



Ontario Archaeological Society

# Arch Notes

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Chasing that elusive ghost feature in subsoil squares at one of the Ancaster "orchard" sites in 1994, with crew boss Mark Borland (middle) and Frank Albanese (left).

Photo by Andy Schoenhofer

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# Ontario Archaeological Society

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## President's message

Well, the hot summer days have arrived! The last few months have been extremely busy for the OAS as we have faced many new challenges and continue with our day-to-day operations. I would like to thank all of our volunteers, including our Board members, who regularly take time out of their busy fieldwork schedules to carry out OAS business. 'Tis the season of archaeology and field schools and I know how difficult it can be to find spare time to devote to the organization.

I would like to take this opportunity to invite all of you to our third annual Archaeology Day to be held at The Ontario Archaeological Society's head office on Saturday, September 16 (rain date Sunday, September 17). As always, the organizing committee has put together a range of activities for people of all ages. The highly successful simulated dig, designed by the Toronto Chapter, will be back again this year as will our used-book table.

The Society's annual symposium will be held on October 27 and 28 in London, Ontario. The London Chapter has put together an amazing programme of speakers and it is sure to be an enjoyable experience for all. On Sunday, participants are welcome to attend a tour of the newly re-named and re-vamped Museum of Ontario Archaeology (formerly the London Museum of Archaeology, and before that, the Museum of Indian Archaeology) which includes artifact galleries and a reconstructed

Iroquoian longhouse. A registration and information package is included in this issue of Arch Notes.

On the education front, we were very excited to learn that we received funding to hire a summer student through the Ministry of Culture's Summer Experience Program. This funding allowed us to hire a young graphic design student who will be putting together a multi-media presentation to accompany our Edu-kits. We look forward to working with him and creating a flashy new teaching tool that will be particularly attractive to the techno-kids of today.

A somewhat more concerning issue of importance to many OAS members is the proposed restructuring of the Ministry of Culture. In a recent notification to culture and heritage organizations, OPSEU expressed their concerns with the Ministry's proposal for reorganization. Under the current scheme, the Ministry has three sections: Heritage and Libraries, Arts and Cultural Industries, and Cultural Agencies. The plan is to replace these sections with two: a Policy Branch, and Programs and Services Branch. The end result is that "policy" will be entirely separate from "operations." In my view, the two cannot be split in this way. There is a concern that essential operations and key staff will be cut and that as a result, there will be even less enforcement of heritage legislation and Ministry guidelines (as an operations issue). The OAS has been asked to lobby against

this change.

Another item of note is the release of the Ontario government document Draft Guidelines for Ministries on Consultation with Aboriginal Peoples Related to Aboriginal Rights and Treaty Rights. The document outlines a very general policy for First Nations consultation by government ministries. It does not address how individual ministries, like the Ministry of Culture, will develop or enact a consultation process, nor does it discuss how third parties like archaeologists and researchers will be involved. As such, I wrote to Minister of Culture Caroline Di Cocco and asked that the OAS be involved as a stakeholder in those discussions. As many of you may be aware from recent news items, aboriginal consultation is a major issue facing all archaeologists in the province, including both academics and consultants. While it is clear that standards for consultation are direly needed, it is not known what role the Ministry of Culture will have in the development of a formal consultation process. Given that there is more archaeology being done in the province than ever before, this issue will continue to be a concern for everyone and at the forefront of ongoing OAS discussions with the Ministry of Culture.

**Holly Martelle**  
President

## From the OAS office...

### Lise Ferguson Executive Director

Now that I have been in this job for over two years, I have finally realized there is no "slow" time at the OAS! After dealing with the flood at the office, I am now dealing with a computer crash. By the time you read this it will no doubt be resolved, whether the old computer can be saved or I have a replacement, so if you e-mailed the office around July 14 with no timely response, that is me playing catch-up.

The Archaeology Day planning committee is hard at work, and we will be hosting our third annual Archaeology Day on September 16 (rain date September 17). Details are available elsewhere in this issue, but we need lots of volunteers to make this a success. If you can help on the day, please let us know! And the Symposium is coming up quicker than it seems possible—it sounds like a great time in London in October. I think the one-day, concurrent sessions format and very reasonable registration fees should mean lots of members will be able to attend.

Our travelling educational kits, called *Discovering Ontario Archaeology*, are going to be revised and all the printed material will be transferred to an electronic version to drag us into 2006. We applied for and were given funding to hire a summer student to do this, and President Holly Martelle will be supervising him at her office. We were very glad to be able to make this arrangement, since it seemed impossible to take advantage of the federal funding program for summer students since I

am only part-time at the OAS head office and cannot supervise someone who is full-time. Getting the kits up and running again will be great! Along with all I have already mentioned, the OAS Board of Directors has taken on many other interesting projects and is doing a lot of hard work.

I "womanned" an OAS table in the bookroom at the CAA May 25-27 and was able to hear a couple of papers as well. Unfortunately, the bookroom space had to be used on Saturday so there was no bookroom available on the Ontario archaeology day. Nevertheless, it was great to be able to talk to a lot of attendees who came by the OAS table. Thanks to Holly for her help and to Sylvia Teaves for her turn at the table in my absence.

