Ontario Archaeological Society
Arch Notes

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Editor’s note

I would like to thank Marian Clark and Harry Lerner for responding to the call for advertising. Your support is greatly appreciated. Now it’s up to everyone else to support the advertisers! Many thanks also to contributors Jennifer Geens and Ruth Walker; this issue’s submissions are greatly appreciated.

Soapbox: Arch Notes is currently suffering from a dearth (paucity, scarcity, deficiency) of contributed material (apologies to those who have contributed recently - you may take a bow). This issue I had to stoop to ransacking my own work in order to make up a full issue. Believe me, this is something I don’t and you don’t want to happen. At the risk of sounding like a PBS pledge drive, we know you like to read about archaeology so pass on your opinions, articles, site reports, summaries, analyses for publication.

Contrary to popular belief, some libraries do keep Arch Notes as reference material. The University of Toronto’s Robart’s Library has a (nearly) complete collection of Arch Notes from 1963 through to the most recent issue. Last week I pulled out three issues dating to the 70’s and 80’s to read valuable research articles.

In looking at, and reading, past issues of Arch Notes, I see a wonderful assortment of articles on a variety of topics from a wide range of authors. Many of the authors are now (and were then, I’m sure) well-respected and creditable specialists in their area of expertise. Follow this tradition, and I especially call upon newer researchers and contributors to Ontario’s history and prehistory, and get your name and ideas into print, and into the body of literature that comprises the rich tradition of Ontario archaeology.

Hopefully leading you on to inspiration,

Frank Dieterman

Correction: Unless they were bunking with John for a couple of months, Henry van Lieshout and Lise Ferguson’s telephone numbers were listed incorrectly in the previous issue. The correct numbers are (416) 446-7673 for Henry and (416) 392-6910 for Lise.
Bolton is becoming so popular these days that even directors of the OAS (e.g., Lise and Henry) who live elsewhere shamelessly claim in OAS publications (i.e., *Arch Notes*) that they live there. Sorry, Frank for highlighting a small mistake in a well-done first go as *Arch Notes* editor (Editor’s note: (shame) see corrections page 2).

Jane Sacchetti and staff of the Columbus Centre in Toronto ran another successful edition of “Archaeology Unearthed”. Thanks go as well to presenters Peter Hamalainen (who was sympathetic in Team Canada’s loss to Finland), Dan Long, Rudy Fecteau, Ellen Blaubergs, and some linguistic from Bolton. Mention should be made of how OAS member Tom Moore, as president of the Pickering Township Historical Society, encouraged and inspired so many members of his society to come to the workshop.

It was good to have Gary Warrick at the last meeting of the Board of Directors (or “head office” as it is sometimes called) speaking as enthusiastic president of the recently recharged Association of Professional Archaeologists. Our two organizations have common goals that can only be well-served by such cooperation between them. It should be pointed out that all OAS members are welcome to attend Board of Directors meetings. We appreciate your input.

On a sadder note, Geoffrey Sutherland, former treasurer and auditor of the OAS, and always a valued member, died in February. He did good work for the society and will be missed.

This year’s OAS symposium will be in Brantford, during the October 16-18th weekend, further details in an upcoming issue of *Arch Notes*. We had some difficulty getting the symposium off the ground (I guess it would be more archaeologically correct to say ‘in the ground’) this year, so we really are thankful for the work done by Paul Lennox on our behalf.

John Steckley ✓

**Passport to the Past**

A recently concluded Passport to the Past volunteer opportunity, “*Barrie and Dunsmore sites: Hands-on Bones*”, is summarized below by Suzanne Needs-Howarth.

“Four PPTTP volunteers helped out at the Howard Savage Faunal Archaeo-Osteology Laboratory at the University of Toronto, sorting, counting, and weighing unidentified animal bone remains from two Iroquoian villages near Barrie. Over the
course of several afternoons in the lab the PPTTP volunteers became familiar with the possibilities of zooarchaeological analysis, including data entry and management. As more than half of the collections consisted of small, fragile fish bones, we paid particular attention to how these remains are quantified, recorded and curated. Because of restrictions on lab access during the evenings and weekends and because of the relatively limited amount of work to be done, many additional offers of help from PPTTP members had to be turned down. Many thanks to Rosetta Ciappetta, Gisela Curwen, Neha Gupta and Caroline Puzinas for all their hard work. Many thanks also to Professor Max Friesen of the University of Toronto’s Department of Anthropology for facilitating access to the lab for this PPTTP opportunity.

As several people have pointed out, both during the recent Annual Business Meeting and in Arch Notes, the OAS desperately needs more PPTTP opportunities. It is clear from the overwhelming response to this latest project that there are many enthusiastic volunteers out there, just waiting for an opportunity to participate. Three of the PPTTP volunteers at the Archaeo-Osteology lab are University of Toronto undergraduates. This may be an indication that, contrary to what one might think, there aren’t that many volunteer opportunities within the university system either. Please talk to the OAS office if you think your project may be appropriate for PPTTP!

Suzanne Needs-Howarth

The Peggi Armstrong Public Archaeology Award

Last year two very worthy recipients were recognized by the OAS for their contributions to Public Archaeology. The call for nominations for potential recipients of the Peggi Award for 1998 is now out. Please forward nominations to the following address:

Selection Committee, The Peggi Armstrong Public Archaeology Award
The Ottawa Chapter, OAS
PO Box 4939, Station E
Ottawa ON K1S 5J1

OAS Position Available

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Ontario Archaeological Society seeks a dynamic individual to run the office of the largest archaeological society in Canada.

