot. Four sites were discovered within it. As time allowed, the survey was extended up Ogotoruk Valley for a distance of about six miles. For a somewhat lesser distance the flanking ridges were reconnoitred and eminences spot-checked. The objective of these undertakings was to determine the true extent, both spatially and chronologically, of human occupation of the valley. Such information would have had an obvious bearing on any conclusions drawn regarding occupation of the main survey area. Nothing, beyond the barest indications of recent, transient hunting activity was found as a result of these efforts. Such occupation as there was of this region evidently was restricted to the sea side locations found in main survey area.

Area of Primary Importance: The Crater. The one site here, designated CT1, consisted of three separate structural units strung out on the east bank of Ogotoruk Creek, beginning almost one thousand feet back from the ocean. These were the only archaeological remains found in the crater area. They were completely excavated. Both north and south of these units were other irregular depressions occupying the same kind of position with respect to the creek bank and having the same aspect. These had been noted in the previous reconnaissance as well. Test pits put in these revealed them to be only the abodes of ground squirrels. It may be noted here that in site, situation, and ultimate surface expression, many ground squirrel burrows are indistinguishable from old house and cache pits. The only way to determine their true nature is by test excavation. This mutual appreciation for the proper location for dwelling is apparently recognized by the ground squirrels, since one commonly finds them occupying abandoned human habitation sites--much to the detriment of the archaeological record. The yield of artifact material was exceptionally low at CT1, but was sufficient to indicate these units as being quite recent.

Area of Secondary Importance: The Rim. Site CT2, the only site in this area of secondary importance, consisted of the remains of six dwellings. This, by far, was the most extensive of the four sites. Because of this fact, plus its position, CT2 received the major amount of time

and attention which remained for the survey. As will be seen, the choice of units to investigate was somewhat narrower than would be indicated by the number of houses. The houses were aligned in a general east-west axis and faced the sea. They were numbered 1--6 from east to west. Two of the houses were so recent that their former owners were known. H6 formerly belonged to a Mr. Lane of Point Hope. H3 was the property of Charlie Jensen of Kotzebue. The latter house, at least, was in a repairable condition. It had evidently been occupied since Jensen abandoned it by transient hunters. Investigation of these houses was eschewed in favor of ones which were older in appearance. H5 might have been one of these but examination of it was effectively precluded by a two foot mantle of gravel fill which largely obscured it. The fill formed part of one of the connecting roads between the Chariot Site camp and the airstrip across Ogotoruk Creek. Accordingly, excavation was confined to H4 (completely excavated), H1 (tested), and H2 (almost completely excavated). Artifact recovery was relatively abundant at CT2, especially in the case of H2.

On the basis of evidence found in these excavations, it can be shown that with one exception all these units are very recent in origin. They apparently were occupied variously between 1890--1930. The exception, discussed later, occurred in connection with the excavation of H2.

Area of Tertiary Importance: Outlying Sites.

Situated westward on the beach and probably well beyond any mechanical effects of the proposed detonation were two sites, CT3 and CT4. The first consisted of two recent appearing house pits set quite close together located about a half mile west of CT2. Both of these were tested with negative results. CT4 consisted of three house pits located to either side of a small intermittent stream approximately a quarter mile west of CT3. Tests here were also negative. That tests were negative in finding cultural remains is not to say that these were not man-made structures. It does, however, leave their definition something of a question. In view of their "safe" location and the need for all hands to work at CT2, further work here--already shown to be unpromising--was halted.

Information derived from the survey indicates a very light--possibly seasonal--occupation of the lower end of Ogotoruk Valley. The evidence also indicates this to have been only in quite recent times. The results of the survey, though not spectacular, at least serve to fill in one of the numerous geographical lacunae on the northwest coast of Alaska. Fortunately, it does not appear that any really important manifestations of Alaskan prehistory are in danger of destruction by Project Chariot. Obviously, however, that this is the case could not have been known had no survey been performed.

SITES

CT1. Site CT1 consisted of three units occupying the west bank of Ogotoruk Creek. All three occupied approximately the same elevation--about twelve feet above sea level. The southernmost, X2 was about seven hundred feet north of the beach. Twenty feet to the north was X3. About six hundred feet farther north was X1.

Unit 1 of CT1 was presumed to be a house. The surface indications were of a shallow, irregularly-shaped depression occupied by a dense stand of very low willow Salix pulcra. Jutting through in various places were timbers used in the construction. As the shallow overburden was stripped away, more timbers and rocks were disclosed, which tended to confirm the initial identification. It became apparent at this stage that the impression of some antiquity gained from surface indications was quite incorrect. Associated with the timbers and rocks, and continuing to appear throughout the excavation were articles of very recent American manufacture. These included such things as an iron stove top, modern nails, crockery fragments, a rusted fox trap, and a snuff can. There were, in fact, no artifacts of even recent Eskimo manufacture. It furthermore developed, that if this were a house it was decidedly aberrant for beneath the timbers and rocks uncovered at very shallow depth, there was nothing. There also was no indication of an entrance passage. In the southeastern

quadrant of the structure there was some indication of burning--possibly a fireplace. Except for lacking-an apparent entryway, the situation encountered here--paucity of timbers--parallels that described by Giddings for intermediate Kotzebue houses where, upon abandonment, timbers were removed for use in other constructions (1952:20). The continuance of such an obviously utilitarian trait from ca. 1550 (Intermediate Kotzebue), practically to the present would require no great stretch of the imagination. However, lacking further supporting evidence, it would not be possible to state categorically that this was a house.* It may actually have been merely a fairly elaborate frame for a canvas tent. Supporting the latter interpretation was the shallowness of the depression. Figure 3 presents the detail and dimension of the structure.

Excavation Unit 2 was marked by a very clearly defined small rectangular depression. Excavation disclosed a small stage, or cache, structure. The uppermost timbers, those lying horizontally forming the stage, were about one foot below the surface. The structure was supported by four upright posts, two of which had been saddle-notched to receive the stringers. The other two posts were crotch sections of spruce on which the natural saddle had been widened somewhat for placement of the stringers.

