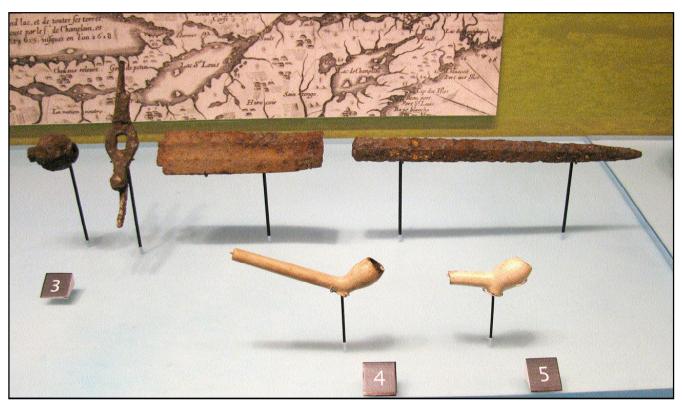


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If you are in Ottawa over the next year, check out the Champlain exhibit at the Canadian Museum of Civilization. This photo shows details of the Warminster artifacts which could very well have been brought there by Champlain's expedition of 1615-1616. The small pipe on the right is from Champlain's headquarters in Québec City and dates to 1626-1629. See the article starting on Page 11.

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President's Message

elcome to the start, albeit slow, of the summer. Life around the OAS Board has been hectic, as usual. A late start to the annual PHO grant process means life into July will be busy in the OAS head office.

As well, this issue of Arch Notes includes, finally, a draft of the new OAS Strategic Plan. I hope you will all take a moment to review it and provide any feedback you may have on the document. It is intended to help direct the OAS and focus priorities over the next five years, so hopefully we can revise and finalize the document in the next few months leading up to the annual business meeting at the conference in October.

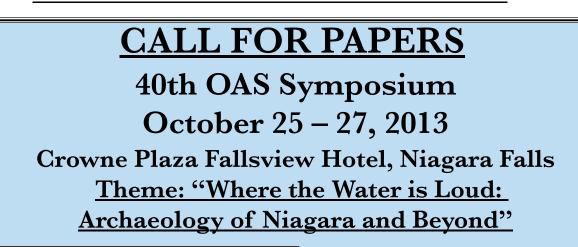
By the way, just a reminder that we are moving ahead with conference planning, being organized by the Board with assistance of the Hamilton Chapter. Please check out additional information in this issue, and help make this a successful conference by contributing to the program!

I also wanted to mention that the OAS recently increased its liability insurance. This was due in response to a Chapter's field project, and the landowner's requirement that the liability be increased to allow the project to proceed (from \$3 Million to \$5 Million). This is just a reminder that any OAS sponsored event, or chapter sponsored event, does allow members to be covered. This includes organized and sponsored field activities and we would like to offer those opportunities to members when they come up. As the commitment to directly offer

opportunities on the OAS's behalf makes undertaking a field project difficult for a member, we have and are exploring opportunities with both consultant firms and academic archaeologists to allow for members to volunteer on their projects, when appropriate, alleviating the OAS from the burden of reporting and long terms collections care otherwise.

Typically you will find those announcements, when they come up, on our Facebook page, so keep your eyes peeled if a field opportunity is something you are interested in. Do please 'like' us on Facebook to stay up to date with what is happening around our organization.

> Neal Ferris President





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May/June 2013

DRAFT

STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE ONTARIO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, 2014-2019

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The following is a proposed draft Strategic Plan (SP) to replace the one that expired at the end of 2011. A Strategic Plan is intended to define key, mission critical, objectives for an organization to achieve over the life of the plan. These objectives reflect broad level aims that, ideally, at the end of the SP MUST be reached to sustain the vitality of the organization.

In developing a new SP for the OAS, the board is proposing less a grocery list of things to do, and more a manageable set of priorities that must be the focus of board operations beyond day to day demands. This means key aims with definable short, medium and long term goals to work towards.

So the Board proposes that the SP timeline be lengthened, from three years to five years. Within that time frame, we can identify short term (Year 1), medium term (Year 2-3), and long term (Year 4-5) steps in achieving each aim of the SP. This provides the Board and membership with clear expectations, and an assessment of performance over the life of the SP, rather than simply undertaking a post-mortem that focuses on what was not achieved after the fact.

Note: Given that we don't have a current SP in place, the Board decided that, while the new SP will not begin until 2014, most Year 1 tasks reflect unfinished priorities of the previous SP, and such will be worked on in 2013.

The draft is based on the feedback received from the membership, board, and chapters, and on the responses to the questionnaire. We have intentionally focussed on a definable set of priorities that appear to be in keeping with general consensus of where efforts should focus. These priorities, of course, do not supplant day to day service demands and communications, but identify where limited resources and capacity need to be focussed over the next five years.

2. PREAMBLE

A Strategic Plan (SP) is intended to help an organization set priorities, define direction, guide choices, and determine the allocation of scarce resources (capital and effort). A SP also outlines how, beyond routine operations, the organization will work towards advancing the aims of its mission statement. A SP also outlines the steps that are needed to take along the way to achieve the broader aim, with early steps necessarily reflecting more concrete actions, while later steps reflect more possibilities should early goals be achieved.