Working with a volunteer Board of Directors, responsibilities include day to day operations, administration of society programs, marketing and sales of society products and publications, grant application writing, representing the society to the public and to government, implementing society goals and establishing and maintaining contacts and visibility in the community. Must have demonstrated administrative experience and a background in anthropology/archeology. A car and valid driver’s licence and computer literacy are necessities.

Please submit resume and expected salary, by May 1, 1998, to: The President, O.A.S.
126 Willowdale Ave., Suite 4
North York ON M2N 4Y2.

The Peggi Armstrong Public Archaeology Award: Introduction

This award was created to recognize efforts and outstanding contributions of individuals, groups or institutions in the dissemination of knowledge and the advancement of archaeology in or about Ontario for a public audience. The range and scope of the work of the recipient and the impact within the community will be recognized by this award, administered by the Ottawa Chapter, OAS.

In recognition of the Ottawa Chapter’s 25th Anniversary the Public Archaeology Award was initiated in 1996. The award was subsequently named the Peggi Armstrong Public Archaeology Award in
remembrance of Peggi Armstrong (1958-1997), a long-standing member of the OAS and Ottawa Chapter. Peggi was a driving force behind the development of a public archaeology programme which has become the nucleus of the programming for the Ottawa Chapter. The programme has involved numerous municipalities in eastern Ontario, museums, schools, provincial parks and government institutions. The commitment and creativity introduced by Peggi has led others to become involved in the OAS and has created a broader awareness of the need to preserve the past. The naming of this award - the Peggi Armstrong Public Archaeology Award - acknowledges the commitment of Peggi and the OAS to public education.

Definition of Public Archaeology:

- encourages and assists both individuals and collective efforts to foster, elevate and advance the ethical practice of archaeology;
- stimulates interest of the general public in the study of archaeology through the use of displays, demonstrations, workshops, volunteer training in excavation techniques, site tours and the development of educational programmes and materials;
- encourages the exchange of information and ideas and fosters co-operative partnerships for promoting awareness of cultural resources and heritage preservation.

Eligibility:

- nominations must be presented by an OAS member.
- individuals, groups or institutions can be nominated.
- nominees shall have contributed significantly to promoting archaeology of and in Ontario as defined above.

Award Process:

- the Ottawa Chapter Executive, OAS will annually nominate a Committee Chair who shall be an Ottawa Chapter member, at the first Executive meeting of the New Year;
- the Selection Committee shall consist of a minimum of 3 people and a maximum of 7 people; the Chair shall organize a committee consisting of the following individuals: 2 Ottawa Chapter members, one of whom shall be the Chair; 1 OAS, Inc. Executive member; and may include 1 OAS member; 1 community representative
- call for nominations advertised in the January/February issue of Arch Notes of each year
- nominations be forwarded in writing to the Chair of the Selection Committee c/o the Ottawa Chapter, OAS by the June 30th closing date;
- awards will be conferred on an occasional basis based on receipt of nominations, but not more than once a year;
- at the discretion of the selection committee more than one award may be presented in one year;
- the Selection Committee shall consider the nominations and make recommendations to the Ottawa Chapter and the Executive Committee, OAS;
- a public presentation of the Award will be made as appropriate and in conjunction with the OAS Awards Ceremony held at the Annual OAS Symposium;
- the recipient(s) will be announced in Arch Notes and The Ottawa Archaeologist before the year end with a brief description of the recipient's contribution.

Award Factors:

1. The reach in audience the nominee has achieved.
2. Innovation in the design, delivery, materials and volunteer involvement.
4. Scope of events, partnerships and sponsorships brought together to promote Public Archaeology.
5. Number of years of service in Public Archaeology.

Rachel Perkins ✓
Ministry news

The following list consists of the type of licence, name of licensee, licence number and site location for licences issued during the months of January, February, and March 1998. All licences are for the Province of Ontario unless otherwise noted. For more information, contact the Archaeological Licence Office, Cultural Programs Branch, 2nd floor, Toronto. Tel: (416) 314-7123, Fax: (416) 314-7175.

Consulting:
- Robert Mayer, Mayer Heritage Consultants Inc. 98-001
- Robert J. Pearce, London Museum of Archaeology 98-003
- L.R. Bud Parker 98-007
- D.R. Poulton, DR Poulton & Associates Inc. 98-010
- Jim Wilson, Archaeologix Inc. 98-009
- Elizabeth Alder, Alder Heritage Assessments 98-011 (Southern Ontario)
- John Pollock, Settlement Surveys Ltd. 98-013
- Philip Woodley, New Directions Archaeology 98-020
- Hugh J. Daechsel, Heritage Quest Inc. 98-022
- Ken Swayne 98-021
- Lawrence Jackson, Northeastern Archaeological Associates 98-025
- Michael Bernard Henry, AMICK Consultants 98-026 (Southern Ontario)
- Nicholas R. Adams, Adams Heritage Consultants 98-027
- Susan M. Bazely, Cataraqui Archaeological Research Foundation 98-029 (Stages 1 & 2, Stages 3 & 4 Historic only)
- Jacqueline Fisher, Material Culture Management Inc. 98-030
- Colin Varley, Jacques Whitford Environment Ltd. 98-031
- Peter Sattelberger 98-033 (Southern Ontario)
- Georgine M. Pastershank 98-034 (North-central and Northwestern Ontario)
- Carl R. Murphy 98-035
- Allyne H. Gliddon 98-037 (Northern Ontario)
- Robert W.C. Burgar, Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority 98-042 (Peel, York, Durham, Dufferin Counties and Metropolitan Toronto)
- Thomas Ballantine 98-048 (Southern Ontario including Regions of Parry Sound and Nipissing)
- Andrew Murray, AM Archaeological Associates 98-050 (Southern Ontario)
- Donna Morrison, Advance Archaeology 98-053 (Southern Ontario)
- Leslie Ann Currie 98-054 (Southern Ontario)
- Catherine F. Webb 98-055 (Southern Ontario)
- John D.A. MacDonald 98-056