On June 8, I attended a meeting of the Ontario Heritage Alliance. This is a group of several Provincial Heritage Organizations (PHOs), originally formed many years ago to address mutual issues and concerns. Past projects include the revamping of the Ontario Heritage Act, Land Registry records issues, and others. When I was on the OAS Board, I represented the OAS for many years on the Alliance as well as the Minister's Advisory Committee for New Heritage Legislation (MAC), going back to the 1990s. When I came back to the OAS as the executive director, I spoke with colleagues at the Ontario Museum Association (Marie Lalonde, Executive Director) and the Ontario Black History Society (Rosemary Sadlier, President) and together we "resurrected" the Ontario Heritage Alliance, which had been working

only sporadically for a while. Our Heritage Organizations Advisor from the Ministry of Culture, Kate Oxley, worked with us to organize a consultation session on the same day since so many PHOs would be together. We reviewed a new discussion guide called "Development of a Culture Strategy for Ontario", which asks, "What is culture?" and provides some guidelines for discussion on issues such as the societal and economic importance of culture. We are grateful to Kate for the opportunity to consult on this new strategy and look forward to further discussions between the Ontario Heritage Alliance and the ministry. I am really glad to have the OHA meeting regularly again, since partnerships can benefit everyone.

### Chapters' Corner

NOTE: Chapters are invited to e-mail Lise any activity and meeting info to include in this section. Thanks!

### London

Sept. 14: Meeting speaker: Lisa Hodgetts, "Prehistoric Hunter-Gatherers of Southwestern Hudson's Bay"

Oct. 26-27: OAS Symposium, Best Western Lamplighter Inn

### Ottawa

Aug. 12: Archaeology Day at Bonnechere Provincial Park

Sept. 16: Dig, Pig and Jig at Bonnechere

Sept. 22-24: EcoArchaeology Weekend for Adults at Murphy's Point Provincial Park. See

[www.friendsofmurphyspoint.ca](http://www.friendsofmurphyspoint.ca) for info.

## Agenda for the 2006 Annual Business Meeting

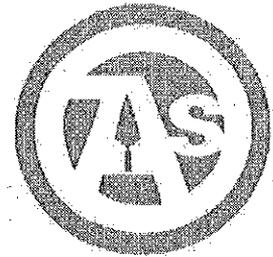
The meeting will be held as usual during the OAS symposium, which is in London this year.

When: Saturday, October 28, 2006, from 430-6 PM.

Where: Best Western Lamplighter Inn, 591 Wellington Road South, London, Ontario

1. President's opening remarks
2. Minutes of the previous meeting
3. Matters arising from these Minutes
4. President's report
5. Treasurer's report
6. Chapter Reports
7. Next Symposium
8. Election of Directors
9. Adjournment

**Henry van Lieshout**  
Secretary



## Call for nominations to the OAS board

The OAS Nominations and Elections Committee chair, Holly Martelle, announces that nominations for next year's board are now open.

As well, she needs some people on the committee itself!

You can nominate any member of the OAS to the Board until the end of the annual business meeting, which is at the end of Saturday's lectures at the fall symposium. Elections are held immediately afterward among the members present, and the new board gets to work on OAS business for the following year.

A list of the current board is on the inside front cover of Arch Notes.

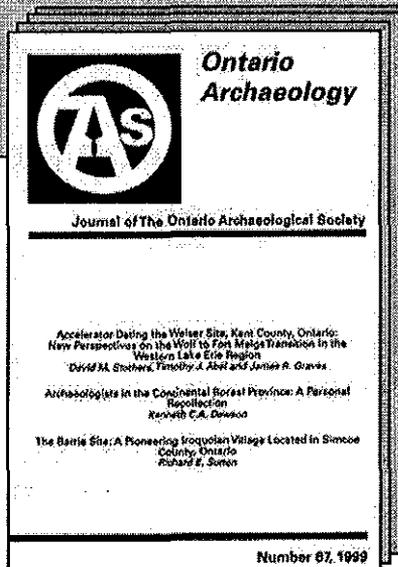
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## Advocacy news

Since January of 2006 the OAS has responded to numerous advocacy issues of interest to members.

Tony Stappells, Director of Heritage Advocacy, regularly issues letters to agencies and organizers who circulate the OAS regarding proposed developments, management plans and preservation strategies. So far this year, Tony has issued letters regarding heritage concerns in the Red Lake District, Black Sturgeon Forest, Nipigon District, the SCI Torrance Conservation Reserve, the Victor Diamond Mines, Cochrane District, the Kawartha Highlands Management Plan, Little Rouge Corridor Management Plan, new regulations for marine archaeology, the Ontario Parks conservation plan, and, in relation to the Ontario Mineral Development Strategy for Ontario, Ryerson Township.

Several letters were also issued for regional parks, including Bonnechere and Queen Elizabeth II. He has also made inquiries with respect to the discovery of the Queen's Wharf in Toronto and the Banting Site in Alliston.

The OAS has recently written the Ministry of Culture requesting an investigation into the alleged sale of an artifact on eBay. Last month, we requested to be considered a stakeholder during the development of new provincial guidelines for aboriginal consulta-

tion (read the draft online at the Ontario Secretariat of Aboriginal Affairs website: [tinyurl.com/jw68c](http://tinyurl.com/jw68c)). In the spring, we met with the Ministry of Culture for an annual review and to discuss upcoming and existing issues and concerns. In June, the OAS President attended a Heritage Education and Training Forum organized by the Ministry of Culture in an effort to develop a provincial "culture strategy." The meeting was attended by representatives of numerous heritage organizations across the province. Lise Ferguson has also helped reinvigorate the Ontario Heritage Alliance, a group of heritage organizations who work together to promote heritage awareness.

The OAS regularly receives requests for assistance from members of the public who are concerned that heritage resources are not being properly protected in their area. Earlier this spring, for example, the OAS helped a concerned individual protect a known heritage property from potential destruction by directing her to the appropriate authorities who could order a suspension of construction work until an appropriate archaeological review of the property was conducted.

The OAS is committed to protecting our valuable cultural heritage. If you have a concern that you would like addressed, please contact Tony Stappells at the OAS head office.

## Advertise in Arch Notes!

An ad in Arch Notes reaches hundreds of readers! Arch Notes is the newsletter of the Ontario Archaeological Society, published six times per year and sent to all members as a benefit of their membership.

