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Editor's note ...

Well, the big news is out! Bob, Jo and Henry each highlight the OAS's imminent move and partnership. Read on!

The AN cover features two of the charter members of the OAS – Norm Emerson and Murray Corbett. Helen Devereux provides two insightful pieces on each man – Norm in reminiscence and Murray in more recent remembrance, Helen offering her thoughts on the recent passing of Murray Corbett. I would like to thank Helen for her memories of these two colourful and instrumental figures in the OAS.

Meanwhile, the debate continues, Fagan is suspect, the ORC is reborn, and a retro-look at Intuitive Archaeology a la Emerson!

Oh, and Paul, I’m glad to see you’re off your duff and have finally joined up!

Frank Dieterman, Arch Notes editor

Welcome New OAS Members

C. Hobberlin - Mississauga
M. Huizingh - Bright's Grove
M. Mamone - Burlington
Y. McBool - Orleans
L. Rush - Clayton NY
P. Thibadeau - Ottawa
W. Thompson - Sarnia
J. Alexander - Niagara-on-the-Lake

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For more information, contact the OAS office,
(416) 730-0797
President's notes

The 50th Anniversary of the Ontario Archaeological Society is turning out to be a truly great year. As described in articles elsewhere in this issue by Jo Holden and Henry Van Lieshout, the Society is entering into a multi-year partnership arrangement for public programming with the Municipality of the Town of Richmond Hill, and will be moving in October into new office facilities at the Elgin West Community Centre. This exciting partnership will enable the Society to provide members with opportunities for field and lab work on a more regular basis, as well as hopefully generating much needed revenue to promote and subsidize our regular operations.

The previous issue of Arch Notes mentioned that the 50th Anniversary celebration would include the creation of a new regional chapter of the Society. Well, it has come to pass. On June 7, Jo Holden and I had the honour of presenting an official charter to Laura Dodson and Joy Ormsby at the inaugural meeting of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Chapter.

The meeting was held in Parks Canada's restored Navy Hall, and included Ron Dale, Superintendent of Fort George NHS, as a guest speaker. He treated the approximately 50 people in attendance to an excellent slide presentation, and explained in detail how archaeology contributed to the reconstruction and interpretation of the fort. He also provided advice to local residents who asked what they could about artifact collectors who trespass onto their pri-
vate properties with metal detectors to dig up War of 1812 artifacts.

Robert Campbell, a free-lance film producer who is producing a TV program called "The Collectors", recently interviewed me on camera regarding the Society's position on bottle collecting. In consultation with the Board of Directors, my response was that the Society has no objection as long as any surface collecting or excavating is being conducted under an archaeological licence with a report prepared in compliance with the regulations of the Ontario Heritage Act, that landowner permission is obtained to access public and private property, and that the bottles are not sold for profit or traded. I also pointed out that much could be learned from bottle collecting if it is conducted in a manner appropriate to the specific site conditions and the information shared with the public. In analyzing bottles from 19th century Euro-Canadian archaeological sites, books by bottle collectors are routinely consulted by many avocational, academic and professional archaeologists because they sometimes contain information on local circumstances that is not available from the more traditional archaeological sources.

Rudi Wycliffe, Director of the Red Tape Secretariat, has indicated that there will be a consultative process over the summer regarding the Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation (MCzCR). The Society and other interested parties will have an opportunity to provide input and suggestions. Michael Johnson, Manager of the Heritage and Libraries Branch of the MCzCR is sending all information he receives to Louise Barry of the Customer Service Project. If anyone wants to provide her with information, they can send it to her e-mail address at 'Louise.Barry@mczcr.gov.on.ca'.

Bob Mayer, President

From the OAS office...

APRIL 1, 2000 - I gave a short paper at the Association of Professional Archaeologists Conference entitled "Then and Now." I spoke about the OAS's early years, how the original members were often responsible for training the University of Toronto archaeology students in field techniques and how, many times, they worked on salvage digs or took on major excavation projects for the Ministry. The profession changed, and the OAS membership saw themselves very much left on the sidelines. The Society became an archaeological establishment that lost one of its founding precepts, the activity of participation.

JANUARY 1999 - Martin Cooper, an OAS member and partner of Archaeological Services Incorporated, passed information to me that I didn’t dare believe. There was a recreation centre in Richmond Hill, in the final stages of completion, that was incorporating an Interpretive Centre into its facility. An interpretive opportunity was available and Martin thought the Society should start thinking about cultivating a relationship with them. Slowly I started gathering information.

SEP student Megan Grant working on the education programs for the Society’s new venture at Richmond Hill

Literally a year later, Martin called again to say things looked like they were going to start moving. By March of this year I had collected the bid application and, between myself and Henry van Lieshout, a comprehensive proposal was created and submitted. Fortunately, the following month was insanely busy as I had no time to fret about how well the proposal was moving through the review process.
MAY 2000 - a message was left at the office to say the Richmond Hill team was interested and would like to talk. We met and a tentative agreement was made for a formal agreement to be drawn up for a partnership between Richmond Hill and the OAS. Our move in date is early October 2000.

The OAS has now returned to its roots on its 50th anniversary. The Society is now a steward of a unique site, has the opportunity to provide archaeological education, and has formed a cutting edge partnership with a Municipality.

At this writing the Society’s new local numbers have not been issued, however the toll free number of 1-888-733-0042 will remain a constant throughout the move in process and our email address will remain the same. Be patient over the last week of September and the first couple weeks of October - if your call isn’t returned promptly, it’s probably because I’m under a box somewhere!

Jo Holden, Executive Director

A FEW MONTHS AGO the OAS became aware of the fact that the Town of Richmond Hill, just North of Toronto, was looking to partner with a suitable organization to help manage, and promote, an interpretation centre at a major archaeological site in the town. The site is actually located within the boundaries of a park in the town, and the interpretation centre is located in the park’s beautiful newly built recreational centre, which includes a pool, gym, meeting and banquet facilities.

