



# ARCH NOTES

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Newsletter of

**The Ontario Archaeological Society (Inc.)**

IN MEMORIUM  
DAVE ROBERTS 1924-1979

On Saturday evening, April 28, Dave died unexpectedly of a heart attack. Dave was born in Toronto of Welsh parents and grew up in the Riverdale district of Toronto with his two brothers and one sister. He was a student at Danforth Tech and Riverdale Collegiate and then studied drafting at Ryerson.

During the war Dave served with the RCAF, joining at the age of eighteen. Following the war, Dave attended the Ontario College of Art, studying sculpture under Emmanuel Hahn, in 1952. Dave was accepted as a student of the famous sculptor Henry Moore in England. However, a few weeks before he was to leave Canada, Dave met Georgina who was then and still is a cellist with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. They married within a month of their first meeting. Instead of traveling to Britain, Dave took a job as an industrial designer with OSF Industries in Brampton and worked there until 1977 when the company folded.

Dave's work involved travel in the Caribbean and during these trips he located several archaeological sites from which he surface collected pottery and shell artifacts. This was the beginning of his interest in prehistory. Dave's first opportunity to take part in field work was under the British archaeologist Kathleen Kenyon who was excavating a site located on property belonging to Dave's family in Wales. Dave happened to be visiting the area on family business and worked on the excavation for two weeks.

During these years, Dave and Georgina had two children, Edward now 21 and Christopher, 17.

In addition to prehistory, Dave had a wide range of interests. As an example, Dave recreated an authentic Japanese garden complete with waterfall, adjoining pools, goldfish and a bridge in his backyard.

In 1974, Dave joined the OAS and that August took part in the OAS excavations at the Kelly-Campbell site, near Collingwood. The following three years, Dave was one of my crew members at the Uxbridge ossuary and skillfully applied his artistic and drafting talents to recording the important aspects of this site. I found his assistance invaluable. Dave also had a keen interest in aboriginal ground stone tools and by experimenting with various techniques had reproduced a variety of stone tools. Dave has presented papers on this work at the OAS symposium in 1976 and at the 1978 meetings in Quebec City.

Two roads diverged in a wood, and he  
Took the one less traveled by,  
And that has made all the difference ... Robert Frost

Patsy Cook

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IN MEMORIAM

JOHN ("Jay") ALLAN BLAIR

Possibly the Society's oldest member, "Jay" Blair passed from this world on April 9th, 1979, in his 90th year. Son of a pioneer family, he was early interested in all things historical and archaeological, especially in the Petun area surrounding his native Duntroon. He began collecting artifacts during the first World War, and at various times donated his collections to the Royal Ontario Museum (see AARO #35:100-4, 118-20; #36:67) only to find more. Mostly he was interested in the Petuns as people and the location of their villages. He wrote about his interest extensively, but these writings appeared in local newspapers, so are little known away from the Collingwood area.

In 1967 he produced a Centennial booklet for the local municipality, for which he was awarded a Canada Centennial Medal.

An early member of the Collingwood Writers' Club, the Collingwood & District Historical Society, he was given honorary membership in the Simcoe County Historical Association, and, in 1974, in the Ontario Archaeological Society.

As the Petun area's most knowledgeable person, his advice was sought by many researchers and writers and thus he had friends in many diverse fields. These included Father Francis X. Talbot during his writing of "Saint Among the Urons, the Life of Jean de Brebeuf", and Father (now Monseignor) Florian Lariviere who published the "Life of Saint Charles Garnier". He excavated with and for Dr. Wilfrid Jury, by whom, he was nicknamed, so rumour has it, "The Laird of Duntroon".

As Jay outlived all his former school chums, contemporaries and potential heirs, especially the group of local intellectuals with whom he was responsible for getting the University of Toronto to excavate the McMurchy Site in 1953, his tremendous knowledge of the Petun area came near to being lost. Fortunately, there emerged a number of people who, as his "disciples", now carry on the Petun area work which was his main interest and contribution.

Chas. Garrad

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O.A.S. MEXICO TRIP

At the latest count, 19 people have registered for this trip, and it will be a congenial group who anticipate sharing this adventure.

Those enrolled will shortly be hearing from the Travel Agent and the O.A.S. Administrator to ensure that the balance of the cost is paid on time. Anyone who has not yet made their booking should contact the O.A.S. Administrator (see back page) or call him at (416) 223-2752.

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BOOK REVIEW - JOHN G. ROBERTSON

THE METHODIST POINT SITE

by Sheryl A. Smith

This book deals with the excavation in 1975 of the Methodist Point Site located in Awenda Provincial Park in the Penetang Peninsula.

The site is quite unusual in that two time periods are involved in its use, 1. Early Ontario Iroquois of about A.D. 1150-1250 and 2. Middle Ontario Iroquois of about A.D. 1340-1360 and it has been interpreted as a seasonally occupied camp with a minimum of four discrete activity areas.

The author has obviously done a great deal of research into the archaeological background and references from other reports and sites are liberally quoted to give the reader some knowledge of what has been done before and the knowledge gained about the early and middle Ontario Iroquois.

The climate of the area is described from 10,000 B.C. to modern times and vegetation types are indicated for the eight zones involved in this period.

The excavation itself is described in detail and I especially like the idea of checkerboard squares - in sandy soil baulks tend to crumble - and this method obviates the necessity of such baulks. Maybe other excavators should consider this approach.

Detailed excavation results are also given and it must have been disappointing for the excavators to find only fifty-four rims out of 2,727 sherds; an incredibly low proportion.

I found Sheryl Smith's book readable and informative and it is encouraging to note that this site was only excavated three summers ago. Publishing a report does not have to take forever, even when as in this case a great deal of work was done after the actual dig was completed.

One final word about the Ministry of Culture and Recreation. This is book number eleven in the Archaeological Research Report Series and I like the concept of such a series whereby amateurs such as myself can get professional information;

Copies are available from: Publications Centre,  
Ontario Ministry of Government Services,  
5th Floor, 880 Bay Street,  
Toronto, Ontario,  
M7A 1N8.

OR

Ontario Government Bookstore,  
880 Bay Street at Grosvenor Street,  
Toronto, Ontario,  
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Price: \$3.00 Cheques or money orders payable to: Treasurer of Ontario

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O.A.S. GENERAL MEETINGS - February, March, April, & May

Reported by Janet C. Cooper

Wednesday, February 21, 1979 - Dave Johnson

Dave Johnson of the Department of Anthropology at the University of Toronto presented an illustrated slide lecture which provided a re-examination and summary of the excavating at the McKenzie (Woodbridge) site and of its place in the Late Ontario Iroquois Tradition. This talk was essentially that which he had given at the annual meeting of the Eastern States Archaeological Federation last November.

The McKenzie site is one of a series of Late Ontario Iroquois Tradition sites located in and around Metropolitan Toronto, on the Humber River drainage system. There is evidence of only one occupation and this is assignable to the Southern Division of the Huron-Petun Branch of that tradition. It has been placed (Wright 1966) with those sites leading to the historic Petun, primarily on the basis of the high percentage of one ceramic type, Sidey Notched.

The site's date can now be narrowed down to about 1520 A.S. (+ or - 10 or 15 years). Situated on the edge of a bluff or terrace some 80 feet above the flood plain on the famous "Toronto Carrying Place" or portage trail from Lake Ontario to Lake Simcoe, it once covered nearly 9 acres of land and lies on well-drained, light soil typical of those chosen by Huron groups.

Excavations in 1947 and again in 1949, conducted by Norman Emerson, revealed the presence of a possible 17 houses and a palisade around three sides of the site; the portions of the site where these excavations took place were destroyed in the 1950's by a housing development.

In early 1974, Dr. Emerson was informed by a local amateur of a threat to the remainder of the site by an additional development. Consequently, six U. of T. archaeological field schools were directed to salvage operations. During the course of these, 23 typical Iroquoian longhouses were delineated and a discontinuity in the pattern of structure alignment was revealed. The palisade which surrounded the site was noted to be the most dense on the most secure (northern exposure) edge of the site and this unusual feature suggests that perhaps it had a secondary (or even primary) function as a screen against prevailing northwest winds. Several midden areas were delineated. Four of these may be portions of a large, nearly continuous midden; the preservation was excellent here and recoveries included the rim portion of an uncharred birch bark container as well as the only piece of trade material (a scrap of brass) encountered in the recent excavations. A small but rich interior midden which was very much disturbed yielded much interesting material, including the only corn cob fragments recovered at the site.

