



Ontario Archaeological Society

Arch Notes

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Ontario Archaeological Society

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Symposium 2004 / Midland

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Rob Pihl, Ron Williamson*

... editor's note

A post-symposium filled issue of Arch Notes! Ellen Blaubergs truly performs a post-mortem on the 2003 OAS/OPP Symposium and Mima Kapches resurrects a cold case file and reflects on the very first OAS Symposium in 1974 (no pictures – too bad – no bell-bottoms and Zeppelin t-shirts).

Other interesting topics broached in this issue include panthers and effigy mounds as well as the fate of the Ochasteguis. Thanks to Caroline Walker and Charles Garrad respectively.

To top it off, a letter to the editor by Terri-Lynn Brennan on the decline of the OAS public archaeology program at McGraw.

Happy holidays and don't forget to renew your membership!!

President's notes

Dear colleagues: this is my last column for 2003 and there is a lot to say.

Symposium:

I would like to begin by thanking all of the Symposium volunteers and speakers as well as the individuals and companies who sponsored events during the two-day meeting. All of your contributions helped make this year's Symposium in Orillia such a wonderful event. There were about 130 registrants and many, many positive comments from those in attendance. My sincere thanks to the Ontario Provincial Police, our partners in the Symposium, and to Ellen Blaubergs and Jeanie Tummon, for their tireless work in putting it all together and making it happen. Great work, one and all!!

Election:

It's election time again at the OAS. Once again, we have more candidates than spaces on the Board, which is a good thing. By now you should have received your ballots, and hopefully cast your votes and returned them to the office. As I am writing this, about 26% have already been returned. That's wonderful! About the same return as last year so far and still over 4 weeks before the deadline for returns. Keep them coming.

Got money?

Around this time of year worthy charities inundate us all with pleas for donations before the close of the tax year. While we are a worthy charity too, we are not going to stuff your mailbox with pleas; I'm just going to mention it now. If you find yourself in the enviable position of having some loose change at this time of year and you would like a charitable givings tax receipt, please consider the Ontario Archaeological Society. To those of you who have already sent in donations this year, my sincere thanks.

The Move:

As I'm sure you have heard by now, the OAS will be moving from its current office in Richmond Hill by

the end of March 2003. Our landlord, the town of Richmond Hill, has not renewed the lease on our space with the great view of the woods and overlooking the location of the McGaw archaeological site.

The main reason that they have not renewed our lease is that the Board has ceased programming at the McGaw site. As you know, the OAS obtained a 3-year Trillium grant to run public programming on the site owned by the town of Richmond Hill. The program was a popular success with hundreds of school kids, teachers, university students, members and the public viewing and working on the site and experiencing the indoor/lab component of our educational program as well. The site is significant as it is largely undisturbed and located in a second growth woodlot. The potential for research is enormous.

The OAS Board is fully aware that the opportunities for outdoor education in the school system in Ontario is woefully lacking. We are proud to have been able to offer this program while it lasted. However, the Trillium grant has run out. The program was not able to generate funds in excess of expenses to the point where it could be self-sustaining. A spokesperson for the town of Richmond Hill said that it was possible for them to go to Council with a proposal to take over the funding so that the program could continue, however, she seriously doubted that such a proposal would meet with success. She felt that there was simply no further role for the OAS at our current location in Richmond Hill.

Added to the funding issue was the concurrent problem of the unavailability of adequate insurance to cover the staff, volunteers and the Board from potential litigation. The OAS was the victim late this year of a sudden catastrophic rise in our insurance rates (a problem now endemic across the country to which we are not immune). This was combined with a reduction of coverage, specifically: the protection for directors and officers against litigation clause, and the coverage for suits which might be brought against the OAS for alleged abuse and molestation.

Thus, the OAS has officially ended its 3+-year experiment with public archaeology at the McGaw site. I would like to take this opportunity to thank, sincerely, all of the many volunteers and staff who worked so hard to make it a success and such a valuable experience for those lucky enough to have taken part in its programs. The town of Richmond Hill has asked the OAS to close the site this fall “as if it were never to be opened again.” We are following their request. However, if at some point they wish to reopen the site and resume programming either on their own or with another “partner”, we wish them well and would encourage them to do so.

Looking ahead:

The Board of the OAS considers this move to new office space (location yet to be determined) and cessation of public archaeology programming to be an opportunity for the OAS to refocus our energies on the membership and on our Chapters. The new Board in 2004 will turn its attention to these important matters. We are only as strong as our membership. I firmly believe that we can once again reach membership levels of 700+ as we did in the late 1980s and early 1990s. It will take a lot of work to bring people back into the fold and encourage new members to join. It will mean all of us, not just the Board, working on behalf of the OAS to increase membership.

Ask yourself this; do you believe in the mission of the OAS and what it stands for? Is the OAS still necessary in the political/ social/professional climate of today? Is there still a role for us to play? I think so. I hope that you do, too. Be proactive. Renew your own membership and encourage others around you to renew or join for the first time. For students, it costs only 9 cents per day and that includes Ontario Archaeology, our journal. For regular members: 13 cents per day or less if you don't want the journal. Where else can you get a bargain like that and support something you believe in?

Have I said “thank you” lately?

So, I am often asked, what does the OAS actually do? Well, take a look at the following list (which is just a sample) of stuff we do— the vast majority of it by members just like you.

It takes a lot of dedicated people to run an organization like the OAS. Many of their efforts are invisible to the naked eye. Things just seem to get done. I'd like to say thanks, in no particular order, all of the volunteers who contributed their valuable time to the OAS this year. Thank you to all of our Chapter executives and their volunteers who make their programs and activities work at the local level. My thanks to our Librarian for her ongoing work with our library. A big thank you to our Editorial Committee for their continuous work in the production of *Ontario Archaeology*. Sincere thanks to our *Arch Notes* editor through whose efforts you can read these words as well as lots of other important stuff. Thanks to our Professional Committee for stick-handling our report on artifact repositories and related issues. A big thank you, again, to all those involved in our 2003 Symposium. Many thanks to our web master and OAS-L administrator for making communication and dissemination of information easier and faster. Thank you to all of our McGaw site program volunteers. Lastly, my sincere thanks to my colleagues on the Board and to our Executive Director. I am grateful for your support. I am sure that I have left people out – please know that your efforts on behalf of the Society are acknowledged and appreciated.

Please have a happy and safe seasonal celebration of your choice and a Happy New Year!

Sincerely,
Christine Caroppo
OAS President

From the OAS office

I would like to start this column off with a very special thank you to Ellen Blaubergs and Jeanie Tummon, Curator of the Ontario Provincial Police Museum, and all their volunteers for providing the Society with a spectacular and extremely well run Symposium! Much of it was coordinated long distance over the summer months... Kudos folks!

Currently the office is moving into election mode, envelopes are being stuffed, sealed and posted. You most likely will have received your election package well before this issue of Arch Notes arrives on your doorstep. I am hopeful that you will read the candidates platforms carefully, mark your ballot and send your selections in.

The Society and its Sister Societies were fortunate this year, we all received our annual Provincial Operating Grants by late September. To have the funds by the close of September is very helpful; now all that needs to be seen is the receipt of the grants pushed back to where they once were, May of every year!!!

The OAS Office will close on Wednesday December 24th at 12:00, and reopen Monday, January 5, 2004.

Wishing everyone all the peace and tranquility this season offers... JINGLE BELLS!

