THE ONTARIO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY



No. 67-6

JUNE 1967

EXECUTIVE

President: Dr. R. Dean Axelson, 247 Truman Road, Willowdale, Ontario.

Vice President: Mr. Frank B. Mee

Recording Secretary: Mr. Ross Strain

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Corresponding Secretary: Mrs. Cecilia Finnigan, 57 Chesnut Park Road, Toronto 5, Ontario.

The next meeting of The Ontario Archaeological Society will be held at 8 p.m., Wednesday, June 21st, at the Commercial Travellers! Association Salesman's Club, 17 Dundonald Street, Toronto (just east of Yonge Street, one block north of Wellesley).

Our speaker for the evening will be your Arch-Notes editor himself. His topic, "Points, Pottery and the Short Site" (Illustrated), deals with some of the methods used in dating Indian sites - and their application to the problem of a multi-component site, such as that now being excavated by The O.A.S. at the mouth of the Spper Creek, in Bowmanville.

THE MAY MEETING

Last month Miss. Joyce E. Holloway described her participation in a number of archaeological excavations carried out in western New York and in the Fort Erie area of Ontario.

As a student of Anthropology at the University of Buffalo, Miss. Holloway assisted Dr. Marian E. White in the excavation of the Clarence and Martin sites in western New York State. The Clarence site, pallisaded and containing a single longhouse, was occupied before the fur trade was in full swing - as indicated by the paucity of scrapers in the artifact inventory - and has been dated at circa 1350 A.D. The Martin site, dated at approximately 1000 A.D., produced numerous pits, some surrounded by the post-moulds of fish-drying racks. One of the largest pits measured approximately five feet across and six feet in depth.

During the Martin site excavation, Miss Holloway carried out an intensive surface survey of the area. This revealed five additional workedflint producing sites.

As Field Assistant to Charles F. Hayes III, Miss. Holloway participated in the CAN-29-3 and the Cornish site excavations, both in the Rochester area. The CAN-29-3 site, dated 1300 - 1500 A.D., and thought to be a seasonal hunting camp, produced some of the best post-mould profiles ever encountered by Miss. Holloway. The Cornish site, a contact Iroqubis village of four or five longhouses, was located on a promentory overlooking a ravine. The sidehill dumps here produced a wealth of artifacts, and included trade goods. Many small but deep pits full of bone fragments were encountered, and four hearths were clearly outlined in the hard soil of the single longhouse uncovered.

As a graduate anthropologist, Miss. Holloway assisted Dr. Marian E. White and Mr. William Noble in the excavation of the Orchid site ossuary at Fort Erie, Ontario (Ed. Note: The Bulletin - Issue No. 38, Nov. 1966 - of The New York State Archaeological Association carries Dr. White's report on the excavation of this ossuary). This burial site, dated at approximately 900 - 1000 A.D., was excavated under very restrictive and trying conditions. Over 400 skeletons were excavated however, and much was learned concerning the burial customs of this period. The size of the ossuary indicated a greater population density for the area at that time than had previously been supposed.

Prior to Miss Holloway's address, Dr. C.S. Churcher showed colour slides of his work in the South Saskatchewan River area of Alberta, where he found conclusive evidence of man's presence circa 28000 years ago - double the previously accepted length of time for mans existence in the New World,

During the business portion of this meeting Mr. Frank B. Mee was elected Vice President of the Society, and Mr. Rollo M. McDonald was appointed chairman of the Promotion and Publicity Committee.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NEWS

Ontario Archaeology (O.A.S. Publication No. 10) is expected to be in the hands of the printers later this month, and distributed to the members of the Society before the end of August.

The destruction of the multi-component Short site, in Bowmanville, has been postponed several weeks due to construction delays. To take full advantage of this unexpected reprieve, The O.A.S. has organized "digs" on the site for the weekends of June 17-18 and June 24-25. Members wishing to participate, and who have not already been contacted by the Projects Co-Ordinating Committee, should call President Dean Axelson (445-3222) immediately and let him know whether you need - or can supply - transportation to the site.

Those outside the Toronto area wishing to assist should exit from Highway #401 at the Liberty Street interchange in Bowmanville, turn on to the Beach Road, exit at the West Beach Road (just south of the C.N.R. tracks), and park immediately east of the Soper Creek bridge. The site is in the field south of the road at this point.

ACCESSIONS TO THE O.A.S. LIBRARY, MAY, 1967

By Donation (Dr. J.V. Wright): -

THE BOYS AND BARRIE SITES by Frank Ridley, 1958.
THE PARKER EARTHWORKS, CORUNNA, ONTARIO by Thomas E. Lee, 1958.

THE MIDDLEPORT HORIZON by J.V. Wright, 1960.

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY ALONG THE NORTH SHORE OF LAKE SUPERIOR by J.V. Wright, 1963.

THE PAYNE SITE by James F. Pendergast, 1963.

