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The Ontario Archaeological Society gratefully acknowledges funding from the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries through the Provincial Heritage Organization Operating Grant Program.
As we pass the one year mark of the pandemic, so much has changed. It has been an extremely difficult time for everyone and the change has been difficult to navigate. But with that change, Ontario archaeology has never been more accessible than it is today. Members can access the different chapter meetings, presentations, workshops and the symposium with a few clicks. Many of the presentations have been recorded and are available “on-demand,” further expanding the audience.

With this expanded access, it is more important than ever to be aware of unconscious bias that may be present in the information we share. During a conversation with a representative from an Indigenous community, they pointed out that the cultural chronology tables found in archaeological reports and some presentations place the date range for Indigenous Peoples in the “Contact Period” as 1535 to 1790 A.D. The community representative pointed out that this is not accurate as they are still here and that the reference point of pre and post contact are arbitrary. This highlights the need for archaeologists to continue to look at the terms we use and engage in a dialogue with our Indigenous partners on how their history and culture should be represented.

The articles in this issue of Arch Notes also highlight the positive benefits of working with Descendant communities more generally. A community-based approach to archaeology with Indigenous and Descendant communities, only serves to improve the quality of the archaeology. This is an undeveloped part of the archaeological process that we can continue to work towards: improvement and change can be expected. The opportunity for virtual connections has the potential to help move this forward more quickly through dialogue. There is reason for great optimism as we move forward.

With the transition in January to a new board, Alicia Hawkins has stepped off the board completing her term as Past-President. It is hard to quantify Alicia’s contribution to the OAS over her terms as President-Elect, President and Past-President. During those four years Alicia was able to spearhead numerous projects including the expansion of knowledge sharing with Indigenous communities through the annual training workshops. The OAS will again be offering these training workshops virtually to Indigenous communities in 2021. Alicia has continued her contributions to the OAS by leading the “Train the Trainer” project with the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and organizing the Training Workshops in northeastern Ontario which was funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

Alicia’s contributions were not limited to the “big picture” directions of the OAS. While making this significant contribution to moving forward the Reconciliation efforts of the OAS, Alicia also worked to modernize the organization leading a project to digitize our corporate records, move the physical copies to the Ontario Archives and undertake a much needed cleanup of the office space. She spent many hours in Toronto doing this work herself with the assistance of students. Thank you Alicia.

Arch Notes has also had a change. We welcome new editors, Sarah Timmins and Katelyn Mather in this edition of our newsletter. The Board of Directors wishes to extend its thanks and appreciation to Sheryl Smith and Carole Stimmell who have been at the helm with Arch Notes for many years, keeping members informed about the organization and our chapters. Both have done so while volunteering on the executive of their regional chapters. Thank you both for your dedication and service.

Jim Sherratt
In 1793 Lieutenant-Governor Simcoe passed an Anti-Slavery Act, which limited slavery in Upper Canada and paved the way for the establishment of the Underground Railroad. Although Simcoe’s Act and the stories of the Underground Railroad remain celebrated pieces of our province’s history, less is known about the lives of Black settlers as they established farms, businesses and communities. By the end of the 19th century, more than 40 Black settlements had been established in Upper Canada. One of the first communities was Wilberforce, founded in 1830 near Lucan, Ontario. In 1841, the Dawn Settlement was established near present-day Dresden, Ontario, which grew to include farm land, a sawmill, gristmill, brick yard, rope manufacturer and school. The community was founded by Rev. Josiah Henson, the inspiration behind *Uncle’s Tom Cabin*, who helped other freedom seekers establish a life in Upper Canada. Archaeology has enormous potential to help shine a light on the contributions of early Black settlers in our province. In this issue we feature several archaeological projects that were largely community-led, which sought to preserve important pieces of Black history and heritage. Sources: *Ontario Heritage Trust* and *Canadian Encyclopedia*

**Uncovering Ontario’s Black History**

By William (Liam) Wadsworth, Dena Doroszenko, Katherine Patton, and Carl-George (Charly) Bank

Few places in Canada can claim to be a terminus for the Underground Railroad. The Dawn Settlement, a mid-19th century community in Ontario, was one such place. Founded by escaped slaves or “freedom seekers,” Dawn was organized around the British American Institute (BAI), a training academy for freedom seekers and their families founded by Rev. Josiah Henson. An escaped slave himself, Henson’s life partially inspired the book, *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*, and he was instrumental in the settlement’s creation. Today, the site is commemorated by the Uncle Tom’s Cabin Historic Site, which consists of an open-air museum with interpretive center currently owned by the Ontario Heritage Trust (OHT) and two cemeteries held by the municipality. Descendants of the Dawn settlement expressed interest in conducting geophysical surveys on the two cemeteries to identify areas available for modern interments. Between 2016-2017, our team conducted geophysical surveys (ground-penetrating radar, magnetic gradiometry and resistivity) on the largely unmarked cemetery associated with the British American Institute. This project was particularly noteworthy because many descendants, who still lived in the area, played a role in its inception and participated in research activities. The results of these surveys were recently published as a research article in *Historical Archaeology* (Wadsworth et al. 2020).

A flashpoint year, 2020 saw the rise of peaceful protest across the United States and Canada, and archaeologists have begun to participate actively in these conversations (see, The Society of Black Archaeologists). The destruction and neglect of African American/Black Canadian cemeteries and historic sites remain a significant issue in both countries (Jones 2021; Nelson 2018). Consequently, lessons learned from the BAI cemetery project and perspectives on the historic site deserve a second look. Here, the research team presents their perspectives on the project almost five years after it was originally conceived. Given its historical complexities, rather than being the end of the line, we highlight Dawn as the site of future research and a place which we feel Canadians have the social responsibility to keep investigating.

**Dena**

The property containing Uncle Tom’s Cabin Historic Site is owned and operated by the Ontario Heritage Trust. The Trust is Ontario’s heritage agency, mandated to conserve, interpret, and share Ontario’s heritage. This site is part of 200 acres of land purchased in 1841 to establish the Dawn Settlement – a refuge for the many “freedom seekers” who escaped to Canada from the United States. The Josiah Henson Interpretive Centre, located on the site, houses a collection of 19th-century artifacts and rare books pertinent to the abolitionist era, as well as displays highlighting Reverend Josiah Henson’s life. The Josiah Henson House is a pivotal structure during the latter period of his life where he lived until his death in 1883. Although the cabin has been moved three times, it has always remained on the original Dawn Settlement lands. Opened as a museum in the 1940s by local historian Frank Chapple, it was moved to its present location in 1964 by then-
In 2005 after the Trust acquired the site from the St. Clair Parkway Commission, I conducted a short test pitting project and determined that the land containing the museum buildings had been used primarily for agricultural production and there was no archaeological concern for the majority of the property at that time. The next year, the interment of a descendent into the Henson Family Cemetery encountered problems in finding a possible plot. It took several excavations to find a plot that did not already contain an interment. Needless to say, this surprised the family. I was asked if there was anything that archaeology could provide and my journey with the two cemeteries adjacent to the Trust's property began. The British American Cemetery is officially closed and based on the geophysical work in 2008, 2011, 2016 and 2017, the Henson Family Cemetery will eventually be closed by the municipality due to the large number of interments that were discovered to be present. Josiah Henson is a National Historic figure and has descendants living in the area and this has been one of the blessings afforded to us with the site as well as determining the viability of the family cemetery for those descendants. It meant a great deal to me professionally and personally to work with them. The history of the Dawn Settlement is their heritage. What these projects also meant was that I saw opportunities for research with other institutions and have been fortunate to work with a number of people particularly Edward Eastaugh, Neal Ferris, Katherine Patton, Charly Bank and their faculties and students, particularly Liam Wadsworth (Western University/Sustainable Archaeology and the University of Toronto). In addition, I am very grateful to Holly Martelle and her team at Timmins Martelle Heritage Consulting Inc., for their work with us in 2008 and 2016. This journey has also solidified discussions with Cassandra Michaud (Montgomery Parks, Maryland) and Julia King (St. Mary’s College of Maryland) who have been working on sites that Josiah Henson lived on in the early part of his life. Josiah’s journey to freedom was international and even today in the 21st century, it continues through archaeology.

