

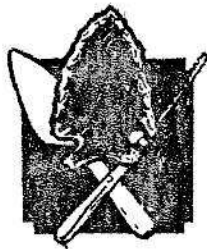
# The Ontario Archaeological Society (Inc.)

ARCH NOTES

Monthly Newsletter

No. 70 - 3

March 1970



## EXECUTIVE

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University of Toronto  
Toronto 5, Ontario

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Editors: David Stothers and Ian Kenyon,  
Department of Anthropology,  
Sidney Smith Building,  
University of Toronto.

## MONTHLY MEETING

The March meeting of the OAS will be held on Wednesday, March 18, 1970, at 8:00 p.m., in the Archaeological Lab, Room 561, Sidney Smith Building of the University of Toronto, 100 St. George Street, 2 blocks north of College Street.

Speaker: Mrs. Ramona Morris

Graduate in Anthropology, University of New Mexico,  
Albuquerque, New Mexico, U.S.A.

Topic: Archaeological history of the Southwestern U.S.

Pueblo culture, illustrated with slides and study specimens.

## PRESIDENTIAL EDITORIAL: On Branch Chapters

I have expressed a positive interest in the development of branch chapters. Dr. Axelson recommended that I make this the subject of a presidential editorial. I am pleased to do so.

I believe that branch chapters are a desirable development for the following reasons:

1. The current organization of the OAS does not allow the fullest participation of the members.
2. The development of branch chapters is the most satisfactory answer to the growth of regional interests.
3. The OAS, and affiliated chapters, is the only body which can realistically cope with the broad problems of Ontario Archaeology.
4. The development of branch chapters is a natural growth.

I would like to expand upon these statements. First, the OAS has 340 individual members. In general, if 50 members meet and participate in a given activity, that is considered to be quite successful. This means that about 15% take part at a given time; and 85% do not. I believe that a much higher per cent would like to take an active part.

To offer one simple example: many members have expressed a desire to take part in lab sessions. Let us look at the facts. We are now planning to hold lab sessions at Sidney Smith Hall. The facilities there can accommodate about 50 persons efficiently. However, there are 170 members of the OAS within reasonable commuting distance of Sidney Smith Hall in the Toronto and Metro Toronto area. I am not at the moment including an additional 60 members who might commute from Oshawa, Hamilton, or North Simcoe County. The conclusion is self-evident. There are at least two alternatives. First, in order to allow fuller participation, we would have to schedule many more duplicate lab sessions at Sidney Smith Hall; or second, it would be necessary to set up lab sessions in other centres. This latter alternative could be a significant part of the development of branch chapters.

I have used the lab session as an example, but the same would be true for most OAS activities. The current organization does not allow the fullest membership participation; and the development of branch chapters would appear to be the best alternative method to do so.

Second, the growth of branch chapters is the most satisfactory answer to the growth of regional interests. Toronto has been the historical centre for the development of the OAS. But with the growth of archaeology this is bound to change. The dramatic growth of interest in the Windsor area is a case in point. I would anticipate similar growth in what would seem to be natural, geographical, archaeological areas. Toronto is too far distant from too many important areas to offer realistic guidance to such areas in a real positive way. Moreover, each sub area is characterized by a group of capable, competent people, who are quite able to offer the necessary leadership to the developing chapter.

I would point out that as such regional development takes place there are at least two alternatives; there can be the growth of discrete, independent, regional societies; or the development of affiliated chapters. The former could lead to factionalism and possible disunity of a broad archaeological program for Ontario. The latter alternative which allows both unity, and diversity, would seem to be the best way.

The parent body of the OAS would gain strength by the development of each chapter. Each new chapter could represent a statement of faith in the leadership of the parent body. In return, the local chapter would gain strength from affiliation with a province-wide body. In all negotiations, individual, municipal, and governmental, it would be recognized as an integral part of a legally constituted archaeological society, now 20 years old. Such a development could well be mutually beneficial to both bodies.

Third, the OAS and affiliated chapters, is the only body which can realistically cope with the broad problems of Ontario archaeology. This statement is bound to be controversial, but it is one upon which I would like to take a stand in favour of the OAS. It is redundant to state as Dr. James V. Wright has so clearly pointed out. Urban sprawl and the growth of our civilization brings with it what I would like to call "historical pollution", the destruction of our non-renewable archaeological resources. Such destruction must be coped with, and I believe that the OAS is the most appropriate and legal body to do so.