THE IDEA of partnering with the Town in this venture was therefore extremely appealing to the Board, for a number of reasons, one of which being that we could actually be located at a major site in Southern Ontario. Other benefits are that we would be able to create, and provide, revenue generating programs to local residents, School Boards and other local agencies, through joint marketing of these programs through the Town’s existing advertising channels. Such programs would then also be made available to communities around Richmond Hill, including the northern parts of Toronto.

THE WHOLE concept of such a partnership would make the Society much more relevant to our community at large, and at the same time, when funding from traditional public agencies is in decline, it seemed to the Board that this was a good opportunity to launch the Society into the new millennium, right on the heels of our 50th anniversary, with a new, larger revenue generating base. For the first time also, we are now able to bring a greater awareness of our collective archaeological heritage to the general public, this being one of the aims of our Constitution. Therefore, this move would see the OAS relocate to a beautiful facility that enhances the OAS’ profile, and its ability to provide quality programs in modern, spacious surroundings. Because the new Richmond Hill initiative would be revenue generating, it also means that we would be able to provide a level of remuneration to people that design, and deliver, these programs. Hopefully some of our
members would be drawn into this, and with this in mind we ask anyone who wishes to be a participant in this venture, to let us know about your interest as soon as possible.

WE DID therefore respond with a proposal to the Town's request, and we are now pleased, and proud, to announce that our proposal has been accepted by Town Council. What this means is that we will be relocating our office to the Recreation Centre (on Bathurst Street just north of Highway 7), in early October. We hope to hold our 50th Anniversary Dinner at the Centre later this year - see details in the enclosed flyer, and we intend to hold an Open House there in January 2001.

IN CLOSING, we welcome any suggestions from our members as to how to further enrich this partnership, and look forward to your questions, ideas, concerns, etc.

The Ontario Archaeological Society Inc.

Minutes of the 1999 OAS annual business meeting

Minutes of the 1999 Annual Business Meeting of the Society, held at 4:30 p.m. Saturday October 30, 1999 in the William G. Davis Computer Center, lecture hall 1350, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario.

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by the President, Bob Mayer. Twenty-three members were present.

Directors in Attendance were

President Bob Mayer
Director of Finance/Treasurer Henry van Lieshout
Director of Chapter Services Mike Kirby
Director of Member Services Hugh Daechsel
Director of Public Services Vito Vaccarelli
Executive Director Jo Holden

Regrets

Director of Publishing Caroline Thériault
Director of Professional Services Lise Ferguson

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Minutes of the 1998 Annual Business Meeting were presented to the membership in accordance with the Constitution of the Society, and upon motion, duly seconded, were unanimously accepted. There was no business arising therefrom.

Directors’ Reports

President’s Report

Bob Mayer reported on the work the Board of Directors and stakeholders have been doing on preparing a Strategic Plan for the Society. The Strategic Plan will be a living document, constantly being updated and requesting input from the membership. Upon completion in late November 1999, the plan will launch the Society into the next century. An executive summary will be published in an Arch Notes in the new year. He also reported that the Board is trying, on a temporary basis, to meet only four times per year. It is felt that this would be more responsive to the Director’s needs and it may encourage members who live outside of the Southern Ontario region to participate on the Board.

Director of Finance Report

Henry van Lieshout reported on the financial position of the Society and noted that during 1998 the Society had a cash surplus due to the fact we still received support, in the amount of nearly $11,000, from the Federal Government, for publication of Ontario Archaeology (OA). This support was no longer available in 1999, and as a result, he expected a deficit of about $13,000. Due to the expected increase in OA publications in 1999 in order to eliminate the publi-
cation arrears, he expected a similar deficit in 1999. However, expected growth in the Society's Mutual Fund, should mitigate the cash deficit. Henry presented a Cash Flow Statement for the period 1999-2001.

Appointment of Auditor
The Society's auditor has agreed to serve for 2000, and upon motion, duly seconded, it was unanimously resolved that Mr. Eric Hennessey be appointed for a further term of one year.

Strategic Plan
The Executive Director informed the members that a Strategic Plan was in the process of completion.

Executive Director's Report
Membership
As of October 1999 is 570, compared to the same time in 1998 when it was 572.

Passport-to-the-Past
Five opportunities were available this year. Since this program was instituted in July 1992, 466 Passports have been issued. There are currently 51 paid up members of this program. This is a drop of 15 from 1998. Many are not renewing as there are not enough opportunities, geographic diversity, and some of the available opportunities are considered too costly by the registered PTTP members.

The Society, in cooperation with Archaeological Services Inc. (ASI), provided an excavation opportunity this year. It was a one day revenue generating event for the Society. Resultant from this event, ASI was able to secure keen and able volunteer help for the remainder of the summer. This is an opportunity that the Society would like to see expanded in the consulting sector across the Province for future summers. This would be in accordance with one of the objectives of the Society, that being, a Society that provides its membership the opportunity to dig!

Awards
Three 25-year membership pins will be presented at the Banquet this year. In addition, the J. Norman Emerson Silver Medal for excellence in archaeology, will be awarded to William E. Renison.

Service to members, Chapters, public outreach, Governments, media, etc.

The Library has been identified as needing to be updated and brought into a readily assessable condition. Norman Knowlton, a Past-President and current volunteer has taken on this project. Although it is slow going, progress is being made. The evidential material that describes the Society has been separated from the working files. Currently the Archives of Ontario is accessing its value to Provincial records. If it is considered of evidential value to the Province, our archival material will be transferred to the Grenville Street, Toronto, location where it will be available to the public, researchers and us at any time.

The Society’s Collection, including William Renison’s photography slides, is scheduled to move its new home, the Sidney Smith Building, at the downtown campus of the University of Toronto by the end of 1999.

Within a month of last year’s symposium, the Society held its very first “History’s Mysteries” book reading event at the Columbus Center. Seventy-five people attended a relaxed evening of readings from four authors; Maureen Jennings, Lyn Hamilton and the "Gears", ie, Kathleen O’Brien and Michael Gear. Their books covered Victorian era Toronto, ancient Mesoamerica, the early Woodland Period in Southern Ontario and the North Eastern United States. The event generated approximately $1,300 in ticket sales and the Society shared net income from the event with the Columbus Center. Future events will be held whenever authors are available in the Greater Toronto Area.