Interpretation of the discontinuity observed in house orientation was discussed and several possible reasons for this were put forward. Perhaps the village inhabitants felt that orienting the houses (Nos. 3,4 and 5) at the east end of the site at 90 degrees to the others was the best utilization of available space; or perhaps these particular houses were erected after the initial construction when expansion was required due to additional

population. There is, however, no archaeological evidence to indicate area expansion and the orientation does not fit the available space any better than orientation parallel to existing houses would have. It is also improbable that a palisade would have been built originally around unoccupied space, as the construction requires effort which it is unlikely would have been expended at the time. In addition, the relationship of these houses indicates contemporaneity with all the others. It is therefore reasonable to presume that the village included these "deviant" houses from the start.

If the shift in house orientation had a "social" significance (such as an alien group occupancy) we should expect the settlement discontinuity to be reflected in other ways. Indeed, the houses themselves suggest differences beyond those of orientation: house 3 is shorter, features a wall trench and storage pits of a bell-shaped configuration; house 5 is also shorter, with widely spaced single post wall construction and an apparent paucity of interior features. House 4, though somewhat more typical, contained the same bell-shaped feature and a bathtub-shaped one as well.

The distribution of ceramic "types" suggests that the comparative absence of "types" bearing horizontal motifs in the recent (eastern end) sample is perhaps significant. An attribute code is under development which, it is hoped, will be sensitive to intrasite variability operative on a social (lineage) or corporate group level. Notable in the ceramic assemblage are a series of vessels assigned to a "St. Lawrence Iroquois" provenience; in a general sense, these vessels conform to the St. Lawrence typology, but Pendergast felt that some of these were copies or "sloppy" imitations of St. Lawrence pots. Rims from 20 "good" and 20 "typical" Huron vessels are currently undergoing trace element analysis to determine their clay source in hopes of answering the old "Is it pots or people?" conundrum. The preliminary results suggest local manufacture for these St. Lawrence vessels, and not trade as their origin, according to Bruce Trigger.

The prolific chipped stone assemblage is most unusual in its quantity and variety for Southern Division proto-historic sites of the Huron-Petun Branch.

As concerns other sites of more or less equivalent age in the area, it seems that both Boyd and Seed-Barker are somewhat "alien" to the local sequence, perhaps, according to Ramsden (1977), being Neutral. Direct contact is hypothesized between the Boyd site people and the McKenzie people. In any event, contact is apparent between these groups and it is suggested that some of them were resident at the McKenzie site.

The very real possibility that two "different" groups lived at McKenzie at the same time is suggested and it is further advanced that this "mix" of typical Southern Division people with a "foreign" influence is what led (at least in part) to the development and definition of the Historic Petun as being distinct from the Huron.

Dave Johnson hopes to develop a "fission-fusion" model for Iroquoian development in Ontario, based on the hypothesis that settlements were not, and did not act as, homogeneous units. He feels that many sub-units, perhaps operative along clan, lineage or corporate/economic group level existed. Changes operating at this corporate group level cannot be accurately detected through traditional typological approaches to ceramic analysis. The detection of a discontinuous distribution of specific

attributes and clusters of attributes at one site where both numerical and distributive samples are adequate, and the presence of these phenomena at other sites, should begin to allow the following of the movements of lineage or corporate groups through time and space. It should also allow an accurate assessment of the presence of "foreign" groups at a given site or within a specific sequence. To this end, research oriented to testing the feasibility of such an approach and the use of the McKenzie site as a "keystone" will be pursued to refine the sequence and inter-relationships of area sites. In addition an examination of the origins and growing separation and segregation of the peoples who ultimately became the Huron or Petun of the 1600s will be made.

It would appear that the origin and definition of the Petun is complicated and multi-faceted. It is suggested that a key to Petun origins is to be found in the Humber Valley sequences with the arrival and/or influence (perhaps from as far away as northwestern Pennsylvania and northern Ohio) of elements formerly not considered relevant to the later developments of the Huron-Petun Brand of the Late Ontario Iroquois Tradition.

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Wednesday, March 21 - Dr. Peter Ramsden

Dr. Peter Ramsden of the Department of Anthropology at McMaster University gave an illustrated lecture on his work in the Upper Trent Valley where, since 1976, he has been investigating late prehistoric and early historic Iroquois people of the area. The special focus of the project has been the European fur trade, which had begun to affect the Trent River people by about 1530 A.D.

Survey work was first carried out to provide an inventory of Iroquoian village and camp sites, in order to record a range of such sites of the period and to excavate certain key sites that would illuminate various critical events of the late prehistoric and historic periods.

It would certainly appear that by 1500 A.D. the St. Lawrence Iroquois had established trade contacts down the St. Lawrence River through eastern Ontario to sites identified as Huron on the northern shore of Lake Ontario (e.g. Draper, Payne, Parsons). This situation was short-lived and changed drastically very soon, probably due to the depletion of the beaver resources but also perhaps because of a certain amount of pressure and animosity exerted by the New York Iroquois to the south of the lake. A generation later (ca. 1525 A.D.), the focus was shifted northwards and the axis of trade moved up the Trent Valley across Lake Simcoe to what was to become classic Huronia; here, at sites such as Sidey-Mackay, a beaver pelt industry was developed. With this northward movement of trade patterns, Iroquois living along Lake Ontario's north shore moved up into the Trent Valley to occupy an area which had been occupied by another Iroquois group for about a century. What interactions took place when these similar groups integrated in the Trent Valley? This is the question Dr. Ramsden's research has been attempting to answer.

The earliest known site in the Trent Valley region is the Jameson site which George Laidlaw reported as having an earthwork around it. The existence of this site and of the earthwork was known to the present-day people of the areas as well; but when Dr. Ramsden arrived in 1976, he was told that the site was now in bush and it was judged that he would never

find it. Indeed, a search that year failed to uncover the site and it was not until the 1978 season (when it was learned that the landowner had removed about an acre of topsoil for his garden with a bulldozer in 1977) that the site was finally located - just where the bulldozing activity had taken place. Fortunately, enough of the site remained for Dr. Ramsden and his crew to establish settlement patterns; they found four longhouses, some middens and the earthwork. The houses and earthwork were mapped and a decent artifact sample obtained. Jameson appears, on the basis of ceramic attributes, to be the earliest (ca. 1450 A.D.) site in the entire Upper Trent Valley and it is interesting to note that it is associated with fairly major defensive works. Some of the typical artifacts encountered in this 15th century occupation of the region include collared ceramic vessels with horizontal decoration on the collar and fairly elaborate decoration along the neck; particularly characteristic is the open or blank triangle outlined with punctates and with vertical lines interspersed. Another ceramic attribute typical of this early occupation is punctates immediately below the collar. Punctates around the inside of the rim are also characteristic; this is an attribute which tends to decrease with time everywhere and approximately 90% of the vessels at the Jameson site displayed these interior punctates.

Just southwest of Balsam Lake is the Kirsh site, dated to approximately 1550 A.D. About six acres in extent, it is a very interesting site in that there were houses erected everywhere on it, in every conceivable direction and often overlapping; many of the houses had been taken down and built again at right angles to their previous orientation. Most amazing of all, about 20 of the village's houses had been surrounded by a palisade to the west and contained artifacts different from those discovered inside the palisade. Distinctive pottery at the site included vessels with huge notches at the base of the collar, small notches at the base of the collar, small notches along the top of the rim and circular punctates - all of which is very distinctive of St. Lawrence pottery centred around the region stretching from Kingston to Montreal. They appear on the Kirsh site only in the eight houses outside the palisade, where they account for some 20% of the ceramic assemblage. Inside the palisade only three or four such sherds were recovered. European trade material was also found, and this too was concentrated outside the palisade.

