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ARCH NOTES

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Newsletter of

The Ontario Archaeological Society (Inc.)

FRANK B. MEE

Many members will be shocked to learn of the sudden passing of Frank Mee who was a Charter Member of the Society.

He and his wife Margaret were among the original members in Dr. Norman Emerson's class on "Ontario before Champlain" in 1949. From this group the Society developed to become the Ontario Archaeological Society.

Frank was President of the Society in 1952 and again in 1960. For several years he acted as Chairman of the constitution committee and as auditor of the Society's books.

His congenial disposition and cheerful attitude added much to the enjoyment of digs and laboratory classes. He will be sorely missed.

Frank was born in Toronto and served in the Merchant Navy during World War 11 as a radio officer. He was a manager for the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce at various branches in the city. He played the organ for many years at St. Nicholas Anglican Church. He was also a member of the Brotherhood of Magicians and at one time used his skills to entertain various groups.

Frank was a devoted husband and father. He will be greatly missed by his wife Margaret and their daughters, Margaret, Ruth and Joan, and son, Frank Jr.

J. Murray Corbett

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES IN NEW YORK & MANITOBA:
HOW DOES THE G.A.S. STACK UP?

by M.A. Latta

Two articles in recent months have dealt with a question which should be of concern to us all as members of a provincial archaeological association. Lou Brennan, editor of the New York State Archaeological Association's Bulletin and Journal (1979: 35-37), calls it "A Serious Situation". Phillipe Trottier, President of the Manitoba Archaeological Society, has expressed his "...concern for stimulating interest in our cultural heritage resources." (1980:3). How are these problems related to the O.A.S.?

In fact, these gentlemen are deeply disturbed about declining memberships in their respective associations. Trottier notes that "like similar organizations in Canada and the U.S.A., our Society has experienced a decline in membership...(and) the participation of members has dropped considerably." Brennan adds: there has been "...an alarming decrease in the membership of state societies. In New York the fall-off has been about 30%..." with a similar rate of decline in many of the affiliated societies within the Eastern States Federation. Taking a pessimistic point of view, Brennan warns that if the current trend continues, the "...NYSAA will shrink to 200 members and vanish."

Both writers feel that the present problem is a result of amateur-professional antagonisms within their own regions. Brennan writes with evident pain that the amateur members of the NYSAA "...are not wanted, often actively resented..." and that at least one graduate student wishes they would "...go away and stop cluttering up the field." In return, he voices a resentment of equal virulence: professionals don't join the society, yet they "take over" conferences and publications. Trottier attempts to smooth over the problem, yet it is evident that a similar resentment exists in Manitoba.

There are several points worth discussing in these position-papers. It is traditionally the right of the young -- whether students or not -- to be brilliant, highly motivated, aggressive and sometimes a trifle brash. I hope that the older members of our society will be tolerant and supportive of those who lack their experience and knowledge, for our young members today are the leaders of tomorrow's O.A.S.! At the same time, I would beg all of our young members to write on the inside of their eyelids, where they will see it every time they blink, that it takes no more time to be polite than it does to be rude, but the results can be a lot different. The person you offend today may be a person whose good will you desperately need tomorrow.

As far as amateurs being "unwanted", I think that Brennan has missed a point. Individuals who have something to contribute are always welcome in any scientific operation, in my experience. Anyone who isn't smart enough to take useful assistance doesn't deserve it. I will always be grateful for having had the opportunity to visit the Mayan masonry structures with such an expert as Charlie Nixon, or to compare Iroquoian ceramics with Charlie Garrad or Jamie Hunter, or to tour the Ottawa Valley with Clyde Kennedy, or to talk with any of dozens of similar experts within the O.A.S.

There is an amazing wealth of talent and experience and hard knowledge within the membership of the O.A.S. We are only beginning to realize the potential contributions of people working in industry (there is a whole branch of industrial archaeology, did you know?) or in extractive industries, book-keeping, domestic science --- the list goes on and on! Rather than try to compete with professional archaeologists in the areas they are trained for, massive excavations and grantsmanship, the amateur should assert his or her traditional scientific role as the independent expert, the radical thinker whose analytical insights are based on a broader social-technological experience.