* House, as here used, means the "permanent" wood and sod igloo of the Alaskan Eskimos. The term dwelling encompasses this and the transitory forms of abode.

The structure resembled in miniature the above-ground caches on which meat and fish are hung to dry except that the middle horizontal timbers were missing. The bottom of the structure was lined with scraps of willow--indicative of a former lining. One unidentified wooden object was the only artifact found. The identification of the structure as a pit cache is probably correct.

Although there was no definite indication of age, it seems most likely that this cache was of the same vintage as X1. Evidence supporting this conclusion consists in, (1) the very sharply defined rectangular surface expression, and (2) the observation that the saddling, mentioned above, had evidently been accomplished with a steel ax.

Excavation Unit 3, located twenty feet north of the foregoing, appeared as an irregular depression about five by eleven feet. There appeared to be some mounding of earth about its perimeter. Excavation revealed this to have been another pit cache like X2. The major differences lay in its slightly larger size and the fact that it had either collapsed or had been largely dismantled. The four supporting posts remained intact, but no horizontal members were so disposed. Lying jumbled in the interior of the rectangle formed by the posts were four short logs (averaging about four feet) and portions of several more. Lying about a foot away at the southeast end of the excavation were two slightly larger logs and fragments

of possibly two others--all aligned parallel to each other in a manner suggesting the "top" of the cache X2. Very likely those logs in the interior of the structure had also been part of the top or cover. Beneath the latter were willow scraps again suggestive of a lining as in the previous unit. No artifacts were found, but again evidence of the use of a steel ax would indicate a probable contemporaneity with Units 1 and 2.

In summary, the three units comprising Site CT1 consisted of one former dwelling--possibly of a temporary nature--and two underground storage structures, or pit caches. Although the dearth of artifact material does not allow a positive statement, the evidence seems sufficient to indicate all three units as being roughly coeval. In all probability, the age of the site is not in excess of fifty years. It was the only site of the four not located directly facing the sea. The significance of this, if it represents anything more than individual idiosyncrasy, is not clear.

CT2. Site CT2 was the major subject of investigation in the 1959 survey. It is situated on the eastern end of an older beach ridge or bay mouth bar on the west side of Ogotoruk Creek. It is about four hundred feet from the ocean on which it faces. As the location for habitations it combines several features which would have been important to the Eskimo: With its elevation of some twenty feet, a commanding view of the ocean is obtained. For hunters of

sea mammals and polar bears, this would be quite important. Its location relatively close to the sea meant that boats could be quickly launched. The proximity of Ogotoruk Creek assured a readily available supply of potable water. Furthermore, the elevation was sufficient to allow a good view of the hinterland to the north. Undoubtedly, these factors account for the relatively high concentration of archaeological remains at this place.

There were present here surface indications of six houses. As previously observed, for various reasons work was concentrated on two of the six units present. A third was tested for artifact content. All were mapped and photographed. Although the neutral term "dwelling" is probably preferable for reasons to be brought out below, these six units are all referred to as houses and were so designated in the field.

House 4. A low mound of sod delineated this house and its abbreviated entryway. It was hoped that its low relief was a reflection of somewhat greater age than its neighbors. Such, however, was not the case.

One of the most surprising features of this house was an almost total lack of timbers. One post, set vertically into the ground, appeared on the western edge of the structure. In the interior, near the northern rim, a possible post mould was found. Four feet east of the vertical post, a charred area indicated a possible fireplace. This was an irregular circle of less than one foot diameter

and very shallow. Just to the front of the house and to the side of the apparent entry were three rather small, badly deteriorated stakes. These were set in the ground. They may have been used for tying dogs. With removal of the heavy sod mantle, the outline of the house became very irregular. Much of the observed irregularity was due to the burrowing of ground squirrels. When the house fill was removed the house plan was that of a very vague oval. No definite traces of the entryway could be detected. These factors combined to give no clear picture at all of the original plan or nature of the house. This may have been another of those situations where the timbers were removed at the time of the abandonment of the house. On the other hand, there may never have been anything more substantial here than a tent with sod piled around its sides.

Artifact recovery at H4 was light. The recency of its occupation is attested by such items as 30-30 shell cases, Prince Albert tobacco cans, and sled parts of hickory. There were some articles of aboriginal manufacture found--some worked bone and chipped stone. They are probably to be interpreted as ^{artifacts} ~~artifacts~~ picked up elsewhere and brought home as curiosities.

House 1. A test pit was dug in the floor of this house. Surface indications were of a rather large, sharply-defined house depression with a very long entryway. There were indications that fairly recently a tent had

been set up in the depression. The objective in testing this recent-appearing house was to obtain a sample of the artifact material. Nothing, however, was found. There was some indication of burning at what should have been the floor level, but the wood fragments did not seem to be of a size to have formerly been floor timbers. Because of its unproductiveness and the press of work at H2, which was being excavated at the same time, the test was not extended.

House 2. H2 presented very much the same aspect as H1--a very deep, sharply rectangular pit, in this case, with an extraordinarily long entrance passage. Its recent appearance was immediately confirmed by the material found in abundance here. Included were such things as the upper section of a shoe pac, strips of blue flannel cloth with eyelets attached, and pieces of what seemed to be green wall paper. The preponderance of such very recent material occurred in the upper six inches of the excavation. The next level down, while it still contained articles of American manufacture, at least seemed to belong to a slightly earlier period. Intermingled with older spectacle frames and 45-70 shell cases of an older design was a greater amount of items of coastal Eskimo manufacture. One might guess the chronology here as ranging from about the 1880's well into this century.