On February 27, 1999, the 4th annual “Archaeology Unearthed” event was held at the Columbus Center. Thirty three people participated, ranging in age from seven to seniors. The Society shared the profit of that event with the Columbus Center.

On July 10, 1999, the first “Archaeology Exposed” event was offered at the Butler Site in Niagara-on-the-Lake. As it was a small site, the participation was limited to 25 persons. The Society earned $600 on this event and it is expected that this type of opportunity will spread among the consulting community resulting in similar events across the Province in the upcoming years.

Over the August long weekend, a bus and train trip was organized that took 46 participants to Moosonee, on James Bay in Northern Ontario, and the site of the launching of the Hudson’s Bay Company. Net earnings from this event amounted to about $1,200.
The Society continues to participate as a member Society for the Ontario Heritage Alliance. Our representatives participated in a number of meetings and workshops, most recently with the Region of Peel, in assisting its development of a Heritage Master Plan.

The process for the 1999 operating grant was initiated by the Ontario Ministry early in 1999, requesting a due date for late March. We were told to anticipate the grant in August, but by mid-August, we were informed that there had been delays and not to expect anything until late September, perhaps October.

The “Discovering Ontario Archaeology” kits, which are rented to schools, community associations and professionals, saw a return to previous levels of activity. In the period November 1998 to October 1999, we had nine rentals. The Society was contacted by York Region Board of Education for information on the kit which later resulted in the sale of a kit to this Board for $1,600. A telephone campaign to past users will begin in November to remind these users to re-book kits, or allow the Society to make a presentation for their Staff Meetings, Boards or colleagues.

Due to the Strategic Plan, some of our regular programs will be reviewed and re-designed. New programming ideas will be taken to Committee for discussion and development.

Publications
The distribution of Ontario Archaeology is proceeding slowly. OA 64 went out in early winter of 1999. OA 65/66 (a double issue) went out in late June 1999, and this brought us up to date for our commitments for 1998. OA 67, the first issue for 1999, is currently in production.

Arch Notes continues to be produced on a timely schedule and is beginning to experience an welcome over supply of articles.

The Society is exploring whether we should support the production of a book titled “Birds from the Ground”, a joint production combining the talents of Doug Sadler and the late Howard Savage.

The Society’s members who are current subscribers of OA will receive “The Taming of the Taxonomy”, the proceedings of last year’s Symposium. It is through a funding partnership by the Society and Archaeological Services Inc. that this benefit has been arranged.

Committee Reports
Nominating Committee
Dena Doroszenko, nominating Chair, and assistant Peter Timmins canvassed the current Directors to determine whether any were available for office for 2000. All were willing to serve, except Mike Kirby who after twelve years service has decided to retire from the board. In his place the Nominating Committee recommended Eva MacDonald for appointment to the Board. The President offered a special word of thanks to Michael Kirby for his services to the Society over the years, both as Treasurer, and as Director of Publications. By acclamation, all the nominees were appointed to the Board of Directors.

Public Events
Jane Sacchetti reported that there were three public events over the 1998/99 year: History’s Mysteries, Archaeology Unearthed and Archaeology Exposed. These three events raised close to $2,200.00. J. Sacchetti urged other members to volunteer for such Special Events as she would like to see such events occurring across the Province.

Chapter Reports
Representatives from the Hamilton, Toronto, and Ottawa chapters were present to give an outline of their Chapters’ activities and achievements for the year.

New Business
Dena Doroszenko asked whether the Society had decided on the locations of the annual Symposium beyond the year 2000. J. Holden responded that we did not, but that this was a condition she would like to see remedied. The Society should be working at least three symposium’s ahead. Dena offered to investigate a possibility with her Niagara-on-the-Lake group for October 2001. J. Holden and B. Mayer indicated that they were interested and further discussions would occur early in the new year.

Once again it was repeated by certain members that the Society should have a permanent Symposium committee, however no one volunteered to coordinate the committee.

Adjournment
There being no further business to discuss, the organizers of this symposium were thanked for their hard work in making all the arrangements, and upon motion, duly made and seconded, the annual business meeting for 1999 was concluded.
The Ontario Archaeological Society Inc.

Agenda for the
Annual Business Meeting

to be held on
Saturday, October 14, 2000 at 4.30 pm at the
Highland Resort Hotel and Conference Center, Midland

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Celebrating the OAS's 50th Anniversary
and official opening
of the new
Richmond Hill Facility

A FUND RAISING DINNER
09 December 2000
6:00 P.M.

Elgin West Community Centre,
Richmond Hill

Details to follow

A Johnson Incorporated Initiative
The Preferred Option Plan (POP)

Many Canadians are finding it increasingly difficult to find access to traditional Employer-sponsored benefit plans. Estimates are that as many as 50% of all Canadians are part-time, seasonal, temporary, substitute, contract, or retired employees and these individuals normally do not meet the eligibility requirements of their employers' benefit plan.

Another major contributor to the shortage of benefits is the number of Canadians who are either self-employed, or working for a small business that does not provide benefits for their employees. Johnson Incorporated recognizes that the need for benefits such as life, health and dental insurance is greater than ever. The desire to fill this growing void has led to the development of the Preferred Option Plan, known simply as POP.

The Ontario Archaeological Society, in partnership with Johnson Incorporated, has now made the POP Plan available to all OAS Members.

The benefits available are life, personal accident, health and dental coverage. The POP Plan is fully owned and administered by Johnson Incorporated. Any OAS member who would like to receive more information can call Johnson Incorporated toll-free at 1-800-461-4597 for complete POP information and enrollment kit, or answer any questions you may have.
The renewal of the ORC (Ontario Real Estate Corporation) Class EA

Tony Stapells, Director of Heritage Advocacy

The Ontario Government is reviewing the Environment Act. A section called a Class Environment Act (Class EA) is related to real estate concerning the Ontario Reality Board. This includes Cultural Heritage. Jo Holden and myself attended a meeting, representing the OAS, at the ORC stakeholders meeting.

