



ARCH NOTES

Newsletter of

The Ontario Archaeological Society (Inc.)

P.O. Box 241, Postal Station "P", Toronto, Ontario M5S 2S8

February 1976

76-2



Election Night - January 21, 1976

Dr. Peter Storck (left), retiring President of the O.A.S., congratulates the new 1976 President, Dr. Howard Savage.

This Month's Meeting

The February Meeting will be held at the McLaughlin Planetarium lecture theatre, Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, at 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 18.

From Wilfred Laurier University we have Sandra Woolfrey and Prince Chitwood speaking on "New Aberdeen: An Historic Village in Waterloo County".

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Mineral Exploration Classes

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources will present classes in mineral exploration in Toronto from Monday February 23 to Saturday, February 28 inclusive. Classes will be held from 7:00 - 10:00 p.m. in the Ontario Room, 2nd Floor, Macdonald Block, 900 Bay Street. All classes and lectures ARE FREE.

ARCH NOTES is published 7 - 10 times a year by the Ontario Archaeological Society. All enquiries and contributions should be addressed to the Chairman, Arch Notes Committee, c/o 29 Tournament Drive, Willowdale, Ontario M2P 1K1.

O.A.S. EXECUTIVE

Following the election on January 21, 1976, of Dr. Howard Savage as President and Mrs. Christine Kirby as Treasurer, the 1976 Executive of the O.A.S. is as follows:

President: Dr. Howard Savage, 97 Glenview Ave.,
Toronto, Ontario
485-1259
(Office: 928-5260)

Vice-President: Patsy Cook, 128 Hogarth Ave. Toronto
466-5484

Past President: Dr. Peter Storck, Royal Ontario Museum
100 Queen's Park, Toronto
928-6138

Treasurer: Christine Kirby, 29 Tournament Drive,
Willowdale, Ontario
223-7296
(Office: 425-3930)

Corresponding Secretary: Sharon Hick, 20 Balsam Avenue, Toronto
699-0159
(Office: 928-3673)

Recording Secretary: Margaret Ann Clark, 1 Crown Hill Place,
Apt. 201, Toronto
239-6080
(Office: 652-1770)

Appointed officers include:

Arch Notes Committee Chairman: Mike Kirby, 29 Tournament Drive, Willowdale
223-7296

E.S.A.F. Representative: John Reid, 66 Roe Avenue, Toronto 485-8563
(Office: 928-6293)

C.A.A. Representative: John Reid

Chairman, Constitution Revision & Amendment Committee: John Reid

Librarian: Betsy Gummow, 121 Sheppard Ave., Pickering
282-1965

Editor, Ontario Archaeology: William Hurley, Dept. of Anthropology,
University of Toronto

Programme Convenor: Marti Latta, 100 Northwood Drive, Willowdale
222-4346

(Additional appointments may be recorded in the next Arch Notes.)

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

As your newly elected President, I am aware of the need of much to be done by the O.A.S. during 1976. The possibility of financial support by the Ontario Heritage Foundation toward office space with secretarial assistance for our Society invites discussion with the Foundation. Greater O.A.S. accessibility thereby to the public may well lead to greater public awareness of archaeological needs and activities in Ontario and the role therein played by our Society. An increased membership will surely result.

Increased opportunities for our members to upgrade their knowledge of various phases of Archaeology in field and laboratory are planned. Courses in faunal analysis and archaeo-botany have already been set up, while ones in ceramics and lithics can be envisaged. Credits for taking such courses may be useful in applying for a license from the Ministry of Culture and Recreation of Ontario to survey or excavate, or as field crew in a project.

The activities of the Ottawa Chapter of the O.A.S., especially as set out in the expanded Archaic Notes, should be made known to our members generally. The list of speakers at their monthly meetings has been particularly impressive recently.

The foregoing comments will hopefully point up some highlights of this coming year. Suggestions from our members concerning other possible activities will always be most welcome to your incoming Executive.

Yours sincerely,

HOWARD SAVAGE

President (Past and Present)

"O.A.S. - A Real Jewel to Preserve"

At the January 21 meeting the speakers were Dr. William Noble and Mr. Robert Bowes.

Dr. Noble explained briefly the structure of the Heritage Foundation, which is composed of four subcommittees dealing with historic sites, trust, archaeology, and architecture. There are thirty one members at present, all appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council. The aims of the Foundation are the preservation and conservation of many aspects of cultural heritage, and it operates independently of the Government. This sub-committee has taken over the duties of the provincial archaeologist and will act in an advisory capacity to the Minister.

The Foundation has funds available with which it hopes to set up grants for cleaning up backlog collections and for new research. A scholarship to commemorate Dr. Boyle may be established.