Sleeping benches were evidently set against the side walls of the living room. On one of these were the

remains of a caribou or reindeer skin. The floor of the living room was constructed of well-laid puncheons. Near the front, 1.2 feet from the entryway, a circular burned area, 1.5 feet in diameter, marked the former fireplace. Presumably, the burning into the puncheons was accidental. Three sides of the living room were bordered by horizontally laid logs butted at the corners. This feature was absent from the front end. Dimensions of the living room were 9 by 7.5 feet. The long axis lay northeast-southwest. The twelve split logs or puncheons which covered the floor averaged .7 feet in width with a range from .5 to 1.2 feet.

This house developed a number of interesting complexities: The entrance passage, so clearly marked as long and narrow prior to digging, developed a lateral appendage to the west. This, a quite common trait in Eskimo houses of this region, was probably a store room. Beneath the puncheon floor was found another one separated by a shallow deposit of sand. Unfortunately, this discovery was made near the end of the field season and at a time when work was being much impeded by the presence of permafrost and standing water. Because of these factors, excavation of H2 was not completed. It is hence impossible to do more than conjecture upon this unexpected development. Because of permafrost it was not possible to pierce the second floor.

Articles found in association with the lower floor prove it to have been well within the contact period.

It is further suggested that occupation of the two floors represents an essentially unbroken continuity. Either of two possibilities may account for the superposition of the two floors: (1) The builder of the upper structure may have chosen to place his house in an already-present depression, or, (2) the upper floor may simply represent a rebuilding of the older house. The latter interpretation receives some support from the very close "fit" between the two floors. This would suggest that the older floor was exposed and its dimensions, outline, etc., were consciously being followed. Several arrow shafts were found between the two floors. The total chronology for H2 may actually be from the mid-nineteenth century into the present one.

Before proceeding to a description of the artifacts, a cautionary word should be interjected: It has been observed that the manufacture of chipped and ground stone implements and of the welter of bone and ivory objects continued until quite recent times in northwestern Alaska. Therefore, unless there are other indications as well, the mere presence of such articles in an archaeological deposit is no sure indicator of antiquity. It is for this reason, plus others noted above, that the earliest discovered material at Ogotoruk Creek is considered no older than the 1840's or 50's. However, since the excavation could not be completed, this is not subject to the desired verification.

Anent the anomalous house depressions characteristic of CT3, CT4, and perhaps H4 of CT2, Nelson (1899:262) saw in 1881, "near Cape Thompson," a small encampment of Point Hope people occupying conical seal skin tents. He does not specify the location and it would be folly to suggest that any of these depressions dated from that encampment. However, other similar encampments, either before or after 1881, could have produced some of these. This clearly establishes that the possibility exists that these were the sites of temporary--tent--dwellings.

THE ARTIFACTS

Listed below are the artifacts found in each unit of excavation. Following this is an evaluation of the significance of each site assemblage.

Site CT1

Excavation Unit 1:

- 1 Fox trap and chain.
- Ca. 150 Small pieces of light metal. A container of recent manufacture.
- 1 Fragmentary snuff can.
- 1 Piece of thin iron strap.
- 1 Piece of iron stove top.
- 1 Shell case. 44 Winchester center fire. End cut off and oval hole cut in side.
- 14 Nails of various sizes. Modern design.
- 3 Pieces modern clear glass jar. Bottom marked "--Preserve Co."
- 17 Pieces stoneware demijohn. Raised lettering high on shoulder.
- 1 Flat bone fragment. Unidentifiable

3 Pieces bone sled shoes. Drilled for attachment to runner.

The paucity of artifact material here may indicate a seasonal occupation which probably did not extend over many years. Occupation of this unit was probably no earlier than 1900 - 1910. It may have been as much as twenty years later. In some localities bone sled shoes are still in use.

Excavation Units 2 and 3:

On the surface near X3 were found pieces of three small pegs commonly used for stretching seal skins. At the bottom of X2 a small wooden artifact was found. Its appearance was more that of a piece remaining from the manufacture of something else than of an implement (or part thereof) itself. Aside from the structures themselves, these were the only indubitable artifacts associated with these two units.

Site CT2

House 4:

- 1 Steel axhead, single bit.
- 1 Flat spring for fox trap.
- 5 Nails of modern type.
- 2 Prince Albert tobacco cans.
- 1 Small bronze thimble with end section removed.
- 2 30-30 rifle shell cases. One cut about one-third way from base.
- 1 Wire handle.
- 1 Pair scissors. Broken.
- Several scraps rusted tin container.
- 1 Brass generator for gas pressure appliance.

- 4 Pieces unidentifiable metal.
- 3 Fragments 3-in-1 oil bottle.
- 1 Piece patent medicine bottle.
- 1 Piece of two pointed fish-jigging hook. Probably originally set in ivory.
- 1 Cylindrical wooden handle. 16 cm. long. Drilled at both ends. Probably for pulling seal over the ice.
- 1 Flat wooden handle, same size. Drilled. Perhaps same use.
- 5 Wooden skin stretching pegs. Round in section. Average 28 cm.
- 1 Wooden peg. Pointed. Rectangular in section.
- 11 Pieces sled parts. Includes one complete stanchion, a length of runner and one bow shaped piece which tied together the runners and supports the bed. The latter piece is spruce; the former, and many fragments are probably hickory.
- 1 Hickory implement handle. 22.5 cm. long. Drilled at proximal end.
- Fragments of lead pencil.
- Several fragments of worked wood. Unidentifiable.
- 1 Wooden carving of whale. Not detailed. Dorsal and flukes shown on same plane. 10 cm. long.
- 1 Large bone wedge, 16.5 cm. long; 6.5 cm. wide. (Plate 1:5)
- 1 Bone implement. plano-convex section. Pointed both ends. Perhaps snowbeater. 22.6 cm. long.
- 1 Bone pin-like object. Curved. Probably a probe for loosening blubber of newly-killed seal so that air may be blown in and the carcass floated. 19.6 cm. long.
- 1 Ivory drum handle. Small. Drilled transversely near attaching end.
- 1 Bone dog trace buckle. Shaped like figure 8. 6 cm. long. (Plate 1:3)
- 1 Bone awl or bodkin. Point, 6.5 cm.; handle 9.6 cm. (Plate 1:4)

* Identified by Mr. Leslie Viereck of the University of Alaska as "eastern deciduous hardwood—probably hickory or oak." The former is commonly used today.

