



ARCH NOTES

Monthly Newsletter of

The Ontario Archaeological Society (Inc.)

R. D. AXELSON, V.S., D.V.M.

237 LORD SEATON DRIVE
WILLOWDALE ONTARIO

No. 69 - 5

May, 1969.

EXECUTIVE

President:

Dr. R. Dean Axelson
237 Lord Seaton Rd.
Willowdale, Ont.

Vice-President:

Mr. R. James Gauci

Recording Secretary:

Miss Pat Sutherland

Treasurer:

Miss Lorna Procter

Past President:

Miss Phyllis Bowland

Corresponding Secretary:

Mrs. Barbara McDonald
2547 Jarvis Street
Mississauga, Ont.

THE NEXT MEETING of the Ontario Archaeological Society will be held at 8:00 p.m., on Wednesday, May 21st, 1969, in Room 561 of Sidney Smill Hall at the University of Toronto. Sid Smith is located at 100 St. George St.

SPEAKER: Mr. William S. Donaldson

TOPIC : Archaeological Work East of the Rouge (Illustrated)

Mr. Bill Donaldson is one of the most prized possessions of the O.A.S. He is one of our most knowledgeable archaeologists and strongest leaders. It is with great pleasure that we announce his speaking to us at our May meeting. In his lecture, Mr. Donaldson plans to describe some recent findings in the southern townships of Ontario and Durham counties which, he feels, are not as poor in archaeological sites as has previously been supposed. Included will be an interim report on the Society's recent work at the Macleod Site and the Short Site.

AT THE APRIL MEETING, last month, Mr. Ian Kenyon of McMaster University presented an illustrated and amazing program on archaeology in the Niagara Peninsula, and historical techniques of glass bead manufacturing.

Mr. Kenyon's discussion of archaeology in this area was mainly concerned with the counties of Haldimand, Brant, and Wentworth. One of the points of the study was to see how many archaeological sites can be found in a very small area, as he traced the aboriginal cultural development. A newly defined Late Woodland complex--the Princess Point Complex--was discussed. This archaic stage dated at 900 to 1,100 A.D., was concentrated mainly along the Grand River. It is the first trace of Late Woodland in this area. We were shown many slides of typical Laurentian points and tools and cord-impressed pottery, in connection with this Princess Point Complex, that correspond temporally with a host of other Late Woodland cultures. Mr. Kenyon said that it is difficult to say where the Princess Point Complex came from--just as it is difficult to say what became of it. He feels that it could have developed into the Glen-Meyer phase of about 1200 A.D.

He then went on to discuss the Historic Neutrals of 1600 A.D. and onwards. He showed how points, glass beads, and trade knives can be used to assist in dating these sites. Using his slides again, Mr. Kenyon illustrated the superior lithic development of the Neutrals and showed a graph comparing the size and shapes of points from the Princess Point complex, through the Glen-Meyer and Pound Complexes, to the Neutrals. Iron knives, however, are the best chronological dating artifacts of all trade material. He showed five basic types of iron knives. Another means of dating historic Neutral sites was by the analysis of the glass beads excavated on a site, since these are the most frequently found artifacts. In discussing manufacturing techniques, Mr. Kenyon mentioned the two methods - "drawing" glass bubbles into long hollow tubes and clipping off beads, and of wire-wound beads. These can be distinguished by means of the "grain" visible in the glass. On Neutral and Huron sites, drawn beads are found until a date of about 1700 A.D. After the 1700 date the beads recovered are usually of the wire-wound type.

In presenting this material, Ian Kenyon showed a great command of his subject. His lecture was extremely well organized. We would also like to mention that it was his father, Mr. Tom Kenyon, who created the O.A.S. posters for us that were on display at the C.A.A. annual meeting. We hope that the Kenyons will continue to show their enthusiasm and support for many years to come.

EXECUTIVE NEWS:

Don't look now, but the last nine pages of this great work of Canadian literature comprise the O.A.S. membership list for 1969. Lorna Procter arranged it for us and Barb McDonald typed the stencils. Friends in need, you know...

And in case you didn't notice the front page, turn back and look at our new letterhead. Talk about class! Rollo McDonald looked after that for us.

Our recording secretary has taken off for a few months of field work. We should tell you more about that in our September issue of Arch-Notes.

Publications number 11 and 12 are finally ready, believe it or not. If all goes according to our best laid schemes you should have received these two publications with Arch-Notes all in a great big dirty brown bag.

NEWS OF MEMBERS:

Everybody say "Hello" to these new people:

Mr. David R. Ericsson--35 St. Dennis Drive, Apt 732, Don Mills--
429-0812.