The most disturbing aspect of these two articles to me, however, is their clear polarization. There is a suggestion that even if a professional archaeologist should attempt to become active in the NYSAA, he would be the object of deep suspicion, perhaps resentment. One factor which has contributed to this in both New York and Manitoba is the existence of competing professional societies, parallel to but separate from the given association which is seen as being wholly amateur. The disagreements are thus perpetuated and cumulative. In short, there is indeed a "Serious Situation" in the state and province bordering Ontario. If there is no reconciliation among the archaeologists of New York state, I agree with Louis Brennan that the future of the NYSAA appears gloomy. I hope that the optimistic tone of Trottier's conclusion reflects a healthier state in Manitoba, and I wish them well!

What then of the Ontario Archaeological Society? We must recognize and applaud the wisdom of the founders of this organization, and of the archaeological community of Ontario as a whole, that they chose not to separate amateur from professional interests. The names on our original letters patent span both groups equally. Our journals include articles by members in all walks of life, and I think that this contributes greatly to their strength and breadth. An attempt to create a professional society, a few years ago, received very little support around the province. In short, we like it like it is!

Our membership not only refuses to decline but shows a solid increase! Current membership is 519, with 39 from provinces other than Ontario and 62 from other countries. Perhaps we know where some of the missing members from the New York and Manitoba societies have turned. We have five active chapters in London, Ottawa, Thunder Bay, Windsor and Simcoe County as well as the parent group in Toronto/Hamilton. We produce six periodical newsletters, each containing articles of scientific interest and news of local chapter doings, as well as our highly respected journal, Ontario Archaeology. (For comparison, the NYSAA, with a membership of between 700 and 1000, publishes one 35 to 40 page, photo-offset newsletter, four times a year). We have an annual Symposium which draws attendance from a wide area in the northeast. We have workshop sessions on archaeological topics and tours to sites of archaeological interest. The O.A.S. appears to be thriving!

What has made the difference? Heritage legislation might have produced a division between professional and amateur in Ontario, particularly if it made archaeology (or archaeological funds) the exclusive property of any one group. That this did not happen can be attributed to the work of a large number of individuals and agencies who recognized the importance of the society and who have supported it, financially and personally, against such decay. We should all be grateful to these people, many of whom have refused public recognition for their contributions. To all of you, heartfelt thanks on behalf of the entire Society.

It is the responsibility of the Society to take charge of its own affairs, to accept responsibility for its decisions. I hope that all the members of this organization will continue the good work, bringing their energies and enthusiasms to the service of the archaeological community of Ontario: museum staffs, government employees (both provincial and federal), persons with affiliated professional interests, and persons whose careers may appear to lie far from archaeology. We all have a right to be concerned for Ontario's past, and we all have a responsibility to the future, to protect the archaeological resources of this province and develop them wisely. The problem is too large for our present resources; **we need every member**. How then can members help?

I think that members of the O.A.S. should help in three ways:

1. They should actively work to promote interest in, and concern for, our heritage resources in their own communities. Letters to M.P.'s and municipal boards, representation on L.A.C.A.C. committees, service on planning and development boards -- all of these are ways of promoting awareness of Ontario's archaeological heritage.
2. They should engage in constant self-education on aspects of Ontario's prehistory, so that they may give good and current advice to these agencies.

Interest in archaeology is no longer just a hobby, to be indulged in for the fun of it. We need a knowledgeable membership which can justify its promotion of demands for protection of our cultural resources.

3. They should participate actively in the O.A.S. through attendance at meetings, through service on local and provincial executive committees, through letters and articles in the provincial or local newsletters. Let other members know what you think, and listen to what they think. Only in this way can the O.A.S. establish itself as a political influence, to promote the goals of the society and of its members.

Let us all continue to work together, avoiding destructive actionism, alert to the positive contributions which we and those around us may make. As we concentrate on our joint goals, even as we dispute the best ways to achieve those goals, we will find the O.A.S. becoming a stronger and larger organization, more capable of conducting its chosen task.

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O T E S

.S.A.F. The annual meeting of the E.S.A.F. takes place the weekend of Oct. 31/Nov. 2 at Albany, N.Y. Contact Mima Kapches(416) 465-4228 if you wish to attend or present a paper.

Excavation at Burford, Ontario. Volunteers needed -- earliest redware pottery in Ontario -- early 19th century -- extremely rich in artifacts -- lot of interesting history -- Rita Michaels directing (Hamilton 524-1384) -- drive out and participate -- details from Chas. Garrad 223 2752.