EVIDENCE OF BOREAL ARCHAIC CULTURE IN SOUTHERN LABRADOR AND NEWFOUNLAND by Elmer Harp, Jr., 1963.

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LE GISEMENT DE BATISCAN by Father Rene Levesque, F. Fitz Osborne and J.V. Wright, 1964.

LA PREHISTOIRE DE LA PENINSULE DU LABRADOR by William E. Taylor, Jr., 1964
THE COPELAND SITE: A PRECONTACT HURON SITE IN SIMCOE COUNTY, ONTARIO by
E.R. Channen and N.D. Clarke, 1965.

A REGIONAL EXAMINATION OF OJIBWA CULTURAL HISTORY by J.V. Wright, 1965.

THE BERRY SITE by James F. Pendergast, 1966.

THE PIC RIVER SITE by J.V. Wright, 1966.

PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE MORRISON'S ISLAND-6 SITE by Clyde C. Kennedy, 1966.

PRELIMINARY REPORT ON A WOODLAND SITE NEAR DEEP RIVER, ONTARIO by Barry M. Mitchell, 1966.

THE ONTARIO IROQUOIS TRADITION by James V. Wright, 1966.

THE PAYNE SITE: AN IROQUOIAN MANIFESTATION IN PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY, ONTAR*
10 by J.N. Emerson, 1966.

A MIDDLE WOODLAND BURIAL COMPLEX IN THE ST. LAWRENCE VALLEY by Michael W. Spence, 1967.

By Donation (Dr. Donald B. Shutt):+

SCIENCE, May 5, 1967 issue (Vol. 156, No. 3775) - containing an article by Waldo R. Wedel, entitled, "Salvage Archaeology in the Missouri River Basin" pp. 589-597.

By Donation (Mr. George E. Fay):-

TREATIES BETWEEN THE WINNEBAGO AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, 1817 - 1856 by George E. Fay, 1967.

By Exchange: -

ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER. June, 1967. ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF ALBERTA NEWSLETTER No. 12, Spring 1967. MICHI AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER. December, 1966. ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM NEWSLETTER No. 24, May, 1967.

LIBRARY NEWS - by Charles Garrad

Thanks to Miss. Phyllis Bowland, who has passed the library many items from her own files, the library now has complete runs of the following: -

ARCH-NOTES - 1951 to 1967.

EASTERN STATES ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEDERATION BULLETINS - No. 14 (Jan. 1955) to No. 25 (May, 1966). These Bulletins contain yearly reports on the O.A.S. activities, speakers, sites dug, and meetings held. The Orchid site ossuary, Fort Erie - recently the subject of an address to the Society - is partly written up in Bulletin No. 24, an abstract of which also appeared in Arch-Notes 64-9 (Dec. 1964), and Bulletin No. 25 contains two articles on the excavation of Fort Louisbourg, written by Mr. Iain and Mrs. Sou Walker.

E.S.A.F. MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORIES - 1960 to 1963.
ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM ARCHAEOLOGICAL NEWSLETTERS - No. 9 (Feb. 1966) to No.

23 (April 1967). Of these, No. 15 contains a paper by Walter Kenyon on the Rainy River Mound - the subject of his address to the O.A.S. at last December's banquet. Number 18 is a report by Selwyn Dewdney on his eternal quest for Ontario rock drawings, and No. 22 contains a general report on the Anthropological Work of Trent University under Kenneth Kidd, and a resume of the Scott site report now being compiled. The Scott site is at the junction of the Trent and Crowe Rivers.

AVAILABLE = FREE! - The O.A.S. library still has spare copies of the following publications, which members may have free for the asking, as long as the supply lasts: -

E.S.A.F. BULLETINS No. 21 (May 1962), No. 22 (April, 1963), and No. 23 (June, 1964).

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY ALONG THE NORTH SHORE OF LAKE SUPERIOR by J.V. Wright, 1963.

THE MIDDLEPORT HORIZON by J.V. Wright, 1960.

It is not often that the Canadian Automobile Association's publication "Canadian Motorist" will be brought to your attention via Arch-Notes. However, the April-May, 1967, issue contains papers on B.C. Totem Poles, and Nova Scotia's Louisbourg - the latter a particularly interesting account of the archaeological work now in progress.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

Your editor, Miss. Joyce Holloway, Mr. and Mrs Wayne Purdy, and Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Goltz have been spending much of their spare time on the Short site excavation this month. Ten 5-foot squares have been excavated to date, and a fair sample of artifacts recovered.

Mr. and Mrs. Iain Walker will depart for Great Britain in August. Iain has received a Canada Council grant - a Doctoral Fellowship - to carry out research on the Bristol clay pipe industries and export trade to the New World. This project should provide us with some badly needed data on the kaolin pipes being found on historic sites throughout Ontario. The research portion of this project is expected to last at least two years.

