



# Arch Notes

The Newsletter of the Ontario Archaeological Society



*Field School Updates, page 5*

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# President's Message

Dear Members,

I hope that you are doing well and staying safe! Reflecting back on 2022, the OAS had so many successes and I wanted to share a few of them in this message (for more information, check out the Annual Business Meeting draft minutes on page 21 of this issue).

Although the COVID-19 pandemic has affected us all, some of the nine OAS chapters started in-person chapter meetings this year while also using online formats to host presentations and lively discussions. The new OAS website (via Josh Dent, Arek Skibicki and other volunteers) also showcases our society's work in a user friendly and modern look.

Thanks to Sarah Hazell, Alicia Hawkins, our Director of Education Jake Cousineau and many expert volunteers, we supported the delivery of the Indigenous Archaeological Monitor training program to seven communities in 2022! They also worked in partnership with the Canadian Archaeological Association this year to offer some new training options. The new Mentorship program, spearheaded by Craig Ramsoomair and the Public Outreach Committee, also offers some great educational opportunities for archaeologists in training (mentees) and for those who wanted to support students in furthering their careers (mentors). Mentors and mentees who applied to the program this year met during the 2022 symposium to share experiences, give advice, and discuss

career pathways. This program will be opening up to interested participants again in 2023 but here is how it worked this year: [OAS Symposium 2022 – Mentorship Program – Ontario Archaeological Society \(ontarioarchaeology.org\)](#). To learn more contact Craig at [outreach@ontarioarchaeology.org](mailto:outreach@ontarioarchaeology.org).

Additionally, I would like to acknowledge the highly successful Hamilton/Burlington *Archaeologies of Resilience* OAS Symposium from Oct 27-30, 2022. There are too many details to discuss in this message but one of the highlights was being able to meet back in person! This event was co-hosted by the Hamilton Chapter (Chairs Emily Anson, Scott Martin and a large team of volunteers) along with the OAS Board of Directors. It was held at the two great venues of the McMaster campus and stunning Royal Botanical Gardens in Burlington. Although we were somewhat nervous about launching a hybrid model symposium, it worked well, with most people attending in person. We appreciate the very generous donations from CRM companies, other businesses, and many individuals. Additionally, it was great to once again have the 'famous' OAS silent auction. People were so generous with their donations and creative ideas for auction items, raising thousands of dollars to support the symposium.

We are continuing to move in the right direction with more Indigenous people participating in various forms,

before, during and after the symposium. In particular, we say *chi-mii-gwetch* to Jordan Jamieson (Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation) for helping with planning, setting up sessions, and even a rap performance by Mr. Sauga! There were also other Indigenous community members who kindly helped us open and close the symposium with ceremony: The Ninjiichaag Traditional Drummers; Leroy Hill of Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council; Tanya Hill-Montour of the Six Nations of the Grand River Archaeology Department; and Jakka Romain of the Nation Huronne-Wendat/Huron-Wendat Nation. Many Indigenous people also participated in sessions, presented papers, or were attendees. One of the more significant moments for the OAS Board members (and me personally) was the surprise gift of a hand carved and painted Onquata paddle from the Nation Huronne-Wendat in Wendake, Quebec (see Figures 1-3). Several community members travelled to the symposium and presented us with this paddle (named Stadaconé) as a gesture of friendship. Tiawenhk/thanks and we hope to continue travelling forward together in archaeology in a good way.

One of the main concerns of the OAS is heritage advocacy. Thanks to our members and board members for working together on local, regional and provincial issues throughout the year. Towards the end of 2022, all of us who care deeply about Ontario's heri-

tage were trying to fathom the potential impacts of the Ford Ontario government putting through the omnibus [Bill 23, More Homes Built Faster Act](#). Although we were hoping that was going to help people experiencing homelessness and address the terrible condition of housing for many Indigenous people in Ontario, that is of course not the case! The OAS has never been more relevant as a voice for ethical archaeology in the province – and all of us still need to be very loud about the issues around this bill. Many of you and other provincial heritage organizations have shared concerns. We issued a statement and sent a message to inform members but of course, it was approved after 45 days of ‘consultation’. Consultation was not properly done with the First Nations and Métis in Ontario. We also need to keep monitoring the federal [Bill C-23 – Historic Places of Canada Act](#), given that will be so important to federal

procedures on lands in the province.