Annual Analysis - Job Wanted - Contact: Maryjka Mychajlowycz
672 Birchmount Road, Scarborough, Ontario,
M1K 1R3 (416) 267-3277

.A.S. Seventh Annual Symposium -- The Archaeology of the Lake
Erie Basin.
October 25 -26 at London, Ont.

H=A=V=E=U=R=E=G=I=S=T=E=R=E=D=Y=E=T?

THE O.A.S. BUS TRIP TO OTTAWA
AND THE OTTAWA VALLEY

by Annie Gould

Our bus left York Mills subway station on Friday, August 22 at 7.00 p.m. The twenty nine people aboard had come from the Toronto area and from as far away as Windsor. Five hours later we arrived in Ottawa and checked into the Carlton University Tour and Conference Centre.

We were met the next morning by Clyde Kennedy, founder and current president of the Ottawa Chapter of the O.A.S., who welcomed us to Ottawa and introduced us to Peggy Sutherland-Brown who had arranged the day's tour around Ottawa. Peggy provided us with an interesting, informative and entertaining commentary on Ottawa's landmarks as we travelled to the National Museum of Man, the Parks Canada excavation at the Rideau Canal, and the Museum of Science and Technology. We did not have time to visit any of the landmarks on foot but the guided tour of the National Museum of Man conducted by Dr. James F. Pendergast more than made up for that.

Dr. Pendergast took us on a 1½ hour tour of several galleries in the beautiful, castle-like, building beginning with The Trail of Mankind and ending with The People of the Longhouse, and the Inuit. He interpreted the exhibits and their layout for us which added immeasurably to the tour.

From the Museum we went to the National Art Centre for lunch, and afterwards to the Entrance Locks of the Rideau Canal where we were met by Ellen Lee of Parks Canada. She took us to the foundations of an 1826AD stone storage house and workshop, across from the Bytown Museum, which had been excavated this summer preparatory to repair work being done on the canal. Ellen explained the ruins to us and said that future plans include establishing the site as a permanent archaeological exhibit for tourists.

After viewing the canal dig, we went to the Museum of Science and Technology and spent 45 minutes exploring it. From there we returned to the University for a brief rest before going to the cottage of Marg. and Gordon Watson for a barbeque dinner. Our hosts provided us, and approximately thirty Ottawa chapter members, with a sumptuous meal, an exhibit of Constance Bay sites artifacts, and a beautiful view of the bay. Guests included Dr. Pendergast and Dr. J.V. Wright. During the party Clyde Kennedy introduced Dr. Wright who cut a cake to celebrate the beginning of the 10th anniversary year (±1) of the founding of the Ottawa Chapter. We returned to the University after thanking our host and hostess, and the Ottawa Chapter members, for an extremely sociable and pleasurable evening.

We checked out of the University early Sunday morning for what turned out to be "a whale of a day"! Before leaving on our tour we were briefed by Clyde Kennedy on the history of the Champlain Sea and on the archaeology of the Ottawa Valley. Clyde also provided informative commentary about the valley as we passed through it. Our bus was accompanied by several vehicles containing Ottawa Chapter members and together we visited the Lilliput Quarry where we viewed a large cephalopod fossil and collected shells which had been deposited (ca 11,000-10,000 B.P.) by the Champlain Sea.

We had a picnic lunch at "the Grove", on the Gillies Estate near Arnprior, where our gracious hostess, Mrs. Janet Carmichael, told us about the late owners of the lovely grounds. During lunch we also had the opportunity to view a display of Champlain Sea shells and Beluga whale bones which were set up by Jerry Fitzgerald of the Department of Paleobiology of the National Museum of Sciences.

After lunch we went to the Hanson Sandpit near White Lake where a rib from a Bowhead whale, which had been uncovered there by Clyde Kennedy, was displayed. From there we visited Portage du Fort, Quebec, to see potholes made in marble by the Ottawa River, and to collect calcium magnesium Dolomite specimens from a nearby crushing mill.

Our second-to-last stop of the day was at the Champlain astrolabe discovery site where Clyde Kennedy gave a talk on the controversy surrounding the astrolabe. We finished our tour at Morrison's Island where Dean R. Rogers and his son, David Rogers, guided us to the Archaic, Middle and Late Woodland sites on their property.

