

THE ONTARIO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY



ARCH-NOTES

No. 67-9

NOVEMBER 1967

EXECUTIVE

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

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Past President:  
Miss Phyllis Bowland

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

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The next meeting of The Ontario Archaeological Society will be held at 8 p.m., Wednesday, November 15th, 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 Dr. J. Norman Emerson, Department of Anthropology, University of Toronto. His topic, Recent Developments at Cahiague (Illustrated), covers the University of Toronto's 1967 excavation of the Warminster site in old Huronia, believed now to be the remains of the historic Huron village of Cahiague visited by Champlain in 1615.

THE OCTOBER MEETING

Our speaker last month, Father William A. Russell (S.J.), aroused considerable interest with his description of his work last summer on the multi-component Fournier site, located on the southeast slope of the "Lookout" at Martyr's Shrine, and within sight of reconstructed Ste. Marie I.

The site was excavated as a "problem oriented" project to determine if the settlement was matrilocal or patrilocal. To this end every effort was made to deal with the total complex rather than the artifacts alone, and no practical technique was overlooked in wringing information from the site. Among these were such esoteric methods as infrared photography to reveal the middens prior to excavation, and the correlation of certain features with the type of vegetation growing over them.

Father Russell prefaced his description of the uncovered evidence

and his present interpretation of it with a reminder that another year's excavation and many months of studying the acquired data would be required before final conclusions could be reached. He felt he was on firm ground, however, in stating that the site consisted of two components, both prehistoric Iroquoian, with some 25 feet of apparently unoccupied ground between them. The southeastern component, which appears to have been a seasonal fishing station before it was occupied as a permanent habitation, contained a longhouse of somewhat unusual construction in that it enclosed a natural spring. This longhouse, completely uncovered during the 1967 excavation, was built in three stages, strongly suggesting a matrilocal settlement. Traces of the bark covering from this dwelling were uncovered in the damp soil near the enclosed spring, and a fragment of woven grass matting was found in such a position as to suggest its use within the longhouse.

Contrary to expectations, in view of the location, the recovered artifacts are most closely related to the Payne site material (Pendergast, 1964; Emerson, 1966).

Colour slides were employed to illustrate the work carried out and some of the features and artifacts uncovered.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NEWS

President Axelson reports that "lab" sessions will be resumed at his house in the next week or so. The first of these will be devoted to cleaning the Beeton site material recovered this fall, and cataloguing and sorting the balance of the material recovered during the previous excavations on this site. Members interested in participating are asked to call Dr. Axelson at 445-3222.

It has been decided to hold a "coffee break" during future meetings of the Society in order to provide the members with a chance to get acquainted and "talk shop." Coffee will be supplied at nominal cost.

Treasurer Procter reports that as of October 18th, the O.A.S. bank balance totalled \$1887.78. This figure breaks down into a Publication Fund balance of \$1577.85 and a General Fund balance of \$309.93.

Further action on the Huronia Archaeological and Historical Society's application for Chapter status must now await the results of a clarifying letter from our corresponding secretary. It would appear from a letter read at the October meeting that they have misunderstood our requirements regarding ownership of Chapter records and material.

Mr. Charles Garrad, our librarian, would like more members to make use of the borrowing priveledges Society membership entitles them to. All that is required is a telephone call to Mr. Garrad at 223-2752, or a letter addressed to 30 Upper Canada Drive, Apt. 411, Willowdale, Ontario, listing the titles required.

Preparations are now underway for our December Banquet, to be held at the Commercial Travellers' Association Salesman's Club on Wednesday, December 20th. Kenneth E. Kidd, Chairman, Department of Anthropology, Trent University will be the after dinner speaker. His topic will be "New Techniques and New Directions in Archaeology." To assist Mrs.

Reichert's Program and Social committee in completing the Banquet arrangements, members are requested to fill out and mail the form on the last page of this newsletter.

#### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

This month two films of interest to our members will be shown to the public without charge in the Royal Ontario Museum Theatre: -

Sunday, November 12, at 2 p.m. - "Ancient New World"

Sunday, November 26, at 2 p.m. - "Mystery of Stonehenge"

Another date to remember is Thursday, November 23. At 8.30 p.m. on this day Dr. A.D. Tushingham will present an illustrated lecture in the R.O.M. Theatre on his recently completed Jerusalem excavations. This lecture, entitled, "How Canadians Dig It", will be well worth hearing.

#### NEWS OF MEMBERS

Dr. A.D. Tushingham reports that, despite the recent Arab-Israeli war, the joint British School - Royal Ontario Museum expedition to the Old City of Jerusalem managed to complete its 7th and final year of excavation before the end of September.