Almost contemporaneous with the Kirsh site is the Coulter site. It occurs along the top of an elongated drumlin and occupies some ten or eleven acres. On the basis of ceramics and European material it probably dates to somewhere in the middle of the 16th century. Noteworthy is the site's distance from any source of water; the closest water is a spring and stream some half mile distant. Vessels are typically low collar with short necks, underdecorated but with shoulder decoration occurring in some cases. Human bone was discovered scattered in middens across the site and there is no reason to doubt that cannibalism associated with warfare was practised: the palisade is a heavy one and it would also appear from the various analyses carried out that the population was far from being homogeneous. Populations were apparently arriving from a number of different areas and, in fact, some seven major village expansions have been delineated.

The Benson site, first excavated by Norman Emerson in 1952, contains approximately twentyfive houses and dates roughly to the end of the 16th century. It is probably one of the latest sites in the area and contains



trade goods that include iron artifacts. The village was palisaded, with large posts often approaching a foot in diameter. Typical Benson ceramic vessels are low collar with horizontal bars on the neck. Other recoveries include mortice pipes, a style which is the most frequent one at the site. Some 400 of the so-called gaming discs were found and these were manufactured from ceramic or stone; their number probably represents the highest frequency of such artifacts found on any site to date. European trade materials found include brass beads and pieces of iron. Two pit burials were found within one of the houses, one of which burials was of a child. An interesting find was a bone bead with a human face carved on each side, and this showed evidence of exposure to heat. It would appear from the faunal sample recovered that beaver was either first or second in importance, this being based on lower incisors which constituted some 90% of the beaver elements present.

With this chronological review of the sites investigated in the course of his project in the Trent Valley, Dr. Ramsden concluded by noting that the evidence accumulated from the excavations to date supports the new focus of trade through the Trent Valley around 1525 to 1530. It also suggests that this shift was apparently achieved without the total elimination of the rival indigenous people, although the new situations created were certainly not without incident.

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#### Wednesday, April 18 - Dr. William Irving

Bill Irving, who is Director of the Northern Yukon Research Program, provided us with a comprehensive overview of the origins, operations, scope and achievements of the programme to date and augmented his presentation with a number of excellent slides which illustrated the geography of the area well and allowed us to see some of the participants at work, the various sites which are being investigated and a number of the important material objects recovered.

This multidisciplinary programme began in 1975 with the formation of NYRP, which is concerned with the biogeography and culture of the unglaciated part of the territory, and especially the part of it near Old Crow in the Yukon - a field study area of some 3,200 square miles. The time span under study extends from the end of the 19th century back to man's first appearance there more than 30,000 years ago.

Archaeological results of particular interest include the accumulation of evidence for the definitions of a technology for making tools of bone dated to at least 30,000 years ago and heretofore poorly known. Domestic dog has been recognized in probable association with these tools and there is stratigraphic evidence of much greater age for some of the artifacts. About 20,000 vertebrate fossils have so far been collected and these include a wide range of extinct species of Upper Pleistocene age; in some cases, samples are large enough to permit population studies. A human mandible (as yet undated, but probably of Pleistocene age because of its resemblance to radiocarbon dated fossils) is the first fragment of human bone found in northern Canada or Alaska that is more than a few thousand years old. Unfortunately, its dental age of death (11.5 years) makes it difficult to place in terms of racial affiliation.

Studies in progress range from archaeology, geology and palaeontology to botany and analysis of bone mineral with nuclear reactors. It is hoped that a record of environmental change from full-glacial time until the present will result from the synthesis of zoological and botanical studies with results of work in Quaternary geology and geomorphology. Results of some of these studies will be used in doctoral theses and a monograph series is anticipated in addition to papers that will appear in specialist journals. Research now under way will lay the groundwork for further studies in such long-term phenomena as changes in numbers and geographical ranges of animal and plant species - and, of course, humans. In the larger, scholarly context it will sharpen and deepen the picture of cultural and biological evolution during late Quaternary time.

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Wednesday, May 16th - Susan Jamieson

Ms. Jamieson, a Canadian archaeologist who is currently in the Ph.D. program at Washington State, gave a slide-accompanied presentation on the Slack-Cashwell site which excavations - beginning with Fox's test excavation in 1971 - reveal to have been used from at least the Late Archaic. This site is located on the north shore of Lake Erie, near Jarvis and approximately 20 KM north of Port Dover. Fox recovered one bifurcate point in 1979; in 1977 the single longhouse associated with the site was excavated and in 1978 a crew returned to remove and investigate the backfill from the previous year's work. Thousands of cores and flakes have been discovered, the chert of which they are constituted having come from an out-cropping very close by the site. So far, seven prehistoric and two historic components have been found but the major occupation is considered to be late Middleport (ca. 1420 A.D.). The longhouse itself, - which has a central door and central hearths but lacks bench lines - is hypothesized to represent a flintknapping workshop since the quantity of lithics recovered was far in excess of that which would have been required of necessity. It does not appear that the longhouse was occupied for any great length of time since there are no signs of expansion and few of repair and the associated middens were thin.

The flora and fauna do, however, suggest a year-round occupation and the variety of ceremonial and ornamental artifacts found is usual for the late Middleport period proposed. A high proportion of the ceramic sherds show close affinities to the Pound site, but little similarity to pre-Middleport sites. Fired Clay pipes with fine grit temper are present and the shapes include trumpet, cylindrical and collared. There is also a variety of bone, shell and antler artifacts and these include rodent incisors and one turtle shell rattle.

The lithic tools, such as whetstones, sinewstones and anvil stones, tend to have a rather crude overall appearance and indications are that a bipolar industry existed at the site; the knives recovered are time markers for the period. Points are typical of the Middleport type and it has been possible to work out a lithic reduction sequence for the Slack-Cashwell site, from blanks through preforms to the finished point.

It seems to Ms. Jamieson from her examination of the lithics that the knappers on the site had very good control of their materials and she notes that in later times less care was generally taken than that

exhibited here in the late Middleport. To reconstruct the situation at this time from the excavations and the material recovered, Ms. Jamieson notes that the chert outcropping at Slack-Cashwell is but one of four on the Nanticoke drainage system, but that is the only one which we know has a structure associated with it. She suggests the possibility, as mentioned above, that the site was a flintknapping centre to which those with a particular talent for the work were encouraged to come. The pollen profiles from the site indicate that horticulture was practised locally, but she notes that large game animals identified in the faunal sample were represented mostly by their extremities and this leads her to believe that meat (and probably the "good cuts" in particular) were being traded in and exchanged for the flintknappers' products.

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#### INDIAN ART - MAY 19 to JUNE 18, 1979

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#### FESTIVAL OF THE WOODLAND INDIAN - JUNE 30, JULY 1 & 2, 1979

Canadian & U.S. Performers from the Woodland Area

- Native Foods
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The 31st Annual SIX NATIONS INDIAN PAGEANT will be held at the Forest Theatre, Friday & Saturday evenings, August 3,4, 10,11, 17,18 1979 at 8:30 p.m.

Admission: Adults \$3.00, Children \$2.00  
Free Parking - permissible to bring own chairs

The Forest Theatre is in Pageant Grove, on the Sour Springs Road, 2 miles south and 1 mile west of Ohsweken. Follow the paved road through the Six Nations Reserve and look for signs at intersections.

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## A BLACK NECKED VESSEL FROM THE METAL TOAD SITE NEAR SAULT STE. MARIE

by Nick Adams - Field Archaeologist, Sault Ste. Marie

Ethno-historic accounts tell us that Iroquoian speaking people were no strangers to the St. Mary's River valley and the Upper Great Lakes. Archaeological evidence of their presence is sparse, but as more Late Woodland and Historic period sites are discovered, it is becoming clear that active trading was occurring between Iroquoian and Ojibwa peoples from about the fourteenth century onward.

The Whitefish Island site, the Point Louise site, and the Metal Toad site lie along the St. Mary's River, all have produced Iroquoian pottery from Late Woodland contexts, similar to finds at the Michipicoten and Pic River sites on the northeastern shore of Lake Superior. Only the Metal Toad site has produced Black Necked pottery, and it is the most westerly find of this distinctive type to date.