Thanks must go to Clyde Kennedy and the rest of the Ottawa Chapter for the work done in arranging the Ottawa tour and for the entertaining and informative weekend that resulted. Thanks also to Chas. Garrad, our Administrator, who arranged the Toronto end, and to our bus driver, Al Borris of the Penetang-Midland Coach Lines, who performed incredible manoeuvres with the bus in getting us where we wanted to go. In conclusion, I wish to thank all the people involved in the trip for a most enjoyable weekend. I also want to wish the Ottawa Chapter a Happy 10th Anniversary.

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.....see slides and film of the Ottawa
bus trip at the December meeting of
the O.A.S. in Toronto.....

O.A.S. December General Meeting -- CHANGE OF DATE -- This meeting will be on Wednesday, December 10, (not Dec. 17) at

THE ROYAL CANADIAN INSTITUTE.....
Program of free scientific lectures
for its 132nd Session:

- Saturday, November 1, 1980 FROBISHER'S ARCTIC EXPLORATION
Walter A. Kenyon, M.A., Ph.D.
Curator, Department of New World
Archaeology, Royal Ontario Museum
- Saturday, November 8, 1980 OUR ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM
James E. Cruise, B.A., M.Sc., Ph.D.
Director, Royal Ontario Museum
- Saturday, November 15, 1980 AN ARTIST IN THE ARCTIC
Alan C. Collier, R.C.A., O.S.A.
- Saturday, November 22, 1980 THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT:
FRAGILE OR STURDY?
F. Kenneth Hare, Ph.D., F.R.S.C.
Provost, Trinity College,
University of Toronto
- Saturday, November 29, 1980 BRAVE NEW WOMEN:
THE GENERATION OF THE 1960'S
Prof. Lorna R. Marsden, B.A., Ph.D.
Associate Dean, School of Graduate
Studies, (Division 11),
University of Toronto
- Saturday, December 6, 1980 LASERS MAKE LIGHT WORK
Stephen C. Wallace, B.Sc., Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Dept. of Chemistry & Physics
University of Toronto

The lectures are delivered in Convocation Hall, University of Toronto, at 8.15 p.m. Doors are open at 7.30 p.m. for an organ recital which is given prior to each lecture.

Free parking on the Campus of the University

Public Transportation -- Carlton car to McCaul Street. (Walk one block north on King's College Rd.)

For further information apply to the Secretary, 191 College St., Toronto, Ontario, M5T 1P9. Telephone (416) 979 2004

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

J. MURRAY CORBETT DONATION

Mr. Murray Corbett has donated to the Society much of the library material he has gathered during his thirty years membership, including several early O.A.S. items long since out of print. The Executive Committee has decided to reserve this unique collection intact. Our sincere thanks to Murray.

LE CARON SITE

Dr. "Dick" Johnston, editor of ONTARIO ARCHAEOLOGY, has a paper published in the current issue of the JOURNAL OF FIELD ARCHAEOLOGY on the Le Caron site. This is the most extensive report yet published on an historic Huron village. It describes the settlement pattern uncovered during eight years of excavation.

O.A.S. DECEMBER MEETING - CHANGE OF DATE

As the third Wednesday of December is probably too near Christmas to suit most members the meeting will be held on the night of the second Wednesday, December 10, and not as announced in the last issue of ARCH NOTES. This will be a "Members' Night" when any member may talk about his/her season's work, show films, slides, or whatever.

INCREASE IN O.A.S. FEES

The O.A.S. Executive recommends that, as from January 1, 1981, membership fees for individual and family members should be increased to \$10 and \$12 respectively. Institutional, corporate and life membership fees should remain the same.

This matter will be raised, for discussion and vote, at all November general meetings of the Society.

PUBLICATIONS -- SPECIAL OFFERS AT SYMPOSIUM

At the forthcoming O.A.S. Symposium members will be offered some very good publication "specials" to enhance their libraries. At less than half price will be HEIDENREICH's "Huronian" and NEWLAND & BREEDE's "An Introduction to Canadian Archaeology"; while KENYON & TURNBULL's "The Battle for James Bay 1686", a popular MacMillan book, will be offered for the incredible price of 95¢ only.

For your library wall, and at about half price, we shall offer some of IVAN KOCSIS' prints "Neutral Indian", 18" x 22" in four colours, complete with information about the subject and the author, suitable for framing. There will also be a number of limited quantity "specials" for sale.