Liam

In 2016, I was an undergraduate student at the University of Toronto and a summer employee for Dena at the Ontario Heritage Trust. Prior to that summer, I had never heard of Uncle Tom’s Cabin Historic Site. I grew up in Ottawa and although my family had strong connections to southern and southwestern Ontario, I was completely oblivious to the region’s Black history. Sure, I was aware that Ontario was “the end” of the Underground Railroad but this was about the extent of my knowledge. I did not know that this was part of a widely held ‘innocence’ myth Canadians tell themselves to exempt us from this history. My first trip to the historic site was eye-opening. While being a poignant reminder about the struggles that free-

GPR survey of the BAI cemetery in progress. Part of the central grave-stone monument can be seen at the bottom of the picture. Liam and Katherine pictured.
Freedom seekers faced on the Underground Railroad, it also illuminated the hardships these families faced in Ontario prior to and following the American Civil War. I was shocked to learn about the widespread prejudice and discrimination, the subsequent neglect of their historic sites, and about the hard-fought Black civil rights movement in Ontario during the 1950s and 60s. For me, the ‘innocence’ myth had been burst.

It was this newfound understanding that inspired me to seek new skills that could help address the local community’s needs. The descendant community had previously requested that OHT do what they could to locate graves at the two cemeteries (Eastaugh 2008, 2011), but at the time only one cemetery had been investigated in depth. After talking with my mentors at U of T and OHT, we planned my undergraduate thesis project around the survey of the unmarked BAI cemetery. The surveys were successful, and we uncovered the resting places of many freedom seekers, as well as evidence of the cemetery’s neglect.

It is a rare occurrence when undergraduates get the opportunity to design their own research project and I will forever be grateful for the opportunity to develop the technical and social skills needed for community projects. As a U of T student, I learned how to conduct a geophysical survey as part of an archaeology project. By working with community members on this project, however, my skillset extended beyond surveying to include the awareness and sensitivity needed for community engagement. Now a Ph.D. student in the Department of Anthropology/Institute of Prairie and Indigenous Archaeology at the University of Alberta, I incorporate the lessons and skills I learned from Uncle Tom’s Cabin on every archaeological project. It was these formative experiences that I carry with me going forward.

Charly

This project has been a unique learning experience. As a geophysicist I like to help archaeologists because the human past is fascinating. I have worked with archaeologists on sites at faraway places; the BAI was the closest to what I now call home, just a few hours drive away. The project promised to be a neat collaboration with an archaeologist I had not previously worked with, a faculty colleague I held in high esteem, and her gifted undergraduate student. The project had actually been suggested by the student to us professors, usually it goes the other way around. And while archaeologists literally uncover the past, this project opened my eyes about our present. As an immigrant Canadian I had not been aware that Canada was involved in slavery in its past. Though our project targets a time when slavery had ended in Canada, the site is one of the early Black settlements in Canada by and for those who had experienced it, and our society has yet to overcome this racial injustice. By showing that graves are indeed present under the grass, the past comes alive and can contribute to the legacy of the “freedom seekers” and their descendants. Hopefully, it can also teach us to grow into a better society.

Katherine

When Liam first approached me regarding the BAI project, I was excited about the chance to learn more about geophysics and an important, yet understudied topic in Ontario archaeology, 19th century Black settlement and the African Diaspora. I was also, of course, extremely impressed with Liam’s initiative. Not only was he interested in undertaking independent research at the end of the second year of his undergraduate degree, he was essentially creating a collaborative research project that brought together people working in multiple disciplines and institutions to solve a problem in heritage management. When I think back on this project now, I can see that it has been instrumental in helping me to see more clearly the need for pedagogical change in the way we teach archaeology at the undergraduate level and how to move forward.

Prior to the BAI project, I had long
been interested in the place of experiential and field-based learning and had found some ways to integrate this into my teaching. What was missing, however, were chances for students to undertake genuine research. While students had worked for me on aspects of my own research, in most cases, students provided labour and were not part of the knowledge production process. The BAI project, however, brought Dena, Charly, Liam, and me together as partners in the research process, each with something to teach and something to learn. In other words, it shifted the power imbalance that typically exists between teacher and student and that we know exists in conventional approaches to archaeological research with descendant communities. Both Cobb and Croucher (2020) and Sonia Atalay (2019; see also Atalay et al. 2014) have recently written about the need to transform archaeological practice, including the way we teach and how knowledge is produced and disseminated. For me, this project served as a perfect example of a transformed practice; its results are one small piece of larger initiatives in southwestern Ontario that are working to counter the history of erasure of Black settlement here (Martelle et al. 2018; Orser 2019). It also brilliantly collapsed the divide that typically exists between teaching and research in the university world and shows the kind of work that can be produced when we see our undergraduate students as capable researchers. These kinds of undergraduate experiences encourage students to develop their own curiosity and pursue deeper (and hopefully life-long) learning independently.

The end of the line?

The archaeology and study of communities, families, and individuals of African descent is generally under-represented within Ontario. The study of freed Black settlements in particular is an untapped archaeological subject and has now stimulated interest in the subject matter for there are many stories still to be told and shared. Our 2016-2017 work at the British American Institute cemetery has better cemented history, methods, and purpose in such work going forward. Foregrounding responsibility and respect, researchers should continue to work with modern communities to uncover this lesser-known history and achieve goals of interest to them. As such, future research related to the Dawn Settlement and potential archaeological resources related to the British American Institute’s industries, school, and Henson himself are planned in the future through the University of Toronto.

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Public Archaeology at London’s African Methodist Episcopal Church

*TMHC, BME Church, City of London, Community Volunteers*

By Holly Martelle

In 2013, Aboutown Transportation applied for a demolition permit for three buildings on Thames Street in the City of London. All three buildings were listed in the City's 2006 Inventory of Heritage Resources. The building at 275 Thames Street was of greatest concern as it was known to be London's African Methodist Episcopal Church (later the British Methodist Episcopal Church), the first Black church in the city. When the application came under review by London's Advisory Committee on Heritage (LACH) there was immediate opposition and, after much discussion, a campaign was launched to save the building.

