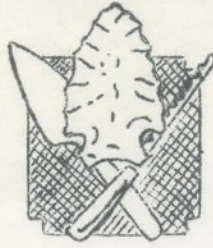


apologies

~~Jack Finca~~ Du

THE ONTARIO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY



ARCH-NOTES

No. 66-3

March 1966

EXECUTIVE

President:
Dr. R. Dean Axelson

Past President:
Mr. Wm. Waudby-Granger

Vice-President:
Mr. Joseph DeRyck
2320 ~~Barnard St. E~~ 7013 OX 8-1382

Corresponding Secretary:
Mrs. Cecilia Finnigan,
57 Chesnut Park Road,
Toronto 5, Ontario.
WA 4-9925

Recording Secretary:
Mrs. Eileen Balsky

Treasurer:
Miss. Lorna Procter

* * * * *

The next meeting of The Ontario Archaeological Society will be held at 8 p.m., Wednesday, March 16, in Room 252, Board of Education Centre, 155 College Street, Toronto.

* * *

THE FEBRUARY MEETING

Two excellent films were viewed at the February meeting. These were "The Long House People", by the National Film Board of Canada, and "The Miller Site", by Imperial Oil of Canada. The latter film showed the excavation of a proto-Iroquoian village site near Pickering, Ontario, and followed the progress of the archaeologists from the early stages of excavation to an analysis of the recovered material in the laboratory. The other film showed how the Iroquois who follow the old Long House Tradition live to-day - their daily life, their beliefs, and their traditional ceremonies.

It was, in short, a very informative and interesting program.

During the business session which preceded the showing of these films Dr. Churcher, Chairman of the Publications Committee, announced that an additional \$1000 grant had been received from the Ontario Government for the publication of archaeological literature.

This means that we now have sufficient money to print the next two issues of "Ontario Archaeology". The first of these, containing articles by five authors, is expected to be in print by spring. If promised papers arrive on schedule, Publication #10 should follow before the end of this year.

A budget of \$50.00 for the 1966 fiscal year was approved for the purchase of archaeological publications to build up the O.A.S. Reference Library.

Miss. Pallas Cooper and Mr. Murray Corbett were elected Auditors for the 1965 and 1966 fiscal years. This election was held over from the January meeting when, due to the press of other business, we just ran out of time.

As promised, the various Standing Committee appointments were announced. With one exception, these committees are all at full strength and performing their duties.

Since additional committees have been formed and the duties of the existing ones altered to meet the demands of an expanding membership, we have added a description of the various committee functions to the following membership list to acquaint you with their present scope.

STANDING COMMITTEES

RULES AND ETHICS: Mr. Frank Mee (chairman)
Miss. Phyllis Bowland
Mr. Hartly Nathan

Function: To review, and submit recommendations to the membership on, all motions relating to changes in the constitution.

- To investigate and report to the Executive Committee misconduct and/or unethical conduct or practices of or by Society members and others in the archaeological field.

- To ensure that all members receive a copy of the latest revised Constitution.

RESEARCH ADVISORY: Mr. Bill Donaldson (chairman)
Dr. C.H.D. Clarke
Dr. C.S. Churcher

Function: To formulate a definite plan of approach to the subject of research, and guide future work.

- To regularly assess past projects and recommend future areas of concentration.

PROMOTION AND PUBLICITY: Mrs. Mary Davie (chairman)
Mr. Peter Axelson
Mrs. Eileen Balsky
Mr. Joseph DeRyck
Mr. George Reichert

Function: To increase membership and maintain a continuing program of public relations and education through:

1. Public speakers
2. Exhibits and displays
3. Notification of newspapers, etc., of the Society's activities
4. Maintenance of a liason with allied groups (historical, conservation, wildlife, and brother archaeological groups)
5. The preparation of suitable brochures, etc., for distribution to prospective members through the mail and in conjunction with 1 and 2 above.

