NOTICE OF ORDINARY MEETING

The next meeting will be held in the
MUSEUM EDUCATION BUILDING (Behind the main Museum Bldg.),
North Terrace, Adelaide at
8.00 P.M. MONDAY, 19TH APRIL, 1971.

AGENDA

1. Apologies

2. Minutes of Meeting held 22nd March, 1971

3. Tabling of Papers & Journals received from other societies.

4. Election of New Member:
   Miss E.J. Robbins, "Eastwood", Old Mt. Barker Road,

5. General:
   (i) Mr. K.P. Sherlock, the Society's Librarian, was
       given leave of absence to go to Darwin. The
       Council have therefore co-opted Mr. L.F. Barter
       to the Council and have appointed him Acting
       Librarian.

       Authority for this action of the Council must
       be granted by members under Rule 11. of the
       Society's Rules.

   (ii) Other Business

6. Mr. Robert Ellis, Curator of Relics, South Australian
    Museum will give a talk on:

    "MYTH AND KIN AMONGST THE ABORIGINES OF THE FLINDERS
    RANGES"
NOTES ON CYLCONS
(by Owen Broughton.)

PART V: GROUPS OR HOARDS OF CYLCONS

Cylcons are mostly found as single specimens but records now show a number of cases in which two or more specimens have been found in such close juxtaposition as to suggest that they were buried together. The importance of a study of these hoards is that we are certain that all the specimens in the one group were in use at the same time although some could possibly be older than others. In previous cyolon research it has been uncertain whether the varicous types of cyolon were approximately of the same age and in use together or even whether or not some specific types such as cornute or incised were in use by quite different cultures to other types of cyolon such as cylindrical or non-incised.

The known cases of groups or hoards will now be described:

1) Four cylcons presented to the Australian Museum, Sydney in 1929 were located by Mr. Sam Yeo two miles west of Dunedoo, New South Wales. These specimens were found twelve inches below the surface of the ground and were buried horizontally in the form of a capital letter "E", that is to say three cylcons were parallel to each other and the fourth was lying transversely near their bases. These specimens are all of the same material, a fine grained white, argillaceous sandstone and of cylindrical shape ranging from 27.8 to 40 cms. in length. All four have concavities in the base ranging from 0.2 to 1.8 mm. in depth and all are flaked around the periphery of the base. Two of the specimens are incised with both longitudinal and transverse lines whilst the other two are plain.

2) Four cylcons were found together on Rochdale Station, Darling River, three of these are now in a private collection in Adelaide but the present location of the fourth is unknown. One of these cylcons is composed of white argillaceous sandstone whilst the other two are of different types of light yellow sandstone. Lengths range from 26.1 to 29.6 cms. and all have concave bases but are not flaked. Two of the three specimens examined were incised, both with circumferential rings.
NOTES ON CYLCONS (Cont'd.)

3) At Mooleulooloo Station north of Mingary, South Australia, three cylcons were found as a group some twenty years ago but unfortunately two of these have since been lost. The remaining specimen is a cylindrical, dark grey sandstone cylcon 35.7 cms. long with a convex base, it is not incised.

4) On the same property at a later date two unincised specimens were found in juxtaposition, one of these was a cylindrical cylcon 20.1 cms. long with a convex base whilst the other was an exceedingly small specimen of a similar shape but measuring only 5.9 cms. in length. If this latter specimen is actually a cylcon then it is the smallest recorded to date.

5) A pair of cylcons found buried together on Murree Station consists of two cylindrical specimens, 32.2 and 20.9 cms. long, one is of white argillaceous sandstone and the other of brown quartzite, the former with a concave base and the latter flat. The sandstone specimen is incised with short transverse lines.

6) In 1968 on Sanpah Station, M.S.W., two cylcons were found weathered out on a claypan, they were parallel, about 5 cms. apart, with their points toward the east. One of these is a cornute specimen and this was lying with its concave side toward the other cylindrical cylcon. The cornute specimen was composed of medium grained light yellow sandstone 20.2 cms. long and unincised. The other cylcon was of dark grey mudstone with the distal end missing, the length of the major portion being 28.6 cms. Apart from a few scratches possibly made during manufacture, it appears to be unincised. Both specimens have concave bases 1.4 and 1.3 mms. respectively.

7) In the Kurtze private museum, Portland, Victoria, are two cylcons collected on Trevallyn Station, M.S.W., in 1962. Both are cylindrical specimens composed of quartzite, 22.7 and 24 cms. long and were lying parallel approximately 12 cms. apart. About 45 cms in front of the points of the stones lay a millstone. Both these specimens are unincised with flat bases slightly flaked around the periphery.

8) Two cylcons from the Lindsay Black collection, now housed in the National Museum of Victoria, were collected in 1940 and are included in Lindsay Black's publication of 1942 as
NOTES ON CYLCONS (Cont'd.)

Nos. 31 and 32. These come from Fowler's Gap on Sturts Meadows Station in north-western New South Wales. One is a light grey quartzite cylindrical stone 35 cms. long with a concave base 1.4 mm. in depth, whilst the other is a fine grained quartzite stone 38 cms. long with a deep concavity of 4 mm. and is much flaked around the periphery of the base. Both specimens are unincised.

