

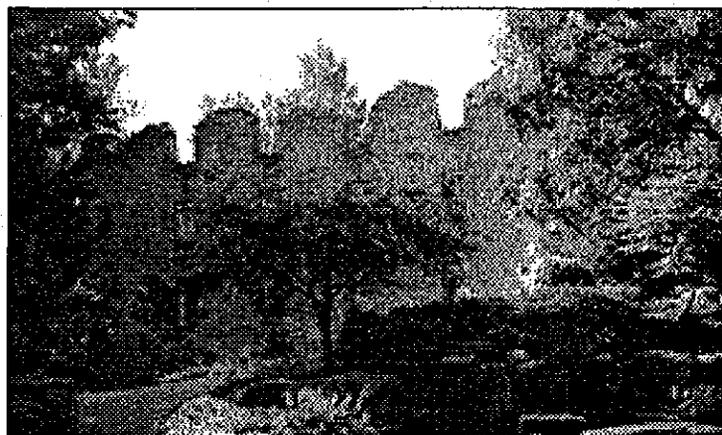


# Ontario Archaeological Society

# Arch Notes

New Series Volume 4, Issue 1

January / February 1998



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## Board of Directors

### President

Robert Mayer  
519-472-8100  
MayerHeritage@compuserve.com

### Treasurer/Secretary

Henry van Lieshout  
416-446-7673

### Director of Chapter Services

Michael Kirby  
519-886-4026  
heritage@headwaters.com

### Director of Member Services

Hugh Daechsel

### Director of Professional Services

Lise Ferguson  
416-392-6910

### Director of Publications

Caroline Thériault  
416-652-6444

### Director of Public Services

Vito Vaccarelli  
416-248-9651

### Executive Director

Jo Holden  
416-730-0797  
(fax) 416-730-9670  
oas@globalserve.net

### Editor, *Ontario Archaeology*

Alexander von Gernet

### Editor, *Arch Notes*

Frank Dieterman  
905-608-0331  
fdieterm@chass.utoronto.ca

## Editor's note ...

Welcome to the new year. I trust all have recovered from the effects of the snowfall(s)!!

This issue of *Arch Notes* presents a varied look at archaeology, from the perspective of an Avocational Archaeologist, to the insights of a Heritage Activist, to the contributions from a zooarchaeo-specialist. As well, tips from the OAS on making an effective presentation are a welcome addition and, in my opinion, a must read for all public speakers!!

I would like to welcome Hugh Daechsel to the Board of Directors, and congratulate Bob Mayer on his rise to the Presidency of the OAS. In parting, we all wish John Steckley success in his book endeavour!

As always - I encourage submissions to *Arch Notes* and am still waiting for some (any!) of the 1998 Symposium papers to reach me for publication. Graphics are welcome and will be accepted with gratitude and everlasting thanks (or at least one issue = two months worth).

Take care,  
Frank Dieterman

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## Arch Notes contributors

### Hard copy to:

OAS  
126 Willowdale Ave.  
Toronto ON M2N 4Y2

### Email, disks & graphics to:

Editor, Arch Notes  
5-3061 Sir John's Homestead  
Mississauga ON L5L 3H9  
email: fdieterm@chass.utoronto.ca

## President's Inaugural Message

Since it was founded in 1950, the Ontario Archaeological Society has been the one organization in this province that represents the interests of the full archaeological community. Our members represent a balanced cross-section of the general public, avocational practitioners, academic researchers and professional consultants. In surviving for almost 50 years, the Society has always approached its opportunities for growth and the challenges to its survival with initiative and vigor. Our Executive Director, Jo Holden, and the 1999 Board of Directors are well qualified and are determined to continue this tradition.

Opportunities this year include continuing the development of "partnerships" such as the "Preferred Service Home-Auto Insurance Plan" offer recently sent to members by Johnson Inc. Johnson will donate \$20.00 to the OAS for each member who receives a no-obligation quotation. Johnson also have a "Scholarship and Academic Program" that should be of interest to our members. The Society's commercial ventures include "Histories Mysteries", the Ontario Historical Society's Book Event, and preparing guided tours of interesting excavations and sites, as well as subcontracting out the organization of the 1999 Symposium. The challenges involve maintaining our existing services and publications as well as establishing new ones to meet our members' ever changing needs. Those responding to our new volunteer registry will be contacted shortly to assist with various committed and upcoming summer events.

Although our operating grants have been greatly reduced, the Society has survived. But has not prospered. Membership over the past few years has declined approximately 33%. As determined by Jeff Bursey in his 1997 survey of members, there is a multitude of reasons for this. In addition to addressing those reasons, the Board of Directors has established a membership contest offering prizes for those who

enroll the most members on a quarterly and on an annual basis, as well as conducting a telephone campaign of lapsed members. Other pragmatic solutions are being implemented as our time and resources permit.

In suggesting that the Board of Directors consider a "makeover" for itself and a "Management by Objectives" concept in order to compete more effectively with the other 11 provincial heritage organizations that currently receive operating grants, Daniel O'Brien and Claudine Bazane at the OMCzCR have strongly indicated that new innovative endeavors are more likely to receive funding rather than regular operating routines. To this end it is imperative that we become more proactive and less reactive with regard to developing and implementing our strategic and business plans. We currently have three goals: to increase events; to increase membership; and to create more volunteer opportunities. Members with ideas on how to effectively achieve these goals are asked to submit them at a "think-tank" session being held in February. Two other priorities that have been already identified are:

- 1) how to get the Society better appreciated by students; and
- 2) how to find and persuade a high-profile individual to become a patron.

