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Artifacts from the Archaeological Service Inc. excavation on Queen Street in Fort Erie (photo credit: Douglas Todd)

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Ontario Archaeological Society

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Vito Vaccarelli

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I recently returned to Canada following a trip to southern Chile, Patagonia, where I examined ethnographic collections relating to Fuegians/Patagonians and carried out site survey and visits on the northern side of the Straits of Magellan with a local archaeologist from the Universidad de Magallanes, Alfredo Prieto. This is a part of the world which has long interested me, especially as it is, like Canada, a region of harsh climate. My hope is to see some valuable bilateral exchanges where we learn more about our respective realities,

both the points in common as well as the significant differences. Hopefully an exhibition which would enlighten us about our southern confrères of the cold (a mantle that Canadians love to wear over their high-tech insulated outerwear) will some day be seen in both Canada and the southern cone of this continent.

Our perception of South America usually focuses on high civilizations or tropical environments. The tip of that continent only rarely enters our imagination except through the biased eyes of casual XIXth century

European observers. In spite of a great many more serious studies of the peoples of Tierra del Fuego and Patagonia, in the English speaking world, the words of Charles Darwin still ring loudly: "the most abject and miserable creatures I anywhere beheld."

Yet these people were successful in living in this most southerly region of the continent (where, by the way, some of the oldest archaeological remains of the Americas south of the glaciers [Monte Verde, Chile] are to be found) and later studies showed that



while their material condition was not the same as that of other groups, their spiritual world was quite complex and well-furnished.

The only reason for bringing this up now is to make the point that Darwin's observations and opinions are not easily challenged, not because of their basis in fact, but because of who he is and the place he has come to occupy in the modern scientific world with his theory of the origins of species. He was a fine and brilliant naturalist, but he was not an anthropologist.

Recently (Jan. 23, 2009), the Toronto Star published an article about a bottle collector and his passion for learning about the past through the discovery of old dump sites and the search for their precious booty of bottles. Reading this article really allows you to understand that this young man and his friends are earnest in their appreciation for history and the opportunity to come into close and personal contact with it is exhilarating. OAS members absolutely understand this.

Troubling, however, is that the article excitingly promotes such an interest that flies in the face of some of the basic notions underlying archaeology; the controlled recovery of objects and information, and their preservation and sharing. Society agrees with such notions since this past belongs to the collectivity who, though their legislature, enacted laws to ensure that the past is considered and, in as much as is reasonable, preserved for the future.

There has been a law to protect archaeological sites and manage their study in Ontario for 34 years now, yet a major newspaper in a major Canadian city publishes in 2009 an article which undermines the basic principles of the Heritage Act. Imagine if we were talking about the thrill of driving on public streets at high speed without a driving permit and without respecting speed rules and road safety regulations. The

outrage would be intolerable and no newspaper would ever carry such a story.

Of course, human safety does not compare with dirty old bottles long abandoned to garbage dumps. Still, the media have a duty to be responsible in their reporting and story telling, because, like those reading the great Charles Darwin, most readers will not be in a position to critically evaluate some of the implications I've just mentioned. And so, as far as a great many readers of the Toronto Star's Living section are concerned, they too can go out and rummage through the countryside looking for old dumps, or old house foundations, or construction sites, or ploughed fields, or...and pick up, collect, dig up, whatever they see. After all, the Star showed them it's okay.

As OAS members and people with a genuine interest in the past, we can serve as models and we can also bring such articles and attitudes to the attention of newspapers and other media by writing to them and suggesting there are alternatives to digging for bottles which yield surprising results like new insights into the past revealing lost bits of our history, etc. I am not advocating that anyone should carry a stick here, but we could and should be prepared to put out a few carrots.

On Jan. 11th, the board of directors met for the last meeting of the 2008 board and the first of the 2009 board. Alicia Hawkins and Henry van Lieshout made their last presentations and left the board with our thanks and before they parted with us, they left us with commitments to be available if and when we have need of their talents and knowledge. In fact, Henry will continue to guide the transition process for our new Secretary/Treasurer, Jim Keron.

At the same time, we welcomed new board members Neal Ferris and Steve Timmermans, who, along with

our still new Executive-Director, Lorie Harris, will be slowly entering the fray of Ontario archaeology from the perspective of the board of directors of the OAS (which, I dare say, is different from other vantage points).