Mr. George Quinn, Director of Social Studies, Metro Separate School Board, 146 Laird Drive, Toronto 17.

Mr. Jack Steinbring--Dept. of Anthropology, University of Winnipeg, 515 Portage Ave, Winnipeg 2, Manitoba.

Mr. J. Allan Blair--378 Hurontario Street, Collingwood, Ontario--
445-2580.

Arch-Notes is pleased to welcome you, on behalf of all O.A.S. members.

There were 72 members present at the April meeting. Imagine. That's an O.A.S. record.

Does anybody know where Lorna Foreman is? Apparently she has moved and isn't getting her Arch-Notes. How's that for a fate worse than death?

If anybody is interested in fieldwork opportunities in the U.S.A., Mrs. Astrid Maak has a list of Universities and Colleges that are accepting people. For more information please contact her at 827-1543.

Many thanx to those members who have submitted articles of archaeological interest to Arch-Notes. We have not got room for them this month but we should have a good issue in June.

JUST PLAIN NEWS:

Somewhere in here is a page with a letter from Mr. T. Patrick Culbert of the Society for American Archaeology. Please consider it.

LAB NOTICE--another lab at Dean Axelson's place on Friday evening May 16th. This is at 237 Lord Seaton Rd., Willowdale, Ont. Phone 223-5685.

SPRING DIG NOTICE--Our Spring dig will be held on the weekend of May 31st and June 1st. Come early and bring a huge lunch (because I might run out). For the beginners, please refer to the April issue of Arch-Notes for a list of useful tools. But all you really need is a trowel. Somebody bring a radio and ice-cubes. Now, if you get all shook up and lost or something, please call these people: Miss Joyce Holloway in Bowmanville; Mr. Bill Donaldson in Osawa; Mr. Dean Axelson or Ross Strain in Toronto; Mr. Rollo McDonald in Mississauga. Their telephone numbers are in your members' hip list. This is at our Beeton Site. Everybody must know where it is by now. If you can't find it; or if you need a ride, just phone one of us. And when you get to the Beeton Site, don't fall climbing the barbed wire fence; watch out for poison ivy and black flies; beware of the vicious German shepherd at the farmhouse; and if the groundhog hunters open up on you, just hit the dirt and scream. There. Now you will be pleasantly surprised when you get there. And remember to check the corners of your square carefully 'cause that's where the Indians hid all kinds of stuff.

E.S.A.F. ANNUAL MEETING: The Eastern States Archaeological Federation will hold its annual meeting in Morgantown, West Virginia, on Friday Saturday, and Sunday, November 7, 8, 9. The West Virginia Archaeological Society will be the host, with most of the arrangements being made by the Upper Monongahela Chapter in Morgantown. The Holiday Inn will serve as headquarters, with the sessions held on the West Virginia University Campus.

Contributed papers, either short 15 minute field reports or longer 25 minute papers, are needed for the meetings. The deadline for titles is July 15. Titles should be accompanied by abstracts if possible.

Any suggestions for symposiums or subjects for the meeting will be welcome.

For further information, please write to Betty J. Broyles, Program Chairman, ESAF, West Virginia Geological Survey, Box 879, Morgantown, West Virginia 26505.

Below is a picture of a drunk polar bear in a snow drift.