A draft Terms of Reference will be submitted to the Minister, on Aug. 18, 2000; the terms of reference can be found at “www.orc.on.ca”. There is still time for input. The Class EA itself should go to the Minister on June 9, 2001. This seems to be an important process. The direction is to protect heritage in all its forms and if we can at least get it strongly worded, it is a start.

The ORC has only 6000 properties and they say that an inventory does not exist. A graded heritage inventory would be a plus. If we can get a government agency to protect heritage, we have a foot in the door. We could use this act, maybe, to protect the private sector. In that the Environmental Act seems stronger than the Heritage Act, there is a hope that we can make some progress by following a different route.

We, the OAS, and others will need to be vigilant to make sure all the points in the terms of reference are in the actual Class Environment Act.

### HERITAGE PROCESS - PROPOSED REVISIONS

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<td>to provide a secure means of identifying all properties with Heritage potential that operates automatically as part of an on-going process.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assessment Report</td>
<td>to revise investigation standards to permit assessment of the level and nature of heritage value.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heritage Evaluation</td>
<td>to review and revise evaluation system to - employ value-driven criteria - streamline its manner of reaching conclusions - ensure clear documentation of decisions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heritage Participation</td>
<td>to provide guidelines for the preparation of heritage mitigation in EA Project Mitigation documentation comparable to those of other project interest groups. to integrate mitigation on heritage issues into formal EA process for decision-making and consultation.</td>
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Annual General Meeting
The Annual General Meeting will proceed after the last Symposium paper Saturday, October 14, 2000. Bring this copy of Arch Notes as it has the 1999 ABM minutes. There will be no minutes available at the meeting. All paid up members are encouraged to attend.

President’s Meeting
The President’s Meeting will be held Friday, October 13, 2000, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Please watch for directions to the meeting room upon arrival at the Best Western Highland Inn, Midland Ontario. Invitations were sent June 2000.

A day of discovering the past for the curious and wannabe archaeologists...

FROM ARTIFACTS TO ARCHAEOLOGY

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 23, 2000
10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Chatham Cultural Centre
Chatham, Ontario

$35.00 Adults, $20 Students (includes light lunch)
Note: Program best suited for ages 12 to adult

POTENTIAL TOPICS INCLUDE:
- Identifying and dating artifacts, and how to make stone stools.
- Excavation and techniques used by Archaeologists
- How archaeologists interpret information to reconstruct past cultures
- Attendees are invited to bring in any artifacts they may have. The session will include an opportunity to have an Archaeologist analyze and discuss your own artifacts.

Space is limited. For registration call Larry Drew at HEADLANDS at 519-823-9724.

(Net proceeds will be donated the Ontario Archaeological Society and the London Chapter)
IN THEIR BOOK, *The Hidden History of the Human Race*, authors Cremo and Thompson assert that "today, Africa, the land of Australopithecus (the southern ape of Africa) and Homo habilis (the tool-maker), remains an active battleground, with scientists skirmishing to establish their views on human origins".

They also tell the story of Josep­hine Salmons, a student in anat­omy at the University of the Wit­watersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa, who in 1924 saw the fossilized skull of a baby baboon above the fireplace of a friend's home in Taung, some 300km southwest of Johannesburg. She took the skull to her professor at the university, Dr. Raymond A Dart, who after exhaustive research tried to convince the British scientific community that his baby baboon skull was ancestral to all other hominid forms, but he failed to convince them. The scientific community demanded an adult specimen before it would accept Dr. Dart's conclusion. When Dart stepped from the world stage, his friend Dr. Robert Broom took up the battle, and in early 1936, he vowed to find an adult specimen in order to prove that Dart was correct.

Anecdotally, it's interesting to note that the School of Continuing Studies of the University of Toronto, in its Introduction to Archaeology course, lists the "Taung Baby" among the four major prehistoric archaeological discoveries of the past 150 years. The others are Java Man, Peking Man, and the first stone tool-makers from East Africa known as Zinjanthropus.

Today, just outside the town of Krugersdorp, an hour's drive from Johannesburg, the Dr. Robert Broom Parkway leads to the Sterkfontein Caves, site of the most im­portant archaeological discovery in Southern Africa. In the early 1960's I first visited the caves, and on a recent visit to Johannesburg I had another opportunity to visit the caves. They are contained in a hill that overlooks a wide valley, and on the crest of the hill the university still has an active excavation under way. Visitors to the site are able to enter the caves on a guided tour, observe the excavation work when it is in progress, and visit the small Dr. Broom Mu­seum at the site, and enjoy a re­freshment at the on-site restaurant.

Today the Sterkfontein Caves are both a South African and a World Heritage Site and its custodian remains the University of the Witwaters-rand. At the restaur­ant an information sheet is available, which is prepared by the Anthropology and Archaeology departments of the University.

An edited version of this in­formation is reproduced be­low.
The Sterkfontein Caves – A Summary of Scientific Research

For nearly 35 years the University of the Witwatersrand has conducted continuous excavations at Sterkfontein. A host of other scientists specializing in geology, palaeontology, archaeology, botany, and dating have contributed to the wealth of knowledge at this important site which holds a long record of information on human and cultural progression on shifts in landscape, climate, vegetation and fauna.

Sterkfontein is an extensive cave system formed by the solution of dolomite rock beneath the water table. The water table has now dropped and the spectacular, eroded shapes of the dolomite can be seen as one walks through the vast chambers to an underground lake, which fills other parts of the extensive cave system. In one part of the cave is a portion of an ancient consolidated infill that collapsed about 2 million years ago from an older and higher cave. Above this infill is a long shaft which leads to massive deposits which are currently being excavated by scientists from the University of the Witwatersrand. Other deposits are being worked on in the underground cave system date back to 3 million years.

The caves first came to public attention in 1896 when a certain G. Martinaglia blasted here in search of lime. By the 1920's and 1930's, blocks of ancient infills containing fossils had been removed and dumped as a result of this lime quarrying. Upon hearing of extinct baboon fossils from these dumps, Dr. Robert Broom visited Sterkfontein on 9 August 1936. By the 17th he had found the first adult skull of an ape-man, believed to be 2.5 to 3.0 million years old. His continuing work here, together with others, uncovered many skulls and bones of ape-men, as well as fossils of saber-toothed cats and extinct monkeys and antelope. In 1947, they blasted out the famous ape-man cranium known as Mrs. Ples, and in 1956 in a younger part of the cave deposits, stone tools were discovered.

