

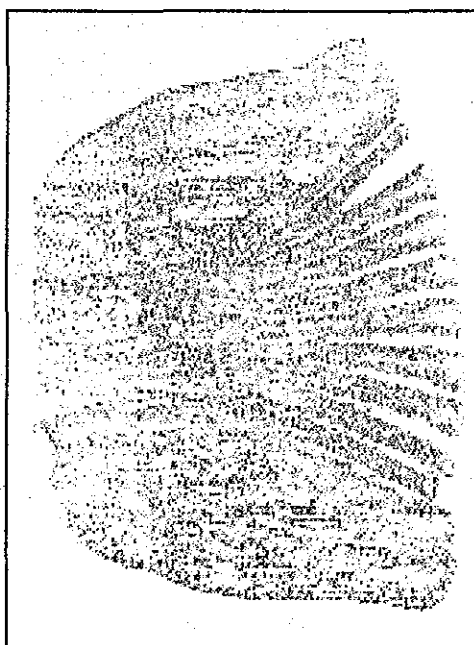


# Ontario Archaeological Society

# Arch Notes

New Series Volume 4, Issue 6

November / December 1999



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## Editor's note ...


Here it is - the last issue of the year. I hope everyone had a great 12 months and are looking forward to 12 more!

Inside you'll find a summary of Suzanne Needs-Howarth's Ph.D. thesis on zooarchaeology (the cover of which graces this *AN* cover). Those of you who attended the OAS symposium at Waterloo will have had a preview of Suzanne's work. In addition, a commentary on the OAS education kit and a variety of Arch Shorts from a well-deserved evening of recognition for Charles Garrad to Charlie's take on the Wyandot Confederacy (apologies to Charlie for the previous issue's editorial gaffe) to the newest Canadian Heritage River, the Humber.

Corrections from Janet Turner: "In the last issue of *Arch Notes*, inadvertently John Steckley was called Frank. Also, Sheryl Smith, an OAS member, attended the reburial at Ossosane. I regret this error and omission".

Remember, *Arch Notes* needs you! The in-box is empty!!

Have a Happy and Safe Festive Season

 Frank Dieterman, *Arch Notes* editor

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## Welcome New OAS Members

C. Amme - Cayuga	L. Quirk - Waterloo
R. Brooks - South Mountain	S. Row - Toronto
A. Brown - Etobicoke	L. Smith - Toronto
R. Campiti - Toronto	S. Swingler - Bradford
P. Hegarty - Oakville	A. Turtlebury - Thornhill
J. Long - Coldwater	W. Woodworth - Toronto
C. Martinello - Unionville	M. Zahab - Ottawa
L. Merritt - Toronto	V. Ziebarth - Combermere
S. Moir - Hamilton	

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## President's notes

Our 26<sup>th</sup> annual symposium "The Human Ecology of Ontario's Eleven Millennia: People, Environment, Change, and Adaptation Throughout the Holocene" was a tremendous success. Sponsored by the Quaternary Sciences Group of the University of Waterloo, Wilfrid Laurier University and the Grand-River-Waterloo Chapter of the OAS, the organization committee of Bob Parks, Dean Knight and Rob MacDonald plus their students and volunteers were congratulated and thanked for their hard work. Thanks are also extended to Bill Fox, Rob MacDonald and Charlie Turton for being such good sports during the Octoberfest keg tapping ceremony that was performed at the excellent dinner banquet. For those not attending, the evening included: the hilarious after-dinner entertainment provided by the renowned Beirido Brothers; the congratulatory letter from the Hon. Helen Johns, Minister of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation, MPP - Huron; and the prefatory remarks by the Liberal culture critic, Caroline DiCocco, MPP - Sarnia, taken from her upcoming maiden address to the legislature.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the J. Norman Emerson Medal to William E. ("Bill") Renison, a founding member of the Society. As described in the nomination submission by Bill Donaldson and Helen Devereaux, "Bill" participated in nearly every archaeological project in Ontario not only on excavations for the OAS but also by the National Museum of Canada, the University of Western Ontario and the Royal Ontario Museum during the 1950s and 1960s. At the same time he served the OAS on several committees and was its President in 1955. During that tenure, he organized and participated in a public education display at the Sportsman's Show at the Canadian National Exhibition. This allowed the public to see for the first time material recovered from the stratified Sheguindah site on Manitoulin Island, as well as a diorama of an "excavated" five-foot square. He also brought in professional archaeologists for a weekend of illustrated public lectures.

His greatest and most significant contribution was in compiling a unique pictorial record of some of the

early archaeological fieldwork done in Ontario. At his own expense, the photographic prints and colour slides were often the only pictorial record of the work in progress or the artifacts found in situ. Most of these pictures and slides were recently turned over to the Department of Anthropology at the University of Toronto, where they are being accessioned by Helen Devereux with the assistance of Collections Technician, Patricia Reed who is working on an article on the whole process for a future *Arch Notes*.

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At the annual general meeting held on October 30<sup>th</sup>, 1999, a draft of the Society's new Strategic Plan for 2000 to 2003 was introduced. The Board of Directors has identified a number of Key Result Areas (KRA) that will ensure the continuing vitality of the society in these times of changing economic, political and societal conditions. These Key Result Areas constitute a dynamic strategic plan which can be revised in response to changing conditions. A summary can be obtained from our Executive Director, Jo Holden (416) 730-0797. Members are encouraged to review it and provide their comments and suggestions for consideration by the Board of Directors as soon as possible.

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On September 29<sup>th</sup>, 1999, OAS members Paul Lennox and Gary Warrick outdid themselves again in a joint public presentation in Brantford. At the invitation of Tom Hill, Curator of the Woodland Cultural Centre, the "dynamic duo" summarized their more than ten years of fieldwork for the Ontario Ministry of Transportation on Highway 403 from Burlington through to Woodstock (and elsewhere in Ontario). Many of the 50 or so Six Nation First Nation members who were present asked questions about the artifacts recovered from the MTO archaeological excavations, and expressed their concerns about seeing other artifacts and ethnographic items for sale at flea markets. One individual took special interest in the photography and storage of some wampum shell beads that the MTO found on one site near the Grand River.

I was able to respond that the OAS is also concerned with the apparent increase in the selling of archaeo-

logical artifacts in the province. Examples of this include regular advertisements in *The Beaver Magazine* (an internationally respected publication of the Hudson's Bay Company) and *The Globe and Mail* newspaper by an antique dealer in Dundas, Ontario offering to purchase native artifacts, and by the widely distributed business cards of "Artifacts International" in Port Stanley, Ontario offering to buy, sell and trade artifacts.

Although regulations of the Ontario Heritage Act make the sale of archaeological artifacts difficult, if not impossible, Ministry staff have informed the OAS that they do not have the time or resources to investigate this situation. It was suggested that if First Nations asked the Ministry to investigate, the response might be different.

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The Society has received several hundred dollars as a result of our partnership with Johnson Insurance Incorporated who have made the Preferred Option Plan (POP) available to our members wanting life, personal accident, health and dental insurance coverage (see advertisement in this issue). Johnson also has home and auto plans for Society members. If you would like to obtain more information about these plans, you can call Johnson toll-free at 1-800-461-4597.

Remember that the Society receives \$20.00 for each member who requests a quote plus an additional sum if a member actually signs up with Johnson. This partnership arrangement provides the Society with much needed revenue to finance our general operating programs and services that are no longer supported the province. Testimonial letters from members who have signed up stating how much they have saved from their previous insurance premiums are available upon request from our Executive Director, Jo Holden (416) 730-0797.

 Bob Mayer, President

## From the OAS office...


As the old year ends and many people we know ruminate about the "last" everything, from the World Series (wow, what a series!) to the last OAS Symposium, I in turn would like to be very short sighted and just look back at this past year.

It has been a year of tremendous energy within the OAS office and definitely around the Board Room table. We are very grateful to our donors, and our volunteers as they have been there for us, providing energy, expertise and financial support when we knew we could not budget the outlay for specific activities. Although the Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation has reduced our funding, I know the OAS Board will respond to the challenges of the new financial environment described by Minister Johns at the recent meeting of Heritage and Corporate representatives, hosted by the Ontario Heritage Foundation. In this new economic playing field, partnering, twinning and reaching out to the business community is how the OAS will explore funding for projects outside of our core funding capabilities.

As the new year begins the Society looks forward to a "building" year as the Board of Directors implements the first year of the Strategic Plan. In the meantime, the OAS continues to assemble activities to raise our profile among the general public and the other members of the Heritage Community.

Please take the opportunity to spread the word about the OAS by purchasing any number of the limited edition 50 YEAR ANNIVERSARY Coffee Mug(s) - see flyer with this issue. I can't think of any better conversation starter at the work place. So keep your eyes and ears open, the OAS intends to be everywhere!