### Finances and Membership

I am happy to report that the OAS is doing well financially. Members have already started to renew, so we thank you for supporting the society once again. It is our many members and volunteers who help keep the society going with programs and committee work. My colleagues on the volunteer board of directors are a stellar group of people who continue to surprise me with their outstanding dedication to the OAS and all things archaeology. We are also grateful for the support from the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism, and Culture Industries (now Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport) in the form of the Provincial Heritage Organization grant at the end of 2022 and for providing us with a grant of just over \$11,000 to fund three summer experience program students. We thank Lauryn Eady-Sitar, Leandro Iglesias, and Aman-

da Henderson, who are three exceptional archaeology students that helped us with summer projects.

Our society continues to grow. We look forward to welcoming new members but also continue to learn from those who have been members for many years (e.g., we recognized several 50-year and 25-year members at the symposium). The other OAS award winners were celebrated at the symposium and are also recognized later in this issue.

We are also looking for content for the newsletter. If you would like to contribute, please reach out to Sarah Timmins ([aneditor@ontarioarchaeology.org](mailto:aneditor@ontarioarchaeology.org)). If you would like to submit an article for the peer-reviewed journal *Ontario Archaeology*, contact Suzanne Needs-Howarth and Bonnie Glencross at [editor@ontarioarchaeology.org](mailto:editor@ontarioarchaeology.org). They worked tirelessly with other volunteers to complete the auspicious Vol. 100 this year.

Take care and all the best for 2023!

*Jill Taylor-Hollings*



Figures 1-3: The On-quata paddle from the Nation Huronne-Wendat named Stadaconé presented to the OAS. The colors are inspired by the culture of the three sisters - Squash, Corn and Beans.



# The Archaeological Field School Comes to Campus: 10 Years of the Schreiber Wood Project at the University of Toronto Mississauga

By Michael Brand, Trevor J. Orchard, and Sarah Ranlett, Department of Anthropology, University of Toronto Mississauga

We wish to acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto operates. For thousands of years it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and the Mississaugas of the Credit. Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.

## A Brief history of the Schreiber Wood Project (SWP) Field School

Archaeological field schools are often conducted in remote locations or foreign countries, which can pose considerable challenges to students who are unable to travel or cannot manage the financial costs. There has been a movement in many archaeology/anthropology departments to conduct field schools on campus (Dufton et al. 2019; Heath-Stout and Hannigan 2020; Kroot and Panich 2020; Turnbaugh 1976). The University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM) Department of Anthropology shifted to an on-campus field school a decade ago to provide a

more accessible opportunity for our students and to increase equity and diversity. Although none of us were directly involved in that initial decision, one of us (MB) subsequently developed both a third year (ANT318) and fourth year (ANT418) field school on the UTM campus investigating the cultural landscape created by the Schreiber family and examining what their lives were like in Erindale (the neighbourhood of Mississauga in which UTM is located) during the last decades of the nineteenth century. The 2022 field season was the 10th consecutive, annual field school of the SWP held on campus.

The archaeological field school at UTM operates as two classes that run concurrently. The third-year class is set up to operate like a regular archaeological project, mimicking Cultural Heritage Management (CHM) projects (also referred to as Cultural Resource Management (CRM)) conducted by consulting archaeologists. Michael Brand acts as the Project Manager, Trevor Orchard aids with the project's logistical, equipment, and analytical needs, and teaching assistants (including, in recent years, Sarah Ranlett) function as Field Directors. The fourth-year students, who have some experience from the previous year, are similar to the field director's assistant

on a crew (the second in command), and the third-year students do the same work as a Field Technician. This provides students with a simulated workplace environment, comparable to that in which they will work if they acquire a position in CHM. In addition to recreating a 'real-world' project/crew structure, the class has also been designed such that the students get trained to use the methods most commonly employed on contemporary CHM projects, including test pitting and pedestrian survey.