O.A.S. LIBRARY - New Titles April/May 1969

- ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY "Stones & Bones Newsletter" March 1969
- ALBERTA, Archaeological Society of "Newsletter" no 19 Winter 1969, containing "Artifact Photography" by Terry Dafoe, "Summary of Field Work at Calling Lake, Northern Alberta, Summer 1968" by Ruth Gruhn.
- ALBERTA, Archaeological Society of "Newsletter" no 18 (printed 16 in error) Fall 1968, containing "Flake Geometrics" by Robson Bonnischen.
- GRAMLY R.M. & BENNETT J.W. 1968 "Artifacts from Ossossane". Combined excerpts from "Quarterly Newsletter of the North Central Chapter no 8, Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology," vol 12 no 1 Spring 1968 pp 7-9 & vol 12 no 2 Summer 1968 pp 6-7. (The authors do not seem to have any doubt that this site which they found by accident is Ossossane. It certainly was an historic Huron town but it is disputable as to name.)
- MACMASTER ARCHAEOLOGY: THE SEASON OF 1968. (This anonymous MS reveals the extent to which Hamilton's MacMaster University has developed in knowledge and ability in the realm of Ontario Archaeology. We hope this abstract will be followed by full reports).
- MANITOBA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY "Newsletter" vol V no 14 Winter 1968 (Annual Summary of field-work done in Manitoba. In 1968 work was carried out by the Manitoba Archaeological Society, University of Manitoba, University of Calgary, National Museum of Canada, University of Winnipeg, & National Historic Sites Service). NOTE: Who will undertake each year in Ontario to obtain brief reports from those working in this Province, for publication by the O.A.S. ?
- MCDONALD R. 1968 "A Brief Summary of Speculations on the Origin of Man in America", MS prepared for a research topic and donated by the author.
- NATIONAL AND HISTORIC PARKS BRANCH, DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT 1968 "National Historic Sites Policy", Ottawa.
- PRIESS Peter J. 1969 "History Swings on a Poorly Described Hinge: Preliminary Reflections on the State of Research in Structural Hardware" Paper read to the Canadian Archaeological Association, March 1969. (Structural hardware, hinges, nails, brackets, locks and handles, are so poorly researched and reported that their value to historic archaeologists is severely limited).
- SAGINAW VALLEY CHAPTER MICHIGAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY "Saginaw Valley Archaeologist" vol 5 nos 3-4 Sept-Dec 1968, and vol 6 no 1 March 1969.
- SAVAGE Dr Howard 1968 "Ossuary Discovered on Sheridan Nurseries Land" (Glen Williams) CANADIAN NURSERYMAN October 1968 pp 14-15. Copy donated by author.
- SAVAGE Dr Howard 1969 "Faunal Analysis as an Aid to the Archaeologist and the Zoologist" MS read to Canadian Archaeological Association, March 1969. Donated by author. (To extract data from midden bone requires firstly an adequate reference collection to aid identification, and secondly a familiarity with the bone characteristics to enable recognition of distinguishing features).
- VIRGINIA Archaeological Society of "Newsletter" no 26 January 1969
- VIRGINIA Archaeological Society "Quarterly Bulletin" vol 23 no 2 Dec 1968
- WRIGHT Dr J.V. 1968 "The Michipicoten Site, Ontario" NATIONAL MUSEUM OF CANADA Bulletin 224 pp 1-85. Donated by author.
- WYLIE Elizabeth A. 1969 "Research on Clay Pipes" (Summarises present knowledge of European clay kaolin pipes). Paper read to Canadian Archaeological Association March 1969.

A MESSAGE TO THE ONTARIO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY FROM PETER C. SWANN,
DIRECTOR OF THE ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM

(When asked if he would like to address the membership of the Ontario Archaeological Society through the medium of ARCH-NOTES, Mr Peter Swann, celebrated and hard-driving Director of the Royal Ontario Museum, replied "I certainly would". Within a few minutes at his desk, Mr Swann had penned this message for our membership and at the same time relieved your librarian of his next-week's lunch money, appointing him the Museum's newest - and most surprised - member!)

"I welcome this opportunity to send the greetings of the Museum to all members of the Ontario Archaeological Society. I consider such groups to be the life-blood of a Province's culture. In many respects you have gained from us and we have been enriched by your work and interest. Now we need your help. Will you support us by becoming members of the R.O.M. The advantages are legion - not the least being that our quarterly publication ROTUNDA (free to members) will keep you in touch with what we are doing in Ontario and all over the world.

May your researches flourish".

The R.O.M.'s Membership Application Form lists 11 Advantages of Membership. Social events attended by Museum Staff are not included. Having met some of the charming and attractive ladies this would include, your reporter feels the 12th is a great loss.

OUCH ! Maclean-Hunter Limited offers, for the sum of \$12.95 (pre-publication) to "brush away the many misconceptions and outright errors which have, for too long, obscured the true and often noble nature of our native peoples" in the forthcoming publication "The Canadian Indian". Some of the new data will include their coming "from Asia across the Bering Sea" "how they splintered into 50 nomadic and agricultural tribes" "how and why their Mongolian ancestry made a few tribes capable of occasional acts of unspeakable savagery" "their first appearance on this Continent 25 thousand years ago" how they "worked out codes of ethics, arrived at a religion, decided - wait for it - sex customs....". Other than the concession in dating recognisable Indian cultures back into the interglacial, at 25000 years (What of your 40,000 year Alberta artifacts, Rufus ?), this prospectus reads like something from the last Century. At least it didn't mention that Christopher Columbus was the first white man to reach North America. But perhaps it will, in the book.