If the OAS does not take over this role, then the alternative would seem to be some selection or combination of government, museum, or university agencies. I have been closely associated with museum and university activity for over two decades. None of these appear to present a realistic alternative. None of them have the personnel in the necessary numbers. They are generally faced with geographic limitations. Most of them have commitments in many diverse directions, which do not allow intensive concentration upon the archaeological problems in detail.

The OAS does present the positive alternative. It does have 340 keenly interested members. Its membership is geographically widespread across the province. The members have a committed interest, the time and the energy to cope with the problems in a single-minded way. The OAS should aspire to, and work towards such a leadership role. The development of branch chapters should strengthen such a program and add strength at the local level.

Finally, the growth of branch chapters is a natural growth. If we compare the OAS to other societies such as the Lions, the Rotarians, or the Home and School, the process of regional growth is a natural one, as membership becomes more numerous and widespread. I am simply surprised that such developments have been 20 years in coming. Now that Windsor has taken the step, I hope that others will follow.

I have had an opportunity to study the membership list. In one way it is just a list of names, but in another it is a list of rather impressive talents and resources. I do not believe all these talents are being given the chance to produce to the full.

A study of the list will reveal bankers, lawyers, judges, librarians, scuba divers, public officials, high ranking military men, photographers, secretaries, clerical workers, skilled tradesmen, business executives, students, a considerable body of museum and university people--here are resources that can lead to vital development.

Moreover, the society membership reveals a fine balance between the young, the old, and those in-between. It is the young who will gradually become the leaders of this society. It is the guidance and wisdom of the old who know Ontario archaeology like the backs of their hands, which can add so much to the society. It is the combination of all the above kinds of people to whom we must look for development. I look toward their contribution to the parent body, but I am equally sure that the development of local chapters can only proceed with the aid and involvement of such people.

Thus I consider the development of branch chapters the aim to be pursued.

#### GENERAL COMMENTS

The following procedures will be initiated in order to familiarize those who are interested in information concerning what is happening in the archaeological field in Canada in general and Ontario in particular.

Commencing with this issue the editors wish to take a new approach to the publication of monthly meeting results. Rather than issue a general statement of description concerning the content of the previous month's speech, the editors will arrange for those speeches which lend themselves to such an approach to be printed in a more comprehensive and usable form. Speakers will be given the option of writing summaries of their own speeches (and speakers are encouraged to utilize this opportunity).

Letters to the editors are invited from OAS members as well as anyone else who is interested concerning: suggestions; information concerning the destruction or pending destruction of archaeological sites; announcement of forthcoming archaeological and anthropological meetings or conferences; anything else that may be of general concern to those interested in archaeology; current research (whether professional or non-professional); brief reviews of recent articles or books of interest to archaeologists and anthropologists; extensive bibliographies of subjects and authors pertinent to Ontario archaeology.

People who have been working on a site or material from a site are encouraged to submit a brief analysis of their work and data for publication in Arch Notes. In this way anyone who feels that he has a contribution to make to the understanding of Ontario archaeology can let others know of his work.

Sessions in laboratory analysis will be held more often in order that people can familiarize themselves with material and analysis techniques. These meetings will be announced in advance and will take place in the archaeology laboratory Room 561 in the Sidney Smith Building, University of Toronto.

#### LAB SESSION

A lab session was held on March 4 to familiarize people with Middle Woodland ceramics. A series of successive laboratory sessions will be held to analyze the archaeological material from the Beeton Site. The first session will be held on Wednesday, April 1 at 8:00 p.m., in the archaeology laboratory, Sidney Smith Building, 100 St. George Street, two blocks north of College St.

#### RECENT PUBLICATIONS CONCERNING THE HURON INDIANS (Note: these titles are not in the OAS library)

The Huron: Farmers of the North - Bruce G. Trigger  
130 pp. - \$2.50 Holt, Rinehart and Winston, New York 1969  
This paperback by Dr. Trigger should serve as an excellent introduction to this group of Ontario Indians.

An Ethnography of the Huron Indians, 1615-1649 - Elisabeth Tooker  
183 pp. - \$2.00 Huronia Historical Development Council,  
Midland, 1967.

This study was originally published by the Smithsonian in 1964 and rapidly went out of print. This reprint, with a new introduction by Bruce Trigger, presents a comprehensive survey of Huron culture. Available from the Huronia Historical Development Council, Sainte-Marie Among the Hurons, Midland, Ontario.

#### THE PRINCESS POINT COMPLEX AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO THE OWASCO AND ONTARIO IROQUOIS TRADITIONS (Abstract of speech presented by D.M. Stothers at the February meeting)

The Princess Point complex has been defined on the basis of the type site - Princess Point (AhGx-1) and over 20 other components. These components are basically located to the west of Lake Ontario between Hamilton and the Grand River and down into the Niagara Peninsula.

