



Ontario Archaeological Society

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Bruce Trigger 1937-2006

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President's message

By Holly Martelle

Well, fall (or winter?) has certainly arrived with a vengeance. The unpredictability of the weather in the last few years has really had me thinking about the possibility of global climate change. It now seems that it is nearly possible to predict when one's field season might start and finish.

One of the more exciting fall events to look forward to is our annual symposium. This year it was held in London and those of you who attended will agree that it was an absolutely fantastic event. In fact, I think it certainly rivalled if not exceed this year's Canadian Archaeological Association conference in Toronto. The London Chapter organizing team did an amazing job and all deserve a heartfelt thanks. The highlight of the symposium was certainly the session in honour of Dr. Michael Spence who saw his long and distinguished career flash before his eyes in the course of one day!

I took a moment or two at the symposium to reflect on what the OAS has achieved this year. I left exhausted on Saturday night but with a real sense of pride, excitement and accomplishment. Our session on avocational archaeology was well attended and received. Many people brought forth excellent ideas for moving forward and I am anxious to see some of those come to fruition as we work over the next few years to expand our educational and training opportunities.

It was also an honour to acknowledge the many members

who have made long-term commitments to the Society. This year, we had an unprecedented number of 25- and 50-year members. The success of our organization relies so much on our core set of members who come back year after year and show their support. Thank you so much! It also seemed fitting that, at the very same symposium that we were discussing the history of avocational archaeology including the contributions of our early avocational members, we honoured Bill Donaldson, Dean Axelson and Stanley Vanderlaan with 50-year pins. All of these gentlemen made significant contributions to our organization in the early years. Bill and Dean in particular were critical to the success of the OAS in the 1950s and 1960s and we owe them a great deal of gratitude. I urge you to read more about their contributions in this volume of Arch Notes.

At this year's symposium we also had the pleasure of presenting our Heritage Conservation Award to OslerBrook Golf and Country Club. I was absolutely in awe of the work of Charles Garrad in inspiring such a warm-hearted and environmentally conscious group of individuals to preserve the heritage sites on their property. I was struck by the genuine respect the club representatives had for Charlie, the Petun, and the archaeological record. I think this is a perfect example of what can be done in communities when the right people are involved and strong encouragement is provided. I commend Charlie, Archaeological

Services Inc. and the owners, managers and members of OslerBrook for providing such an excellent example for us all. We all benefit from your efforts! [See next issue for the story—Ed.]

Symposium

It was nice to see so many young faces at the symposium this year. The OAS has always had a difficult time of attracting and retaining student members. Next year we hope to change this situation by appointing John Creese to the Board of Directors. Within OAS policy, any Board can appoint two non-elected members if their skill sets are desirable and different from those already on the Board. Part of our strategic plan this year was to find a student representative who could help us develop a strategy to encourage students to join. This may involve looking at what kinds of services we can offer them and more outreach to university departments.

We welcome John and the opportunity to reach out to the next generation of archaeologists in Ontario!

2007 Board

Along that same line I would like to welcome the 2007 Board of Directors. John Creese, Alistair Jolly, Jim Keron and Kristina Miethner are new faces for next year and will be joined by existing Board members Henry van Lieshout, Alicia Hawkins, Jean-Luc Pilon and Carole Stimmell. Tony Stappells and myself will not be leaving entirely and will continue

to assist the board on the new advocacy and avocational initiatives.

Farewell, and thank you

Alas, this will be my last year on the board of the Ontario Archaeological Society and I'd like to take a moment to acknowledge the many people who have offered me advice and assistance over the course of these last three years. First, I'd like to thank Mima Kapches who convinced me to take a Board position in the first place. While I never really realized what I was getting into, this has been a

challenging yet rewarding experience. I would like to thank the current Board members—Henry van Lieshout, Cathy Crinnion, Alicia Hawkins, Carole Stimmell, Tony Stappells and Jean-Luc Pilon—for their tireless efforts this year and our Executive Director, Lise Ferguson, for so gracefully handling so many of my last-minute requests. My OAS experience has really made me aware of just how much time, effort and money goes into running this organization and I now hold much greater appreciation for all of the individuals who worked so diligently in the past to

make our organization what it is today. I also extend my gratitude to Charlie Garrad, who has been my sounding board and has assumed the role of OAS historian, although I am certain not by choice. I'd also like to thank Andrew Stewart and David Robertson for all of the hard work they put into our journal every year and Andy Schoenhofer who has done a great job with Arch Notes and regularly puts up with my stretching of the deadlines. Finally, I would like to thank the OAS members for continuing to support the society.

From the OAS office...

Lise Ferguson Executive Director

First of all, a bit of housekeeping. Please note the address for the OAS now has a detail added. Several new tenants have moved in at the historic Jesse Ashbridge house, necessitating the addition of a suite number to our address. We are at 1444 Queen Street East, **Suite 102**. Please amend your address book! Also, on Archaeology Day I found someone's keys on a ring with a dolphin key fob. If they are yours, please let me know.