Happy Holidays!

 Jo Holden, Executive Director

## MCzCR news & licences

Bernice Field, long time archaeological licensing officer for the Ministry, recently left her position to pursue employment opportunities outside of government and archaeology. While Bernice will be missed, and we all owe her a big thanks for the monumental effort she undertook to overhaul and streamline the entire licensing process, she assures us she has no regrets in leaving and looks forward to a life free from issues and endless correspondence!

While Bernice's position will ultimately be replaced, we've taken some interim measures to ensure level of service in licensing is not too adversely affected over the next while. Roshan Jussawalla will continue to keep everything flowing smoothly. As well, Neal Ferris has agreed to cover off Bernice's function for the next few months (and will be getting some assistance to help address normal Southwest workload). So if you have any licensing questions, contact Neal at his London office (519-675-7742). And we would also encourage you to help us make sure the process works smoothly. As you seek license renewal, keep in mind we'll be delaying processing your license if you have outstanding reports or other matters that need to be resolved. So make sure your reporting requirements are up to date so we can just tick your name off and hand you your number for 2000. Otherwise, talk to us before you submit your application, so we can work everything out beforehand. Thanks for your help and patience!

Heritage Operations Group  
Ministry of Citizenship, Culture & Recreation

The following list consists of the type of licence, name of licensee, licence number and site location. Unless otherwise noted, all licences are for the Province of Ontario. For information, contact the Archaeological Licence Office, Heritage & Libraries Branch, 400 University Avenue, 4th Floor, Tel. (416)314-7123; fax: (416)314-7175.

### *Licences issued during September and October 1999:*

#### **Field School:**

Kenneth T. Buchanan, Archaeological Survey of Laurentian University, Department of Sociology & Anthropology, 1999-125, Speigel Site (BIHj-1) • Peter A. Timmins, University of Western Ontario, Department of Anthropology,

Social Science Centre, 1999-126, Thames Valley Trail Site (AfHh-288), Middlesex County • Diane Delin, 1999-128, Arrow Lake & surrounding area to include Whitefish Lake

#### **Consulting:**

Sid Kroker, Quaternary Consultants Ltd., 1999-127, Glass Twp., Kenora

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### **The Toronto Society of the Archaeological Institute of America 2000 Lecture Series**

#### ***Seaside Life:***

#### ***The ROM's Taino Excavations in Cuba***

Jan. 19, 5:15 pm

David Pendergast, Royal Ontario Museum

#### ***Argilos:***

#### ***A Greek Colony in Thrace***

Feb. 2, 5:15 pm

Jacques Perreault University of Montreal

All lectures held in the  
Royal Ontario Museum  
Theatre Level One Below  
100 Queen's Park Crescent

### **Fort York 2000 Lecture Series**

#### ***Highlights from Fort York's Archaeological Collection***

Wed. Jan. 19, 7:30 pm

David Spittal, Archaeological Director at Fort York will present slides of some of the most interesting artifacts found at the site.

#### ***The Sedentary Militia of the Home District***

Wed. Feb. 16, 7:30 pm

Historian William Gray explores the story of the Sedentary Militia during the War of 1812. Although it was weakly armed and had little training it fulfilled a large role in colonial defence.

All lectures held at the Royal Canadian Military Institute,  
Simcoe Lounge 426 University Ave. (West side, south of  
Dundas). Jacket and tie required.  
Contact Dr. Carl Benn (416) 392-6907 ext. 225

## Update on Land Registry Information

I meet with the Ontario Heritage Alliance, a group comprised of members, such as the Ontario Historical Society, Ontario Museum Association, Ontario Black History Society, to name a few, four to five times a year. The OHA had been actively monitoring the activities of the Apolrod Committee over the past two years. This particular committee's contract came to completion this past summer. However due to OHA persistence, information regarding where land records were to be placed was an ongoing engagement, that resulted in information coming to us, at least now on a regular basis. At the most recent meeting, Sept. 13, 1999, the OHA received the following update.

Records from the following counties have home in the facilities listed below:

- Walkerton/Bruce - Bruce County Museum and Archives (519) 797-2080
- Napanee/Lennox/Addington - County of Lennox and Addington Museum & Archives (613) 354-3027

- Belleville/Hastings - Seventh Town Historical Society

The following seven should be moved by the close of December 1999 to a facility: Kitchener/Waterloo, Owen Sound/Grey, Stratford/Perth, Cornwall/Stormont, Morrisburg, Dundas, Picton/Prince Edward, Alexandria/Glengarry.

The next six, Coburg/Northumberland, Kenora, Cayuga/Haldimand, Simcoe/Norfolk, L'Original/Prescott and Sault Ste Mario/Algoma may be moved with the next 18 to 24 months.

The OHA has arranged a meeting with this group on March 6, 2000. At that meeting we expect to be told the results of the Dec./99 moves and information on the where the latter six will be going.

*Jo Holden*

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### To Our Volunteers

*There is no greater gift than  
the gift of yourself! For the time,  
energy and expertise you have given us  
THANK YOU so much for all your help.  
You're appreciated more than you know!*



*Respectfully,*

*Jo Holden, Executive Director  
and the 1999 Board of Directors*

<i>Donald, Louis Baldone</i>	<i>Chris Caroppo</i>	<i>Frank Dieterman</i>
<i>Dena Doroszenko</i>	<i>Max Friesan</i>	<i>Helen Haines</i>
<i>Norma Knowlton</i>	<i>Dan Long</i>	<i>Marianne Murphy</i>
<i>Carla Redwood</i>	<i>John Steckley</i>	<i>Jane Sacchetti</i>
<i>Andy Schoenhofer</i>	<i>Alex von Gernet</i>	<i>Peter Timmins</i>
<i>Bev Garner</i>	<i>Eva MacDonald</i>	<i>Andrew Clish</i>
<i>Tracey Killip</i>	<i>Blake Walker</i>	<i>Ellen Blaubergs</i>

### ONTARIO ARCHAEOLOGY

The Board of Directors has reluctantly accepted the resignation of Alex von Gernet as the editor of Ontario Archaeology. As a result, all submissions to the journal should now be forwarded to the head office of the OAS, for the attention of the Director of Publications.

The address is:

Ontario Archaeological Society  
126 Willowdale Avenue  
Toronto, Ontario  
M2N 4Y2

The Board is taking this opportunity to restructure the editorial process and a new editorial board will be appointed by December 31, 1999.

Sincerely,  
Caroline Thériault, MES  
Director of Publications, OAS

# Arch Features

## Native fishing in the Great Lakes: a multidisciplinary approach to zooarchaeological remains from pre-contact Iroquoian villages near Lake Simcoe, Ontario

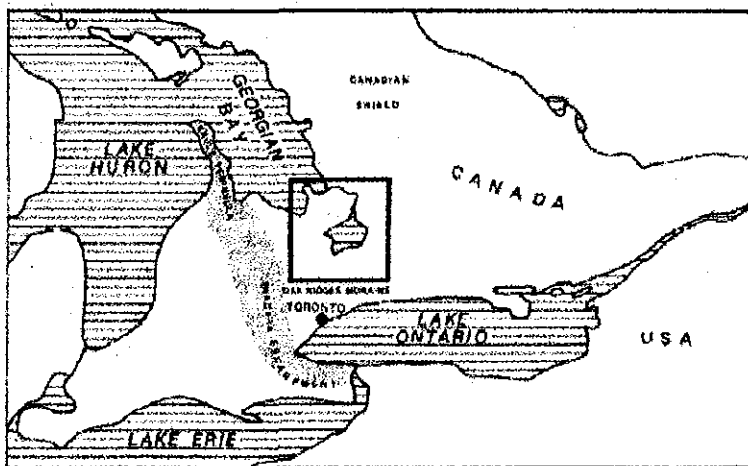
Suzanne Needs-Howarth (*Groningen Institute for Archaeology,  
University of Groningen, Netherlands*)

This thesis presents several lines of investigation, which, in combination, offer a detailed way to investigate precontact fishing strategies in the Great Lakes area. Questions to be answered include when, where, and how fish remains at archaeological sites originated. Palaeoenvironmental, biogeographical and fisheries science data are used to understand the ancient landscape, fish habitat and distribution, and fish behaviour. Descriptions in the ethnohistoric literature, written by missionaries and explorers in the seventeenth century, are used to understand the techniques and social customs surrounding fishing practices in the early contact period. The main body of information, however, is zooarchaeological. This thesis develops ways of getting more information from small collections of fish bones by looking at species distribution within collections; co-occurrence of fish taxa; fish bone size; and age and season of death.

This information is considered at the level of individual archaeological deposits, as well as at the site level.