Many more months of paper work will be required before the expedition's findings can be submitted for publication, but Society members in the Toronto area will have the opportunity of previewing some of these when Dr. Tushingham, the expedition's associate director, presents his illustrated lecture on the excavation (see Forthcoming Events, above).

Dr. Dean Axelson informs us that he has now completed his excavation of the Carton site ossuary and expects to finish checking the immediate area for possible related burials by the time this newsletter is distributed.

Mr. Rollo McDonald, whose main field of interest has been northern fur trading posts, reports that on the east shore of Lake Temiskaming two early 19th Century buildings of the independent trader Mr. Edward Piche are still visible on the point of land which bears his name.

This is not the case with the Hudson's Bay Company post Fort Wrath, built about a mile north of Piche Point in response to the rival trade, and kept open only a few years when the necessity for its presence ceased. Mr. McDonald states that although there is a report of tumbled-down buildings visible in 1910, he could find no trace of these despite several hours of intensive search last summer.

We would like to welcome the two new members who joined the Society since the last issue of Arch-Notes. They are: -

Mr. William Harvey, Toronto, Ontario.

Mr. James Shropshire, Stayner, Ontario.

LIBRARY NOTESNEW TITLES

- ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY "Stones and Bones Newsletter" September 1967 (report on summer dig and activities)
- ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY "Journal of Alabama Archaeology" vol xiii no 1 June 1967
- ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY "Stones and Bones Newsletter" October 1967 (includes a short paper by Dan W. Josselyn "The Pluvial Problem" proposing that the depths artifacts are buried do not necessarily indicate age, since the melting and withdrawal of glaciers must have been continually accompanied by such heavy rains that "hillsides, sodden to the core, must have slumped and slid and covered and erased. All erosive slopes must have lost much of their soil, bringing rock and artifact stratigraphy down to a common level".
- ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF ALBERTA "Newsletter No 13 & 14" Summer 1967. This issue is entirely devoted to one paper "Petroglyphs and Pictographs in Alberta" by Thelma Habgood. This wonderfully comprehensive treatment of her subject is extensive enough to require 24 pages of text, 6 pages of bibliography and ten packed pages of figures.
- ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY of VIRGINIA Quarterly Bulletin vol 22 #1 Sept 1967
- EASTERN STATES ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEDERATION Bulletin 26, June 1967. This issue contains the meetings of the 1966 meeting and reports of member societies and abstracts of papers. O.A.S. activities are reported by our President Dr R. Dean Axelson. We note from the enclosed announcement of the 1967 Annual Meeting that our own Bill Renison is Exhibits Chairman.
- GARRAD Chas 1966 "Two Indian Camp Sites and an Ossuary near Toronto". A photocopy of MSS relating to a search in 1966 for an ossuary believed to be at Agincourt but which at last found on lot 32 con 3 Twp Pickering, plus the finding on the way of an apparently related Middleport/lalonde site on lot 35 con 4 Twp Pickering and some Middleport remains on lot 23 con 4 Twp Scarborough.
- NEW YORK STATE ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION Bulletin No 40 July 1967. Contains three papers: "Late Pleistocene History of the Lower Hudson River Estuary" by Walter S. Newman, "The Denham Site" by Paul L. & Thos P. Weinman (a small stratified site on Lake George), and "Additional Data on Historic Burials at the Boughton Hill Site, Victor Twp, Ontario County, N.Y." by Albert J. Hoffman. (See below).
- NEW YORK STATE ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION Researches and Transactions, vol XVI No 1 1967 containing the paper "An Early Historic Niagara Frontier Iroquois Cemetery in Erie County, New York - Archaeology and Physical Anthropology of the Kleis Site" by Marian E. White, with Appendices by Wm S. Cornwell, Audrey J. Sublett, Barrie R.D. Gillings, Donald J. Beck and Joyce Sirianni. (Indexed as WHITE et al, 1967, KLEIS SITE. See commentary below).
- ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM ARCHAEOLOGICAL NEWSLETTER No 28 September 1967. Contains one paper: "Operation Mop-Up" by Walter A. Kenyon. (Further underwater researches and recoveries in the Winnipeg River near Kenora, Ontario).
- ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM ARCHAEOLOGICAL NEWSLETTER No 29 September 1967. (Misprint for October?). "Jerusalem Excavations 1967" by A.D. Tushingham.

LIBRARY NOTES ContinuedNEW TITLES Continued

WEST VIRGINIA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY Newsletter July 1967

WRIGHT J.V. 1967 "Type and Attribute Analysis: Their Application to Iroquois Culture History". (This writer believes the present method of establishing chronologies I.E. pottery TYPES has gone to the limit of its usefulness, and proposes that the ATTRIBUTES should now be emphasised in future studies. See comment later).