While it is not always, or often, the case that archaeologists play active roles in local heritage committees, in this instance avocational archaeologist Darryl Dann happened to be acting on the committee and immediately identified a concern for archaeological resources on the church property. It was Darryl’s initiative that ensured archaeology was done at the church prior to any long-term measures being implemented. Darryl immediately got in touch with TMHC and together we consulted with the City of London’s Heritage Planner at the time, Don Menard, and with Jim Sherratt then of the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport. At the City level, a demolition permit does not necessarily trigger an archaeological assessment. Therefore, city staff did not feel they had the authority or power to request that work be done before building demolition. The best we could do was get the landowner’s permission to conduct the work and both Darryl and TMHC volunteered their services for a background study and property survey. The archaeological work was undertaken while a larger public effort was underway to save the structure from the wrecking ball.

**The History of 275 Thames Street**

275 Thames Street originally formed part of city Lot 26 south of Bathurst Street. William Clark received the patent on September 8, 1847 and in October of the same year he and his wife Catherine leased a 30’ X 100’ portion of the lot to William Hamilton, Benjamin Harris, John Osborne, Henry James, Henry Logan, Thomas Wingate, and George Winemiller, the Trustees for a price of 22 pounds two shillings and “...in trust that they shall erect, or cause to be built there on, a house or place of worship for the use of the Members of the African Methodist Episcopal Church”. Unfortunately, archival records are scarce for the early decades of the City of London and hence for the early period of the church, so the exact date of the building of the church has not been established. Some early illustrations of the area do not clearly depict the church, with the first good rendering being in 1855 (See Whitfield’s 1855 Rendering of London). That drawing shows the church similar to its modern configuration, as a one storey building with an end gable roof, central chimney, two rear windows, fence and garden. In 1856, the Chapel

on Thames Street is listed in Railton’s City Directory as the “African Episcopal Methodist Church on Thames Street, near Horton, led by William Stewart.”

London’s African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church was renamed the British Methodist Episcopal (BME) Church in 1856 upon the creation of a new church conference and its separation from its American counterpart. As described in Drew Benjamin’s 1856 narratives on the Fugitive Slaves in Canada, it was the only Black Methodist church in London through the 1850s and 1860s. Abolitionist and activist John Brown visited London’s “little church on Thames Street” in 1858 to recruit support for his planned raid on Harper’s Ferry, an event that would one day precipitate the American Civil War (Carty 1926 n.p.).

Centred in the heart of the area by the river known as “the Hollow,” the church was a focal point for London’s early Black community. Not only did the building serve as a community support centre but it acted as a safe haven for newly arriving freedom seekers who fled the United States through a network of safe houses and meeting points known as the Underground Railroad. Because of this, the chapel earned its popular name “The Fugitive Slave Chapel.”

This wood frame structure served London’s Black community until 1869 when the land was sold and the congregation moved to 430 Grey Street where they had built a larger, brick church, the Beth Emmanuel BME Church, which still stands today. The Thames Street church would remain in residential use until it was vacated a few years before the application for demolition was filed.

There are few depictions of the early church and its grounds during the period of its use as a chapel. The earliest photograph of the building found to date is a featured in 1926 article in the London Advertiser newspaper by E. J. Carty.

Archaeological Investigation

In the spring of 2013, Darryl Dann, along with TMHC staff undertook a 5 m test pit survey of the former church property, as well as the adjacent residential lots slated for demolition. During that work, 535 19th and 20th century artifacts were identified in 20 positive test pits covering a 20 m (north-south) by 25 m (east-west) area to the rear of the former church and the house at 277 Thames Street. The artifacts generally post-dated the church period and reflected the domestic use of the property after that time. Nonetheless, it was thought that there could still be potential to discover archaeological traces, particularly subsurface features like pits and privies, from the AME/BME period on the lot. Given this potential, further testing of the site was recommended.

After much public outcry about the planned demolition, Mayor Joe Fontana declared the property of such historical importance that he instructed city officials to find the money to pay to have the Stage 3 archaeological testing completed. A series of one-metre square test
Archaeologist Darryl Dann and City of London Heritage Planner Don Menard Screen Soil for Artifacts

Ongoing Excavations and Public Archaeology Program

Community Volunteers

units was excavated in the rear yards of 275 and 277 Thames Street. A total of 9,373 artifacts were collected during the testing, with per unit yields ranging from 1 to nearly 400. Architectural and food and beverage related items represented the major part of the artifact collection.

Overall, the artifacts recovered from testing once again largely post-dated the period of the operation of the chapel, ranging predominantly from c. 1870-1920. Because a number of subsurface features were identified which could not be confidently dated, full excavation of the site was recommended. It still seemed possible that there could be intact mid-19th century deposits present on the site in the form of features dated strictly to the period of the operation of the church, or in the form of earlier sealed deposits within features that continued to accumulate material well into the late-19th century residential occupation period.

The Fugitive Slave Chapel Preservation Project

At this point, our circumstances were dire. We had been given only a short period of time within which to complete the archaeological assessment activities, under the gracious permissions given by the landowner. However, there was no funding to be had to pay for the work. Nonetheless, by this time there was tremendous public interest in the project as the proposed demolition had received considerable local press coverage. A group of dedicated and very vocal heritage advocates, Descendants, church members, and concerned citizens had come together to find ways to preserve the building and, as part of this, there was growing support for continuing the archaeological effort.

It is important to understand that by the first decade of the turn of the 21st century, 275 Thames Street and and its neighbouring buildings had fallen into a state of disrepair. While in the 1970s and 1980s the memory of the Fugitive Slave Chapel was still fresh in the minds of Londoners, resulting in commemoration of the history of the building through the installation of a London Public Library Board historical plaque in 1986, by 2013 the Chapel was largely hidden from public historical memory. The plaque had long disappeared, and the building was unmarked, its significance only known to a relatively small segment of the city's population.

Through discussions with government agencies, LACH, heritage advocates and the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, a proposal was put forth to thwart off the demolition by moving the structure to a new site right beside its descendant church – the BME Beth Emmanuel on Grey Street. A major fundraising effort ensued.

Public Archaeology

The last phase of the archaeological fieldwork was undertaken as a public archaeology program, conducted on a volunteer basis with support from TMHC. It was jointly run by Darryl Dann, and John Sweeney from TMHC. Excavations occurred on weekends by crews of professional and avocational archaeologists, municipal and provincial staff, Indigenous volunteers, members of the public, members of the Ontario Archaeological Society and the Descendent congregation at BME Beth Emmanuel Church.

During the fieldwork, participants were responsible for excavating units and screening soil to look for artifacts and assisting with recording and feature excavation. As part of the process, volunteers and visitors learned about the history of the chapel. The archaeologists on site helped with artifact identification and many participants spent their own time researching artifacts that were found.

In all, the excavations continued to reveal evidence of the late-19th and early-20th century residential occupation of the property, including thousands of artifacts and subsurface features, largely sump and drainage features and refuse pits. Nonetheless, the artifacts have been used in many displays to help tri-
The Oro African Methodist Episcopal Church Rehabilitation

By Sarah Clarke and Archaeological Research Associates Ltd.

In 2014, the Oro-Medonte Heritage Committee and the Township of Oro-Medonte reached out to Archaeological Research Associates (ARA) Ltd. with a problem: The Oro African Methodist Episcopal Church (which along with its cemetery comprises a National Historic Site of Canada) was under threat and in poor overall condition. The church, which was situated at the southeast corner of the intersection of the Old Barrie Road and Line 3 North, had become of close proximity to the road, been damaged in recent traffic accidents. It was decided that the church should be moved back from the road to prevent future damage to the building.