- 1 Fragment subconical ivory tube. Drilled down length. Perhaps pipe stem. 4.4 cm. long.
- 1 Piece subtriangular ivory point. Flat tang. Point cut off.
- 1 Bone object of round rib. Curved. Points both ends. Resembles net gauge. 16.5 cm.
- 25 Fragments cut bone and antler. Unidentifiable.
- 2 Small fragments plain pottery.
- 1 Chipped stone blade. Lanceolate. Probably a knife. (Plate 1:2)
- 1 Fragment of chipped stone point or blade. Material as blade above. Point missing. Former length ca. 8.5 cm.
- 1 Small projectile point. Narrow stem. 4.6 cm. (Plate 1:1)
- 2 Very small beads. Dark blue glass.

House 2, Living Room, Level One: *

- 1 Piece iron sprocket of sewing machine.
- 1 Piece iron dog chain catch with swivel. Modern
- 5 Brass shot shell cases. 8 gauge. Length 4 cm. From harpoon gun. Two primers intact; one fired. (Plate 1:7)
- 1 Heavy steel hammer from harpoon gun. Probably brass shoulder model. (Plate 1:9)
- 1 Retrieving hook for seals. Two large steel hooks set on opposite sides of ivory plug.
- 2 Plated watch backs.
- 1 30-30 rifle shell case.
- 1 Match container of two brass shot shell cases-- 12 ga. inserted into 10 ga. Matches inside.
- 1 Metal object with spout. Fragmentary. Perhaps part of kerosene lamp.
- 1 Metal object. Possibly a gun part.
- 1 Small leather coin purse. Metal cross catches at top.

* Because of the ambiguous status of this unit, the artifacts will be described according to level and area.

- 1 Piece brown bottle glass.
- 1 Neck clear glass bottle. Probably medicine.
- 2 Pieces small china bowl. Plain.
- 1 Glass bead. Red, translucent.
- 1 Piece spectacle frame. Horn or imitation.
- 1 Piece hickory sled shoe.
- 1 Piece cottonwood bark. Carved to resemble small pipe.
- 1 Short sled stanchion. Hickory.
- 2 Bottle corks.
- 1 Thread spool.
- 4 Fragments small wooden pins. Cylindrical and pointed. Diameter ca. 5 mm.
- 2 Pieces wooden skin stretching pegs.
- 1 Small wooden awl. Metal point. Total length 5.5 cm.
- 13 Pieces worked wood. Unidentifiable. Includes some exotic woods.
- 2 Pieces cut caribou antler.
- 3 Pieces bone sled shoe. Drilled. One piece pointed.
- 1 Ivory fish hook shank.
- 1 Ivory needle case. Incomplete. Single incised line at both ends. (Plate 1:8)
- 1 Antler cylindrical arrow point. Point broken. Ownership mark.
- 1 Walrus ivory "blank". Half round. 10 cm. long.
- 1 Bone spoon. Small. Short handle with drill hole. (Plate 1:6)
- 1 Antler net needle. Curved. 21 cm. long. Possibly marlinspike.
- 1 Antler knife handle. Rectangular cross section. 8.3 cm. long. One end slightly tapered. Slotted at both ends for very small blades. Slots ca. 1 mm. wide; length, 1.2 cm. and .9 cm.
- 1 Ivory inflation plug for seal skin float. Wooden stopper intact. (Plate 1:10)
- 1 Ivory object. Appears to have been started as arrowhead, but not completed.
- 1 Antler point section. Broken. May have been marlinspike.

- 1 Cut end of bird bone. 2.5 cm. long. Cut just above articular end. Possibly a drill bearing.
- 1 Antler end piece for ice pick. Surface roughened for hafting. Two small holes drilled partway into side.
- 1 Bone object. Badly worn. Subconical with open end. Possibly for awl or similar implement.
- 1 Antler crooked knife handle. Slightly tapered at handle end. 13.1 cm. long.
- 1 Piece of cut antler. Incomplete. Drilled partway through and spongy bone cut out. Possibly smoking pipe stem. (Bowl would be placed in drilled hole.)
- 3 Fragments slate ulu blades. (Plate 1:11)
- 1 Incomplete slate whale harpoon head blade. Median ridge entire length. (Plate 1:13)
- 1 Point fragment of slate harpoon head blade. Fluted. Of a type described as recent at Point Barrow (Ford, 1959:97).
- 1 Fragment jade whetstone. (Plate 1:12)
- 4 Chipped stone projectile points. Three with points broken off; one complete. These match the specimen illustrated by Giddings from Ambler Island (1952:43, Fig. 26, 1; Plate I, 13 and 15) except that they appear to be on the smaller side of his size range. (Plate 1:14, 15)
- 1 Small chipped stone scraper. Ovate. 5 cm. long.
- 1 Flake graver. 3.2 cm. long.
- 3 Lamellar flakes. Show use retouch. Average length 3 cm.
- 1 Fragment chipped stone blade.
- 1 Large faceted flake. 6 cm. long. Lamellar flakes apparently drawn off one face.

Several small flakes. One group found in small pile, suggesting flint working had taken place on the spot.
- 1 Sherd plain pottery. Thickness of wall 1.2 cm.

House 2, Living Room, Second Level:

(Material from this level occurred on, or just above the upper floor of the house.)

- 1 Tin disk. Diameter, 12.4 cm. Hole drilled in center and one just inside outer edge.