Jo Holden, Executive Director

Jim Fraser ~ 2003 Recipient of the Peggy Armstrong Public Archaeology Award

Jim Fraser, Superintendent of Bonnechere Provincial Park, public archaeology advocate and member of the Ottawa Chapter, is the 2003 recipient of the Peggy Armstrong Public Archaeology Award. As noted by the Nomination Review Committee, Jim is a highly worthy candidate for the award. While it may be argued on very legitimate grounds that Jim has a mandate, as park superintendent, to promote an appreciation for the cultural values within the parks for which he is responsible, his efforts in this regard have gone well beyond this requirement. Jim has encouraged archaeology at Bonnechere Provincial Park through their Friends' group and among the visitors to the Park through an annual Public Archaeology day, and has fostered ethical implementation of archaeological practices by initiating field-training archaeology experiences for Parks staff and annual public archaeology events for the Friends of the Park. Jim's work has had a broad reach, encompassing the general public of all ages, Park staff, Friends organizations, as well as the local archaeological community. Jim has also contributed to the history book "Spirits of the Little Bonnechere", the booklet "Walks of the Little Bonnechere River", the youth activity book "Discover the Spirits of the Little Bonnechere" and the CD-ROM "Visiting the Spirits of the Little Bonnechere", which highlight the work of archaeologists for the public. Christine Caroppo also commented upon hearing of the committee's decision that "[Jim] is a most worthy recipient and has always demonstrated the kind of dedication [for which] Peggy Armstrong herself was known."

Congratulations Jim.

Peggy Smyth, Administrator Peggy Armstrong Public Archaeology Award, Ottawa Chapter, OAS



The Honourable Madeleine Meilleur Minister of Culture

Madeleine Meilleur was elected in 2003 after more than a decade in municipal politics. Since 1991 she has held office in the City of Vanier and the Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton and as councillor in the new City of Ottawa.

A registered nurse and lawyer specializing in labour and employment law, Ms. Meilleur brought leadership to numerous committees and task forces. She was chair of Ottawa's Transportation and Transit Committee and of the Rideau Street Redevelopment Working Group. She also served on the Ottawa-Carleton Regional District Health Council, the Champlain District Health Council, the Ottawa-Carleton Children's Aid Society and the Vanier Housing Corporation.

A leader committed to building bridges between linguistic communities, Ms. Meilleur represented council on the French-Language Services Advisory Committee. She was also a member of the board of directors of La Cité collégiale, the Ottawa Tourism and Convention Authority, the Centre d'Accueil Champlain and Opera Lyra Ottawa.

Ms. Meilleur received the United Way's 2001 Community Builder's Award and in 2002 was the recipient of le prix d'Excellence, awarded by the Réseau socioactif des femmes francophones, for dedication to the community. She served as a member of the Canadian delegation to the Francophone Games in Cameroon in 1996, as deputy mayor in July 2001 and as honorary president of the Tulip Festival in May 2002.

Ms. Meilleur was involved in the implementation of the Success By 6 Vanier, aiding the development of young children. A founding member of Learn to Earn, aimed at helping youth learn a trade, she has also chaired the fundraising effort for Maison d'amitié, a facility assisting female victims of violence.

WELCOME NEW OAS MEMBERS

J. Doucette
E. Game
B. George
T. Gibner
E. Gomez
M. Gordon
M. Higgs
C. Holdenby
G. Karcich
J. Kelland

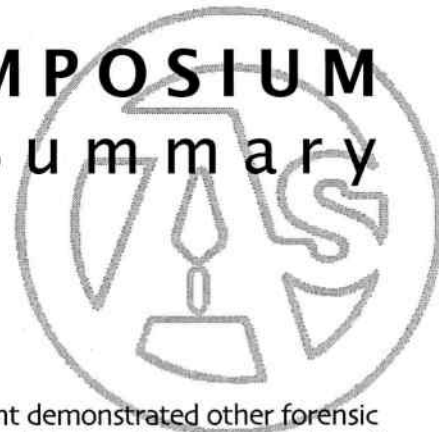
Toronto
Wainfleet
Toronto
Courtice
Toronto
Peterborough
Toronto
Sault Ste Marie
Oshawa
Nepean

A. McLean
H. Miller
M. Nafte
K. Orth
C. Paterson
T. Rogers
J. Sarjeant
R. Vingerhoets
J. Wainberg
R. Walton

Toronto
Mississauga
Toronto
Toronto
Fergus
Mississauga
Toronto
Barrie
Richmond Hill
Peterborough

2003 OAS/OPP SYMPOSIUM Postmortem and Summary

Ellen Blaubeergs



The 2003 Symposium, *Common Ground: Exploring Connections between Disciplines – Archaeology, Forensics, First Nations, Policing and Museology* held in partnership with the Ontario Provincial Police and the OPP Museum was a success in terms of attendance, quality of papers and posters presented, technical services, the venue – OPP General Headquarters and the Kewadin Inn, the OAS book table, and special events.

The total number of registered delegates was 139, with all areas of the province represented. Brad Hyslop of Hudson, Ontario definitely travelled the furthest. One of the prizes donated to the symposium arrived after the event– it will be winging its way to Brad in northern Ontario as a token of our appreciation for his efforts to get to Orillia, at personal expense!

Following opening remarks by OAS President Chris Caroppo, OPP Commissioner Gwen Boniface welcomed all. Chris presented the Commissioner with a copy of *Bones of the Ancestors*, just published. Thanks to the editors of this volume – Ron Williamson and Susan Pfeiffer – for donating a copy to the Society to present to the Commissioner.

The opening keynote address on Friday afternoon was given by D/S/Sgt. Fred Bertucca, Manager of OPP Forensic Identification Services. It was followed by a lengthy Symposium Showcase: OPP Museum volunteer Jim Watt conducted brief 20-minute tours of the latest exhibit *Danger & Decision*; OPP forensic analyst Doris Rumsby, demonstrated various laser technologies; D/Cst. Scott Macleod from the OPP's

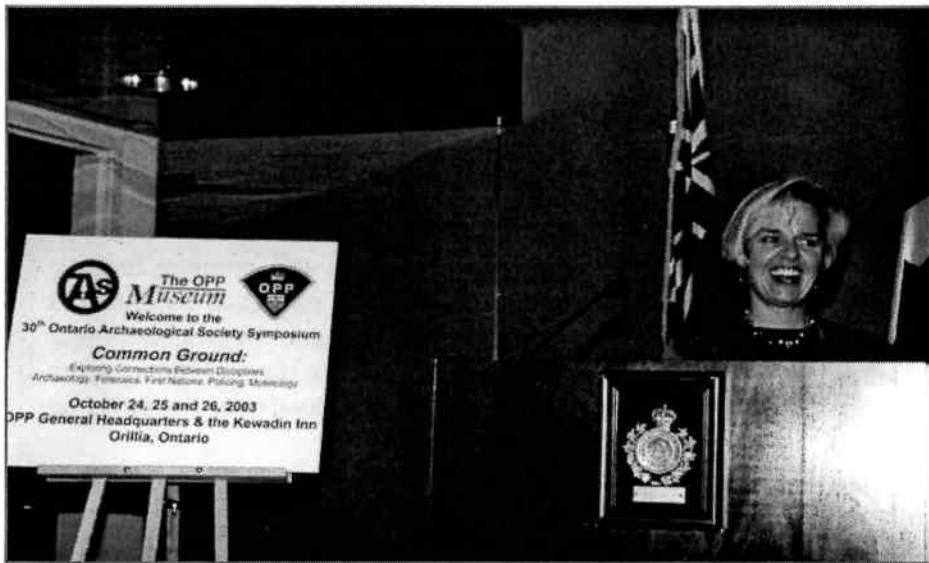
Barrie detachment demonstrated other forensic technologies; Carol Clark and George Couchie of the OPP First Nation Policing Program presented information on the Walking the Path program and other activities. Kelli Absalom and Judy Brown from the OPP Eric Silk Library displayed various symposium theme-relevant publications. The OPP Insignia Shop was open. Did anyone buy the handcuff earrings?