Symposium

Congrats to the London Chapter for a fantastic symposium! Although I didn't get to hear any papers (all I do is work, work, work!) I did go to the Museum of Ontario Archaeology (www.uwo.ca/museum) on Sunday morning. Nancy Van Sas was kind enough to show us around (includ-

ing the outdoor site) and let us know about the big renovation plans for this museum. It was a real blast from my past, too—way back in "ye olden days", I worked for what was then called the Museum of Indian Archaeology (later the London Museum of Archaeology) on the Keffer Site in Vaughan. This was a fantastic site to work on since it was largely undisturbed, but while it was nice and shady in the forest, we had to contend with a plethora of tree roots. It was great to see so many incredible artifacts I remember coming out of the ground (like huge oversized pots), and there was even a crew photograph in the exhibit! I was trying to remember everyone's name and what they are doing now—yes, several are still in archaeology or a related field!

A new chapter

We are really happy that the OAS will have a new Chapter in 2007! It

is tentatively named the Huronia Chapter. Congrats to Marilyn Cornies and others who have taken on this project in such an archaeology-rich area of Ontario! It was great to see the other Chapter reps at the Presidents' Meeting at the Symposium as well. Between this meeting and the AGM, it is astounding to hear how much work is being done by the OAS all over the province by so many dedicated volunteers.

A new Board

When one year ends and another begins, we usually have outgoing OAS board members and incoming new ones. A special thank you to President Holly Martelle, who did so much in 2006. I would say she and I kept each other busy! It is easy to make plans for the OAS and harder to make things happen, and Holly did a lot to get this process going with several new projects, committees and other initiatives. I

am looking forward to working with the new board in 2007! More to say in future ArchNoteses.

Chapters' Corner:

Note: All Chapters websites can be accessed through the OAS website. Check with individual chapters to see if there are any events in December. Most do not have a regular meeting in December but some have social or other special events.

Toronto: Wednesday, January 17, 2007

"Members' Night". Sylvia Teaves and Norma Hall are speaking on

their experience on the 17th century Colony of Avalon in Newfoundland. January also marks the 25th Anniversary of the founding of the Toronto Chapter, so this will be a special evening, with anniversary cake and refreshments.

Windsor: The Windsor Chapter has a new website thanks to President Katherine Graham! While parts are under construction, there is a link to a cool site. Click on "Historical Links", which takes you to the Windsor Public Library's "Digital Exhibits" of all kinds of interesting stuff.

Other events (non-Chapter)

Ottawa: "Petra, Lost City of Stone" at the Canadian Museum of Civilization has been extended to February 18.

www.civilization.ca/cmc/petra/petrae.html

Toronto: January 17, 2007: The Toronto Chapter of the Archaeological Institute of America presents Dr. Maria Shaw, U of T, on excavations at a Minoan site at Kommos, Crete. www.geocities.com/Athens/Academy/7957

Letter

To all OAS members and readers of Arch Notes,

The news of the passing of Bruce Trigger to the Upper World has brought me feelings of intense sadness and emptiness, for he was truly a unique and irreplaceable person and scholar, whom I have admired from the time of our collaboration on the Smithsonian Volume 15 in the middle

1970s. I ask that my review of the book "The Archaeology of Bruce Trigger" elsewhere in this issue of Arch Notes serve as my personal commemoration of his life and achievements. My sympathy goes to his immediate family and the wider family of those who have benefitted by his influence.

Charles Garrad

New!
Please add
"Suite 102"
to our address!

Ontario Archaeological Society
1444 Queen St. E., Suite 102
Toronto, Ontario
M4L 1E1

2007 OAS call for papers

The Catarqui Archaeological Research Foundation is pleased to invite you to Symposium 2007, to be held in Kingston, Ontario, on November 2-4, 2007.

By now you should have received your latest copy of *Ontario Archaeology* (or if not, you will soon be receiving the latest copy of OA): *Fields of Fire: Fortified Works of Kingston Harbour*.

We hope this sampling of Kingston history and archaeology will entice you to our historic city where you will experience a variety of conference

venues incorporating National Historic Sites, downtown Kingston and its waterfront.

Planning is well underway and we invite you to submit titles and abstracts to the Program Committee, co-chaired by Sue Bazely (sue@carf.info) and Henry Cary (Henry.Cary@rmc.ca).

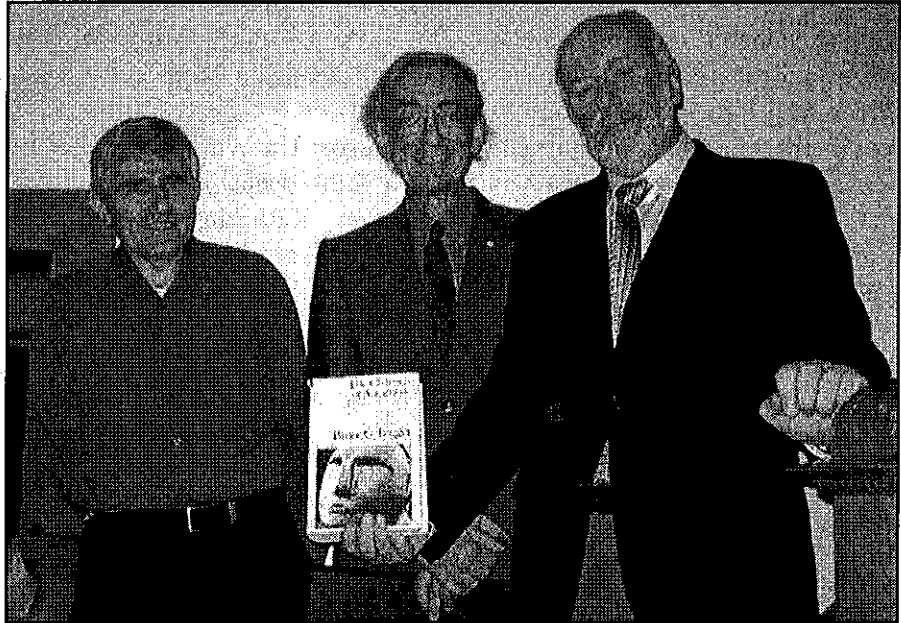
Watch for more details in forthcoming Arch Notes. We look forward to seeing you!