Consulting (Stages 1-3 only):
- Garth Grimes, Detritus Archaeological 98-032 (Southern Ontario)
- Charlton Carscallen, AFBY Archaeological Consultants 98-038

Consulting (including Underwater):
- Phillip J. Wright, Mount McGovern Co. Ltd. 98-015

Consulting (Underwater only):
- Jonathan Moore, Cataraqui Archaeological Research Foundation 98-023 (Stages 1 & 2; Stages 3 & 4 Historic only)

Conservation:
- Peter L. Storeck 98-024
- Robert W.C. Burgar, The Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority 98-045 (lands under the jurisdiction of the MTRCA)
- Thomas Ballantine, Haliburton Highlands Museum 98-047 (South, Central, and Eastern Ontario)

Conservation (Surface Collecting only):
- Larry M. Drew 98-002A (Kent County - under supervision of MCzCR Southwest Regional Archaeologist)
Excavation:
- Robert J. Pearce, London Museum of Archaeology 98-004: Lawson Site (AgHh-1) • Charles Garrad 98-012: McQueen-McConnell Site (BcHb-31) • Thomas Ballantine, Haliburton Highlands Museum 98-046: Curtin Site (BfGp-4)

Underwater:
- Erich Mitchell Heinold 98-008: Newash, Penetanguishene Harbour, Georgian Bay

Survey and Test Excavation:
- Robert J. Pearce, London Museum of Archaeology 98-005 (City of London and Middlesex County) • Christopher Ellis, Dept. of Anthropology, Social Science Centre, University of Western Ontario, London 98-052 (Southwestern Ontario)

Field School:
- Robert W.C. Burgar, The Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority 98-043: Wilcox Lake Site (AlGu-17) • Robert W.C. Burgar, The Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority 98-044: Seed-Barker Site (AkGv-01)

MCzCR Archaeological Sites Database Update

Bernice Field, Archaeological Licence Officer, forwards this brief note on behalf of Penny Young, Archaeological Sites Database Co-ordinator:

“This last year and more has been an incredibly busy (and stressful) one for Penny as she searched for a new sites’ information system to take over from our ‘CHIN’ database.

As many of you may already know, this change is a result of the Federal government deciding that it will no longer support any provincial heritage databases as of March 1998. This included our provincial archaeological sites database. Our new system has been designed for us by a company who is very familiar with museum databases and has worked long and hard to refine this system to fit our needs. We also needed a system that would link up with our, also new, Geographical Information System (GIS). Once all of this is in place we expect to be able to answer a broader range of questions relating to archaeological sites.

Once we can disentangle Penny from the mire of database decisions she is currently dealing with, she will be happy to answer questions on our new system and will be updating you on other details of our new acquisition.”

Bernice Field

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Bernice Field

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COMPUTER BASED
ARCHAEOLOGICAL MAPPING
AND DIGITIZING
Obituary

Geoffrey Edward Sutherland
1920-1998

The sad news has been received in Toronto of the passing of Honourary Life member Geoffrey Sutherland, in Calgary, on February 3rd last.

Before moving to Alberta in 1995 because of declining health, Geoff had been an active and very supportive member of the Society. He served as Treasurer, and later as Auditor. He was always on trips, and it is comforting to recall that through the last OAS trip to Egypt and Jordan in 1991, Geoff was enabled to revisit places and sights he last saw while serving in the British Army during the War. At Petra he was the first to climb to the “Monastery”, but it was there, he afterwards reported, that he first felt the symptoms of the palsy which would progressively worsen and eventually take his life.

Geoff came to archaeology late in life when, in his retirement years, he enrolled in Dr. Martha Latta’s courses at Scarborough College. It was Dr. Latta, as President, who introduced Geoff to the OAS, and during her years as President that Geoff first served as Treasurer (1980, 1981). He came back in 1985, and thereafter served as Auditor until 1995. As OAS Administrative/Executive Director I had frequent cause to visit his home where he and Mary were always hospitable and kind. The University of Toronto awarded him recognition in memory of Dr. J. Norman Emerson. Geoff had previously been Treasurer of a major general insurance company, with Canadian headquarters in Toronto. In his retirement he found himself treasurer of a number of organisations, as well as income tax advisor to Scarborough seniors.

Shortly before moving to Calgary, Geoff and Mary participated in the OAS Bus Trip to the Manitoulin Island pow-wow, which gave a whole bus-load of people the opportunity to say “good-bye”, but in the hope that we would meet again. It was not to be. Our condolences go to Mary, whom we fondly remember, and family.

Charles Gerrad ✓

The following letter from Geoff Sutherland’s son, John, was received by the OAS.

“Dear Members,

I regret to inform you that my father, Geoff Sutherland, passed away on February 3rd. The honourary life membership in the OAS that he was granted can now be terminated. In case you missed it, I have enclosed a copy of the obituary that was run in the Globe and Mail the following Saturday.

As you may know, he had been diagnosed with Progressive Supranuclear Palsy prior to his move to Calgary three years ago. This rare degenerative neurological disease was remorseless. Reading books, one of his greatest pleasures, became completely impossible perhaps two years ago, and he had to depend on others reading to him. Towards the end he was having great difficulty swallowing and speaking and could barely walk. The real tragedy is that his mind remained good, in fact amazingly so considering that his normal mental outlets were no longer available to him. He went very peacefully in the end, after several days with pneumonia, and we think he was probably ready to go. He had been
able to accomplish all his original retirement objectives, and life could no longer offer much pleasure.