PUBLICATIONS: Dr. C.S. Churcher (chairman)
Miss. Phyllis Bowland
Mr. Bill Donaldson

Function: To encourage and assist members writing archaeological reports and papers.

- To edit papers and reports submitted for publication.
- To publish archaeological papers (Ontario Archaeology and Research Guides) and a monthly newsletter (Arch-Notes).
- Handle the physical details of publication.
- Co-ordinate and report group information (Arch-Notes).

PROGRAM AND SOCIAL: Mr. Murray Corbett (chairman)
Miss Phyllis Bowland
Mrs. G. Reichert

Function: Handle the program arrangements for all regular meetings (speakers, films, etc.).

- Arrange the accomodations for such meetings.
- Handle arrangements for the annual O.A.S. banquet, and other social events.

RESEARCH CO-ORDINATION: (in formation)

This committee still lacks a chairman and a full complement of members. Mr. Bill Renison and Bill Donaldson have agreed to serve on this very important committee, but others are needed - and quickly - if we are to carry out all the projects approved for this year. If you are interested, please contact Dr. Axelson without delay (telephone 445-3222, or address your letter to 247 Truman Road, Willowdale, Ont.).

The function of this committee is to co-ordinate and execute all projects recommended by the Research Advisory committee and approved by the membership (i.e., organize and direct the various historical research, field survey, site excavation, mapping, and lab. analysis projects). It will also prepare the necessary forms required for these projects.

Dr. Axelson reported that, in accordance with a motion passed at the January meeting, a Special Committee was being formed to carry out a feasibility study on the proposed pottery type revision project.

WORKSHOP SESSIONS

Though the attendance at last month's Pottery Lab. was disappointing, the amount of work accomplished by those who turned up was not. As a result, we now have the Reesor II material completely processed and analysed (unmodified bone excepted), and the first draft of a report on this site under way.

There is still more material awaiting our attention however, and you are invited to lend a hand at the next session, to be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, March 12th., at 111 Riverside Drive N., Oshawa. The arrangements are the same as last month, and those planning to attend the full session are advised to bring a lunch. You need not bother with beverages, since tea, coffee and cocoa will be supplied. If transportation is required, or if you can supply it for others, please contact one of the Executive Committee as soon as possible.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The Archaeological Institute of America is holding two meetings this month in the Royal Ontario Museum theatre.

March 14 Subject: "Greece in the Bronze Age"
Time: 4.30 p.m.

March 28 Subject: "The Land of King Midas"
Time: 4.30 p.m.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

Director Ross Channen reports that a new archaeological and ethnological wing has been added to the Simcoe County Museum, increasing its display area by 1300 square feet.

The ethnological exhibits, now in preparation, will be arranged according to tribal representation, complete with full explanatory text. The archaeological exhibits are being set up according to their temporal and geographical position, so that all the artifacts from one site can be seen at a glance and quickly compared with those from another. Modern lighting effects are being used to illuminate the specimens, and present planning calls for a large, electrically actuated provenance map to aid the viewer in locating the sites represented.

It is still too early to announce the exact date when this new wing will be opened to the public, but it is expected to be near the middle of May. Mr. Channen has promised that when the date is chosen, "Arch-Notes" readers will be among the first to be advised.

In case you missed it, the November 19, 1965, issue of Time magazine carried an account of Dr. William E. Taylor's excavation of a pre-Dorset site on Banks Island, in the Canadian Arctic, last summer. Dr. Taylor is reported to have assigned a provisional date of from 2500 to 1500 B.C. to this site.

At the Hotel Dieu Hospital, Kingston, Bill Renison is still recovering from the effects of his automobile accident. He expects to be transferred soon to the Workman's Compensation Hospital in Toronto for further treatment of his injuries, and hopes to be back in the field again by mid-summer.

In the meantime, Bill is planning several archaeological projects, including participation in some of the O.A.S. activities scheduled for this year.

This month we welcome two new Active members, namely, Mr. Peter Axelson and Mr. Charles Garrad.