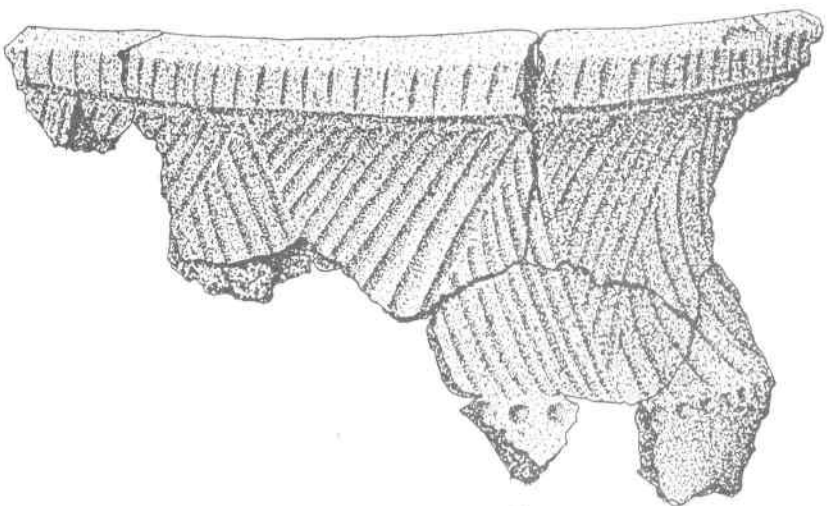
The Metal Toad site lay in a small sheltered bay just where the eastern end of Lake Superior narrows dramatically to form the St. Mary's River. Sadly, it was bulldozed to make way for a trailer park in the early seventies. Today, only two encouraging things can be said about the site; the trailer park never did materialize, and Wayne MacKecknie, a local amateur archaeologist, was on hand to salvage some of the abundant artifacts that littered the site. The large section of the Black Necked vessel pictured in the accompanying illustration was found among the many artifacts that he collected.

Black Necked pottery is traditionally associated with both the northern and southern divisions of the Huron-Petun Branch of the Late Ontario Iroquois stage as defined by Wright (1966:66-76). It is a common type for both divisions and has been found in greater percentages on early sites although it is also present in some later contexts.

Mitchell found intriguing Iroquois-like pottery in the vicinity of Deep River in the Ottawa valley, some two hundred miles from the accepted homeland of the Iroquois (Mitchell 1975:61). Sault Ste. Marie lies nearly four hundred miles from Huronia by land and a considerable distance by water, yet distinctively Iroquoian vessels have been found in this area (Conway, 1977). In common with the material from the Ottawa valley, the Iroquoian pottery from the Sault Ste. Marie area gives every impression of being directly comparable with vessels from sites in the Huron-Petun homeland. It is not unusual to find Huron Incised, Lalonde High Collar, Ontario Horizontal pots as well as trumpet pipes on Ojibwa sites alongside local Ojibwa ceramics and Ojibwa clay pipes.

Some vessels, it is true, are clearly local attempts to duplicate Iroquoian fashion but a large number of vessels seem to be the work of Iroquoian potters using Iroquoian raw materials. The Black Necked vessel has a temper and paste which immediately distinguishes it from vessels of local manufacture, and its presence on this northern Ontario site would seem to add credence to the ethno-historical information.

Imitation is said to be a sincere form of flattery and if this is the case perhaps it can be argued that the Ojibwa of this area were impressed with the Iroquois that ventured into their territory to trade.



There can be no doubt that the potter they brought with them had a big impact on the ceramic art of the local people. Many of the fourteenth and fifteenth century ceramic vessels from site components along the St. Mary's River are imitation and/or original Iroquoian pots.

Some Iroquoian potters eventually resided in this area, bringing their skills and traditions with them, and passing them on to the Ojibwa.

The general absence of Black Necked vessels in the Iroquoian pottery of the Upper Great Lakes and their popularity at suspected Algonkian sites east of Lake Huron forms an intriguing pattern that defies explanation at present. Our studies in Ojibwa prehistory are only beginning to put prehistoric Iroquoian influences into perspective. Thus the occurrence of a single Black Necked pot on the shores of Lake Superior adds a piece to the puzzle.

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York Pioneer & Historical Society have the following back issue of "The York Pioneer" available:

For the years 1952,1953,1954,1956,1958,1959,1963,1965,1966,1967,1970,1971, 1972,1973,1974,1975  
(the forgoing Annual Issues cost \$1.50 each, or \$1.00 for five or more plus \$1.00 mailing)  
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## A COMMENTARY ON "STORM OVER UNGAVA"

By Dr. James B. Griffin

Senior Research Scientist, Museum of Anthropology, University of Michigan

In the March 3, 1979, news magazine called "The Canadian" issued in Toronto by The Toronto Star there was a very interesting article by John Doig entitled "Storm Over Ungava". This article recounts some of the archaeological work of Thomas E. Lee who has made many contributions to Canadian archaeology and particularly to the prehistory of Ontario. One small section of the article naturally caught my attention for it referred to Lee's experience at the University of Michigan.

"Lee first fell afoul of the establishment 28 years ago, when he failed a doctoral examination in anthropology at the University of Michigan. He found the test unfair and fired off copies to several prominent anthropologists. The Michigan professors, who wielded wide influence over archaeology in North America, were displeased. When he later proudly refused to sit again for his Ph.D. they were furious and Lee believes, never forgave him."

This is, I understand, not the first time that such intimations of unfairness have been made, and probably will not be the last time. However, Mr. Lee's interpretation of his treatment at the University of Michigan does not coincide with mine and perhaps this is a good place to present another view to compare with that written by John Doig. The following comments are of some value in terms of the history of Ontario archaeology.

According to a letter from Lee of May 22, 1948, I met Tom at a Plains Conference in Lincoln, Nebraska, in late November 1947. He indicated at that time his interest in coming to Michigan from the University of Chicago where he was a graduate student. According to his letter I suggested he remain at Chicago for an M.A. and then transfer to Michigan for his Ph.D. studies.

He indicated in his letter his dissatisfaction with Chicago because "The program is much too heavily loaded with social anthropology and linguistics for my purposes ... at Chicago I feel that I am paying a very high price for something I do not want. I cannot exist on theories alone."

In my reply of June 5, 1948, I said I had turned over his letter to Prof. L.A. White and wrote "as you have probably heard, there is a fair amount of theory offered at the University of Michigan, particularly White's views on the development of culture." I also gave him information on admittance procedures which he followed. That summer I saw him at Starved Rock in La Salle County, Illinois, where he was excavating with a University of Chicago field party.

Tom was admitted and given a Research Assistantship in the Great Lakes Division of the Museum of Anthropology which he held for the two years he was in residence. The Great Lakes Division was a natural place for Lee to assist in the curatorial activities for his major interest at the time was in Ontario archaeology where he had worked earlier. Greenman had spent some years excavating and reporting on material from the Manitoulin district of Lake Huron and the collections he made were in the prehistoric occupations of Michigan and Ontario.

At the Fourth Iroquois Conference at Allegheny State Park in the fall of 1948, I discussed with Douglas Leechman of the National Museum of Canada the possibility of their supporting a survey program in Ontario by Tom Lee to determine the areas assets in terms of sites and collections. In a letter to Leechman of October 13, I indicated our willingness to provide him with field equipment and a University car if the National Museum would underwrite his other expenses. Lee was to prepare a prospectus for his field work to submit to Ottawa. To make a long story short, this was accomplished and Tom was able to do extensive survey work identifying sites and photographing collections. At Leechman's urging Lee was accompanied by Walter Hlady of Winnipeg and the summer was productive in terms of the survey. In human terms it was somewhat traumatic for both of them due to their markedly different personalities. Tom kept me informed during the summer of his progress mainly by Canada Post Cards.

Lee returned to Ann Arbor in the fall. The material he collected should be in the National Museum in Ottawa as they also received the negatives and records of the summer work. We have a duplicate set of the prints of the sites and collections. Lee's course work was quite satisfactory during his two years. He applied for permission to take the Ph.D. qualifying exams in late March, 1950. At that time the examinations covered five areas of anthropology. Lee asked to be exempt from the examination on Physical Anthropology according to the Departmental Staff Minutes of April 1, and in the Minutes of the April 29th meeting this was granted. The Ph.D. examination was held in May and consisted of written examinations. According to the Department Staff Minutes of Saturday, May 27, "Lee passed all except Ethnological Theory. After some discussion it was voted by a two-thirds majority that he should be required to retake this one exam and pass it before he be recorded as passing the Ph.D. written examinations." There were ten faculty members present with Leslie A. White as Chairman, J.B. Griffin, M. Titiev, V.H. Jones, A.C. Spaulding, E.F. Greenman, K. Pike, K. Aga-Oglu, R. Anderson and F.P. Thieme. It was customary to have the several sections graded by those faculty members who specialized in the particular subdiscipline. The three archaeologists Greenman, Griffin and Spaulding are not likely to have read and passed judgement on the Ethnological Theory section. That section was probably graded by White, Titiev and perhaps Anderson who was a temporary instructor. No one person or no small group ever could deny passage of the Ph.D. program to a graduate student because the policy was to consider not only the performance on the examination but the total performance record of the individual in graduate studies.