Mary, his wife, had just completed a marvellous recovery from a heart operation in early December, and will stay on in the apartment for the time being. A number of her neighbours were awed by her dedication in caring for my father, particularly for the past year, a full time job in the face of considerable adversity.

He felt considerable satisfaction acting as treasurer of the OAS, and I know he much appreciated your recognition of his services in granting him the honourary life membership.

Yours sincerely,
John Sutherland

From the Globe and Mail, Saturday February 7, 1998:

"SUTHERLAND, Geoffrey Edward - died Tuesday, February 3rd, 1998 in Calgary. He is survived by his wife Mary and sons Ian, John and Andrew, his sister Margaret, and five grandchildren. Geoff was born in England in 1920 and attended Christ's Hospital School. He emigrated to Canada in 1953, first to Montreal and later Toronto. He enjoyed a long and busy retirement. Trips to many parts of the world focussed on his interests in birds, mountains, hiking and history. He willingly volunteered his talents, and was treasurer of the Ontario Archaeological Society for some years. The last several years saw a tragic and frustrating physical deterioration due to PSP. His peaceful passing, while greatly mourned, is also a release for a great spirit. A Memorial Service will be held at Grace Presbyterian Church in Calgary at 2 p.m., Monday February 9th, 1998."

The healthy archaeologist: health and safety issues in archaeology

Jennifer Geens

Peril in real-life archaeology is usually much more mundane than the average Indiana Jones movie. While Indiana Jones gets shots at, blown up or set on fire, we trip over grid strings, get bitten by mosquitoes and throw our backs out screening dirt. The glamour is fleeting. However, with a little preparation even the most accident-prone dig can go relatively smoothly. Before heading out into the field this summer, please take the time to review the following descriptions of common ailments and their treatments to make it a healthy and safe field season for everyone.

Before You Go

Immunizations

When was the last time you had a tetanus shot? If you can't remember, chances are you're due for a booster. It's recommended that adults in Ontario get a tetanus-diphtheria booster every ten years.
after the final childhood immunisation at age fifteen. Tetanus immunisation is especially important for archaeologists as the bacteria which causes tetanus lives in soil, and can easily enter the body through cuts and scrapes in the skin. As an extra precaution keep all cuts and scrapes clean and cover them if you’re doing dirty work.

Pre-existing medical conditions

Check with your doctor, if you have any chronic ailments like asthma, arthritis, diabetes, heart disease or anything else that might be affected by strenuous activity outdoors in all weather conditions. Even disgustingly healthy people find field archaeology arduous and your doctor can suggest ways to make the work safer for you.

Whenever you’re digging, find out where to get medical help nearby if needed. In an emergency this saves valuable time. A first aid kit and some first aid training are also necessities for the field archaeologist. You never know when you’ll need them.

In The Field (I)

Common Archaeological Complaints

Sunburn

Prevention is the name of the game. Take a cue from the Canadian Cancer Society and slip on a shirt, slap on a hat, and slop on some sunscreen. If you’re working in a particularly exposed area, see if you can erect some sort of makeshift shade. It could make your excavation that much more bearable. Choose a sunscreen with an SPF (Sun Protection Factor) of twenty or higher. Apply it half an hour to an hour before going outside to all exposed areas including ears, face, and scalp. An opaque sunblock like zinc oxide or titanium dioxide might be needed for especially vulnerable areas like noses. Sunscreens will need to be reapplied occasionally during the day due to perspiration.

If you get burned, get out of the sun. Sponging the area with cool water will lessen the discomfort.

Protect the burned skin from further exposure to the sun by hats and clothing. Over the counter medicated ointments may help take the sting out of the burn.

Poison ivy

The irritant is a secretion produced by all parts of the plant, not just the leaves. Twenty-four to forty-eight hours after exposure a red itchy rash with fluid-filled blisters develops but the rash itself is not contagious. The secret to not getting a rash, even when the site is rife with poison ivy, is to get out of your work clothes at the end of the day and bathe, following up with clean clothes. Washing clothing in hot soapy water will get rid of the irritant.

If you’ve already got a poison ivy rash, now what? Don’t scratch! The itchy rash will heal best if kept clean and dry. Cool compresses and ice packs help reduce the itching; so do tepid baths in colloidal oatmeal (Aveenol). The classic anti-itching lotion is calamine. In worse cases a cream containing a corticosteroid (like Cortone or Cortaid), or an oral antihistamine (like Benadryl or Hismanal) might do the trick but always check with the pharmacist for side effects and possible interactions with other medications.

Mosquito bites

Uncomfortable but not dangerous unless you’re in a malaria or encephalitis hot zone. Fortunately Ontario mosquitoes are germ-free, although annoying. Avoiding dark clothing and using a repellent with DEET should help keep the beasties at bay. According to the University of Toronto’s Faculty of Medicine, white, light green and khaki (the classic archaeological wardrobe) are apparently the least attractive colours to insects. If bitten, wash the affected area with soap and water. Do not scratch - you will only prolong the agony. If the itching really drives you nuts there’s always cold compresses or ice packs, calamine lotion, and antihistamine tablets.
Strains and sprains

A sore muscle is best treated by RICE (Rest, Ice, Compression and Elevation) to lessen swelling. After 72 hours (3 days), heat, be it a hot whirlpool bath, a shower, a sauna, or even a hot water bottle applied to the site can help relieve stiffness. Good, diligent stretching will help as well.