The Princess Point complex would appear to represent two aspects of major importance to Ontario archaeology: 1) it is ancestral Glen Meyer and 2) this complex represents the "Ontario Owasco".

The temporal ordering of this complex would appear to fall between 900-1100 A.D. and some of the components can be arranged into a temporal sequence emerging from post Middle Woodland to components that are transitional to Glen Meyer.



## Characteristic Traits of the Princess Point Complex

Ceramics: Ceramics were manufactured by the paddle and anvil technique, although coil breaks (in low frequencies) are present in the earliest components within this complex.

Pot bases are sub-conical, while the pot is elongate in shape. Pots are almost exclusively collarless, although a low percentage display applique collars. The rims are everted and flattened or rounded. Many display a splayed lip. Rims are characteristically decorated in vertical or herring-bone cord-wrapped stick impressions, while a few are plain or smoothed cord-malleation. Over half of the rims display deep exterior punctates with interior bossing. Most of the rims are decorated on the interior and exterior towards the top with the same technique. A very low percentage of the rims are executed in incising, and dentate stamp.

Body sherds are typically cord-malleated or roughened with a cord-wrapped paddle. A very small percentage display dentate stamping or rocker stamping.

Dentate stamping, rocker stamping and coil breaks become increasingly rarer as Glen Meyer is approached, while castellations and incising become increasingly more frequent.

Pipes: Pipe bowls are typically barrel and cylindrical shaped, being predominantly plain or punctated. The pipes are short and display an obtuse angle at the elbow. The stems are round, flattened and rectangular.

Lithics: Most lithics are manufactured from a grey-blue Onondaga chert. Projectile points are typically wide-based triangular Levanna points, while a few side-notched and stemmed points occur in association. Random retouched flake and thumbnail scrapers are very common. T-based drills are typical, as are notched net sinkers, abrading stones, and ground stone adzes. Large bi-pointed bifacial "blades" also are common. The lithic technology is that of a core and flake industry.

Agriculture: Two sites at opposite ends of the time scale within the Princess Point complex (Early-Princess Point; Late-Porteous) have produced carbonized corn and possibly a carbonized bean. This is the earliest known agricultural product for Ontario and among the earliest for the Northeast.

Settlement Data: All of the Princess Point components occur on river flats, small sheltered inlets, and streams near rivers. All are on ground which is low and close to the water. Sedentary and semi-sedentary residence patterns are attested to by the Princess Point (ApGx-1) and Porteous sites (AgHb-1). The Princess Point site appears to be a small seasonal fishing camp with no discernible house patterns, while the Porteous site produced a small longhouse measuring 36 x 22 feet with random internal hearths and pits (and part of another). One island site has produced what appears to be a workshop area.

Relationships: The Princess Point complex appears to be very closely related to the Carpenter Brook Phase (Early Owasco) of New York State in the following traits: ceramics, settlement data, lithics, pipes, time provenience, and geographical proximity (they are just across the Niagara River from one another). The Princess Point ceramics do show some regional variation, namely the high percentage of exterior punctates on the rim. This trait is, however, common in Black Duck ceramics which are characteristic of Manitoba, Minnesota and northern Lake Superior. Black Duck ceramics are in many ways similar to early Princess Point complex ceramics in the decorative techniques, splayed lips, etc. Some of the latest Princess Point complex components appear to be transitional to Glen Meyer and it is proposed that the "enigmatic" Kreiger site falls within this category. This is further substantiated by a stratified

midden at the Princess Point site which displayed the following ceramic sequence in the strata from the bottom to the top: Princess Point ceramics, Glen Meyer, Middleport, late Iroquois, historic gunflints and glass. Richard MacNeish (1952) and Thomas Lee (1951, 1952) proposed an Ontario Owasco nearly 20 years ago and it would seem that now such a proposal can be substantiated.

David M. Stothers, February 1970, Dept. of Anthropology, Un. of Toronto.

References: KIDD, K., 1954, A Woodland Site Near Chatham, Ontario.  
 Trans. Roy.Can.Inst., 30, Part 2, 141-178

LEE, T., 1952, A Preliminary Report on an Archaeological Survey of South-Western Ontario for 1950. Nat.Mus. of Canada Bull. 126, 64-75.

MACNEISH, R.S., 1952, Iroquois Pottery Types: A Technique for the Study of Iroquois Prehistory. Nat.Mus. of Canada Bull. 124, 166 pp.