Alan MacLachlan
OAS 2007 Symposium Committee Chair

A few thoughts on the passing of Bruce Trigger

On the morning of December 1st, I received an e-mail from Michael Bisson with whom I had just this summer finished editing the festschrift for Bruce, entitled *The Archaeology of Bruce Trigger: Theoretical Empiricism* published by McGill-Queens University Press. The title on the e-mail was "Hung be the Heavens with Black", the beginning of a passage from Shakespeare's *Henry the Sixth*, lamenting the death of King Henry the Fifth. I knew instantly what had occurred.

Bruce had been ill since last fall with a particularly aggressive form of cancer. When he died he left unfinished a multi-chapter volume on the problems with the "right" in Canada from the perspective of an anthropologist, a few chapters of which he had completed. He also left incomplete a planned new text on the history and archaeology of Egypt. He had managed, however, to celebrate the publication of the second edition of *A History of Archaeological Thought* in the late summer, the galleys of which he had worked on in the hospital and at home last winter while undergoing treatment. When first informed of the diagnosis of his illness and the rather dire prognosis, Bruce's immediate reaction was to set about ensuring the successful publication of that volume while also contributing in a number of ways to the final editing of the festschrift, all at the same time as translating some Middle Egyptian texts! It was that determination perhaps that bought him months more time than might be expected under the circumstances. Two days before his death he was reading a two volume treatment of Chinese archaeology. His was a remarkable mind put to superb use. He recently commented that his career was about resolving some of the mysteries of the ancient world, a career objective to which few would even admit to aspire, let alone achieve.



Michael Bisson, Bruce Trigger and Ron Williamson at the launch of *The Archaeology of Bruce Trigger* in Montreal, 2006.

But for those of us who knew him he was far more than a world-class scholar. He was warm, caring, and a thoroughly honourable person. He looked for the value in the work of every person he encountered and countenanced the same in his students. His unease with the political inequality represented in much of the archaeology of the twentieth century is legendary as is his willingness to actually protest with his feet in support of redressing such wrongs. During his eulogy, given by Bisson, the audience was reminded that of all his honours, including the Order of Canada, conferred on Bruce last year in hospital, the one he valued the most was his honorary membership in the Great Turtle Clan of the Wendat Confederacy. It was recognition of his achievement of having given voice to the people whose history we study, a lifelong goal of his.

We will all miss Bruce, not just because he was a great scholar of the Ontario archaeological record, but because he was simply a great man deserving of the heavens being hung with black.

**Ron Williamson, PhD, McGill University
Toronto**

Bruce Trigger's comments at the book launch for *The Archaeology of Bruce Trigger: Theoretical Empiricism*

My dear friends, I thank Colleen and Philip Cercone for making their beautiful home available for this book launch and for all the work they have put into this event. I also thank Philip, Ron, and Mike for the kind things they have just said about me; and all of you for honouring me by being here. Barbara and I are delighted to see you.

I believe that at this point an author is expected to provide a brief summary of a book so that people who may wish to buy it but may not intend to read it can more easily pretend they have done so. But I am merely the humble subject, not the author, of this book, so I feel free to follow another route.

In many respects the last 12 months have been among the happiest years of my life. I have had more time with Barbara, which I find most enjoyable, and more contact with friends, colleagues, and people whom I have lost contact with for many years, in one case since I left Preston, Ontario, in 1947. Their generous support has amazed me and helped me through difficult times.

I have also been honoured in many ways, beginning with the Order of Canada, into which I was invested last December, followed by the Wiseman Book Prize of the archaeological Institute of America which I received for *Understanding Early Civilizations* here in Montreal in January; Claude Chapdelaine's generous and perceptive essay on *The Children of Aataentsic* in Claude Corbo's *Monuments intellectuels québécois du XXe siècle* which was published in March; the 2006 Lifetime Achievement Award of the Society for American Archaeology which was accepted for me by Michael Bisson in San Juan in April; being made James McGill Professor Emeritus with much fanfare and celebration in June expertly hosted by [McGill's] Principal Heather Munroe-Blum; the publication by Cambridge University Press of a second and much improved edition of my *A History of Archaeological Thought* in September; and a few days ago the appearance of Eldon Yellowhorn's interview with me as the lead paper in the October issue of the *Journal of Social Archaeology*. It clearly has been a red-letter year.

Amongst all these honours the book being launched today stands in a class absolutely by itself. It

is a work of great love, great learning, and great labour by a selection of colleagues, former graduate students, and distinguished archaeologists from abroad. Some of the papers analyse my work in highly perceptive and interesting ways, while others show how some aspects of their authors' own work were built on things I have said or done. *The Archaeology of Bruce Trigger* also deftly complements the second edition of *A History of Archaeological Thought*. If my book lets readers know what I think about the ideas of a vast number of archaeologists, both dead and living, *The Archaeology of Bruce Trigger* lets me and others know what a select group of archaeologists think of my ideas. That seems like appropriate reciprocity. I have already personally expressed in writing my thanks and reactions to each author, but would like to thank them again publicly. They have done a wonderful job and given me much to think about. Not least important to me, these papers recall the many happy hours I have spent working with graduate students and interacting with the other contributors.