I agreed to continue in my role as President of the OAS for one last year, after which I am prepared to stay on the board for an additional year in order to ensure a smooth transition. There remain several projects that I wished to see through or at least see started before I left. While I think the list may be somewhat ambitious, it is still worth keeping on the front burner of the stove. This list includes 1) a revamped website; 2) encouraging a province-wide network of archaeology-related organizations/institutions/interpretive centers, etc.; 3) finding some way of bringing attention to Ontario archaeology on a province-wide basis; 4) finding ways through collaboration with sibling organizations, of commemorating the 400th anniversary of Champlain's first descriptions of lands now within the province of Ontario.

Do you have ideas about any of the above or other related subjects pertaining to Ontario archaeology or the OAS? Don't hesitate to contact myself, Lorie Harris or any of the board members and share them with us. Feedback is so important and your suggestions are always welcome, even if we cannot always act on them.

So while the snow continues to fly here in the national capital region and the Ottawa buses get back on the road after a 51 (!) day strike, continue to write up last summer's work and consider producing articles for Ontario Archaeology or Arch Notes (Sheryl Smith, our new Arch Notes editor will appreciate it!) because before you know it, the sun will warm and the trowels will come out again, marking the beginning of yet another season of discovery.

Jean-Luc Pilon
OAS President

OAS CHAPTERS' CORNER

While the outdoor excavation activities of the chapters may be on hold until the spring thaw, chapters continue to hold public lectures and other events.

Below are some of the recent and upcoming activities of the chapters. Abstracts of the talks are often available on the chapter websites listed on the back page of ArchNotes.

Ottawa

GORDON & MARGARET WATSON BURSARY

Gordon Watson, a founding member of the Ottawa Chapter OAS, died in June 2007, predeceased by his wife Margaret. He received several awards for his considerable contribution to archaeology: the J. Norman Emerson Silver Medal Award, the Peggi Armstrong Public Archaeology Award, and the Spirit of Trent Award. All this came after 'retirement' and the completion of an M.A in Anthropology (Archaeology) at Trent University!

In recognition of Gordon and Margaret's dedication to archaeology, their support of the Ontario Archaeological Society and their inspiration to others, the Ottawa Chapter has established a bursary in partnership with Trent University. The objective is to make an award each year to a needy graduate student studying Canadian archaeology/anthropology.

To qualify for matching Provincial funds, thus forming the basis of an endowment, donations must reach \$6,250. Trent University will monitor the funds and award the bursary. If the above amount is not reached in 2009, the award will be made for two or three years, but will lapse when the funds have been used up.

The Ottawa Chapter hopes that if you have not contributed to this fund and would like to remember Gordon and Margaret in this way, you will do so by going to our web site where you will find the form or where you may contribute electronically – www.ottawaoas.ca.

The Ottawa Chapter is notifying everyone that, effective Jan. 1, 2009, its membership rates are: \$20 individual, \$25 family, \$12 student (no change).

Toronto

February 18: **Robert von Bitter**, Ontario Ministry of Culture

"Management of Archaeological Site Data at the Ontario Ministry of Culture"

March 18: **Dena Doroszenko**, Ontario Heritage Trust
TBD (FYI: Arni Brownstone had a conflict with a conference in Germany and will speak at another meeting.)

April 15: **Helen Mills**

"The Archaeology of Toronto's Lost Rivers"

May 21: **John Steckley**

"Finding the St. Lawrence Iroquoians and Ben Kingsley: How I spent my summer vacation"

September 16: **Dr. Jock McAndrews**, University of Toronto

"Did a Comet Kill Clovis?"

Toronto Chapter meetings are held at 19 Russell Street, Room 246, starting at 7:30 pm. This building houses the Anthropology Department of the University of Toronto.

Thunder Bay

Jim Keron recently stumbled on a web page with Thunder Bay Chapter information through Lakehead University. The URL is <http://anthropology.lakeheadu.ca/?display=page&pageid=80>. Members may wish to check with their local universities to see if they, too, can add such links and promote their own Chapters.

OAS email has changed

Please edit your address books and delete any reference to the old email address 'oasociety@bellnet.ca'.

In the future please use either executive-director@ontarioarchaeology.on.ca for Lorie Harris or oasociety@ontarioarchaeology.on.ca for generic inquires.

The Reconstruction of Queen Street in Fort Erie, Ontario

by Aleksandra Pradzynski

Picture a cold March day in 2008 along the shore of the Niagara River in the town of Fort Erie, Ontario. A group of archaeologists from Archaeological Services Inc. (ASI) was excavating in deep trenches, when one unearthened artifact quickened some hearts. It was a large Onondaga biface measuring approximately 16 cm in length and 6.5 cm in width (Fig. 1). This exquisite masterpiece, dating to the Early Woodland period, could easily overshadow any other point.