The multidisciplinary approach developed in this thesis facilitates an understanding of how people in the past scheduled their time, energy, material and labour resources. Inter- and intra-site differences in fishing strategies are investigated at three communities of Iroquoian-speaking people who lived between Lake Simcoe and Georgian Bay of Lake Huron, Ontario. These sites range in date from the end of the thirteenth century to the beginning of the sixteenth century AD. The occupants were the cultural antecedents of the Huron, who were living in the area at European contact.

The first two chapters place the research in its environmental and cultural context. The Iroquoian food economy was based on slash-and-burn maize horticulture, gathering, hunting and fishing. Settlement in the contact period consisted of permanently occupied villages with many multi-family long-houses; smaller satellite villages; and hamlets and special purpose camps for activities such as corn horticulture and fishing. Most of this settlement pattern probably already existed in the precontact period. Precontact sites were probably occupied for a period of about 20-30 years, after which time the community moved to a new location.



*Regional geographic context of the research area.*

Corn horticulture and village life in Ontario have their origin in the first millennium. Unlike

in other areas of Ontario, there is no in-situ development of Iroquoian villages in the area between Lake Simcoe and Georgian Bay. The earliest of the three sites under discussion, the Barrie site, represents a community that migrated to the area from the area just north of Lake Ontario around A. D. 1280. This site, occupied between A. D. 1280-1330, is the earliest longhouse village known in the area. It was located on a creek at the head of Kempenfelt Bay on the east side of Lake Simcoe, and close to Minesing Swamp and the Nottawasaga River, which drains into Georgian Bay of Lake Huron, west of the sites. The Dunsmore site, dating to approximately A. D. 1430-1510, and the Carson site, dating to approximately A. D. 1475-1525, were part of a proliferation of permanent villages in the area. These two later sites are located close together, about 4 km north of the Barrie site, near Little Lake and Willow Creek, which are part of the Nottawasaga River drainage.

Both historic reports and more recent ethnographies emphasize the importance of fishing to the Iroquoian people living in the area at the time of European contact. Until recently, this has not resulted in the necessary refocusing of (zoo)archaeological research aims and methods to include ways of dealing with fish remains in detail, using additional and different approaches to those used on other taxonomic classes, such as birds and mammals. In order to understand the nature of fish subsistence strategies, collections of fish bones have to be examined in more detail, going beyond traditional bone fragment counts. The methodological potential and limitations of the fish component of the collections are discussed at length because many of these issues have not been previously explored in an Ontario context. This thesis focuses on fish remains; discussion of other animals is limited to those aspects that may elucidate taphonomic or subsistence issues relating to the fish component of the assemblages.

The Barrie, Dunsmore and Carson sites were salvage excavated in the last 15 years. The zooarchaeological samples derive from deposits in houses and from external middens. The number of fish bones identified below the taxonomic level of class, excluding scales and vertebrae, is 380, 665, and 558, respectively. These each contain 20-25 different fish species. Small sample sizes, especially at the feature level, are a prob-

lem. In addition, the assemblages were recovered with differing intensities of flotation and dry screening, and differing sieve mesh sizes. At Barrie and Dunsmore, dry screening in the field was carried out with a 6.4 mm mesh on a shaker screen, whereas flotation heavy fraction was recovered with a 2 mm geological sieve. At Carson the mesh sizes were 3.2 mm and 2.4 mm, respectively. It was necessary, therefore, to sort out taphonomic differences from intra- and inter-site differences in resource exploitation. This happens in Chapter 4.

The third chapter discusses laboratory identification and computer-based quantification of the zooarchaeological assemblages. It is argued that cranial bones are unevenly represented because of differences in osteology, mechanical strength and associated susceptibility to fragmentation and other taphonomic factors, rather than small sample size. The use of "number of identified specimens" as an abundance measure is qualified by a discussion of eight so-called "diagnostic elements" that are readily identified to species even when broken: articular, ceratohyal, cleithrum, dentary, hyomandibular, operculum, preoperculum and quadrate. This discussion on diagnostic elements highlights the over-representation of, for example, pectoral spines and vertebrae surrounding the air bladder in Ictaluridae, and problems of quantifying lake sturgeon remains. These diagnostic elements await verification in other Great Lakes fish bone collections.

The fourth chapter deals with various aspects of taphonomy: fish butchering, processing, consumption, discard, burial and recovery. Vertebrae were identified to the level of family in order to identify fish processing. It is argued that expected ratios of cranial bone to vertebrae must take into account the range of cranial elements that can be identified, as well as the range of vertebrae in different fish species, and their sizes in relation to the sieve mesh aperture. In general, vertebrae are under-represented in the three archaeological collections with respect to cranial bones, suggesting that catch site butchering was limited. Iroquoian cooking methods relied heavily on stews. Fish bones were likely discarded with the head, or included in the cooking process. Many of the fish bones originally deposited would be unlikely to be preserved or recovered. Dogs were likely a major taphonomic



agent at each village. Burial conditions at the Barrie, Dunsmore and Carson sites were favourable to the preservation of all bone, including, at Dunsmore and Carson, fish scales.

*Fish bone distribution by body area at the Barrie, Dunsmore and Carson sites.*

	Barrie	Dunsmore	Carson
Identified (mostly cranial) bones	380	665	558
Scales	1	105	376
Vertebrae	429	229	267
Unidentified cranial bones ribs, spines, etc.	660	996	3015
<b>Gross fish bone count</b>	<b>1470</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>4216</b>

Bone weight was used to assess fragment sizes of the different taxonomic classes and thus identify recovery bias. Since individual fish bones often weigh very little, taphonomic issues within this class had to be assessed in a different manner, using fragmentation rates and fish element size. Fish element size was estimated using a proportional method, whereby the relative size of elements was expressed as a percentage of that same element in the reference specimen of known size. Wherever possible, these proportional size observations were augmented by osteometrics. By back calculating the osteometrics to a size percentage in relationship to the comparable measurements in the reference specimen, it was possible to combine fish element size data relating to multiple elements and thus increase sample size. These data were used to document differences in fish element sizes between the three sites and between recovery methods.

As expected, flotation has resulted in better fish bone recovery. At Dunsmore and Carson it has resulted in retrieval of smaller fish remains. At Carson this was unexpected, since the dry screen mesh size and heavy fraction sieve size were almost identical. Also surprising was the minimal differences between the fish remains identified from the screened components from Dunsmore and Carson, despite a 3.2 mm difference in dry screen mesh aperture. These findings may suggest a field recovery bias against small, fragmented fish bones in the dry screens at the Carson site.

Fish remains are not necessarily a passive reflection of local availability or ease of capture. Chapter 5 pre-

sents approaches from various biological, environmental, historical and archaeological subdisciplines that can help interpret archaeological fish remains. The ethnohistorical sources contain some useful details on technique of capture for fish, involving weirs, nets, spears and canoes, although it is recognized that the described events may have been atypical, and that precontact fishing may have differed substantially from that of the early contact period. Both active and passive fishing techniques can be expected to have left signatures in terms of quantity of remains, co-occurrence of taxa, and, especially, fish element size.

Reliance on current biogeographical data for species presence or absence in the past can result in circular arguments. In order to understand what kinds of habitats were exploited, it is useful to employ zoologists' habitat preference studies. A tabulation of habitat preferences displayed considerable inter-site differences. The taxonomic distribution at the Barrie site suggests an emphasis on open water, large bays and estuaries, while those at Dunsmore and Carson show an emphasis on large bays, estuaries and coastal marshes.