I offer my special and heartfelt thanks to Ron Williamson and Michael Bisson for organizing the 2004 Symposium from which many of the papers are derived and for seeing this book through to completion, which as a former editor I know is never an easy task. Many a festschrift is promised but few are delivered. Finally, I congratulate McGill-Queen's University Press and its talented staff for producing such an attractive book. The Press is famous for the handsomeness of its publications and a few days ago an art teacher from Toronto, who is also an old friend, waxed lyrical on the telephone about the book's wonderful asymmetrical cover, greatly enhancing my appreciation of cover design with his comments.

The authors have painted a detailed and affectionate portrait of my life in archaeology, with some of the more egregious warts mercifully omitted. Many of their comments have moved me deeply. I confess that, when I first read the proofs some months ago, some of what they had had written blurred my vision. Yet it is also a work of rigorous scholarship. I recognize myself in each of the papers, detect no significant errors or misrepresentations (the authors knew me well enough

to be fully aware that I would be on the lookout for them), and have gained insights into what I have done that in many cases have surprised and delighted me. While verbal appreciation is always welcome, it is especially satisfying to see evidence in print that one is so well regarded and one's work appreciated.

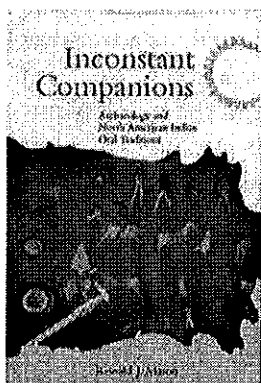
It is also wonderful to be honoured with a celebratory volume of such high quality. Gordon Childe, whom I have always regarded, along with Harold Innis, as one of my intellectual heroes, was not so lucky. My good fortune was to have two editors who were excellent planners and recruited authors of great talent who were willing to put so much effort into this project. Already when he was a graduate student, Ron Williamson had exhibited the resourcefulness and

tenacity that have made him and the company he heads, Archaeological Services Inc., leaders, trend-setters, and (perhaps of major importance) a major source of employment in Canadian archaeology.

Having been persuaded by Ron Williamson to contribute a substantial account of my academic life to this volume, I plan to say nothing more about myself, except as a footnote to inform literary aficionados that the approach I used in my autobiographical chapter was inspired largely by Jean-Paul Sartre's remarkable biography of Gustave Flaubert and that some of the passages in it specifically by Flaubert's *Madame Bovary*. With that cryptic pronouncement, enough has been said.

Bruce Trigger, Montreal, September 2006

Book reviews



Inconstant Companions: Archaeology and North American Indian Oral Tradition, by Ronald J. Mason

The University of Alabama Press, Tuscaloosa, Alabama
298 pp., hard-cover, dust jacket, CA\$72.50
Order in Canada through
Scholarly Book Services,
Inc.,
127 Portland Street, 3rd

floor, Toronto, Ontario M5V 2N4

tel. 1-800-847-9736,

<customerservice@sbookscan.com>

By Charles Garrad

The jacket citation reads:

Ronald J. Mason explores the tension between aboriginal oral tradition and the practice of archaeology in North America. That exploration is necessarily interdisciplinary and set in a global context. Indeed, the issues at stake are universal in the current era of intellectual "decolonization" and multiculturalism. Unless committed to writing, even the most esteemed utterances are inevitably forgotten with the passing of generations, however much the succeeding

ones try to reproduce what they think they had heard. Writing shares with archaeological remains a greater, if unequal, durability. Through copious examples across academic and ethnographic spectra and over millennia, Mason examines the disparate functions of traditional "ways of knowing" in contrast to the paradigm of science and critical historiography.

James A. Brown (Northwestern University) comments: "Mason's work is a vigorously argued essay on the incapability of oral traditions to compete with contemporaneous written texts for evidential standing as objective history. This is a strongly worded but deferential treatment of the current tendency to abrogate scholarship for political expedience".

Ronald J. Mason is Emeritus Professor of Anthropology and Henry M. Wriston Emeritus Professor of Social Science at Lawrence University in Appleton, Wisconsin, and author of *Great Lakes Archaeology* (1981), *Rock Island: Historical Archaeology in the Great Lakes Basin* (1986), and other works of interest and concern to Ontario archaeologists, as befits an expatriate Canadian. His

growing interest and concern for "issues intrinsic to the relations between oral traditional histories and those revealed by scientifically informed historiography" in North America is on record (e.g., "Archaeology and Native North American Oral Tradition", *American Antiquity* 2000, 65(2):234-266).

The reviews cited above notwithstanding, Mason's work is also an extensive collective and critical digest of the opinions and experiences of numerous scholars (there are 33 pages of references) as to the comparative roles of the scientific examination of history and traditional accounts. He does not deny that traditional accounts may contain truth, but rejects that this should be assumed a priori and argues that each instance should be critically examined. He does conclude that, in the event of a dispute or difference between the traditional account of an historic event and that developed scientifically, the latter should prevail because it alone is always subject to challenge and alone has the tools to challenge. Nevertheless, there is always the hope of conciliation.