Over the next two years, ARA carried out Stage 1-4 assessments on the property, and a cemetery investigation on the lands adjacent to the historic cemetery. Given the importance of the project, and the budgetary constraints on the proponents, ARA opted to conduct the work on a pro bono basis.

Stage 1 research immediately revealed the link between the Oro African Methodist Episcopal Church and the “Coloured Corps”, a Black unit of the Upper Canadian militia that distinguished itself during the War of 1812. Between 1819 and 1826, the British granted 25 plots of land in Oro County to Black settlers, eleven of them to former soldiers who received their grants as compensation for their military service. The land was both remote and of lower quality than the lands which...
were granted to White veterans. In the end, just nine of the original grant recipients settled their lands, focused along an area of the Penetanguishine Road known as Wilberforce Street. Between 1829-1831, the settlement was joined by another thirty families (Parks Canada 2009).

Noah Morris received the Crown Patent for the church property (located on the west half of Lot 11, Concession 4, Township of Oro) in March 1840. Morris was an African-Canadian who arrived with the second wave of families in 1829 and settled on the lot later that year (Murdoch 2014:22). In May 1849, Morris legally sold 1 acre in the northwestern part of the property to the Trustees for the Coloured Episcopal Methodist Church of Canada, but it appears that he arranged for the release of this parcel from the overall mortgage in January 1846 for use as a “chapel and burying ground” (Murdoch 2014:22-23).

The history of the Oro African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church itself is well-documented. Its beginnings can be traced to the arrival of Reverend Ari Raymond from Boston in 1838 to minister to the local Black settlement. Reverend Raymond obtained land on Lot 10, Concession 3 and had built a home by 1841, part of which functioned as a mission attended by five or six members. The structure burned in 1845 and everything was lost, but Raymond and his family built another home on the property in 1846 and held services in their kitchen (Township of Oro 1987:171-172). In 1848, Raymond helped organize the Black community to build a log church on the 1 acre parcel sold by Noah Morris (Township of Oro 1987:234). Based on the results of a heritage assessment, the building technology and materials were comparable to other log structures from the 1840s, and mud chinking was used between the logs. Weathering on the exterior indicated that the logs were exposed for one or two decades prior to being clad in clapboard—the gable ends above the logs were clad in clapboard from the beginning (Murdoch 2014:26).

Reverend Richard Sorrick was the first minister at the new church, and afterwards the services were run primarily by itinerant ministers. This church served about 40 families until ca. 1870, but as the Black population began to wane, so too did the church’s attendance (Township of Oro 1987:234). The church went into disuse between ca. 1900–1920, however 3–4 services were held each summer until the late 1930s (Crawford 1999:58; Murdoch 2014:8; Township of Oro 1987:234). The cemetery reportedly surrounded the church to the south and east. Since the grave markers were primarily made of wood and have decayed, the specific burial locations are unknown. The latest documented interments at the cemetery...
were for Daniel Eddington (‘Eddie’) and James Thompson. Eddington died on August 28, 1945, and his obituary notes that he was to be buried at the ‘African Cemetery, Edgar’. Thompson died on December 18, 1949 and was buried at the cemetery (Murdoch 2014:26).

Primary observations about the early cemetery come from an interview with Tom Partridge, who cut the grass on the property with a team of horses pulling a mower in the mid-1940s. Partridge reported that on one occasion he got too close to the cemetery and one of the horses’ hooves broke into a wooden casket with human remains. The casket was only 1.5 feet (0.46 m) under the surface, and Partridge subsequently filled the hole with dirt. He did not cut the grass with the team in the cemetery because the graves were quite shallow. He also recalled seeing approximately six white wooden crosses arranged in rows in the northern part of the treed area when he was a boy (Murdoch 2014:58).

A report filed by the Special Committee on the Coloured Church and Cemetery in Oro Township in January 1947 reported that “in the cemetery there are about fifty graves without any markers” (Murdoch 2014:28). Over the course of restoration and maintenance in 1947, the committee arranged for the removal of dead wood and rubbish from the treed portion of the cemetery, a fence was erected in 1948, and the cleared part of the cemetery was mechanically levelled in 1949. In 1956, there were no signs of the wooden crosses which marked the graves in the east, and it had become a grove of trees (Murdoch 2014:28–34). A GPR survey conducted to identify potential burial locations was undertaken for the cemetery area in 2008 and numerous high reflectivity anomalies were defined that could infer the presence of interments (MLI 2008:3).

Between 2014 and 2016, various locations were assessed across the church grounds and within the footprint of the church structure itself (which had an earthen crawlspace beneath the floor). In the end, the Oro AME Church site (BdGv-42) yielded more than 1600 artifacts associated with the African-Canadian construction, use and repair of the structure over the course of the second half of the 19th century and the early 20th century. The investigation did not result in the identification of any features, although a human clavicle, clearly “acquired” from the adjacent cemetery, was found in an animal burrow.

In the end, the property was found to be too constrained by the cemetery to safely move the church. However, the building was placed on a new foundation in December 2015, followed by further restoration of the interior of the building and re-cladding of the exterior. The National Historic Site reopened to the public in August 2016 with attendees that included community members and former community members from across Canada and the USA. ARA Ltd. is proud and humbled to have been given the opportunity to contribute to the project.

Special thanks for her gracious and invaluable support throughout the project are extended to Ms. Janie Cooper-Wilson, a descendant of the Oro AME Church community and a fierce proponent for recognition of the contribution of African Canadians to our collective heritage.

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Parks Canada


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Township of Oro

Recommended resources for further research on Ontario’s Black History
Black History Society: https://blackhistorysociety.ca
Results of the Developing Professionals Survey

By Craig Ramsoomair

It has been just over a year now since we sent out our Survey for Developing Professionals to the Ontario archaeology community. A year which has gone by simultaneously fast and slow. It is a good time to reflect on the results of this survey and the way in which your answers have helped shaped the Ontario Archaeology Society (OAS) through this tumultuous year and beyond.

The survey was inspired by our Strategic Plan 2019-2024 (OAS 2018) and created by our Outreach Committee. In the plan, the OAS sought increased engagement with Field Technicians and the wider Cultural Resource Management (CRM) industry through relevant initiatives including providing career development opportunities. The CRM industry has grown significantly over the last decade and is the main form of archaeology conducted in the province. Professional archaeologists now represent a major section of OAS membership, despite our history as an avocational and academic-focused organization. The shift is in part due to the OAS representing one of several archaeological organizations accepted for provincial licencing purposes. However, I like to think that many more are like myself, for whom archaeology is still a passion and the OAS and its offerings represents a way to be involved in archaeology beyond the day-to-day concerns of a consultant archaeologist.

The goal of the survey was to determine how the OAS can use its resources to better meet the needs of its developing professional membership in the CRM industry.

By doing so, we hope you will support and be involved in the OAS in the future. We hoped to examine what sort of roadblocks to career development typically exist within the field and how the OAS can support developing professionals overcome these obstacles. Just as important is the form in which these resources are offered as Ontario is a province whose vastness can create significant geographical barriers for travel to in-person events. Feedback regarding potential types of resources including workshops, opportunities such as mentorship, and the development of relevant documents for more experienced professionals was sought.