COMMENTARY on NEW TITLES

The picture summoned up by Dan Josselyn of the slumping of sodden hillsides may actually be seen during the spring melting in places where the trees have been cut off steep piled glacial till. This is well known to late-season skiers on such runs as Blue Mountain's "Spectacular". At this resort the ski-hills are glacially deposited till heaped up against the limestone cuesta of the Niagara Escarpment. Each spring the steeper parts of the runs slide down and require regrading. This may explain why so few Paleo artifacts have been found on the north-east side of the Escarpment - they are buried.

Another private paper by an O.A.S. member has been filed with the library. All members are welcome to file such material.

The two publications from New York State indicate the much greater emphasis on grave goods there compared with our Huron area for example. Even at the earlier site (Kleis, circa 1625-30) they are abundant, and at the later (Boughton Hill, where Jesuit material is present) varied and abundant to an extreme degree. Consider this random selection found with a 15-17 yr old: 1 gun lock, 3 gun hammers, 1 lock plate, 1 spring gun, 3 iron knives, 1 awl, section iron hook, 2 iron needles, 1 flint point, 1 antler effigy, 4 Jesuit rings, 1 runtee, 1 discoidal, 1 lavalier, and the following beads: 52 wampum, 156 round and long red, 110 black, 12 long red, etc, 1 brass bead spacer, 110 small seed beads etc.

We can imagine a very complicated and severe set of beliefs regarding death when possible impoverishment of the surviving family was considered justified.

Notable too is the format of the KLEIS report. Added to Dr White's archaeological report are comments and appendices by other specialists, TOOKER on the ceremonial significance of the contents of a medicine bag, CORNWELL and SUBLETT on skeletal analysis, GILLINGS and BECK on teeth, and SIRIANNI on dentition analysis, anomalies and pathology.

An inevitable trend in this age of specialisation, but most welcome, especially if it can be set up formally so that the amateur can have access to specialised professional help in areas where he is weak EG pottery analysis, C14, bone diseases etc.

Dr Wright has struck to the heart of the problem of confusion in pottery analysis. If instead of names, the attributes could be rendered in a code, the ambiguity is removed, and the way paved for the use of automation in analysis, punch card machines etc. Now we need a Canadian Uniform Attribute Code, and who better than the National Museum to set it up.

VIEWS AND COMMENTS

The November issue of Scientific American includes an interesting seven-page article by Edward P. Lanning and Thomas C. Patterson on the oldest clearly dated tools found in South America. Entitled "Early Man in South America", it describes several late Pleistocene sites producing tools for working bone and wood.

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An excellent introductory paper to Newfoundland's prehistory appears in the latest issue (Vol. 5, No. 4) of the Anthropological Journal of Canada. Written by Mrs. Barbara Whitby of Dalhousie University, and entitled "The Beothucks and Other Primitive Peoples of Newfoundland: A Review", it covers some 3,000 years of cultural developments in Canada's newest province.

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Another item that caught our eye is a recent Canadian Press release reporting the discovery, near Mortlach, Saskatchewan, of the oldest and most complete pottery vessel ever found in the northwestern plains of North America.

This discovery, reported by Mr. Fred Bard, director of the Saskatchewan Museum of Natural History, was made on the Walter Felt site. Unfortunately, the press release did not make clear whether other artifacts, dated at 465 B.C., were contemporary or not.

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Mimeographed address labels will now replace the older typed labels used on Arch-Notes. We would like to thank Miss Rosalind Murray for graciously volunteering to cut the stencils for the new labels, and Mr. Dean Studholme for handling the onerous typing of the old labels since the beginning of the year.

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If you plan a change of address, please, PLEASE notify your Arch-Notes editor! We have lost track of four members since last summer because they neglected to do so.

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Our annual Banquet arrangements require an accurate attendance estimate. If you plan to attend (and member's friends are welcome) please fill out the form at the bottom of this page and mail it to Mrs. Gisela Reichert, 320 Tweedsmuir Avenue, Apt. 705, Toronto, Ontario.

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The following two pages on fluted points were prepared by Mr. Charles Garrad.

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

I expect to attend the annual Archaeological Society Banquet, to be held on Wednesday, December 20th. There will be (number) \_\_\_\_\_ in my party.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
address \_\_\_\_\_

### FLUTED POINT SURVEY

A bulletin has been prepared and sent to a large number of smaller museums, with some replies but no Fluted Points, as was expected. Extra copies of the bulletin have been prepared for historical groups and individuals who may be likely sources, and a copy is attached to be passed on to them.

Other museums have been visited in the summer and searched for fluted points, but none have been found other than the National Museum in Ottawa, Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, and the Museum in Middlesex College, University of Western Ontario, London.