Dr. Noble stated that certain operations of the branch needed upgrading, as it was understaffed, the publication programme needed review, certain aspects of the Act were not adequate, and so forth. He also suggested that money might be provided for a home and staff for the O.A.S., which, he said, was a real jewel to preserve.

Mr. Bowes noted a change in the government's emphasis reflecting its increasing concern about archaeology, a change from its former orientation towards recreation. He said that a mechanism is being established to co-ordinate different government agencies' long range plans so that research excavations and preservation of sites can be arranged in advance, thereby gaining the maximum benefit for the funds available.

He stated that the licensing procedure had been speeded up considerably, and an emergency procedure had been established. He also said that the renewal of licences would depend partly on reports submitted for work done under the expired licence. There would be no discrimination between professional and amateur archaeologists.

M.A.C./C.K.

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MCMASTER UNIVERSITY SYMPOSIUM

The Anthropology Society of McMaster University is sponsoring a workshop/symposium on Archaeology on Saturday, February 21. Admission is free to members of the Ontario Archaeological Society.

If driving from Toronto, take the QEW to Hwy. 403; then take the Main St. West exit, turn left at Main St., turn right at Newton or Dromore and follow to Sterling. Take Sterling into McMaster.

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Memo to: Members of the Society
From: Betsy Gummow, Librarian
Re: Your Library and Recent Acquisitions

Greetings, fellow members!

We have launched a new year, and we have a couple of different faces on our Executive. I'd like to take this opportunity to say welcome to Dr. Howard Savage and Mrs. Christine Kirby.

With the start of a new year I feel I should let those of you who are new to the Society know that we do indeed have a small but rather unique library, currently located at

121 Sheppard Ave.,
Pickering, Ontario L1V 1E1
Telephone: 282-1965

Due to the fact that the Society does not have unlimited financial resources, our total number of books is small but those that we do hold form the basis of a good collection. Through the generosity of our many members who publish in various journals and periodicals, we are fortunate to have an excellent representation of reprints. And, again from very considerate members, we do also have a number of original and/or unpublished papers.

But our main resource is the collections of journals and periodicals which we have acquired mainly through exchange with other Societies and Institutions. These publications represent a wide cross-section, and many come from fellow members of E.S.A.F. Following you will find a short list of recent acquisitions.

The resources of the Library of the Ontario Archaeological Society are open to all members, and you need only call or drop me a note to avail yourself of any material we have on hand. If the hope of a permanent home for the O.A.S., as expressed by a recent speaker at our monthly meeting, comes to fruition, the holdings will be housed so that it will be even more convenient for all of you to have access to the Library.

(more)

Recent Acquisitions

The following is a list of publications received since the end of the recent postal disturbance:

Alabama Archaeological Society
STONES AND BONES NEWSLETTER
November 1975, December 1975, January 1976

American Museum of Natural History
NATURAL HISTORY
November 1975, December 1975

British Columbia, Archaeological Society of
THE MIDDEN
Vol. VII, No. 4; Vol. VII, No. 5

Canada, Government of, Department of Indian and Northern Affairs,
National Historic Parks and Sites Branch
Research Bulletin
No. 27, December 1975

Eastern States Archaeological Federation
Bulletin
No. 34, July 1975

Heritage Canada
Vol. 1, No. 6, Summer 1975

Heritage Conversation (not a misprint!)
Vol. 1, No. 3, Summer 1975

National Historic Parks News
No. 11, Winter 1975

Popular Archaeology
Vol. 4, No. 7, 1975

Royal Ontario Museum
Archaeological Newsletter, New Series
No. 126, November 1975; No. 127, December 1975

Saskatchewan Archaeology Newsletter
No. 50, September 1975; No. 51, December 1975

PRESS CUTTINGS

Too many museums display artifacts which perpetuate the myth that the past was filled only with rare and fine objects.

This approach was described yesterday as "good on the eyes and soft on the brain".

Freelance museum researcher Lilly Koltun of Ottawa, addressing members of the Ontario Museum Association, appealed to various curators, researchers, historians and volunteer workers "to play fair with the customers".

Visitors to a historic house, Miss Koltun said, should know that the furnishings of the period are not necessarily items that belonged in the house originally.

She warned researchers to look closely at the history of an artifact and never to depend on verbal claims of its authenticity.

It is important to keep artifacts in the context of the period, Miss Koltun said. But it is totally unrealistic to assume that all furniture in a house would be of the same period.

"Never take anybody's word for anything," she advised the audience. In answer to a question from the floor, she said that if a curator wants to record the oral history of a donated object, this can be added to the file, but it should be treated as "doubtful, a fairy tale" unless research proves its authenticity.