SHELL PENDANTS FROM RICE LAKE, ONTARIO

During the summer of 1967 while on a camping excursion at the Serpent Mounds Provincial Park on the north shore of Rice Lake, Ont., I was pursuing my interest in archaeology by looking for Indian sites in the area when I was referred to a resident in the area who "collected Indian relics", by some of the local farmers. This man, Mr. Everett Elmhurst by name, was kind enough to show me his collection and discuss his finds with me. Finally he brought out a board with some shell artifacts attached to it which immediately caught my eye. Here was a collection of sixteen very unusual shell pendants. I asked whether anyone had ever published any information on these and was told no but that they had been looked at by professional archaeologists. I took all the information about them as I thought that others should be aware of this find. In reading the current literature, I find that Richard B. Johnston mentions them in his report "Archaeology of Rice Lake, Ont., Anthropology Paper No. 19, Aug. 1968, National Museum of Canada." He also has a very good photograph of them on page 43 with a description on page 20. Even though these are already mentioned in the literature, I have decided to write about them as well in order to give a complete description to the readers of archaeological data.

In 1937 or 1938, Mr. Elmhurst was walking the edge of the lake on Cameron's Point on Rice Lake when he approached the eroding edge of a mound, (called Mound A by Johnston). The water had exposed a single, cut conch shell pendant that was perforated. After this find, Mr. Elmhurst decided to excavate into the edge of the mound to try and salvage any other material before it was destroyed by the action of the waves. Approximately 8 inches below the surface, a child burial (estimated at 3 - 4 years of age) was exposed. The skeleton was lying on its left side in a flexed position. Scattered over and in the rib cage were 15 additional cut shell pendants. No red staining was observed around or on the burial nor were there any other grave goods.

Mr. Elmhurst stated that he had been told by Mr. Richard Johnston that "the serrated edge pendant (fig. 1 G), had been carbon 14 dated at around 2,500 years B.P. and had come from an extinct shell, 10 feet in diameter which came from an offshore island in the Caribbean". I do not know if such a shell of these dimensions ever existed but I see by Mr. Johnston's report that he had the shell species identified by Dr. Arthur H. Clarke, Jr., malacologist at the National Museum of Canada. The cone-shaped exterior portion of a central whorl (fig. 1 F), was identified as *Busycon perversum* Linne, which has its distribution in the Gulf of Mexico and the West Indies. The other pieces were identified as *Strombus gigas* Linne, which has been reported as far north as Lake Worth, Florida in recent times. It is quite rare now in Florida and the Florida Keys, but is still fairly abundant throughout the West Indies, and is common from Progresso, Yucatan, Mexico, south to Venezuela. Dr. Clarke has never heard of *S. gigas* having been found as a fossil or subfossil near the northern edges of the Gulf of Mexico or for that matter, north of its present range.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PENDANTS

The pendants are described in the order they are pictured in figure 1. All the pendants are white with brownish soil stains in varying degree.

1. Pendant A is roughly triangular in shape with a slight curvature and has a suspension hole at the narrowest end. It measures $1\frac{1}{4}$ x $3\frac{3}{8}$ inches.
2. Pendant B is a smaller, irregular shaped piece with an elongated narrow projection which is notched for suspension. It measures $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch in width by $1\frac{5}{8}$ inches in length.
3. Pendant C is pear shaped with a single suspension hole at the narrowest end. It measures $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches at its widest portion by $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length.
4. Pendant D is irregularly rectangular in shape with one small suspension hole in one corner. It measures 1 inch by $1\frac{5}{8}$ inches in size.