- 1 Eight gauge harpoon gun shell case. As above. Primer intact.
- 1 Rifle shell case. 30-30 Western.
- 1 Rifle shell case. 38-55 W.R.A. Co.
- 1 Rifle shell case. 45-70 possibly; or 11 mm. Base unmarked.
- 1 Rifle shell case. 50 cal. Copper. Rimfire. Possibly Sharps.
- 3 Pieces green bottle glass. Two pieces complete the raised letters "AH" within a raised circle. One piece shows large raised letters "...O (or U?) KEN..."
- 1 Small button, white glass with printed small pattern design on front.
- 1 Piece wood. Badly decomposed. Two drill holes in side.
- 1 Wooden handle-like object. Rounded butt; tapering end. Drilled at end.
- 1 Large wooden handle. Drilled for heavy lashing. Incomplete. Probably for heavy maul or root pick.
- 1 Toy umiak of cottonwood bark. 10.2 cm. long.
- 1 Wooden object. Flat oval section. Drilled either end with bits of baleen showing. Ends mortised. 23.9 cm. Probably strut for kayak.
- 1 Wooden peg. Point missing. Possibly meat fork. 29 cm. long.
- 1 Piece cut bark. Unidentifiable.
- 1 Wooden object. Oak. Unidentifiable.
- 1 Bone dog harness swivel. Two piece. (Plate 3:2)
- 1 Ivory fish hook shank. 7.2 cm. long.
- 1 Fragment of harpoon ice pick. Subtriangular section.
- 2 Pieces split antler. Probably intended for further work.
- 2 Bone arrow points. Each fragmentary. One with single barb.
- 3 Pieces bone sled shoes. Drilled. One an end piece notched for lashing to runner.
- 1 Bone pointed object. Incomplete. Possibly foreshaft.
- 1 Bone wedge. Whale rib. 22.8 cm. Drill hole at one edge one quarter down from upper end.

- 1 Bone awl. Straight taper from end to point. 13.9 cm.
- 1 Bone object. Small, flat. Possibly small knife handle. 7.1 cm.
- 1 Bone harpoon head. Small. Possibly sealing harpoon. 4.8 cm. (Plate 3:5)
- 1 Composite bone flint flaker. Resembles specimen from either Nuwuk or Utkiavik illustrated by Ford (1959:119, Fig. 53). (Plate 3:1)
- 2 Fragments slate ulu blades.
- 1 Small slate harpoon head blade. Fluted. Incomplete.
- 1 Chipped stone arrowhead. Stem broken. Resembles Ford's "Class 1" (1959:135, Fig. 64). Long, narrow, diamond shaped section with neatly executed ripple flaking. (Plate 3:3)
- 1 Chipped stone knife. Rather crudely worked. 7.7 cm.
- 2 Heavy, irregularly shaped cores.
- 1 Fragmentary chipped stone arrowpoint stem. Apparently of same type as four described for level above this.
- 1 Small chipped stone side scraper. 4.2 cm. long. Several chips of various sizes. Some show use retouch on one edge.
- 1 Large potsherd. Cooking vessel. Dentate stamp. Resembles the type "Deering Pyramid Paddled" (Oswalt, 1955). (Plate 3:4)

House 2, Living Room, Level Three:

(Material from this level occurred below the upper floor and on or above the lower. Between the two floors was a layer of gravel about 0.5' thick.)

- 8 Pieces of wooden arrowshafts. Two ends show nocking. Other pieces so interpreted on basis of similar diameter and cross section. Average diameter, 9 mm. (Plate 3:7,8)
- 2 Wooden pins. Gradual taper to point. One 33 cm.; other 24.4 cm. Slight burning near tip of longer specimen. Possibly meat forks.
- 1 Wooden firemaking spindle. Working end charred. Shouldered and tapered at bearing end. Length, 21.8 cm.; diameter 1.8 cm.
- 7 Fragments worked wood. Some may be boat parts.

- 14 Fragments small wooden pins. Small, cylindrical. Some with tapered points. (Plate 3:9)
- 1 Toy wooden bow. Ends notched for string. 15.5 cm.
- 1 Wooden object. Flat oval section. 23 cm. long, 2.5 cm. wide. Five small holes drilled along one edge. Babiche or sinew still in holes. Probably crossbar for snow shoe.
- 1 Wooden bodkin-like object. Carved head. 13.4 cm.
- 2 Carved wooden objects. Body of one cylindrical; other rectangular. Taper in to neck and surmounted by diamond shaped head. Both about 18.5 cm. long. Function not known.
- 1 Large rectangular wooden object. Perhaps a blank.
- 1 Toy snowshoe of bark. Square hole in center. 9 cm. (Plate 3:6)
- 1 Large section cut caribou antler.
- 1 Small section cut caribou antler. "T" shaped. May have served as handle for awl.
- 1 Antler awl. Small. Unitary construction. Handle, 4.2 cm.; point, 9 mm.
- 1 Antler snowbeater or marlinspike for bow. Incomplete. 17 cm. long, 1.8 cm. wide. Indications of lashing and drill hole at proximal end.
- 1 Fragment small flat ivory object. Rectangular section. Rounded end. 3 by 6 mm. Over 6 cm. long.
- 1 Piece baleen. Partially shredded. Wrapped and tied in middle with baleen string. (Plate 3:10)
- 1 Piece baleen line. Knot toward one end.
- 1 Fragment chipped stone blade. Possibly single shouldered.
- 1 Fragment slate blade. Probably ulu.
- 4 Small chips of flinty material.

House 2, Entryway, Level One:

- 1 Metal handle. Resembles in size and shape that of a wash tub.
- 1 Metal disk. Top cut from large can. 12.7 cm. diameter.
- 1 Fragment steel sled shoe. Holes placed as with bone shoes.
- 1 Iron wood chisel. Made from piece of strap.