## Miscellaneous Items

The Ontario Archaeological Society extends its congratulations to Marjorie Mercer, recently appointed as Executive Director of the Ontario Heritage Foundation. Jo Holden was interviewed by Wendy Joyce who is doing a research project for Lyn Hamilton at the OMCzCR as a possible prelude to the redevelopment of a new Heritage Act. The gist of the interview concerned what the OAS regarded as the major issues in archaeology at the moment. When the report is com-

pleted at the end of January, a copy of Wendy's report is to be filed with the OAS.

Jo is also preparing a letter/phone campaign to radio stations in the Greater Toronto Area to see if she can raise their interest in having an "Archaeology Spot" at least twice a month. Potential interviewees with interesting sites or projects to talk about should contact her as soon as possible.

As our representative on the Craigeith Heritage Master Plan Advisory Committee, Charlie Garrad will be maintaining a "watching brief" regarding concerns about the Plater-Martin (BdHb-1) and Plater-Fleming (BdHb-2) sites in the Town of Blue Mountains.

Lise Ferguson, our Director of Professional Services, will keep us similarly informed on the proposed development of the Old Mill site in Etobicoke, and on meetings with opposition critics, APOLROD, Ontario Heritage Alliance, et cetera.

Mike Kirby and Caroline Thériault have switched their director roles this year. Mike is now our Director of Chapter Services while Caroline is now our Director of Publications. They will be sharing their combined experiences during a period of transition.

Hugh Daechsel, our new Director of Member Services, will be continuing the existing campaign to recover lapsed members, and oversee the membership contest. If you haven't sent in your 1999 membership dues yet, you can expect a call, fax or e-mail from Hugh or his delegates "inviting" you to renew.

Vito Vaccarelli is still seeking additional volunteer members to serve on the Professionalism Committee. He will be reporting soon on the results of the committee's on-going work.

Henry van Liesout, our Director of Finance and Treasurer, is eagerly awaiting the year end statements about the Society's investments. He should be congratulated for having us escape relatively unscathed from the drop in the equity market values last year because of the diversified portfolio he maintained. The recent rise in

market values should be positively reflected on our balance sheet.

A design for a "50 Year Pin" is being developed by Carlo Dalgas Ltd. in Mississauga. This new pin will be awarded to all of the surviving founding OAS members at our Symposium in 2000.

Scotiabank, through its "Employee Volunteer Program", recently donated \$600.00 to the OAS on behalf of one of our members, Larry Drew, who has been working under the supervision of Neal Ferris of the OMCzCR in London.

The OMCzCR is requesting nominations for the 1999 Ontario Volunteer Service and Outstanding Service Awards. Nomination Forms are available from any OMCzCR office or from the OAS office.

My personal thanks are extended to John Steckley, our immediate Past President. It was a pleasure working with him last year. As evidenced by his performance as the Emcee during the awards ceremony at the Symposium in Brantford, John always kept the Board of Directors' meetings lively with his sometimes irreverent bantering. More important, he always made sure that everyone had his/her say and that the agenda was completed within a reasonable amount of time. Thanks again John, I hope to work with you again on future OAS projects.

• Robert G. Mayer

*From the OAS office...*

A very Happy New Year to everyone! We have a winner in the first round of the OAS membership contest! As you are aware the current OAS member to entice the most people to enroll as OAS members wins a prize. Our first round winner is Marjorie Tuck of Hamilton. Marjorie, will receive a copy of the book, *The Red Hill Creek Valley*, by Dr. Walter Peace. Round two of the contest begins February 1, and closes May 31, 1999. The winner of that session will be announced in the May/June *Arch Notes*.

We have received a tremendous response to our Volunteer Registry form. For those of you who mailed in your interest, thank you. You most likely have been contacted by the time you receive this *AN*. We decided to run the registry again as we still need to enlarge our volunteer core. You may notice one more check off box on this sheet, that of Membership Ambassadors. Individuals who select this box would be asked to call other members, within their area codes, to pass on membership information.

Just a reminder to try to attend our annual event, **ARCHAEOLOGY UNEARTHED**, on Saturday, February 27, 1999 at the Columbus Centre, 901 Lawrence Avenue West.

Congratulations to our new Executive, I'm sure I will enjoy working with every one of them. I would like to wish John Steckley, our immediate past President, a fond farewell and best wishes in his currently many and future endeavors. John always kept the meetings moving along with intelligence, grace and especially good humor. Good Luck John! Keep in touch.

• Jo Holden

## **CALL FOR PAPERS**

**Call for papers for the  
1999 Symposium**

**Please call the OAS  
for the Paper Chair's name  
and telephone number**

The OAS is always happy to carry any inserts of archaeological interest, our membership wishes to send us, however it helps speed up the production of mailing out *Arch Notes* if the extra step of printing up the inserts and forwarding them to the Toronto office. Call the office to confirm the number of inserts needed and the production date of the next *Arch Notes* mail out.