Miss Koltun agreed that curators of small museums are put on the spot by well-meaning donors. However, this only makes it more important for the curator to assert the right of selection for display.

She appealed to the audience to consider the study of overlooked artifacts such as tools. These objects have been neglected because they do not have the same esthetic appeal as fine china.

But the tools can provide more information about past history and tell the story of the technology and skills of Canada's pioneers.

There is a wide-open field for historians to delve into primary sources for a view of Canada's past, Miss Koltun noted. So far, only the opinion of specialists has been accepted.

There was some general discussion about how authentic a restoration should be.

John Dunn, head of interpretation and education for Upper Canada Village at Morrisburg, asked, how far "does one go the accuracy route?" He explained that research for the restoration of Louisbourg, N.S., showed that when the fort was in use the grass was never cut, and there seems to be a difference of opinion as to what course to follow.

(more)

Mr. Dunn urged that historians be tempted "out of dusty archives to analyse and document man's collections - the only surviving fragments of our forefathers."

Globe & Mail
January 31, 1976

Quaker Meeting House - Newmarket

The Quaker Meeting House on Yonge Street in Newmarket has been repaired and modernized without losing any of its original character. Moreover, the whole project was financed (to the tune of \$150,000) entirely by donations, from Canada, the U.S. and England.

The Chairman of the committee in charge of the restoration is David Newlands, of the Royal Ontario Museum. The work was designed to bring twentieth century comfort to the building without losing any of its character. A new basement was made, and contains a modern heating unit, washrooms and lecture hall, and the heating, in the old part of the building, is hidden in the walls. The stove, which is the one supplied in 1850, remains in situ, and the walls have been repainted to match their original colour, which was (surprisingly) pink.

The Chairman of the Meeting, Mr. Donald Laitin, hopes that the Meeting House will become a community resource in addition to its original purpose, and the modernization was undertaken with that objective. Yet the main floor of the building retains its original character, even to the sliding doors installed to separate the sexes (a practice discontinued by the Quakers in 1910).

Globe & Mail
January 22, 1976

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MEMBERSHIP FEES

Please note that 1976 Society membership fees are now due.

Active (single membership) - \$6.00	Family (husband & wife) - \$8.00
Institutional - \$10.00	Life - \$100.00

If you haven't already done so, please send your cheque, payable to the Ontario Archaeological Society, to:

The Ontario Archaeological Society
Membership Committee
P.O. Box 341,
Postal Station P
Toronto, Ontario M5S 2S8

N.B. The March issue of Arch Notes will be mailed to paid up members only.

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OTTAWA CHAPTER

The next meeting of the Ottawa Chapter is at 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 10, 1976, in the Conference Room, Canadian War Museum, 330 Sussex Drive, Ottawa.

Marti Latta, lecturer, Scarborough College, University of Toronto, will present an illustrated talk on the behavioral bases for Huron Iroquoian ceramic types and on type versus attribute analysis in Iroquoian ceramics.

At the last meeting on January 14, about thirty OAS Ottawa Chapter members and guests gathered at 1600 Liverpool Court for the annual dinner meeting. After a meal of excellent Chinese food, they were introduced to Birgitta Wallace, Archaeologist of the National Parks and Sites Branch, who is participating in the L'Anse aux Meadows Project in Newfoundland. She delivered an illustrated talk titled "Archaeological Evidence of the Norse in North America".

She began with a general introduction of the Norse pointing out that the prime concern is the period 800 to 1400 AD. She said that Norse trading posts have been found in Russia and the Near East and that by the tenth century, they had reached south west Greenland.

Then she discussed the 'inland' evidence found primarily in Iowa and Minnesota. She described several controversial items including the famous Kensington Stone. She pointed out that runic inscription is still being taught in the schools in Sweden and it is a common form of inscription.

Many artifacts from these inland sites attributed to the Norse were not what they seemed. A halberd turned out to be a tobacco cutter used as a publicity gimmick. Some genuine Norse artifacts were found (an axe, a sword, and a wagon hitch) but later it was discovered that they had been brought to America by a Norwegian immigrant in 1923. The mooring stones that are constantly being discovered are, according to Wallace, simply blasting holes drilled by farmers. She noted that most of these stones would have been underwater during the fourteenth century.

The discussion then turned to her own work at L'Anse aux Meadows, a Norse encampment on Newfoundland beside the Strait of Belle Isle. It is on a shallow bay with a small brook running through the site, and a bog alongside it. It had been discovered in 1960 and excavated from 1961 to 1968. During those early excavations, eight sod houses were cleared and only a few artifacts were uncovered (1 spindle wheel, 1 bronze pin, some iron rivets, and a few other objects). Also, a smithy was found near the brook (the area is rich in bog iron).