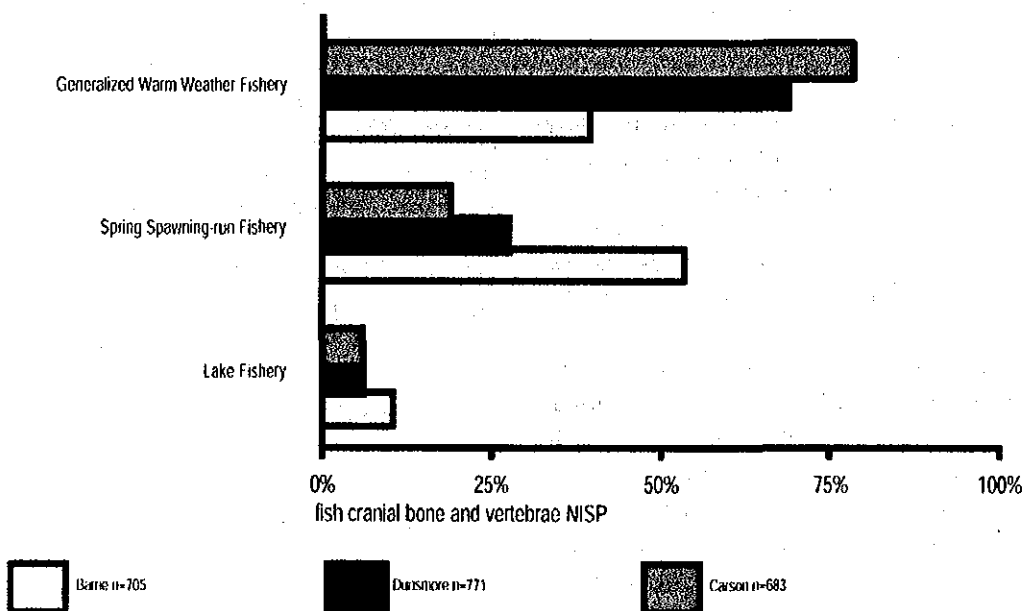
Since species were not equally available throughout the year, however, seasonal variation in fish behaviour must also be considered. The fish species represented at each site exhibit considerable seasonal variation in habitat and behaviour, and for most species a spawning-run catch implies something very different in terms of fishing strategies than does a non-spawning-run catch. It was, therefore, necessary to somehow distinguish mature from immature fish in species that can be readily caught both during the spawning season and outside of it. The second application of fish element size, therefore, is as an approximation of fish size and associated state of maturity, in order to identify probable spawning-run catches.

Calcified structures, such as fish scales and pectoral spines, offer the potential of establishing age structure of the catch, as well as season of capture. The age of the fish can be used to infer whether the individual was sexually mature. The CSAGES method newly developed at the Ontario Ministry of Resources holds much promise for archaeological interpretation.

Using these diverse sources of information, fish remains from the Barrie, Dunsmore and Carson sites were assigned to one of three fisheries complexes. The foundation for this model was laid in conjunction with colleague Stephen Cox Thomas: 1) Spring Spawning-run Fishery: a watercourse oriented inland fishery that focuses on intensive exploitation of spring spawning taxa, such as the lake sturgeon, white sucker, longnose sucker, yellow perch and walleye; 2) Generalized Warm Weather Fishery: a generalized

bay or inland fishery for opportunistic warm weather exploitation of resident taxa that do not aggregate in harvestable quantities during their spawning-runs, such as pikes, brown bullhead, members of the Sunfish family, and of immature and non-spawning yellow perch; and 3) Lake Fishery: a lake-oriented fishery on Kempenfelt Bay and Nottawasaga Bay that included inshore exploitation of autumn-spawning Salmonidae.

*Relative contribution to the fisheries model. Salmonidae vertebrae are assigned to the Lake Fishery; Catostomidae and Percidae vertebrae to the Spring Spawning-run Fishery; the remainder, including longnose gar, to the Generalized Warm Weather Fishery.*



Fish species may be found together in a deposit because they inhabit the same waters and/or they spawn at the same time in the same location and/or they are amenable to the same techniques of capture. Chapter 6 provides details of the fish assemblages, and discusses how fish remains from individual features and from the site as a whole relate to the fisheries model described above. Working at the feature level, differences in fish faunal assemblage composition were identified that may reflect differences in seasonal timing of procurement events and refuse disposal. This suggests that, while some taxa were probably exploited mostly during their spawning run, other taxa were exploited throughout the warmer months, including, but not restricted to, their spawning season.

The Barrie site fish assemblage is dominated by lake sturgeon and yellow perch. Examination of sectioned lake sturgeon pectoral spines by a zoologist at University of Guelph suggests at least some of the sturgeon were mature. The most productive and predictable place for a sturgeon fishing expedition would probably be at or close to the mouth of the Nottawasaga River during the spring spawning-run. The only fish scale from the site was analysed by a biologist from Trent University, using the CSAGES method mentioned above. It was of a five year old yellow perch killed in spring - most likely a spawning run catch.

The size distribution of yellow perch suggest that the majority were sexually mature when caught, and the contents of certain features appear to be the result of

mass-capture events. Yellow perch probably did not inhabit the Nottawasaga River drainage, so these fish were probably obtained from Lake Simcoe and tributaries. The remainder of the fish remains also suggest an emphasis on rivers, the lake shore and tributary streams during spring. A small number of Salmonidae was obtained from the lake.

At the Dunsmore site yellow perch is the most important taxon, followed by brown bullhead, pumpkinseed and northern pike. The northern pike were probably mostly not sexually mature. The size of brown bullhead cranial bones suggests mature individuals. CSAGES age and growth analysis of six brown bullhead spines, conducted by a fisheries biologist, suggests mature individuals and a wide range of catch dates, with only two possible spawning run catches. The yellow perch are on average somewhat smaller than those at Barrie, and represent a wider element size range. This suggests that Dunsmore includes fewer yellow perch derived from spawning-run catches.

Unequivocal evidence for spring exploitation comes from 12 Percidae scales derived from four different features. The substantial numbers of yellow perch cranial bones initially led to the assumption that the scales derived from this species. Absolute scale size, maximum age and growth pattern, however, suggested a related taxon, specifically the subspecies *Stizostedion vitreum vitreum* or walleye. All analysed scales from the Dunsmore site were of older, sexually mature individuals, caught in (early) spring. Currently, this species comes up the Nottawasaga River in April to spawn in Willow Creek, where it is very susceptible to mass catches. Except for the exploitation of walleye, fishing events at Dunsmore appear to have been less concentrated on the Spring Spawning-run Fishery than at Barrie. The exploitation of walleye during the Spring Spawning-run Fishery is congruent with a local fishing effort. The remainder of the fish remains at Dunsmore can mostly be interpreted in terms of the Generalized Warm Weather Fishery or the Lake Fishery.

The fish bones at Carson are dominated by brown bullhead, pumpkinseed and yellow perch. The yellow perch and bullhead are similar in size to those at Dunsmore. The northern pike are slightly larger than

at Dunsmore, but probably also mostly represent immature individuals. The brown bullhead pectoral spine age and growth data obtained using CSAGES suggest some individuals were not sexually mature. Exploitation ranges from spring to autumn, with four of the eight spines representing possible spawning run catches. As at Dunsmore, the northern pike, brown bullhead and smaller perch were probably mostly exploited throughout the warm seasons as part of the Generalized Warm Weather Fishery, rather than during their spawning run. As at Dunsmore, the most convincing evidence for the Spring Spawning run Fishery derives from 24 walleye scales from two major features.

The first part of Chapter 7 compares the fish bone assemblages from Barrie, Dunsmore and Carson to suggest inter-site differences in fishing strategies and processing. The species distributions suggest differences in fishing locations. The ratio of cranial bone to vertebrae may indicate that more off-site processing was practised by the Barrie occupants than by those of the later two sites. This suggest exploitation of waters away from the site, which may have made catch site decapitation more desirable. The numerous yellow perch at all three sites derived from Lake Simcoe and tributaries, waters that were located in relatively close proximity to the sites. The numerous lake sturgeon at Barrie were probably obtained some distance away, from the main part of the Nottawasaga River, perhaps at the mouth of the river at Georgian Bay. The numerous brown bullhead at Dunsmore and Carson were probably derived locally, from Little Lake and Willow Creek. Yellow perch bones were on average larger at Barrie than at Dunsmore and Carson. Since mesh sizes at Barrie and Dunsmore were identical, it is possible that these differences in bone size are not entirely the result of recovery differences. The species distribution and the larger fishes at Barrie suggest a greater emphasis on fishing with nets or spears during the spawning-run compared to Dunsmore and Carson. Inclusion of the vertebrae identifications suggest a greater emphasis Salmonidae at Barrie.

Osteometrics and age-at-death data relating to brown bullhead and walleye suggest that the Carson assemblage contains younger/smaller fish than the Dunsmore assemblage, both in terms of averages and

distribution. There are a number of reasons to suggest this difference is not solely a function of differing dry screen mesh sizes or a change in fishing-gear selectivity. The fisheries model suggests that fishing activities at Dunsmore and Carson took place locally, in Willow Creek and Little Lake. It is possible that the reduction in fish size and age at Carson is in part a reflection of changes in the fish community. The presence of very old walleye at both Dunsmore and Carson suggests that the hypothesized change in the fish community was extremely subtle. It certainly does not indicate overfishing. If the decline in fish age is indeed the result of human predation, and not of taphonomy, sampling error or natural changes in the fish population, it would confirm the relative site chronology.