RITCHIE, W.A., and MACNEISH, R.S., 1949, The Pre-Iroquoian Pottery of New York State. Amer. Antiq., 15 (2) 97-124.

RITCHIE, W.A., 1944, The Pre-Iroquoian Occupations of New York State. Rochester Mus.Arts Sci., Mem. No.1 416 pp.

WINTENBERG, W.J., 1948, The Middleport Prehistoric Village Site. N.M. of C. Bull. 109, Anthropological Series No.27 pg.65

Note: The editors would like to extend their sincere thanks to those people who devoted their time and effort to help with this edition of Arch Notes and the March 4 laboratory session.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Please use the order form at the bottom of this page to send in your 1970 OAS membership fees. Cheques and money orders should be made payable to the Ontario Archaeological Society, and mailed to Miss Lorna Procter. Fees may also be paid at the March meeting. Only paid-up members will receive the next issue of "Ontario Archaeology", Number 14, that our editor, Mr. Heidenreich, has at the printers.

New Members

Beverley Greenspan,  
29 Markdale Ave., Toronto 347.

R. Scott Andres,  
34 Hobart Dr. N., Willowdale 427.

Queen's University Library,  
Serials Division, Queen's University,  
Kingston, Ontario.

Miss Mima Brown,  
83 Badgerow Ave., Toronto

Mrs. M. Zaputovich,  
Apt.8A, 20 Prince Arthur Ave., Toronto

Mrs. Ramona Morris,  
1321 Kensington Park Rd., Oakville, Ont.

Changes of Address  
Mr. Morgan Tamplin,  
Apt.704, 55 Erskine Ave., Toronto 315.

Mr. Stanley Wortner  
Box 309, Bothwell, Ontario.

O.A.S. Membership Renewal Form - Please circle type of membership required:  
Active -- \$4.00 Associate --\$3.00

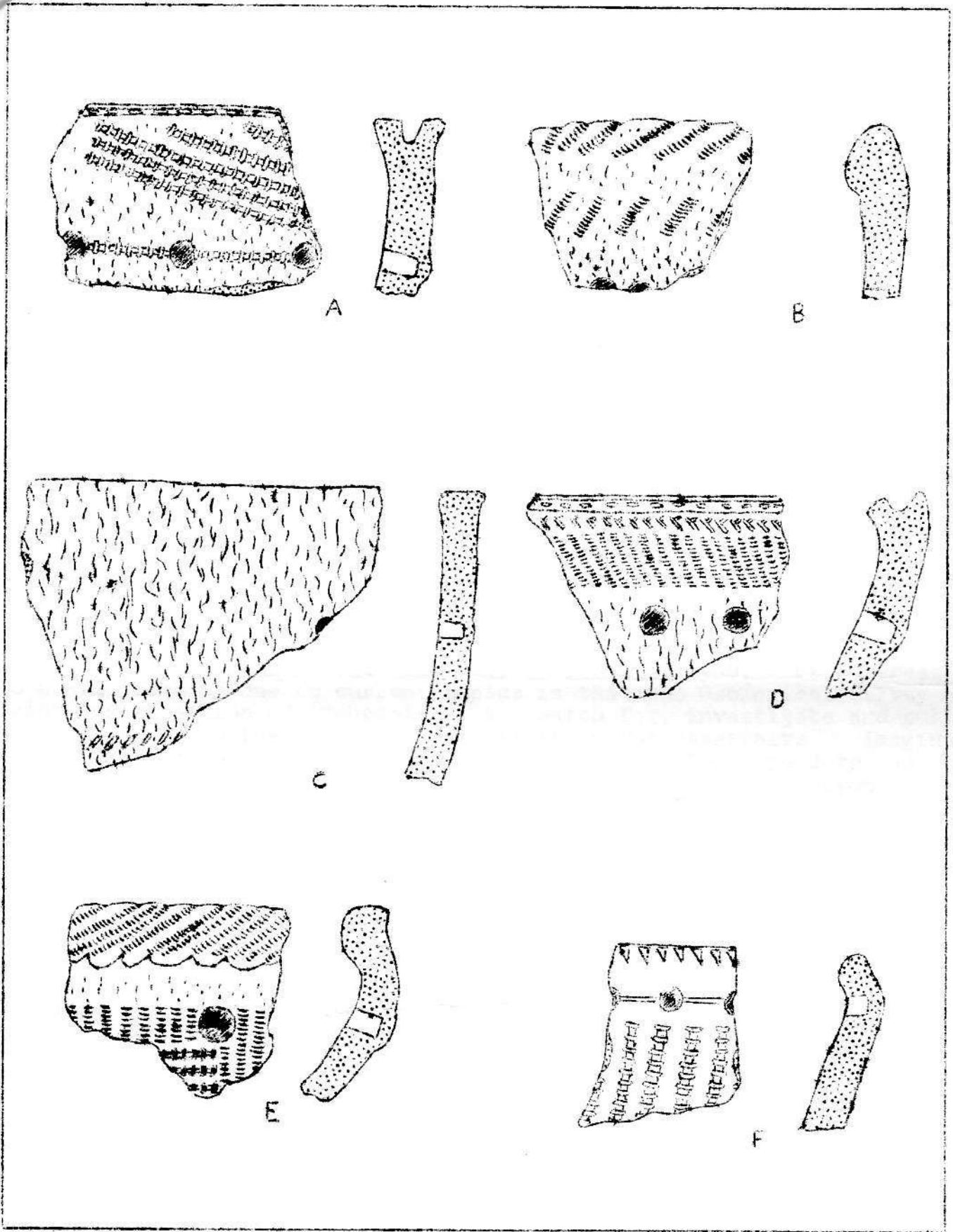
Miss Lorna Procter Family -- \$7.00 Institutional-\$4.00  
137 Madison Avenue  
Toronto 5, Ontario