3. AIMS OF THE 2013-2018 STRATEGIC PLAN

Through a process of consultation with the OAS membership, and in accordance with the constitutional aims of the society, the Board of Directors has identified the following four principal aims of the 2013-2018 strategic plan:

 to enhance the OAS's role in archaeological heritage advocacy in order to advance archaeological conservation and good practice;

2) to promote and communicate research, findings, and advancements in Ontario archaeology;

 to sustain and expand member experiences and services that remain of relevance to the membership;

4) to provide the operational and organizational support necessary to achieve the above.

4. AIM #1: ADVOCACY — STATEMENT OF INTENT

The OAS has a leadership role to play in advocating for the good care and management of Ontario's archaeological past, and to support archaeologists of all categories in their goal to conduct ethical and high-quality practice in Ontario. Our intention is to define and implement this role through the development of clear policy, priorities, and tools.

1.Short Term Goals (Year 1)

•Develop an Advocacy Policy for the OAS

•Recruit an Advocacy Committee, chaired by a board member, of three to five members willing to devote three to five hours a month on issues of advocacy

•Develop templates for advocacy communications (letters/press releases)

•Fill First Nations Liaison Officer position

2.Medium Term (Year 2 and 3)

•Develop pro-active advocacy strategies arising from policy and identify key goals to focus on, such as:

a) uniform municipal conservation of archaeology under the Planning Act;

b) avocational mentoring and standards for individuals holding avocational licenses;

c) open communications and aggregate data reporting of professional (academic, consultant, government, museum) activity and experiences.

•Reach out to the broader Ontario heritage community to co-ordinate and enhance OAS advocacy skills

•Follow through on 2010 resolution to initiate a First Nations Task Force on Ontario's Aboriginal archaeological heritage

3. Long Term Goals (Year 4 and 5)

•Building on capacity achieved over medium term, seek to enhance initiatives made, and the OAS leadership role in heritage advocacy in Ontario, such as by:

a) contribute to forming a Heritage Advocacy collective of Provincial and National organizations who can formally speak to broad issues of Heritage practice and conservation;

b) re-establish a formal 'Passport to the Past' initiative to support avocational training and research;

c) contribute or lead in establishing resources for professionals such as online information 'hub' promoting 'best practice' case studies, discussion forum to compare practices and experiences, training workshops or regular programming on advancements in methods and standards of practice, produce annual reports of archaeological activity and 'state of the practice' in Ontario

d) contribute to developing the means for archaeologists and First Nations communities to work together, such as through an online portal to facilitate informed engagement and joint decisionmaking around the practice of archaeology, care of sites, and management of existing collections.

5. AIM #2: PROMOTION, RESEARCH, AND EDUCATION – STATEMENT OF INTENT

The OAS has a responsibility to its membership and the public to promote archaeology, encourage research, and provide opportunities for learning about archaeology and Ontario's archaeological heritage. If we do not promote the OAS itself, we will be unable to meet our goals. To this end the OAS will develop clear policy and networking opportunities, review and improve our current educational materials, enable chapters to carry out public outreach, and encourage the dissemination of research to the general public.

1.Short-term Goals (Year 1)

•Review the role of current publications, their effectiveness at serving the membership, what direction they should be taken, and the implications of any changes proposed

•Develop a communications policy identifying key means to communicate advancement in Ontario Archaeology, and the role of the OAS in Ontario

•Strike an Education Committee, chaired by a board member, of three to five people to review existing education materials and identify educational goals and strategies

<u>2. Medium-term Goals (Year 2 & 3)</u>

•Develop pro-active promotion, research and education strategies arising from policy and identify key goals to focus on, such as:

a) strike a committee to promote and oversee Valerie Sonstenes Student Research fund and issue first awards

b) build partnerships with broader Ontario heritage institutions to participate in wider range of events to promote the OAS

c) develop a Media Relations and press release policy

d) develop new tools for online research and education (e.g., teachers and students section; culture history summaries; member reporting of ongoing research, etc.)

e) develop materials to promote services for students in schools and on campuses

<u> 3. Long-term Goals (Years 4 & 5)</u>

•Building on capacity achieved over medium term, seek to enhance initiatives made, and the OAS role in supporting archaeological research and education in Ontario, such as:

 a) seek partnerships to enable educational opportunities around archaeology in formal K-12 curriculum; and for Aboriginal communities

b) deliver original online content for research and education, online delivery of new OAS publications (e.g., online reporting and identification of artifact findspots, digital reference collections, linking CRM findings with researchers, popularized nonfiction research, etc.)

c) partner with province, municipalities to develop an 'archaeology week' in Ontario

d) enhance funding support for research on Ontario's archaeological record.

6. AIM #3: SUSTAIN AND EXPAND Relevant Member Experiences /Services - Statement of Intent

The OAS has a varied and spatially dispersed membership with a wide range of interests and expectations. In order to better serve our membership, we intend to pursue initiatives focused on service delivery enhancements, additional/improved services, especially in the area of communications, and membership recruitment.

<u>1.Short-term Goals (Year 1)</u>

•Undertake a review on the vitality, challenges, and possible new directions for OAS Endowment Funds

•Strike an Online Digital Services Committee, chaired by a Board Member of three to five people, to review the OAS's use of online services, and consider costs and implication of enhancing that capacity.

•Develop financial web functionality for the online member database, and go live to members for 2014 renewal.

•Develop Board reporting and accountability policies to enhance reporting to membership (e.g., early access to annual report, online board meeting minutes, formal communications, etc.).