If you wrench a joint on site (trip over a grid wire and hurt your ankle or knee, for example) the treatment is also RICE: rest, ice, compression, elevation. If it causes you pain, stay off it. Ice packs will help reduce swelling (do not apply ice directly to your skin, always use a towel). If in doubt, see a doctor. A doctor, with the help of an x-ray, can assess the difference between a sprain and a fracture better than any archaeologist.

In The Field (II) 
Potentially serious situations

Bee and wasp stings

If you know you’re allergic to bee or wasp venom, see your doctor about desensitising injections and make sure you carry an epi-pen. A normal reaction to a bee or wasp sting is pain, redness and swelling at the site of the sting. An allergic reaction can involve system-wide symptoms including itching, difficulty breathing and loss of consciousness. If an allergic reaction becomes apparent, seek medical attention immediately. If the reaction is a simple minor swelling, gently scrape the stinger off the skin (credit cards are great for this). Do not squeeze the stinger as this will release more venom into the wound. A cold compress or a paste of baking soda and water will help reduce discomfort.

Heat exhaustion and heat stroke

Be extremely careful about working in high temperature or high humidity conditions. Heat exhaustion is caused by over-exertion in extreme temperatures and dehydration. The symptoms are weakness, dizziness, nausea and vomiting, pale, clammy skin, and rapid breathing. Stay vigilant of your colleagues: a lot of us tend to dismiss our own symp-
sides of chest and in the armpits. Place ice packs to the armpits and groin. Sponge with tepid water and fan. If conscious, give sips of cool water. Seek medical attention.

**Hypothermia**

It may seem odd to include this condition, but hypothermia can occur at any time of the year, even in summer and particularly in wet and/or windy weather. Progressive signs of hypothermia include lack of fine body coordination, stumbling, feeling chilled and weary, blurred vision, uncontrollable shivering, vague, slow, slurred speech, lapses in memory and a strong desire to sleep. Handle hypothermia cases gently as cold makes heart rhythms vulnerable to shakes and knocks. Get them to dry shelter. Remove wet clothing and put on layers of dry clothing if possible. Your goal is to prevent further heat loss, which in mild to moderate cases should allow the patient’s body to rewarm itself. In severe cases, active rewarming will be needed and this should only be done with medical supervision. Prevent further heat loss and transport the patient to the nearest medical help.

Every field season should be memorable, but not for the wrong reasons. Simple prevention and treatment of common complaints and more serious ailments can mean the difference between a miserable dig and a happy dig. A happy dig can be yours with some attention to creature comforts and the vulnerabilities of the human body. Take care and have a rewarding summer.

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**Revisiting Wallace: Feature 93 finds a home**

*Frank Dieterman*

**Overview**

One of the more limiting aspects of the Wallace site is the challenge of assigning definite associations to features, in terms of internal or external house or palisade alliance, due to the difficulty in resolving settlement patterns. The difficulty stems from an unclear identification of house walls and palisades as the result of extreme plough disturbance over most of the site in tandem with heavy clay soils making for difficult post hole identification (see Crawford 1985:19).

Such is the case with Feature 93 at the Wallace site. The association of Feature 93 with an external midden or palisade may appear to be a foregone conclusion. This study shows the potential to quantify an unconfirmed hypothesis through contextual analysis based on recovered archaeobotanical
remains. The process is illustrated through the association of Feature 93 in a region of the site that currently defies further interpretation, nor are further excavations planned to clarify the situation. The results demonstrate the utility in modelling intra-site distributions of plant material as an aid in situating an otherwise indeterminate feature into the settlement pattern of a site.

This research was prompted by Steve Monckton’s doctoral thesis on palaeoethnobotany and Huron sites, focusing on the relative percentage of plant remains associated with internal and external features on Huron village sites (Monckton 1990). He determined the relative position of a given feature, interior or exterior longhouse, midden, or palisade association, as a measure of palaeoethnobotanical data unique to that feature. Monckton concludes that there is a representational difference in plant remains between middens associated with houses and external palisades; external palisade middens contain a greater frequency of fleshy fruit while longhouse features display larger quantities of cultigens (Monckton 1992:62-63).

**The Wallace site and Feature 93**

The Wallace site (AkGx-1) is a Late Woodland village dating to the fifteenth century, situated on a tributary of the Credit River drainage, and affiliated with either the Neutral or Huron tradition. The site has been partially excavated as the result of excavations by W.S. Donaldson in 1963, weekend excavations between 1963 and 1966 by the Ontario Archaeological Society, and by two University of Toronto field schools in 1984 and 1985 (Crawford 1985). The site is one of the most northerly, in an inadequately surveyed area, of all known late Woodland sites in the vicinity of Milton and Georgetown, Ontario (see Figure 1). The majority of the site is extensively disturbed by farming activities. Excavations have been conducted in two areas (see Figure 2); in a disturbed ploughed field setting and in a somewhat lesser disturbed laneway setting, resulting in a total excavation of 224 square meters (Crawford 1985:17).

Flotation was mandatory for most features, which were floated in their entirety except for Feature 93,
which, because of its large size, was sub-sampled out of necessity. Both the heavy and light fractions were collected using the SMAP method; the light fraction collected in 0.4 mm. mesh and sieve (Crawford 1985:24-25). Plant remains identification was conducted over the past decade by University of Toronto students, including the author (Dieterman 1996), through comparative analysis with archaeological specimens and non-carbonised comparative specimens from the Palaeoethnobotany Laboratory collection, University of Toronto at Erindale, and reference books (cf. Martin and Barkley 1961, Montgomery 1977).

