



# ARCH NOTES

Monthly Newsletter of

The Ontario Archaeological Society (Inc.)

No. 69 - 6

EXECUTIVE

June, 1969

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

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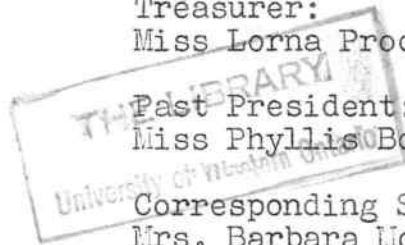
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**Past President:**

Miss Phyllis Bowland

**Corresponding Secretary:**

Mrs. Barbara McDonald  
2547 Jarvis Street  
Mississauga, Ontario.



THE NEXT MEETING

of the Ontario Archaeological Society will be held at the home of our president, Dr. Dean Axelson.

**PLACE:** 237 Lord Seaton Rd., Willowdale, Ontario.

**TIME:** Friday evening, June 20th, 1969, from 7:30 p.m. till all hours.

Our last meeting until we reconvene in the fall after a summer of digging, this month's meeting will be an informal gathering and Bar-b-Q to round out the closing season. This is our annual bash to eat, drink and be merry, to discuss our digs and projects, and to become better acquainted with our fellow members.

There will be hamburgers, hotdogs, salads, etc., with coffee, tea, and soft drinks--if you have any other hangups, you bring your own bottle. And, of course, we all have our hangups. Rather than dip into O.A.S. funds, we are asking for \$1.00 per head, to cover costs (of the food, not the heads). Friends and guests of members are welcome as always. It would help, however, if you were to bring some lawn chairs.

If you were not at the last meeting and have not indicated that you will be attending on June 20th, please inform Dean as soon as possible that you will be coming and how many people you are bringing.

If transportation is your problem and you can't con a ride from some other member, here is the solution: take the subway to Eglinton-Yonge station--then take the Yonge Street bus north on Yonge Street to the Glen Echo bus loop at the city limits--Then telephone Dean's place from there. Dean Axelson's phone number is 223-5685.

LAST MONTH

at our May meeting, the speaker was Mr. Bill Donaldson of the Ontario Archaeological Society. He spoke on Archaeology East of the Rouge and illustrated this with maps and coloured slides. Mr. Donaldson said that very little work has been done by way of Archaeological reporting in this area in the past. Therefore, he has taken it upon himself to head an investigation by the O.A.S. in making an Archaeological survey of the southern townships of Ontario and Durham counties. Mr. Donaldson drew upon geological records, historical data, and published archaeological

site reports of the past, to provide background information for this survey. In addition to this, O.A.S. work has added seven new sites to the area's score. Thus the previously reported number of sites has doubled. Mr. Donaldson expects it to increase even more with further O.A.S. work.

Mr. Donaldson also gave a progress report on O.A.S. excavation and analysis of the Short and MacLeod Sites. The Short site is located at the mouth of the Soper and Barber's Creeks near the town of Bowmanville in Darlington township. The O.A.S. first started excavating here in the spring of 1961. Our efforts were renewed in the spring of 1967 when Mr. Wayne Purdy reported that the site was in imminent danger from the bulldozers. Mr. Purdy, who lives fairly near the site, has spent a lot of time and energy in excavating there. This is a multi-component site. The earliest remnants are those of the Middle Woodland period. Late artifacts represent the Black Creek-Lalonde or the early Late-Prehistoric stage of development. We were shown slides of excavation in progress as well as slides of artifacts recovered--netsinkers, potsherds, cache blades and knives, and points from very late archaic to late Iroquoian, although the bulk of the points recovered all fit into the Middle Woodland period.

The MacLeod site, discovered by Mr. Jim McRae while obtaining topsoil for his garden, lies within the city limits of Oshawa. It was investigated in the spring of 1968, when thirty-three five-foot squares were excavated by the O.A.S. During the excavation, public interest in this work was almost overwhelming, and a great deal of manpower was required to handle the hundreds of people who came to see the work in progress.