## **The 1999 Summer excursion to Moosonee, James Bay and 2001 - An Egyptian Odyssey**

The Society announced its intent to organize these trips at the Annual Symposium, followed by announcements in the November/December issue of *Arch Notes*

Response to these two announcements is as follows;

**Egypt** - There has been a wonderful response for this trip and there are 31 people who have registered interest. Interest in the optional extension week looks like this:

Israel and Jordan	22
Israel only	2
Jordan only	3

It is therefore clear that the majority are interested in the first option, and we will pursue that option for the trip.

**Moosonee** - The response to this year's summer trip has also been very good, with 24 people registering an interest.

All those who registered interest have had an acknowledgment from us, and should there be any other members who are interested in either of these trips, please notify the office.

### *Returned Mail*

If anyone can advise the OAS office of the where these members are currently residing, it would be appreciated. Ricardo Dentone, and Kelly McCann both of Ottawa, Thomas Krahn of Lindsay and Laura Tryphonopoulos.

### **History's Mystery's**

Stories of the Maya, Victorian Era Toronto and the First Nation Peoples of North America were told at the Columbus Centre on Thursday, November 26, 1998, by four of the leading authors of Archaeological and Historical fiction. The authors, Kathleen O'Neal-Gear and W. Michael Gear, Lyn Hamilton and Maureen

Jennings provided an evening of light entertainment and education. The audience were able to ask questions after each author finished their reading. One question from the audience delighted the non archaeological crowd. They thought it quite informative that by digging a Victorian Era privy, plot and character would really help set the period of the novel! Other questions ranged from, "how long does it take you to write your books?", to, and this was directed to the Gears, as they team write, "who is responsible for what parts of the novel?" They responded that the "writing" passes back and forth between them for such a length of time that who wrote what becomes lost in the process.

The authors were launching the following novels;

- Lyn Hamilton - *The Maltese Goddess*
- Maureen Jennings - *Under the Dragon's Tail*
- Kathleen O'Neal-Gear & W. Michael Gear -  
*People of the Mask*

All are excellent reads and are available at bookstores now.



Lyn Hamilton & Maureen Jennings



Kathleen O'Neil & Micheal Gear,  
and Jo Holden

# OAS

## Membership Contest!

**1st PRIZE**  
 Hard Cover Version of  
 "Legacy of Stone"  
 ( Ronald Williamson &  
 Robert McDonald )

**2nd PRIZE**  
 Red Hill Creek Valley Story  
 by Dr. Walter Peace

**3rd PRIZE**  
 Tilley Endurables  
 Hat

*\*\* BOO members and their families can participate but are not eligible to win.*



**The Ontario Archaeological Society**

128 Willowdale Avenue, North York, Ontario, Canada M2N 4Y2 • Tel: (416) 730-0797

Newsletters



Trips

Publications



Passport to the Past



Events



**IF**

you think  
 there should  
 be more O.A.S.  
 Members, then this  
 is the challenge for you!

1. Between the Symposium and  
 the close of the new year, there  
 will be three membership enrollment  
 deadlines: January 31st, May 31st and  
 September 30th.

2. The current member to enroll the most  
 new members at the close of each deadline will  
 receive a prize and be announced in the February,  
 June and October Arch Notes. Final enrollments will  
 be tallied, and the prizes listed on this poster will be  
 awarded and announced in the December Arch Notes.  
 A Grand Prize will be awarded for the most memberships  
 submitted by one member over the year.

3. Membership applications are also available from the  
 O.A.S. office (416) 730-0797 and can  
 be sent by mail, fax  
 or by internet  
 to contestants or  
 their nominees.

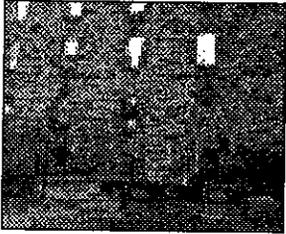
Nominated  
 members must  
 list their  
 sponsors  
 on their  
 application.



## Heritage activism in 1999

• Lise Ferguson (Director of Professional Services, OAS)

### I. The Old Mill



This is a project which has been near and dear to my heart for several years now. Briefly, the owners of the Old Mill Restaurant in the former city of Etobicoke have applied to the city for a

permit to expand the complex to include a hotel. The reason the OAS and the Ontario Historical Society are so concerned about this is because part of the plan includes building a modern hotel **within** the historic standing stone ruins of the Old Mill itself. Not only is this unacceptable use of a historic site, but it is being "marketed" to the public using architectural preservation terms incorrectly -- the Planning Report says this plan "restores" and "preserves" the Old Mill, which it does not. To "restore" means to return a building to its original state (in this case, it would mean restoring a mill), and to "preserve" it would mean to preserve it in its current condition, i.e. a site of historic ruins. So of course when people hear these terms, they think this plan is a good thing, somehow "fixing" something that doesn't need fixing.

The Old Mill is a site of historic ruins - a recognized historic site worthy of protection. The mill was "ruined" over one hundred years ago, so the ruins are the site. As Canadians, we don't seem to appreciate the Old Mill for what it is - the first industrial building in the Toronto area, and now a site of historic ruins. Can you imagine if the city council in Rome decided the ruins in the Roman Forum needed "fixing", so they allowed modern buildings to be built within the ruins themselves??