Sterkfontein can be likened to a time capsule, which preserves glimpses of past worlds in its cemented deposits. What follows is a summary of the prehistoric events which decades of excavation and scientific research have been able to uncover.

About 3.5 million years ago, the first entrance to an underground limestone cave at Sterkfontein opened, and began to fill with debris from the surface. These infills became cemented with lime dissolved out of the dolomite. Fossils preserved in these infills show us that erect-walking creatures roamed the landscape here over 3 million years ago, together with other animals now extinct, such as the hunting hyena, saber-toothed cats, giant leaf-eating monkeys and small primitive baboons. The entrance to the cave was then small and dangerous, as carnivores often fell in along with their prey of monkeys and occasional antelope. One ape-man (hominid) fossil has now also been identified in this deposit.

Dubbed "Little Foot", it consists of four articulating foot bones which show that 3.0 to 3.5 million years ago our ancestors possessed a foot.
Arch features – Sterkfontein caves revisited

with a mix of human and ape traits. While the ankle was fully adapted to an upright posture, the big toe was ape-like and, as with our thumb, could flex and grasp objects such as tree branches. Announced only in 1995, Little Foot is now the oldest South African hominin.

By 3.0 to 2.6 million years ago, the cave entrance was much larger. Carnivores living around the cave or using its overhanging trees left behind many bones of their prey, which found their way into the cave deposits. The fauna from this infill now includes many hundreds of hominid fossils, along with many thousands of fossil bones and teeth of other animals. With some 600 hominid fossils now catalogued, Sterkfontein is the richest Australopithecus site in Africa, attracting scientists from around the world to study the collections. Two types of hominid lived during this period at Sterkfontein. One species is known as the ancestor to the evolving human lineage, while a second species was a slightly different flat-faced hominid more highly specialized in its diet than the first. These creatures lived in a world very different to the one we know today at Sterkfontein. Although they were the prey of large carnivores, such as the saber-toothed cat, the leopard and the hunting hyena, these hominids probably still had the ability to climb trees for greater safety. From comparisons with modern apes, we also believe they had the benefit of a complex family and group life. Although we have no surviving evidence, they must have used leaves, twigs, sticks, branches, and possibly even stones as occasional tools, as some ape communities do today.

At present we see dry grassland in the Sterkfontein valley, but 2.6 or 3 million years ago the environment was more lush, with the river closer to the site and the landscape less eroded away. Wood is very rarely fossilised at such “young” sites, but Sterkfontein had the right conditions to preserve over 300 fragments of wood. The flora and fauna thus indicate that a tropical gallery forest fringed by savannah existed at Sterkfontein over 2.6 million years ago.

The next event in prehistory is not well dated, but we know that at about 2 million years ago, another area of the cave opened and began to fill. In this deposit we have the cranium of a much more human-like creature which has been called Homo habilis, after its tool making abilities. The climate was probably drier at this time and the river more distant. No fossil wood has been preserved in this infill, and we have to rely on studies of fauna in progress to provide more detailed clues to the environment at this time. While this species in East Africa is said to have been a tool-maker, excavations here have not yet revealed any reliable associated artifacts in this infill. However several meters north of this deposit an artifact bearing infill began to enter the cave some time between 2 and 1.7 million years ago. The fauna includes an extinct savannah-dwelling pig, a form of giant ostrich, and a horse, all of which confirm the continuing trend towards a drier climate in these later infills. Other fauna includes antelope, monkeys, rodents and birds, which may tell us more about the environment when studied by specialists. The hominids are now rarely preserved in these later infills, but we do have for the first time a few teeth of a flat-faced ape-man, together with the earliest stone tools yet found in the southern part of Africa.

Although the very oldest artifacts date back to 2.5 million years in East Africa, only these from Sterkfontein and some slightly younger tools from the nearby
Swartkrans cave have yet been found in the South because such early sites are so rare in the right context.

The Sterkfontein tools belong to an industry called Oldowan. This is a most fascinating period of prehistory because such artifacts reveal to us the very beginnings of human culture, the foundation of all the elaborate technology we humans now possess. At Sterkfontein, we can actually reconstruct some of the decisions and actions taken by these early tool-makers. The hominids selected stones from gravel close to the site and brought them to shady, sheltered spots often found near the cave entrances. They preferred the quartz stones, which are not the most common, but which are the easiest to chip. These they either smashed between two other stones, or struck with another stone to detach chips and flakes, and which could be used for cutting and scraping. When the tool-makers occasionally used quartzite, they found it easier to flake if it was first fractured by throwing or by splitting between two stones used as a hammer and anvil.

As time progressed in hundreds of thousands of years, changes in tool-making became evident in the later deposits. Although they still used quartz, the hominids now preferred the larger quartzite cobbles which are harder to work. In time, they learned to strike off large flakes and on these they occasionally made more elaborate tools such as hand-axes and cleavers. This change in the primitive tool-kit appeared some 1.5 million years ago, and it is most probably linked to the appearance of a new, more evolved hominid species called Homo Erectus. The pace of human and cultural evolution had now quickened.

At the exit from the caves is a bronze bust of Dr. Broom, his gaze fixed on the skull of the adult hominid he found here (see photo, page 12), and which validated the findings of his friend Dr. Dart many years earlier.

Opinicon point?

N. Adams (OAS-L 00/06/26)

As most of you know, the water levels along much of the Cataraqui River were changed during the early nineteenth century when the Rideau Canal was built. Because so much of the original shoreline has been inundated, the frequency of known prehistoric sites from the area is correspondingly low.

The attached point was found off-shore, in shallow water in Opinicon Lake. The owner has kindly loaned me the point for examination and documentation, but I would appreciate any other opinions as to its age, type, function.

It is made of Onondaga Chert and measures 57mm long, 23 mm maximum width and 7 mm maximum thickness. The width between notches is 18 mm. The base appears to be incomplete or snapped off. The blade is retouched on all margins and has diagonal cross section. The tip is missing.