ASI was hired by the Buffalo and Fort Erie Public Bridge Authority in order to monitor the reconstruction of Queen Street, between Central Avenue and the Niagara Parkway, that could impact the Peace Bridge site (AfGr-9). Stage 4 archaeological monitoring and salvage excavation of this highly sensitive area was needed before any water and sanitary sewers could be replaced.

The town is dusted with archaeological sites and chances of finding buried archaeological deposits in Fort

Erie are always very high. The underlying reason for this phenomenon is because of its location on an Onondaga quarry, and because of the wealth of natural features. This part of Fort Erie was occupied by one generation after another. Research has shown that 4,000 years of human occupation have left a deep impact on this region.

A smooth bucket backhoe excavated long trenches along Queen Street in new alignments for services. Layers of

fill, asphalt and granular were mechanically removed exposing intact stratigraphic deposits (Figs. 2 and 3).

Numerous features ranging from the Late Archaic to Late Woodland periods were hidden under a thick layer of black organic paleosol. All soil profiles and features were photographed and recorded. Then, features and paleosols were hand-excavated and screened through 6mm mesh. Paleosol was similarly hand-excavated in one metre units.

Investigators collected soil samples for flotation and artifacts for further analysis.

Previous investigations (e.g. White 1966, Williamson and MacDonald 1997, 1998, Williamson et al. 2006) produced massive amounts of artifacts and the 2008 excavations were no different. Undisturbed organic paleosol was saturated with artifacts including lithic, ceramic and faunal remains. Most of the flaked lithic assemblage consisted of debitage though it also contained large quantities of tools such as projectile points, bifaces, drills, scrapers and gravers. The Genesee period dominated the assemblage, which was represented not only by projectile points but also by preforms and drills. Besides the Genesee type, other



Figure 1: Find of the day. This large early Woodland biface was uncovered in Fort Erie. (photo credit: Douglas Todd)

frequently encountered tools included Late Archaic Adder Orchard and Early Woodland Meadowood points.

Ground stone tools were represented by numerous netsinkers, hammerstones and celts. Pre-contact ceramic artifacts were excavated mostly from the features and post moulds; however, some were also recovered from the paleosol. Generally, they represent early forms with predominantly cord-marked surfaces and coarse-tempered paste. In addition to the Aboriginal component, historic Euro-Canadian features were identified and artifacts recovered.

Archaeological excavations have always captivated the attention of the broader public interested in Aboriginal history and Fort Erie residents are especially knowledgeable of their significance. Recent discoveries have provided new insights into one of the most famous sites of this region; however, we still have to wait for the final results as the artifacts are yet to be analyzed.



Figure 2: Test Trench on Waterloo Street north of Queen Street in Fort Erie. (photo credit: Aleksandra Pradzynski)



Figure 3: Stratigraphy from the excavations at Fort Erie. (photo credit: Douglas Todd)

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Canadian Archaeological Association Annual Meeting 2009

Call for Papers and Posters

The 42nd annual meeting of the Canadian Archaeological Association (CAA) will be held at the Valhalla Inn in Thunder Bay, Ontario from May 13-17, 2009. Thunder Bay is located on the west side of Lake Superior within the spectacular scenery afforded by the Norwester Hills and southern boreal forest.

The organizing committee of the CAA 2009 Meeting is pleased to announce a call for papers/posters and invite you to Thunder Bay. There is no specific theme for this meeting but instead we anticipate examining a variety of interesting issues to archaeologists working in Canada and nearby.

Paper presentations will be scheduled for 20 minutes each including questions. All rooms will be equipped with digital projectors, laptops and screens; however, slide and overhead projectors will not be provided.

Posters will be limited to a maximum size of 0.9m x 1.2m (3' x 4'), in order to provide space for all participants. The Lakehead University Anthropology Association student group will provide a prize for both the best undergraduate and graduate poster.

Please submit an abstract of 150 words or less on the separate **Paper/Poster Form** by the deadline of **April 3, 2009** to the email address below (preferably). If you have any questions, contact the program coordinator at:

Email: CAA09@lakeheadu.ca
Program Coordinator, CAA 2009 Meeting
c/o Dept. of Anthropology
Lakehead University
955 Oliver Road
Thunder Bay, ON P7B 5E1

Note: According to CAA regulations, presenters must be members in good standing. To join the CAA, please contact:

Jeff Hunston
Secretary-Treasurer, CAA
4 Salter Place
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 0C6
Email: secretary-treasurer@canadianarchaeology.com

Also, please check our web site frequently for updates at:
<http://flash.lakeheadu.ca/~pnhollin/CAA2009.html>

EMERSON'S ARCTIC: A WALRUS ISLAND LOVE SONG

by Karen Ryan
Research Fellow, Canadian
Museum of Civilization

J. Norman Emerson is best remembered for his contributions to Ontario archaeology, where he conducted decades of research on the region's Middle and Late Woodland period occupations. He is also recognised for his key role in establishing both the Canadian Archaeological Association (CAA) and the Ontario Archaeological Society (OAS).