The most disturbing aspect to this situation is this: The Old Mill was designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act* as a provincially significant site in 1983. Designation is supposed to protect heritage buildings, requiring a special permit from the Minister if alterations are planned. Yet, no permit has been issued to alter this site. Letters to the Minister, Isabel Bassett, have gone unacknowledged.

OAS members can imagine the rich archaeological potential of this site, which should be preserved, but unfortunately the most that will happen is a limited amount of testing to satisfy the requirements for an archaeological assessment. Letters to city council have also gone unanswered. Because of my involvement in the Old Mill issue, it has received press in the *Toronto Star*, and several local papers, and I have contacted over 60 individuals and organizations with information on this important heritage matter, plus I have contacted Ministry staff, city councillors and the local Community Council.

To date, the owners have not yet been issued a building permit, but the final stage of the Site Plan is underway. A partial archaeological assessment has been completed, which hinted at the rich archaeological heritage of this site, where a mill, plus residential and commercial buildings have stood since the 1790s. To add insult to injury, the Humber River is about to be designated a federally significant Heritage River (under which circumstances it is unthinkable that the destruction of a heritage site should be allowed).

My main point is that if the site is threatened, i.e. the stone walls are crumbling, then it is stabilizing the structure which should be the issue. Any plans

should not involve destroying the integrity of the area as a site of historic ruins. The restaurant can expand without impacting on the actual stone ruins.



*The Old Mill on the Humber River*

## II. Land Registry Office records

I represent the OAS board on the Ontario Heritage Alliance (OHA), a co-operative umbrella group made up of the OAS, the Ontario Historical Society, the Ontario Genealogical Society, the Ontario Black History Society, the Ontario Museum Association, the Archives Association of Ontario, the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, Save Ontario Shipwrecks and the Société franco-ontarienne d'histoire et de généalogie, with Heritage Canada as an invited observer.

One of the issues we are currently tackling concerns Land Registry Office records which are being "deaccessioned" by the government - the key players include the Ministry of Citizenship, Culture, and Recreation, the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations and the Archives of Ontario. At some point, it was decided that there were too many documents in these offices, so a number of volunteers formed a group called APOLROD, and they have gone around the province microfilming thousands of LRO records which date from 1867 to 1950. (Incidentally, APOLROD, albeit made up of dedicated and hardworking volunteers, was given *carte blanche* by the government to take on this task, without any kind of tendering contracts or requirements for public dis-

closure of funding.) Government officials are now deaccessioning the originals of these documents by offering them to heritage groups.

The OHA believes this is a very serious issue. The government itself has said that they cannot store these documents any longer because of space limitations, and that conservation costs for each filing box of original documents would be over \$100,000 (and there are thousands of boxes). These reasons for the OHA's concerns are the following:

1. Original archival documents, collected by the province using tax money, should not be destroyed. These documents, some dating back to the time of Confederation, are artifacts themselves and should not be destroyed. Simply copying the information from them may preserve the information written on them but does not preserve the artifact - the document. (The way I see it this is like a museum recording the information and artwork from a Greek vase, then throwing the vase away.)
2. Microfilm may be a highly flawed and problematic archival method of recording information.
3. Preservation of provenience of regional archives collections is important (deaccessioning them would spread them out all over the province).
4. Offering these documents to local heritage groups is merely a smokescreen -- how can local heritage groups (many of which have had provincial funding cuts) find the money (over \$100,000 per box) and the space, to store these documents?
5. The OHA is not satisfied with the process of to whom these documents are being offered -- it seems that just about any person could take some of these documents and store them in their basement, separate them, sell them, or even destroy them. While the government appears to be wanting to place these documents with trustworthy groups who have the resources to care for them, they simply don't have the process in place to do this.

### III. Heritage Activism

To conclude, here are my feelings on these situations. It seems to me that today, situations and events are assessed by their "legality". If something is not against the law, it is OK. The two examples above illustrate this point clearly - in the first instance, the owner of a heritage building can do whatever he wants to it as long as he follows a few "legal" steps in the planning process, and in the second the government feels it is doing what it needs to do by copying information from archival documents, and then "legitimately" offering the originals to groups known to be ill-equipped to handle them.

The problem is that life is not black and white so there are rarely black and white answers. Are the restaurant developer and the government following "legal" steps in the situations outlined above? Well, yes. But isn't it time that "quality of life" and simple common sense came into the equation? Because without common sense and quality of life, we will lose a designated

heritage site and provincially- significant archival documents - important parts of our collective heritage in both circumstances. We need to ask ourselves - beyond the law, should we not be preserving our past for "quality of life" reasons?

A few months ago I attended a colloquium in honour of Eric Arthur (1898-1982), who was an architect and an avid heritage activist in Toronto, and wrote the classic *No Mean City* which featured many of the original buildings in Toronto which are now gone. Two quotes attributed to Arthur, from many years ago are: by the year 2000, Toronto would be "destroyed like Nineveh, due to public indifference", and he defined advocacy as "dogged speaking out - writers are not advocates, only doers are". So, while I am writing this information down, I hope you, as an OAS member, will make a New Year's resolution to protect our heritage from being destroyed due to public indifference, and that you will do your part as a "doer".