Members include amateur and professional archaeologists, their families, institutions (such as libraries), and others with an interest in Ontario archaeology.

Most members live in Ontario, but Arch Notes also goes to addresses across Canada, the US and around the world.

Per Issue (CDN\$, all inclusive):

Full page	9" x 6.5"	\$150
Half page	4.5" x 6.5"	\$100
Quarter page	4.5" x 3.25"	\$70
Business card	2" x 3"	\$50

Get a 25% discount if you prepay for an entire year (six issues).

Advertised items or services must be of interest to the archaeological or heritage community.

E-mail [arch.notes@hotmail.com](mailto:arch.notes@hotmail.com) to discuss your requirements.

# Up from the muck: Towards a truly professional archaeology in Ontario

by Paul Racher

A paper given at the CAA Conference, May 2006, in Toronto.

**Abstract:** *Since its inception, consulting archaeology in Ontario has been characterized by wildly varying field-work standards, a poor publication record, and a general lack of debate on what the aims of the professional archaeological endeavour should be. Recent amendments to the Heritage Act, along with changes to the draft technical guidelines, have been a good first step in addressing these systemic problems. It is suggested, however, that these issues cannot be fully addressed until the industry takes concrete steps to organize and professionalize itself.*

Until roughly 1980, Ontario archaeology existed as largely as a partnership between a small handful of academics working out of institutions such as Western, McMaster, and U of T, and a correspondingly small group of dedicated avocational archaeologists who lent their expertise, time, and collections towards setting down the cultural, historical and chronological paradigms that we use to interpret our data to this very day. Ontario archaeology was new, it was exciting, and almost anyone could get involved and make a contribution. In the process, a literature was generated which is still heavily cited in current research. The OAS was never more popular. Large research projects were carried out which became the basis for Mercury Series publications, CAA articles, OAS monographs, and so on. In short, it was the golden age of research archaeology in Ontario.

Since 1980, the landscape has changed considerably. The avocational community remains dedicated and motivated, though I get the impression that their numbers have shrunken a bit. Off in the Ivory Tower, the handful of academic archaeologists out there has remained, well, a handful. This probably has something to do with the way in which post-secondary funding has been gutted over the past 20 years. Regardless of the reason, it is something of a rarity to see new tenure

stream positions opening up in the discipline.

Thus, increasingly, a new creature has come to dominate the archaeological endeavour in this province: the consulting archaeologist. These days, the overwhelming majority of the archaeology done in Ontario is done on a contract basis for clients who are forced to do this work under the terms of the Heritage Act and the Planning Act. Under the current licensing system, the Ministry of Culture has issued 130 professional licences, and 57-odd applied research licences. During the 2005 field season, persons from these two groups appeared on Contract Information Forms for some 1,499 contracts. I should add that this figure excludes contracts that carried over from previous years.

In the span of a couple of decades, we, the consulting community, have become the face of archaeology in this province. The obvious question this poses is: What have we accomplished with our new position? Or, more succinctly: What good are we? More archaeology is being done in the province than at any point in the history of the discipline, but what have WE done with it?

In order to examine how well we are doing what we do, perhaps it is best to start with a look at who we are answerable to. There are a number of what gets termed, in business speak, "stakeholders" that have a say in this business of archaeology. They include:

- The largely oblivious public, who receives its intake of archaeological information from the Discovery Channel and thinks that Greco-Roman, Meso-American, and Egyptian Monuments are what archaeology is all about. In my experience, this group tends to express shock that there is any archaeology to be done in Ontario at all.
- The Archaeology Unit at the Ministry of Culture, which is staffed at the planning level by a number of excellent archaeologists and planners with fabulous ideas of how archaeology should be done in Ontario. I cannot speak to

motivations at the policy and management levels, but there seems to be a hesitation towards exercising the authority of the government in substantively addressing the issues that crop up in our industry—or even enforcing the laws and regulations for doing so that are already in place. There will be more on this later.

- The avocational community, who have rarely been afforded the level of respect they deserve for volunteering their time and effort towards the archaeological cause.
- The Aboriginal community, which historically has rarely been consulted on matters relating to their own cultural heritage. This is the same community that, despite its demonstrated historical connection to many of the materials we encounter, has no legally-enshrined position as stakeholder. Indeed, the provincial government claims stewardship over aboriginal archaeological materials despite them never having been surrendered as such.
- The developers, engineers and planners who seldom wish to hire us in the first place.
- The tiny group of academic archaeologists.
- The professional archaeological community itself.

All told, it is safe to make the point that none of these stakeholders are getting very good value from consulting archaeology as it is currently being done. Somewhere between those 1,499 contracts and our stakeholder groups, the system is breaking down. Indeed, it is a system that is more easily characterized by what it lacks than by what it actually accomplishes. The missing features include:

1. The lack of an orderly, regulated, standards-based, level marketplace.
2. The lack of a literature. Information is rarely disseminated to other archaeologists, let alone avocationalists and the general public.
3. An apparent lack of commitment or wherewithal on the part of the government—and the archaeological community—to get its collective act together in dealing decisively with problems 1 and 2.

I'll discuss these issues one at a time.

### **1. Lack of a level marketplace**

With 130 archaeologists doing things 130 different ways, there has been a lot of latitude for less-than-rig-

orous researchers to make a virtual killing in the marketplace while carrying out a literal killing on the archaeological record.