The survey received a relatively strong response, with 112 respondents taking the time to answer our questions and in many cases, providing us with many thoughtful answers. I want to personally take this moment to thank everyone who did respond and acknowledge the many detailed answers to the survey’s questions. Respondents included Field Directors (21.4%), Field Technicians (21.4%), Project Managers/Professional Archaeologists (18.8%), Students (9.8%), Report Writers, Lab Technicians, First Nations Liaisons, and more. The majority of respondents had either an applied research or professional archaeological licence (62.5%) with a fairly even distribution across the experience spectrum. For respondents who were not members of the OAS, membership fees (56.3%) represented the greatest impediment to membership.

Most importantly, the majority believe that there are opportunities in their career for advancement (58%) while a significant portion do not (42%). The question does not capture the full picture as many respondents in both categories see potential for advancement but acknowledge that these opportunities are both rare and highly competitive. More specifically, many see limited opportunities beyond field work and feel that the seasonality of archaeological work does not provide the stability many are looking for in a career. Others have difficulties obtaining the licencing that many higher positions require, because of challenges in obtaining the necessary education and breadth of experience. In order to assist with these issues, many respondents wanted to see more easily accessible digital Ontario archaeology resources on our website along with more opportunities and guides geared towards professional development. The focus on online material is motivated by the impediments related to in-person attendance of OAS events which included primarily costs and time associated with travel. As for the kinds of professional development respondents were looking for, both paid workshops (87.9%) and mentorships (78.8%) received strong approval. There is also a general interest in more networking opportunities.

The broader take-away of the survey is the clear support for the OAS to expand in the direction of professional development. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the question of how to achieve this only had one answer: online. Over the last year we have had numerous Zoom events: a 10-part Speaker Series, which highlighted many of the potential avenues that exist within CRM...
beyond the field level; five Symposium workshops, which built on workshop ideas provided by the survey; and a shift towards online Chapter Meetings as we strive to be active despite these unprecedented times. Since these have been free and in the evening, it has hopefully had the added bonus of making the OAS more accessible to the developing professionals across the province.

With a return to normalcy hopefully within the not-so-distant future, the question is where to go from here? Many of the previous workshops were recorded and will soon have a home on the OAS website, freely accessible to our membership. Kaitlyn Malleau, our Director of Education, continues to organize skill building workshops for 2021, beginning with a recent Lithic Analysis workshop by Bill Fox. Despite Zoom Fatigue it was our best attended online event yet! The continued popularity of these virtual events demonstrates the need for a hybrid online/in-person approach when life returns to normal. The pandemic also forced the OAS Archaeology Training for Monitors and Field Liaison Representatives to go digital. The silver lining here means these modules can now be made accessible to our wider membership for the benefit of everyone once completed. The Outreach Committee also has many other initiatives that we are actively pursuing including posting CRM jobs on social media, the development of CRM related materials, and exploring avenues for mentorship and networking. Unfortunately, even with these opportunities, CRM is still a difficult industry where success requires an element of stubbornness and luck. It is something that I have experienced, and my hope is to lighten the burden, even if only by a small amount. If you are interested in helping, do not wait for a survey to contact me at outreach@ontarioarchaeology.org. The Outreach Committee is always looking for volunteers.

References

IN MEMORIAM
Dr. Joseph David Stewart (1942 – 2021)

By Scott Hamilton, Jill Taylor-Hollings, and William Ross

On March 9, 2021, Dr. Joe Stewart passed away at the age of 78 after a brief illness. He was born on September 7, 1942 and raised in Texas. In 1965 he graduated with a BA in Anthropology from Texas Technological College. Joe then emigrated to Canada to attend the University of Calgary, completing his PhD in Archaeology in 1974. A year later, he joined the Department of Anthropology at Lakehead University shortly after its establishment where he remained until his retirement in 2003. As an emeritus professor Joe continued working on smaller research projects and travelling.

Joe's detailed, carefully written research provides a legacy of archaeological work from diverse areas. Throughout much of his career, he continued research collaboration with University of Calgary colleagues in northern Mexico and the American Southwest. He also worked on research problems associated with his home state of Texas, as well as Wyoming, Oregon, Alaska, Guatemala, Alberta, the Northwest Territories (high Canadian Arctic), Baja California, the central interior of British Columbia and the boreal forest of northern Ontario.

His research often focused on applying scientific methods to archaeological inference, and he had particular interest and expertise in archaeometry and radiocarbon dating. Joe was attracted to interdisciplinary research, resulting in collaboration and publication with physical geographers, archaeobotanists, geologists, physicists and chemists, among others. He was integral to the early 1990s development of BSc programming in Geoarchaeology and Anthropology at Lakehead University - something that remains rare in Canadian universities. He was a long-time member of the OAS.

Joe's colleagues and friends remember with fondness his academic rigour, dry humour (often delivered with a Texas drawl), and willingness to discuss research over a pint. He is survived by his wife Debra Babcock (Thunder Bay), his brother Larry Stewart (Texas) and son Sean Stewart (California).

[Photo of Dr. Stewart at the Martin-Bird Site near Thunder Bay in 2009. Photo by Dr. Matt Boyd]
By Jake Cousineau, Department of Anthropology, Lakehead University

In April of 2020, I was awarded the Ontario Archaeological Society's Valerie Sonstenes Student Research Fund award to support my Master's thesis research about Woodland period diets at the Macgillivray site (DbJm-3) in Northwestern Ontario. I am currently finishing my Master of Environmental Studies degree at Lakehead University in the Department of Anthropology with Dr. Matt Boyd as supervisor.

The Macgillivray site is a multi-component habituation area associated with a nearby mound feature. This site is located on Bishop Island in Whitefish Lake, southwest of Thunder Bay, Ontario. It is primarily a Middle Woodland period Laurel composite campsite with a few examples of rare Brainerd ware also being found. There were also smaller occupations by the Selkirk composite and Psinomani Late Woodland archaeological cultures and Post-Contact usage of the locale. It was first excavated by Ken Dawson in the 1960's (Dawson 1980). Lakehead University researchers returned to excavate the site during the summers of 2016 and 2017. Through the excavation of the habitation area, a large amount of fire-cracked rock was exposed and soil samples were collected from features. I processed these samples by flotation and the remaining heavy fraction was water-screened. The heavy fractions were water-screened through a nested-sieve (4mm, 2mm, and 1mm) to optimize the recovery of faunal specimens that are underreported from archaeological sites in the region. My project uses those results and excavated material from the Macgillivray site to further understand the diets of Woodland period peoples.

This study was motivated by the identification of maize and wild rice in the carbonized food residues of pottery vessels within the region (Boyd and Hamilton 2018; Boyd and Surette 2010). The analysis of wild resources can aid in contextualizing the cultivated plant component of Woodland peoples' diets but there is currently a lack of research on macrobotanical and zooarchaeological material from Subarctic sites.

This lack of research is partly due to the podzolic soils of the Boreal Forest. Their acidity causes organic material to degrade quicker compared to many other regions. However, Boreal Forest archaeological sites are not always void of organic materials. How we approach the issues of acidic soil should not be to devalue the interpretative power of organic material from the area. Instead, archaeologists should seek to improve upon past methodologies. In my thesis, I employ a new sieving and flotation standard in order to optimize the recovery of organics in Boreal Forest sites.