A number of pits and post molds were uncovered during the excavation, but no definite pattern was revealed. The material recovered was all of the same Black Creek-Lalonde stage of Iroquoian development previously reported on the Short site, but of a somewhat earlier date. There was a much higher incidence of interior rim punctation and incising on the pottery vessels, and a surprisingly large number of sherds revealed coil breaks. The bulk of the pipes were of the plain trumpet and ringed variety. All vessel castellations examined so far are of the classic pointed type. Mr. Donaldson said that he felt that the material from this site produced more questions than it did answers on the prehistory of the area, and expressed the opinion that further work on this site would be justified.

Mr. Donaldson showed slides of diggers in action on this site, of lab work at his home this past winter, and of pottery, pipes and other artifacts recovered.

This talk was of particular interest to members of the O.A.S. since it dealt directly with the Society's contributions to Archaeology and some of the Society's plans for the future.

#### Executive News:

The O.A.S. is purchasing a new printing machine. Our membership is getting too large to make our old methods of printing Arch-Notes practical.

You will also be overjoyed to hear that this is the very last issue of Arch-Notes to be typed on our horrible old typewriter that skips.

Otherwise, the executive has done boo-all, lately.

#### News of Members:

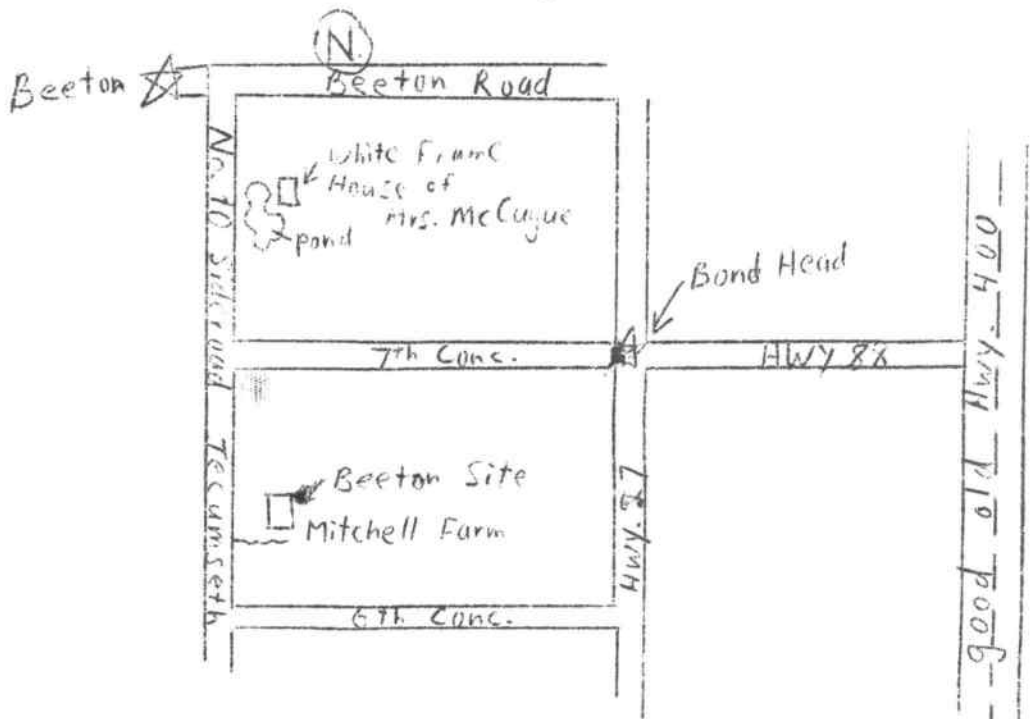
Our members however have been terrific this month.