For comparative purposes the three sites near Kempenfelt Bay were compared with three precontact sites located on Lover's Creek, which drains on the south side of Kempenfelt Bay: the Wiacek, Hubbert and Molson sites. Large numbers of suckers at these sites appear to indicate a stronger emphasis on spring time exploitation and/or lake fishing. Most striking, however, are the large numbers of lake trout, lake herring and lake whitefish at the Molson site, which was occupied in the last decades before contact. A comparison of cranial bone and vertebrae indicates that some fishing for these Salmonidae took place at the earlier sites (and these more incidental captures may have been during spring), but that this fishery only starts in earnest after the occupation of Dunsmore and Carson. The autumn component of the Lake Fishery was one of the most important aspects of the economy during the early contact period. This fishery would have been extremely productive, both in terms of volume of fish that could be obtained in a short period of time and their nutritional value (especially lake trout).

Analysis of non-fish taxa complements the fish data. The occupants of the Barrie site appear to have had a more seasonally focussed fishing strategy and a concurrent focus on birds and mammals preferring riverine environments and deciduous /coniferous forest. As might be expected from a village with "pioneer" status, this appears to indicate that there were few clearings or secondary growth areas in the vicinity of

the Barrie site. Numerous rodent bones and some deer-bones initially appear incongruent, since these represent species that frequent disturbed habitats. However, both rodents and deer would have been attracted to the novelty of corn fields around the settlement. Deer were probably not numerous in the area because of unfavourable environmental conditions. The number of deer bones at Dunsmore and Carson is even lower than at Barrie. Even a modest level of exploitation by the fourteenth century inhabitants of the area (including Barrie) may have reduced the densities to such an extent that local deer hunting was no longer feasible by the time of occupation of the Dunsmore and Carson sites in the fifteenth century. Alternatively, it is possible that the deer at the Barrie site were obtained further south, in the area where the Barrie population originated, where deer were more numerous.

A major difference between these three sites is seen in the reliance on dog, which is much greater at Carson than at the other two sites. Some dogs were probably sacrificed during religious feasts - these are retrieved in the form of separate burials, as was the case in one of the houses at Carson. Dogs were also part of the diet, however, as is attested by dog bones with cut marks in refuse pits and middens. The nutritional value of dogs, as well as the ease of capture, may thus have allowed and/or encouraged people to spend more time in and around the Carson village. This fits the more local focus of fishing efforts.

It appears that the food economy documented in the early contact period can be viewed as an extension of the general precontact subsistence pattern. What has become obvious through this research is that there are many variations within this general precontact pattern. It will always be a challenge to separate out taphonomy, environment and human preference, but this multidisciplinary approach has provided some new insights.

*You may view the entire Ph.D. thesis online at <http://www.ub.rug.nl/eldoc/dis/arts/s.j.needs-howarth/> with the aid of Adobe Acrobat Reader. You may also order a hard copy online, or by calling 01131-50-363-5511. The price is around \$35 US, including shipping and taxes.*

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## Archaeology, education & the OAS

*Virginie Lemieux (University of Toronto)*

The Ontario Archaeological Society's role in disseminating information about archaeology to the public is well known; however, one of the ways it educates many school children is not recognised or utilised to its full potential. What is being referred to is the OAS educational kit which was specifically designed to teach fourth to eighth grade students about archaeology in Ontario. This article is written as a means to remedy this situation and promote the fact that the kit is a useful, accessible and well-designed educational tool.

The kit was designed as a joint venture of the Ontario Archaeological Society and the Peel Museum. The idea for the kit first came about after the general public made several requests to the OAS for more information concerning archaeology in Ontario. Inundated with demands for speakers to visit classrooms,

it was proposed that a package be designed to enable instructors to teach students these topics themselves.

In 1991, Jeff Bursey, as the director of the education committee of the OAS, was asked to find volunteers that had the skills, time, and drive to produce such a kit. Two such volunteers were found at the Peel Museum in Brampton, Janice Calvert, and Josie Holden. As the in-house and outreach education advisors at this institution, they were perfect for the job. They developed prototypes of the kit, one of which was selected. As a result of a generous Access to Archaeology Program Grant from the Government of Canada Department of Communications, more complete kits could then be produced. A graphic design artist and a student at the Ontario College of Arts, Haig Bedrossian, was hired to design the layout of the kits including packaging and booklets. The reproduction artifacts were obtained from two stores specialising in

native implements. Geological clubs, local flintknappers and a local potter contributed other materials. The kits were produced at the Peel Museum. They were then given to teachers in various schools and assessed. No modifications were deemed necessary and the kit was finished approximately two years after it was first conceived. There are presently two versions of the kit, 'The Archaeology of Northern Ontario' and 'The Archaeology of Southern and Central Ontario'. The first version of the kit is found in northern chapters of the OAS and all the southern kits are found at the Toronto chapter. They are available to educational institutions throughout Ontario for a small fee.

### **Why Should Children Learn about Archaeology?**

Public interest in archaeology is overwhelming and evidenced in the plethora of movies, television shows, and books that address this subject. Children are also interested in this subject and a series of games and books have been designed for them with this curiosity about archaeology in mind. Why are children and also teachers so interested in archaeology? Its compatibility with hands-on activities, outdoor activities, exercises that involve developing thinking skills and scientific reasoning, and its multidisciplinary aspect, are appealing (Higgins as quoted in Selig 1991: 3). In the United States this interest has translated into several programs that cover a broad range of topics such as underwater, historic and prehistoric archaeology. These programs have been designed with several different audiences in mind. For example, activities have been implemented for students at both the elementary and secondary levels and also for children with special needs such as handicapped students. They incorporate a variety of teaching tools and styles. Some involve programs designed to educate teachers in order to give them the proper background to teach topics such as archaeological methods, and native issues. Others enable students to work on actual or 'mock' digs or have in class visits by archaeologists. Both approaches have been highly successful.

Why is it important to integrate the subject of archaeology into school programs? Knowing about past groups allows students to understand the depth of human history and prehistory and allows them to better comprehend their own place in the world. It

also enables them to "be better informed, more thoughtful, and more responsible in their behavior toward cultural resources" (SAA: 2). This is especially important in a time where "archaeological resources are being destroyed at an alarming rate and could well be largely eliminated if nothing is done to stem the waves of destruction" (Bense 1991: 9). Archaeology as an interdisciplinary approach allows the teacher an opportunity to discuss several related and often integrated aspects such as geology, physics, anthropology, palaeontology, osteology and history to name but a few. The multidimensionality of this discipline also helps to develop children's art, thinking, reading, writing, oral presentation, and math skills. These positive aspects that stem from teaching children about archaeology cannot be overemphasised.

Although the benefits of learning about archaeology are obvious, not all children are ready to fully take advantage of all this subject has to offer. It can be taught at several different ages, however the earliest students to be able to fully understand all its various aspects would be those of the third grade. As Smith points out "it has been our experience that younger audiences do not have enough sense of chronology or cosmography to understand the processes of the science, although they do recognise that archeology and culture history are a means of exploring the past" (1991: 14). That is not to say that the subject matter cannot be broached at all, it can but just not to the same extent. It is important to start teaching children about the importance of studying the past as early as they can comprehend what this means. Kids if curious about the topic should be encouraged to learn more about it. This is exactly what the resource education kit was designed to do.

### **What's Included in the Kit?**

The kit is divided into five main components. The first, the binder intitled 'Teacher's Directory' is an introduction to the kit for the teacher. The binder 'What is archaeology', the second item included, is designed as an introduction to general principles of archaeological research and analysis. The other three components are designed to be used as self-directed student activities and include a series of four colourful booklets outlining the main archaeological periods, activity sheets, and reproduction artifacts repre-

senting examples of physical objects found at an archaeological site. These artifacts consist of a piece of native copper from Isle Royale in the Lake Superior region; Early Archaic, Middle Archaic and Late Woodland points; a 'ceinture fléchée' or sash which would have been worn by French traders; a netsinker used to weigh down fish nets; a ceremonial axe, which is a French reproduction of the aboriginal's stone axe; a bannerstone which is a counterweight used in a throwing spear or atlatl; pottery; a beaver pelt and Chevron beads. These two last items would have been used as trade items. Also included are several callipers, which are used to measure the width, thickness, and length of objects.

### **The Goal and Objectives of the Kit**

As mentioned in Binder 1, the main purpose of the kit is to provide a curriculum complement to the study of the archaeological heritage and history of Ontario's earlier occupants. It is designed as a prepared and well-thought out package about a topic that some teachers may find somewhat intimidating to learn about and teach.

The kit was produced with several objectives in mind. As outlined in Binder 1, there are seven main objectives of the kit. The first is to introduce students to the concept of archaeology and to encourage them to care for archaeological heritage. Also important is to create an increased awareness about the archaeological and historical heritage of Ontario's earlier occupants and to introduce students to the concept of historical time-lines and periods. The kit also aims to develop co-operative skills in discovering information as a group by reporting information from observations through the selection of a spokesperson and ensuring that information is relayed coherently. Students are also encouraged to fine-tune their investigative skills in collecting information through visual, auditory and tactile observation of artifacts to answer questions such as: what is it, what is it made from, how was it made, what was it used for, and how was it used. The ideas used to design the kit also foster a sense of what children should know about scientific approaches in general. As can be seen the kit was created with very specific goals in mind, those that foster learning and self-improvement.