In Adam Smith's classic formulation of capitalism, competition and the market are supposed to sort out all of our ills. But in the case of consulting archaeology, the marketplace (as it now stands) is simply too dysfunctional. The lack of firm standards, and enforcement of them, has meant that companies offering high-quality work to exacting standards end up competing head to head against firms that offer more "flexible" adherence to professional standards. Without enforcement or possible negative sanctions of any kind, we're in a Wild West situation where anything goes and where competition drags standards down to the lowest common denominator. I suspect that the new guidelines could go some way to changing this, but it cannot be done on the honour system. Somebody has to play Sheriff.

Right now, archaeology is a service that is sourced into the marketplace like any trade such as say, dry-walling. Now, if you let everything be market-driven, including the adherence to standards, then anything that is optional but carries costs is going to be let slide. Market forces such as competition are great at ensuring that consumers get the most bang for their buck, but they can only be a force in favour of increasing product quality if the consumer uses quality as a selective criterion. We have a few clients like this, but the majority detest having to do any archaeology at all. They don't want to pay for it. They don't care how we do it. They don't want the best job done. They just want their Letter of Clearance.

Development is a high-risk business but it offers a high return as well. In the Region of Waterloo, a developer can acquire a property within the Region's five-year development plan for as little as \$50,000 an acre. Following approvals and servicing, that same property will be sold wholesale to builders for as much as \$150,000 per lot. Assuming four lots per acre (and that would make them pretty big lots, frankly), that translates to a \$600,000 return on a \$50,000 initial investment. This is a 1200% margin. Now I am not saying that this is pure profit. It's certainly not. There are engineers and planners and hydrogeologists and all manner of professionals lined up to cash in on every project. The costs associated with each of these professionals are going to be high. That being

said, the same average acre of land we've just been discussing is going to take a crew member from my company, billed out at \$200 a day, approximately an hour to survey. In other words, it'll cost the developer approximately \$25 an acre or 1/24,000 of what that land will sell for. Even if I doubled my rates, allowing me to pay my crew better, do more background research, and put more money into long term costs such as artifact storage, there would be no material impact on that developer's bottom line nor on what the homeowner is eventually going to pay—none whatsoever.

If we are going to foster a market that encourages quality, the first thing we need to do is ensure that it is a market that is profitable and stable enough to afford that quality. We shouldn't be selling ourselves like drywallers. I went to university for 12 years to do what I do. I'm not a tradesperson. I am a professional, as much as any lawyer or doctor or engineer is. The sad fact of the unstable marketplace is that many of us are probably making a lot less money than drywallers do. Clearly there is no good reason for that.

The new standards announced by the Province "could" go some way towards changing this, assuming they are actually enforced. If all firms could be encouraged to offer a comparable, high-quality product, the marketplace would be stabilized. Unfortunately, this isn't something that you can rely on market to do for itself. As long as the competitive landscape makes it possible to sacrifice standards for cash, there will be no general impetus for change (since presumably some firms stand to benefit by the status quo). Sometimes change needs to be pushed on an industry, for its own good, if need be. I'll come back to this.

## 2. Lack of a literature

Consulting archaeology has not generated much of a "literature" to-date. Sure there are the AAROs and Kewa and such, but most firms, ours included, publish very little. This, to me, is perhaps the biggest (and saddest) problem in the industry. With so many firms busily digging sites, and filing reports with the ministry, you would think that we'd have an extensive literature in the province—yet we don't. Consulting archaeology has made itself 'much ado about nothing'.

Every year I've been in this business there has been

at least one occasion where we've recovered an artifact that we've never seen before. Last year, working in Elmira, we recovered a lovely little Hopewellian bladelet made of Flint Ridge chalcedony. I've never seen anything like it anywhere and there is no literature to check to see if anyone else has either. Maybe there were 100 found last year in the province—or maybe no one has ever found one here before. Were I to publish it, which case could I make? There is no one to consult to even know. In this case, I had to rely on personal connections to find someone to tell me what the artifact even was (I initially thought that it might be a channel flake from a deeply fluted point!). Fortunately for all of us, there are two dedicated avocational archaeologists from the London area who should be publishing something on Hopewellian bladelets very soon.

It would be a dreadfully easy matter these days to publish all reports online in some generic format such as PDF and to make access to those reports available to all stakeholders. There has been a lot of talk about privacy concerns, the protection of client confidentiality and so on, but these seem rather small details to overcome. Client data can be removed from papers prior to publication. Site location data can be deliberately "fuzzied up" a bit, although the collectors know where the richest sites are better than we do. No, ultimately the biggest barrier to the literature is, quite clearly, ourselves. We get busy in the day-to-day operations of the business and there is no pressure to publish, so we don't. Resources for preparing manuscripts are not built into contracts during the bidding process so the data, once collected, just sits there (presumably until it gets lost). And while it does not help that Ontario is not exactly overflowing with places we can shop manuscripts to, most of the journals are begging for submissions nevertheless. Quite simply, we are terrible at publishing, or perhaps more to the point, we are terrible at doing anything which goes beyond what we are actually required to do. The lack of stability and professionalism in the marketplace makes this more or less inevitable. It's a rare and wonderful thing in this business when you see a firm do something extraordinary that goes beyond minimum requirements. The expertise is clearly out there. Look at what Nick Adams has done in making online educational resources available to the public, or what Ron Williamson and ASI have accomplished in terms of

publications, public outreach, media relations and so on. It's possible to do these things if we make it part of our agenda in such a way that it's not a frill but something we budget for as an accepted part of our mandate.

### 3. Lack of regulatory muscle

Our industry licensing body, the Ministry of Culture, has been unable to apply any sort of negative sanction on firms that have clearly broken what sparse rules we have. They are understaffed, underfunded, and clearly lack the resources needed to fulfill their mandate. With no field visits or spot inspections of consulting facilities and able to rely only on reports, any information they might obtain about breaches of standards would be hearsay at best. While the new Heritage Act addresses enforcement, it remains to be seen just what is going to happen with these new "archaeology cops". In the current budgetary scarcity, is new money going to appear for this? Right now, the enforcement situation in the industry brings an analogy to mind: If Revenue Canada had to rely solely on tax forms "as filed", with no auditors, no power to inspect records, and no system of penalties to levy on people who lied on their returns, how many Canadians would be paying taxes right now?