(Editor's note: Nick, if you've since been enlightened on this artifact, pass the info along to AN!).
J. Norman Emerson: a personal view

H.P. Devereux

When I asked Helen if she would design and create the exhibit case about J. Norman Emerson for the upcoming exhibit at the University of Toronto - “Partners in the Past: U of T and OAS digs”, Helen agreed to undertake the task. When she began writing the text, we quickly found that what she had to say would be too long for an exhibit case. Rather than cut out or try to condense any of her valuable reminiscences, I convinced her that an appropriate forum for her writings was Arch Notes. Helen worked with Norm Emerson from 1950 to 1963 as a student, assistant and associate supervisor of excavations, and later as a faculty Instructor. These are her memories of him from that time.

For a visual experience of J. Norman Emerson’s excavations in the 1950’s, please plan to attend the opening of our exhibit on October 18th, 2000 (see flyer enclosed with this issue of Arch Notes). At the opening, we would also like to solicit other OAS members’ recollections of Dr. Emerson and the excavations at that time. So please bring your photos and memories if you were there!

Pat Reed, Curator of ‘Partners in the Past: U of T and OAS digs’

Norm Emerson

(photo courtesy Pat Reed)

Norm Emerson spent the forty years of his professional life committed to archaeology in Ontario. To him, archaeology was a way of life—not a career to be fostered at all costs. His strongest supporter was his wife, Ann. His children grew up on excavation sites, and his youngest teethed on potsherds on site. For most of their married life, the Emerson’s lived quite plainly at Bond Lake (Oak Ridges). Here Norm had his own study where he did his writing. But the Bond Lake shore was also the scene of many student pottery making and artifact washing sessions as well as corn roasts round the huge iron kettle hung from a tripod.

Behind the aware blue eyes lay a natural dignity. This despite the shapeless gray slacks and ancient dun-coloured corduroy jacket that adopted him permanently once he had settled into who he was. He was of medium height, light build, and very well co-ordinated. Of fair complexion, he became bald at twenty-two about which he harboured some sensitivity. He had a pleasant, controlled speaking voice and a nice tenor singing voice. He loved to dance, his one routine being a kind of tango. Sketching came easy to him, and at one period of his life, he turned to painting picture, mostly landscapes. Some of these were of large format and some reflected the problems with which he wrestled all of his adult life. It is difficult to capture his complexity in this short article.
Two basic philosophies that he verbalized were: “you cannot separate mind and body”; and the efficacy of “learning by doing”. These particular systems of thought may have had their roots in his early forays into psychology and sociology. Combined with his superb organizing abilities and commitment to archaeology, these philosophies may have influenced his innovative teaching style.

Students were required to do actual field excavation, analysis of the resultant artifacts, and the writing of descriptive reports. During one year in the 1950's, 600 students, over three weekends, spent 2 days each digging at the Warminster site near Orillia. In the classroom, he did not tell students what to do; he laid out the necessary background material and then invited students to formulate a problem which particularly interested them, and then to proceed (with guidance) to think and work it through. Those who were serious plunged in and learned many things. Those who waited to be told what to do waited in vain and were judged accordingly! “It separates the sheep from the goats” he mused on more than one occasion.

In the field particularly, the ‘whole’ student was nurtured by being provided with opportunities consonant with a particular interest. Students always received due credit for original work. In camp, Norm was ready to listen to anyone who needed listening to. He had an open mind and practised lateral thinking as a problem solving technique. In the field, side trips were deemed worthwhile, whether to other sites or to the lake on a hot day. And in the evening, around the ever-present firepit, he soothed away the discomforts of camp life, whether from inclement weather and bugs, or social tensions, by chording away on his battered guitar and singing the old songs.

During the last several years of his academic career, Norman cast about for new ways with which archaeology could illuminate the past. Possibly old upwellings of psychological and mind-body interests provided some of the matrix from which his new passion emerged. He pioneered another radical and untested method: Intuitive Archaeology. His forays into this uncharted field were cut short in 1978 by his death at the age of sixty-one.

Not to be found in the archaeological literature are the names in the cadre of students who bore the Emerson imprint and became professional archaeologists. Through them, his style of thinking and of archaeology shaped the course of Ontario archaeology for a significant number of decades. The imprinting was also very personal. It is said that the source of imitation is admiration. How many times I have been aware of one of Norman’s idiosyncratic gestures subconsciously reproduced by a colleague.

Years of observation have lead me to the conclusion that Norman did archaeology on the principle that the means was as important as the end. Archaeology is done primarily by individuals. Archaeology can teach individuals to think. Thinking individuals produce better insights into past behaviour. Not only that: thinking individuals can make this world a better place. In retrospect, that seems like a pretty worthwhile life’s work!
Norm Emerson's intuitive archaeology

INTUITION CAN BE usefully defined as the immediate knowing or learning of something without the conscious use of reasoning. It is my conviction that I have received knowledge about archaeological artifacts and archaeological sites from a psychic informant who relates this information to me without any evidence of the conscious use of reasoning.

My psychic informant, who at the present time wishes to remain anonymous, is named George. I presented George with a fragment of an artifact excavated from the Black Creek site located in Metropolitan Toronto. He held the fragment in his hand, contemplated it, fondled it, and meditated upon it at length. He then correctly told me that it was a pipe stem; told me the age of the site, the location of the site; he described how the pipe was manufactured; described the maker and provided details about the community, and living conditions. He then took pencil and paper in hand and drew a picture of the pipe bowl which he stated belonged to the broken pipe stem.

I was fascinated and impressed because I immediately recognized that he had clearly drawn a picture of a typical Iroquois Conical Ring Bowl pipe. This type of pipe was one of the popular types recovered from the Black Creek site; and is one of the pre-dominant types to be found in Middle Iroquois times. I next gave George a fragmented human effigy pipe bowl recovered from the shore of Bass Lake, near Orillia, Ontario. George again provided me with a wealth of information about this artifact related to its age, location, function, and details about its general setting and location. Once again, he took pencil and paper and drew a picture of the modelled human effigy head which he stated had been broken off the edge of the pipe bowl.