## Historical Background

Members of the Schreiber family immigrated to Canada from England in the mid-19th century and settled in Toronto. In 1868 Weymouth George Schreiber and his children travelled to Gurnsey to visit Louisa DeLisle, the aunt of Schreiber's deceased wife Harriet (DeLisle) Schreiber (Heritage Mississauga 2006). During this visit Louisa DeLisle gave 150 acres of land to Schreiber as a gift in trust for his three children. The Schreiber family owned the land into the new century. In the late 1870s, the family decided to move to Springfield, as Erindale was then known (Heritage Mississauga 2006). Sometime in the early 1880s

the Schreiber family began construction of three houses on the property (Heritage Mississauga 2006). These houses were known as Mount Woodham, home of Weymouth and Charlotte Schreiber, Lislehurst, home of Herbert Harrie Schreiber and family, and Iverholme, home of Weymouth DeLisle Schreiber and family. Iverholme burned in 1913 and was never rebuilt. The SWP is focussed on examining the archaeological traces of the Schreiber family's occupation of the property during the late 19th century. We were pleased to have three current Schreiber family members, descendants of the households that occupied the property, visit the field school in 2018.

An order registered in the Land Registry Index on 15 January 1930 transferred a portion of the property to Reginald Watkins (Toronto Township nd). Watkins fully renovated Lislehurst, and had Mount Woodham demolished. The University of Toronto purchased Watkins' portion of the property, along with several adjacent properties, for its Erindale campus in 1963.

### SWP Field School Sites

Over the past 10 years, the SWP field school has been examining two primary archaeological sites, and a variety of landscape features, associated with the Schreiber occupation of the property. Site AjGw-534 is approximately 100 m north-south by 70 m east-west, and consists of a partial stone foundation, surface artifact scatter, several surface features, and a buried midden (for a detailed site description see Brand 2016). This site is located roughly 50 metres from Lislehurst,

the only Schreiber residence that persists to the present, and may be associated with the location of Mt. Woodham, though this has not been clearly demonstrated. The remains of a stone foundation include the west wall, and part of the south wall adjacent to the southwest corner. Excavations at AjGw-534 during the 2013, 2014, 2021, and 2022 field seasons found that the remaining walls are roughly 50 cm wide and consist of four to five courses of dry-laid, unworked stone; there is no indication of a builder's trench, or footing, and no evidence for any type of flooring inside the foundation. Window glass and nails have dominated the artifacts recovered. This suggests the structure was most likely some type of out building. Given the presence of a large number of cut nails it was probably constructed during the Schreiber's occupation of the property (e.g., Adams 2002). The presence of wire-drawn nails, along with air photo evidence demonstrates that the

structure continued to be used in the early 20th century, including during Watkins' ownership. An annotation on the back of a photograph dating ca. 1950, identifies the structure as an old barn Watkins used as a garage.

Test pit survey conducted in 2015 further north at AjGw-534 identified a buried midden. Test units (1 m<sup>2</sup>) in the midden were excavated during the 2016 field season, and block excavation started the following year and continues to the present. Most of the deposits in the midden area appear to be secondary deposits associated with renovation activities at Lislehurst or with the destruction of Mt. Woodham. The identification of an *in situ* barrel cistern in 2019, however, provides a more definitive anchoring point for past cultural activities at this location, and implies that the midden contents *may* have been deposited in the vicinity of a past house feature. Unfortunately, the persistence of the Covid pandemic during the 2020 through 2022



Figure 1: Barrel Cistern (AjGw-534)



field seasons, and the need to avoid having large groups of students working in proximity (Brand et al. 2020), have limited our ability to return to the excavation of the barrel cistern.