Clearly, there has to be some regulatory role for government. I know the people who review our reports at the Ministry of Culture understand this too well, though I am not at all sure that their managers and policy people do.

That being said, the government is in no position to settle all of our problems on their own. As tempting as it is to lay all of the blame for this at the feet of the ministry, it has to be said that we have not been golden in our approach to dealing with these problems ourselves. Our community is fragmented. We spend all sorts of time complaining about each other, sometimes in a fairly libellous way. We lack the sort of across-the-board collegiality which, while it may be fake, characterizes some of the more genteel professions like engineering and medicine.

### So what are we to do?

Legislation and regulation on their own are blunt instruments for dealing with the kind of nuanced issues that arise in our profession. Yes, we need legislative and regulatory support for what we do, and

we need a Ministry of Culture that will enforce its own rules, if only as a last resort. But the problem with relying on laws alone is that, as we have seen, it takes ages for them to be implemented, and once in place they are difficult to change and improve. We need a degree of flexibility that goes beyond what the law on its own can do.

Consulting archaeology in Ontario, if it is to be a meaningful endeavour that accomplishes some sort of good beyond lining our pockets, needs to have clearly articulated goals which move it in the direction of that good. These goals need to be set by ourselves according to what we can agree the mission and vision of our profession should be. To my mind, the best way to do this is through meaningful self-regulation, and the only way this can be achieved is through mandatory membership in a professional organization with a code of ethics, the power to expel members, and the ability to conduct lobbying activities and outreach on behalf of the industry. Doctors must belong to the College of Physicians and Surgeons. Lawyers must be members of the Law Society of Upper Canada. What do we have? We have the APA, which, I have stated in print before seems to run mostly on good intentions and free sandwiches. If membership in the APA or a similar organization such as a Professional Chapter of the OAS were required, and they were able to charge a meaningful (i.e., "big") annual fee, they would have the resources to do a great deal of good on behalf of the industry. With the ability to afford some sort of staff, if only part-time, they could monitor goings-on in the industry, offer a forum for the discussion of industry problems, deal with complaints, and even supply a venue for the publication of reports. I'd rather pay, say, \$1000 a year to an organization that gave me value for my money than pay \$75 a year to one that gave me nothing. As professional fees, these costs are entirely written off anyway. No pain. Big gain.

Engineers, doctors, and lawyers all pay handsomely to do what they do, and they pay it to self-regulatory organizations which give them value for their money—organizations that police their industries, handle licensing, and offer ongoing professional development. These organizations serve the cause of advocacy and public outreach. They create systems by which professional data can be shared. Our industry should do the same. And whatever self-regulating

organizations and government offices we pay fees to ought to take that money and deliver something meaningful to us for it. Relying on volunteerism, as we have been, is just not good enough. In any business, you get what you pay for. In the case of volunteers, you simply cannot ask much of them. People in this business are forced to make their livelihoods a priority. In our dysfunctional marketplace, you have to hustle all the time just to get by. There is very little room for frills.

If consulting archaeology is now the face of archaeology in the province, then it is up to us as a community to push it towards being what it ought to be—kicking and screaming if need be. I don't wish to sound all starry-eyed here, but having the ability to work on such important (and diminishing) materials, whose "ownership" is often in dispute, is a sacred trust. It demands that considerations beyond profit and bureaucratic efficiency come into play. As an industry, we ought to be setting the bar higher for ourselves than if we were drywallers. It's simply not enough for us to get the job done: something needs to be done "with" our results. While we fiddle with incremental change, much of which never seems to materialize, the archaeological record is burning. Archaeological data is being yanked from the ground. Reports are being filed into an administrative black hole from which their data rarely emerge. Artifacts and records sit mouldering in old boxes in the garages and attics of people who no longer have licences—or who are dead.

The situation is bad enough on its own but it gets worse if you consider that the ownership of the so-called resource is very often contested. The provincial government has claimed stewardship over the material remains of the Aboriginal past. They set rules as to how that past can be explored. They determine who does and does not get a licence to do that exploring. We as a community accept and operate within that framework without considering its legitimacy. These remains are NOT a "resource" to be mined like coal and timber. They are the cultural legacy of a people who, as a group, have been suffering under colonial oppression for over 400 years. Our cavalier attitude towards the protection of that legacy makes us look like colonial agents rather than the social scientists that we profess ourselves to be.

Ultimately we need to sit down and begin a dialogue about what our industry should be (or could be) and what we need to do to get it there. We're great at discussing the details: what size screen to use, what kind of samples should we be collecting for floatation, how many measurements do we take from a flake, and so on. But so far we have been dreadful at debating the professional archaeological endeavour itself. Key questions need to be asked such as: Why are we doing this? What are we trying to achieve? Who are we doing it for? And, of course, how do we make sure that we can both protect the object of our study and ensure that we can make a fair living from it for a long time to come? Our community is full of brilliant minds. It's time we took advantage of that and applied them to making the industry better.

## Get on the APA consultant list now

When the Ministry of Culture stopped publishing a list of archaeological consultants, they left a big gap. The Association of Professional Archaeologists of Ontario is stepping in to fill that gap by hosting a list of all consultants (members or not) on our web page as a public service to the community. We are pleased to announce that the Ministry of Culture is supporting this initiative.

It's a complete list of consultants and is available to developers, municipalities and anyone else interested in hiring the services of an archaeologist.