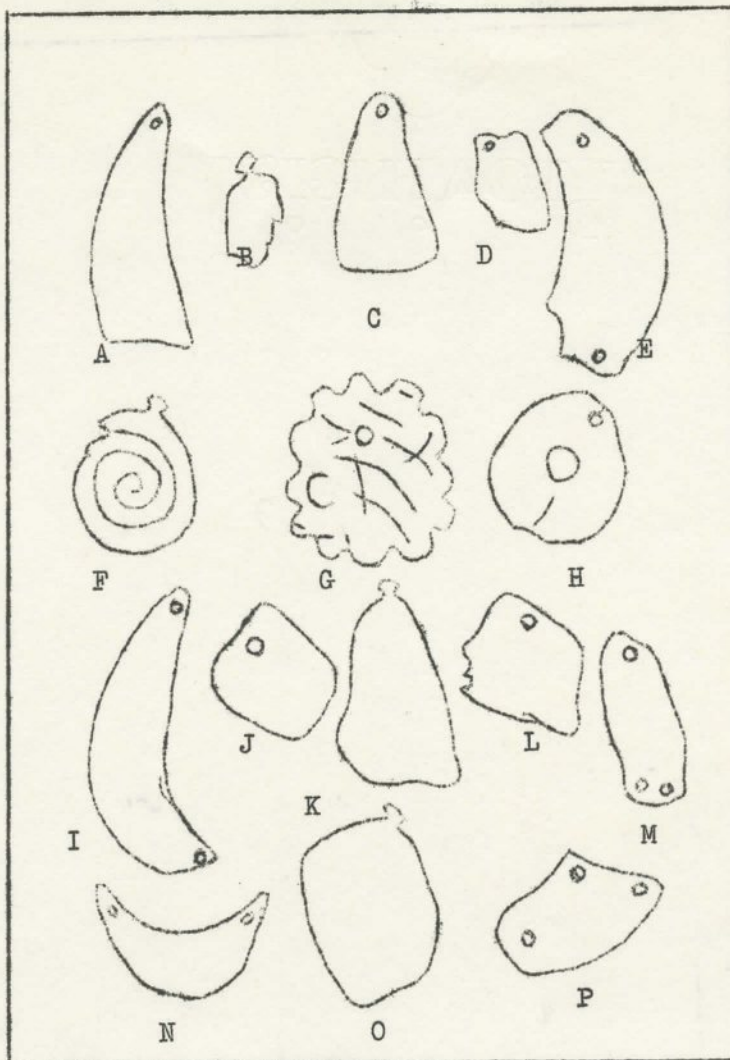


FIGURE 1

5. Pendant E is the largest piece in the group and is somewhat in the shape of a curved elongated, rectangle with a larger suspension hole in the narrowest end than in the wider end. Only two holes are present. It measures $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches at its widest part by 4 inches in length.

6. Pendant F is a cone-shaped portion of a central whorl of the shell. There are no holes drilled in it but it was suspended by a notched projection on one edge. It measures $2 \times 1\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

7. Pendant G is the most elaborate of all the specimens. It is roughly circular and has a serrated or scalloped edge all around with a single off-centre suspension hole. There are a number of incised lines on the convex side of the shell. These lines are a series of curved and straight lines which may have had some special meaning. It measures $2\frac{3}{8}$ inches by $2\frac{5}{8}$ inches.

8. Pendant H is another nearly circular piece with a large suspension hole in the centre. It has a slight indentation on one part of the edge and a shallow incised line extending from it to the centre hole. There is a smaller suspension hole near the edge of the specimen on the side opposite to the indentation. It measures $1\frac{7}{8}$ inches by 2 inches.

9. Pendant I is another fairly large specimen and is roughly banana shaped with a suspension hole at the pointed part of each end. One of the holes was drilled too close to the edge and part of the hole has worn away. This one measures $1\frac{1}{8}$ inches in width by $3\frac{7}{8}$ inches in length.

10. Pendant J is a slightly irregular square in shape with a fairly large suspension hole in the centre near one edge. It measures $1\frac{5}{8}$ inches by $1\frac{7}{8}$ inches.

11. Pendant K is sort of triangular in outline with a bulge or hump near its base. Suspension was by a notched projection at the apex of the triangle. It is $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide by 3 inches long.

12. Pendant L is another irregular, nearly square piece. A small suspension hole is located off centre near one edge. It measures $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches by $1\frac{7}{8}$ inches in size.
13. Pendant M is an oblong or oval piece with one suspension hole at the narrowest end and two holes at the wider end. This specimen is 1 inch wide and $2\frac{3}{8}$ inches long.
14. Pendant N is in the shape of a crescent gorget with a suspension hole at the narrow part of each end. One end also has a slight notching for suspension as well. It measures 1 inch at its widest part by $2\frac{3}{8}$ inches in length.
15. Pendant O is somewhat oval shaped with a notched projection at one end for suspension. This piece measures $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches in width by $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches in length.
16. Pendant P is somewhat triangular shaped with 3 suspension holes, one at each apex. This one measures $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches at its widest part and $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length.

All the pendants have smooth, rounded edges and show signs of wearing.

FOR MANY REASONS, which you would never believe, Arch-Notes has been put together in a big flap at the last minute (as usual). If it looks a little funny, that is because there were four typewriters doing different sections. Therefore, there are a couple of blank page bottoms. You can use them for autographs.

In most cases, we decided to mail Arch-Notes separately from the publications. If you get one without the other, don't panic. The publications are honestly in the mail to you. Thanks for waiting as long as you have. At least you have some summer reading in Ontario Archaeology. And when you run out again, don't forget our O.A.S. Library.

Please don't hesitate to send Arch-Notes any little anecdotes of summer adventures in Archaeology.

Anyway... if anybody wants anything else, just phone.

ARCH-NOTES

Ross Strain

800 Kennedy Rd., Apt. 312

Scarborough 703

Ontario

Canada

telephone 751-9730.