Before departure, Sou Walker will spend a month assisting in the excavation of Fort Gary, Manitoba.

Too late for inclusion in the 1967 Membership List (attached) is the enrolment of the new members listed below. We take great pleasure in welcoming them to the Society.

Michigan State University, Libraries - Acquisitions Dept., East Lansing, Michigan 48823.

Mr. Michael R. Smith, 68 Palmer Road, Hamilton, Ontario.

Mrs. Ellen Ley, 38 Ferndale Drive, Barrie, Ontario. (728-7337)

Mr. Peter G. Ramsden, 26 Birchleaf Crescent, Weston, Ontario. (241-0443)

Barrie District North Collegiate Library, Grove Street East, Barrie, Ontario. (728-8211) Inadvertently omitted from the 1967 Membership list is:

Mr. Donald Forrester, 426 Patricia Blvd., Timmins, Ontario

VIEWS AND COMMENTS

Our travel-weary librarian, Mr. Charles Garrad, just returned from his latest trip - and suffering a mild case of "museumitis", submits the following comments for your consideration: -

The Collingwood Museum is now open for the season all day Saturday and Sunday until July, thereafter daily. This year the Curator is a second year Anthropology student at the University of Toronto - a local lass whose name you can find out yourself by visiting the Museum. There is a fairly good local Indian display, certainly worth seeing. However, the entrance fee this year is 50% - twice that of the Royal Ontario Museum - but then you will have the pleasure of trying to talk the Curator into joining the Society.

No doubt many members have had a hand in the historical Centennial booklets now being published by many Ontario municipalities. One such booklet, titled "Beaver Valley Centennial 1967", published jointly by the Town of Thornbury, Village of Clarksburg, and Township of Collingwood, Ontario, and available at their respective in Thornbury and Clarksburg, contains a list of six Indian sites in the Thornbury-Clarksburg area of Collingwood Township - a region of which virtually nothing is known archaeologically,

The Canadian Archaeological Divers Society, which last year stirred our envy by finding a complete early Iroquoian vessel on the bottom of Georgian Bay, have been working the waters off Penetang and Collingwood this year. Their Collingwood dives were made at our request, for we are researching a shipwreck in that area.

Members in the vicinity of Windsor should make a point of visiting the newly arranged Indian exhibits in the Hiram Walker Historical Museum, 254 Pitt Street West. This is one of the most advanced displays for a regic all museum to be seen anywhere, and is set up to tell the story of Essex County step-by-step from Clovis to Contact. The Museum is a member of The O.A.S., and other members are welcome there. Research, both archival and archaeological, is being carried out. Curator Alan Douglas will be found well abreast of latest developments and draws to our attention George Quimby's latest book, "Indian Culture and European Trade Goods" (University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin).

In contrast, the Chatham-Kent Museum might as well be struck off your "visit" list. This museum is not only difficult to find, it is almost impossible to find open. Small wonder it is necessary to question quite a few Chathamites to even establish that the place exists. With the aid of a small computer, a current list of opening hours, a calendar, and great determination, it might be possible to be there when the establishment is open, but to detour casually when in the neighbourhood and expect to find this museum open is but a waste of time. (Ed. Note: This museum's Archae-ological exhibits are well worth seeing if you are in Chatham 3 to 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday, or on the first and third Sundays of the month. The Museum is on William Street, facing Tecumseh Park)

On the general subject of museums, quite a few are now open for the season, and of couse new ones being built as Centennial projects are just about ready. The first of the latter reported on is the new Midland Museum. While the old Playfair house is of local historic interest, it is also a firetrap. It is hoped the many relics now removed and placed in the new masonary and steel museum building in Midland Park will have a better chance of survival. Frank Ridley's latest Ossossane material is on display here.

As a student of the subject, we have felt for some time that a comprehensive paper on fluted points in Ontario is long overdue. Pending the appearance of such a paper, we would be most pleased to hear from anyone with information on the subject. (Ed. Note: Mr. Garrad's address is 30 Upper Canada Drive, Apt. 411, Willowdale, Ontario)

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As a follow-on to Mr. Garrad's comments on Ontario's regional museums, we recommend visits to all those who are members of this Society. We have visited most of these and found their Archaeological exhibits well worth the trip. Indeed, some of the exhibits have been prepared by the O.A.S.

This issue of Arch-Notes is the last of the 1967 Winter-Spring series. It is the custom to suspend meetings and Newsletter publication during July and August, when many of our members are out in the field trying to find the answers to a number of archaeological questions. We hope to report on some of the successes when we resume publication of Arch-Notes in September.

A final word - we would like to thank the many members who, despite our foot-dragging in the correspondence department, have continued to contribute news of current and proposed projects, notify us of recent archaeological discoveries, and draw our attention to publications of interest to our readers. It is sincerely appreciated. A special note of thanks must go to Mr. Dean Studholme, who has now taken over the onerous chore of typing address labels.

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