2.Medium-term Goals (Year 2 & 3)

•Develop member experiences/services arising from policy and identify key goals to focus on, such as:

a) actively recruit one to three new chapters to enhance distant member activities and initiatives

b) overhaul the OAS website based on priorities and capacities identified by the Digital Services Committee; recruit members to support development of digital content

c) institute regular communications from board members into Arch Notes and website communications.

3.Long-term Goals (Years 4 & 5)

•Enhance online web/database support for Chapter-specific initiatives

•Develop member online services (forum, calendar of events, direct communication with Board members, video channel of talks and presentations, etc.)

•Enable, online, direct member access to Board meetings, real time decision-making

7. AIM #4: OPERATIONAL SUPPORT AND FUNCTION OF THE OAS TO SUPPORT AIMS – STATEMENT OF INTENT

As an organization led and mostly run by volunteers, the OAS must ensure that all functions and processes are managed effectively and efficiently in order to achieve the best return on the investment of time and effort, and make best use of the time and talents of the Executive Director.

1.Short-term Goals (Year 1)

•Finalize updating Policies and Procedures Manual.

• Develop a Time Sensitive Calendar of Operations for Board, Chapters Executives

and staff.

•Complete Symposium guideline.

•Establish controlled wi-fi service for OAS office.

2.Medium-term Goals (Year 2 & 3)

•Strike a Fundraising Committee, chaired by a board member, of three to five OAS members willing to devote three to five hours a month fund raising and researching potential fund raising opportunities.

•Develop a board member's orientation package of information and responsibilities

•Review Executive Director role, determine job priorities, performance measures, whether full or part time, and revise as needed to service key priorities of the Strategic Plan.

•Research, select and implement online Board Management software (e.g., Podio, etc.) for automated Board reporting and performance measures.

•Develop terms, ratify, and appoint an arms-length OAS Oversight Member (reporting directly to the membership), as to society performance and management with respect to SP completion, full disclosure to members, meeting critical timelines, etc.

3. Long-term Goals (Years 4 & 5)

•Develop an evaluation model for OAS operations and functions.

•Review Board officer roles and responsibilities and revise as needed.

•Review OAS constitution and revise as needed.

•Review Strategic Plan performance and develop Strategic Plan for 2020-2025.

Neal Ferris President

A New Crisis in Petun Research – 40 years later

BY Charles Garrad

t was in 1973, 40 years ago this year, that I underwent a crisis of decisionmaking concerning the future of Petun archaeological research. Not very dissimilar to the one I am undergoing now.

The decisions forty years ago were more immediately concerned with the declining health of my mentor, Jay Blair. In 1961 I had attempted to advertise in a Collingwood newspaper, the *Enterprise-Bulletin* for anyone with copies of the Huron Institute Papers and Records Volume 1, which included details of the Institute's research into local Petun Indian village sites.

My cheque and advertisement were returned to me with a note that my enquiry had been forwarded directly to the only man knowledgeable about the subject. In due course I heard from Jay Blair, then 71. Our collaboration began instantly, and lasted until his death in 1979.

Jay himself had been mentored by an uncle, Angus Buie (1847-1924), who had

met, and donated artifacts to, David Boyle, in return receiving Boyle's Ontario Archaeological Reports series from the first edition.

Jay's formal education was to the seventh grade, but he had a giant intellect. He wrote, lectured, was on local TV, and there was a movement to acquire an Honorary Doctorate for him. He knew everything, it seemed, concerning local archaeological sites. The difficulty was that I was not able to spend enough time with him to transfer this knowledge, because my job kept me travelling almost continuously. This was not without some advantages. I was able to visit most provincial museums across the country, and meet people such as Dr. Carl C. Borden in Vancouver.

But if I wanted to work more closely with Jay Blair I would have to quit my job to do so. By 1973 it seemed a decision must be made. Dr. J. Norman Emerson, who had become a personal friend, and who wanted the work done, o ffered to have the University of Toronto sponsor me in an application for a research grant to Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council to keep me going one year. I took the plunge and 'Project the Petun 1974' was born. The Project recorded Jay Blair's knowledge and mine for the federal government and at the same time, the incipient provincial Archaeological Site Data Base. I took advantage of the freedom that year to serve as OAS President.

Our understanding of the Petun took a huge leap forward in the following years. Project the Petun 1974 revealed how much and how little we knew about the Petun. Programmes of research and test excavations were devised and completed as necessary to fill in the gaps. As a result the artifact collection grew to perhaps be the largest in private hands. A formal Petun Artifact Repository was opened in Collingwood. Students and researchers came to do research, and participate in the work. Our public archaeology excavation programmes continued to 2000, and thereafter more efforts were directed to writing the final book on the Petun, which, commencing in 1995, took 15 years to compile.

Cont'd. on Page 15

THE 'OLD SITES' PROJECT

by William Fox

y earliest experiences in Ontario archaeology taught me that there were a variety of types of endeavour; a continuum if you wish, spanning the activities of individuals (indeed families) who professed to specialize in 'digging Neutral cemeteries' (Fox 1985) to professionals employed in museums and academic institutions. I met proponents of both during my teens (Fox 2012), and decided on a professional career, despite the sage advice to the contrary from our family doctor!

One fact that early became clear was, sadly for the condition of many archaeological sites, there were far more nonprofessionals active in Ontario and had been for over a century. This is not to say that avocationals, 'amateurs' in the truest sense of the term, were necessarily acting in an irresponsible manner. One has only to review the careers of individuals such as Frank Ridley (Noble 1972: 18-19), Charles Garrard (2010) and many other Ontario Archaeological Society members to realize the huge contribution to the record of Ontario's past made by these individuals.