It is my recollection that after Lee was informed of the Departmental decision he subsequently had a conference with Leslie White and expressed in rather strong terms his reaction to the Department's action. This was done, as far as I can recall, without any consultation with other faculty members. I did have a discussion with him after the interview with White and recall questioning the wisdom of his action and that it seemed to fall into a pattern of his reaction to difficult situations. Lee was to work for the National Museum of Canada during the summer of 1950 and I believe he left the University shortly after the meeting with White.

In the fall of 1951, I was in Ottawa and among other activities had a brief talk with Dr. F.J. Alcock. The question of Lee's Ph.D. was discussed. In a letter from Lee to me of February 16, 1952, Lee expressed his attitude on the matter.



"Following your visit last fall with Dr. Alcock of the National Museum it was represented to me that the staff of the Department of Anthropology and the Museum of Anthropology at the University of Michigan is favourably disposed toward granting me a Ph.D. in anthropology, provided that I retake and pass an examination set by Dr. White and satisfy language and thesis requirements.

"Although it is obvious that you cannot promise or guarantee that the degree will be granted, I should be interested in hearing directly from you and in receiving suitable assurance that I would not be wasting my time in making an application. Otherwise I shall submit an application to another university. I should like to know, for example, the attitude of Dr. White as well as your own.

"As for the thesis, I think it may be necessary to limit the subject matter to some special aspect of pre-Iroquoian developments, since I have accumulated such a mass of data. If this could be worked out to your satisfaction, my digging activity after this season could be directed along lines bearing directly on the problem."

My reply was delayed until March 10, 1952. I am not sure why it took about three weeks, but Lee jogged my memory with a second copy on March 4.

"I think that if you would write a letter to White as Chairman of the Department of Anthropology and make your request for a second examination in cultural theory that there is some likelihood that your request would be granted. There are a number of other individuals who did not pass one of their exams, and these individuals have been able to request a re-take and to pass satisfactorily the second examination. You should know that the examination would be given provided the departmental members concerned in cultural theory agree, that is White, Miner and perhaps others as well, and they would be responsible for accepting or rejecting the results of the examination.

"I would be interested to know what thesis you might have in mind as suitable for the Ph.D. requirement and based on the materials which you have gathered. If you could submit a tentative outline of a thesis problem, I would be very glad to go over it with Spaulding and Greenman and give you the results of our reaction to your proposition.

"On the basis of the weather around here, I trust you will not be going out into the field for at least a couple of weeks anyway. Give my best to Alcock, Scotty and Leechman."

Finally in regard to the examination problem Lee wrote again on April 3, 1952, as follows

"As you doubtless know, White has granted permission for a re-take. However, if you will examine my letter to you, it should be apparent that much more than "permission" was required.

"The wording of White's letter to me... and particularly his curt reply to Dr. Alcock ... has left no doubt in my mind or in Dr. Alcock's that the deck is once more stacked. This letter will inform you that this aspect of the affair is at an end."

It should be quite apparent that there are substantial differences between the statements in "Storm Over Ungava" and the documented record I have presented. Lee has also made other statements both written and oral in regard to the Anthropology program at the University of Michigan, but none that I have heard or read coincide with my view of the activities. I believe the last time I saw Tom was at the McCollum site on the southwest arm of Lake Nipigon in the summer of 1957. George I Quimby and I were surveying along the northern shore of Lake Superior checking the location of sites, collections, and the elevations of the superb series of beach ridges left by the post-glacial lakes in the Superior Basin. Much to our surprise Lee and his wife and infant son drove up to a small sales stand and he was equally surprised to see us. We invited them back to our rented cabin and spent an hour or so chatting. It turned out that the main purpose of his visit to the area was to prove that R.S. MacNeish was wrong in his interpretation of the Brohm site. Certainly there were no recriminations about the unfairness of his treatment at Michigan and I have not heard from him since as far as I can remember. A considerable number of professional archaeologists received training and their Ph.D. in anthropology at the University of Michigan. I do not believe that any student in archaeology was treated unfairly.

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#### WYANDOTTE INDIAN CULTURAL CENTER OPENING

On May 19th, 1979 the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma, largest descendant of the former "Ontario Iroquois", opened their new Cultural Center at Wyandotte, Oklahoma, adjacent to the Wyandotte Indian Cemetery.

The Tribe invited a number of researchers who are working with Tribal history (and archaeology) and who have an interest in the ancient Wyandotte culture. Charles Garrad addressed the gathering on the subject of Wyandotte (Petun/Huron/Neutral) work in Ontario, and showed slides of his interpretation of events through the past five centuries. He was also able to visit other researchers interested in what we are doing in Ontario. Presently Administrator of the Ontario Archaeological Society Garrad is also an adopted member of the Wyandotte "Big Turtle Clan".

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Major General and Mrs. L.H. Wylie, two founding members of the Ottawa Chapter of this Society, are leaving Ontario permanently to take up residence in Victoria, B.C., following Lou's retirement from the Canadian Armed Forces last year.

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#### O.A.S. SYMPOSIUM 1979 - CORRECT DATE

Our call for papers in the last issue of Arch Notes inadvertently gave the day of the Symposium as Saturday, October 26. The date should have read Saturday, October 20, 1979.

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..... from the O.A.S. office .....

We welcome HERITAGE CANADA as an Exchange Member of the Society. This means that future issues of the bimonthly magazine HERITAGE CANADA will be available in the Society's Library.

SEND IT TO ARCH NOTES!

Excavating this summer? Don't let those amusing incidents and events be lost. Share them with your fellow O.A.S. members. Why not jot down the story of your work this summer - long or short - and mail it to Mike Kirby ...

FOR SALE - Office Equipment - apply O.A.S. office 223-2752

REX ROTARY duplicator, model D490 (fine condition) with supply of stencils, 8-page Collator, model GBX175CM (needs overhaul)

THE ONTARIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETINGS AND CONFERENCE

Will be held this year June 15, 16, & 17 at the Sundial Motor Inn, Orillia, co-hosted by The Orillia Historical Society and the City of Orillia. An important paper by Dr. Bruce G. Trigger is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Sunday June 17th, "Sixteenth Century Ontario: history, ethnohistory & archaeology." Late the same day there will be a tour of Ste. Marie Among the Hurons.

SIMCOE COUNTY NUPTIALS - AND A PARTY

Simcoe County Chapter President Jamie Hunter and Rosemary Vyvyan will tie the nuptial knot July 21st. We note that Rosemary is not, at this moment a member of the Society and we presume this represents an exceptional recruitment attempt on Jamie's part. We wish them both the very best.

Strength permitting, Jamie will host a Chapter party and corn roast August 11th at his corn farm, open to all O.A.S. members everywhere. For directions, phone Toronto office, 223-2752. Jamie please let the office know where your corn farm is!

TAX INFORMATION FOR GRANT RECIPIANTS

Did you leave your Income Tax until the last day only to find that as a grant recipient you should have read the instructions on Revenue Canada Interpretation Bulletin IT-75R "Income Tax Act; Scholarships, Fellowships, Bursaries, Prizes and Research Grants"? Well, too late this time, but the office has obtained a copy of this Bulletin and if you need advice, telephone 223-2752. Did your eyes light up at the mention of the \$500.00 exemption on the Income Tax Return? Too bad, it doesn't apply to OHF Research Grant situations. The principal paragraph (#2) reads:

"Where a grant is received by a taxpayer in a taxation year to enable him to carry on research or any similar work, the amount so received, to the extent that it exceeds the aggregate of allowable expenses incurred by the taxpayer in the year for the purpose of carrying on the work, is included in income by virtue of paragraph 56(1) (o) of the Act. It should be noted that there is no \$500.00 exemption for research grants received."