On behalf of the O.A.S., Arch-Notes would like to thank Mr. Pat Hartney of the University of Toronto, for his osteology course that he gave to members of the Society this past winter. Pat taught this course, in human osteology, on the first and third Tuesday of every month, until May.

Relax, friends, we've found Lorna Foreman.

Remember that darn fence at our Beeton Site? The problem has been overcome. Mr. John Relyea of Toronto has very kindly offered to give us a stile. Now the air won't be blue when we're trying to get Dean's great big digging box over the fence. Seriously, this fence has always been an almost insurmountable obstacle for some of our older members. Now they can come and dig with us with ease, or at least have a picnic with us. Many thanks to Mr. Relyea.

One of our members, Mrs. Eleanor McCague, lives just up the road from the Beeton site. In fact she is the one who put us onto the site. Luckily for us, she was present at our May meeting when we were discussing our spring dig. Mrs. McCague said that any O.A.S. members who wanted to camp overnight on a weekend dig could set up their tents on her property. Her address is Box 147, Beeton, Ont. Her phone number is 416-729-2479. Below is a map showing the Beeton site and Mrs. McCague's residence.



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We have a further report from Dr. C.S. Churcher, regarding his work in Alberta. Dr. Churcher is a research associate with the Royal Ontario Museum. He has been working with the Geological Survey of Canada on Pleistocene deposits in Alberta and Saskatchewan. During the examination of sediments, near Medicine Hat in Alberta, possible human artifacts were discovered among broken mammal bones. In the sand deposits above the artifact-bearing levels, wood remains were found which have been tentatively dated at more than 30,000 years.

Near Taber, Alberta, wood has been recovered from the same geological stratum which produced a human child's skull some years ago. This wood also dates at greater than 30,000 years. "Enriched" radio carbon dating is being attempted on this wood in hope of getting a finite date.

These dates are still tentative. However, if they are made official, this could be the earliest dating of a human site in the New World.

These new members have joined the ranks of the O.A.S.--

Mr. Peter Smith--207 Queens Quay W., Toronto 117 -- 363-2186.

Miss Pat Leonard--171 Ellington Dr., Scarborough 733, Ontario  
757-2927.  
Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Carlyle--Box 703, Lambeth, Ont. 471-1369  
Mr. Brian Craik -- 9 San Diego Court, Hamilton, Ont.

#### Just Plain News:

In the March issue of Arch-Notes (page 3) we quoted from the Interamerican regarding digging in England, and subscribing to the calendar of the council for British Archaeology. The price quoted was 7/6 or 90¢ American. This price has been changed, apparently, to 10/0 or \$1.75 Yank, per year. As one of our members has discovered, they will not send an issue of their calendar until they are paid in full. We apologize if this misinformation has inconvenienced anybody.

We have more news from Mr. Bas Mason of Sainte Marie Among the Hurons. All around Sainte-Marie, and for a considerable distance back from the Wye River, and along the river, The Wye Valley wildlife preserve of the Canadian Wild Life Service is scheduled to open July 1st, 1969. This is primarily to serve educational students of the plant and animal wild life of the eastern hardwood forest region, although it is to be a provincial wild life preserve and is to be open to the public. This place is a bird-watcher's paradise. The preserve is also well known for its wild orchids. It has a greater variety of wild orchids than anywhere else in North America. We mention this out of general interest, and also because of the preserve's proximity to Sainte-Marie. As many of our members and their friends interested in Archaeology and Canada's history will be visiting the fort this summer, we suggest a tour of this new wildlife preserve.

The Bruce Trail is a hiking trail which leads hikers 450 miles along the Niagara Escarpment from the fruit lands of the Niagara Peninsula, through our beautiful Ontario-ari-ari-o, to the tip of the Bruce Peninsula. Combined with canoe routes in Algonquin, this hiking trail will let you experience, first-hand, travel Indian style. The more experience you have in Indian life, the more you will be able to interpret your artifacts that you dig up. And if you can't interpret and analyze your material finds and relate them to PEOPLE who lived four or five hundred years ago, you are nothing but a "pot-hunter".