The work of early academics has been described by various authors for individuals such as David Boyle (Killan 1983, Hamilton 2010), Henry Montgomery (Kapches 2003), Sir Daniel Wilson (Killan 1980: 8-11), and William Wintemberg (Jenness

1932: 73-74, Noble 1972: 16).

On the other hand, some of the less responsible public activities related to Ontario's archaeological heritage have been disdainfully recorded by Boyle (1902: 23, 1911: 9) and reiterated by Hamilton (2010: 40). I am certain that few today are aware of the very lucid article concerning the relationship between amateur and professional archaeologists written by Peter Pringle, an Ontario avocational, and published in *American Antiquity* (Pringle 1941).

Communications with Charles Garrard (1967) over 40 years ago convinced me of the value of standardized site documentation and, hence, my several year project to register Ontario archaeological sites with the (then) National Museum of Man, using the new Borden system (Fox 2013a: 4). The province transitioned into the registrar role for Ontario sites from the National Museum's Archaeological Survey of Canada during the mid-70's (Ministry of Culture and Recreation 1976: 19), and all archaeologists licensed under the Ontario Heritage Act (1974) were required to submit site documentation for entry into the Borden system.

While in northern Ontario, I acquired copies of Jim Wright's field notes, and following my transfer to the provincial southwestern Ontario regional archaeology office, I began to acquire copies of field notes by professionals such as Tom Lee and collectors' catalogues; including those of Doug Bell, John

Bics

Biface from an unregistered site near Huntsville reported in the Annual Archaeologi cal Report for Ontario Bonham, Everett Case, William Cleland, Frank Lisso, Ernie Sackrider, Donald Shutt, Edwin Troup and even the original "Indian Curio Catalog" (sic) of Harries Finley (Ridley 1961: 7) courtesy of Ivan Kocsis.

All these provided (often limited) location information regarding unregistered sites. Abundant additional information was available in the annual archaeological reports for Ontario (Garrard 1987), and earlier published reports by authors such as Mackintosh (1836:135), Squier (1851: 100-108), Schoolcraft (1853: 103-105), Wallbridge (1860) and Wilson (1890).

Finally, institutional archives provided additional information including copies of Frederick Houghton's Ontario field notes, letters related to Robert Bell's artifact collection activities for the Geological Survey of Canada, a manuscript by George Allison, and the Charles Hirschfelder, John McGregor, and D. H. Price collection catalogues.

On the basis of this information, I began to visit and register sites throughout southwestern Ontario, as time and opportunity permitted. Investigation of public reports had been common since before the days of David Boyle and the Provincial Museum (Killan 1983: 91-92). The ground-truthing of reported discoveries evolved into more substantial investigations over the course of the 20th century, involving site mapping and excavation on occasion. Professionals like Tom Lee (1958) and Walter Kenyon (1959) followed up on reports by collectors such as Fritz Knechtel in Bruce County. Beyond 'new' site investigations, avocationals like Frank Ridley and Charles Garrard began more detailed mapping and testing of previously reported sites. The former undertook a 12 year campaign for the Archaeological and Historic Sites Advisory Board of Ontario to revisit and document sites in Huronia reported by Andrew F. Hunter (D. Doroszenko pers. comm. 2013); while Charles, with the assistance of J. Allan Blair, undertook a similar campaign over a 40 year period in the Blue Mountain region (Garrard 1982).

Specific 'old site' investigations by avocationals include Jim Keron's work at the Harrietsville site (Keron 2008).

Some of my field checks were based on Ernie Sackrider's notes concerning sites to the west of the Uren type site (Wintemberg 1928, Wright 1986). Three villages were relocated in April of 1986 and registered along the Otter Creek drainage, several extending the westward sequence of village community movement from the 11th century Van Besien site (Noble 1975) to the east, including the DeWaele and adjacent villages (Fox 1976), and beyond Uren to a 14th century Middleport period site. Consistent with village movements from Glen Meyer to Middleport times documented by Charles Nixon (1986) on the Horner Creek drainage to the east, these continuous village sequences called into question J.V. Wright's controversial "Pickering conquest hypothesis" (Wright 1992).

Other site relocation activity occurred in the Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality and adjacent Brant County, where some of the favourite early 20th century collecting sites were located and which were also areas of rapid residential and utility-related development. While I had registered the majority of the 17th century Neutral villages in the early '70's, there remained a few referenced in collector catalogues; such as Stratford (Lang-Dowling), Misner and Sharp which were not recorded in publications and had not been visited (Fox 1982: 4).

The volume of artifacts exposed when southern Ontario's forests were cleared and the land was first broken by nineteenth century farmers must have been enormous in certain regions, particularly on large Iroquoian village sites. In the company of Charles Garrard I had the privilege of walking a Petun village in 1979 which was unfortunately deep ploughed for the first time – the range and abundance of artifacts was stunning.

Another similar experience resulted from a report from Brian Deller, who informed the London archaeology office in the spring of 1981 concerning the ploughing of a small parcel of undisturbed land along Parkhill Creek. This locality had been particularly popular with collectors, who had even used rakes to recover bone and antler artifacts from the sediment at the bottom of the creek!

In one day on the site, we recovered 92 ceramic, lithic and metal artifacts and mapped 89 clusters of surface material (features); including tools, debitage, fire cracked rock (FCR), abundant faunal remains and carbonized wood over an area of roughly 600 square metres. Diagnostics represented activities throughout the Woodland Period, including a substantial Saugeen Middle Woodland component, plus European goods indicative of a 19th century Ojibwa occupation.