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## Making effective presentations

- OAS

Some of the feedback we received after the October Symposium indicated that some of the presenters needed some guidance in public speaking, and making presentations. This article therefore attempts to provide some hints to those that are called on from time to time to make presentations, and to those who volunteer to make presentations.

The first thing to decide on in preparing to talk about a subject, is "what is the single most important point of the whole presentation", i.e., when the audience leaves the event, and they were asked to recall only one thing about the presentation, what is it that you want them to remember. Actually there are two things; firstly that it was a great presentation, and secondly, you want them to remember "the single most important thing" that you went on about. So, when putting together a presentation, there are three prime considerations that you need to be aware of, namely, what to present, how to package it, and how to present it.

## **What to present**

This part is really easy, but we tend to make it more difficult than it needs to be.

The most often quoted key consideration is knowing your audience. Obviously, if you are making a presentation to a bunch of students in their first year of study, then don't give them the "show-and-tell" you gave to a room full of PhDs last week. It may mean that you will have to re-do the material, but if you persist in going over their heads, your effort will have been wasted, and your audience will offer common courtesy applause, that is, if they wake up in time to see you depart from the podium. Where you have a mixed audience, make sure that there is something for everyone in your material.

As already mentioned, the key to an effective presentation is to decide "what is the single most important point that I want to make". Think this through carefully, and develop a presentation that will get to that point. Maybe there are two or three, but if you go with more, your audience may not know what you were trying to get across. Therefore concentrate on getting a very limited number of points across. Ideally, get your title to reflect your key point.

Some of the worst presentations I have seen at the OAS were made by the smartest people in their field, who tried to impress us with how much they know, and tried to cram that information into the shortest possible time. They ramble and mumble on about something and at the end of such presentations, the audience knew one thing for sure, that they didn't quite "get it", and the event is then filed in the "trash" compartment of our memory bank.

Just take a moment, sit back and do a quick test. Try and recall the most interesting public speech you heard in the last year, and then figure out what it was that made it memorable. You should find some of the elements of that memorable speech right here, so read on.

## **Packaging your material**

You will be constrained by a time allocation of, say, 30 minutes, and it is therefore important that you get to your points within this period, and to get credibility for you point. The slides that we frequently see are charts with many columns and many rows, full of figures, so that no-one seated further back than the first row can read your material. You very quickly loose your audience that way. Most presenters that we see believe that, because they have included a busy chart in their documented research material, they feel obligated to entertain us with that exact same chart, only now it is reduced in size and has become illegible to the audience. Your point cannot be made credible if people cant read the chart. If there are 2 or 3 key points of interest that you want to talk about, then prepare a chart that only has those elements showing, and group everything else as "other". The key to remember is that if there are 2 or 3 items of real interest, don't cause indifference on the part of your audience by showing them a 20 column chart with 30 rows of data. I'm exaggerating, but you get the point.

A similar concept applies to maps. If you have a map where the audience cannot easily read the place names that you want to address, don't show that map. Make one where people can read names. If necessary, use liquid paper to obliterate the insignificant place names that clutter the map. The key is that you must help your audience to stay focussed on where you lead the discussion. You will have difficulty in doing that with clutter, and illegible material.

We often find that presenters put up a slide, talk about the relevant contents for a few seconds, and then, while that slide is still on display, carry on with the part of their speech that has nothing to do with the slide on the screen. In such instances, the visual message on the screen is out of sync with the audio message, and it there-

fore seems to the audience that you have become distracted, and are rambling along in an unplanned way towards an obscure destination. The key here is to stay with what is on display, so that both you and your audience know where you are headed, which gets me to the next point. If you need to bring an argument about something that is not on an existing slide, make another one to reflect that argument and include it in your material.

We all remember our school teacher telling us that a story must have a “beginning, a middle, and an end”? Well, how about something along the same lines but like this:

1. At the beginning of your presentation, tell them about the most important thing that you are going to tell them. That way you will get, and retain, attention.
2. When you get to the key point, tell them that you are now going to tell them what you said you would tell them. You now have a better chance of getting your message across, because you have already prepared your audience for the highlight. Don't try and surprise them two-thirds into your presentation with your key point, some of them may be asleep by then and miss your important points, and your presentation will not have made any impact.
3. Towards the end, reinforce your point by telling them what you told them.

So, your presentation would go something like this, after the usual introductions.

“In the summer of 1999 I set out to investigate why ... has the same properties as there appears in ... The discoveries that I made were surprising because of ... , and you will be interested to know that ... agreed with our conclusion. In our field this is an important conclusion because ... So, during the next thirty minutes I will discuss our findings, which I know are of interest to you.”

(Ok, you have told them what you are going to tell them, now tell them )

Now go through your presentation, and start off with a slide that represents a table of contents. This way your audience can see what you intend to cover. Then make one statement at a time, and use one slide at a time to illustrate that statement, and that one statement only. It's sometimes difficult to stick to this routine, but try to make this your standard - its like “one person, one vote”, only here, it's “one argument, one slide”. As already mentioned, keep you slides simple, easy to read and uncluttered. Where the slide consists of text, it should be sized at 16 point, not smaller. If you have maps, make sure the place names are large enough to read, if necessary magnify them until you get the desired result. If necessary, invest in the gadgets that allow you to print labels, and then paste the label on the map.