Meanwhile, the Trail idea is being extended. The Ganaraska Trail Association and the Bruce Trail Association are co-ordinating to open a trail running from Port Hope to the Bruce Trail. Generally speaking, the trail will follow the route of the old Midland Railway from Port Hope northwards to the general Orillia and Lake Couchiching area; to Warminster (we're not sure about that point); north around Washago; back through Coldwater along a well-established Indian trail; then over to Saint-Ignace II, where Brebeuf and Lalemant were martyred; along the old missionary trail through St. Louis to Sainte-Marie; from Sainte-Marie to Collingwood where it will tie in with the Bruce Trail.

Don't forget the "Off" and the "Bactine".

Quite a few months ago, there were newspaper reports of man-made structures, in the shallow water off the Bahaman islands of Andros and Bimini, apparently the ruins of a city, with elaborate stone edifices and a paved road. In Allen Spraggett's column of the Toronto Daily Star of April 3rd, 1969, there was a further report on this underwater site discovered by Pino Turolla of Miami and Dr. Manson Valentine of Miami's Museum of

Science and Natural History.

Discovered so far, are at least six buildings, each about 100 feet by 60 feet. Aerial photographs also show huge circular shapes in deeper water. These could be artificial structures just as a perfectly rectangular basin on Andros could be an ancient artificial harbour. There is also a road, paved with heavy stone slabs running from Andros into the water. This road has been traced underwater for several miles to the edge of a drop-off 150 feet deep. Large stone monoliths have also been photographed which are arranged in parallel rows for miles under the ocean.

Dr. Valentine says that these remains are definitely pre-Columbian, perhaps more than 12,000 years old, and could be the first tangible evidence of the ancient civilization of Atlantis, the legendary lost continent that covered much of the Atlantic Ocean.

This is one of the Archaeological sites that will be especially fascinating to watch develop. Almost as exciting as our Beeton Site, eh?

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There. That's the last Arch-Notes edition until September.

The following pages are from our librarian, Mr. Garrad.

If you change your address, please tell us.

Everybody come to our party at Dean's place.

I won't be there.

I'm off to Newfie to see how the Beothuks are doing

I'm trying to fill up this page.

Oh, the hell with it...

Good bye.

ARCH-NOTES

Ross Strain  
800 Kennedy Rd. Apt. 312  
Scarborough, 703,  
Ontario.

P.S. I forgot about our Beeton diggers. This is all the news we have on them at the moment--Although a few members came a great distance to dig the turnout was generally poor. Mr. and Mrs. Goltz and a friend came all the way from Espanola, and the Nixon brothers came all the way from Ayr. On Saturday there were only about 15 people there, and even less on Sunday. The same old faithfuls were there as usual. Lets have a few more souls out there next time.

## THE CLUES CLOSET

by R. Dean Axelson, D. V. M.