Located a short distance away from Lislehurst and AjGw-534 is the site of Iverholme (AjGw-535). The sites fit within a cultural landscape that includes a stone staircase, the remains of a dam which created a small lake that the Shreibers named Shadowmere



Figure 2: Excavation at Iverholme (AjGw-535)

and the footings of a bridge as part of the driveway to Iverholme. Iverholme was the residence of Weymouth DeLisle and Otilie Schrieber. The main features at the site are the remains of the house foundation, a smaller stone foundation, a brick lined well and a large midden. The main house foun-

dation has an "L" shape with a central rectangle and an extension off the northwest corner. The main rectangle of the foundation is 12 m northwest-southeast by 8 m northeast-southwest and stands approximately 1.5 m tall. The remaining walls have wall-fall completely covering them on both the inside and outside of the structure. The northwest wall of the house is located approximately 6 m south of the steep slope down to a seasonal creek

below. Evidence for a smaller, rectangular stone foundation is located 13 m west of the house foundation. Little of this foundation survives, with the visible portion being right at ground level. It measures 6 m northwest-southeast, by 4.5 m northeast-southwest. An extensive midden covers the steep slope of the creek valley to the northwest of the Iverholme house foundation. A wide variety of artifacts were observed on the ground surface, including ceramics, glass bottle fragments, flat glass, pieces of porcelain dolls, coal and faunal remains. The midden extends from the top of the slope all the way down to the creek. Controlled surface collection on the slope midden during the 2014-

2016 and 2020 field seasons was conducted using a row of nine 2 m x 4 m units through the centre of the midden. Surface artifacts are also visible on the relatively flat ground between the main house foundation and the smaller foundation to the west.

## Student Work with the SWP Beyond the Field School

Through the University of Toronto work-study program, we have created 38 work-study positions and co-supervised more than 25 students (undergraduate and graduate; some students have worked with us for more than one term) over the last eight years to work with the SWP collections. Often these work-study students have completed one or both field school courses and are able to put their experience with the archaeology of the SWP sites to use while gaining experience with new aspects of the archaeological process through collections management and research. We have structured the work-study so that we have a graduate student in a senior position (from 2018-2022, Sarah Ranlett), who helps train the undergraduate students. Other students have worked with some of these collections through independent research courses. These students have the chance to do hands-on work with the artifacts recovered by the archaeological field school, and documentary research into artifact types and the late nineteenth century cultural context of our project. In the early years much of the work was focused on fixing errors (inherent to the field school, learning environment of the original cataloguing work) in the artifact catalogue and on improving the organization of the collection to facilitate further research. Once the catalogue was corrected, we were able to start having students undertake research with the collection.

We have centered this research around small, incremental projects so

that the students in each work-study term collaborate to produce a conference paper or poster. Similar research posters have also been produced by fourth-year field school students and independent research project students in recent years. This process serves both to further our long-term goals of providing more detailed research on the SWP collections than is possible within the context of the field school courses, and to provide opportunities for these students to gain involvement in the wider discipline and build their CVs. Two of the eight conference posters produced so far have won best student poster awards (OAS 2020, CAA 2022). We are maintaining an archive of SWP posters produced by the students on the UTM Anthropology website (<https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/anthropology/research/ontario-archaeology-utm/schreiber-wood-archaeology>). Some of our former work-study students who have now graduated are still working with us on the projects they helped start.

In September 2022 we started the Mount Woodham Mystery Project with Mark Overton, Dean of Student Affairs at UTM. The project hired two Anthropology undergraduate students from the Advanced Field School course to create four interpretive displays based around the Archaeological field school project. These displays will be set up in prominent locations around campus and rotated throughout the year (a video of a presentation on this project is available on the UTM Anthropology website at the link above). As part of this project the students undertook an extra day of excavation on one of our sites, and created the four exhibits,

including selecting the artifacts and creating a PowerPoint presentation to accompany each display. We also hired one of our former anthropology students, who went on to complete an MA in museum studies at UofT, to assist with and provide advice for the displays. The plan is to continue hiring students to develop additional exhibits, increasing the visibility of the project and its contribution to understanding the history of the campus.