A second keynote address was provided by Tracy Rogers of the University of Toronto at Mississauga. Her presentation addressed several issues related to the collaboration between forensic anthropologists and criminal forensic investigators and made reference to Canada's worst serial murder case and investigation near Port Coquitlam, B.C. where she and her students have been integrally involved over the past few years.

A short session *Humanitarian Forensic Investigations and Experiments* followed with a presentation by S/Sgt. Greg Olson of the York Regional Police, "The Disappeared People of Argentina Speak to us through Archaeology". He described his recent involvement with the Argentine Forensic Anthropology in uncovering a mass burial containing murdered disappeared persons. Rob Vingerhoets' paper "Bullet Penetration into Soils and its Archaeological Significance" summarized his recent MA thesis submitted to Bournemouth University in the UK. From the quantity and type of questions that followed, it was evident that archaeologists know a thing or two about soil types! Thanks to Robert Park for chairing that session!

A brisk business was conducted behind the OAS book table on both days. Ella Kruse and Betty Donaldson deserve hearty applause for their patience during both busy and slow periods. A good selection of publications and other merchandise made this one of the best tables in years. Thank you, ladies!

A special t-shirt commemorating the 2003 power black out was designed and commissioned for this symposium. The slogan Ontario Archaeology – Our grid systems don't require electricity seemed to be a hit with many delegates. All t-shirt profits were donated to the OAS. Ella Kruse's t-shirt modeling surely helped to sell a few extra!



Thanks to Ray Kolly, OPP Photographer and Chris Johnstone of Chris Johnstone Photography, Orillia, we have a super visual record of this symposium. Chris Johnstone, a former OPP Museum employee, also conducted tours of the Museum on Saturday. Jim Watt, OPP Museum Volunteer did stellar service in this department on Friday afternoon.

On Friday evening, delegates headed over to the Mariposa Room at the Kewadin Inn for a special Symposium reception. Red and white 30th OAS Symposium anniversary balloons greeted everyone. A wonderful spread of hot and cold hors d'oeuvres caused many to bemoan having eaten dinner. Thanks to Hugh Daechsel and Phill

Wright of McGovern Heritage Archaeological Associates for their generous donation to this event.

Fourteen early risers attended a sunrise ceremony on Saturday morning at the Huronia Regional Centre beach across from OPP GHQ. Inspector Glenn Trivett, Manager of OPP First Nations Policing Programs, conducted it. Despite the high winds blowing off Lake Couchiching, Inspector Trivett was able to keep a small fire going while he explained and led us through this lovely ceremony. It served as an excellent introduction to his key note address later that morning. Despite aggravating back pain, he used one the elements of the OPP First

Nations cultural awareness-training course to begin discussions for the day. Many delegates were intrigued by his views on human remains.

The symposium's second session *New Approaches to the Investigation of Burials, Ossuaries and Ceremonies*, was ably chaired by Bruce Welsh. Heather Henderson presented "Analysis of a Western Basin Tradition Burial Site on the Detroit River". Together with

coauthors were Genevieve Dewar, Jaime Ginter, Beth Shook and Susan Pfeiffer, Heather outlined how various types of laboratory analyses, including mitochondrial DNA, helped identify several Native burials recovered in Great Western Park, in Windsor.

During the Saturday morning and afternoon coffee breaks, delegates were able to view and discuss with the authors, two interesting poster session papers. Brad Hyslop's poster paper "Archaeology of the Crooked Pelican" outlined his research on Lac Seul and the area between Crooked Rapids and Pelican Falls and directed our attention to this little known section of northern Ontario.

Jennifer Wainberg and Noragie Carballo-Garcia are two students who recently worked for the OAS. Their poster paper "Back to Basics: Presenting the Fundamentals of Archaeology to Primary/Junior Children in a Leisure Learning Setting" included data and interpretations gathered during OAS public archaeology programs. Don't forget to add this to your c.v's!

Ron Williamson and Susan Pfeiffer presented "The Archaeology and Osteobiography of the Moatfield Ossuary". I will always remember the day in 1997 when OAS member Glen Penoyer came to the Society's Willowdale office with some small fragments of pottery and bone he had collected from back dirt associated with the renovation of a soccer field across from his business and not too far away from the OAS office. After numerous attempts to reach anyone at the Ministry (it was Friday afternoon), I was told to tell Glen that he would have to make an appointment to see an archaeologist sometime later the following week.

Well, that appointment was made and later on I was chastised for not mentioning that there was human bone in Glen's "collection"!

As it turned out, those small fragments came form a late 13th century Iroquoian ossuary containing the remains of at least 87 individuals. Ron and Susan discussed various analyses including biological analyses undertaken with the permission of Six Nations. As well, detailed mapping of the skeletal elements allowed archaeologists to understand the method and sequence for the placement of the bodies. Ron and Susan's presentation enticed many delegates to attend the launch of a new publication based on their work, later on that evening.

Martin Cooper presented "Out of the Wind: The

Archaeology of the Eighteenth Century Anishnaubeg Clayton Cemetery". Coauthors Dean Clayton, Kristine Crawford, Leon King, Debbie Steiss and Ron Williamson were all present. Again, accidentally discovered human remains were discussed. In this case, the burials were two mid-to late-18th century Anishnaubeg men. Encounters with unmarked, aboriginal burials present unique ethical and legal questions, and when addressed in the context of cemeteries legislation, pose serious financial constraints on the landowner. Cooper demonstrated that through the cooperation of First



Nations (coauthor Leon King), landowners (coauthor Dean Clayton), and archaeologists, proper resolutions are possible. He also recounted a humorous story about Ron Williamson's fishing exploits during this project!

Bill Allen presented the final paper in this session: "Algonkian Feast of the Dead – A 1641 Event on Central Georgian Bay". He described various features of this event attended by 2000 people, compared it to other feasts of the dead, and analyzed its significance. As well, an overview of the record of canoe routes and archaeological sites in the Shebeshekong Bay area of Parry Sound District was provided. That record includes evidence of burials at locations, which allow an understanding of the acute sensitivity and political will of Anishinaabe descendants. Never seen before slides of this sacred

area were shown to the accompaniment of a drum. You could hear a pin drop in the OPP auditorium.

Christine Caroppo wearing her 'ROM hat' chaired the final session of the symposium *Facing Significant Issues and Making Connections within Museums and the Heritage Community*.

Rob Leverty of the Ontario Historical Society could easily have spoken in the previous session and was intentionally slated as the first speaker of the afternoon. His talk "Ontario's Cemeteries: The Struggle for the Public Interest" examined two cases that were appealed by the OHS to a Provincial Tribunal after the Government of

Contemporary Collecting. It outlined the history of and various reasons for the longevity of the Blue Willow ceramic pattern. As well, a program of interrelated activities demonstrated how small ceramic sherds found on archaeological sites can evolve into a full educational program, as effective in a museum setting as in an archaeological context. Paula Drew demonstrated numerous examples of blue willow-patterned items during the presentation. Delegates were invited to examine these at the conclusion of the paper and pick up program information.