Less widely known is his 1954 and 1955 fieldwork in the Canadian Arctic, when he travelled to north-western

Hudson Bay to participate in a project directed by Henry B. Collins. In 1955 he worked alongside two fellow Canadian archaeological luminaries, William E. Taylor, Jr. and James V. Wright.

It was during this second season, following a mid-June stopover at Coral Harbour on Southampton Island, that the quartet and their gear were taken almost 65 km south to Native Point, where a number of archaeological sites are located. The two day dog sled journey over deteriorating spring sea ice was, as recounted in Collins' (1955) log, a particularly memorable experience (Fig. 1).

At Native Point the group spent five

weeks excavating ruins of the Sadlermiut, a poorly known Inuit group that became culturally extinct in 1902-1903, and also investigated several Dorset Palaeoeskimo sites. The Dorset were of special interest as, only recently defined by Diamond Jenness, they were thought to be the vanished 'Tunit' of Inuit oral history.

A Peterhead boat from Coral Harbour arrived at the end of July to transport everyone to Walrus Island, a low-lying islet approximately 80 km south where additional sites had been reported. Collins' 1955 log imparts the experience of eight hours spent inside a cramped cabin while the boat pitched and rolled its way through ice and heavy seas. Certainly everyone's

constitution was tested on the passage.

Going ashore, Collins described the topography as consisting of "granite ledges and chasms which call for the agility of a mountain goat." As suitable camping spots were at a premium, they settled on a low gravel beach ridge connecting two areas of higher elevation.



Figure 1: By dog sled to Native Point. Taylor, Wright, and Emerson are third, fourth, and fifth from the left (Collins took the photograph). Note Emerson's guitar case on the second komatik, or sled. Given the poor condition of the ice, canoes were lashed to the sleds and held the expedition's gear to protect it from water above and below the ice's surface.

After four days, the weather rapidly soured as a major wind storm, bringing both snow and rain, blew in. At camp, tents previously 10 feet from the high tide line shortly became overwhelmed by wind-driven sea spray and were further threatened by a storm surge which promised to swamp the entire isthmus. Following a hasty retreat, in the midst of howling winds and blowing snow, to higher and better protected ground (Fig. 2), a late supper was eaten and the mood brightened.

As midnight neared, Emerson picked up his guitar to lead one of the group's regular evening 'song fests'. He took the opportunity to premier a new song whose lyrics succinctly captured his feeling for the island. Parodying 'Pagan Love Song', the theme song from a Tahitian-set movie of the same name released in 1950, the words (as recorded by Henry Collins) offer a wonderfully tongue in cheek insight into Emerson's final arctic experience.