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Representative Rim Sherds of the Princess Point Complex  
(Natural Size)

O.A.S. LIBRARY - New Titles - February/March 1970

- ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, The. "Journal" vol xv:2 December 1969. Contains "Evidence of Aboriginal Trade in Late Prehistoric Times" by Fletcher Jolly, and "Three Finger Technology: Holding Pebble Tools" by A.B.Hooper.
- AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY "Natural History" February 1970.
- ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF CANADA "Anthropological Journal of Canada" vol 8, no. 1, 1970. Contains: "Anthropology & Phenomenology" by M.F. Farmer, "George T. Lechler" by T.E.Lee, "A Major Archaeological Problem" by D.W.Josselyn, "Soil Composition and Cultural Correlation" by R.B.Lane, "The Ungava Norse: A Reply to Birgitta Wallace" by T.E.Lee, "Piedmont Archaeological Survey" by P.P.Cooper, "The Ass in the Cult of Dionysus as a Symbol of Toil and Suffering" by Eva Keuls, "Beaks" by J.H. Fowler.
- ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM "Archaeological Newsletter" no. 57 February 1970. Contains: "The Siraf Expedition" by Barbara Stephen. (Iran).
- SASKATCHEWAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY "Saskatchewan Archaeology Newsletter" no 27 December 1969. Contains: "A Scottsbluff Point from Lacadena, Saskatchewan" by I.G. Dyck, "An Unusual Stone Plate" by J.V.Hodges. (This enterprising Society was busy in December planning an 'en masse' visit to Mexico to see lots of Aztec sites with unpronounceable names. Too late to join to get in on this - even too late to go. They should have arrived back in Regina March 15th).
- TOLSTOY P. & PARADIS L.I. 1970 "Early and Middle Preclassic Culture in the Basin of Mexico", pp. 344-351 from SCIENCE Vol 167 January 23rd 1970, contributed by Dr. D.B.Shutt, of Guelph.
- WEST VIRGINIA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY "Newsletter" vol xii no 1 January 1970. (Activity reports)
- WEST VIRGINIA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY "Newsletter" December 1969. Of interest to O.A.S. members due to current topics is that the Geological Survey maintains a section of Archaeology, to search for, investigate and publish on sites prior to their necessary destruction for reservoirs. Imagine excavating a mound 30' in diameter composed of cobbles, boulders and sandstone slabs, only to find the burial beneath decomposed beyond recovery.

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The ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM is in the news lately for doubling its admission price. 25¢ it was, and 50¢ it is. Must cost about that much to collect the money, so we can't complain. We presume Museum members still enter free.

The writer has never attended the free Wednesday Gallery Tours, but we note that the subject "North America Indians" will fill 45 minutes from 1.p.m. Wednesday March 11th and again March 25th, with a final on Tuesday March 31st at noon. (Don't go Monday by mistake, or you'll find yourself with "Egyptian Mummies").

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WANTED: Archaeological Reports (Canadian Institute) for 1893, 1894 and 1895.

ALSO WANTED: to contact a Glen Meyer specialist interested in searching for a reported Glen Meyer site in the Beaver Valley one weekend in Spring. Contact librarian.