*It is also a list to which the Ministry could direct calls for information regarding consultant companies in the Province.*

Go to [www.apaontario.ca](http://www.apaontario.ca) and sign up today!

## Pelee Island Reward

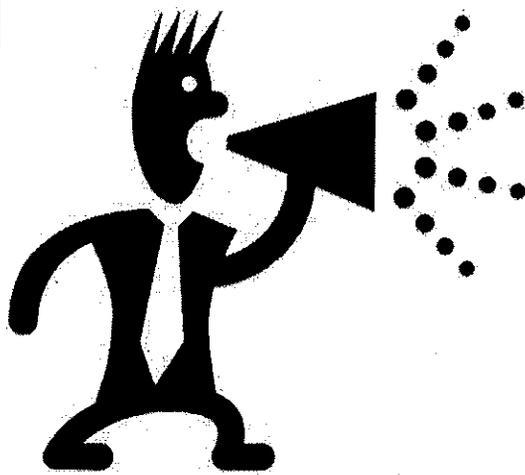
by **Glenna Roberts**

Pelee Island, the most southerly inhabited part of Canada! It sounded worth being able to brag that I had been there, so I bid on a trip at the symposium silent auction last November in Petawawa. The lunches, dinners, tours, accommodation, T-shirts for two and wine, all courtesy of Pelee Island Winery, made it sound like a pretty good deal—and I won. Although the distance is a long drive from Ottawa, intermediate stops in Toronto and Stratford made it feasible. Our arrival and departure had to be timed to jibe with the hour-and-a-half ferry trip from Leamington, which we pre-booked. All the advertised features were at least as good as expected, including wine tasting, wine drinking, wine purchasing and wine with venison burgers on the barbecue.

The unexpected highlight of the trip was the local museum in the old town hall which we visited twice.

As well as displays of local fossils, glacial geology, aboriginal artifacts and tools used by early settlers and industries, there was a highly knowledgeable curator, Ron Tiessen. He seemed to enjoy chatting about his treasures as much as we enjoyed hearing about them, and he was particularly happy when he found out about our interest in archaeology. We learned that David Boyle had investigated burial mounds there in the 1890s and that the collection contained Hi-Lo points and bannerstones locally excavated. A 999-year land agreement between James McKay and the Ojibwa had been signed by the latter with bird and animal symbols. Unfortunately the only copy of these available was imprinted on a T-shirt. We also learned about a major petroglyph site on Kelly Island off the shore of Ohio.

Moral: Visit new places when opportunity knocks, and always check out the local museum.



**Have something  
to talk about?**

**The OAS is looking for  
people to give presentations  
to our local chapters.**

**Join our list of speakers!**

**Call (416) 406-5959 or email [oasociety@bellnet.ca](mailto:oasociety@bellnet.ca)**

**Ottawa • London • Toronto • Hamilton • Windsor • Thunder Bay**

## Paul Sweetman, 2006 recipient of the James and Margaret Pendergast Award

by Charles Garrad

At the 2006 Canadian Archaeological Association's annual meeting held in Toronto, Ontario Archaeological Society Past President (1957, 1958) Paul Sweetman was awarded the James and Margaret Pendergast Award, given to an avocational archaeologist who has made an exemplary contribution to Canadian archaeology. The award honors the memory of James F. Pendergast, a distinguished avocational archaeologist and well-respected scholar of Ontario archaeology. Bill Fox and Jamie Hunter graciously offered to assist Paul in getting to the banquet to receive his award. Bill offered a fitting introduction to Paul, who beamed with pride upon being presented with the award. Paul offered one important life lesson and that was to never forget the people who made and used the artifacts we study. Bill willingly provided a short biography of Paul's life which he recited during the award presentation. It appears below. More can be read about Paul's experiences with our Society, in *The Presidents Remember: Forty Years of the Ontario Archaeological Society* (Special Publication No. 9, The Ontario Archaeological Society, October 1990). Further details on James Pendergast, as well as the James and Margaret Pendergast Award can be viewed on the CAA website at [www.canadianarchaeology.com](http://www.canadianarchaeology.com).

Paul was born in Toronto some 90 years ago, the grandchild of an Irish immigrant. Following a notorious career at Runnymede Collegiate, he attended the University of Toronto, University College, and obtained a B.A. Paul then graduated from the Ontario College of Education and began his career as a high school music teacher. His first experience in archaeology occurred in 1948, when he was invited to participate on the Ossassone Ossuary excavation by Ken Kidd, then of the Royal Ontario Museum. There he met the famous avocational archaeologist, Frank Ridley, and a young student of archaeology named Bill Taylor. Frank undertook a variety of field surveys and site inspections at the behest of the Ontario Archaeological and Historic Sites Board during the 1950s and '60s; many of them in remote areas of Northern Ontario. Paul assisted Frank on many of these surveys, honing his field skills on canoe trips

along the Michipicoten and Moose Rivers.

Paul joined the nascent Ontario Archaeological Society in 1954 and became President during 1957 and '58. It was during his tenure that the first printed reports were produced—Frank Ridley's Boys and Barrie sites. In 1959, Paul joined Frank on a Canadian delegation to mainland China, which was a diplomatic coup and aired as a documentary on the CBC. He was able to visit famous sites at Loyang and the "Peking man" discovery site. They returned via Moscow and were able there to visit the National Museum. Paul continued his work with Frank, but was developing a reputation of his own. There were precious few professional archaeologists working in Ontario at the time, so that universities, museums, and the Ontario government often turned to the expertise of avocationalists to investigate reported finds. So it was that Professor McIlwraith, chair of the Department of Anthropology at the University of Toronto, asked Paul to document some petroglyphs in the Peterborough area. This famous site was subsequently protected as a provincial park, based on his report. The 1950s provided numerous opportunities for fieldwork, and it was in 1957 on the Ault Park site that Paul met a young Bruce Trigger, establishing a friendship which continues to this day.