Further information on the known Points is now being compiled. An interesting sidelight however is the number of museums set up as Centennial Projects in 1967. Once organised, these will be valuable authorities on the local region.

### MUSEUM NOTES

Many of Ontario's small museums are open only in the summer season and are now firmly locked up. One that is open all year however, is a MUST. Canada has no real ethnological museum in the style of Pitt-Rivers, Oxford University, England, but it does have one of the style of the Ashmolean at the same place, a vast, mixed assemblage of curiosities, and this is the NIAGARA FALLS MUSEUM by the Rainbow Bridge, Niagara Falls, Ontario. This is some 4 stories containing everything from a large collection of Egyptian Mummies to a Whale Skeleton. Noted were considerable parts of two mastodons, one found near St Thomas in 1852, another nearby at Southwold in 1854. But the Indian material on the ground floor is most interesting, including mummified burials from British Columbia, all types of material from bannerstones to Sitting Bull's mocasins, lots of Plains Indians materials gathered when contemporary (this is quite an old collection) and so on. \$ 1.00 admission & worth it.

Also worth mentioning is the new wing added to the BRANTFORD MUSEUM containing much SIX NATIONS material, material by one of our members GEORGE GEE, a drawing of the MOHAWK VILLAGE in the year 1800 by which the original site may be readily seen from the position of the Chapel which of course still exists. Visiting the site, no traces of buildings could be found, but the location of the gardens is shown by the unusual plants growing around (rhubarb!).

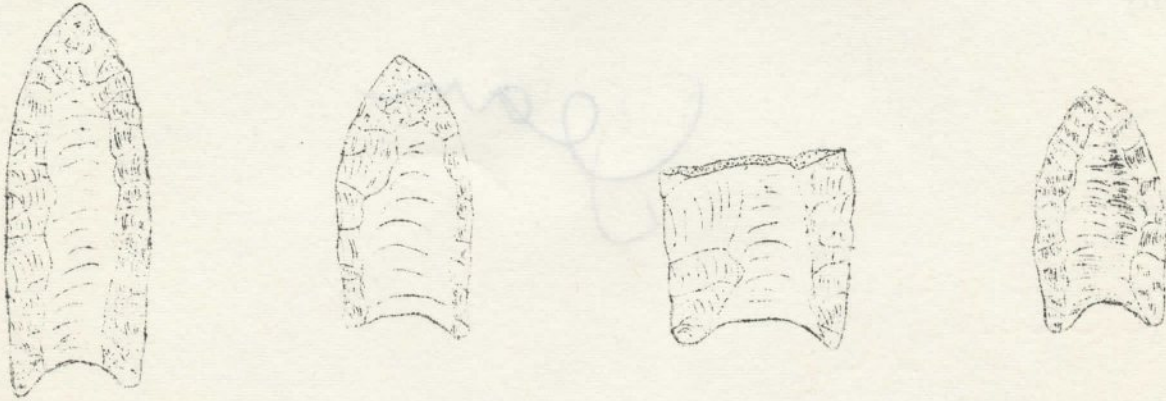
THIS IS A REQUEST FOR INFORMATION  
by the Ontario Archaeological Society

THIS BULLETIN

is about a certain type of Indian stone spearpoint called a "FLUTED POINT"

A "FLUTED POINT"

is not like the triangular notched arrowheads. It is shaped more like a long leaf, a "lanceolate" shape, and has, on one or both sides, a shallow groove, called a "flute", sometimes short, or long. The Points and the Flutes vary in size and appearance, but generally look like this:



THE IMPORTANCE OF FLUTED POINTS

is that they are very old. They date back to the last Ice Age, perhaps to the times of the now extinct Mammoth and Mastodon. The men who made and used these Points were the first to return to Ontario as the ice withdrew, perhaps as long as 10,000 years ago.

WHY WE WANT TO KNOW ABOUT THEM IS

because over 80 have been reported in neighbouring New York State, but in Ontario only 20 have entered the records. This must be because many lie unrecognized in private and museum collections. Some have left the Province.

THE ONTARIO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

asks your help in trying to record all fluted points

AND

will refund to you any expense involved if you will please ....

TELL US

if in your collection are any Fluted Points which may be from Ontario, and of any other collections you know of which should be searched.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN YOU CONTACT US

is only that we may refer to the owner mainly to clarify details - we DO NOT WANT THE ARTIFACT but merely to record its existence

PLEASE HELP BY

searching your collection and others known to you and by any convenient means advising :-

The Ontario Archaeological Society, c/o Chas Garrad, 30 Upper Canada Drive, Apt 411, Willowdale, Ontario, Canada.

August 1967