"Museums, First Nations and Land Claims: Seeking a Common Ground" by Mary Simpson, a Canadian Heritage and Culture Consultant, examined two land claim cases. One incorporated material culture while the other set precedent in terms of the admissibility of oral tradition. Both demonstrated that First Nations' material culture in museum collections plus oral tradition can provide valuable evidence towards the successful resolution of Native land claims in Canada.



Ontario ordered that it was in the public interest to dig up and move these historic cemeteries. He concluded with examples of how local heritage groups and certain municipalities in Ontario are protecting our cemeteries, preserving history and defending the public interest. Symposium delegates were invited to pick up a package of materials related to this presentation.

Ellen Blaubergs' paper "Two Hundred Years of Blue Plate Specials" was based on a recent presentation at an OMA colloquium Issues in

The concluding symposium paper came from Madelyn Della Vale of Windsor's Community Museum. "Sherds on the Shelf and Arrowheads in the Attic: Issues with Archaeological Collections in Smaller Museums in Ontario" explored what museums require from archaeologists about the archaeological collections that are often deposited in these institutions, in order to maximize public use of the collections. She delved into the opportunities archaeological collections provide and some of the problems curating them. This paper brought a number of issues concerning archaeological collections in

small Ontario museums to the fore and generated some good discussion.

The Saturday sessions were summarized by Chris J.-Andersen, Regional Archaeologist with the Ministry of Culture. This was a challenging task, given the variety and scope of twelve presentations (poster session papers and key note address included). The symposium theme touched on subject matters that uniquely fall under the auspices of our provincial culture ministry. As that ministry's only representative in attendance, it was important that Chris hear all of the presentations and report back to his colleagues. As well, we felt he might be able to bring delegates up to date on any progress towards new government policies on issues such as burials and artifact repositories. With the very recent change in government, Chris was unable to report conclusively on how culture, heritage and many of the issues raised during the symposium, will be handled by this regime.

Chris kindly invited Marti Latta of the University of Toronto at Scarborough to give a brief summary and status report on the accidental removal of thousands of artifacts from Scarborough College to a Michigan landfill, this past spring.

Thanks to Heather Henderson of Historic Horizon for a donation which allowed us to provide our amazing technical services guy, Aaron Murray, with an honorarium. Aaron did a fantastic job and managed to juggle LCD, slide, and overhead projector technologies, seamlessly.

A good crowd was on hand to witness the launch of *Bones of the Ancestors: The Archaeology and Osteobiography of The Moatfield Ossuary*. Editors Ron Williamson and Susan Pfeiffer spoke briefly about the collaboration of 17 authors. Bill Woodworth Raweno:kwas wrote the forward for this volume. His very moving words summarized his initial feelings about this project and how it

ended as "an important and respectful portrait of the lives of my thirteenth-century forebears". The editors and authors were kept busy during a subsequent autograph session. As well, all in attendance enjoyed a fine spread of hors d'oeuvres. We thank Archaeological Services Inc. for providing the funding for these fine nibbles. They served as great appetizers to the fine banquet meal, which followed.

Sixty-three OAS members and guests attended the 30th Symposium banquet. Apologies to those who ordered the "homemade vegetarian



lasagna" and received a vegetarian pasta entrée instead. We were promised the lasagna during initial planning with the hotel. There really are some things that conference organizers have absolutely no final control over and this last minute substitution is a good example. I am very sorry.

All banquet revelers were treated to a multimedia dramatic presentation recently commissioned by the Barrie Historical Society in celebration of the city of Barrie's sesquicentennial. *Barrie - 150 and Then Some* covered that city's

history in less than one hour. The humour was witty and costume changes numerous. Many thanks to the dynamic and energetic trio of Stephen Hartnell, John LeClair and Paul Rollinson of Blue Water Interpreters for agreeing to entertain us on such short notice.

Following the entertainment, Christine Caroppo thanked Jeanie Tummon for her partnership and rts towards the success of this symposium. She received a resounding and well-deserved standing ovation! As well, volunteers Paula Drew, Ella Kruse, Betty Donaldson and Sylvia Teaves were recognized for their contributions. All were presented with gifts of appreciation. Mima Kapches, co-chair (with Jamie Hunter) of next year's symposium in Midland, outlined the theme and some of the events already organized.

A total of 45 were in attendance at Saturday morning's Annual Business Meeting. To future symposium organizers, I say, "Never underestimate the lure of free coffee and muffins, plus prizes!"

Thank you to all speakers and poster presenters for sharing your knowledge! We heard many positive comments on the quality of the papers.

I would also like to thank those delegates who pre-registered prior to the first deadline, other delegates who registered prior to the second deadline and everyone else who finally realized they had to be in Orillia between October 24th and 26th! In tandem with 'at the door' registration, your attendance totaled 139!

Nick Adams also deserves to share in the success of this event! He posted the latest symposium updates on the OAS web page within days of receiving them. The preliminary program and pre-registration form were available well before the snail mail version reached the membership. Many pre-registration forms were pulled off this page. Numerous enquiries about the symposium were also generated from the page.

Paula Drew, Suzanne Madill, Wanda Milankov and Sylvia Teaves provided friendly and efficient service at the registration table. OPP Museum volunteers deserve credit for countless hours spent stuffing and copying and stuffing.

The OPP Insignia Shop agreed to open for a couple of hours on Saturday and several bags with souvenirs were seen after lunch!

We owe a tremendous amount of gratitude to the OPP Corporate Communications Bureau. Their initial approval and continued support of our proposal for a joint symposium spurred us on. They also donated some very fine pens, which were given to speakers and chairpersons. You can use them to write your own tickets!

Financial contributions to symposium coffee breaks came from the archaeological consulting community and were very much appreciated. Thank you to Marian Clark of ArchaeoExpeditions, Kim Slocki of Archaeoworks, Brenda Kennett and Jeff Earl of Past Recovery Archaeological Services and Tom Ballantine, Archaeological Consultant, for your donations.

Lorne Sheridan, Rod Harth and Judy Collins-Harth of Century 21 Sparkling Waters Realty, Ellenor Dixon and Katherine Langman of Petherwin Country, Karin Sotirakos, The OPP, the OPP Museum and an anonymous donor contributed draw prizes to our Annual Business Meeting.

Finally, I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to Jeanie Tummon, Curator of the OPP Museum. Her enthusiasm, support, incredible work ethic, and humour never wavered over the past year. That kind of partnership is rare, difficult to duplicate and will never be forgotten. See you on the Left Bank some day, Jeanie!

I urge you all to travel to Simcoe County again, next November, for what promises to be another fine OAS Symposium!

The "Birth" of the First Ontario Archaeological Society Symposium

Mima Kapches

Senior Curator, Anthropology, Royal Ontario Museum

ON the 22nd of September, 2003, I met with Jamie Hunter (Huronian Museum) and Pat Reed (U of T) to begin planning for the joint OAS and Eastern States Archaeological Federation meetings to be held in Midland in 2004. While we were talking I mentioned that perhaps the last symposium I had organized was the first that the OAS had ever held, way back in 1974. This year's Symposium in Orillia was the 30th to be held. As Pat and Jamie and I are planning the 31st Symposium I will take this opportunity to reminisce about the planning of that first event. For as my good friend Charles Garrad keeps reminding me I am the "Mother of the Symposium", therefore I should write the history of that event.