### Conclusion

The Schreiber Wood Project, which has formed the basis for the on-campus UTM archaeological field school for the past decade, has been well received by students, as evidenced by consistently robust enrollments in this annual summer and fall undergraduate course. Our recent attempts, via student presentations at regional and national conferences and via outreach associated with the Mount Woodham Mystery Project, have also generated considerable interest beyond the anthropology student body (e.g., Lonergan 2022). Our sense is that, beyond the logistical and accessibility advantages of running this field school on-campus, the connection to the property that field school students and other members of the UTM community feel provides an enhanced interest in these relatively recent yet somewhat foreign late 19th century occupations of part of what is now the UTM campus. We expect our understanding of the Schreiber family occupation of the property to continue to grow as the field school continues in future years and as our students continue to explore the research potential

of the extensive collections already generated by the SWP. On-campus field school projects not only provide a benefit to the participating students by lowering the cost and logistical barriers to participating in a field project, but also have a unique ability to contribute to the campus as a whole, providing a tangible perspective on the history of the land on which UTM now sits.

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## Brief Introduction to the 2022 McMaster University Archaeological Field School Investigations at Nursery (AhGx-8), Cootes Paradise, Hamilton, Ontario

By Scott Martin and Christine Cluney

The archaeological site known as Nursery (AhGx-8) is located at the northeastern corner of Cootes Paradise, Royal Botanical Gardens, in Hamilton, Ontario. The site appears to have been visited at least periodically since earlier in the Archaic, as per collector finds. More persistent use of the site, based mostly on ceramics, seems to have begun about 2000 to 1500 years ago.

The site was known to local collectors, George Gee and David Gilmour, at least since the early 1960s. Bruce Batchelor (1961) mapped an artefact

scatter at Nursery in his brief report on a neighbouring site, possibly related to information from Gee and Gilmour. By 1968, David Stothers was beginning to investigate Princess Point (AhGx-1) and, subsequent to that work, conducted a survey of Cootes Paradise with Ian Kenyon in 1969 (Stothers 1969a, 1969b). As part of that survey, a 5x5 foot square was excavated near the boathouse at what was known as the RBG Arboretum or plants nursery, often called Nursery. In his survey report, Stothers recounts that Gee and Gilmour had found hundreds of artefacts at the site. More recently, it

has come to light that at least two RBG employees also collected from Nursery. It was rototilled annually from about the 1950s till the early 2000s and it is likely that the larger, most visible artefacts, including diagnostics, were removed over this period.

Stothers seems to have recognised that the site was large and located mostly within the confines of the Royal Botanical Gardens nursery area (Stothers 1969b:23), that is, far larger than a 5x5 foot square unit. Still, in spite of the reports of hundreds of artefacts representing the Archaic, the Princess Point Complex, possibly

the Glen Meyer period (albeit just two sherds from Gee's collection) and a 'late Iroquois' component from the Gee and Gilmour collections, the square that Stothers and Kenyon excavated was, apparently, underwhelming. The cultural material from the unit was "extremely sparse" (Stothers 1969b:24). In his field notes, Stothers wrote, "- chipping de-