Located in the laneway excavations of the site (see Figure 3; Feature 93 is large shaded area at bottom right), Feature 93 is described by Crawford as an extensive, unploughed midden with a possible palisade association. The feature is situated on a plateau approximately 10 metres northwest of a topographic slope that encompasses a 3 to 3.5 metre drop over a distance of 25 metres. The slope edge position of the feature lends support to a palisade association. A single line of posts runs south and possibly three post lines are present north of the feature, all lines running in a north-south direction.

**Methodology**

The plant taxa have been organised into six major groups, as per Crawford (Crawford n.d., Monckton 1992:26): cultigens, fleshy fruits, grains/greens, other taxa, unknown and unidentifiable. Horticultural activities involving plant food staples are represented by cultigens while fleshy fruits are indicative of collected foods. Grains/greens and other taxa may represent plant foods as well as having the potential for representing plants oriented to other purposes, such as medicinal. Unknown plants are examples of seeds that have yet to be identified while the unidentifiable category represents plant remains that are distinguishable as such, yet lend no further field of inquiry as to their identification.

Crawford (1985:24) notes that Feature 93 provided the best representation of plant remains of all the features at the Wallace site. At the time of the 1985 site report, 32.33 grams (plant material greater than 0.7 mm., referred to as Component A) had been analysed for plant remains. The sub-sample analysed for this study is located in unit North 180 West 84, Quad 3, Level 1-A. The prescreening weight of the sub-sample was 53.8 grams, of which Component A accounted for 22.8 grams.

Table 1 (overleaf) outlines the absolute weights and relative frequencies of the Component A sub-sample data relative to Feature 93 data as of 1985. The major discrepancies in the relative frequency data per category can be attributed to a greater percentage of uncarbonised plant remains (15% versus 3% for the sub-sample and Feature 93 respectively; composed primarily of roots and uncarbonised hawthorn seeds) and a lower relative percentage of wood charcoal in the sub-sample.

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**Figure 3: Detail of laneway excavations (from Crawford 1985)**
(70.3% versus 84.5%). Plant food statistics reflect a more stable association, that of 14% and 9%, for the sub-sample and Feature 93 respectively (Dieterman 1996).

Table 1: Wallace (AkGx-1) Feature 93 Component A Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Subsample</th>
<th>Feature 93</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flakes</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bone</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shell</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unidentifiable plant</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood charcoal</td>
<td>15.89</td>
<td>27.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant food</td>
<td>2.27</td>
<td>1.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uncarbonised material</td>
<td>3.41</td>
<td>15.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sample Weight</td>
<td>22.62</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: (Dieterman 1996, Crawford 1985)

Table 2 presents the seed counts for the sub-sample and previously identified Feature 93 plant remains. The identified species are not numerous; taxa are limited to seven and species are similarly limited to seven or eight. A comparison of the results of the two analyses reveals little variation in identified plant remains. The general conclusion that follows is that the sub-sample is representative of Feature 93 as a whole, and a consolidation of the two seed counts will be used for the following analysis.

**Contextual Analysis of Feature 93**

Archaeological interpretation based on excavation would indicate that Feature 93 represents an extensive midden. The association of this midden is, however, somewhat ambiguous. Feature 93 is associated with posts forming a discontinuous line north and south of the feature, with this interpretation based on limited excavations in the vicinity of the feature (see Figure 3). Crawford has stated, "it is a strong possibility that this irregular post distribution in association with a deep midden [Feature 93] is a palisade (1985:20)." He then comments that too little information exists to confirm this hypothesis.

Using comparative data, an analysis of Wallace’s Feature 93 provides analytical confidence to the proffered hypothesis that the feature is an external or palisade associated midden. Monckton compiled seed count totals from external middens representing functionally equivalent archaeological contexts (Monckton 1992:25). For the purposes of this study, palaeoethnobotanical data from the Auger western external palisade, the Ball external palisade midden, and the Bidmead eastern external palisade will be utilised as comparative data against which the seed counts from Feature 93 can be measured.

Figure 4 (overleaf) displays a percentage component chart comparing external and palisade associated middens from the Auger, Ball and Bidmead sites with Wallace’s Feature 93. There is a concordant clustering of percentages for each of the five plant remains categories for the four sites, thereby lending additional credence to Crawford’s hypothesis. This chart, while rudimentary and not supported here by tests of statistical significance, does provide supportive evidence for associating Feature 93 with a palisade and/or external midden.

**Table 2: Wallace (AkGx-1) Seed Counts for Sub-Sample and Feature 93**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Identified Plants</th>
<th>Sub-sample</th>
<th>F.93</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cultigens</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>maize (Zea mays)</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black nightshade</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bramble (Rubus sp.)</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strawberry (Fragaria virginiana)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grains/Greens</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small grasses (Graminae sp.)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypericum sp.</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sumac (Rhys sp.)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unidentified</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total seeds</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: (Dieterman 1996, Crawford 1985)
Figure 4: External/palisade middens and Feature 93. 
Source: Auger, Ball, Bidmead statistics (Monckton 1990)

Monckton has shown that the percentage of cultigens will vary between interior features and exterior middens (see Monckton 1992:62), revealing greater quantities of cultigens from within village palisades and more abundant fleshy fruits, notably bramble, in middens. External middens and palisades typically include such diverse species as those comprising the bramble family (Rubus sp., including raspberry, blackberry). Other forest edge, or anthropogenic associated species, include hawthorn and sumac, are commonly recovered from disturbed areas (Monckton 1992:45, 51).

Robertson has come to a similar conclusion regarding the association between brambles and palisades, albeit via a different tack, noting that brambles would be more likely to have grown in a midden environment and would have been encouraged to grow for defensive purposes around palisades (1984:5). An additional and likely welcome factor would have been the food resource provided by these anthropogenic plant communities, comprised of robust bramble shrubs and small hawthorn trees.