- 2 Unidentifiable metal fragments. Evidently heavy container.
- 1 Rifle shell case. 30-06. Very recent appearance.
- 1 Rifle shell case. 38-55. Union Metal Company. Popular caliber during first decade or so of this century.
- 1 Rifle shell case. 30-30? Apparently in fire.
- 1 Rifle shell case. 22 Hornet. Recent appearance.
- 1 Rifle shell case. 50 caliber Sharps? Rimfire. Duplicate of that found in second level of living room.
- 1 Hand reloading tool. An older type. Probably used in reloading the numerous 8 gauge shot shells. Ca. 1900.
- 1 Fuse Cutter. Probably for cutting fuse for harpoon gun bomb. With last item probably part of a set.
- 1 Fragment glass jar bottom. Clear. Recent.
- 4 Fragments green glass bottle. Includes top--very heavy and rounded. One body fragment has raised letters "O(?)TT..." Parts of same bottle described above.
- 1 Glass bottle small. Glass stopper reads "Lea & Perrins." Slightly different from current design.
- 1 Button. Mother of pearl. 1.8 cm. diameter.
- 1 Large wooden pin. Cylindrical. Spatulate end. Notch cut completely around top creates a head. Resembles, in length, apparent diameter and spatulate end, object from Miyowagh Site, St. Lawrence Island, which is described as "part of snare (?)" (Collins, 1937: Pl. 57, No. 7). Suggested as possible boot stretcher (O. W. Geist, viva voce.)
- 2 Wooden pegs. Possibly for staking skins. Average 22.9 cm.
- 3 Pieces of wood. Worked. Unidentifiable.
- 4 Pieces bone sled shoes. Drilled. (Plate 2:1)
- 1 Flat section of antler. Possibly bow part. 12 cm. long.
- 1 Small antler dart foreshaft and receiver.
- 1 Fragment antler snow beater.

- 1 Ivory net sinker. "D" shaped. Two flanges set out on straight face to receive line. 9.7 cm. long. (Plate 2:10)
- 2 Antler awls. Flat Section. One with broadly tapered point one end, long cylindrical at other.
- 1 Bone adze head. Socketed, drilled and grooved for hafting to handle. 9.8 cm. long.
- 1 Small bone adze head. 5.3 cm.
- 1 Ice creeper. Individual raised teeth. 5.4 cm. long. (Plate 2:11)
- 1 Bone arrowpoint. Most closely resembles those grouped by Ford as "Spurred tang single barb." Slotted for point. 8.8 cm. long.
- 2 Ivory ulu handles. One has five drill holes across side. Larger has one hole. Lengths: 6.7 cm. and over 8 cm. (end broken) (Plate 2:5)
- 1 Fragmentary bone hair comb. Hole drilled in handle. Small.
- 7 Pieces cut and carved bone and antler. Unidentifiable.
- 1 Piece ground slate blade. Large. Not completed.
- 1 Slate point or blade. Not completed.
- 1 Fragment slate point.
- 5 Chipped stone arrowpoints. Two lack points; two lack stems. Three with stems intact match those four described for level one of the living room. (See above) (Plate 2:2,6)
- 1 Chipped stone projectile point tip.
- 1 Fragment chipped stone drill.
Several flint chips. No indication of use.
- 1 Piece fossiliferous rock. Contains fossil pecten shells. These occur at the nearby hill called Crowbill.
- 4 Sherds pottery. Grease encrusted. Plain surfaces.

House 2, Entryway, Level Two:

- 3 Rifle shell cases. 50 caliber Sharps (?) Rimfire. Duplicates of those described above.
- 1 Revolver shell case. Caliber 44 Special or Russian. Old-appearing. No information on base.
- 1 Fragment strap iron.
- 1 Fragment clear glass.

- 1 Fragmentary wooden snowbeater.
 - 1 Piece possible wooden arrowshaft. 9 mm diameter.
 - 2 Small pointed wooden objects. Perhaps meat forks.
 - 4 Curved fragments of root section of spruce. Possibly a bowl. Interiors blackened as from grease. Drill hole in one piece.
 - 1 Large bone wedge. Whale rib. 22.5 cm. long, 5.4 cm. wide.
 - 1 Antler handle. Small. Slotted at both ends. 9.5 cm. long. Possibly a dagger.
 - 1 Bone arrowpoint. 7.8 cm. Spurred tang, single barb type.
 - 1 Bone wrist guard. Oval. Plain. Holes at either side for attachment. (Plate 2:3)
 - 1 Large slate ulu blade.
 - 4 Chipped stone projectile points. All basal sections intact. Match the five described above. (Plate 2:8)
 - 2 Chipped stone blades. Unstemmed. Rounded bases. Lanceolate. Probable former length over 7 cm. Widths: 2.4 and 2.9 cm. Resemble closely knife from House 4. (Plate 2:4,9)
 - 1 Fragment chipped stone point or blade.
 - 1 Large irregular core.
 - 1 Very small chipped stone graver. Retouched at point. Lanceolate. 2.2 cm. long, 9 mm. wide.
 - 1 Small flake end scraper.
- Several chips.

House 2, Apparent Side Room off Entryway:

- 1 Rifle shell case. Rimfire. Copper. Approximately 44 caliber. Possibly for 44 Henry rifle.
- 1 Piece green bottle glass. Matches those above.
- 1 Button. Mother of pearl.
- 1 Piece carved wood. Unidentifiable.
- 2 Piece harpoon shaft and ivory receiver. Shaft drilled 6 cm. below lower edge of receiver for line attachment. Shaft diameter 3 cm. (Plate 2:7)
- 1 Bone handle for box or bag. Plano-convex. Rounded ends with two transverse grooves for binding. 10.6 cm. long, 2.7 cm. wide.

- 1 End piece of ice pick for harpoon. Plano-convex section. Drill hole at end.
- 1 Small knife handle. Hollow in end for blade. Evidence of lashing. Other end evidently drilled several times, possibly for attachment of ornaments. Length, 9.2 cm.; width, 2.2 cm.
- 1 Ivory arrowpoint blank.
- 1 Fragment large scapula. Possibly snowshovel.
- 1 Large root pick. Whale rib? 45 cm. long. (Plate 2:12)
- 1 Fragment bone. Possibly arrowpoint.
- 1 Ivory fish line sinker. Drilled for attachment of several leaders with hooks on each. Conical 1.9 cm. high.
- 7 Pieces cut or carved bone and antler. Unidentifiable.
- 1 Small slate ulu blade. 6.8 cm. long, 3 cm. wide.
- 1 Fragment slate blade. Almost parallel-sided.
- 1 Point fragment of slate harpoon head blade. Wide edge facets and central thinning.
- 1 Basal section small chipped stone blade. Shape would appear to match those specimens described above but much smaller. 1.9 cm. wide.
- 1 Point fragment chipped stone blade or point. Several flakes.
- 2 Sherds plain pottery.