So, where did all these 19th and early 20th century collections end up? Obviously, some now reside in Canadian museums; in fact, the Geological Survey of Canada museum (precursor to the Victoria Memorial Museum and later National Museum of Canada) purchased the Charles Hirschfelder collection in 1884 and the Price collection in 1908, and the Ontario Provincial Museum (precursor of the Royal Ontario Museum) purchased the George Allison collection in 1915 and Chadd collection in 1921 (Orr 1922: 102).

By the first decades of the 20th century George Heye was sending collection purchasing agents into Ontario, some of whom may have been alluded to by Boyle regarding the St. David's cemetery looting (1911: 9). Certainly, an important collection from this site ended up in his Heye Foundation museum (Fox 2002, 2004). The Heye Foundation collections are now held by the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian, and their records indicate the Heye also acquired the extensive Mullock/McGregor collection from Waterdown in 1916.

By the mid-20th century, both U.S. professionals and collectors had entered Ontario and acquired material. Major U.S. projects included the Killarney, George Lake and Old Birch Island excavations of Emerson Greenman (1951, 1966) of the University of Michigan, the Trent valley survey of William Ritchie (1949) of the Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences, and subsequent Goose Lake (Foster) village site excavation by Peter Pratt. Large collections returned to the States and are curated at a variety of institutions; however, the University of Michigan did repatriate the human remains from the Old Birch Island cemetery to the Whitefish River First Nation in 2005.

In hindsight, my childhood discovery of a virtually pristine iron trade axe on the surface of the Walker village site (Fox 2012: 6) was nothing short of miraculous, as the field had been walked numerous times over the course of each year by collectors during the previous half century.

Later I would hear a story from Bob Calvert, a London collector (Fox 2001), about Ernie Sackrider taking some early metal detector enthusiasts from the U.S. on both the Walker and nearby Sealey villages during this period. Apparently, they recovered approximately 50 trade axes in short order and reputedly, following some celebratory hospitality, they disappeared across the border with the lot.

When it wasn't U.S. collectors looting such sites, it was collectors arriving to purchase private collections. Many midcentury southern Ontario artifact collectors, including Bob Calvert and Everett Case of St. Catharines, were familiar with J.K. Whaley of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, who would routinely drive east into Ontario in search of collections to purchase. Just how much he amassed became clear by bizarre coincidence in 2005, when I attended the Eastern American Indian Conference in Akron, Ohio to present a paper on box turtle shell rattles. The organizer mentioned that an Ohio collector had some archaeological specimens from Ontario, and that he might be prepared to let me document them. Steve Fuller was good enough to do so, but you can imagine my surprise when he mentioned that they were from John Steele's 1944 excavations on the Walker site. One specimen had even been illustrated by Ridley (1961: Plate 5), and he had purchased this material from Whaley's widow, who was then resident in Florida!

Over the last 20 years my career with Parks Canada (Fox 2013b) resulted in moves to Winnipeg and then Inuvik and Ucluelet, rendering the field aspect of the project essentially dormant; however, I continued to document museum collections. Upon my return to Ontario, I renewed this long-term interest. Visits to the Royal Ontario Museum, Canadian Museum of History, and the curatorial facilities of the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian are scheduled this year to complete documentation of collections from the Lake Medad 17th century Neutral site, which is presently beneath a golf course.

Most recently, communications with Provincial database coordinator, Robert von Bitter, have been steady. Rob has even suggested that the new Peterborough Chapter of the OAS might consider a project to relocate and register any of George Laidlaw's sites which were not yet entered into the Ontario archaeological sites database (R. von Bitter pers. comm. 2012). There was even some discussion about following up on Frank Ridley's Andrew Hunter site documentation program.

This summer I expect to visit the locations of important unregistered sites reported in the 19th century, which lie under resorts and may have been missed by Queen Elizabeth Way construction projects. A 2013-15 avocational licence will allow me to follow up 19th century leads for years to come!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The list of those who have shared information and facilitated access to institutional and private collections over the years is extensive. Some are mentioned in the above article, while others include the often 'invisible' staff of curatorial facilities – Stacey Girling-Christie, Sarah Prower, Vincent Lafond and Chantal Brule of the Canadian Museum of History, Adrienne Desjardine and April Hawkins of the Royal Ontario Museum, Meghan Burchell of the Centre for Sustainable Archaeology at the McMaster Innovation Park, and Pat Nietfeld, Natasha Johnson, Victoria Cranner and Rachel Menyuk of the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian.

Thanks also to Jean-Luc Pilon of the Canadian Museum of History, Aubrey Cannon of McMaster University, Department of Anthropology, and James Krakker of the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History.

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CHAMPLAIN, THE FIRST ACCOUNT: AN EXHIBITION AT THE CANADIAN MUSEUM OF CIVILIZATION

By Jean-Luc Pilon, PhD Curator of Ontario A rchaeology Canadian Museum of Civilization

n Wednesday May 29, a modest exhibition case located in a corridor leading from the Grand Hall to the Cafés des Voyageurs was quietly made available to visitors to the Canadian Museum of Civilization. One week later, on June 4th, the Ottawa Valley commemorated the 400th anniversary of the first trip by Samuel de Champlain through the region. That same day in 1613, Champlain almost certainly got out of his canoe to begin the portage around the mighty Chaudières Falls, the Asticou, where, on his return trip several days later, he described a tobacco ceremony whose intention was to protect travellers.Champlain left us the first descriptions of the Ottawa Valley, of some of the sites that are so familiar to us today.