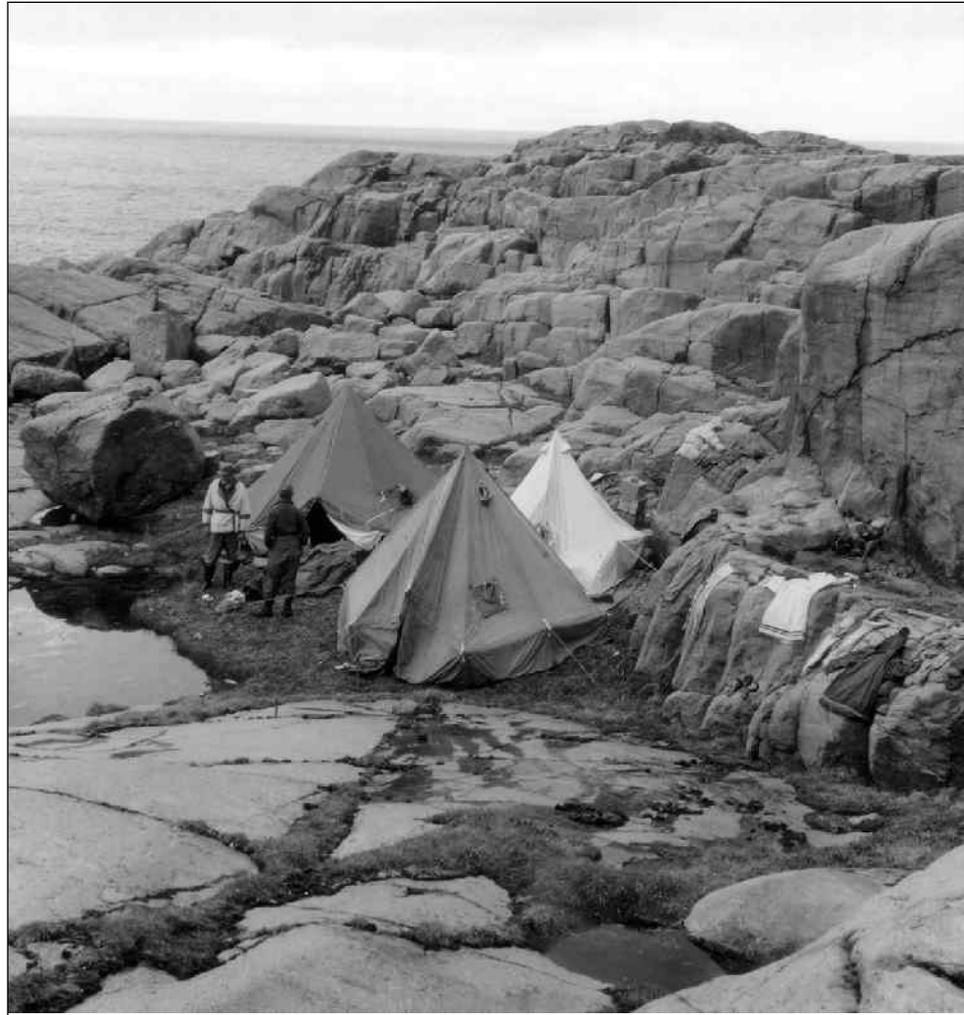


Figure 2: Walrus Island, the day after the storm. The three hastily relocated tents are now crowded onto the only relatively dry and flat land found on this part of the island. Collins' photograph shows Wright and Taylor (?) in front of the tents, while sodden jackets and boots are spread on the rocks behind to dry.

Walrus Island

*Come with me where breakers
Pound the boulder shore
And the ancient Tunit
Walk the rocks no more.
Deep and jagged ridges
Ground by ice and snow
Haul-up place for walrus
Barren above, below.*

*This is Walrus Island,
Black and grey and drear
Where no moonlight glistens
And no moonbeams peer.*

*Land of ancient Tunits
House rocks fallen in
Lichen covered relics
Of a life that's been.*

*Land where Nanook wanders,
Seas where Inuk dwells
Where great silence settles
As the tide just swells.
Stinking, bug-filled water
Fills your cup of tea
Come with me to Walrus
If Dorset you would see.*

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Ontario Heritage Conference 2009

May 29th-31st, 2009 // Peterborough Ontario

→ *Our Mission: To ignite passion and awareness of the inherent and irreplaceable value of community heritage resources in this age of innovation, knowledge and creativity.*

Peterborough is a dynamic and creative community known for its vibrant arts community and commitment to heritage conservation. The City believes that prosperity is driven by the quality of life that culture and heritage affords its residents.

Join us as internationally renowned thinkers discuss the intersection of heritage and cultural production in the creation of prosperous, sustainable communities.

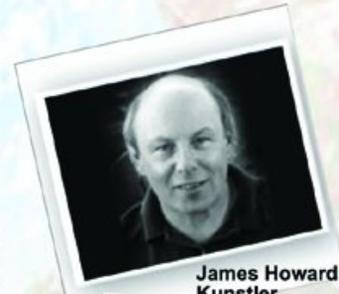
Topics such as green rehabilitation, defining streetscapes and the place of the knowledge economy in historic communities will be debated in a range of settings that give delegates a chance to exchange ideas with keynote speakers and panelists.

This is a conference for anyone with an interest in city-building through creativity. Planners, politicians, heritage professionals, students, cultural workers, artists and volunteers will all benefit from the insights and exciting ideas presented.

Attention Students

This year there will be a poster competition based on the conference theme. Submit a visual display that addresses the nexus of arts, culture and heritage in the development of sustainable and prosperous communities and you may be awarded the \$500.00 prize. See the website for more details

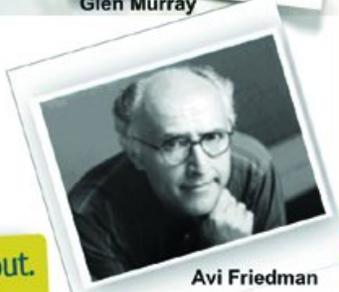
Keynote Speakers



James Howard
Kunstler



Glen Murray



Avi Friedman



The Architectural
Conservancy
of Ontario

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Visit our website for more information and to register:

www.heritageconference.ca

705.742.7777 Ext 1491 or 1489

Heritage in Creative Communities

BOOK REVIEW

Toronto: A Short Illustrated History of Its First 12,000 years

By Jennifer Birch

The latest volume to detail the history of Canada's largest city considers equally its natural setting, its prehistoric past and its contemporary face.