Lindsay Black mentions one other example of two cylcons being found together but there seems to be some confusion in regard to this case. On page 81, cylcon No. 72, locality Bellsgrove Station, is stated to have been found with cylcon No. 5. The locality of the latter, however, is given as Newfoundland Station.

9) A fine incised cylcon 39 cms. long was found with another unincised stone on Dunlop Station in 1927 but the finder collected the incised specimen only and left the other.

In the following cases the two fragments of a single broken cylcon have been reworked and buried together.

10) On Murtee Station were found two fragments of a cylindrical unincised cylcon composed of white argillaceous sandstone, the butt portion being 15 cm. and the distal portion 19 cm. The broken end of the distal portion had been chamfered around the circumference of the break.

11) In the other case, that of a cylcon in the Mildura Museum, there is no data as to the locality or circumstances of finding but as both broken ends of this cylcon have been reworked it seems most likely that they were found together. This is a prolifically incised specimen 41 cms. long when complete but now in two portions, butt 19.7 cms. and distal 21.5 cms. composed of a fine grained white argillaceous sandstone. The broken ends of both portions have been steeply chamfered to an angle of about 45 around the circumference of the stone.

In the final example the specimens are four natural stones of a roughly cylindrical to fusiform shape that had been buried in a certain order and recently exposed by wind erosion. The stones are not cylcons but are mentioned here as the find is very well documented and is of interest as a hoard.
NOTES ON CYLCONS (Cont'd.)

12) The locality of the find was a small claypan some twenty feet in diameter just north of McClures Lake on Sanpah Station, the same general locality as example as No. 6. Three of these stones were lying parallel, about 7 cms. apart, facing east and west with their points to the west. These stones are 13, 15 and 15 cms. long respectively. The fourth stone, 13.5 cms. in length, was located nearly one metre from the others on the edge of the claypan, also in an east to west position with its point to the west.

ANALYSIS: Setting out the examples 1 to 9, but excluding No. 3. In which we have data on only one specimen, we find the following result:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Card Ref.</th>
<th>Shape</th>
<th>Material</th>
<th>Incised</th>
<th>Motifs of incising</th>
<th>Shape of base</th>
<th>Flaked or not flk'd</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>N105</td>
<td>Cyl.</td>
<td>s'stone</td>
<td>inc.</td>
<td>)same</td>
<td>concave</td>
<td>flaked</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>N108</td>
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<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>N106</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>not inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>N107</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>not inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>P234</td>
<td>cornute</td>
<td>s'stone</td>
<td>inc.</td>
<td>)same</td>
<td>concave</td>
<td>not fl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>P236</td>
<td>cyl.</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>P235</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>not inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>P207</td>
<td>cyl.</td>
<td>s'stone</td>
<td>not inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td>convex</td>
<td>not fl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>P208</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>P14</td>
<td>cyl.</td>
<td>s'stone</td>
<td>inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td>concave</td>
<td>flaked</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>P15</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td>flat</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>P196</td>
<td>cyl.</td>
<td>mudstone</td>
<td>not inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td>concave</td>
<td>not fl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>P197</td>
<td>cornute</td>
<td>s'stone</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>P299</td>
<td>cyl.</td>
<td>q'zite</td>
<td>not inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td>flat</td>
<td>flaked</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>P300</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>B444</td>
<td>cyl.</td>
<td>q'zite</td>
<td>not inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td>concave</td>
<td>flaked</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B445</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
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</table>

It can be seen from the above that in regard to the shape of cylcons, cylindrical and cornute types occur together twice in hoards out of the seven examples. In two cases, the material is mixed and in three out of seven incised and non incised cylcons are together, in both hoards where there are
two incised specimens the motifs on them are the same. In all cases except one the shape of the base is the same for each group and the occurrence or not of flakes being struck from around the base is constant for every group.

This could indicate that the occurrence of flaking can be regarded as a constant as to the time when the artifact was in use, as it can be shown that this characteristic has a mixed regional distribution and the same remarks can perhaps be made as to the shape of the base. It can be further concluded that the incised and plain specimens were used together as also those of cylindrical and cornute shape.

In conclusion, I wish to acknowledge the assistance of the following who kindly gave me permission to examine those cylcons under their care which are the subject of this paper:

Mr. Doug Bannear, Cobdogla, S.A.
Mr. Robert Edwards, Curator of Anthropology, South Australian Museum.
Mr. N.O. Farrer, Kensington Gardens, Adelaide.
Mr. C. Kurtze, Portland, Victoria.
Mr. A.P. Leaver, Hazelwood Park, South Australia.
Mr. D.R. Moore, Curator of Anthropology, Australian Museum, Sydney.
Mr. Keith Treloar, Wiawera, Olary, South Australia.
Mr. Alan West, Curator of Anthropology, National Museum of Victoria, Melbourne.

REFERENCE:

Black, Lindsay:  Cylcons: the mystery stones of the Darling River Valley. 1942.