While small in size, the display – contained in a single large wall case and a connected free-standing niche – presents some very powerful messages embodied in a series of modest artifacts. The exhibition commemorates a trip that had few real impacts at the time but whose repercussions are still felt to this day.

SINCE TIME IMMEMORIAL

The first two sections attempt to underline the simple point

that four centuries ago, Champlain travelled through a landscape that was very much inhabited and had been for several millennia; this was someone's homeland. The artifacts present a wide range of materials, artifact types and time periods but more importantly, they come from valley towns and villages that the region's population will recognize as their own backyards: Pendleton, Casselman, Deep River, Fitzroy Harbour. Even closer to home, they will be able to see ancient objects from Rockcliffe Park, Lac des Fées, from near the Supreme Court of Canada and Carleton University; places virtually under foot.

The hope is that they will see a familiar landscape with new eyes and will acquire a better understanding of, and a curiosity about, the region's past.

CHAMPLAIN: CARTOGRAPHER, DIPLOMAT, WARRIOR, ADMINIST RATOR

Of course, Champlain represents an abrupt transition to the gentle flow of time. From the initiation of a sustained, permanent French presence in the St. Lawrence Valley, the local Anishnabeg (Algonquin) population becomes enmeshed in a rapidly changing economy and geopolitical situation that would soon overwhelm a balance established since time immemorial. But this did not signify the loss of the territory or its abandonment. It required a new set of strategies.

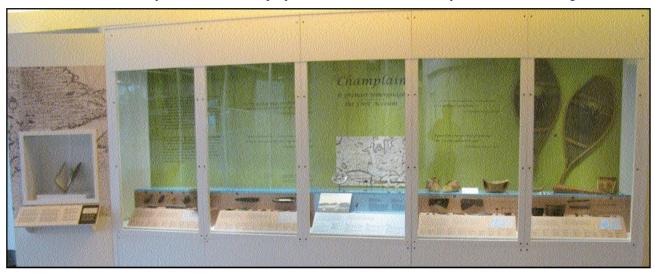


Figure 1 : Until the summer of 2014, visitors heading towards the cafeteria at the Canadian Museum of Civilization (soon to be the Canadian Museum of History) can view artifacts recalling the ancient history of the capital region as well as items commemorating the 400th anniversary of Samuel de Champlain's travels along the Ottawa River.

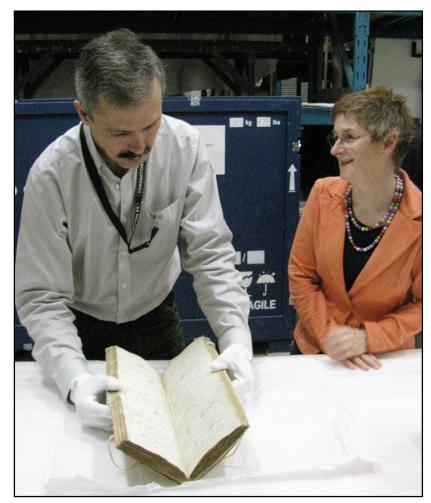


Figure 2: Jean-Luc Pilon examining the baptismal registry of the protestant Temple of St-Yon, La Rochelle, France with Pauline Arseneault, Responsable des archives anciennes et notariales, Archives départementales de la Charente-Maritime

While they happily received new material culture items, the Anishnabeg and others exercised choices about what they accepted and how. Some trade goods such as glass beads were accepted with little or no modification. Others such as trade pots were at first used for their intended purpose then transformed and used as sources of raw materials with which to manufacture other items. And still other areas of traditional, pre-contact material culture remain relatively untouched, continuing ways of doing things as their ancestors had always done. Such articles as snowshoes, moccasins and birch bark containers are strong links with the past.

The artifacts present are from the Ottawa Valley as well as more distant regions like Huronia and southwestern Ontario.

But let's return to Champlain. He was in the area less than two weeks and failed to achieve his objective of reaching the North Sea, let alone pass the middle course of the Ottawa River. No incontestable physical evidence of that trip remains. Yes, there is the astrolabe found near Cobden which has been proposed as once having belonged to Champlain. But this piece is not without controversy as proponents of the Champlain proprietorship omit to mention or explain the presence of silver cups, copper or brass plates or bowls and a piece of chain that was found along with the astrolabe in 1867. Still, the astrolabe is presented in this exhibition as it evokes the great map making skills of Champlain, as it stands in front of a reproduction of his 1632 map where you can easily recognize the major lines of the river.

From further afield a number of objects found at the Warminster site are presented. This site has been proposed as being Cahiagué, the Huron-Wendat village where Champlain spent a good portion of the winter of 1615-16. These include sword fragments that appear more elaborate than the typical trade sword of this period and a kaolin pipe with its typical early 17th century bowl no bigger than the tip of a pinky finger and about 2 inches of stem still attached. It is difficult to see a Huron interested in such a pipe, the Huron being the manufacturers of such beautiful pipes able to accept many more times the amount of tobacco than the diminutive Warminster example. The likelihood that this pipe was brought by a Frenchman is pretty good and if Warminster is Cahiagué...

A second pipe, very similar to the Warminster pipe was recovered from the 1626-29 layers at Fort St. Louis, located under the boardwalk in front of the Chateau Frontenac in Québec City. This pipe was found at the seat of the administrative authority of New France where Champlain himself worked and likely received First Nations delegations.