Funds from the Valerie Sonstenes Student Fund award were used to pay for a radiocarbon date processed from a sample of charred wild rice (Zizania sp.). The sample was recovered from a quadrant with a high frequency of fire-cracked rock and associated with Laurel ware pottery sherds. It was sent to Beta Analytic and yielded a date of 1680 ± 30 BP (Beta-567300; Zizania sp. grain; δ13C: -24.3‰. Although evidence of the consumption of wild rice has been identified from food residue on Laurel pottery (Boyd and Hamilton 2018; Boyd and Surette 2010; Burchill 2014), macroremains are rare from Laurel composite sites in Canada. While previous researchers (e.g., Rajovich 1985) have speculated about the use of wild rice in Northwestern Ontario during the Middle Woodland, the radiocarbon date from the Macgillivray site provides one of the few direct supports of this idea.

Acknowledgement

Thanks to the OAS and the awards committee for providing me with Valerie Sonstenes Student Fund for 2020. Also, I acknowledge my supervisor for this great project and the Department of Anthropology at Lakehead University for all the support they provided throughout the project.

References


Greetings everyone! During 2020, I was the Ontario Archaeological Society (OAS) Director of Member Services, whose main responsibility is the awards programs. The student accolades were discussed in the last issue of Arch Notes (October/December 2020) and Jake Cousineau’s overview about how he used the 2020 Valerie Sonstenes Student Research Fund is included in this issue. However, I would like to provide you with an overview about the other awards that were granted in 2020.

In a year of many firsts, the OAS symposium committee, led by Past President Alicia Hawkins, and the board of directors organized a virtual symposium (our 47th annual conference). As part of that event, the first ever online OAS awards ceremony was held on Friday, November 6, 2020. President Jim Sherratt hosted the event with assistance from Chiara Williamson (Executive Director), the board of directors, and Dawson Butler (a Summer Experience Program student). It was the best attended event at the symposium with many friends and family members registering to ‘Zoom’ with us. Although virtual events do not replace the real thing, it provided the opportunity to recognize the award winners with their friends, family, and colleagues albeit online. It also provided a means for people across the country (and even in the United Kingdom) to participate in the ceremony.

Honouring Members
Firstly, the OAS had the great honour of recognizing Norma Knowlton for the remarkable achievement of 50 consecutive years of membership (1970-2020). Additionally, Joanne Lea, Michael Hambacher, and Caroline Walker were recognized for being 25 year (1995-2020) members of the society. These awards consist of unique 50 year and 25 year lapel pins and accompanying certificates. Congratulations and thank you to all four of these loyal members!

Accolades
Charles and Ella Garrad Award for Outstanding Service
Dr. Suzanne Needs-Howarth and Dr. Andrew Stewart were each honoured with the Charles and Ella Garrad Award for Outstanding Service in 2020. This award is given in recognition of the continuing long-term support and active participation of OAS members. Most often volunteers are the public face of the OAS doing great work in support of our commonly held goals and principles. The contributions of these members are seen particularly in regular chapter meetings, events and activities, publication of the society’s newsletter and journal, and organization of the annual symposium. These individuals bring a wide range of skills and interests to the organization, and it is because of them that it continues to be a strong and vibrant society.

The actual award consists of a signed and personalized, custom framed certificate. Here are a few key lines from the nominators explaining why these two members were so deserving: “Suzanne has been an active member of the OAS over the past three decades and has devoted much of this time to helping the society. She has served as edi-
tor of Arch Notes for many years as well as copy-editor for Ontario Archaeology.”

“Dr. Stewart has met the test, as outlined in the award description on the society website, of providing yeoman’s service in support of our commonly held goals and principles, and he has made outstanding achievements especially in his support for our highly respected journal and in aiding the many OAS members who have published there and beyond...His excellence as a scholar, editor, illustrator and simply communicator meets the challenges of the virtues and accomplishments for which we want to reward our colleagues with this award”.

**Indigenous Advocacy Award**

In 2020, the Indigenous Advocacy Award was conferred for the first time, to Joanne Thomas, posthumously. Tributes were written about Joanne in previous Arch Notes issues that help explain the loss to her family and the discipline (See Arch Notes issues January/June 2020 and July/September 2020).

This award was created in 2019 to recognize a person or persons from an Indigenous community who has dedicated themselves to archaeology and preserving the cultural heritage of Indigenous peoples through active participation in Ontario archaeology. It goes to those who work tirelessly not only for their own community, but use their voice to advocate for the inclusion of Indigenous perspectives in all aspects of archaeological endeavours.

The newly designed award is a framed certificate featuring a birch bark design and four colours (yellow, red, black, and white) that are important to many Indigenous people in Ontario and beyond. One certificate was presented by Chiara Williamson (Executive Director) to three of Joanne’s children. The other one was presented to Lonny Bomberry and Dawn LaForme, who both worked with Joanne at the Six Nations Lands and Resources office, where the certificate will reside.

Joanne’s family created a beautiful video about her that was played during the awards ceremony. It was emotional for everyone in attendance and provided a thoughtful tribute. These excerpts also encapsulate why she was nominated: “In addition to her commitment to training Six Nations monitors, Joanne mentored and advised many southern Ontario archaeologists including me. Her passion for archaeology, her community, her Ancestors, and her heritage set a powerful example of how effective Indigenous advocacy in archaeology could be. Joanne passed away this year, but her legacy reverberates in Ontario archaeology.”

**Helen Devereux Award for Excellence in Archaeological Mentorship**

Dr. David G. Smith was the winner of the Helen Devereux Award for Excellence in Archaeological Mentorship for 2020. This relatively new award recognizes an individual who has, through the course of a career, demonstrated outstanding commitment to Ontario archaeology through consistent, high quality training of the next generation of aspiring archaeologists. Often, excellent archaeological practice is instilled when individuals first undertake fieldwork and/or laboratory analysis. Winners of this award will typically have many former trainees who have gone on to build successful careers in Ontario archaeology. David was presented with a special personalized and framed certificate.

These sentences exemplify the essence of why he is so deserving of the award: “Dave trained generations of archaeologists who have become leading figures in both
professional and academic streams of archaeology, both in Ontario and the broader archaeological community...Past students who I have spoken to over the years still recall his guidance and training, which have positively molded their archaeological careers.”

**Tim and Ian Kenyon Award**

The winner of Tim and Ian Kenyon Award for 2020 was **Heather Henderson**. This honour is made occasionally to an outstanding archaeologist whose life’s work has been consistently of the highest standard and who has made an exceptional contribution to the development of historical archaeology in Ontario. It is awarded to a professional who has published widely, is recognized for advancing the practice of archaeology, has earned acclaim for excellence, and has inspired others. Scott’s award consisted of the larger, custom framed certificate with J.V. Wright’s likeness on it.

This nominator explained key aspects of Scott: “As I’m sure you can appreciate, it is not an easy task to summarize the breadth and impact of a scholar whose career has spanned over 40 years of ceaseless activity. While undoubtedly incomplete, in writing this letter I have sought to touch on the highlights of what, by any estimation, would be considered an extraordinary and impactful professional career...Scott has become the leading researcher in Northern Ontario archaeology and adjacent Manitoba. He has achieved this position through a long and productive career, a creative use of new technologies...”
and methodologies, and a strong and enduring commitment to the incorporation of First Nations voices into academic research.”