Mr. Axelson shares his brother Dean's keen enthusiasm for archaeology, and hopes to put it to good use in his role as member of our re-activated Promotion and Publicity Committee.

Until his transfer to Toronto last year, Mr. Garrad held the post of Librarian for the Archaeological Society of Western Ontario. He is the author of a number of articles which have appeared in the Bulletins of that Society, and has spent a number of years tracing the archaeo-

logical history of Collingwood and Nottawasaga Townships. An additional field of study that holds his interest is the distribution of Paleo-Indian artifacts in southern Ontario.

VIEWS AND COMMENTS

Last year's paid-up membership of 90 (81 Active, 6 Institutional, 3 Honorary) was the largest in the Society's 15 year history. Though admittedly impressive, this figure could have been even higher. With a bit more effort on your part, I am sure we can raise it to over 100 in 1966.

And speaking of memberships, have you neglected to renew yours for 1966? If so, you will be classified as delinquent at the end of March, and forfeit all your membership priveledges, including the next issue of "Arch-Notes".

We notice that The Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology's latest "Personal Service" sheet recommends either membership in our Society or the purchase of "Ontario Archaeology" as a very good investment.

In honesty, as well as in appreciation, we can repay the compliment. Their Bulletin (Pennsylvania Archaeologist), regular Newsletter, and "Personal Service" sheets are well worth the price of membership. Write to Vincent R. Mrozski, Secretary, P.O. Box 368, Aliquippa, Pa. 15001, U.S.A., for an application.

In 1952, an article by James L. Secord in the January 3, 1944 issue of "The Totem Pole", a publication of the Aboriginal Research Club, Algonac, Michigan, caught our eye and has intrigued us ever since. This article, entitled, "The Julien Copper Mound", describes the discovery, excavation, and eventual destruction of a large burial mound near Thamesville, Ontario, and the subsequent disappearance of virtually all the numerous recovered artifacts and skeletons.

We visited Mr. Secord in the fall of 1952, discussed his article, examined two copper beads recovered from the mound, and visited the site itself - located just west of Highway 21, in Concession I, Howard Township.

There was little to see. The mound, bordered on the west by a county drainage ditch, rose less than a dozen feet above the surrounding land and its wind-blown surface produced nothing but a few minute fragments of shell and bone. We observed that the sandy loam was stained and obviously disturbed - a feature noted by Mr. Secord in a test trench he had sunk several feet into the mound a few years earlier.

Others apparently had no better luck. T.E. Lee, reporting the results of his 1949 survey of the area in the National Museum of Canada Bulletin #123, refers (page 44) to a similarly fruitless visit to a "former conical mound". Almost certainly this is the same mound under consideration here. He was more successful than us in locating recovered artifacts however, for he reports that 5 copper beads were examined.

The beads we viewed in 1952 were recovered by Mr. Secord and his father in 1946. They are both cold rolled from a thick, flat strip of

native copper, and have a stringing hole 3 mm. in diameter. There is little difference in their size, the largest being 8 mm. long and 8 to 9 mm. in diameter, and both are sharply bevelled at the ends. An analysis shows them to be rich in bornite, a characteristic of the Lake Superior copper deposits.

For the professional archaeologist, this run-down of the tangible evidence would be the end of the matter. He would classify the site as a burial mound of unknown age, probably anything from late Archaic to early Middle Woodland, and rightly turn to other matters. But the hearsay evidence in Mr. Secord's report contains several clues that an amateur, not subject to the restrictions sponsorship impose, could profitably follow.

If you would like to handle this project, we can supply you with a copy of Mr. Secord's report and the results of our own preliminary investigation into the matter. The latter indicate that a great deal of the investigation can be carried out without leaving Toronto.

Your efforts might provide some valuable information on the archaeology of the Kent County area.

Bill Donaldson, editor,
111 Riverside Drive N.,
Oshawa, Ontario.