Now that seems reasonable, but there are eight pages of tricky wording before you are free, and there could be a problem with living expenses in the field not being allowable (it is considered "sojourning") (paras 24 & 25).

To get your own copy of this Bulletin, contact your nearest District Taxation Office, listed on the back page of the Tax Guide. The telephone numbers are: Ottawa 996-8340, Toronto 869-1500, Hamilton 522-8671, London 679-4211, Windsor 252-3611, Sudbury 675-9131, Thunder Bay 623-2751.

Yes we know we have not listed them in alphabetical order. That's their order on the Tax Guide.

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#### REPORT FROM THE WINDSOR CHAPTER OF THE O.A.S. - by Dale Woodyard

Our 1978-79 series of guest speakers made for varied and interesting presentations. On September 12th, Gary Foster reported on the CAA meetings held in Quebec City and his summer archaeological activities with the Ministry of Culture and Recreation in Southwestern Ontario. Then at the October 10th meeting Bill Fox made a presentation on his archaeological experiences on the French Riviera.

The November 14th meeting involved a film and slide presentation by Dale Woodyard about his experiences on the underwater archaeology expedition off the Yucatan of Mexico. On January 9th Jean Magee made a presentation on the archaeology, history and culture of the mediaeval Norse colonies of the 10th to 14th centuries A.D. along the west and south coasts of Greenland.

John Jacobs made a slide presentation on the prehistoric Thule Eskimo (A.D. 1000 to 1800) of Baffin Island at the February 12th meeting. On March 13th Brian Deller spoke on Paleo-Indian locations in Southern Ontario. Charles Garrad made a presentation on the 17th century Ontario Iroquois presence in southwestern Ontario at the April 10th meeting.

At the January meeting the 1979 Executive of the chapter was elected: President - Garth Rumble; Vice President - Dale Woodyard; Secretary Treasurer - Peter Reid; Program Co-ordinator - Fred Baumann.

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On June 19th, 1979 at 7:30 p.m. the Waterloo Historical Society is sponsoring the unveiling of an historic plaque honouring William J. Wintemberg, a noted Canadian Archaeologist and authority on Indian cultures in Ontario and Eastern Canada. The plaque to be erected by the Ontario Heritage Foundation, Ministry of Culture and Recreation, is to be located in the Recreation Park on Bridge Street, in New Dundee, the place of birth of Wintemberg.

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## JOSEPH BRANT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

The Joseph Brant Archaeological Society programme for the remainder of 1979 is announced as follows: (O.A.S. members are welcome to attend)

June 16th: Picnic - 2:00 p.m. at Niagara Historical Society Museum, 43 Castlereagh Street, Niagara-on-the-Lake, followed by picnic supper in park near Fort George. Any O.A.S. member planning to go should notify Mrs. Rosemary Previc at (416) 634-5968, (if dialing from Toronto prefix with 1, the 416 is not necessary).

September 25th: Arthur Jamieson will speak on Ancient Egypt and Mummification After Life.

October 11th to 19th: Trip to Cairo, Karnak and other sites in ancient Egypt. Estimated cost of less than \$1,200.00 will include first class hotels, meals, fares, service charges. For further details contact Cam Cullis, Box 40, Burlington, Ontario, telephone: (416) 632-3711. (The O.A.S. is planning a similar trip in 1980).

November 26th: Dr. Tushingham of the R.O.M. on the Crown Jewels of Iran.

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## ARCHAEOPOETRY? POETAEOLGY?

It seems that in 1955 the Society launched an appeal for funds under the name of "FUND SITE". The treasurer G. Ruth Marshall put both her poetic talents and archaeological knowledge together to create this moving appeal:

There are many types of sites and "digs", with this you will agree,  
Involving much in terms of toil, as well as things to see:-  
Ontario had its Stone Age, with quartzite artifacts,  
Its Hurons and its Iroquois, who fought without peace pacts:-  
Egyptians had inscriptions; Romans had their forts;  
Mayans had their temples; Grecians had their sports;  
New Mexico its Folsom Points, from whence we carry through  
to Yuma, Scottsbluff, Eden too, to mention just a few;  
The Hopewells with their burial mounds - the Point Pen ochre cult-  
All tend to make the diggers' work that much more difficult,  
and analysing and reporting of facts and knowledge gained  
Has oft been done, as well we know, in circumstances strained.

You know about the "Fund Site",  
Of O.A.S. - its present plight-  
SO, Members, rally to our cause,  
We hope you will no longer pause,  
For a dollar here, two dollars there-  
Will minimize our financial despair!  
Help bring to light Ontario's past,  
While dimming the light on your Income Taxed!

In 1979 the circumstances aren't all that different. Why not send a donation right now? A receipt for income tax deduction purposes will be sent by return, for all donations of \$5.00 or over.

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## THE FOURTH NORTH AMERICAN FUR TRADE CONFERENCE

A four-day conference on the North American fur trade will be held on October 1-4, 1981, at Grand Portage, Minnesota, and at Old Fort William, Thunder Bay, Ontario. The United States-Canadian event will coincide with the 250th anniversary of the landing of French explorer and fur trader Varennes de la Verendrye at Grand Portage in August, 1731 and his subsequent wintering at Kaministiquia. It follows a highly successful precedent established 50 years ago when, on August 22, 1931, Americans and Canadians gathered at Grand Portage to commemorate the 200th anniversary. The location of the conference at two interpretive facilities closely linked with the North West Company, and the presentation of papers by authorities on the North American fur trade promise to attract scholars, historians, and fur trade buffs alike. Conference themes will be wide ranging.

### Conference Highlights

- Stimulating papers on the French and North West Company periods, the Hudson's Bay Company, the American Fur Company, American Indian contributions, the significance of the Great Lakes region and other aspects of the fur trade.
- A visit to the restored North West Company canoe shed, stockade and Great Hall at Grand Portage. Walk a portion or all of the famous 8½ mile portage to the site of Fort Charlotte, or ride in a 36 foot conot du Maitre.
- Exhibits of rare fur trade paintings and documents along with artifacts recovered during the 13 year underwater search along the old pedlers' canoe route from Montreal to Lake Winnipeg.
- Optional side trips to the high falls of the Pigeon River, the Witch Tree, Kakabeka Falls, Isle Royal, the original site of Fort William, and others.
- A visit to Old Fort William reconstruction where life and activities in the period 1803-1821 are accurately portrayed - an unforgettable experience.

A primary purpose of this announcement is to alert scholars who are currently engaged in or are contemplating projects dealing with relevant aspects of the fur trade who may wish to present papers to the 1981 Conference.

Selected papers will be published.

DON'T MISS IT!

If the 1981 conference interests you, further details are available from

1981 Fur Trade Conference  
The Minnesota Historical Society  
690 Cedar Street  
St. Paul, Minnesota,  
55101.

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O.A.S. LIBRARY NEWS

The following recent acquisitions are available for loan from the O.A.S. Library to members:

AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGIST Winter - Spring 1978

CANADA National Research Council "Scientific and Technical Societies of Canada" 1978

GARRAD Charles & HEIDENREICH Conrad 1978 "Khionontateronon (Petun)" reprinted from Handbook of North American Indians, Vol. 15 "Northeast" Smithsonian Institution, Washington

JOSEPH BRANT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY "Newsletter" all 1979 issues

MUSEUM OF INDIAN ARCHAEOLOGY University of Western Ontario, Research Reports:

#1 - PEARCE R.J. 1978 "A Preliminary Report on the Draper Site Rim Sherds"

#2 - PEARCE R.J. 1978 "A Description of the Miscellaneous Ceramic Artifacts recovered during the 1975 Field Season at the Draper Site"

#3 - PEARCE R.J. 1978 "A Description of the Juvenile Ceramics recovered during the 1975 Field Season at the Draper Site"

#5 - MCCULLOUGH Karen M. 1978 "Modified Deer Phalanges at the Draper Site"

ONTARIO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

"Arch Notes" 79-1, 79-2

"Kewa" (London Chapter newsletter) all 1979 issues

"Ottawa Archaeologist" (Ottawa Chapter newsletter) all 1979 issues

"Rede" (Simcoe County Chapter Newsletter) all issues

"Squirrel County Gazette" (Windsor Chapter Newsletter) all issues

ONTARIO, Provincial Parks Council, "Algonquin Park Master Plan First Five Year Review"

Our thanks to Mrs. Ann Emerson, who has donated materials from the late Dr. J.N. Emerson's files concerning O.A.S. activities as far back as 1951, and which are being added to our "Arch Notes" files.