To assess the probable value of tradition, especially oral tradition, Mason cites many international examples from the extensive literature. He shows the process by which traditional accounts modify and adapt to changing circumstances and needs, how many North America tribes entirely lost their traditions in the social destruction and chaos following the introduction of European diseases, and how this created the need to adapt, adopt and reinvent tools and images that stressed spiritual and social continuity. Mason is sympathetic to this process, understanding that the North American native belief systems were under the same compulsion to adapt or expire as were their social and material cultures. The result however, as E.B. Tylor stated in 1871, is that "traditional" stories "far from elucidating history...need history to elucidate them".

After demonstrating how oral histories and traditions mutate and adapt, sometimes with surprising speed (an Italian folktale told to some Zuni Indians emerged recast as a Zuni story within "just a year or so"), Mason warns how this process can be advantageously seized by political opportunists for their own ends, such as "power and the issue of tribal sovereignty". Related to this problem in the USA are the unintended results of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), an Act

which Mason does not hesitate to label dangerous, as it has caused "the obfuscation of critical distinctions between what is and what is not knowable about the indigenous American past and the roles of archaeology and oral traditions". This in turn led to such abuses as "the infamous case of Kennewick Man", where jurisdiction over a ca. 9,000-year-old skeleton was claimed by a number of competing groups purporting a religious and/or traditional connection to the remains, various U.S. governmental and military agencies competed and introduced political expediency, and scientific examination was inhibited. The situation is not yet resolved despite six years of legal wrangling and 22,000 pages of record, the result of "the intrusion of extraneous interests into...what should be free enquiry".

Mason addresses such questions as: Who controls or owns the past? When scientific results diverge sharply from claimed traditional knowledge, who is to be believed? Why one and not the other? For whom, by whom and for what purpose? Do differing and competing histories have the same value?

His approach to finding answers to these questions is global and he cites examples from Africa, the Israelites, Norsemen, Serbo-Croatians, Trojans, and others, as well as from North America. The Bible, he notes, is oral history committed to writing long after the supposed fact, with consequent legitimate concern as to what extent archaeologists are justified in using it as a historical reference work.

Mason records that his book was difficult to write. It is a complex book, the result of years, probably decades, of accumulating thinking and research. In this reviewer's experience it cannot be summarized briefly or reviewed with more than token justice. It is a unique achievement by perhaps the only scholar who could undertake it.

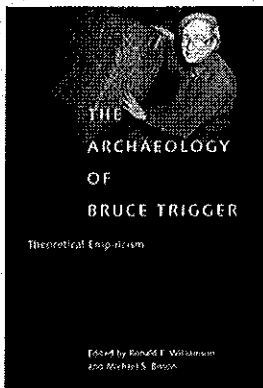
Uniquely linking the two books reviewed here is an experience of Dr. Alexander von Gernet. Some Mi'kmaq in Nova Scotia, charged with illegal logging in crown land forests, sought acquittals on the basis of constitutionally protected treaty rights or aboriginal title. A chief—university trained, a curator at a museum, an official wampum keeper and a custodian of Mi'kmaq traditions—testified in court as an expert witness. He convincingly related an oral tradition affirmed by the Mi'kmaq Grand Council, and sup-

ported by a spectacular wampum belt that was "read" to describe an agreement between the Mi'kmaq and the French in 1610, to support their argument.

However, the wampum belt shown in court was a copy. Von Gernet located the original in a Vatican storehouse. Scientific analysis demonstrated that the belt was made in the 19th Century. Related documents included a letter to the Pope that accompanied the gift of the belt in the 1830s, which identified its makers and donors as the Algonquin and Iroquois at

Kanesatake. The court upheld von Gernet's conclusion that the belt "was neither of Mi'kmaq provenance nor a seventeenth century object...The Mi'kmaq story and its association with the wampum turned out to be a neo-tradition invented in relatively recent times".

Von Gernet's description of the incident could well have been part of Dr. Mason's book (above), but actually appears in a new book on the life and work of Dr. Bruce G. Trigger (Williamson et al 2006:186-187), reviewed next.



The Archaeology of Bruce Trigger: Theoretical Empiricism, edited by Ronald F. Williamson and Michael S. Bisson

Contributors include Michael S. Bisson (McGill), Stephen Chrisomalis (Toronto), Jeremy J. Cunningham (Calgary), Brian Fagan (Lindbrior Corporation), Clare

Fawcett (St. Francis Xavier), Junko Habu (California at Berkeley), Ian Hodder (Stanford), Jane H. Kelley (Calgary), Martha Latta (Toronto), Robert MacDonald (Archaeological Services Inc.), Randall H. McGuire (Binghamton), Lynn Meskell (Columbia), Toby Morantz (McGill), Robert Pearce (London Museum of Archaeology), David Smith (Toronto), Peter Timmins (Timmins Martelle Heritage Consultants), Silvia Tomášková (North Carolina), Bruce G. Trigger (McGill), Alexander von Gernet (Toronto), Gary Warrick (Wilfrid Laurier), Ronald F. Williamson (Archaeological Services Inc.), Alison Wylie (Washington), and Eldon Yellowhorn (Simon Fraser).

McGill-Queen's University Press, 2006

ISBN 10:0-7735-3161-0

ISBN 13:978-0-7735-3161-1

304 pp., illustrations, index

Paper \$29.95; cloth \$80

Order from www.mqup.ca

The Web site describes the subject of the book as "The Life and Work of a Renowned Archaeologist".