Have cue cards or some notes in front of you with one-liners as reminders of what to cover. Or else keep a copy of your material in front of you, with your notes in the margins for your easy reference.

## **Presenting your material**

Never read from a prepared text.

We are always disappointed when someone pulls out their material and starts to read from a script. Next time you go to a church, or other public event, look and see what happens when a piece is read from the text. The reader's eyes are fixed on the material, and there is little, if any, eye contact with the audience. Look at the hands, tightly gripping the lectern in case it topples over. Listen to the monotone (also referred to as the non-tone) of the delivery.

If you read from a prepared text, all the things that put a bit of personality and enthusiasm into the event are stripped away, and the result is a stunted delivery. Not only that, you deliberately place an invisible barrier between you and the audience.

When you are making a presentation to a group of people, you are putting your knowledge of the material on display. If you know your material you should not have to read the whole thing, and if you don't know your material, you should not be making the presentation in the first place. If your topic is based on research material, don't read the material, but prepare a presentation package. By all means use some notes as reminders of the points you want to cover, but **DON'T READ** from a text.

You need to optimize the presentation by projecting some of your personality, enthusiasm and conviction into the event.

You ask, how do I do that ?

Simply by making lots of eye contact, using your hands expressively, and by injecting some passion and enthusiasm into you voice, after all, you are enthusiastic about all this stuff, aren't you? Please realize that the way we write things down on paper is not the way we speak in the real world and your delivery of text will appear clumsy and uninspiring.

Let's take a few tips as we take up a position on the podium, after the usual introductions, and face your audience.

First, find a couple of friendly faces in the audience, towards the back, and make most of your presentation to them by talking in their direction. Don't speak to the people in the front, instead go to the back of the audience. This will subconsciously force you into speaking louder, clearer and slower. By way of contrast, when we read from a text, we tend to look down, go fast, and speak softer. By reading, we also tend to stumble over the words, because we don't speak the way we write text.

Second, talk enthusiastically about the points you want to make, talk slowly, and deliberately. This enables you to do two things; it enables you to talk louder and it enables you to think about what you are saying. The thinking part is important because it allows you to prepare the next sentence, without stopping to scratch you head searching for words. By way of contrast, when we speak quickly we tend to concentrate on not stumbling, and we therefore talk softly.

Third, talk to your audience. We often find presenters with their backs to the audience, pointing and talking at the screen. If you have to use a pointer, then point at the area on the screen, then turn and talk to the audience.

Don't hold props in your hands (pencils, rubber bands, paper clips), or jingle the cash in your pocket to portray the casual look. These are all distractions that your audience will focus on. Use your hands instead to express emotion.

Now you near the end of your presentation. Remember, tell them what you told them.

Your first presentation may not be as successful as you may hope for, but by following some well-published guidelines, such as those referred to here, you will make things easier for yourself each time you make a presentation. The best way to improve your presentation, is to practice as often as you have an opportunity.

Most importantly, look at it as a fun event, an plan on enjoying it.

## From "artifacts" to "archaeology"

• *Larry Drew*

Artifacts have always been intriguing, but sharing "Archaeology" is the true value and reward for both the professional and non-professional alike.

Like many others, my own interest in artifacts started as a youngster finding that first stone tool - in may case a beautifully polished stone axe discovered while hoeing on the farm. As with many farm families, our's kept a box of arrow-heads in which the axe and other finds were placed for safe-keeping over the years. And so far without exception, every farmer or landowner I've encountered while documenting local collections as an Avocational Archaeologist has been fascinated by the archaeological information available from those tools, their farm, and their area. In turn, what Archaeology has gained is new and valuable information.

I used to think the family collection would be of little interest to archaeologists - after all there wasn't great numbers of tools, and certainly not enough to suggest say a past village site in our area. The area is basically a featureless interior clay plain located in Kent County, Southwestern Ontario. The topography is flat and the heavy clay soils historically remained seasonally wet for much of the year (before the construction of modern drainage and pumping systems). This plain is intersected only by small creeks - running north into Jeannette's Creek, a tributary of the Thames River located approximately 10 kilometres to the North. Given the geography, and with little or no archaeological information documented from the area, the interior clay plain was generally thought to be relatively inhospitable to prehistoric groups.

Yet eager to know more about what we had, two neighbours and I attended "Archaeology Days" held at

Longwoods near London. Several archaeologists had devoted their Saturday to viewing and discussing artifacts that members of the public were encouraged to bring and share. Harri Matilla viewed and discussed our artifacts and with this single positive interaction the transition from "Artifacts" to "Archaeology" moved forward. Harri referred me on to Neal Ferris, Regional Archaeologist. Neal determined some of the artifacts were quite rare finds for Ontario and that many of the artifacts can be assigned a date from 8,000 to 2,000 years ago - a long period of Ontario's prehistory from which little is understood. At Neal's encouragement, I applied for my Avocational licence to document these and other local collections and to perform controlled surface collections on the family and neighbouring farms.

The specific, and in some cases only general locational information available from documenting local collections led to preliminary inferences on temporal and spacial use of the interior. This information, combined with controlled surface collection in the past two field seasons have resulted in the registration of 9 new sites within Borden Block AbHn (likely seasonal or single encampments), along with 57 isolated find spots. These sites are very diffuse lithic scatters and really only took shape after multiple visits and by over-laying locational information from local collections - both demonstrating the value of local knowledge and involvement.