Again, fascinated and impressed, I immediately recognized the drawing as that of a typical Huron Pinch-faced Human Effigy. This pipe is characteristic of late prehistoric and historic sites in the Simcoe County area.

... George and I visited the prehistoric Iroquois Quackenbush village site, north of Peterborough, Ontario. Among other things, George told me that these people did not cultivate corn, beans and squash. I found it hard to accept the idea that they did not have these traditional Iroquois crops. The investigating archaeologist assured me that they had recovered abundant evidence of corn, squash and sunflower seeds. At this point it appeared that George was wrong. The thought then came to mind that, perhaps, they had obtained their vegetables by trade from the south, rather than by local cultivation. George had stressed their trade in hides; and the investigating archaeologist felt that he could make a good case for trade in stone. I then had soil samples taken and studied for pollen grains. This study revealed one problematical corn pollen grain. This did not seem to argue for local cultivation. This was especially suggested by the relative abundance of pollen evidence of various trees, plants and grasses. At this point, it would seem that George was correct. However, I do not feel that the pollen studies have been extensive enough to be conclusive. They must be further expanded....

...I have explanatory thoughts of my own, but at this point in my studies it would seem most prudent to reserve judgment for the future. Much of the answer must ultimately lie in the understanding of George. Certain processes are clear to me; his statements are the crystallization of selected auditory and visual images available to him. One further fact about George must be noted; that is, his extreme sensitivity to the artifacts that he handles. He describes them as hot or cold; dead or alive. This is apparently a temperature assessment. The older, the colder. The fact that his age assessments are quite accurate stands as proof of this sensitivity. The questions raised by the above statement are multitudinous, and the avenues of possible research, study, and documentation are legion...
This, then, is Intuitive Archaeology, A Psychic Approach. It is a new approach, and it offers a new source of knowledge about man’s prehistory. In my first encounters with George, I responded with what I choose to call an open-minded skepticism. Since that time my study and immersion in things parapsychological has been diverse, intensive and ever broadening. My initial feelings of discovery, uniqueness and I assure you, of aloneness, and a sense of mission that my role was to demonstrate, document and reveal to the world the reality of George’s intuitive ability and with it the verification of his knowledge, has now taken a continuing but secondary priority. I am now aware that scientists and scholars of all kinds, in all parts of the world, are emerging with new and vital interpretations and data which have elevated the discipline and study of the parapsychological to the realm of the acceptable, the analyzable, and the inferential. Moreover, it became vividly evident that their broad shared aim seemed to be to contribute to the understanding of man, his nature, his universe, and perhaps even to his ultimate purpose. As an anthropologist and as an archaeologist trained in these fields, it makes sense to me to seize the opportunity to pursue and study the data thus provided.

Arch shorts

First notice ~ Digital OA

Nick Adams (OAS-L 00/06/26)

During it’s 50 years of operation, the Ontario Archaeological Society has published hundreds of articles and research papers in special publications and in its scholarly journal Ontario Archaeology. They are a priceless record of the archaeological activities undertaken in Ontario over the last half-century.

As one of its 50 year anniversary and 'new millennium' projects, the Ontario Archaeological Society is working with Adams Heritage to make the results of these 50 years of archaeological research available to the public on a series of CDs.

The full content of each published article, including all text, graphics and tables, will be published in an interactive format. Users will be able browse individual articles, click on links for instant access to graphics, photographs and tables, or quickly search across all articles for any word, reference or topic.

The full text of each article is being converted to digital text so that users will be able to copy and paste relevant sections into their own documents, print individual pages, illustrations or whole sections of text.

The first CD will contain all articles from the first 20 years of the Ontario Archaeological Society 1950-1969 (including New Pages in History, and New Pages of Prehistory, originally published by the Ontario Historical Society). Subsequent upgrade CDs will contain additional decades as the monumental task of digital conversion is completed.
A critique of "An Academic Time Warp" (Brian Fagan)

J. Trevor Hawkins and Bob Mayer

"CRM is quite distinct from academic fieldwork. This is hands-on archaeology: assessing, monitoring, and salvaging the vanishing past for future generations. Today, more than 90 percent of all archaeological excavation and surveying in the United States is CRM work, a startling change from a generation ago. Much of it is in the hands of private-sector companies, large and small. Many archaeologists are also involved in vital issues of cultural heritage, conservation, and mass tourism. Unfortunately, the way we train archaeologists maintains the illusion that we are academics and nothing else - at a time of desperate need for colleagues trained in entirely different skills to fit this new archaeological world. With a few notable exceptions, universities continue churning out specialized research scholars with Ph.D.s. The theoretical and fieldwork skills of these professionals usually have little relevance to the fast-moving, highly regulated, and managerial CRM world."

Excerpt from "An Academic Time Warp", B. Fagan, Discovering Archaeology July/August 1999 and currently on-line at 'www.discoveringarchaeology.com'.

IN THIS PUBLISHED article, Professor Brian Fagan holds an interesting position concerning the training of archaeologists for practical/contract archaeology (i.e., cultural resource management) rather than a purely academic pursuit. As a renowned academic he presents the practicum side of the argument in the long-standing academic-practicum debate. Such a debate is an everyday occurrence in any field of science concerning the relative importance of pure and applied research. However, there is no right answer because there cannot be only one winner between the two positions.

While we support Professor Fagan's argument, we believe he misses an essential component of contract archaeology in cultural resource management. It is mandatory that archaeologists receive academic training in the philosophy of archaeology. This is what provides the intellectual component that allows the practitioner to move beyond the mere technical identification of artifacts to an appreciation/consideration of their relevance, both within their own artifact groupings and with other intra/inter site comparisons on a local, regional, provincial and national basis. The academic philosophy is needed to permit the understanding of the complete story.

What is needed in doing fieldwork is this academic background, guided by the practical aspects of cultural resource management. It would be good if, in the academic training, the student could be made aware that this practical/contract/employment aspect exists. But it is not the responsibility of the archaeology professors to attempt to instill in their students a full understanding of the business side of the profession. Nor do we think that, at this time, archaeology should look to the community colleges to provide a practicum education.