### **What Does the Kit Teach Children & Teachers?**

The informational content of the kit can be subdivided into two different components; the items designed to give the teacher and students some key background information and the second, the actual lessons and activities. The first component details information about archaeology, and also the prehistory and history of Ontario. The section of the second binder intitled 'What is Archaeology', is designed to give the teacher a sufficient background of the fundamental principals archaeological methodology. It contains a detailed description of the various steps involved in archaeology and how they are undertaken. These include obtaining a licence, finding an archaeological site, mapping an archaeological site, site excavation, analysis, and finally conclusions drawn. This summary of the archaeological process helps to convey to educational instructors a sense of what exactly archaeology is and what it involves, so that he or she can then relay the information to the students. In order to further complement this description a glossary of relevant terms is included, which could be very useful in answering students questions. As well a very exhaustive and relevant list of resources for the teacher and student alike is given. For the pupils a list of fiction and non-fiction books is included. The resources for teachers include films, possible field trips, tapes, scholarly books, journals, and organisations to contact. These additional sources of information are very helpful for anyone who wants to learn more about the topic.

Information about the past peoples of Ontario is given in the form of four booklets, which summarise the four periods in Ontario's history, the Palaeo, Archaic, Woodland, and European contact periods. These booklets are designed to be either read by the students themselves or by the teacher and to provide the students with a basic understanding of the history of native peoples in Ontario. The booklets contain glossaries of the new terms and concepts introduced in the text. They also include a large number of illustrations, which were done using a technique called 'scratchboard'. This simply means that the drawing is made by 'scratching' the image from a coloured paper. The produced images are easy for children to relate to and are not intimidating. Also a bright and dynamic layout was used to capture students' interest.

The text is written in an easy to read and stimulating way. The booklets discuss many of the objects included in the kit and many of the topics that are further explored in the activity sheets.

The second component includes both the activity sheets and the suggested lesson plans in Binder 2. Seven activity sheets found in the kit are designed as tasks to familiarise students with the material and ideological aspects of native Ontario culture outlined in the booklets, and also to develop their writing, art, measuring, oral, art, and vocabulary. These activities can be set up as activity stations within a classroom and done by students on their own, or be undertaken as a teacher-directed class project. The sheets include brief descriptions about the subject matter on one side and a suggested activity on the other. Subjects include native pottery, longhouses, Ontario rock art, and native myths. This information is then translated into several tasks that allow students to learn more about these topics. Activities include constructing a miniature longhouse, making pemmican which is a quick energy food used by native peoples, questions to be answered about a recounted myth, writing a creative story about images in native rock art, drawing their own rock art, making 'pottery' with play dough, and also identifying the artifacts in the kit in groups and relaying the information to the rest of the class.

The seven lesson plans in the second binder complement the subject matter outlined in the activity sheets but focus mainly on general principles used by all archaeologists. These activities reinforce ideas outlined in the first section of Binder 2, 'What is Archaeology'. The first of these activities 'Role Playing as Archaeologists' involves students acting out various skits that correspond to the various steps of the archaeological process. This activity familiarises the student with the vocabulary used in archaeology and the archaeological procedure itself, as well as developing their creative and communication skills. Another activity that may be undertaken is a more detailed analysis of the artifacts contained in the kit. Students are asked to fill out an artifact observation and analysis form, draw, weigh, measure, and answer questions about the artifacts.

In the third activity, determining artifact type, the teacher brings two objects to class, one familiar, and

one unfamiliar, and asks the students to identify both. The idea behind the activity is to get pupils to understand the difference between inductive and deductive reasoning, and also conveys the idea that objects do not have intrinsic meaning but are assigned identity. This lesson would be valuable for older students.

The fourth lesson is designed to enable students to distinguish between the function and style of furniture in a catalogue and then try to do the same for the points in the kit. Also included is another activity that tries to convey the idea of style. It involves a field trip to a local cemetery, which would teach students about changes in styles through time by looking at different headstones.

Other lessons outlined in Binder 2, attempt to teach the students about some excavation techniques. One such set of activities asks students to map their rooms at home to learn the different ways archaeologists map sites. The lesson called 'Jell-O stratigraphy', explains the often-confusing concept of stratigraphy to children in a fun and easily understood way.

All the aforementioned activities although they allow children to learn more about archaeological concepts, also provide excellent opportunities to make learning more basic skills such as measuring, communicating, analytical thinking and reasoning skills fun and interesting.

### **What Are the Advantages of Using such a Kit?**

The potential advantages of using such a kit are manifold. One of the main positive aspects of this kit is its adaptability; the kit can be used in many different ways and adapted by the teacher to suit their particular class. This supplement can be taught in its entirety or broken down into several smaller components if time is limited. This feature is important because it enables the kit to be appreciated by a greater number of teachers and institutions. The kit can also as previously mentioned be taught as a self-directed module or as a set of activities done by the entire classroom as a whole. As well the great number of activities and lessons included in the kit can be adapted to meet the needs of many different age and learning levels. Although designed with older children in mind, educa-



## DISCOVERING ONTARIO ARCHAEOLOGY EDUCATION RESOURCE

*Developed several years ago under a grant from the now-defunct Access to Archaeology program, the Discovering Ontario Archaeology (DOA) kit was created by the OAS in partnership with the Region of Peel Museum.*

*The kit has two parts: a description of the aboriginal culture history of Ontario as perceived by archaeologists, and a presentation of archaeology as a discipline, intended to show how archaeologists arrive at their reconstructions of past lifeways.*

### *The kit features:*

- ◆ *Illustrated booklets, with glossaries, outlining aboriginal cultural development over the last 10,000 years in Ontario, divided into 4 basic periods recognized by archaeologists*
- ◆ *"What is Archaeology?" directory, containing, among other things, further readings and other material available in the marketplace.*
- ◆ *activity sheets on aspects of aboriginal culture, including writing, drawing other active-learning creative activities.*
- ◆ *lesson plans on aspects of the process of archaeological investigation, including role-playing and scale plan drawing skills.*
- ◆ *reproduction artifacts of stone, ceramic, fibre, metal, glass and fur, both from early and later periods.*

*The kit is packed in a virtually indestructible travelling case, 50 cm x 40 cm x 20 cm, weighing 8 kilos and fitted with a combination lock.*

*It is available for loan on a first-come-first-served basis at \$30.00 (plus shipping) for each month (4 weeks) or part of a month. A limited number of kits are available for loan in either a northern or southern Ontario format. The kit is suitable for students in grades 4 and up.*

*Contact the OAS for more information or to arrange a loan. Kits are especially in demand in September and January, so book one early.*

tors who teach younger children can modify the kit with very little effort to meet the needs of their students.

Another main advantage of the kit is that it enables teachers who often do not have the time to do extensive research on this specific topic to learn from a pre-prepared package that includes up to date and reliable information about an often-complex topic. Binders 1 and 2 can easily be read in less than one hour thus saving teachers a great amount of time. It is the only such kit in existence that deals with Ontario archaeology in particular.

The kit also integrates very well into the elementary curriculum; in particular the third and sixth grades in which students learn about similar concepts. It also emphasises skills that are useful and fundamental such as writing, art, vocabulary, and mathematics.

Finally it is designed with children in mind and as such a fun and colourful layout and design keeps children interested.

Thus the education resource kit is a useful, efficient but most of all, fun way of teaching students about archaeology and the prehistory and history of Ontario.

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## Arch shorts

### An evening of recognition for Charles Garrad

Janet Turner

An evening of recognition was held at the Cranberry Inn in Collingwood on Sat. Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> for Charles Garrad, who has devoted 35 years of his life to historical and archaeological work in the Georgian Triangle. Organizers of the event were Barb Kemp, Tracy Marsh, and Donald E. Plater. A lovely artistic touch was created by Tracy Marsh and her daughter, who placed on the tables as a souvenir for each in attendance a local beach pebble upon which they had painted a turtle.

Over sixty friends of Charlie and Ella attended, many of whom are OAS members. Representatives of the municipalities of the Town of Blue Mountain, Township of Clearview, and the Town of Collingwood as well as MPP Jim Wilson came with speeches, plaques, and lapel pins. On display was the ribbon shirt recently presented to Charlie by the Grand Chief of the

Wyandot Nation of Kansas at the Pow Wow held at Rama on Thanksgiving weekend.