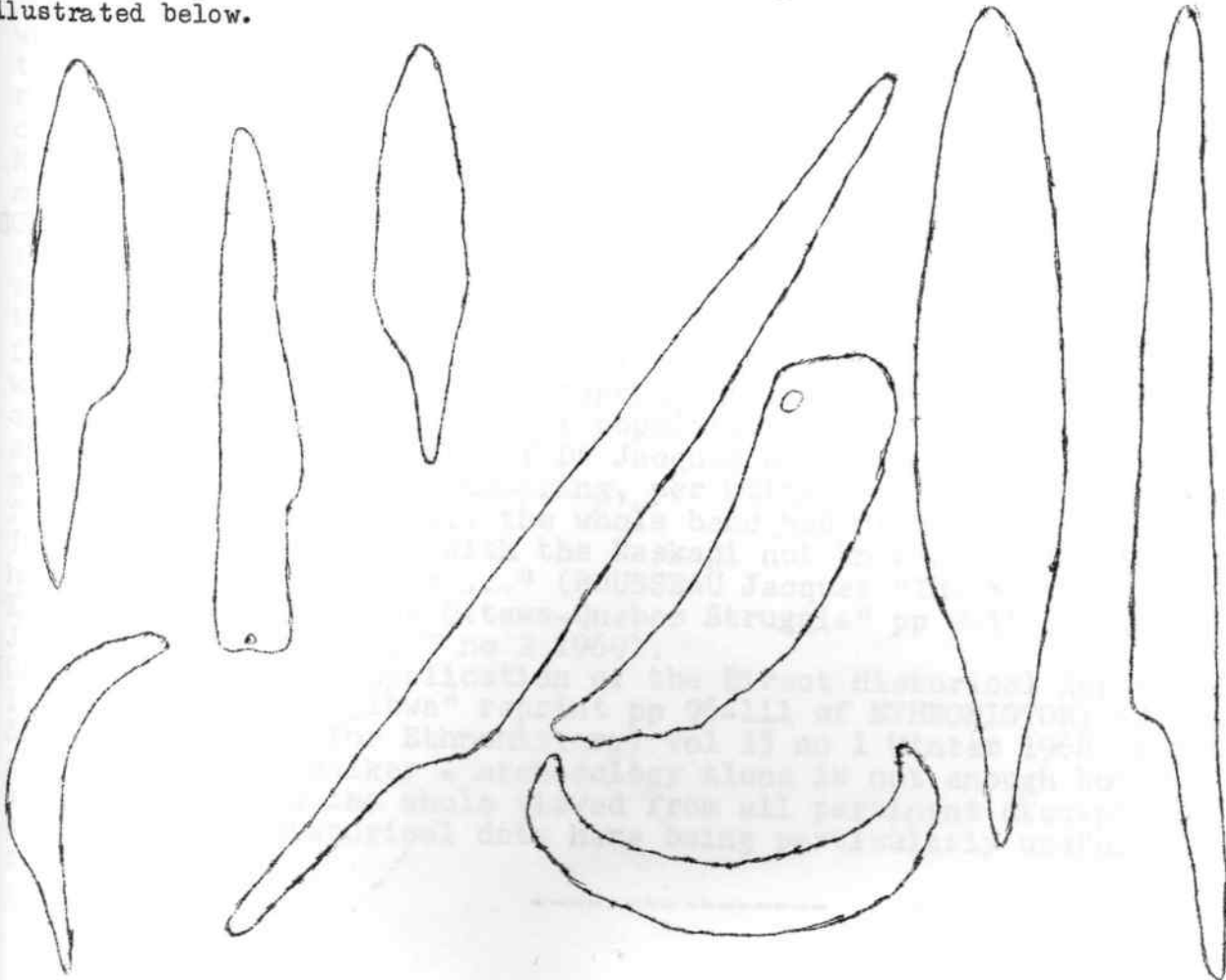
### NATIVE COPPER ARTIFACTS

Artifacts made from native copper were used by the Indians in Ontario from the period of the Old Copper Culture, which dates approximately between 5,000 B. C. to about 500 B. C., down to and including the people of the Early Woodland Period, which dates approximately 500 B. C. to 100 B. C. This raw material was used to a much lesser extent by the Early Woodland people than by the Old Copper Culture people. Native copper tools have been found over most parts of Ontario but are most common in the northern regions especially from Sault Ste. Marie to the head of Lake Superior. Some of this copper may have streaks of native silver in it.

Native copper was mined by the Indians by digging out large nuggets or slabs of raw copper from the rock. This was hammered into shape with the use of hammerstones. They heated it a bit to make it more malleable, (annealing). Most of the copper mines were in the Lake Superior basin mostly in the upper peninsula of Michigan. There were many mines along the Ontario shore of Lake Superior and there were thousands of prehistoric mining pits on the Keweenaw Peninsula and Isle Royale in Upper Michigan. Over the next few issues of Arch-Notes I will discuss some of the various artifacts made from native copper. The first of the series will be on knives.

