

FROM: (Thanked, 1/22/63)
Heinrich, Anthropology
AFTER FIVE DAYS RETURN TO
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY
MISSOULA, MONTANA

1956

THE NEW YORK TIMES, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21,

ANCIENT 'HOUSE' FOUND IN ARCTIC

Anthropologist at Brown U.
Believes Oval 'Dwelling'
Is 3,000 Years Old

Special to The New York Times.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Oct. 20
—A "house" 3,000 to 4,000 years old, the oldest yet found in the Arctic, has been uncovered by a Brown University anthropologist, the university announced today.

It is described as the first oval house ever found in the American Arctic.

The discovery was made by Dr. J. Louis Giddings Jr., director of the Haffenreffer museum of Brown, at Bristol, R. I.

The find, he said, was made last summer on a rocky cliff overlooking Eschscholtz Bay, an inlet off Kotzebue Sound, more than 100 miles northeast of Bering Strait.

The discovery, his report stated, fills in a void in the region's chronology and gives weight to the theory of some scientists that the North American continent was not settled by mass migration from Siberia. Instead, they believe, that the area from Siberia across the American continent to northern Europe once was thinly settled by peoples who shared a similar culture.

Artifacts found at the site, and Dr. Giddings brought back about 200, lead him to believe the occupants of the dwelling were of a group somewhere between the people of the so-called "Denbigh complex" and the oldest Eskimos, called Paleo-Eskimos.

Traces of the people of the "Denbigh complex," who left no recognizable dwellings at their coastal camps, have been found at Cape Denbigh on North Sound, a branch of the Bering Sea.

The Eschscholtz find was made by Dr. Giddings and two companions, Melvin Reichler, a



MAKES ARCTIC DISCOVERY: Dr. J. Louis Giddings Jr., Brown University anthropologist, holds pottery fragments between 3,000 and 4,000 years old. They were uncovered at site of the oldest "house" ever found in Arctic.

graduate assistant in sociology at Brown, and Robert Ackerman, an archaeologist from the University of Pennsylvania.

Looking across a long, narrow beach, they saw three oval depressions. Digging at one, they unearthed an oval area, about 42 by 24 feet, around which ten posts had been imbedded. The posts slanted toward the center. Within the space they found a smaller area that had formed the oval floor of the structure and was lower than what had been the surrounding earth.

Lengthwise within that area were two curved rows of the impressions of posts, evidently for support of a sod roof.

The artifacts the group found include harpoon dart heads, arrow and spear heads, an adze head made of caribou antler with openings for the flint head and a handle, burins or stone grooving tools, bone needles and other tools and knives of slate and flint.

The expedition was sponsored by the Arctic Institute of North America.