Our own Peter Carruthers, the MC, gave a speech in which he noted the influence Charlie has had on his life and the links that Charlie, over the years, has established between like-minded individuals and organizations in a variety of communities and locales. The common bond that has cemented these links and relationships has revolved around the understanding, recording, and preservation of our country's rich cultural and historical heritage, most notably, in the Collingwood area.

I had the pleasure of attending this evening gala and with the readers' indulgence include a copy of my speech, which focussed on the honour that Charlie has received from First Nation's people.

*"Charles and Ella and Friends of Charles,*

*Last Sunday afternoon, Charlie received a rare honour. The event was the climax of his search 25 years ago for descendants of the Petun, whom he affectionately calls the Petunias. His path led to Oklahoma where he proceeded to tell a group of people who they were and where they had come from 325 years ago. Under Charles's dogged persistence, they put aside their initial denials and skepticism. For his enlightenment, he was adopted into the Turtle Clan of the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma. Twenty-five years later this past summer on August 28<sup>th</sup> at the gathering of the four Wendat-Wyandotte Nations in Midland, he was similarly adopted by Janith English, the Grand Chief of the Wyandot Nation of Kansas, another area where the dispersed Hurons had ultimately settled. I had the pleasure of attending and witnessing that adoption.*

Recognizing Charlie's unique contribution to the events that led up to her Nation's recent homecoming, Grand Chief Jan English communicated formally with the Chippewas of the Mnjikaning First Nation of Rama. Sue Anderson, one of the elders, paved the way. With the full approval of the Band Council, Jan arranged to honour Charlie during the Grand Entry Ceremony at Rama's annual Pow Wow on Thanksgiving weekend. In preparation for this occasion, Jan sent material from Kansas to Sue (at Rama) who made Charlie a beautiful ribbon shirt by hand. It's a good thing that Sue gave Charlie this shirt in her yard shortly before the ceremony because in his delight and enthusiasm, Charlie right on the spot, stripped to the waist and, assisted by a bevy of ladies, put it on. I somehow don't think that this spontaneous act would have passed Sue's strict observance of protocol if it had occurred before all in attendance!

As Jan spoke to the crowd about Charlie's devotion over many years to the preservation of the Petun history and sites, the silence in the big tent intensified. She acknowledged his adoption and the gift of the ribbon shirt and also presented to Charlie, on behalf of the Ontario Archaeological Society, a blanket. Similarly, she presented a blanket to Dr. Mima Kapches, head of the Anthropology Department at the ROM, in recognition of all her effort in preparing and releasing the bones from the Ossossane site for reburial.

Then, to the beating of the drums, the honour march began. The Native elders and veterans who were holding eagle staffs, raised them high above Charlie as he passed by in order to honour, respect and protect him. I know of no greater honour they could have bestowed than this, outside of presenting him with an eagle feather. Then they fell in behind him in the march. Joining him half-way around the circle were Ella and other members of the OAS and several of the young dancers in full costume. At the last beat of the drum, all who had joined in the honour march, clustered around Charlie to clasp his



(l to r) Janet Turner, Mima Kapches, Sue Anderson, Charles Garrad, Ella Garrad, Grand Chief Janith English

hand in a final salute of respect, honour and goodwill. One of the local Mnjikaning ladies had especially prepared bannock for Charlie, so for the next hour those who had joined in the honour march retired to a large teepee set up by the Forest Rangers, friends of Sue's, to indulge in coffee, bannock and jam, and friendly conversation. Certainly it was an afternoon that I am not likely to ever forget.

It was my interest in archaeology that first drew me into Charlie and Ella's circle of friends and sphere of influence. I feel blessed that he has become and continues to be my teacher, my mentor, my colleague and my very dear friend.

Accompanied by many, we have visited numerous sites, sacred sites, given tobacco offerings to the Creator beside Ekarenniondi at the beautiful scenic caves in Collingwood, and shared friendships. Truly Charlie has enriched my life by connecting me with friends like Barb Kemp, one of our gracious hostesses tonight, and Bill and Helen McConnell from Nottawa. Through his octogenarian student, the late Elmond Glebe of Collingwood (his daughter Mary Ann is here tonight), I have learned valuable lessons in life and have come to know and love Jack and Jean Portch of Dunedin.

Thank you, Charlie, for drawing me into your ever-widening circle and for inspiring me with the unique opportunity to attempt to follow in even one of your footsteps. As Jay Allan Blair was your mentor and inspiration, so too do I view you and hold you in similar, high esteem.

Your friendship too, Ella, I value highly and I thank you, Ella, for being the rock, always firm and standing solidly by your man."

## NEW WYANDOT INDIAN CONFEDERACY ESTABLISHED

Charlie Garrad  
September 1, 1999

During the weekend of August 27 to 29, 1999, a number of significant events occurred in the Midland area of Ontario. During the previous week, tribal delegates arrived from Anderdon, Kansas, Lorette and Oklahoma, and far distant places such as Texas, San Francisco, Vancouver and Alaska. On the preceding Thursday, August 26, 1999, a ceremony was conducted at the Royal Ontario Museum to honour the bones and artifacts excavated from the Ossossane ossuary by Kenneth E. Kidd which were prepared and boxed for return to the pit as part of the Feast of the Dead planned for Sunday.

This ceremony was conducted by Chief Janith K. English of the Wyandot Nation of Kansas, a Petun descendant, accompanied by a number of Wyandot people and guests, with the assistance of Dr. Mima Kapches and staff of the Royal Ontario Museum. In anticipation of the smoke that was generated by the burning cedar, sage and tobacco, the Museum had wisely temporarily turned off the smoke alarms and sprinkler system in the storage area. In addition to the native ceremonies, Father Michael Stogre, S.J., read an appropriate text about the resuscitation of bones, from Ezekiel 37:1-10.

On the Friday evening, several hundred Huron-Petun-Wyandot descendants and guests gathered in the Penetanguishene Community Centre. Delegations were present from the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma (who arrived in the tribe's own airplane), the Wyandot Nation of Kansas, the Wyandots of Anderdon (Ontario and Michigan), and the Huronne-Wendat of Lorette (by chartered bus, remarkably fresh after a twelve hour ride). Some participants had not been in Ontario or even Canada previously. Introductory speeches of welcome were followed by social and community dancing, some participants being in Wendat regalia.

The Saturday began with a sunrise ceremony. A highlight of the day was a procession of canoes along the Wye River to the landing at the foot of Martyrs' Shrine hill. This was a most colourful and impressive event, with the flags of the four participating Wyandot bands flying, and participants in regalia ranging from children up to 90 years of age. Throughout the day various ceremonies were held, including the adoption by the Wyandot Nation of Kansas of O.A.S. past-presidents Charles Garrad and John Steckley, welcomes from the Rama and Christian Island

Ojibwa, Pipe, and Sweat Lodge. The various chiefs spoke, and all mentioned the significance of the year 1999 as the 350th anniversary of the Dispersal of the Huron-Petun ancestors from Ontario, and that a new Confederacy would be formed later in the day, with a Feast of the Dead on Sunday. In the evening a feast in the Martyrs' Shrine Papal Field was followed by the official signing of the joint declaration, in English and French, by the four chiefs to form a new Wyandot Confederacy. The document was read to the assembly during the evening procedures.

On the Sunday, after a Sunrise Ceremony, all gathered at the Ossossane burial site near Perkinsfield to await the arrival of the truck from the Royal Ontario Museum containing the bones and artifacts to be reburied. In preparation for the Feast of the Dead, purification ceremonies were continuous as some 80 beaver pelts were laid on the floor of the pit, and clay pots and other containers of corn and other foods and gifts were sanctified by smudging for the burial. The Ontario Provincial Police directed traffic safely by the many parked vehicles and made space for Dr. Mima Kapches to park the R.O.M. truck on its arrival. Aboard was Chief Janith K. English of the Wyandot Nation of Kansas, who had gone to Toronto earlier that morning to accompany the ancestors' remains. The events that followed have been well described in the Toronto Star (August 30) by Roberta Avery.

Chiefs, Elders and those purified in the sweat ceremony conveyed the more than 300 boxes of bones to the pit, each box being blessed and purified. Every person approaching the pit was purified by smudge. The Chiefs spoke and formed honour guards. The artifacts, food pots

and other gifts were placed first on the beaver pelts, then the boxes of bones, each again blessed by the elders, passed down one at a time and emptied. The volume of bones was surprising and soon the beaver pelts were completely covered. A solitary drum (Ted Warrow of Anderdon) and a rattle (Lorette) were accompanied by the assembly crying "hi-hi-hi", the cry of the souls. One person in the pit used a stick to stir the bones, in accordance with Father Brébeuf's description of the original 1636 ceremony. The process took much time and unexpected cold weather added to hunger took its toll, and when the last bone was placed the several hundred in attendance began to disperse, many carrying empty boxes back to the ROM truck. It was a most moving event, always to be remembered, as will the friendships and reunions that took place that day. We understand that the pit was filled on Monday with several tons of sand and rocks to ensure that the bones will not be disturbed again.