In my files at the ROM I still have one small folder which remains from those days and it does indeed provide for some interesting reading. Based on my memories of those days and the letters in the files I will share some details on my perspective of the "birth" of the OAS' annual symposium. As I work with a new team to prepare another symposium this story will provide background information on that fateful event.

The Initial Proposal

I am afraid that I don't have my

daytimer from those years as a Graduate Student at U of T so I can't be exactly certain when as Social and Programme Convenor I had proposed to the Executive Committee that the OAS host a conference focusing on Ontario Iroquois Prehistory. I do remember it was at an OAS Executive Meeting, which in those days was held at Charles Garrad's home. There was a certain amount of skepticism, which all new ideas usually face. It was decided that I would be allowed to forge ahead with my proposal for a trial year. Recently Charles reminded me that my initial proposal was for a two day session, with a banquet in the evening. But this was too much for a first year, and I must admit that the gradual evolution into a multiple day event was a more logical growth.

I was Symposium Co-ordinator and Marti Latta was Symposium Programme Convenor. Important help came from other members of the OAS Executive; Howard Savage, then a Research Associate at the Royal Ontario Museum, and Charles Garrad, then President of the OAS.

The name "symposium" was proposed by my husband Chris Kapches who at that time, although in Law School, still fond-

ly remembered his Classical Studies at York University. An ancient Greek word a symposium was a meeting where people got together to debate and discuss ideas. So symposium it became and remains so to this day.

Planning

Howard Savage was the first and most important person to give me and the OAS assistance. He arranged for the OAS to have use of the Royal Ontario Museum's McLaughlin Planetarium Lecture Theatre free of charge. We met with staff of the ROM very early to book a day, Saturday October 19. Based on this I drafted a call for papers, directing interested participants to contact Marti Latta directly. At this time the event was called a "Symposium on Ontario Iroquois Prehistory." The call announced "This marks the 24th Anniversary of the OAS and commemorates its continuing interest in the Iroquoian peoples and their prehistory."

The call for papers was distributed widely in Canada and the adjacent United States. In May I received a letter from Howard McCord of the Archaeological Society of Virginia pointing out the dates we had chosen were the same dates at the upcoming ESAF meetings. However, it was too

late to change the OAS dates as the Planetarium was booked. Now we are more conscious of booking dates that are separate as many OAS members are long-term supporters of ESAF, however at the time, I was rather new at this game. I also received a post-card from Schuyler Miller, a well-known Pennsylvania archaeologist, who sent regrets. Shortly after I received word that Schuyler had passed away quite suddenly, so I never had the chance to meet him.

By May 30th, I had worked out in obsessive detail the arrangements with the ROM. I even had drawn a map of where the tables were to be set up, how many chairs were needed, and so on. I guess I was feeling the pressure of organizing a memorable event for the OAS.

By June, Marti had the programme of speakers well in hand since on June 7, 1974 I wrote Norman Emerson asking him to give concluding remarks stating that "the symposium is shaping up very well and will have many excellent speakers. Your remarks will complete the day perfectly." I also asked Walter Kenyon to present opening remarks on behalf of the ROM stating that "your presence and a rousing welcome will be useful in setting the tone for the conference." If I remember correctly Walter was indeed rousing and Norm's remarks were perfect.

By August 13, I was writing Bill Noble at McMaster to ask for a paper on the Neutral since no one had yet come forward with a talk from that region of Iroquoia. His reply of September 4th was to agree to give his "Corn and Development..." paper. By early September all was in order and

the notice of the Symposium and registration was distributed in Arch Notes and mailed to Universities and archaeological societies in the Northeast. In September I received a letter from Dr. Norm Wagner of Wilfrid Laurier saying "to my horror I had not sent a title to you...." so Norm was not a speaker. Neither did Norm get to attend, more of that later.

Budget and Other Details

Charles Garrad was good friends with Tim Kenyon, the well-known archaeologist as well as the designer of then fairly new OAS logo. Tim Kenyon was friends with Ivan Kocsis, the painter of native images. Through Charles it was arranged that Tim design the poster and Ivan did the drawing of the longhouse which graced the announcement of the meeting and the programme. I must admit that I still think this is one of the best posters for a symposium that the OAS has done. The poster was 8x10 size glossy heavy paper so was sent out easily and efficiently. The registration form was sent out in Arch Notes as well as being sent to Universities with the poster. By the beginning of September the day was well organized and we were waiting to see what the response by members would be.

The budget that I presented to the OAS Executive is really quite humorous. Written in pencil, I have a page in my file titled "Symposium Costs." The Planetarium could hold 180 people. Pre-registration was \$3.00, at the door it was \$3.50! I estimated that we could make about \$540. Expenses included a security guard at the Planetarium (\$10.00 until the Planetarium opened then the museum paid for the guard);

coffee (\$14 for one urn, three at each break, for two breaks for a total of \$84 [isn't it funny how coffee is still so expensive]); and printing (pre-registration forms, posters [\$25 to T. Kenyon for design?], and programme all estimated to be \$185). The costs for the Symposium were about \$269. All the speakers received one year's membership in the OAS, as did Walter Kenyon, Margaret Frazer (AV technician in the Anthropology Department) and Mrs. C. McClay (from the ROM.)

I do remember a discussion with the Executive about what to do with the profit (\$271). I do believe that a thoughtful person on the Executive suggested saving the money for next year. However, I suggested hosting a "Speakers Reception" afterwards where speakers and attendees could meet to discuss and generally relax. By September 30th I had made arrangements to book the lounge of the Library Science Building with the Department of Anthropology at U of T the sponsor. Expenses for this reception included a Security Guard and clean-up, plus a liquor licence (which cost \$10 and I had to apply for it and pick it up. It was easy to do in those days). Since it was to be a reception, not dinner, it ran from 5:30 to 8:00 pm, leaving time for groups to disperse afterwards. Refreshments included 15 cases of beer (\$6 a case), 10 bottles of wine (\$1.50 a bottle, definitely not barrel fermented chardonnay) pop and pretzels (\$20) and paper cups and serviettes (\$5). The total cost of the reception was \$176, leaving a profit of \$95!

The Day Arrives

It was a beautiful fall day, that I do

remember, although most of the day was a blur for me. I hope everyone enjoyed themselves, because I didn't. I was tied up in knots making certain everything was ok. The room was completely filled with last minute registrants and we did have to turn people away. Norm Wagner arrived late to find out that there were no more seats available. I'll always remember his comment "Well, that's no way to run a railroad!" and he was right. I think the OAS held meetings in the Planetarium for a one more year then moved to a larger venue. But by then the Symposium was a well attended and established annual event.

The papers of the day offered a full-range spectrum of Ontario Iroquoian studies. The President, Charles Garrad, opened with a letter from the Wyandotte people of Oklahoma. Charles was the Chair for the full day. Norm Emerson was the perfect person to comment on the day's proceedings. His wry sense of humour, commenting on "new taxonomy" such as "a pit which Jim Wright could stand in and not be seen" a point made by David Stothers (but as it was an aside it did not make it into the text of Stother's article.)

The paper which caused the most controversy was that by Richard Hill and Donald Grinde Jr., "Indian Historians Examine the Prehistory and History of the Iroquois: Problems in Methodology and Records." As Emerson observed in his concluding remarks "In the early morning, before coming to the symposium I had predicted at least some degree of controversy ... my prediction was correct;

but such controversy was done with considerable dignity and gentlemanly agreement to disagree." The paper by Hill and Grinde was more appropriate and timely than any in the room knew as the decades have shown. Emerson added that "today seems to have renewed that ancient enthusiasm (for Iroquois research) and I hope will have set a precedent for future Iroquois symposia in 1975 ... and for later years."