O.A.S. CHAPTERS

LONDON CHAPTER

Executive: President: James Keron (519) 285-2379
Vice-President: Robert Pihl
Treasurer: George Conroy
Secretary: Charles Nixon
Newsletter: KEWA - Editor: Bill Fox
Meetings: Usually at 8.00 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month, excluding June, July & August, in room 128, Somerville House, University of Western Ontario, London.
Chapter Fees: Individual \$4, Family \$6, Institutional \$10.

OTTAWA CHAPTER

Executive: President: Clyde C. Kennedy (613) 237-3270
Vice-President: Sue Johnston
Secretary/Treasurer: Bill MacLennan
Newsletter: THE OTTAWA ARCHAEOLOGIST - Editor: Clyde C. Kennedy
Meetings: Usually at 8.00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month, excluding June, July & August, in the Victoria Memorial Building, Metcalfe & McLeod Sts., Ottawa.
Chapter Fees: Individual \$5, Family \$8, Student \$3.

SIMCOE COUNTY CHAPTER

Executive: President: Jamie Hunter (705) 526-7683
Vice-President: Jim Harris
Treasurer: Gary Shill
Secretary: David Brister
Newsletter: REDE - Editor: Jim Harris
Meetings: Usually at 8.00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month, excluding June, July & August.
Details: Jamie Hunter.
Chapter Fees: Individual \$5.

THUNDER BAY CHAPTER

Executive: President: David K. Riddle
Vice-President:
Secretary/Treasurer: Michael McLeod
Newsletter: WANIKAN - Editor: Elinor Barr
Meetings: Usually at 8.00 p.m. on the last Wednesday of each month, excluding June, July & August, in the Aesthetics Lounge, Lakehead University, Thunder Bay.
Chapter Fees: Individual \$2.

WINDSOR CHAPTER

Executive: President: Ted Trusevich (519) 256-6907
Vice-President: Kirk Walstedt
Secretary/Treasurer: Peter Reid
Newsletter: SQUIRREL COUNTY GAZETTE - Editor: Peter Reid
Meetings: Usually at 7.30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month, excluding June, July & August, in the Windsor Public Library, 850 Oullette Ave.
Chapter Fees: Individual \$3.

The Ontario Archaeological Society (Inc.)

Box 241, Postal Station P,

Toronto, Ontario M5S 2S8

EXECUTIVE 1980

PRESIDENT

Dr. Martha A. Latta
100 Northwood Drive
Willowdale, Ont. M2M 2K1
(416) 222-4346

VICE-PRESIDENT

Dr. J.H. McAndrews
110 Wineva Avenue
Toronto, Ont. M4E 2T2
(416) 699-0159

PAST PRESIDENT

Mr. W.A. (Bill) Fox
420 Tecumseh Ave. E
London, Ont. N6C 1T5
(519) 673-0966

TREASURER

Mr. Geoffrey Sutherland
20 Bonacres Avenue
West Hill, Ont. M1C 1P7
(416) 284-5205

CORRESPONDING SECY.

Ms. Norma Knowlton
33 Riverview Pkwy. #205
Toronto, Ont. M8Y 4E5
(416) 233-2460

RECORDING SECY.

Ms. Christine Kirby
29 Tournament Dr.
Willowdale, Ont. M2P 1W1
(416) 223-7296

SUB-COMMITTEES 1980

ARCH NOTES COMMITTEE

Chairman: Mr. M.W. Kirby
29 Tournament Drive
Willowdale, Ont. M2P 1K1
(416) 223-7296

SYMPOSIUM COMMITTEE

London Chapter, O.A.S.
55 Centre Street
London, Ontario
N6J 1T4

APPOINTED MEMBERS 1980

EDITOR: ONTARIO ARCHAEOLOGY

Dr. Richard B. Johnston
Dept. of Anthropology
Trent University
Peterborough, Ontario

Publications:

Scientific Journal: ONTARIO ARCHAEOLOGY
Newsletter: ARCH NOTES

Meetings:

Usually at 8.00 p.m. on the third Wednesday
of the month, excluding June, July and
August, in the McLaughlin Planetarium (Lecture
Theatre), Royal Ontario Museum, Queen's Park,
Toronto.

Fees:

Individual \$8; Family \$10; Institutional \$20;
Life \$200. Chapter Fees extra.

Members

500 +

O.A.S. ADMINISTRATOR
& LIBRARIAN

Chas. Garrad, 103 Anndale Drive,
Willowdale, Ont. M2N 2X3 (416) 223-2752