

The Ontario Archaeological Society



ARCH NOTES edited by Nancy Powell

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April 1964

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THE APRIL MEETING

WHEN:	Wednesday, April 8
WHERE:	Archaeology Lab., basement Sidney Smith Hall, St. George St., west side, just south of Harbord.
WHAT TIME:	8.00 p.m.
WHO'S SPEAKING:	Mr. William Donaldson
WHAT ABOUT:	The Elliott Site

This month is one of those rare occasions when we call upon one of our own members as the main speaker of the evening. Bill Donaldson is a popular and long-standing member of the organization. He has held various executive posts and published a number of archaeological reports. Those of you who have visited Bill's home in Oshawa will remember his basement full of artifacts collected on various O.A.S. digs. Bill has devoted many hours to the task of sorting, cataloguing and writing reports on this material. We might note here that he would appreciate the assistance of any interested members in this arduous but rewarding work.

Bill's field experience includes work on the Inverhuron Site under Walter Kenyon in 1957 and in 1955 he was director of the excavations on the Thomas Site in Ontario. He has of course been an active participant in all the Society digs.

Among other publications Bill has produced a very handy reference guide to pottery types in Ontario. This is entitled "Research Guide No. 2", and appeared as publication No. 5 in the Society's series. Unfortunately this publication is now out of print but it is available from our Library and we hope to bring out a new edition some time.

Bill has also published reports on the Boyd, Thomas and Short sites, to name only a few. In O.A.S. Publication No. 6, he wrote an article entitled: "Archaeological Research in the Rouge" in which he discussed some of the O.A.S. sites that had been excavated in this archaeologically rich area. One of the sites he described was the Elliott site which he will talk about in greater detail at our forthcoming meeting.

The Elliott site is located near Highland Creek on the side of a hill. Six hundred square feet were excavated by the O.A.S. and enough material was recovered to establish this area as an early Iroquois site. Bill will probably give us further information on the analysis of the artifacts discovered there.

LAST MONTH'S MEETING proved to be a lively and provocative evening as our speaker Dr. Rogers of the Museum's Department of Ethnology discussed the importance of the archaeologist making far greater use of ethnological data to interpret his artifacts. There is a tendency for the archaeologist to become too bogged down in classifying various specimen types and to not be aware of ethnological information which could shed light on the original use of the artifacts. Such factors as the study of trade routes and settlement patterns can help to explain some excavation anomalies.

NEXT MONTH we should have some news for you about our Spring dig. At that time you will be informed as to whether or not we will also have a May meeting. This will be our last meeting before the Summer break.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS ...

Thursday, April 21, 4.30 p.m. Royal Ontario Museum Theatre, Archaeological Institute of America lecture. This is to be given by Professor Robert Ehrich of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Brooklyn College, University of New York. He will discuss "Archaeology as a Field of Research".

On Monday, April 27, Mr. James Mellaart will report on one of the most exciting archaeological projects under way today. At Chatal Huyuk, Turkey, experts are uncovering wall paintings, sculpture and textiles buried in the 7th millenium B.C.

The work, financed in part by the Royal Ontario Museum, shows a highly developed culture existing more than 80 centuries ago. Mr. Mellaart's free, illustrated lecture will be held at the Museum Theatre beginning at 8.30 p.m.

REMINDER ...

This is your last opportunity to renew your membership dues. Next month I will be publishing a new membership list so those of you who have not paid up, please forward your renewal to our Treasurer, Miss Lorna Proctor, 137 Madison Ave., Toronto 5.

OUR LIBRARY GROWS ...

The following is a list of the additions to our Library since our last accession list was published in Arch Notes for June 1962. Our Librarian, Mrs. Mary Davie urges members to make full use of the library. Publications will be mailed upon

request or brought to meetings by Mrs. Davie if you telephone your request to her at AT 2-4304. Her address is 17 Golfhaven Drive, Scarborough, Ontario.