The Follow-Up and So-on

A description of the days events were published in Arch Notes (74:7). The proceedings of the symposium were published in Ontario Archaeology Number 25, 1975 under the editorship of Bill Hurley. In this collection, all but three papers from the day were included, plus the opening remarks by Charles Garrad and Walter Kenyon, and Emerson's concluding comments. The appearance of this publication, in such a timely manner, was an excellent conclusion to the first OAS Symposium and a fitting celebration of the OAS' 25th Anniversary.

I did not organize the second OAS symposium, but I did give a paper at the third symposium in 1976. If I remember correctly by 1976 the meetings were no longer held at the ROM. The move away from the Planetarium Lecture theatre was essential because the meetings had grown too large. I was initially critical of the move away from the ROM at the time because it increased the registration costs. But of course this was a logical evolution of the organization as the meetings have now become the focal point of

our year.

I must admit that I was youthfully enthusiastic about the first Symposium, and seem to have a misguided impression that I did the majority of the work. Now as Jamie and Pat and I plan another Symposium some 30 years later, I realize even more how necessary the team work was then and today. Although I may have been the prime mover it was Charles Garrad, Marti Latta, Howard Savage and several other people who did a lot of work to make this day successful. We were a good team.

For many archaeologists of my generation this meeting was where students and professionals from across the province met for the first time. Emerson said it all "a new generation of broadly informed and thinking archaeologists is beginning to manifest itself in our midst." Well, that "new generation" is now a little bit long in the tooth and is looking for the next new generation.

To that end, the OAS Symposium in 2004 will be a return to the OAS' Iroquoian roots in which there has been a fair bit of recent research by young archaeologists. But as well it will be a celebration of Marti Latta's career as an archaeologist at the University of Toronto where she has been instrumental in teaching many of these new professionals. In addition it will be a joint meeting with the Eastern States Archaeological Federation. I think we have got all the bases covered, don't you?

See you in Midland, 2004!

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

"JOURNEY TO THE COUNTRY OF THE HURONS"

*JOINT ESAF - OAS MEETINGS
NOVEMBER 4, 5, 6 and 7, 2004
HIGHLAND INN AND CONFERENCE CENTRE
MIDLAND, ONTARIO*

The Ontario Archaeological Society (31st Symposium)
and the Eastern States Archaeological Federation (71st Annual meeting)
are please to announce joint meetings to be held in Midland, Ontario, in November of 2004.

The conference will focus on the Iroquoian and French archaeology of the Penetang Peninsula, with guided tours of significant archaeological sites on the Thursday led by Dr. Dean Knight (The Ball and Bauman Sites) and Jamie Hunter (Huronion). On Friday morning an historic French workshop at Ste. Marie Among the Hurons is planned. Friday afternoon will accommodate contributed papers as well a workshop on historic farmsteads in Ontario is planned. On Saturday there will be a full day of papers as a Celebration for Dr. Marti Latta and on Sunday a bus tour of Petun sites with Charles Garrad.

"Journey to the Country of the Hurons" will be an opportunity to see the homeland of the Huron and Petun Iroquoians in a manner never experienced before.

The banquet speaker is the well-known archaeological crime fiction novelist Lyn Hamilton.

"Lyn Hamilton is the author of a successful series of archaeological mysteries published by Berkley Prime Crime in New York. The series, the first of which, *The Xibalba Murders*, was nominated for the prestigious Arthur Ellis Awards for best first crime novel in Canada, features the peripatetic sleuth, antiques dealer Lara McClintoch. Lara travels the world in search of the rare and beautiful for her store, finding more than a little murder and mayhem along the way. Each of the novels is set in a different, and exotic, location, and draws on the ancient past in a unique way." Hamilton's novel *"The Celtic Riddle"* was made into a TV Movie for *Murder She Wrote* starring Angela Lansbury. Read about Lyn at www.lynhamilton.com.

CALL FOR PAPERS:

Latta Celebration Papers students and colleagues
please contact Pat Reed, University of Toronto, preed@chass.utoronto.ca (416-978-6293)

Open Session Papers (Friday afternoon)
please contact Dr. Mima Kapches, Royal Ontario Museum mimak@rom.on.ca. (416-586-5727)

LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS:

Jamie Hunter, Huronia Museum, director@huroniamuseum.com (705-526-2844)

Midland is a small city located about 1.5 hours drive north of the City of Toronto, on beautiful Georgian Bay. For those flying into Toronto cars can be rented at Pearson International Airport or a private shuttle bus can be taken from the airport to Midland.

Thunderbirds, Panthers and Lizards in Wisconsin's Effigy Mounds

Caroline Walker

Fieldtrips are often a highlight of a conference and the Society for American Archaeology's conference in Milwaukee this year was no exception. I spend a wonderful crisp spring day in rural Wisconsin. Lizard Mound County Park, near West Bend, is named for the most distinctive of its effigy mounds. 28 of 47 mounds sketched in 1883 remain on the site. Settlers in the 19th century could find no memory, among local people, of the builders of these mounds. Our guide was state archaeologist Bob Birmingham, the author of *Effigy Mounds in Wisconsin*.

The mounds rise three or four feet above ground level on a low plateau or flat place, in the hardwood forest which has replaced the oak savannas of a thousand years ago. A little known group called, for lack of any further information, the "Effigy Mound Builders" built these and many thousand others in the southern part of Wisconsin.

The mounds are shaped like birds, seen in top view, and four-legged creatures, seen in side view, or splayed. These have been interpreted as thunderbirds, panthers and lizards respectively, although this is a convention. As well, there are linear (cater-

pillar-shaped) and conical mounds. The mounds do not seem to have been meant to be seen from above (the BBC, preparing a program on archaeological features that can be seen from the air, had phoned about including these mounds, but backed out).

Are these mounds linked to clans known in historic times? The thunderbird, often represented as a cross, is prominent in North American cosmologies and myth. The local Winnebago clans had two moieties, the thunderbirds (or hawks, or geese) linked to the Upper or Skyworld and the bear, linked to the Underworld. A water spirit, a dragon or panther, was also linked to the Underworld. These are often composite animals, lizards with human faces, for instance. These effigy types are commonly found in pairs, evidence of a dualism. With all this in mind, local scholars are looking again at the symbols on pots and other artifacts found locally.

The plateau is surrounded by springs that feed the Milwaukee River. In known cultures, springs were thought to be entrances to the underworld. It has been suggested that the tails of these creatures

point to these springs, and that one might draw a topographical map from the placement of effigies, although I gather this has not been tried.

Topographical features are important for these sites. Although water, and thus perhaps the underworld is most important in the iconography of this site, other sites on higher ground have mainly thunderbird mounds.

Archaeological work in the 19th century and then in the 1960s, indicated that the dead were placed in shallow pits usually at the head or heart of the animal, not under its "tail." The skeletons were flexed, indicating burial quite soon after death.

There was no further treatment of the bones. Charcoal, ash and burnt rocks, indicate a ceremony.

In some mounds, offerings were left of wetland and other soils, and pure white sand, a symbol in known cultures of purification and rebirth. A very few pots, projectile points, pipes, bone harpoons, beads, and in a very rare instance, copper artifacts were found with the skeletons, but generally there were no grave goods. This was good for the preservation of the mounds because they did not attract looters.