Toronto: A Short Illustrated History of Its First 12,000 Years, edited by Ronald F. Williamson is

an accessible and enjoyable read, equally suited to both scholars and schoolchildren.

The preface by Peter Carruthers introduces Toronto as a meeting place and a middle ground. He describes the transportation routes that run through the city, beginning with the aboriginal portage routes running between the Upper and Lower Great Lakes, presently taking the form of the analogous highway 400. He also highlights

how Toronto's unique geography places it at a point of economic and cultural exchange both within Canada and relative to our southern neighbours. His emphasis on Toronto's "interconnectedness" sets the stage for the next five chapters, written by archaeologists and historians with uncommon knowledge of the processes that comprise Toronto's geographical

and social history.

The first chapter by Robert I. MacDonald outlines Toronto's natural history. A description of the geology and glacial history of northeastern North America includes an explanation of how some of the more pervasive features of the landscape of the Toronto area came to be. MacDonald

settles in the region. Ronald F. Williamson rises to the task of summarizing 11,000 years of human occupation in an insightful overview that links the remains of past peoples with the modern cityscape. He uses contemporary landmarks to orient the reader to prehistoric sites and events that lie in generally shallow deposits

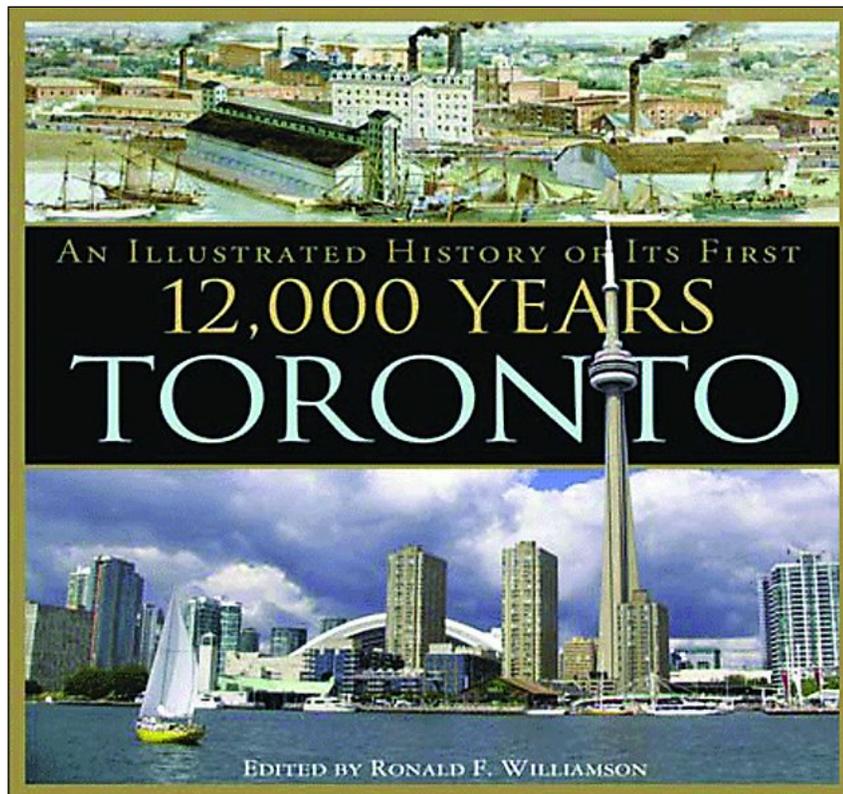
beneath contemporary parks, intersections and buildings. His description covers the Paleo-Indian period, archaic hunter-gatherer-fishers, the introduction of food production and the beginnings of village life and subsequent Iroquoian social developments. He highlights important archaeological sites and resources in and around the city and moves the book into the contact period with the observation that the first European settlement of

Toronto was simply a continuation of patterns that had been in place for thousands of years.

In the third chapter, Carl Benn presents an historical overview of the colonial transformation of Toronto. He begins with the dynamic relationship based on loose alliances, trade and military skirmishes between the Native inhabitants of the region and the

also describes the watersheds of the city, including the changes in hydrology wrought by modern development and the effects on the flora and fauna whose habitat they flow through.