During the 1960s, Paul undertook numerous field surveys in the Trent valley and Prince Edward County. His reports to the Archaeological and Historic Sites Board remain in the Ontario Archives and have provided guidance to subsequent researchers. His record of publication includes 12 articles in journals such as *Ontario History*, *Ontario Archaeology*, and *Pennsylvania Archaeologist*. Perhaps his most famous article was published in 1967 and concerned the Bristow site on Thorah Island in Lake Simcoe. William Ritchie visited Paul in the company of Frank Ridley to view his Thorah Island assemblage and ended up citing Paul in his seminal volume, *Archaeology of New York State*. Finally, Paul also offered a Saturday morning archaeology class at Northern Secondary School in Toronto—the first "public archaeology" program in Ontario; graduates of which include Frances Stewart and Roberta O'Brien.

## This came in to the OAS office recently:

**Ministry of Culture**

Deputy Minister

 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Mowat Block  
 900 Bay Street  
 Toronto ON M7A 1L2

 Tel.: (416) 212-0640  
 Fax: (416) 212-0641

**Ministère de la Culture**

Sous-ministre

 6<sup>e</sup> étage, édifice Mowat  
 900, rue Bay  
 Toronto ON M7A 1L2

 Tél.: (416) 212-0640  
 Téléc. : (416) 212-0641


July 13, 2006

Dear Culture Partners:

These are exciting times for culture in Ontario. With Toronto's cultural renaissance well underway and more than \$120 million in year-end funding this year for arts, cultural industries, heritage and libraries across the province, there is new energy and optimism throughout our sector.

The Ministry of Culture takes great pride in providing you, our partners and stakeholders, with strong leadership and support. This periodically requires that we make changes to our organization, to remain responsive to your needs and priorities.

We are currently in the process of restructuring the ministry's Culture Division to increase our capacity for effective policy development and efficient program and service delivery. We want to ensure that we can achieve the ministry's business objectives and contribute to the cultural sector's continued growth and prosperity.

To that end, the Culture Division has been renamed the Culture Policy, Programs and Services Division, and realigned into two new branches: Policy Branch and Programs and Services Branch.

The new Policy Branch will be responsible for the development of policies, standards, guidelines and legislation to strengthen and promote Ontario's cultural sector. It will also maintain effective linkages with our internal and external stakeholders to advance innovative strategies to foster culture in Ontario.

The new Programs and Services Branch will implement programs and services to stimulate, protect and promote Ontario's cultural resources. This branch will deliver the ministry's grant programs and manage the day-to-day relationship with our cultural agencies. Both new branches will work closely together to ensure seamless service to the cultural community.

As a whole, the Ontario Public Service has been moving toward a policy model, and many other ministries have adopted an organizational structure to reflect this new focus. I am confident it will give us maximum flexibility to achieve the best possible results.

The new Policy Branch will be headed by Barbara Johnston, a senior government manager with a strong background in strategic policy development. Richard Mortimer, who many of you know as the General Manager of the Elgin and Winter Garden Theatre Centre, will be the director of the Programs and Services Branch.

With our new directors onboard, we will finalize the staff alignment and reporting structure for the new branches over the coming months. In the interim your ministry contact is unchanged and we will work hard to ensure that service levels continue uninterrupted over this transitional period. Our dedicated and knowledgeable staff are the backbone of our organization, and I know that they will continue to serve you with the greatest professionalism.

Thank you for your patience. I encourage you to contact my office if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Lucille Roch  
Deputy Minister

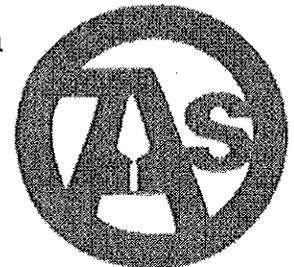


## AVOCATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGY AT THE 2006 OAS SYMPOSIUM

Avocational archaeologists are invited to participate in a discussion session to be held on Saturday, October 28, 2006 during the annual OAS symposium in London, Ontario.

The proceedings will include a review of the history of avocational archaeology in Ontario, beginning with the founding of the OAS, the advent of licensing, the ACOP program and recent legislative and regulation changes. This will be followed by an open discussion seeking input from attendees on issues, challenges and needs of avocational archaeology as they are facing us today.

The intent is to gather information to help guide the OAS in championing avocational archaeology in today's regulatory environment and to provide input to the Ministry of Culture with respect to proposed changes in avocational licensing.



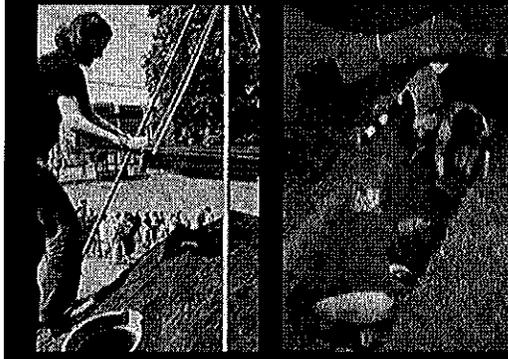
The Ontario Archaeological Society  
cordially invites you to  
**ARCHAEOLOGY  
DAY**

**Come to the historic Jesse Ashbridge  
House located at  
1444 Queen Street East  
Saturday, September 16, 2006  
Noon to 4:00 pm**

Rain date: Sunday, September 17

Activities for adults & kids include:

-  A demonstration of the art & technique of flint-knapping
-  How scientists identify plant and animal remains from archaeological excavations
-  Presentations & displays on the last 10,000 years of Ontario's history
-  A used book sale
-  Excavating in a simulated archaeological site
-  Prehistoric artifact ID clinic
-  Historic walk  
and more!