In conclusion, the comparative analysis of plant remains from Feature 93 at Wallace and palaeoethnobotanical data from Auger, Ball and Bidmead external middens and palisades lends considerable support to assigning Feature 93 to a palisade and/or external midden association at Wallace.

References

Crawford, G.


Dieterman, F.A.

Martin, A.C. and D. Barkley

Monckton, S.G.
1990 Huron Paleoethnobotany. Ph.D. Dissertation,
Lucy’s bones from afar

Ruth E. Walker

Ruth E. Walker offers the following poem, “as homage to our little Lucy and those who celebrated her, both under the stars and elsewhere”.

Reflecting on the background to her poem, Ruth recalls, “watching National Geographic specials years ago that followed archeological expeditions, and I remember the excitement and the stories surrounding the discovery of Lucy. Just a few years ago, while taking an introductory Anthropology course at Trent, I was thrilled to actually see replicas of those bones and to hold a small finger bone. It was amazing. Reflecting on all that, I recently wrote the Lucy poem.”

Ruth E. Walker has published a assortment of entertainment articles and reviews, and is a regular contributor to a writer’s newsletter. Her works in progress include a novel and variety of short stories and poems.

Lucy’s Bones from Afar

Offered in atonement
these few small bones
meant nothing
but redemption;
a kind of anthropological penance
for imagined destruction
and actual devastation.
Mired in a dried up river bed
with rocks for a pillow
ancestral arthropods lead the way.
We danced
and drank
and played music
before the fire
long into the night
dreaming of better times.

Under the brilliant carpet of heaven
in competition with the scent of canvas
kerosene and candles
we danced with the flame.

Ruth E. Walker

Miscellanea

✓ Canadian Oral History Association: any individual or institution interested in oral history may become a member. For more information contact the Canadian Oral History Association, PO Box 2064,
Mayer Heritage Consultants Inc. will be moving on March 1st, 1998 into the former W.W. Willcock Developments Inc. building in Byron. The new address and telephone/facsimile numbers will be: 291 Boler Road, London ON N6K 2J9. Tel: (519) 472-8100, Fax: (519) 472-1661, Email: MayerHeritage@compuserve.com

Birchbark Canoes of the Fur Trade by Timothy J. Kent. This impressive two-volume set is an invaluable resource for those interested in North American history, the fur trade, canoes, early exploration, the traditional life ways of North American people, early military transport, and sailing craft. The core of the book is based on the author’s discovery of eight surviving original voyaging canoes of the nineteenth century. These historical treasures are preserved in museum collections in England, Canada and the U.S. The two volumes (686 pages) are copiously illustrated with over 150 photographs, 200 line drawings and reproductions of numerous art works of the fur trade period. Silver Fox Enterprises, PO Box 176, 11504 U.S. 23 South, Ossineke, MI 49766 USA. Prepaid $49.95 US or $65.95 Canadian, plus $5.00 shipping for each set of two volumes. Michigan residents and firms add 6% sales tax.

Iron Gate Publishing announces the launch of two new titles: The Ontario Photographers List, Volume II (1901-1925) and The Western Canada Photographers List (1860-1925), along with the reprinting of the original publication in this series, The Ontario Photographers List (1851-1900). For a list of prices, contact Iron Gate Publishing, #1110-95 Fiddler’s Green Road, London, ON N6H 4T1. Tel: (519) 472-5572.

The Ontario Historical Society recently launched From Cathay to Canada: Chinese Cuisine in Transition. This fine collection of papers, edited by Professor Jo Marie Powers is the result of a April 1997 symposium of the same name, co-sponsored by The Ontario Historical Society and the School of Hotel and Food Administration, University of Guelph. Speakers shared food customs and insights as they explored the important influences and contributions of Chinese cuisine in Canada today. Price per copy $10 (includes postage, handling and GST). Send payment and order to the Ontario Historical Society, 34 Parkview Ave., Willowdale ON M2N 3Y3. Tel: (416) 226-9011, Fax (416) 226-2740.

Special Offer from the Canadian Archaeological Association - For one time only, the CAA is offering an introductory membership of $37.50, or 50% of the current regular membership price. This offer is only available for the 1998 membership year (April 1, 1998 to March 31, 1999). The offer is available to persons who currently are members of provincial, territorial or other archaeological societies, including professional groups such as provincial consulting groups, but who are not currently members of the CAA and who are not student members nor eligible as student members. For the duration of this special membership you will receive the society newsletter and the Canadian Journal of Archaeology. The offer is also available to former members whose membership has lapsed for two years (last active membership 1995 or before). Current CAA members cannot request refunds. This offer is not applicable to membership renewals. Submit cheque or money order (in Canadian funds only) to Margaret Kennedy, Secretary-Treasurer, CAA, Department of Anthropology and Archaeology, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, SK S7N 5B1.
Calendar

✓ **April 9** - London Chapter presents up-dates on recent investigations at the Gainey and Butler Paleo-Indian sites by Don Simons from Michigan, at the London Museum of Archaeology, 1600 Attawandaron Road at 8:00 pm.

✓ **April 30** - Charles Garrad presents Adventures in the Yucatan and the Maya country, drawing on the three OAS trips to Mexico as the basis for his talk. The presentation begins at 7:00pm, L.E. Shore Memorial Library, Thornbury.