The solution to the problem espoused by Fagan, is for the industry itself to provide for the accreditation of archaeologists in the cultural resource management discipline, employer and employee alike. This would be accomplished by the provision of awareness programs, professional upgrading, mentoring, et cetera, as well as through an examination process, provide a publicly noted/recognized accreditation. The Ontario Archaeological Society could play a leading role to achieve this, and is now actively investigating the possibility of providing such services for its members.
The debate carries on ... re: a licence is not transferable

As a follow-up to previous comments published in *Arch Notes* and OAS-L regarding archaeological licensing, it would be better to reduce the bureaucratic requirements rather than add to them by the creation of additional licence classes. It would be unfair and unworkable to impose such additional tasks upon the Ministry especially given its much reduced staffing level. Such a process would also exacerbate the problems faced by the already overburdened development industry and would provide little or no advantage over the current system.

In keeping with long established government policy and initiatives with respect to self-governance of professional disciplines, archaeology and its cultural resource management sub-discipline would better look to a system replacing licensing with accreditation or certification based upon very high standards and administered by an association such as the Ontario Archaeological Society. The OAS is currently investigating the role it could play in such a process.

Such accreditation or certification should extend beyond the academic and practical archaeological knowledge and include basic entrepreneurial courses such as the various ways to start a company. This includes incorporation, partnership, proprietorship and the taxation implications of each, costing, bookkeeping, banking/credit lines, GST or non-GST, Worker’s Compensation, Health and Safety Act regulations, Employment Insurance requirements, various types of insurance, options for bad debt collection, developing good employee relations, corporate promotion and advertising, Ministry regulations/guidelines, and good work habits among all kinds of discipline-specific skills photography, line drawing, computer graphics, artifact identification and analysis, research designs, publicity for high profile projects, proposal/budget preparation, grantsmanship, web page design for distributing information on newsworthy projects, et cetera. All of these would be designed to establish and enhance professional conduct.

Sincerely,
Bob Mayer

I have two comments concerning Mr. Mayer’s letter. First, I am not sure whether the OAS is the appropriate body to administer the accreditation or certification of consulting archaeologists. It may certainly provide input as to the setting of standards but I do not believe that it has a role in the accreditation of professional consulting archaeologists. In British Columbia (from which I have recently returned) the British Columbia Association of Professional Consulting Archaeologists (BCAPCA) has recently set up its own system of accreditation that does not involve in any way (to my knowledge) the OAS equivalent, the Archaeological Society of British Columbia. Does an organization such as the OAS, that encompasses archaeologists of all types, have the resources to fund and train new professional archaeologists? It would seem to me that this would radically alter the nature of the organization. Ideally, such training should occur at universities but to my knowledge no universities in Canada offer a specific programme on cultural resources management. A recent publication by the Society for American Archaeology, ‘Teaching Archaeology in the Twenty-First Century’, indicates that such programmes are only in their infancy in the United States.

Second, and more importantly has anyone looked at what is legally required to make consulting archaeology self-governing. Has anyone approached a lawyer or the appropriate Government Ministry to get this information? It seem logical to me that this key and important information should first be considered before we get into long debates about accreditation and standards.

Sincerely,
Tom Arnold
Obituary

J.R. Murray Corbett
(1912 - 2000)

Murray Corbett was a Maritimer, born in Saint John, New Brunswick, of United Empire Loyalist ancestry. He graduated from Saint John high school in 1930. On graduation he entered a long established family business in the construction trade as a cost accountant. In 1937, he married Phyllis Andrews, who, on retirement, had served for twenty-five years in the field of industrial psychology. In 1949, the Corbett’s moved to Toronto where Murray continued to work in construction as a cost accountant for Lefarge and the Foundation Company of Canada.

Murray is survived by his wife Phyllis, their daughter Janice, two grandchildren, Kevin and Jennifer, and a great-grandson, Murray, born June 19, 2000.

Murray’s archaeological avocation was rooted in early youth and his love for the Saint John River where his family owned a summer cottage. On the river, he canoed and fished along with the Micmac and Maliseet peoples who seasonally camped nearby. These contacts and his forays into the New Brunswick Museum in Saint John set the pattern which ultimately lead to archaeology as a lifelong avocation.

By the time the Corbett’s moved to Toronto, Murray already had a well-developed interest in archaeology. In 1949, he enrolled at the University of Toronto in an archaeology course entitled “Ontario Before Champlain” offered by Dr. J. Norman Emerson. From the nucleus of students in the class emerged the Ontario Archaeological Society with Murray as one of the charter members. He was a core member serving in 1953 as President, subsequently as Recording Secretary, and alternately for ten years during the 1960s and 1970s as Financial Auditor. He participated in every OAS excavation during the first fifteen years, sometimes accompanied by Janice. In 1976, he was awarded an Honorary Life Membership in the OAS for his quarter century of yeoman service.
Arch shorts

The accompanying photo of Murray was taken in his archaeological prime, at the Elliot site in Agincourt, excavated by the OAS in the 1950s. It depicts the tall, slim, wiry, plaid-shirted Murray that was one of us. He was, in my recollection, a quiet, gentle man, somewhat shy, who talked little about himself. He had an assured practicality about him that inspired confidence. In the photo, Bill Renison has caught a glimpse of the bemused expression so characteristic of Murray. It signalled the good humour and good sense of humour that he shared with us all.

Murray retired in 1977 and he and Phyllis spent summers in Muskoka, wintering in Jamaica, and travelling worldwide.

Murray passed away May 19, 2000, full of years and perhaps with the clink of an archaeological trowel still echoing in his ears. His request was that his ashes be buried in a Micmac or Maliseet basket in the family burial ground on the Saint John River, with his feet to the river so that he would not turn his back on the river as his ancestors had done; they were all buried with their heads to the river. And with this last touch of humour, Murray returned home to the river and the people of his youth.

H. E. Devereux

Greg Purmal, along with Norma Knowlton and Jo Holden, represented various avenues of archaeology and the OAS at the Association for Brighter Children's conference on May 27, 2000.
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