With OAS members as an obvious exception, there are few people living in the Toronto area today who are aware of the deep history of human



French and English newcomers. The purchase of the city of Toronto from the Mississauga in 1787 (for £1700 in cash and goods) heralded the end of the coexistence of Native-European economic interests and the beginnings of the commercial-agricultural economy that dominated the region well into the present era. Benn condenses an amazing amount of history into this chapter, including the War of 1812-1814, the dramatic increase in Toronto's population between 1815 and 1851 and the transformation of Toronto from a remote outpost into an urban and provincial capital.

Christopher Andreae describes Toronto's "Age of Industry" in the fourth chapter. He emphasizes the importance of railways in connecting the city to other major centres of the northeast and beyond. With new economic prosperity in Toronto came a difficulty that the city still struggles with today – urban growth and the need for improvements in urban

planning, formal education, policing and public health. Andreae is careful to note that while many of Toronto's landmark cultural and economic institutions came into being at this time, poverty and slum housing still characterized some parts of the city well into the early twentieth century.

Chapter five, written by Roger Hall, takes Toronto into the twenty-first century. His lively prose describes the Toronto during World War II, the post-war growth in population, suburbia, industry and cultural pursuits, including the multi-ethnic vigor of the city today. Hall writes that it is challenging to pin-point a single date or event that marks the emergence of what might be called modern Toronto. He also notes that the development of the city of Toronto was not a "Cinderella story," and characterizes the city instead as a "middle-aged, middle class aunt or uncle...decidedly human, and wearing sensible shoes." That said, the juxtaposition of this

statement with a brilliant photo of the Michael-Lee Chin Crystal, lit with a myriad of colours and moving images on its opening night at the Royal Ontario Museum stands in opposition to any characterization of Toronto as dull.

This book, like the city itself successfully seeks and inhabits a middle ground. With inspired text and a myriad of inviting photographs, paintings and images, Toronto: An Illustrated History of Its First 12,000 Years breathes life into the history of the city, creating images of past events on modern street corners and inviting the reader to imagine the city as it was without compromising everything Toronto is today.

***Toronto: An Illustrated History of Its First 12,000 Years* edited by Ronald F. Williamson. Published by James Lorimer & Company Ltd., 160 pp. ISBN 978-1-55277-007-8. \$29.95. 2008.**

COMMUNITY HISTORY PROJECT

SPRING 2009 HERITAGE LECTURE SERIES

The Mississaugas of the New Credit (Original Toronto Landowners)

All lectures are held on Wednesday evenings starting at 7 p.m. at the Tollkeeper's Cottage Museum, Tollkeeper's Park (NW corner Davenport & Bathurst)

11 February – Gary Sault, Elder & Storyteller
Stories from the Past affecting the Future

18 February – Carolyn King, Former Chief
Indians 101: Who are the Aboriginal People in Canada today?

25 February – Stacey LaForme, Poet
Being an Indian in a Non-Indian World

4 March – Margaret Sault, Historian & Land Claims Expert
The Toronto Purchase Land Claim

Refreshments will be served and a Q&A period will follow each lecture

Individual Lecture \$15 / Series \$50
Tickets available at door

Community History Project
Founded in 1983 Incorporated in 1987
Mail: c/o Spadina Road Library,
10 Spadina Road
Toronto ON M5R 2S7
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79 Queen St. E. Second Floor
Toronto ON
416-515-7546
Proceeds of the series go to upkeep of the Tollkeeper's Cottage Museum
www.tollkeeperscottage.ca



First call for papers for the 2009 OAS Symposium in Waterloo

The OAS's 2009 Symposium will be held in Waterloo on the weekend of October 16-18. The central theme for the symposium is "Ontario Archaeology: Expanding the Audience." Our research into Ontario's archaeological record is part of a worldwide endeavor studying the entire archaeological record of all humanity, and clearly there is widespread public interest in the results of archaeological research as shown by the popularity of many archaeological sites as tourist destinations as well as by the proliferation of archaeology-themed television shows on the Discovery and History channels, etc.

In this context, we would like to use the 2009 OAS symposium to explore the potential of expanding the audience for information concerning Ontario's archaeological record both among the general public and among archaeological scholars. We anticipate that papers on a wide variety of topics will fit nicely within this theme. The following questions point to some of the issues that we hope to see explored:

Are we telling the right kinds of stories about our archaeological work and about what we have learned from our excavations here in Ontario, in order to interest the general public? Naturally we find what we do to be fascinating but most archaeologists practicing in Ontario were trained in university to focus on certain categories of information such as subsistence or settlement patterns, or culture history.

Are these categories the best way to present our findings to non-archaeologists or are there other things that we can learn about and talk about that would be of more interest or relevance to them?