Sorting of O.A.S. library materials is now reaching completion and the next project will be to catalogue the holdings. This is the time to donate a copy of your latest publication, report, thesis, research paper. If you have not already donated to the O.A.S. library, please do so. You may also contribute material by any other author.

We trust that all members automatically donate copies of their publications to the library!

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir:

I cannot share Dr. William C. Noble's evident satisfaction at the outcome of the Conservation Review Board Hearings of May 19, and July 13-14, 1978 (see *Arch Notes*, 79-2:23). As a colleague of Mr. Kroon's, I attended the July 13 session, and received what I think are reliable accounts of the May 19 session from other colleagues who attended them. My impression is that what was supposed to be a judicial enquiry into a specific appeal against the rejection of a specific licence application, was turned into a trial of Mr. Kroon for his professional life.

The only valid reason I could ever discover for the rejection of Mr. Kroon's 1977 application was his failure to fulfil all obligations incurred under a previous licence, to wit, the final report. But this matter did not figure very largely in the 1978 hearings. Instead, the Crown's case consisted of a lengthy character assassination of Mr. Kroon, to which his friends and colleagues from the University of Windsor had to respond as best they could. Is this what Dr. Noble (who was one of the Crown's witnesses) means by the "rules of evidence" being more "broadly defined"? If the 1978 hearings are indeed "precedent setting", then future appellants against OHF decisions may well find themselves facing similar unexpected Inquisitions into their general archaeological competence. I, for one, find this possibility disturbing.

I appreciate as well as anyone the need to regulate to some extent archaeological activities in the Province, but, since returning to Ontario in 1976, I have felt serious doubts about the fairness of the licencing procedure, and, especially, the appeals' procedure. The handling of the 1978 hearings did nothing to allay these doubts.

I remain,

Yours respectfully,

Dr. Peter Reid,  
Dept. Soc. and Anth., Univ. of Windsor

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### AN ARCHAEOLOGY BUS TOUR OF NEW YORK STATE

October 5-8, 1979, Presented by the London Chapter, O.A.S.

Highlights include: Divers Lake chert quarry - Lewiston Mounds - Museum of Anthropology, S.U.N.Y., Buffalo - Rochester Museum & Science Centre - New York State Museum, Albany - Serpent Mounds, Ontario - Peterborough Petroglyphs, Ontario.

The \$90 cost includes all travel in a modern tour bus, double accommodation for three nights and entry into all parks and museums. Since there is a limited number of seats, early registration is advised. Registration may be made by sending your name, address, and a \$30 deposit to MR. GEORGE CONNOY (CHAPTER TREASURER), 762 ELM STREET, ST. THOMAS, ONT. N5R 1L4, by June 30, 1979.

For further information call Mr. Charles Garrad, Toronto (416) 223-2752 OR Mr. Bill Fox, London (519) 673-0966 or (519) 433-8401.

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## MAYA MYSTERY - CIVILIZATION RUINED BY CLASS BREAKDOWN?

Two scientists have produced evidence that the long-mysterious collapse of the classic Maya civilization of Central America took place without any great decline in population.

Rather, they suggest, the collapse involved the breakdown of the class structure through which the Maya aristocracy maintained its authority.

The new evidence does not explain why the Maya collapse occurred, but it does contribute to the effort to understand the phenomenon that had proved to be one of anthropology's most challenging problems.

After a thousand years of development into a high culture, the classic Maya civilization suddenly collapsed in a matter of decades during the ninth century A.D.

Over the years, anthropologists have put forth a number of theories, from ecological disaster to the adoption of human sacrifice, to explain the phenomenon. None had been accepted as proved.

Some Theorists have suggested that for some reason a catastrophic depopulation took place. One authority had estimated that a peak population of three million dropped to 450,000 in just 75 to 100 years.

The new evidence, if it is accepted by anthropologists, should lend weight to the previously advanced theory that what collapsed was not the Maya population but a class structure that maintained an elite capable of producing and sustaining a civilization.

The research, which was published in the recent issue of *Nature*, the British scientific journal, was conducted by Raymond Sidrys, an anthropologist, and Rainer Berger, an archeologist and expert on radiocarbon dating. Both are at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Their study compared the frequency over the centuries of three things: archeological sites representing the remains of commoner homes and other lower-class contexts, sites from aristocratic contexts, and the erection of carved stone monuments called stelae. All are from the lowland area that now lies in Mexico, Guatemala, Belize and Honduras.

The scientists found that the stela cult began modestly in the third century, more and more stelae were erected. The practice was to put them up in one or more ceremonial centres to commemorate important points in the Maya calendar. Between 613 and 790, when the cult reached a peak, the Mayas erected at least 324 dated monuments.

The erection of stelae is believed to have been an important activity for the Maya. The huge limestone slabs weighed several tons, the largest almost 50 tons. Carved on the stone faces were the image of the ruler of the time, hieroglyphic texts about the ruler's genealogy, descriptions of various religious ceremonies and the date according to the Maya calendar, which can be translated into today's calendar. It is believed that hundreds of quarry workers, stone masons, carvers and labourers were organized to produce and erect each stela.

"The elite no doubt maintained a high visibility as the organizers of this impressive operation," the researchers wrote in their paper, "because precisely such displays of power helped maintain their authority. These monuments clearly served as foci for both political and religious activities."

In 790, at least 19 ceremonial centres were built, more than at any other time. In 810, however, the stela cult went into a precipitous decline. By 830, only a fifth as many stelae were erected as at the peak. By 909, the cult was virtually dead.

"A genuine collapse or abrupt breakdown of the stela cult occurred, rather than a gradual or normal decline in popularity." Dr. Sidrys and Dr. Berger said in their report.

Their analysis of the growth of the elite population and its activities shows a similar rise to a peak and then a sharp decline, with the peak coming about a century after the beginning of the collapse of the stela cult.

The estimate of elite population and activities is based on the distribution over time of radiocarbon dates obtained not only on upper-class dwellings, such as palaces, but also on the physical remains of many upper-class activities - for example, the production of elegant figurines, the writing of bark-paper codices and the administration of cave ceremonies and elaborate burials.

The remains of such artifacts are increasingly common from archeological sites dated to the centuries when the stela cult was building. But they peak about a century after the stela cult and then go into a similar collapse. Their findings, the scientists said, clearly demonstrate a breakdown of elite class structure during the tenth century in the lowlands and its cessation for all practical purposes by 1069. Similar analyses of remains of the commoner population show no growth with the stela cult or the elite class and no collapse.

If the evidence is correct, it appears that the Mayas lived on for centuries in scattered rural villages without continuing the intellectual, architectural and political traditions that characterized their ancestors.

Only with the arrival centuries later of the first Europeans bearing dysentery, hookworm and malaria were the Maya lowlands truly depopulated.

from the Globe and Mail,  
April 23, 1979.

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#### CREW MEMBER AVAILABLE

O.A.S. member in the London area seeks an opportunity to work this summer. High school student, male, 17, with several years experience, is seeking payment for his work. Contact R.D. Jones at (519) 679-4266 during business hours.

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## EARLY COLONIAL RELICS ARE UNEARTHED IN U.S.

The earliest traces of British colonization in North America have been unearthed near Williamsburg, Va., in what archaeologists say is the most important discovery in U.S. history.

Ivor Noel Hume, chief archeologist at Colonial Williamsburg, told a news conference that the complete outline of a seventeenth-century plantation town has been unearthed in excavations along the banks of the James River.

Also discovered in more than three years of digging were the only visored military helmets found in the New World, the earliest British-American pottery ever found and the bones of a victim from the first Indian massacre.

Relics found at the site are changing historical interpretation of the early colonial period, with evidence that life in the first colonies was not as crude as had been thought.

Tableware inlaid in gold and silver, clothing with golden threads, domestic conveniences brought from England as well as arms and armor have been unearthed.