SYMBOLS OF NEW RELATIONSHIPS

Smoking is a strong symbol of the diplomatic nature of Samuel de Champlain. When he first came to the St. Lawrence Valley in 1603, he was invited to take part in a great feast of celebration, a Tabagie, at the mouth of the Saguenay River. He went with only one other Frenchman by his side into a camp consisting of nearly 1,000 people from a number of First Nations. He and the chief Anadabijou smoked and feasted together. This act formed the basis for a strong bond, an alliance that Champlain would re-enforce by later participating in a military campaign with his new allies.

This mutual respect and support set a tone for the remainder of Champlain's administration, and some would argue it established a direction which was codified with the Royal Proclamation of 1763 and which formed the basis for the current relationships between the Government of Canada and the First Peoples of this land.

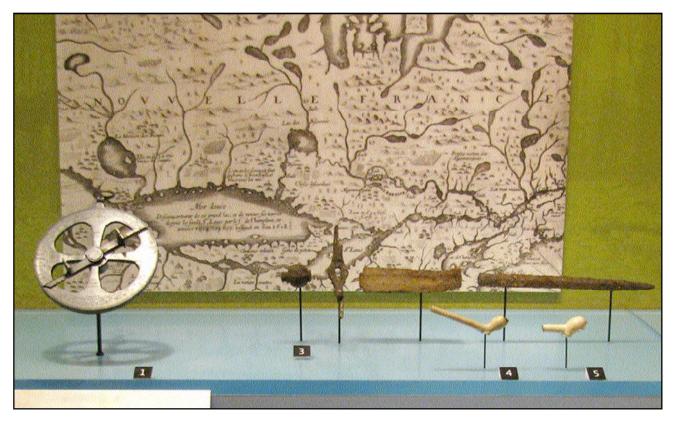


Figure 3: The center panel of the exhibition case is dedicated to Champlain and features the astrolabe found near Cobden in 1867 as well as a pipe and sword parts from the Warminster site (Cahiagué?) and another pipe from Fort St-Louis in Québec City. These are set against the backdrop of Champlain's 1632 map which reveals the great skills of Champlain the cartographer.

MYSTERY ADDRESSED, MYSTERIES REMAIN

One final artifact is presented in the exhibition and is not in the display case but in a separate niche. It is the register of baptisms and marriages of the Temple of Saint-Yon of La Rochelle, a city near Brouage where Champlain declared himself to be from. Opened to show the reverse of page 49, we can read on this wonderfully preserved document the record of the baptism of Samuel Chapeleau, son of Antoine and Marguerite Le Roy on August 13, 1574.

You may say that Chapeleau is not Champlain, but it is not far off. Considering that the spelling of family names was not yet standardized, that the baptismal record might have been written up well after the people involved had left the temple and that the writer might not have been the greatest phonetic transcriber, we are left with a tingle of excitement. For me, this is brought to an even higher level when we consider that when Champlain was married in 1610, he quite clearly gave his father's name as Antoine and his mother as Marguerite Le Roy. Statistics alone make it highly likely that the child being received at the end of the summer of 1574 into the community of Saint-Yon, a protestant congregation, is indeed our Samuel, the father of New France.

ON THE MUSEUM'S BEACH

When Champlain travelled along the river and as he approached the beginning of the portage around the turbulent cascades of the Asticou, he would have naturally closely followed the north shore of the river where the waters are slow and easy to paddle. The powerful currents from the falls are directed along the south shore, constantly scratching the base of the steep cliffs that characterize today's Parliament Hill and Nepean Point (where a famous statue of Champlain holding an inverted astrolabe is located). A wide embayment on the north side ends just in front of the Canadian Museum of Civilization seemingly cordoned off by swift and deep waters. On the sandy beach that was once here, Champlain must have stepped out of his canoe to rest and prepare for the portage. It is fitting that for the next year we will remember him where once he stood.

If you have a chance to travel to Ottawa-Gatineau, stop by and view these exceptional pieces. Note that the baptismal registry will only be displayed until the end of August 2013, when it will once again return to the archives of Charente-Maritime in France.

UPDATE ON SUSTAINABLE ARCHAEOLOGY: WESTERN

by Kira Westby

The two years since the July 2011 workshop on collections and information management at Sustainable Archaeology: Western have been marked with a number of significant steps forward.

Since that time, construction of the SA: Western facility in London, Ontario has finished, and the repository, laboratory, and collaborative research spaces have been outfitted with furniture and equipment, including specialist equipment focusing on nondestructive digital imaging and digital reconstruction technologies.

The Ancient Images Laboratory at Sustainable Archaeology: Western features a Nikon microCT scanner, a Faxitron digital xray, four white light 3D scanners from 3D3 Solutions, and a Konica Minolta red laser 3D scanner. These digital imaging systems have already contributed to a number of research projects by Western University anthropology graduate students, as well as collaborative research by other departments and institutions.

The next year will see the purchase of additional equipment that will work in tandem with the digital imaging systems already acquired, including a 3D printer, and immersive 3D visualization equipment. Together this suite of digital imaging equipment will contribute to value-added imaging applications for archaeology, including the creation of augmented and immersive environments, exploration of virtual site contexts, and virtual object manipulations.