Analysis of Artifact Assemblages and Conclusions:

The first impression gained from the artifacts described above might be one of either reasonable antiquity--in view of the numbers of aboriginal Eskimo artifact types--or confusion over the presence among these of items like Lea & Perrins bottles, etc. Actually, these two things are entirely compatible. One has merely to consult the accounts of Murdoch or Nelson (and others) to find that at the time these gentlemen made ethnographic collections on the north and west Alaskan coasts (1870's - 1880's) most of the implements encountered here were

still being made and in common use.

The earliest white material found at Ogotoruk could not possibly be read to indicate a date prior to about 1870. The best "index fossils" here are the 50 caliber rimfire rifle shells. 1870 would represent about their earliest widespread use--but they continued in use until about 1900. A chronological interpretation, then, placing the occupation of the second level and entryway at about 1880 and onward should find no serious opposition.

The status of the lower floor--from which no white material was recovered--is more difficult to deal with. Had it been possible to completely excavate H2, these problems would doubtless not exist. Permafrost and the press of time precluded this. As stated in the section dealing with the excavations, there is reason to believe the upper floor represented a rebuilding of the older house. This assumption is made because the upper floor directly overlay the lower. It is inferred from this that the lower floor was exposed at that time. Thus interpreted, there would seem to be an unbroken continuity from the older to the younger. Nothing in the artifact assemblage from the lower floor seems to dispute this. That articles of white manufacture were not found may be nothing more than a function of incomplete excavation.

Murdoch (1892:287), speaking of the Barrow area in the years 1881 - 1883, says, "These people still retain

the art of making flint arrow and spear heads, and other implements such as the blades for skin scrapers..." Many of those purchased by him in his collecting were newly made and "as finely formed and neatly finished as any of the ancient ones." The instrument used was a flaker of the same type as described above, found in the second level of the living room of House 2. In speaking of firemaking, he states (Ibid:289-291) that the fire drill was in use as late as 1837 at Barrow, but that at the time of his writing flint and steel had supplanted it. Nelson (1899:75-76), in writing of the years 1877 - 1881 spent generally well south of Barrow on the coast, speaks of the fire drill as being "in common use throughout the region visited..." Nelson, it may be recalled, travelled as far north as Point Barrow. In speaking of the bow the same author notes (Ibid:155) that "bows and arrows were still in common use for shooting birds and fish in some districts of northwestern Alaska during my residence there." Similarly, pottery manufacture, an occupation of women, was noted as being widespread "among the Eskimo with whom I came in contact" (Ibid:201). Murdoch records that use of pottery was extinct at Barrow (op. cit.:92), but this was evidently at variance with much of coastal Alaska at the time--specifically so at Ogotoruk Creek.

Those traits indicated above, pottery making, use of the fire drill, chipping of stone points, and the use

of the bow are all rather critical generally in a situation of contact between European-derived culture and that of native peoples. They are critical in the sense that they are among the first to be supplanted by elements of western culture--flint and steel or matches, iron blades, and firearms. When archaeological evidence is found of the presence of these traits in an apparently recent context, one should be at some pains to demonstrate that there is chronological compatibility. In the case at hand this has been done. It is suggested that the bottom levels of House 2 at Ogotoruk Creek may be no older than 1850 or so. The upper levels (represented by the second floor of the living room) and upwards probably represent an occupation sequence from some time in the 1880's through at least the first decade of this century and possibly beyond a bit. The occupation of House 4 would overlap with the upper end of the chronology of House 2. Printed on the Prince Albert tobacco cans is the information that their process was patented in 1907. Charlie Jensen's house (H3) was occupied, according to Mr. Jensen, from about 1912 until 1922 or so. H6, that of Mr. Lane of Point Hope, was occupied during the same span of time.

Evident then, is a short period of occupation of Ogotoruk Valley, extending possibly over a ninety year range. Equally evident is the fact that at any one time,

there would have been found very few people in residence there. The only thing which might overturn this conclusion would be evidence of greater antiquity at the basal levels of H2. With the data at hand, these seem to be reasonable conclusions.

Two problems are raised: (1) Why was the population of the valley so sparse? and (2) Why was there no earlier occupation? As indicated in an earlier section, the answer to the first query must be sought in the ecology of the valley. The answer to the second question remains, at this time, elusive.

ANALYSIS OF FAUNAL REMAINS

In order to gain some further insight into the activities of the people who occupied the tiny settlement at Ogotoruk Creek, all animal bones encountered in excavation were collected, identified at least as to major types, and converted to percentages. One box containing faunal remains was lost in shipment from Kotzebue to Fairbanks. It is for this reason that level three of the living room of H2 and the side room off the entryway are not represented.

Although there is some confusion relating to the latter part of the name, most Eskimos who were asked agreed that the "Ogot" prefix of Ogotoruk is a white man's corruption of their word which we render as Oogruk, the bearded seal. According to Charlie Jensen, the small settlement at the mouth of the creek was called "Ogotoruk"

or, more nearly as he pronounced it, Ogorotoruk. That there was some significance to this name appears to be borne out by the faunal analysis.