The declaration establishing the Confederacy of the four Wyandot nations was signed by Grand Chief Wellie Picard for the Huronne-Wendat of Wendake, Québec, Second Chief Jim Bland for Chief Leaford Bearskin and the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma, Chief Janith K. English for the Wyandot Nation of Kansas, and Spokesman Stephen A. Gronda for the Wyandot Nation of Anderdon. The Confederacy flag will include the circle of unity set on a blue background and divided into four quadrants, the east containing the beaver symbol of Lorette, the south containing a willow for Kansas, the west containing the turtle symbol of the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma, and the north containing a trillium flower to represent both the Ontario homeland and the Wyandot band of Anderdon.

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### **BE SAFE WHEN STOPPING TO HELP AT A CAR ACCIDENT**

Once you have stopped and made the decision to help, approach the scene cautiously. Park your own vehicle in a safe area. Give yourself time to think about your next move. Is the vehicle stable? Will it roll or move? Is there a fuel spill? Are power lines involved? Is there any danger of fire? What about oncoming traffic? Don't touch anything until you are sure it is safe? Consider the following (credit to FACES, Ontario):

- Beware of traffic in both directions
- Park well off the highway and out of active traffic lanes
- Consider what would happen if other drivers had to swerve to avoid the accident
- Park a safe distance away from the accident until you are able to identify hazards
- Turn on your emergency lights
- Raise your hood to call attention to your car

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# *The Humber River*

## *A Canadian Heritage River*

~  
*The Humber River watershed, the largest river system in the Toronto region, covers 908 square kilometres. From its source on the Oak Ridges Moraine and Niagara Escarpment, the Humber flows through outstanding natural habitats in rural and urban landscapes, to Lake Ontario.*

~  
*At least 12,000 years ago, the watershed was home to Aboriginal Peoples. They established an overland route along the river corridor to the Canadian interior. Later, European explorers and settlers used this route they called the Toronto Carrying-Place trail. Today, the Humber provides recreational and educational opportunities and a spiritual retreat for thousands of people of many different cultures.*

~  
*This plaque commemorates the designation of the Humber River as a Canadian Heritage River and honours those people - past, present and future - who work to protect and enhance the Humber's heritage and recreational resources.*

~  
*(The Humber River plaque text)*

On Friday September 24, 1999, in Étienne Brulé Park, the Humber River was designated a Canadian Heritage River. This beautiful river received two ceremonies, the first one a Sunrise ceremony, and a second one later that morning. OAS member Janet Turner attended the earlier ceremony and reported that although it was teeming rain, there was close to 100 people participating. Elder Merle Assance-Beedie of the Beausoleil First Nation led the ceremony assisted by Elder Sue Anderson of Rama First Nation.

By the time I joined the ceremonies the sky was clearing and a beautiful late morning was taking shape. John Hodson, a member of the Mohawk Nation served as a First Nations Master of Ceremonies. John aided participants as the ceremony moved forward by guiding the audience the Native observances, explaining the significance of each action and the proper response.

Adair Ireland-Smith of Ontario Parks, acted as the co-master of ceremonies. The joining of two cultures and their practices to celebrate the designation of the Humber River was a seamless blend of tradition and protocol.

The participants received greetings from;  
Chair Dick O'Brien, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority Grand  
Chief Larry Sault, Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians  
Chief Carolyn King, Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation  
Councillor Cliff Gyles, The Regional Municipality of Peel  
Councillor Michael Di Biase, The Regional Municipality of York  
Councillor David Miller, City of Toronto  
The Honorable John Snobelen, Minister of Natural Resources  
The Honorable Sheila Copps, Minister of Canadian Heritage.

As the ceremonies came to a close, a Water Ceremony was led by Elder Merle Assance-Beedie and assisted by Elder Sue Anderson and Amanda Sault. The Heritage River Registry was signed by Chair of the TRCA Dick O'Brien, Chief Carolyn King, Minister of Natural Resources, John Snobelen and Minister of Canadian Heritage, Sheila Copps. The Rice Lake Drums retired the flags and then the signatories moved to the plaque, where it was unveiled. The text on the plaque is in Ojibway, English and French. Gifts of blankets were exchanged and then closing remarks were offered by Elder Merle Assance-Beedie and Adair Ireland-Smith.

*Jo Holden*



# Wanted

Photographs of bird related artifacts or bird related artifacts to photograph  
for

*Birds from the Ground: The Record of Archaeology in Ontario*

a new book by Drs. Doug Sadler and the late Howard Savage  
to be published by The Ontario Archaeological Society in the new millennium.

All photographs used will be credited

*Birds from the Ground: The Record of Archaeology in Ontario* itemizes bird  
remains from over 240 archaeological sites in Ontario and provides 125 maps showing  
locations for each individual species recorded

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be welcomed, especially any that identify a bird as to species. Please contact either  
O.A.S. directors Caroline Thériault at (416) 652-6444, [pmct@interlog.com](mailto:pmct@interlog.com) or Michael  
Kirby at (519) 986-4026, [heritage@bmts.com](mailto:heritage@bmts.com) if you can help us out.

# OAS Local Chapters

**GRAND RIVER-WATERLOO** President: Dean Knight, Secretary: (vacant). Mailing address: c/o Dr. Dean Knight, Wilfred Laurier University, Archaeology, 75 University Avenue West, Waterloo ON N21 3C5.

**HAMILTON** President: Jacqueline Fisher, Vice-President: Stewart Leslie, Secretary-Treasurer: Helen Sluis, News- letter: The Heights, Editor: Bill Fitzgerald. Mailing address: 452 Jackson Street W., Hamilton ON L8P 1N4. Membership \$10. Meetings are usually at 7:00pm on the 3rd Thursday of the month, except June-August, at Dundurn Castle. Email: hamilton.oas@mcmi.com or dial in to (905) 526-1657.

**LONDON** President: Chris Ellis, Vice-president: Neal Ferris, Secretary: Karen Mattila, Treasurer: Harri Mattila, Newsletter: Kewa, Editors: Christine Dodd & Peter Timmins. Mailing Address: 55 Centre Street, London ON N6J 1T4. Tel: (519) 675-7742, Fax (519) 675-7777, Internet: <http://yoda.sscl.uwo.ca:80/assoc/oas/lonoas.html> Membership: individual and family \$18, institutional \$21. Meetings are usually at 8:00pm on the 2nd Thursday of the month, except May-August, at the London Museum of Archaeology.

**OTTAWA** President: Marian Clark, Secretary: Lois King, Treasurer: Bill MacLennan, Newsletter: Ottawa Archaeologist, Editor: Jean-François Beaulieu, Public Archaeology: Kathi McAinsh, Director-at-large: Jean-Luc Pilon. Mailing address: Box 4939 Station E, Ottawa ON K1S 5J1. Internet: <http://www.cyberus.ca/~jlpilon/otchh.htm>

Membership: individual \$17, family \$20, student \$10. Meetings are usually at 7:30pm on the 2nd Thursday of the month, except June-August, at the Routhier Community Centre, 172 Guingues Street, 3rd floor.

**THUNDER BAY** President: Frances Duke, Secretary-Treasurer: Andrew Hinshelwood. Mailing address: 331 Hallam Street, Thunder Bay ON P7A 1L9. Meetings are usually at 8:00pm on the last Friday of the month, except June-August, in the anthropology teaching lab, room 2004, Braun Building, Lakehead University.

**TORONTO** President: Jim Shropshire, Vice-President: Norma Knowlton, Secretary: Annie Gould, Treasurer: Melanie Priestman, Newsletter: Profile, Editor: Eva MacDonald. Mailing Address: Toronto's First Post Office, 260 Adelaide Street East, Box 48, Toronto ON M5A 1N1. Membership: individual \$10, family \$12. Meetings are usually held at 7:30pm on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, except June-August, in the basement of Sidney Smith Hall, room 560a, University of Toronto, 100 St. George Street.

**WINDSOR** President: Rosemary Denunzio, Vice-President: James Washington, Secretary: Lori Fatin, Treasurer: Michael Primeau, Newsletter: Squirrel County Gazette, Editor: Peter Reid. Mailing address: 2338 Chilver Road, Windsor ON N8W 2V5. Tel: (519) 253-1977. Membership: individual \$17, family \$30. Meetings are usually held at 7:00pm on the 4th Tuesday of the month, except June-August, at the Windsor Family Credit Union, 2800 Tecumseh Road East (back door).

## OAS Information

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