The mounds were made over the graves by scraping the surrounding topsoil. Some students had made some replicates of these mounds at the American Bottoms. They cleared the vegetation and topsoil in the shape the mound was to take. They laid a layer of white sand and then put back

the topsoil, and scraped up more topsoil from the surrounding area. Soil was not carried a long distance, nor were there "borrow pits."

There are some C14 dates for mounds, which suggest a chronology. Higher mounds, built before 500 AD and containing numerous grave goods, are thought to be high status burials. The conical and linear mounds, built between 500-700AD are thought to be prototypes of the effigy mounds. The effigy mounds were built 700-1000 AD. It is common, as at this sight to have conical, linear and effigy mounds together, suggesting continuity of ethnicity or cultural practice.



*Above: Panther Mound, Lizard Mound Park, West Bend, WI.
Opposite: Conical Mound, Lizard Mound Park, West Bend, WI.*

There are no villages, but only scattered campsites nearby, suggesting that people gathered at the site only at certain times, and that it was used over about five hundred years.

It was early spring. The grass that has been planted on the mounds was short and very green, and so they stood out from the as yet leafless trees. Their main predators are rodents. One of the mounds

had had been broken open by a large burrowing woodchuck.

I was drawn to this spot by my interest in Iroquoian archaeology. The Iroquoian peoples also believed the cosmos was divided into the Skyworld, where the Thunderbird prevailed, and the Underworld, the home of a composite animal that was sometimes a panther, sometimes a dragon or horned serpent with a long curling tail. It was a source of sympathetic magic in courtship, hunting, healing and war. Hamell (1998) has written extensively about the Iroquoian culture. Bradley and Childs (1991) have identified the brass and copper spirals found largely on Seneca and Susquehannock sites with panther tails. Clearly cultural beliefs were very widely held in the Northeast.

Ontario has mounds, but none similar in shape or time period to these mounds (Kenyon 1986). A search of the Internet turns up Ontario's Serpent Mounds Park, of course, but also the Effigy Mounds National Monument in Iowa and many others in the U.S. The Hiawatha First Nation has a summer program of spirit walks, powwows and sunrise ceremonies.

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Ontario High Schools Add Archaeology Course *Archaeological Studies (Grade 12, University Preparation)*

The course examines the history and theory of archaeology, and the methodology of surveying, excavating, collecting, and storing evidence. Students are exposed to field work and to a variety of research methods, including mapping, data management, and analysis from several points of view. Legal, ethical, and career issues related to archaeological studies are investigated. This course uses archaeology as a vehicle to investigate interdisciplinary approaches to a set of problems, and by interconnecting concepts and skills from a variety of diverse disciplines, it assists students in understanding the value of viewing issues from multiple perspectives.

The Course stresses the fundamental concept of archaeology: that of "change through time." With this in mind, it examines the nature of time, and the cultural constructs with which people approach time, as the introductory unit. It also considers several examples of the sciences and techniques which the archaeologist uses to unravel the meaning of change through time. The course looks at how archaeological material is interpreted, and the ways in which bias inadvertently creeps into the interpretation of the past. Consideration then turns to the legal and ethical constraints that bind the practice of archaeology, and provides an opportunity for students to develop a collaborative and interdisciplinary product and to apply the principles acquired in earlier parts of the course.

Where possible, the course would benefit from hands-on experience such as field trips to working archaeology sites and museums and classroom visits by practising archaeologists.

Complete course outline: www.curriculum.org/occ/profiles/12/interdisciplinary.shtml

Who Were the Ochasteguis ?

Charles Garrad

It is said that the native group which briefly appeared in history under the names: Hochataigains (Champlain 2:1, 1613 small map; Trigger 1976:291), Ochastaguins (Champlain 2:57), Ochasteguis (JR 2:205,207,303n58), Ochataiguins (Champlain 2:65) and Ochateguins (Champlain 2:68,109,123,142; 4:64,67,119) was so named by Samuel de Champlain from the name of their Chief (Champlain 2:57n1, JR 2:303n58), which is variously given as: Ochasteguain (Champlain 2:68,186), Ochataguin (Champlain 2:138), Ochateguain (Champlain 3:73, 4:260), and Ochateguin (Champlain 2:186; 4:117,136; JR 5:288n50 after Laverdière).

The Ochasteguis, viewed from the St. Lawrence, were on the northern shore in the direction of Florida, with the Algonkians (JR 2:205). The Iroquois were their enemies, and also enemies of the French, because the French "have waged war against them" in company with the Ochasteguis (JR 2:207).

The Ochasteguis were early allies of Champlain. In 1609, 1610 and 1615 they made joint expeditions with Champlain against the Iroquois. Both Champlain and Chief Ochasteguain were wounded during the unsuccessful attack of 1615 (JR 5:288n50; Trigger 1976:313).

An early unknown Jesuit writer included the Ochasteguis among the tribes which "practice agriculture, though unskillfully, and plant Indian corn and the Brazilian bean" (JR 2:207). Champlain observed that they were relatively prosperous and free of famine because "they were willing to take the trouble to sow Indian corn" (Champlain 2:57).

Champlain called the Ochateguins the "good Iroquois", the general Algonquin term for all Hurons (Champlain 1:164; 2:109), and placed them on his 1613 small map, as "Hochataigains" (Champlain 2 facing p.1; Trigger 1976:291) west of, and upriver from, the seemingly related "Charioquet".

Notwithstanding the opinion of the Abbé Charles-Honoré Laverdière that Chief Ochateguin was an Odawa (JR 5:288n50), it is accepted that the Ochasteguis, and consequently their chief, were Hurons (Bishop 1963:122,141,152; Champlain 2:65n1,109n4, 122n2,138n1;4:64n1,67n1,117n1). The names Ochasteguis, Ochastaguins, Ochateguins have been applied to all Huron peoples. Champlain's editors thought it a mistake to so apply the name of the Chief (Champlain 4:64n1,67n1,117n1; 6:415). Father Arthur E. Jones also objected to applying the name of one Chief, or of his particular clan, to "the whole tribe" (Jones 1909:420).

The "tribe of Ochateguins" in Champlain's 1613 account (Champlain 2:141-142) became "the tribe of Ochateguins who are called Hurons" in the 1632 version (Champlain 4:119). Similarly, the related Charioquet (Champlain's 1613 small map) or Charioquois (Champlain 2:186,205) in 1613, become "Hurons" in the 1632 version (Champlain 4:136,150). These changes are perhaps more likely examples of someone tampering with the text without the authority of Champlain rather than evidence of Champlain suddenly adopting the term Huron. Nevertheless, whoever made the changes in his text accepted that the Ochateguins were Hurons.

Given that the Huron alliance was composed of individual nations with separate histories, origins, and interests, and which fragmented at the time of the Dispersal into its component nations, it is of

interest to know which of those nations were, or included, the Ochasteguis. This is nowhere precisely stated, but the evidence leads to the conclusion that the Ochasteguis were, or belonged to, the Huron Arendaronons or Rock Tribe (Trigger 1978:349).

Father Jerome Lalemant stated that of the Huron nations the Rock "first encountered the French", among whom Champlain had stayed the longest when in Huronia, and where his name was still revered decades later (JR 20:19; Jones 1909:68).

To what extent the personal alliance between Chief Ochasteguin and Samuel de Champlain was viewed at the time by either of these men as extending to embrace other native peoples, and to the French generally, is unknown. In his day, Father Lalemant described the relationship as "This so special alliance which these Arendaronon peoples have with the French" (JR 20:21), seeming to suggest that in his view the alliance was between all French, and the Huron Arendaronon Rock specifically.