PUBLICATIONS OF GENERAL INTEREST:

- ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD METHODS. 2d rev. ed. 1953
- ART TREASURES OF THE ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM, by T. A. Heinrich 1963
- THE HUMAN SKELETON: A MANUAL FOR ARCHAEOLOGISTS, by J. Anderson 1962
- INDIAN ARCHAEOLOGY - SENSE OR NONSENSE, by J. Craig
- THE LEWIS HENRY MORGAN COLLECTION, by C. F. Hayes III, 1963
- NEW PAGES OF PREHISTORY 1961
- ONTARIO DEPARTMENT OF TRAVEL AND PUBLICITY, Legislative Committee Minutes,
March 14, 1962
- ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM, Annual Reports 1961 and 1962
- THE VERTEBRATE BODY, by A. S. Romer, 2nd ed. 1955

SPECIALIZED REPORTS

- ABINGER COMMON, SURREY
The excavations of a motte at Abinger in Surrey, by Brian Hope-Taylor,
1962
Preliminary excavations of a Mesolithic site at Abinger in Surrey,
by L.S.B. Leakey, 1951
- APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN REGION, Notes on the Archaic culture of,
by J. Witthoft, 1961
- ARCTIC AND NORTH WEST TERRITORIES,
Archaeological collection from Somerset Island and Boothia Peninsula,
N.W.T., by J. W. Vanstone
Contribution to the human osteology of the Canadian Arctic,
by J. Anderson
- DANGER CAVE, by J. D. Jennings, 1957
- THE DONALDSON SITE, by J. V. Wright and J. E. Anderson, 1963
- GALAPAGOS ISLANDS, Archaeological evidence of the Pre-Spanish visits,
by T. Heyerdahl and Anne Skjolsvöld, 1956
- THE GUYATT PREHISTORIC VILLAGE SITE, by W. D. Bell
- THE HURON AND LALONDE OCCUPATIONS OF ONTARIO, by F. Ridley, 1961

MOHAWK INDIANS

Two component historic Mohawk cemeteries, by P. Pratt, 1962

NEUTRAL INDIANS

Archaeology of the Neutral Indians, by F. Ridley, 1961

The Neutral Indians: a source book, by G. K. Wright, 1963

OJIBWA INDIANS

The Round Lake Ojibwa, by E. S. Rogers, 1963

THE PAYNE SITE, Paper No. 1, by J. F. Prendergast, 1963

PLAINS INDIANS, National Museum of Canada Leaflet

THE PORTAGE SITE, by R. L. McCarthy, 1962

QUEBEC: Indian camp site of the Kemp and Manowan Lakes in the Province
of Quebec, by V. Burger, 1953

NEWS FROM MEMBERS ...

MR. ROSS CHANNEN, Director of the Simcoe County Museum at Minesing, Ontario, writes to tell us of some of his archaeological activities. Last Summer he and Mr. N. D. Clarke did some survey work on the Beswetherick and Ellesmere-Morrison sites in Simcoe County. Both sites were excavated on a salvage basis under contract with the National Museum of Canada through Dr. J. V. Wright.

Soon to be published is a report by Mr. Channen and Mr. Clarke on a third site called the Copeland Site, situated in Oro Township. He assures us that a copy will be forwarded to our Library as soon as it is available.

The Copeland site material is on display in the Simcoe County Museum along with a number of pieces from Mr. A. F. Hunter's collection some of which are described in the Ontario Archaeological Report for 1906.

I know a number of us will be interested in visiting the Museum this Spring and Summer. Visiting hours are as follows:

April, May, September, October, November and December:
1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Daily, Tuesday to Sunday, closed Monday.

June:
9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Saturday; 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday.

July:
9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday to Saturday

August:
1 p.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday

MISS LYN SOUCY writes from Louisbourg to tell us a little more about her work there. Recently she has been supervising the excavation of a casemate. She has encountered some intriguing archaeological puzzles such as finding the same type of pottery in two different layers which were apparently sealed away from each other.

She reports also that the staff at Louisbourg is rapidly expanding and reports on the progress of the excavations are expected to be published shortly. A general guide to the Fortress is now available.

AND FINALLY ...

Here is the concluding section of an article we began in last month's Arch Notes summarizing an article which appeared in the Plains Anthropologist written by Stuart W. Conner.

Some of the ways the amateur can assist the profession include the locating and recording of archaeological sites for later professional investigation. He can also help to preserve existing sites.

But archaeology can also do much for the amateur as well. He can experience the camaraderie of those interested in a common cause. The true student of prehistory will receive the fullest co-operation from the trained archaeologist. Naturally there are a few exceptions - professionals who refuse to work with amateurs just as there are amateurs who are merely pot hunters.

Archaeology introduces you to many related fields such as geology, palaeontology, osteology, ethnology, glaciation, linguistics and ecology. After a few years of study and experience the amateur will acquire a new and intense knowledge of his particular area.