Summary

In a year of extreme challenges, we congratulate the very deserving OAS long-time members and award winners for 2020. We honour their contributions to the discipline of archaeology. Thanks to all of people who took the time to put together excellent nominations and the hundreds of people who attended the awards ceremony to make it a resounding success!

Thanks to the supporters of the 2020 OAS Virtual Symposium including Platinum Trowel sponsors ARA, Archaeological Services Inc., McMaster Department of Anthropology, Paterson Group, Timmins Martelle Heritage Consultants, The Archaeology Centre, University of Toronto, and The Archaeology Program, Ontario Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries. Our Gold Trowel sponsors were Fisher Archaeological Consulting, Laurentian University, Northwest Archaeological Assessments, and Wilfrid Laurier University.

I hope everyone will have an enjoyable spring! If you want to nominate someone for an OAS award, the information and nomination form can be found on the Ontario Archaeological Society website and the deadline is August 1 each year. The deadline for the Valerie Sonstenes Student Research Fund award is mid-March with a separate application form from the other awards.

For more information, please contact the Director of Member Services Josh Dent (memberservices@ontarioarchaeology.org) or the Executive Director Chiara Williamson (execdirector@ontarioarchaeology.org).

2021 Annual Symposium of the Ontario Archaeological Society
October 20-24, 2021

The 2021 Annual Symposium of the Ontario Archaeological Society is being organized by the Ottawa Chapter. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Ottawa Chapter and we hope to celebrate with a memorable symposium!

While there are lots of reasons to have hope, the COVID-19 pandemic is far from over and we cannot be certain of the prevailing circumstances next autumn so we have decided to host a virtual symposium. As we saw last year, this offers both difficult challenges and great possibilities. We intend to take full advantage of the amazing possibilities!

In addition to a keynote presentation on the Archaeology of Barrack Hill by Stephen Jarrett and the customary papers, posters, and workshops, the organizing committee is also planning a wealth of complementary activities that may include virtual guided tours of local sites and facilities, an archaeological Quiz, a Scavenger Hunt, and more.

We hope you will join us virtually next autumn and share in the Ottawa Valley spirit!

André Miller, President of the Ottawa Chapter of the OAS, 2021 OAS Symposium Committee Chair

2021 Symposium Theme – Origins and Growth

As the year 2021 marks the 50th year of the Ottawa Chapter and our active participation in the study and preservation of Ontario’s archaeological heritage, we aim to host a symposium that celebrates our past contributions while simultaneously providing guidance on archaeology’s potential futures. Over the past five decades, the chapter has been involved in a wide range of community-based activities throughout the region in order to share our appreciation and respect for the past in general and that of the Ottawa Valley in particular. Our origins and subsequent growth as an OAS Chapter are something that we believe are worth celebrating!

Similarly, archaeological fieldwork in Ontario continues to take place at an unprecedented rate. New data, new analytical techniques, new theoretical approaches and new analyses of legacy collections are all contributing to create new insights which help produce more holistic and realistic narratives of the past.

Archaeology and archaeological understanding can be a critical bridge to facilitate reconciliation with the Indigenous communities of this land. Archaeology should be a collaboration with Indigenous communities. Meaningful consultation and engagement with descendant communities should be common practice. It is also essential that non-Indigenous communities learn about this land’s past so that land acknowledgements are statements of undeniable truths which incorporate an awareness of the past and the paths that led to current realities. Only then will we stand shoulder to shoulder with shared understanding and respect as our bond.

In suggesting the twin themes of Origins and Growth we wish to pause and evaluate the roads we have collectively travelled as an organization, as a profession, and as a discipline in our privileged access to the past, while simultaneously exploring the potential for growth in the future of the discipline. Rather than having a theme which restricts contributions to the symposium, we envision the dual themes stimulating thought and discussion around their interplay and contribution to the discipline and Ontario archaeology.
Introducing the New Editors of Arch Notes

Sarah Timmins is currently employed as the Repatriation Technician for the Royal Ontario Museum in the Archaeology of the Americas Department. She works directly with the curator of North American Archaeology, as well as with Indigenous communities on the repatriation of Ancestors and culturally sensitive objects in the ROM’s holdings. Prior to her work at the ROM, Sarah was employed for a number of seasons in the CRM field initially as a field technician, and then eventually as a licensed field director. She received a bachelor’s degree in North American archaeology with a minor in anthropology from Wilfrid Laurier University. She later earned an M.A. from McMaster University in bioarchaeology studying growth, development, and vitamin D deficiency in children from a Roman city located in modern day Northern France. She was able to participate in a number of field schools during her studies including on sites in Romania, Bermuda and at Old Fort Erie during the bicentennial of the War of 1812. Outside of her archaeological passions, Sarah can be found bird-watching, hiking, and camping.

Katelyn Mather graduated from Carleton University with a bachelor’s degree in Anthropology in 2009, followed by a year of non-degree studies at the University of Toronto in archaeology and physical anthropology. In 2010, Katelyn started working in CRM. After working as a field technician and report writer for three years, she obtained her applied research licence. She then completed her M.A. in Applied Archaeology at Western University. Her research focused on the ceramic assemblages from two Early-Late Woodland Period sites in Ontario. In 2015, she started working at Timmins Martelle Heritage Consultants, where she is currently working as a report writer. The remainder of her time is spent playing with her daughter, cooking vegan food and exploring the trails around Toronto with her family.

Dear Arch Notes readers, we are looking to hear from YOU. What do you like about the newsletter? What do you dislike? What would you like to see more of? We hope to survey members soon for feedback on the future of AN, but if you have any comments, suggestions or ideas in the meantime, send us an email at aneditor@ontarioarchaeology.org

Have you connected with us yet?
Find the OAS on Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, YouTube and LinkedIn!
Ontario Archaeological Society
Annual Business Meeting
November 7, 2020

ZOOM Meeting

Present: OAS Board of Directors: Jim Sherratt, Debbie Steiss, Alicia Hawkins, Craig Ramsoomair, Kate Dougherty, Rob Pihl, Abbie Flower, Amy St John, Chiara Williamson, Kaitlyn Malleau, Jill Taylor-Hollings

OAS Membership: approximately 26 members

President’s Land Acknowledgement

Motion to Approve Agenda: moved by Sheryl Smith and seconded by Debbie Steiss. No discussion. Vote carried.

Motion to Approve the Minutes from the 2019 Annual Business Meeting: moved by Rob Pihl and seconded by André Miller. No discussion. Vote carried.

Matters Arising from Minutes: none.