The project has provided what Mr. Hume calls an American Rosetta stone for the dating of early colonial artifacts. It is considered by experts to be the most significant discovery of its kind in British America.

from the Globe and Mail,  
May 23, 1979

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## MUSEUM OF INDIAN ARCHAEOLOGY

The official opening of The Museum of Indian Archaeology in London, Ontario, on April 5, 1979 was attended by OAS President, Bill Fox, and OAS Administrator, Chas Garrad, as well as by many members of the OAS London Chapter.

The "Ribbon Cutting" was performed by Dr. Wilfred Jury, Honorary Curator, and speeches were made by Drs. Jessie MacFarlane, George Connell, Brandon Conron and by Lt. Col. Tom Lawson.

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The Museum announces the initiation of two new publication series: MUSEUM NOTES and a NEWSLETTER.

MUSEUM NOTES: This publication series is designed to disseminate information about the nature and content of the collections of the Museum of Indian Archaeology. Topics to be covered in the series will focus on artifacts in the Jury Collection, collections of artifacts donated to the Museum, and specific artifacts or features recovered in archaeological excavations conducted by the Museum.

The first MUSEUM NOTE (Number 1, 1978) is entitled "A Red Ochre Burial From Port Franks, Ontario", by W. Wilfrid Jury.

NEWSLETTER: The Museum NEWSLETTER will be published six times a year and is designed as an informal medium by which information on the Museum's activities can be disseminated.

The first NEWSLETTER (Vol. 1, No.1, February 1979) entitled, "The Museum of Indian Archaeology: The Formative Years 1926-1976", gives a brief history of the Museum and the work of Dr. W.W. Jury, the Museum's founder and Honorary Curator. It also contains an insert outlining current Museum staff and activities.

Both items may be purchased from the Editor, Room 128, Somerville House, The University of Western Ontario, London N6A 5B7 for \$1.00 each. Museum sponsors receive complimentary copies of the NEWSLETTER. Subscriptions are available at \$5.00 per year.

Future issues of the MUSEUM NOTES will include a summary of archaeological investigations in the Crawford Lake area, and a discussion of the bird-stones in the Jury Collection at the Museum of Indian Archaeology. Future issues of the NEWSLETTER will include articles on the Draper site near Pickering, Ontario and on the Lawson site in the City of London.

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#### THE ONTARIO HERITAGE FOUNDATION

Requires contract ARCHAEOLOGISTS for field research, analysis, publication and interpretive planning for the Ontario Heritage Foundation as part of a multi-year programme of architectural restoration, property management and interpretive programming.

Project locations are in Northern and Southern Ontario. Living expenses are provided while on location in remote areas. Projects range in duration from seven months to multi-year.

Successful candidates must have M.A. level academic training and practical experience in historic sites archaeology, with emphasis on fur trade and 19th century domestic sites. Good knowledge of structural remains and artifacts of these periods in necessary.

Candidates must demonstrate achievement in report completion and publication, and have a minimum of two years' experience in field direction/expedition management.

Salaries will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Address applications, resumes and supporting materials to:

Historical Planning and Research Branch,  
Ministry of Culture and Recreation,  
7th Floor, 77 Bloor Street West,  
Toronto, Ontario, M7A 2R9.  
Telephone: (416) 965-4490

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## VISITS THREAT TO ABORIGINAL ART IN CAVES

Prehistoric paintings in remote northern Australia are being endangered by tourism, which includes vandalism, damage by touching and discolouration from dust thrown up by tramping feet.

The Aboriginal paintings, described as one of the world's largest bodies of prehistoric art, had survived 20,000 years intact because of their remote location.

A Parliamentary committee said tourists were now using four-wheel-drive vehicles to visit the caves, the Quinkan Galleries in a rugged area of Cape York Peninsula. The committee called for a comprehensive management plan for the region.

from the Daily Telegraph,  
May 23, 1979.

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## BUSY BEING CRAZY

MADISON, Wis.

A University of Wisconsin anthropologist says being a full-time crazy person is becoming an occupation for some people. Sue Estroff, who spent two years living with a group of chronically disabled people to research her doctoral thesis, says she found that because society supports people who admit their disabilities, many "earn their living by being different."

from the Globe and Mail,  
May 10, 1979.

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A recent event of interest was a convention of spiritual people and shamans of North America. Shamans are medicine men, Canadian shamans included Matthew Sutherland, an Ojibwa from Hearst; and Albert Lightning, a Cree from Alberta.

Sixty members of the medical archeology and anthropology section of the Academy of Medicine met with some of them, including Prof. James Dumont, known as a pipe holder (or teacher), who teaches native studies at Laurentian University.

Hanne Marstrand was the resource person who first contacted Dr. Howard Savage at the academy. Dr. Savage is a research associate in the anthropology department at the University of Toronto.

Dr. Savage told me: "There are nine native medicine men and some gave their versions of medical healing of patients who had been given up.

"I think the spiritual aspect of healing has possibilities in conjunction with medical help. They made us feel they have something in their approach that we often overlook."

About 150 people spent the week at Cedar Glen Lodge in Bolton. It was all put together by Bobby Woods, co-ordinator of the Native Spiritual Voices, a group trying to regain knowledge of the true Indian ways.

from Zena Cherry in the Globe and Mail  
April 18, 1979

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# The Ontario Archaeological Society (Inc.)

Box 241, Postal Station P, Toronto, Ontario M5S 2S8

## O.A.S. CHAPTERS

### LONDON CHAPTER

Executive: President - Norah McWilliam  
Vice President - Rudy Fecteau  
Secretary-Treasurer - George Connoy  
Past President - Charles Nixon  
KEWA Editor - Bill Fox

Newsletter: Newsletter

Meetings: Usually at 8:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month excluding June, July and August in Room 128 Somerville House, University of Western Ontario.

Chapter Fees: Individual \$4, Family \$6, Institutional \$10

Members: Approximately 50

Correspondence: c/o George Connoy, 762 Elm St., St. Thomas, Ont. N5R 1L4

### OTTAWA CHAPTER

Executive: President - David L. Keenlyside  
Vice President - Clyde C. Kennedy  
Secretary Treasurer - Iain C. Walker  
Past President - Gordon D. Watson

Newsletter: THE OTTAWA ARCHAEOLOGIST Editor - Clyde Kennedy

Meetings: Usually at 8:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month, excluding June, July and August, at the Canadian War Museum, 330 Sussex Drive, Ottawa

Chapter Fees: \$5 (Students \$3, Family \$8)

Members: Approximately 40

Correspondence: c/o David L. Keenlyside, Archaeological Survey of Canada, National Museum of Man, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0M8

### SIMCOE COUNTY CHAPTER

Executive: President - Jamie Hunter  
Vice President - Doug Gaukroger  
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Newsletter: Newsletter

Meetings: Usually at 8:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month, excluding June, July, and August, at the Simcoe County Museum, Highway 26, Barrie, Ontario

Chapter Fees: Individual \$5

Members: Approximately 35

Correspondence: c/o Jamie Hunter, 818 King St. S., Midland, Ont. L4R 4K3

### WINDSOR CHAPTER

Executive: President - Garth Rumble  
Vice President - Dale Woodyard  
Secretary Treasurer - Peter Reid  
Past President - Helen Gawadzyn

Meetings: Usually at 7:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month excluding June, July, and August at the Windsor Public Library, 850 Ouellette Ave. Windsor, Ontario

Chapter Fees: Individual \$3

Members: Approximately 40

Correspondence: c/o Peter Reid, Dept. Sociology and Anthropology, University of Windsor, Windsor, Ontario N9B 3P4

# The Ontario Archaeological Society (Inc.)

## EXECUTIVE 1979

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### EDITOR

ONTARIO ARCHAEOLOGY:  
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Dept of Anthropology  
Trent University  
Peterborough, Ontario

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Willowdale, Ontario

Publications: Scientific Journal - ONTARIO ARCHAEOLOGY  
Newsletter - ARCH NOTES

Meetings: Usually at 8:00 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month, excluding June, July and August, at the McLaughlin Planetarium (Lecture Theatre) Royal Ontario Museum, Queen's Park, Toronto

Fees: Per annum: Individual \$8; Family \$10; Institutional/Corporate \$20; Life \$200. Chapter Fees Extra.

Members: Approxiamtely 525

O.A.S. ADMINISTRATOR: Chas. Garrad, 103 Anndale Dr. Willowdale, Ontario.  
(416) 223-2752