The jacket citations read:

"In *The Archaeology of Bruce Trigger*, leading scholars discuss their own approaches to the interpretation of archaeological data in relation to Trigger's fundamental intellectual contributions".

"Bruce Trigger has merged the history of archaeology with new perspectives on how to understand the past. He is a critical analyst and architect of social evolutionary theory, an Egyptologist, and an authority on aboriginal cultures in north-eastern North America. His contextualization of archaeology within broader society has encouraged appreciation of the power of archaeological knowledge and he has been an effective voice for non-oppositional forms of argument in archaeological theory".

Andrew Stewart wrote: "This book succeeds brilliantly in presenting a rounded portrait of a man who is understated and measured in his style (in a word, Canadian) and an intellectual and moral giant of our times".

Bill Engelbrecht wrote: "I can think of no better way to gain a sense of the major debates in archaeology over the last forty years than to read this volume".

Chapter topics address the many achievements, contributions, influences and interests of Dr. Trigger, particularly as seen by his own students and colleagues. Each chapter has its own notes and references, but there is also a complete 30-page bibliography (480 entries, not including reprints) of the works of this remarkable and proudly Canadian scholar, and of the awards, honours, and recognition that he has received. A listing of graduate student dissertation

and thesis titles is a tribute to his ability to inspire.

Trigger's own reflective account of the more significant events in his own life is all the more moving because of his ability to understand and recount the interconnected forces that shaped him in his upbringing and his subsequent educational, professional and personal development, always increasing in complexity, with a clarity that most of us do not achieve. He sees how it was that Egypt became his first archaeological love while in his childhood years, from which Iroquoian archaeology was one of a number of interests that developed; how his assessment of the differing attributes of the Canadian and American ethic and world view while at Yale led to his deliberate choice to teach and reside in Canada;

and how his interest in human behaviour and cultural relativism developed; and how he benefitted personally and intellectually from interaction with mentors and scholars with whom he frequently disagreed. These and many other aspects of his life all form part of a continuum, a connected pattern. In his modesty, his pride is less in his own achievements but rather more in those of his students.

Those of us who had the privilege of knowing Bruce Trigger, whether as a formal student of his or not, equally share a pride in so doing.

Both the reviewed books name and cite the works of a number of Ontario scholars and OAS members.

Honouring 50-year members

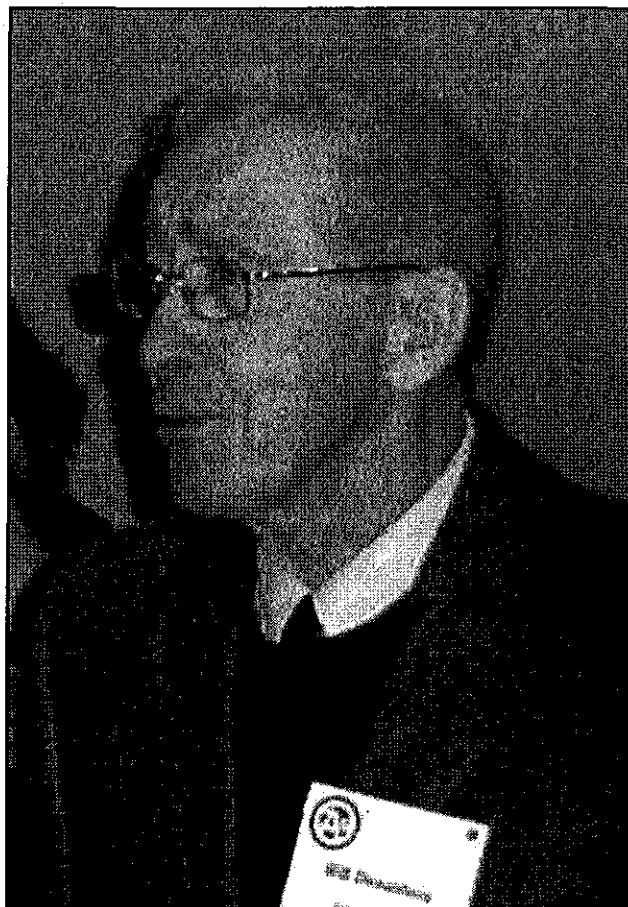
Bill Donaldson

By Charles Garrad

As of January this year Bill Donaldson has been an OAS member for fifty years. It was the privilege of the Society to recognize this and honour Bill with a Fifty-Year Membership Pin at the 2006 Symposium in London.

Bill exemplifies the highest level of responsible avocational archaeology, on which the Society is built. Recognizing his need for knowledge, he took his first artifacts and meticulous field notes to Ken Kidd at the Royal Ontario Museum in 1955. Ken introduced him to his secretary Helen Devereaux as a candidate for OAS membership, and Bill says this "opened up a whole new world for me." Bill immediately became involved with the administration and development of the Society and served for the next fourteen years as member and Chairman of Committees, and treasurer in 1957 and 1958. In 1959 Bill was the eighth president of the Society. He followed this with three years as editor of Arch Notes. His contributions to the growth and professionalism of the Society are phenomenal.

The Society is proud to recognize Bill's long membership and contribution. Congratulations, Bill Donaldson.



Bill Donaldson at the 2006 Symposium.