Even armed with what may appear to be scant information, potentially valuable inferences are emerging. This clay plain was used through-out much of Ontario's prehistory - with artifacts tentatively typed from the Paleo through Late Woodland Groups. Enough data exists to suggest a long continuum followed by a marked change in subsistence and habita-

tion pattern relating to this interior area over time: a steady increase in the use of the area from Early Archaic through to Early Woodland, with evidence of heaviest use during the Middle Archaic through Early Woodland, and followed by a marked decline in use during the Middle and Late Woodland periods. The apparent steady increase in use during the Archaic to Early Woodland, peaking about 4000 BP, roughly corresponds to the transition in much of Southern Ontario to a mature deciduous forest and the potential increase in nut producing species. The marked decline in use from the Middle and Late Woodland periods suggests a change in subsistence and habitation patterns that perhaps favoured the larger (river) waterways and/or lighter soils. This is also supported by the fact that as one travels deeper into the interior of the study area there is a decrease in the number of Middle and Late Woodland artifacts recorded - while the Archaic through to Early Woodland periods appear to be relatively evenly represented through-out.

It is hoped that these scattered isolated find spots and small low density sites may also lead to more insight into the seasonal use and activities of the interior the

lessor understood periods. For example, it is generally believed that these interior locations were used for fall and winter hunting camps with artifacts dominated by points - yet the study area has produced a very broad tool kit (and some value goods) suggesting that more took place in the interior than is currently understood. Under the Avocational Licensing system I eagerly await heading out to the fields again this year to add to this data - by documenting and mapping a few new finds and hopefully more local collections.

While I'm still amazed at the many opportunities for involvement at any age and any level, I'm also reminded just how much Archaeologists have always relied on the general public to assist in documenting the scant information available and preserving the non-renewable resources of Ontario's past. The Ontario Archaeological Society itself was founded by a group of enthusiastic amateurs in the 1950's, - and its "Field Manual for Avocational Archaeologists" assists today's enthusiasts by providing a superb guide to the necessary licensing system, field techniques, artifact typology, and report writing.

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## Zooarchaeological notes: the surprising fragility of freshwater turtle and clam shell

• *Suzanne Needs-Howarth (Groninger Instituut voor Archaeologie)*

During recent analyses of several zooarchaeological collections from the Barrie area I've identified some issues surrounding the recovery, lab processing and curation of faunal remains from archaeological sites that I'd like to share with you.

This short contribution deals with a zoo-archaeological resource that appears quite robust, yet requires some special handling. No, I'm not talking

about fish bone (although I usually do), I'm talking about turtle and clam shell.

Turtle shell is of course bone. The part that covers the back is called the carapace, the flat part that covers the stomach is called the plastron. I've found that both turtle "shell" and clam shell are more highly prone to post-recovery deterioration than other types of faunal remains.

Some turtle carapace fragments from one site I analysed appeared quite robust on initial examination, yet when I looked at the collection again several years later these fairly large fragments had broken into many smaller bits. This despite careful handling and storage of the paper bags in which the bones from each individual feature had been bagged. This apparent structural fragility does not occur in all assemblages, but outward appearance isn't always a good guide to preservation. Freshwater clam shells at this site and others were also affected by post-excavation breakage, although here potential problem specimens can be more readily identified because they look powdery and delaminated. The structural integrity may be affected by processing, such as baking or boiling. I also suspect the use of water during cleaning in the lab may accelerate delamination.

In a case where several larger fragments are bagged together originally, post-excavation fragmentation can make it rather hard to piece together the original fragments. Extreme fragmentation also makes it more difficult to identify the kind of turtle or clam that the fragments came from. Some turtle carapaces have been made into artifacts, and it can be difficult to attempt a reconstruction of the original rattle, bowl or pendant from tiny fragments. The species identification of

freshwater clam shells can allow for environmental reconstruction, but the area around the hinge has to be intact in order to establish the species. While there may be little we can do in some cases to prevent the main part of the clam shell from disintegrating, the hinges should be carefully conserved. Great care should be taken to ensure that artifactually modified shell fragments (e.g., worn, polished, notched, drilled, and/or cut fragments) are not overlooked.

I was lucky, in a way, that the post-excavation breakage of the turtle carapace fragments and clam shells occurred after I'd already examined the collection once. If the damage had occurred prior to analysis it could have resulted in a considerable loss of information. I now immediately bag each individual fragment in a labelled patch bag. I would like to suggest that this separate bagging procedure is carried out soon after excavation, ideally after initial cleaning with a soft, dry brush. To ensure the bone does not go mouldy, a pin can be used to punch some air holes. These patch bags really do help protect bone and shell. An additional advantage is that they allow for full-size labelling of provenance and catalogue number without having to write on the actual specimen.

I thank Chris Andersen for his insights on this topic.

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## Obituaries

### John Pufahl

Windsor Chapter, the University of Windsor and Ontario's artistic and archaeological communities were lessened by the death, October 24, 1998, of Dr. John Pufahl. Thirty years a teacher at, and sometime head of, the university's School of Visual Arts, John joined the Chapter in 1987. On four occasions he shared with us the results of his research into Native pictographs.