It is not held of course, that this procedure gives anything more than a rough idea of a peoples' hunting activities. Differential preservation, differences in modes of taking various species and other factors have an obvious effect. The almost total lack of bird bone must, at least in part, be attributed to the first factor. However, as a rough index the procedure is felt to have some merit. The tables that follow present the results of this analysis:

House 4

Caribou		Seal		Whale		Walrus		Fox		Bird	
No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
95	44.2	102	47.5	2	0.9	11	5.1	3	1.4	2	0.9

House 2

Level	Caribou		Seal		Bear		Whale		Walrus		Dog		Fox		Bird	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1L	24	57.1	15	35.7	1	2.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4.7
2L	17	40.5	21	50.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	7.1	1	2.4
1E	54	45.4	46	38.6	-	-	1	0.8	-	-	5	4.2	5	4.2	8	6.2
2E	17	26.6	41	64.0	-	-	-	-	3	4.2	2	3.1	1	1.5	-	-
Total	112	42.0	123	46.1	1	0.4	1	0.4	3	1.1	7	2.6	9	3.4	11	4.1

Seal and caribou clearly were the most important species of animals utilized. Differential preservation should not be of such magnitude as to account for the extremely low numbers of bird bones. It must be concluded,

then, that the large nearby murre colonies did not form an important attraction for those few folk who actually lived at Ogotoruk. This is not to say that they may not have been important to people from settlements elsewhere along this coast.

With due caution it may be suggested that until about 1900 seals were somewhat more important than caribou. This is based upon the percentage differences obtaining between levels 1 and 2 of House 2 and also upon evidence derived elsewhere. It has been ascertained that at least by about 1913, reindeer were being kept in Ogotoruk Valley (Charles Jensen: viva voce). Undoubtedly many of the bones called here "caribou" are actually those of reindeer. It is quite impossible to distinguish anatomically between the two. The advent of domesticated reindeer would account for the higher percentage of "caribou" bones in the top levels. The faunal evidence, then, would indicate that there was some significance in the place name Ogotoruk. It evidently was a good location for the taking of seals.

Apparently the hunting of game other than seal and caribou was much a subsidiary occupation by comparison. Whaling was probably considerably more important than is suggested by osteological evidence. Certainly there is evidence throughout in the artifacts of whaling activity-- in the form of whale harpoon head blades and in the presence of an 8 gauge harpoon gun. Seasonality of this

and walrus hunting doubtless account to some extent for the paucity of remains of these species. Another factor may be considered in the case of the whale: Butchering ordinarily takes place near the scene of the kill. Meat, blubber, and baleen would be the more normal items brought home; bones remaining at the site of the butchering.

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

All evidence found in the course of this archaeological survey indicates a light recent occupation of the lower end of Ogotoruk Creek Valley. Some of this was undoubtedly seasonal and transient in nature. The major occupations indicated are seal and caribou hunting. Domesticated reindeer are known to have been kept in the valley in the first two decades of this century. The nearby bird cliffs apparently did not constitute an attraction for the small population that occupied the valley.

The earliest evidence of occupation discovered is somewhat difficult to date; it is not believed to be much earlier than mid-19th century. However, the situation here (lower levels of House 2 at CT2) is not clear owing to the fact that it was not possible, for reasons outlined above, to complete that excavation. Furthermore, lacking evidence to the contrary, we cannot state with any assurance that there are no earlier remains underlying our earliest levels. Above this earliest uncovered floor we have an apparently continuous sequence of occupation at the settlement called Ogotoruk until, at least, the third decade of the present century.

Because of the fact that our work at CT2 was not completed, and because of the distinct possibility of earlier remains being found there, we recommend that some

consideration be given the possibility of a brief continuance of this project to elucidate this problem. At most, unless something quite unexpected were struck, this would involve two men for a period probably not exceeding a month.

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Figure 1. Site CT1. Top portion of cache
(Excavation Unit 2).

Figure 2. Site CT1.
Cache (Excavation
Unit 3). Four sup-
porting posts may be
seen in the photograph.

Figure 3. Site CT2. House 4 being excavated. Inner string marked apparent limits of house depression. Directly beyond figure on right is part of depression H5, largely covered with road fill. Above the head of the figure at left is H6.

Figure 4. Site CT2. House 3 formerly owned by Charles Jensen of Kotzebue.

Figure 5. Site CT2. House 2. The two floor levels of the living room exposed.

PLATE 1

Site CT2

<u>Description</u>	<u>House</u>	<u>Level</u>	<u>Ref. Page</u>
1. Arrowpoint	4	--	21
2. Knife	4	--	21
3. Trace buckle	4	--	20
4. Bodkin or awl	4	--	20
5. Whalebone wedge	4	--	20
6. Bone Spoon	2	1L	22
7. Shell for harpoon gun. 8 ga.	2	1L	21
8. Ivory needlecase	2	1L	22
9. Hammer for harpoon gun	2	1L	21
10. Inflation plug, ivory. Seal float	2	1L	22
11. Slate ulu blade	2	1L	23
12. Jade Whetstone	2	1L	23
13. Slate whale harpoon point	2	1L	23
14. Arrowpoint	2	1L	23
15. Arrowpoint	2	1L	23

PLATE 2

Site CT2

<u>Description</u>	<u>House</u>	<u>Level</u>	<u>Ref. Page</u>
1. Bone sled shoe	2	1E	27
2. Arrowpoint	2	1E	28
3. Wrist guard	2	2E	29
4. Knife	2	2E	29
5. Ivory ulu handle	2	1E	28
6. Arrowpoint	2	1E	28
7. Harpoon shaft	2	Sideroom	29
8. Arrowpoint	2	2E	29
9. Knife	2	2E	29
10. Net sinker	2	1E	28
11. Ice creeper	2	1E	28
12. Root pick	2	Sideroom	30

PLATE 3

Site CT2

<u>Description</u>	<u>House</u>	<u>Level</u>	<u>Ref. Page</u>
1. Flaking tool	2	2L	25
2. Dog harness swivel	2	2L	24
3. Arrow or lance point	2	2L	25
4. Potsherd. Dentate stamp	2	2L	25
5. Small harpoon head	2	2L	25
6. Toy snowshoe? Bark	2	3L	26
7. Arrowshaft	2	3L	25
8. Arrowshaft	2	3L	25
9. Wooden pin	2	3L	26
10. Baleen strip	2	3L	26