### NATIVE COPPER KNIVES

Several types and sizes of knives have been found. Some have socketed tangs some have flat tangs, and some have round tangs for the attachment of the handle. These knives vary from a few inches to over a foot in length. Some of the knife shapes are illustrated below.



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

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- ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY "Stones & Bones Newsletter" May 1969
- ALBERTA, Archaeological Society of "Newsletter" no 20 Spring 1969
- AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY "Natural History" May 1969
- ANTHROPOLOGICAL JOURNAL OF CANADA "Quarterly Bulletin"(Anthropological Journal) vol 7 no 2 1969
- AXELSON R.D. 1969 "Shell Pendants from Rice Lake, Ontario" excerpt from ARCH-NOTES, Monthly Newsletter of the Ontario Archaeological Society, 69-5, May 1969
- ONTARIO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY "Ontario Archaeology" no 11 June 1968
- ONTARIO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY "Ontario Archaeology" no 12, 1969
- ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM "Archaeological Newsletter" 47 April 1969 containing "Sharing the Conservation Load" by Bernard Leech, Curator.
- ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM "Archaeological Newsletter" 48 May 1969 containing "The Sixth Season at Altun Ha" by David Pendergast.
- SCHABER G.G. & GUMERMAN G.J. 1969 "Infra-red Scanning Images: An Archaeological Application", pp 712-3 SCIENCE vol 164, 9th May 1969 (donated by Dr D.B. Shutt).
- VIRGINIA, Archaeological Society of, "Quarterly Bulletin" vol 23 no 3 March 1969 (contains site reports, archaic and historic, and a major paper on clay tobacco pipes.
- VIRGINIA, Archaeological Society of, "Newsletter" 27 April 1969 (membership list)
- WALKER I.C. 1968 "Comments on Clyde Dollar's 'Some Thoughts on Theory and Method in Historical Archaeology'" a reprint from The Conference on Historic Site Archaeology Papers 1967 vol 2 part 2 September 1968. Donated by author. (Discussion of problems and ethics of archaeological work, emphasising that interpretation is more important than excavational technique, that the site should be dug as if the end-intention is to re-create it. Among several actual instances mentioned in illustration of various points, the varying interpretations of the waterway at Ste. Marie I are discussed, and the work of Kidd, Jury, Ridley and Heidenreich mentioned. (Whoops, also Father Russell). (Sorry about that, Bill).
- WISCONSIN INDIANS RESEARCH INSTITUTE "Journal" vol 111 no 2 December 1967. (Includes a paper of "The Indians of Canada" reprinted from the Canada Year Book 1966, a work which somehow is contrived to give the impression that our Indians lead a Utopian existence, showered with care and affection from the Federal Government, recipients of boundless benevolence. It would be of interest to hear representative Indian opinion of this document. The neat tables of population statistics should be considered along with the experience of Dr Jacques Rousseau, who in 1947 expected to meet a band of Naskapi numbering, per Ottawa statistics, 30 to 50. He found .."only burials ... the whole band had disappeared, unnoticed by the Indian Affairs Branch, with the Naskapi not knowing that Ottawa should have taken care of them ..." (ROUSSEAU Jacques "The Northern Quebec Eskimo Problem and the Ottawa-Quebec Struggle" pp 2-15 ANTHROPOLOGICAL JOURNAL OF CANADA vol 7 no 2 1969).
- WRIGHT J.V. 1968 "The Application of the Direct Historical Approach to the Iroquois and the Ojibwa" reprint pp 96-111 of ETHNOHISTORY (journal of the American Society for Ethnohistory) vol 15 no 1 Winter 1968 (Makes a point similar to Iain Walker - archaeology alone is not enough but must be supplemented and the whole viewed from all pertinent disciplines and sources, ethnohistorical data here being particularly useful). Donated by author.
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