It was something that had fascinated him as a boy in the '40's and '50's when exploring the country around the family cottage in northwestern Ontario. According to his son, "The pictographs were deteriorating and he wanted to document them. But the only way it was being done 15 years ago was to put a mylar film over them

and trace them. My father thought that was disrespectful to this sacred art , so he devised a new method to document pictographs without touching them."

In the early '80's John began experimenting with computer-enhancement of images. Slide photos were put on disc, then displayed on a monitor screen, factored into terms of thousands of their tiniest elements. Different parts of an image could then be magnified and digitally "traced" adding the appropriate colour and suppressing lichen, mineral stains and other unwanted background. In this way rock surface pictures almost invisible in "normal" reality were remade as startlingly vivid images in "virtual" reality. The skill with which the pictographs had been executed was revealed, and something was restored of the power these images had for their creators. Latterly John had been extending his investigations to Native art elsewhere in America. Examples of design similarity suggested the northern Ontario Natives had participated in continent-wide networks of exchange of ideas, though the processes remained obscure.

For John, pictographs were not just objects to be stamp-collected and scrutinized; he recognized their centrality to the lives of modern Native peoples. His work was a model for mutual learning between archaeologists and First Nations' communities, in this case the Eagle River Ojibway.

John was a respected printmaker in the Windsor community. In his later works he combined Native images with his personal vision in striking and original ways. We deeply regret that his creativity, artistic and scientific, has been cut short.

### Doug McNichol

Members of the Eastern Ontario Archaeological and Heritage community were saddened by the loss, Tuesday, November 3, 1998 of Doug McNichol. Doug was curator of Perth Museum. Under his direction, Matheson House became a unique combination of a heritage house museum of 1840 and a showplace of Perth's history from 1816 to present. Doug loved his work. In a 1993 interview, he described the Perth Museum as "a warm, energetic place. I find it exhilarating ... I wouldn't change places with anybody."

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Arrangements can be made for a date and time for you to pick them up and take them to their new homes.

Remember, the early bird gets the worm!

# Calendar

**February 10 - *Images of Empire in Ancient Persian: Reflections on the Mesopotamian Legacy*** - 8:00 pm, Room 108, Koffler Institute for Pharmacy Management, 569 Spadina Avenue, Toronto. For further information, please call (416) 978-3305.

**February 10 - *Persians and Late Phrygians at Gordion: The New Archaeological Evidence***. For further information, please call (416) 978-3290.

**February 27 - *Archaeology Unearthed!*** The OAS and Columbus Centre present the 4<sup>th</sup> annual day-long workshop for budding and wannabe archaeologists or those just curious to know how it's done - 8:30 to 4:30 pm \$40.00 adults, \$35 students and seniors (includes lunch). Note: programming is best suited for ages 10 and up. For information and registration call the Columbus Centre at (416) 789-7011 ext 250, Columbus Centre, 901 Lawrence Avenue W. Toronto

**March 10 - *Sardanapalus and the End of Assyria: A Problem of History and Historical Memory*** - 8:00 pm, Room, 108, Koffler Institute for Pharmacy Management, 569 Spadina Avenue, Toronto. For further information, please call (416) 978-3305

## **March Break Activities - March 15 - 19, 1999 Fort York and Spadina House**

Spadina House - *Art in a Heritage Environment*, for 8 to 12 year olds, 9:00 am to noon. For information and pre-registration, please call (416) 392-6910.

Fort York - *Time Machine* - for children 10 years and under, this week long program runs from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm and offers a number of hands-on activities taking place throughout the grounds. For more information, please call (416) 392-6907

**March 17 - *Excavations at del Chianti: The Etruscan Settlement***. For further information, please call (416) 978-3290

**March 24-28 - *Society for American Archaeology - Annual Meeting***. An exploration of Mounds and Earthworks in the Midwestern United States, the legacy of Chicago Archaeology, the mysteries of sunken ships and the "brave new world" of archaeological materials on the World Wide Web are just a few of the highlights of the 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society at the Sheraton Chicago Hotel and Towers in Chicago Illinois. For further information contact Elizabeth Foxwell, SAA (202) 789-8200.

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 N2L 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@mcmi.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.sscl.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: Marian Clark, Secretary: Lois King, Treasurer: Bill MacLennan, Newsletter: Ottawa Archaeologist, Editor: Jean-François Beaulieu, Public Archaeology: Kathi McAinsh, Director-at-large: Jean-Luc Pilon. Mailing address: Box 4939 Station E, Ottawa ON K1S 5J1. Internet: <http://www.cyberus.ca/~jlpilon/otchh.htm>

Membership: individual \$17, family \$20, student \$10. Meetings are usually at 7:30pm on the 2nd Thursday of the month, except June-August, at the Routhier Community Centre, 172 Guingues 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 7:30pm 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).

The Ontario Archaeological Society Inc.  
126 Willowdale Avenue  
Toronto ON M2N 4Y2

Phone: (416) 730-0797  
Fax: (416) 730-9670

Email: [oas@globalserve.net](mailto:oas@globalserve.net)

Internet: [www.adamsheritage.on.ca/oas/](http://www.adamsheritage.on.ca/oas/)

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