Dr. R. Dean Axelson

By Charles Garrad

Dean Axelson became interested in archaeology after finding an arrow point in the school yard of Westdale Collegiate in Hamilton while in grade 9. He joined the OAS while he was still in high school (1954) in Aylmer (near London), Ontario. Shortly afterward, he met OAS members Bill Donaldson and Ruth Marshall and through them and the OAS he received his early guidance. He built a collection in his high school and university student years by finding arrowheads on the family farm and working in the tobacco fields near Aylmer. After graduating from the Ontario Veterinary College at Guelph (1960), Dean went into practice in London and there met a number of people doing local avocational archaeological work. Dean and Judy's home became their social and learning centre and in 1964 it was proposed to create the Archaeological Society of Western Ontario, with Dean as president, which flourished until Dean and Judy moved to Toronto in 1965. This body was later revived as an OAS Chapter. Attending his first OAS meeting in Toronto, Dean was astounded to find the membership down to about 15 or less and he was given the decision to become president by acclamation or the Society would be disbanded. He became president and with the help of some eager new members, they rejuvenated and revitalized the Society and built up the membership to over 400 people. He was president from 1966-1969. That such a force was headed by an admitted avocational, interested in collecting and replicat-



Dean gets his certificate and pin at the 2006 Symposium from OAS Executive Director Lise Ferguson, far left, and OAS President Holly Martelle.

ing artifacts, caused concern to some "professionals". The resulting tension disheartened Dean and he resigned both the presidency and his membership for a period. After he resigned, the membership dropped to 200. He rejoined the Society but never again ran for office. Dean's contribution to the OAS was unique and cannot be surpassed by any professional or avocational member. He rescued the Society when it was at its lowest ebb and set it on the path to success in later years.

Stanley Vanderlaan

By Bill Donaldson

As I recall it, I first met Stan Vanderlaan at a joint meeting of the OAS and the Morgan Chapter of the New York State Archaeological Association (NYSAA), held in Toronto in the late 1950s.

We both became actively involved in archaeology by chance. In my case, coming across exposed artifacts in a plowed field while helping my brother-in-law round up some cattle which had broken through a fence on his farm. In Stan's case, encountering exposed artifacts while hunting woodchucks on a neighbour's farm. We both were interested in knowing what was being discovered in the other's area and began an exchange of information that continues today.

In 1965, Stan was elected a "Fellow" of the NYSAA in recognition of his outstanding contribution to knowledge of the New York State natives, and in 1968 was elected a Research Fellow of the Rochester Museum of Science. In 2002, fearing the loss of information on the history of amateur archaeology in New York State, he published *Odds and Ends: Archeological Memoirs*. This profusely-illustrated book relates how he and other amateurs (in the original sense of the word), working by themselves and

with professional archaeologists, have contributed much to our current knowledge of the prehistory of New York State.

A good field archaeologist should have the ability to quickly discern subtle differences in his or her surroundings, an ability Stan has demonstrated to me on a number of occasions. The first time was when I was giving Stan and another New York amateur, Bill Forney, a tour of Ontario archaeological sites and museums in 1968. Stan voiced his surprise at the number of farm houses that were built of brick or stone, rather than wood, such as in New York State. In June 1972, during a visit to the Hind site, then being excavated under the supervision of Stan Wortner and myself, he noticed a partially exposed human skeleton in the recently plowed field, just a few metres from the path to the site we were excavating. Intent on reach the knoll where we were working, all of the members of our crew had been walking that path for more than a week and never once noticed the discoloration that Stan did.

The OAS should be pleased that an amateur archaeologist of Stan's calibre has maintained his membership in its ranks for half a century.

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Self-indulgent thoughts on receiving a 50-year OAS pin

by Glenna Roberts

Glenna Woolley got bitten by the archaeological bug at age 15 through a high school teacher of ancient history. In addition, Miss Woolley thought that Sir Leonard Woolley, author of "Digging Up the Past" and "Ur of the Chaldees," might have been a great-uncle. (He wasn't.)

After high school, Miss Woolley (i.e., me) took a business course and became a junior stenographer at the Toronto General Hospital (resulting discouragement with nursing as a career need hardly be mentioned). Seeking intellectual amusement, she/I was enticed in the spring of 1952 to take a night course at the Royal Ontario Museum on "Indians Before Columbus" offered by Professor Norman Emerson. Meeting Norm and the other members of the class, who already formed the nucleus of a two-year-old Ontario Archaeological Society, proved to be the real beginning of my passion for Ontario archaeology. In the eyes of a junior stenographer, participation in archaeology in the exotic climes of the Mediterranean and Middle East was an impossibility, but finding weekend digs on my Toronto doorstep was a revelation. Other early co-participants included Frank Mee, "Nipper" Sinclair, Ruth Marshall, Jim Wright, Bill Renison and Helen Devereux, the latter two also still "survivors".

1952 was also the first year of excavation at the Sheguiandah site on Manitoulin Island. Thomas E. Lee of the National Museum of Canada contacted the OAS in search of volunteer diggers—"Any time in July or August, tent and food provided"—all you had to do was get there. My parents deposited me at the Tobermory ferry terminal and a crew of singing diggers in the back of a government truck greeted me at South Bay Mouth. Many other friendly faces participated over the next three seasons at Sheguiandah, including Bill Taylor, Walter and Eva Kenyon, Ken Dawson, Clyde Kennedy and Fritz Knechtel.



Glenna in 2005.