✓ **May 1-3** - 82nd Annual Meeting of the New York State Archaeological Association, Alexandria Bay, New York. Contact Tim Abel, Tel: (315) 642-0202, Email: abeltj@northnet.org

✓ **May 7-10** - 25th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Anthropological Association (CASCA), University of Toronto. Contact Lynne Russell, Tel: (416) 978-6945, Email: casca@chass.utoronto.ca

✓ **May 9** - Canadian Association of Professional Heritage Consultants (CAPHC) Annual General Meeting and conference: “Dundurn Castle: a microcosm of conservation practice”, at the Coach House, Dundurn Castle, Hamilton. Workshops, lunch, tours, reception. For information and registration package contact James Gardiner, CAPHC Administrative Assistant. Tel: (416) 534-1727, Fax: (416) 534-2147, Email: willings@istar.ca

✓ **May 16** - Champlain Society 1998 Symposium: Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Histories: Parallel Paths and Convergences, Toronto. For information, contact Charles Garrad at (416) 223-2752.

✓ **May 16 & 17** - Material Thought and Action: Technological Perspectives in Prehistory, a two day international symposium at University College, University of Toronto, in recognition of the work of retiring professors Maxine Kleindienst and Bruce Schroeder. The general area of interest will be the Near East and Africa. A nominal charge will be requested for admission. For information contact the Department of Anthropology, University of Toronto at (416) 978-3295.

✓ **May 20** - Toronto Chapter presents “Osteological research on the Harvey Graham cemetery” by Andy Kovacs and “The Phoenix site: rising from the ashes” by Ellen Blauergs at 7:30pm in Room 561a of Sidney Smith Hall, University of Toronto. Andy adds as preamble to his talk, “In May 1965, human remains were discovered and subsequently excavated on the Harvey Graham property in Holland Landing, Ontario. The skeletal remains are from an unidentified first-half 19th century ancestrally-mixed cemetery. Of particular interest are some skulls which exhibit porous lesions of the upper eye orbit and vault, conditions known as cribra orbitalia and porotic hyperostosis respectively, which may indicate the prevalence of iron-deficiency anemia. Results of the assessment of these lesions, speculation on its causes and significance, and comparison with similar occurrences from the contemporary neighbouring Prospect Hill cemetery. This project is in complement to Gary Heathcote’s OHF sponsored osteological study of the Harvey Graham cemetery. Other collaborators include Gordon Dibb (Mortuary Archaeology) and Lisa McNeil (Dental Pathology).”
The OAS has several active local chapters. Please contact the respective secretaries of the OAS chapters for more information.

GRAND RIVER-WATERLOO  President: Dean Knight, Secretary: Julie Karlison (519) 725 9030. Mailing address: c/o Dr. Dean Knight, Wilfred Laurier University, Archaeology, 75 University Avenue West, Waterloo ON N2I 3C5

HAMILTON  President: Jacqueline Fisher, Vice-President: Stewart Leslie, Secretary-Treasurer: Helen Sluis, Newsletter: The Heights, Editor: Bill Fitzgerald. Mailing address: Box 57165 Jackson Station, Hamilton ON L8P 4X1. Membership $10. Meetings are usually at 7:00pm on the 3rd Thursday of the month, except June-August, at Dundurn Castle. Email: hamilton.oas@mcmillan.com or dial in to (905) 526-1657.

LONDON  President: Chris Ellis, Vice-president: Neal Ferris, Secretary: Karen Mattila, Treasurer: Harri Mattila, Newsletter: Kewa, Editors: Christine Dodd & Peter Timmins. Mailing Address: 55 Centre Street, London ON N6J 1T4. Tel: (519) 675-7742, Fax (519) 675-7777, Internet: http://yoda.sslc.uwo.ca:80/assoc/oas/lonoas.html. Membership: individual and family $18, institutional $21. Meetings are usually at 8:00pm on the 2nd Thursday of the month, except June-August, at the London Museum of Archaeology.

OTTAWA  President: Rachel Perkins, Vice-President: Marian Clark, Secretary: Lois King, Treasurer: Bill MacLennan, Newsletter: Ottawa Archaeologist, Editor: Eva MacDonald, Director-at-large: Jean-Luc Pilon. Mailing address: Box 4939 Station E, Ottawa ON K1S 5J1. Internet: http://www.cyberus.ca/~jlpilon/otcllh.htm. Membership: individual $17, family $20, student $10. Meetings are usually at 7:30pm on the 4th Wednesday of the month, except June-August, at the Routhier Community Centre, 172 Guingue Street, 3rd floor.

THUNDER BAY  President: Frances Duke, Secretary-Treasurer: Andrew Hinshelwood. Mailing address: 331 Hallam Street, Thunder Bay ON P7A 1L9. Meetings are usually at 8:00pm on the last Friday of the month, except June-August, in the anthropology teaching lab, room 2004, Braun Building, Lakehead University.

TORONTO  President: Jim Shropshire, Vice-President: Norma Knowlton, Secretary: Annie Gould, Treasurer: Melanie Priestman, Newsletter: Profile, Editor: Eva MacDonald. Mailing Address: Toronto’s First Post Office, 260 Adelaide Street East, Box 48, Toronto ON M5A 1N1. Membership: individual $10, family $12. Meetings are usually held at 8:00pm on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, except June-August, in the basement of Sidney Smith Hall, room 561a, University of Toronto, 100 St. George Street.

WINDSOR  President: Rosemary Denunzio, Vice-President and Secretary: James Washington, Treasurer: Michael Primeau, Newsletter: Squirrel County Gazette, Editor: Peter Reid. Mailing address: 2338 Chilver Road, Windsor ON N8W 2V5. Tel: (519) 253-1977. Membership: individual $12, family $24. Meetings are usually held at 7:00pm on the 4th Tuesday of the month, except June-August, at the Windsor Family Credit Union, 2800 Tecumseh Road East (use back door).

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