Are some of the newer topics within academic archaeology, such as the archaeology of childhood, worth exploring more fully using archaeological data from Ontario?

Are we making effective use of all possible means of making our findings accessible to the public?

How can we find out what new kinds of archaeological information, or new ways of

presenting our findings, might be of interest to the public?

To what extent are we working to make what we have learned about the archaeology of Ontario interesting or relevant to archaeologists who work elsewhere? Data or approaches to certain issues or topics that were important in Ontario's past are clearly relevant elsewhere. These topics include (but are by no means limited to): The initial human colonization of the region; Hunting and gathering in a temperate forest environment; Responding to climate and environmental change; The adoption of food production; Culture contact; Trade; Conflict.

Are there comparisons that can be drawn between these aspects of Ontario's archaeological record and the same aspects of the archaeological record of other parts of the world that might have the potential to reveal new insights? We therefore invite papers that make comparisons between aspects of Ontario's archaeological record with the same aspects of the archaeological record of other regions, especially regions outside Northeastern North America.

Finally, what kinds of things do we think that non-archaeologists, or archaeologists whose research focuses on other parts of the world, should know or would want to know about Ontario archaeology? What are the most important contributions that Ontario archaeology has made or could make to the worldwide archaeological endeavor?

We look forward to seeing you all in Waterloo in October to explore together these and any other questions that anyone wishes to contribute with the goal of expanding Ontario archaeology's audience. We especially hope that students of archaeology will contribute papers since many of these issues will be of vital importance to them in their future careers within the field.

Everyone should feel free to direct any questions concerning paper topics or the symposium to Robert Park (rwpark@uwaterloo.ca) or Robert MacDonald (rimaldon@uwaterloo.ca).

FIELD SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES 2009

Ontario Field Schools

Trent University Field School

The field school will focus on non-invasive archaeological data collection and analysis. It will be working mainly in the vicinity of Trent University, concentrating on the documentation and reconstruction of 19th century settlement patterns. The program runs between 18 May and 26 June.

Contact: <http://www.trentu.ca/anthropology/ontario.php> or jamesconolly@trentu.ca

McMaster University Field School

The field school offered by the Department of Anthropology will be located in the Hamilton area this summer, exact location TBA. Excavations in previous years have investigated Princess Point components of Cootes Paradise.

Contact: burcheme@mcmaster.ca

Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) Boyd Archaeological Field School

Over a three week period, students develop and master interdisciplinary knowledge and skills through the exploration of Aboriginal and Euro-Canadian histories. The course includes lectures and hands-on work at an archaeological site under the instruction of certified teachers and archaeologists.

This field school is operated in partnership with the York Region Board of Education and students will earn a Grade 12 Interdisciplinary Studies Credit.

Contact: <http://www.boydfieldschool.org> or cerrinion@trca.on.ca

Wilfrid Laurier University Field School

Professor Dean Knight will be offering a field school at the Baumann Site, a circa A.D. 1450 Huron village near Orillia.

Contact: dknight@wlu.ca

Calling All Field School Directors

The OAS has been contacted by a number of members seeking to enlist with accredited or avocational field schools in 2009. We intend to publish such a revised list in the March/April issue

of Arch Notes.

Please send information directly to us at aneditor@ontarioarchaeology.on.ca no later than March 15, 2009 if you have information to add to the existing list.

Field School Opportunities Abroad

Trent University Belize Field School

Conduct Maya Archaeology at Minanha with the Trent/SARP 2009 Field School. The Social Archaeology Research Program (SARP) is a long-term project focused on the investigation of ancient Maya sociopolitical interaction.

Applications will be evaluated beginning April 1, only 20 spaces available. Please contact Dr. Gyles Iannone for an application package.

Contact: giannone@trentu.ca or <http://www.trentu.ca/anthropology/belize.php>

University of Toronto Portugal Field School

Gain valuable experience in excavation and artifact recovery techniques, as well as recording methods involving measured drawings and site photography while excavating a hilltop enclosure dating from the 3rd to 2nd millennium B.C. Enrolment is limited.

Contact: christopher.watts@utoronto.ca or josie.alaimo@utoronto.ca

Volunteer Opportunities in Ontario

The Davidson Site

The Davidson excavation (late archaic broadpoint) has opportunities for volunteers on a limited pre approved basis. Commitments of at least several days are preferred and we will need to schedule the volunteers ahead of time so that we can adequately manage and supervise the excavation. The site is located in the Grand Bend / Parkhill area of southwestern Ontario.

Accommodations are up to the volunteer.

Contact: jrkeron@yahoo.com



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Contributor deadlines:

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March 15

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July 15

September 15

November 15

Send articles to:

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or

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