Bruce G. Trigger suggests that by Ochasteguin Champlain may have specifically meant the Arendaronon Rock, and by Charioquois either some other Hurons, or Hurons in general (Trigger 1976:290). The names Ochasteguin, applied to either the Chief and his people, do not appear after 1615. What happened to the Chief is a matter of speculation (e.g. Trigger 1976:247,317,326). His people may have been a clan segment (Trigger 1976:288,289), who later became recognized under their tribal name, Arendaronon. It was the fate of the Ochasteguin, as all or part of the Arendaronon Rock, to be absorbed into the Seneca and Onondaga (Jones 1909:447; JR 36:141, 43:191,207).

When asked to speculate on a possible meaning for Chief Ochasteguin's name, John Steckley (pers.com.) suggested that from the forms presented the word intended might be something like "hochate,en". This word includes the verb root -ate- ("to burn") and the noun root -ache- ("axe") or -ach- ("beaver lodge"), giving a combined meaning of "His axe is burning" or "His beaver lodge is burning".

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L e t t e r s

Public Archaeology, McGaw, and the OAS mandate

September 15, 2003

Dear OAS Board of Directors,

I am extremely saddened to learn that the McGaw Archaeological and Educational Program has recently been cancelled. This program was a wondrous opportunity for primary and secondary school students from around the G.T.A. to study and experience, first hand, the physical evidence for native history and occupation in Southern Ontario. As well, it was an extremely enriching chance for students to learn about archaeology and the involvement of the Ontario Archaeological Society in broadening the minds and hearts of today's youth and future university social science students.

I participated in the secondary level program a year ago with the students from my Anthropology and Archaeology Society, and everyone walked away expressing how informative and exciting the experience had been. Indeed, with the fine-tuning of the current Ontario curriculum, opportunities to involve our students in a social science based outdoor experience, (and particular an anthropological discipline or sub-discipline), are virtually non-existent in the province. The McGaw Program is the perfect component to make up for the short-comings of the Ontario educational system.

I also understand that part of the mandate of the OAS is to educate the public on archaeology. Providing educational programming through the use of the McGaw site is an excellent chance to reach a variety of age groups and interest levels, while giving the OAS positive exposure and interaction with a variety of professional agencies such as the Town of Richmond Hill and various school boards outside of York Region. Indeed, my own school is affiliated with the Dufferin-Peel School Board, and I have been openly welcomed and encouraged to promote the program within my board, of which I have done voraciously.

As a secondary school educator with a love and passion for anthropology and its sub-disciplines, the demise of this program only causes me grief and frustration at the loss of another excellent social science outdoor program. Please consider this as

a plea to actively investigate a way to reconcile the pending insurance issue. As it is my hope that the McGaw Archaeological and Educational Program is not permanently cancelled, and will be up and running again in the spring.

Thank you for your time and positive action in reinstating this much needed and valuable program.

Sincerely,

Terri Brennan
 Guidance Counselor and Social Science Teacher
 Robert F. Hall Catholic Secondary School, Caledon East

The Board of the OAS agrees with your opinion of the many positive aspects of the McGaw site public archaeology program. It was a popular success among students and teachers, especially. While we agree that the opportunities for social science based outdoor programs are few in the GTA we, regrettably, moved to end the McGaw site public archaeology program.

This was not an easy decision for the Board. However, several factors which occurred nearly simultaneously, forced our decision. First, the Trillium grant which paid for much of the program, was coming to the end of its 3-year term with outstanding expenses still to cover. The program was not able to be self-sustaining, therefore, with the money running out the program had to close. It is possible that the Town of Richmond Hill, the property owners, may wish to continue the program themselves or with another partner. We would applaud such an initiative and encourage you to appeal to them.

On the issue of insurance: on short notice our insurer sharply increased our premium while at the same time withdrawing clauses necessary to carrying out any public education program: namely the two separate clauses covering Abuse and Molestation and Directors and Officers Liability. It would be contrary to the Board's fiduciary responsibility to carry on with public programming without these clauses in place to reduce the risk to the Society, its staff and volunteers.

The Board of the OAS is encouraged by your commitment to education in social science and especially in archaeology. I note that you have put your name forward for election to the Board of Directors of the OAS for 2004. I hope that if you are a successful candidate you will put your zeal and enthusiasm for education to work for the OAS in helping us to fulfil that part of our mission to educate the people of Ontario about those who came before us.

Sincerely,
 Christine Caroppo, President OAS



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Secretary/Treasurer - Helen Sluis
Newsletter - The Heights; Editor - Bill Fitzgerald
Mailing address - 452 Jackson Street W.,
Hamilton ON L8P 1N4 Membership - \$10
Meetings - usually at 7:00pm on the 3rd Thursday of the month,
except June-August, at Dundurn Castle
Email - hamilton.oas@hwcen.org / Internet - www.hwcen.org/link/hcoas

London chapter

President - Jim Keron
Vice-president - Paul O'Neal
Secretary - Larelyn Geise
Treasurer - Chris Ellis
Directors - Kristen Snarey, James Sherratt
Newsletter - KEWA; Editors - Christine Dodd & Chris Ellis
Mailing address - 55 Centre Street London ON N6J 1T4
Tel. (519) 675-7742, Fax (519) 675-7777
Internet - <http://yoda.ssc1.uwo.ca:80/assoc/oas/lonos.html>
Membership - individual and family \$18, institutional \$21
Meetings - usually at 8:00pm on the 2nd Thursday of the month
except May-August, at the London Museum of Archaeology

Niagara-on- the-Lake chapter

President - Laura Dodson
Vice-President - Paul Catling
Secretary/Treasurer - Clara Tarnoy
Mailing address - Box 1016
Niagara-on-the-Lake ON L0S 1J0
Tel. (905) 468-5202
Meetings - usually held at 7:30pm
on the 1st Wednesday of the month, except July-August
in the Navy Hall, Ricardo Street, Niagara-on-the-Lake

Ottawa chapter

President - Irene-Ann LaCroix
Secretary - Heather Stronach
Treasurer - Bill MacLennan
Directors-at-large - I. Dyck, A. Demmers, J-F. Beaulieu
Newsletter - Ottawa Archaeologist; Editor - Ian Hember
Mailing address - Box 4939 Station E, Ottawa ON K1S 5J1
Internet - www.canadianarchaeology.com/associations/ontario/ottawa/ot/h.htm
Membership - individual \$19, family \$23, student \$12
Meetings - usually at 7:30pm on the 2nd Thursday of the month, except
June-August, at the Routhier Community Centre, 172 Guigues Street, 3rd floor

Thunder Bay chapter

President - Frances Duke
Secretary/Treasurer - Andrew Hinshelwood
Mailing address - 331 Hallam Street,
Thunder Bay ON P7A 1L9
Meetings - 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 chapter

President - Penny Young
Vice-President - Leslie Hunt
Secretary - Annie Gould
Treasurer - Roberta O'Brien / Program Convenor - Pat Reed
Newsletter - Profile; Editor - Andy Schoenhofer
Mailing address - Toronto's First Post Office,
260 Adelaide Street East, Box 48, Toronto ON M5A 1N1
Internet: www.chass.utoronto.ca/anthropology/OAS/torchapt.html
Meetings - usually held at 7:30pm on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, except June-August, in the
Sidney Smith Hall basement, room 560a, University of Toronto, 100 St. George Street

Windsor chapter

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 - usually held at 7:00pm on the 2nd Thursday of the month except June-August,
at the Windsor Family Credit Union, 2800 Tecumseh Road East (back door)