*Come stroll in the gardens and talk with professionals & others who are digging the fascination of Ontario's past!*

**FREE ADMISSION**



[www.ontarioarchaeology.on.ca](http://www.ontarioarchaeology.on.ca)

# 2006 Ontario Archaeological Society Symposium

(Use the information on this page to fill out the registration form included with this *Arch Notes*.)

**When:** Friday October 27 and Saturday October 28, 2006

**Where:** London, Ontario

**Best Western Lamplighter Inn & Conference Centre**, 591 Wellington Road South

**Contact Information:** Phone: (519) 681-7151 Fax: (519) 681-3271

[www.lamplighterinn.ca](http://www.lamplighterinn.ca)

**Room Rates:**

- Standard Room (2 Double beds) = \$114.00 + taxes, per night (one or two people)
- Upgraded Suite (King size bed and Jacuzzi tub) = \$124.00 + taxes, per night

**For reservations, please call: 1-888-232-6747**

Only 50 rooms have been booked at these prices, so don't delay in making your reservations!

Rooms are guaranteed until Sept 27th—as available after that.

**Topics:** Over 25 papers on a variety of topics have been submitted—from pre-ceramic, Woodland, and historic Ontario sites, to work being conducted in Mesoamerica and South Africa. Come out and learn more about the projects your fellow archaeologists have been involved in! See [www.bsc.uwo.ca/assoc/oas/2006\\_symposium.htm](http://www.bsc.uwo.ca/assoc/oas/2006_symposium.htm) for details.

**Credit Card** registrations can be handled by telephone by Nancy Van Sas: (519) 473-1360.

**Receipts** will be in your registration package, which you will get when you arrive at the symposium.

All credit card information will be destroyed 30 days following the date of the payment.

Requests for **refunds** (including the banquet) must be submitted to the London Chapter, OAS by Tuesday, October 17, 2006.

**For more information please contact:**

**Nancy Van Sas** Phone: 519-473-1360 Fax: 519-473-1363 [nvansas@uwo.ca](mailto:nvansas@uwo.ca)  
**Lindsay Foreman** [lforeman@uwo.ca](mailto:lforeman@uwo.ca)



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oasociety@bellnet.ca  
www.ontarioarchaeology.on.ca

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(Canadian \$. Second figure includes a  
subscription to *Ontario Archaeology*)

Individual	34 / 46
Family	38 / 50
Student	23 / 32
Institution / Corporate	60
Life	750

### Arch Notes submissions

Contributor deadlines:

January 15

March 15

May 15

July 15

September 15

November 15

Send articles to: arch.notes@hotmail.com  
or

Arch Notes editor

32 Marchmount Road, Toronto, Ontario  
M6G 2A9

## Hamilton chapter

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Treasurer: Chris Nisan  
The Heights Editor: Art Howey  
E-mail: hamiltonOAS@hwcnc.org  
Web: www.hwcnc.org/link/hcoas  
Mail: 27 Tamwood Court, Stoney Creek, ON L8J 2L1  
Phone: (866)243-7028  
Meetings: Fieldcote Museum, 64 Sulphur Springs Road, Ancaster, dates TBA  
Membership: Individual \$11, Family \$28

## London chapter

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Vice President: Steve Timmermans  
Treasurer: Jim Keron  
Secretary: Darcy Fallon  
Directors: Chris Ellis, Lindsay Foreman  
KEWA Editors: Christine Dodd & Chris Ellis  
Web: www.ssc.uwo.ca/assoc/oas  
Mail: London Mus. of Arch., 1600 Attawandaron Rd., London, ON N6G 3M6  
Phone: (519) 473-1360 Fax (519) 473-1363  
Meetings: 8 pm on 2nd Thursday of the month except May–August; at LMA  
Membership: Individual/Family \$18, Student, \$15, Institutional \$21

## Ottawa chapter

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Vice-President: Jim Molnar  
Secretary: Glenna Roberts  
Treasurer: Bill MacLennan  
Director at large: Carmen Bauer  
Director Public Archaeology: Brenda Kennett  
Past President and *Ottawa Archaeologist* Editor: Irene-Ann Lacroix  
Web: www.canadianarchaeology.com/associations/ontario/ottawaoas/otchh.htm  
Mail: PO Box 4939, Station E, Ottawa ON K1S 5J1  
Meetings: Every 2nd Thursday of the month from Sept. to May; at Routhier  
Community Centre, 172 Guigues Street, Ottawa (in the Market)  
Membership: Individual \$19, Family \$23, Student \$12

## Thunder Bay chapter

President: Debra Babcock  
Vice-President: Bill Ross  
Secretary/Treasurer: Jennifer Surette  
Director: Frances Duke  
E-mail: dlbabcoc@lakeheadu.ca  
Meetings: 7 pm on the last Thursday of the month except May–August; in  
Room BB0017, Braun Building, Lakehead University  
Membership dues: \$5

## Toronto chapter

President: Roberta O'Brien  
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Treasurer: Allan Ternowski  
Secretary: Annie Gould  
PROFILE Editor: Andy Schoenhofer  
Web: http://tinyurl.com/ebpfj  
Meetings: 7:30 pm on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, except June–August; in  
room 560a, basement of Sidney Smith Hall, UofT, 100 St George Street  
Membership: Individual \$12, Family \$14

## Windsor chapter

President: Katherine Graham  
Past president: Rosemarie Denunzio  
Secretary: Barbara Johnson  
Treasurer: Bob Drago  
Web: http://ca.geocities.com/windsoroas  
Contact: windsoroas@yahoo.ca  
Membership: Individual \$15, Family \$20, Students \$5