President’s Report: President Jim Sherratt covered several topics:

Indigenous Training
• 2020 Advanced Field Liaison Representatives training took place in late Jan 2020 with the assistance of OAS volunteers: Dana Poulton, Christine Dodd, Matthew Beaudoin, Mike McCready and Kaitlyn Malleau
• Due to the pandemic, our 2020 Trillium Community Representatives Training program for Northeastern Ontario was deferred
• A new Trillium SEED grant for training 3 Field Liaison Representatives at Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation was awarded to the OAS; the purpose is to train these individuals to train their own FLRs for future work
• OAS members have been working to create video versions of past training presentations that will cover all the required topics
• The OAS has continued its efforts pertaining to reconciliation

Black Lives Matter
• The OAS felt it necessary to make an anti-racism statement in support of the BLM movement
• The OAS is asking its members to educate those who do not believe that Canada has a racism problem

Outreach
• Board member Craig Ramsoomair organized a 9-week series of talks on Cultural Resource Management practices that helped to replace cancelled OAS chapter meeting programs

2020 Symposium
• Jim gave a shout-out to Past-President Alicia Hawkins for her tremendous effort in organizing the 2020 symposium due to the cancellation of the original symposium planned for Hamilton, themed “Archaeologies of Resilience”
• Instead, the OAS decided to host a virtual symposium: 439 people registered on a pay-as-you-go basis, and it has been a financial success

Internal Processes
• The OAS Board of Directors hired a new Executive Director, Chiara Williamson; Jim thanked Board members Alicia Hawkins and Debbie Steiss for covering many of the ED’s jobs for the past year while the position was vacant
• Office records are being culled and digitized
• A major office clean-up has been completed

OAS website
• A new website has been in development and should be rolling out soon

Treasurer’s Report—Debbie Steiss

Comments pertaining to 2019
• The OAS membership and subscriptions to Ontario Archaeology increased
• The Charles Garrad Collections Fund was launched last year and currently has over $11,000 in assets; no awards will be made until the fund has grown to a sustainable amount
• The Valerie Sonstenes Student Scholarship Fund dispersed its first award
• The 2019 OAS Symposium had over 300 participants, and between corporate and individual sponsorships plus the take from the silent action, there was a net profit of approximately $15,000 which was split between OAS and the Toronto Chapter
• The Summer Employment Program had 3 students, and they helped with symposium planning, curating a Lakehead University artifact collection, heritage outreach and archaeological conservation
• Our Ontario Trillium Grow Grant was launched with Field Liaison Representative training workshops; however, it was put on hold
played in bringing the OAS accounts
dged the significant role Debbie had
discussion, but Jim Keron acknowle
Hawkins; seconded by Jim Keron. No

Motion to Approve the 2019 finan-
cial statements: moved by Alicia
Hawkins and seconded by Chris Ellis. No discussion. Vote carried.

Motion to Approve Weinberg & Gas-
pirc CPA LLP to be accountants for
the Ontario Archaeological Society
for 2020: moved by Abbey Flower and
seconded by Chris Ellis. No discussion.
Vote carried.

Election of Directors

It is necessary to fill six Director posi-
tions for 2021. Nominations are:

President-Elect: Jill Taylor-Hollings.
Further nominations were solicited from
the floor three times, but none
were presented. Candidate was acclai-
med.

Treasurer: Henry van Lieshout. Fur-
ther nominations were solicited from
the floor three times, but none
were presented. Candidate was acclai-
med.

Vice-President / Secretary: Abbey
Flower. Further nominations were so-
licted from the floor three times, but none
were presented. Candidate was acclai-
med.

Directors: Jeff Siebert; Greg Braun;
Josh Dent. Further nominations were so-
licted from the floor three times, but none
were presented. Candidates were acclai-
med.

2021 Symposium Update for Ha-

ilton: No report was presented, but
Emily Anson announced the theme
was “Growth of Ontario Archaeology”.
The Chapter is considering a hybrid
approach, but currently are only plan-
ing a virtual program.

Strategic Plan—Jim Sherrat

• Public Outreach: we continue our visible presence at events such as
Archaeology Month; we are deve-
loping a mobile phone-friendly
web page; trying to achieve better
support to the OAS Chapters
• Reconciliation, Reclamation,
Restitution Committee: we are
ensuring that our policies and
procedures are consistent with our
Statement of Ethical Principles;
the committee is moving forward
with Sarah Hazel as its lead; we
are developing protocols to hand-
le members who do not abide
by the SEP; we are expanding
reconciliation space on the new
OAS website
• Leadership in the Practice of
Archaeology: we continue to
develop a series of white pa-
pers to define best-practice OAS
Standards and Guidelines; we are
working on a green subscription to
Ontario Archaeology
• Improvement of Internal Mana-
gement: we continue to develop
our digital management practices,
such as submissions of MOUs and
financial statements; we continue
to enhance our regional represen-
tation, our President-Elect hails
from Thunder Bay!

Appreciation to OAS Volunteers:

Motion to Thank the following list
of retiring members of the Board
or Publications for their service to
the Ontario Archaeological Society:
moved by Josh Dent and seconded by
Trevor Orchard. No discussion. Vote
carried.

• Out-going Board of Directors:
  Alicia Hawkins, Debbie Steiss, Rob
  Pihl and Amy St John;
• Ontario Archaeology editor: Chris
  Ellis, and also to Andrew Stewart
  as editor of “Profiles” section
• Arch Notes co-editors: Sheryl
  Smith and Carole Stimmell

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: moved by Alicia
Hawkins and seconded by André Mi-
lle. Meeting adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

Submitted by Chiara Williamson, Exe-
cutive Director
Regional Chapters

**Grand River**
President: Chris Dalton
Vice President: Chris Watts
Treasurer: Bonnie Glencross
Secretary: TBA
Website: https://sites.google.com/site/grandriveroas
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/OAS-Grand-River-Chapter-1530572620573825
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of each month, Sept.-April Psychology, Anthropology, Sociology building (PAS) 1241 (First Floor), University of Waterloo (South Campus)
Membership: Individual $20, Student $15

**Ottawa**
President: André Miller
Vice President: Stacey Girling-Christie
Secretary: Carol Pritchard
Treasurer: Bill MacLennan
Directors at large: Glenna Roberts, Ben Mortimer, Elizabeth (Libby) Imrie, Stephanie Carles, Philippe Trottier & Chris Kerns
Ottawa Archaeologist Editor: Chris Kerns
Web master: Yvon Rendeau
Peggi Armstrong Public Archaeology Award: Lois King
Website: www.ottawaoas.ca
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Otawa-Chapter-of-the-Ontario-Archaeological-Society-582145708470321
Email: ottawaoas@gmail.com
Mail: PO Box 4939, Station E, Ottawa ON K1S 5J1
Meetings: Every 3rd Thursday of the month from Sept. to May; usually at Routhier Community Centre, 172 Guigues Street, Ottawa (in the Byward Market)
Membership: Individual $20, Family $25, Student $12

**Peterborough**
President: Sheryl Smith
Vice-President: Tom Mohr
Treasurer: Deb Mohr
Secretary: Dirk Verhulst
Directors: Julie Kapyrka, Robert Pearce and Morgan Tapmlin.
Strata Editor: Dirk Verhulst
Website: peterborough.ontarioarchaeology.org
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/159076065078299
Meetings: 7:00 pm on the fourth Tuesday of each month,
Membership: Individual $12, Family $15, Student $8

**Windsor**
President: Amanda Black
Vice President: Rosemarie Denunzio
Secretary/Website: Barbara Johnson
Treasurer: Michael McMaster
Newsletter Editor: Zach Hamm
Media Outreach: Haylee Meloche
Website: http://sites.google.com/site/windsoroas
Email: oaswindsor@gmail.com
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/WindsorOAS/
Meetings: 7:00 pm on the second Wednesday of February, April, and October and the first Wednesday of December. at the Duff-Baby Interpretation Centre in Old Sandwich Town
Membership: Individual $15, Family $20, Students $5

**MEMBERSHIP**

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*Effective 2017, the print version of Arch Notes will cost $20 per year to mail. Those receiving the email version of Arch Notes pay the lower fee.