Suddenly, the business course, which my mother had told me I would never regret, came in handy. As well as excavating at that remarkable site (Have you found www.magma.ca/~rel/sheg/shegcore.html), Tom Lee was leading a campaign to protect Sheguiandah and all archaeological sites and materials in Ontario. Letters were needed to the press, politicians, academics, anyone and everyone, urging them to support some form of legislation to save our heritage, particularly from collectors and dealers who seemed more dangerous at that time than bulldozers. Sheguiandah was particularly vulnerable—its beautiful white quartzite blades were scattered openly over the hillside. Most mornings I spent in the tent, typing letters that Tom dictated, but if I worked fast I usually got "up the hill" in the afternoon. I was a paid employee of the National Museum (Dear Dr. Alcock) and saved enough to enter Anthropology at the University of Toronto in September 1952.

Those were four amazing years for me. Student digs galore, sites whose names I no longer remember (such as the one where everybody got total poison ivy because we were digging in the roots in the early spring, and the dig that was cancelled because of Hurricane Hazel). After three summers at Sheguiandah, I spent the summer of 1955 at the Petroglyphs, the Quackenbush site and the Serpent Mound with a Royal Ontario Museum expedition under Richard Johnston, cooking for my living instead of typing. So why didn't I go on to do graduate work? I had the James medal from Victoria College, experience, enthusiasm and contacts. I did have doubts, however, about my ability to sustain the winters counting pottery sherds in the basement of the museum, and I was discouraged by the highly adversarial manner in which the profession was conducted. Maybe I was just too soft (read "female")? And I was broke. I took a well-paying government job

in Ottawa but maintained my contacts with OAS. I dug whenever I could: for example, at the Ault Park site in advance of the flood waters of the St. Lawrence seaway.

There followed the period of Glenna Reid: three babies and my husband's postings to Washington and Geneva. Thus began a period of vicarious archaeology, when visiting sites replaced actually digging them. Back in Ottawa in the 1970s as principal of the Ottawa Montessori School, I took courses in museum technology at Algonquin College, and I became a proud founding member of the Ottawa Chapter of the OAS. Just when I might have begun active archaeology again, I re-married and, following my External Affairs husband, left Canada for another six years, this time to Romania and the USSR. Vicarious, but fascinating, and a very helpful way to meet real people without the limitations on social interaction with foreigners that communist systems imposed. I toured the ancient Dacian citadels and ceremonial centres with Romania's most noted archaeologist, Hadrian Daicoviciu, and dined with the diggers at outposts of the Roman frontier at Alba Iulia and Porolissum. In the USSR, no digs, but museum tours at the Academy of Sciences in Novosibirsk.

Glenna Roberts has lived in Ottawa since 1985 and participated in many local archaeological activities, including those of the Archaeological Institute of America with its popular lecture series usually on overseas topics (shades of my high-school beginnings). In terms of active excavation, the National Capital Commission provided four seasons of opportunity at the delta of the Gatineau River in Lac Leamy Park under Marcel Laliberté, as did the Ottawa Chapter's dig under Gordon Watson at the Hi-Lo Green site. Caroline Phillips of Parks Canada has over the years provided opportunities for experienced diggers at Laurier House, Sappers Bridge and the Parliament Buildings. I have taken part in public archaeology programmes at Murphy's Point and Bonnechere Parks and contributed editorial and translating skills to the "Prehistory of the Ottawa Valley", a bilingual publication of the Société d'histoire de l'Outaouais.

Twenty-five years after I first joined the executive of the Ottawa Chapter OAS, it seemed appropriate last year to participate in the organization of the symposium "Partners to the Past: Making Connections in

the Ottawa River Valley" in Petawawa, and to receive a 50-year pin. Charles Garrad once declined to award me a 25-year pin, as neither he nor I could prove that I had actually paid my fees for that many consecutive years. The same is equally true for my 50-year pin, but I do not feel a need to apologize for receiving it. I regard it less as a personal award and more as recognition of the roots of the organization, its founders, its early members and its early goals. Many of the changes in archaeology over 50 years are in my view really ones of emphasis. Today's issues have been with us since the beginning. In the matter of native involvement, Tom Lee had regular meetings with the Wikwemikong band, and at the Serpent Mound the ROM team held off for several months waiting for approval from the local Hiawatha band. "Salvage" archaeology working just ahead of the bulldozer was the order of the day in the 1950s, as vast Toronto subdivisions began to stretch up the tributaries of the Humber and the Don. Although there is now a Heritage Act to protect sites, the ways and means of doing so continue to be matters of debate. Politicians still need to be persuaded by an informed public that our heritage is worth the government's time and money—witness the recent cuts to small museums.

I am concerned that there is now little place for the hands-on volunteer-with-passion-and-experience like me, to whom the term "amateur" rather than "avocational" would apply. With new hips to replace the old, I still hope for the possibility of working as a volunteer with somebody, somewhere, and that such opportunities will be available for other non-professional enthusiasts. Otherwise, the hopes of youngsters exposed to our public archaeology programmes will only be satisfied if they manage to become licensed archaeologists themselves. Paul Racher's thoughtful article in the July/August issue of *Arch Notes* succinctly traces the rise of the consulting archaeologist and some of its implications, particularly in regard to the responsibility to inform the public about what work is being done in their community. I am encouraged that a discussion on the role of the "avocational" was scheduled for the 2006 Symposium in London. As I was unable to attend, I hope there will be a report. In the meantime, we have amazing speakers at the Ottawa Chapter meetings. I hope to see you there.



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