She summarized her talk by saying that the Norse had occupied Greenland for about five hundred years and therefore, it was not surprising that they had visited Newfoundland and Labrador during that time. However, she felt that the existence of any inland Norse sites is extremely doubtful.

The Moira Hunt Show, from CKVR-TV Barrie, featured an inquiry into the origins and fate of the Petun Indians of Simcoe and Grey counties. Interviews with Charles Garrad, a former O.A.S. President, were aired on January 19th and 20th, 1976. The first section was devoted largely to determining the relationships of the various Indian tribes in southwestern Ontario to each other at the time of contact with the first French explorers. Just how the Petuns, Hurons and Neutrals differed from each other is obscured by the various names given them by the first French explorers and missionaries. At present we differentiate between them according to the area in which they lived and by their pottery types. What their customs were and their relationships to each other are largely unknown. Estimates of population when the French arrived is about 10,000 Petuns.

The second portion of the interview covered the migration of the Petuns from their prehistoric origins, probably somewhere north of the St. Lawrence River, until they were located about 1600 A.D. along the Glacial Lake Algonquin shoreline in Simcoe and eastern Grey Counties. Mention of their villages was cited from the Jesuit "Relations" at various periods. Over a matter of a couple of decades, several villages were abandoned due to declining population caused by epidemics of disease introduced by Europeans and by Seneca raids from south of Lake Ontario. Eventually the last villages, on the northern end of the chain were deserted as the decimated band fled by water, wandering around the Great Lakes from the Blue Mountains area to Michilimackinac, to Green Bay, Wis., back to Michilimackinac and then south to the newly founded Detroit and partly into Ohio. They were caught up in Indian movements engineered by the United States government; the remnants of the band were transported to Kansas and finally to Oklahoma where they were given a corner on the Seneca Reserve. In the process, some of the members stayed and left descendants at various places along the route, notably Windsor, Ont. and Kansas City.

The present Petun group in Oklahoma know themselves as Wyandotts, and indeed, probably always have; "Petun" being the French nickname given to this group. They are now more white than Indian both in blood and culture. Very few of the old ways are remembered. However, the matriarch of the Big Turtle clan showed the appreciation of her people to Mr. Garrad for his contribution in tracing their forebears by adopting him as a member of the clan according to the ancient customs.

Film clips of an archaeological "dig" on a Petun village site near Craigeath, Ont., taken in the summer of 1975 were inserted during the talk as well as some slides showing landmarks such as the "Huron Church" in Windsor, street names derived from the tribe, the "Huron Cemetery" in Kansas City. In this context "Huron" refers specifically to this Petun group.

NEW BOOKS

Pueblo: Mountain, Village, Dance by Vincent Scully (Thames & Hudson)

Written by a Professor of Art History at Yale, it deals with the history, architecture, ritual life and world view of the various groups of Pueblo Indians in the southwestern deserts of the U.S.A. Original, well written and well illustrated.

Lost World of the Aegean by Maitland A. Edey (Time Life)

Covers the area from the beginning of the Early Bronze Age to the end of the Mycenaean period. Good of its kind.

The Neolithic of the Near East by James Mellaart (Thames & Hudson)

An important book, covering the Aegean area to Central Asia, and going well back into the epi-palaeolithic era, by a distinguished archaeologist.

A History of Scandinavian Archaeology by Klindt Jensen (Thames & Hudson)

The author is Professor of Prehistory at Aarhus, and the book consists of biographical sketches of Scandinavian antiquaries and archaeologists from the 16th century to the last war. Well illustrated.

Athenian Red Figure Vases: The Archaic Period by John Boardman (Thames & Hudson)

Sequel to the author's "Black Figure Vases", and covers the second half of the 6th century B.C. Outstanding illustrations.

The Egyptian Kingdom by A. Rosalie David (Elsevier-Phaidon)

A pleasant addition to the long list of books on the subject.

Etruscan Cities edited by Filippo Coarelli (Cassell)

First published in Italy in 1973, later revised and enlarged before being translated into English, it is for the "educated layman". Well illustrated.

Recent Archaeological Excavations in Europe edited by R. Bruce-Mitford (Routledge and Kegan Paul)

Ten accounts of important excavations written by the men who directed them. The eleventh, from the U.S.S.R., contains surveys of a large number of sites in all parts of European Russia. Contains something for nearly everybody interested in European archaeology.

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If any of these books are not obtainable from your local bookseller, W.H. Smith (T.D. Centre and elsewhere) will be pleased to obtain them for you. You may call them at 362-5967, or visit any of their branches.