In addition to outfitting the facility with equipment, the last two years have been devoted to the continuing development of the Informational Platform, including the development and integration of collections management tools such as the radio frequency identification (RFID) tracking system. The Informational Platform will incorporate these collections management tools into the broader researcher platform that will allow direct digital access to the archaeological collections housed both at Sustainable Archaeology: Western, and at our partner facility Sustainable Archaeology: McMaster at McMaster Innovation Park in Hamilton, Ontario (for details on activities at the SA: McMaster facility, see Cook and Burchell, 2012).

The July 2011 workshop (summarized in Westby, 2011) provided an important opportunity to consult with a number of stakeholder groups, to determine current and best practices for the management of Ontario's archaeological collections. The feedback received at the workshop, combined with additional follow-up consultation, and significant research into collections and digital data management practices, has culminated in the completion of a formal draft version of policies, procedures and practices for Sustainable Archaeology. These policies are intended to guide the management of collections, and to provide guidance to archaeologists preparing collections and associated datasets for transfer to a Sustainable Archaeology facility.

The formal draft is now available on our website at www.sustainablearchaeology.org – and we are actively seeking feedback. Please take the time to visit the Sustainable Archaeology website, browse through the sections online or download the full PDF version of the document, and offer your comments and suggestions. Feedback can be provided via email directly from the Sustainable Archaeology website by clicking the orange "Feedback" tab on the left side of every site page.

We thank you in advance for your continued interest in Sustainable Archaeology, and for your contribution to the finalization of our best practice policies and procedures.

For more information on Sustainable Archaeology, please visit www.sustainablearchaeology.org, or the Sustainable Archaeology: Western blog, www.sustainablearchaeologyuwo.blogspot.ca.

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: DAY-TO-DAY TASKS AND 2013 SYMPOSIUM

The OAS is looking for volunteers to help Lorie Harris, the Executive Director, with the completion of day-to-day tasks that keep our organization going.

These include responding to e-mails and inquiries, processing membership and publication requests, and mailing out publications.

In addition, the 2013 OAS symposium, entitled 'Where the Water is Loud: Archaeology of the Niagara Peninsula and Beyond' is quickly approaching. We will need volunteers to help with organization of this event, including processing registration forms, putting together symposium packages, and manning booths/registration tables.

If you have some spare time and are interested in volunteering for the OAS, please Lindsay Foreman (memberservices@ontarioarchaeology.on.ca).

OAS AWARD NOMINATIONS - NOW OPEN!

o you know someone in the Ontario archaeology community that deserves an award? The OAS recognizes the variety of contributions its members make to the preservation and documentation of

preservation and documentation of Ontario's archaeological sites. We present awards to outstanding student, nonprofessional, and professional Ontario archaeologists in recognition of their accomplishments and contributions to the broader understanding of Ontario's past.

These awards include:

J. NORMAN EMERSON SILVER MEDAL

Awarded to an outstanding Ontario non-professional archaeologist whose life's work has been consistently of the highest standard

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Awarded to an outstanding Ontario professional archeologist whose life's work has been consistently of the highest standard

IAN KENYON MEMORIAL AWARD

Awarded to a professional

archaeologist who has made an exceptional contribution to the development of Ontario archaeology

TIM KENYON MEMORIAL AWARD

Awarded to a non-professional archaeologist who has made an exceptional contribution to the development of Ontario archaeology

HERITAGE CONSERVATION AWARD

Given in recognition of a significant voluntary contribution to heritage preservation within the Province of Ontario

PEGGI ARMSTRONG PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY AWARD

Given in recognition of excellence in the promotion of public interest in the study of archaeology through the use of displays, workshops, training, site tours and/or the development of educational programmes and materials

KILLARNEY AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE

Given in recognition of the continuing long-term support and active

participation of OAS members

Award for Excellence in Cultural Resource Management

Given to either an individual or a group in order to recognize contributions and accomplishments in the field of cultural resource management

Award for Excellence in Publishing

Given to an individual, group or firm in order to recognize contributions and accomplishments in publishing works dealing with the field of North Eastern Archaeology

For more details about these awards and to download an application form, please visit: http://www.ontarioarchaeology.on.ca/oas-awards.php#wright

Alternatively, contact Lindsay Foreman, the Director of Membership services at: memberservices@ontarioarchaeology.on.ca.

Award nomination packages should be received by September 1, 2013.

PETUN ARTIFACTS NEED LOCAL REPOSITORY

Cont'd. from Page 6

The Artifact Repository houses all the artifacts recovered under the writer's Archaeological Licences since 1975, and from excavations previous to licensing by myself and others, plus donated collections.

As the Repository's continued existence is entirely dependent on the writer's financing and health, it is now time to decide on an alternate future for the Petun artifact collections and associated research records.

Six years ago, in 2007, I first included in my annual Report to the Minister an appeal titled 'Wanted - A Secure Future for the Petun Archaeological Collections'. There was no response. Since 1975 I have included Recommendations to the Minister annually in my Archaeological Licence Report, but have never received any response.

However, the search commenced for a future home for the results of some 125 years of Petun research. Several institutions will take the collections, but none of them can keep the collection in the Blue Mountain homeland where it belongs and where the descendants will want it to stay.

And so, in 2013, 40 years after the crisis of 1973, there is again a crisis associated with the Petun. This time the concern is the ongoing preservation of the archaeological evidence. The most satisfactory solution would be a municipal artifact repository in the Blue Mountains or immediate area. Anyone with an idea as to how this may be brought about will be welcome to contact me (416)223-2752, and by email at charles.Garrard@sympatico.ca.



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