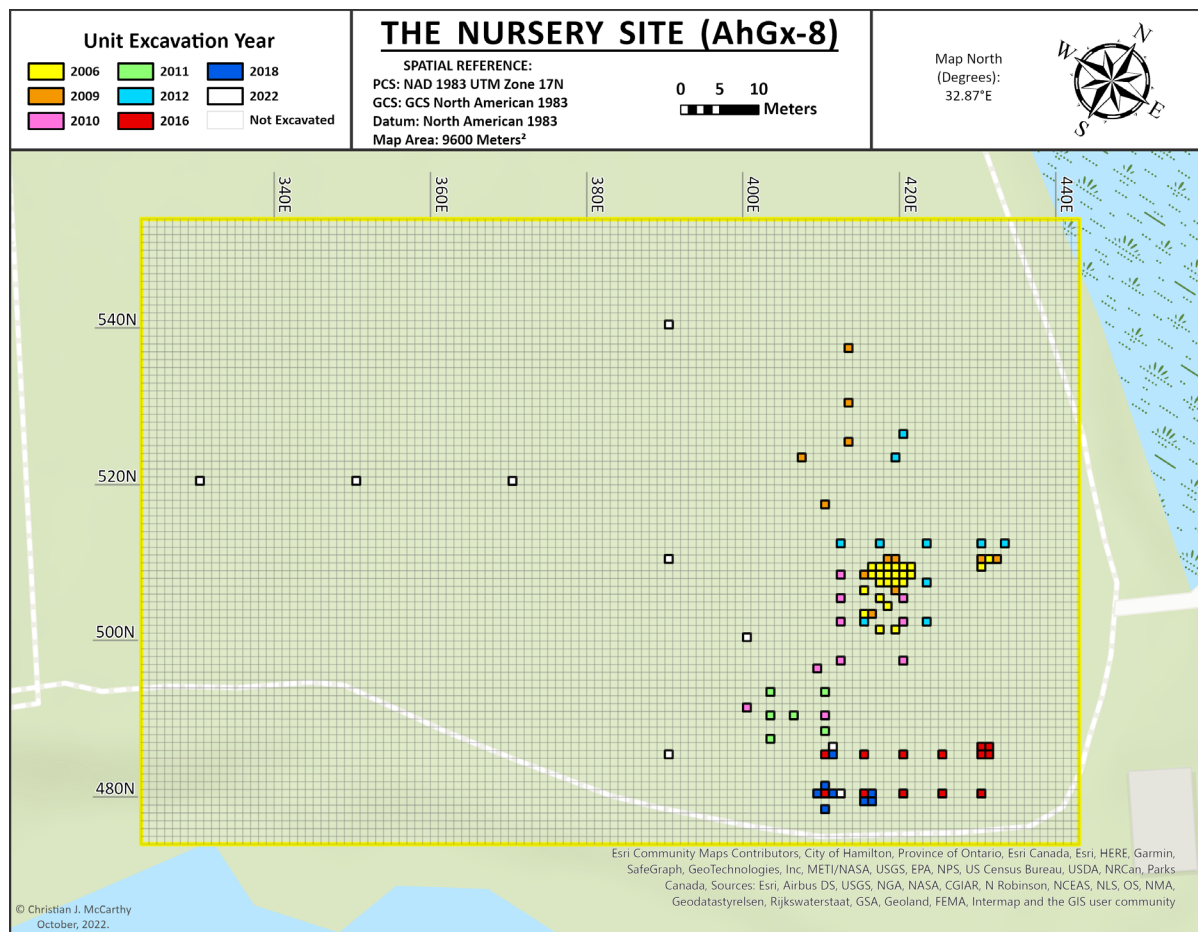
tritrus and a few sherds found - Princess Point component probably -> not worthy of further excavation" (Stothers 1969a:9). These finds were within the top few inches of the excavations. What also did not make it into the survey report was that Stothers and Kenyon tested along the Nursery shore moving westwards and "- all along these banks there [were] sparse Princess Point cultural remains" (Stothers 1969a:9). Curiously, although the site was considered "non-stratified" (Stothers 1969b:23), some of the finds near the shoreline were recovered below a 2½ foot overburden (Stothers 1969a:9).

Since the early 1990s, the McMaster University Archaeological Field School (Anthropology 3CC6) had been

run at Dundurn Castle led by Dr. John Triggs. This was where Martin participated in a high school co-op course and two volunteer stints, where he learned to wash and label artefacts, excavate by trowel and screen, before taking the course himself in 1996. Cluney also got her start in Ontario archaeology, coming from Alberta, as a teaching assistant (TA) for Dr. Triggs at the Dundurn Castle field school in 2005. In 2006, the opportunity arose for Martin to teach the field school as part of his Contractually Limited Appointment in Archaeology in the Department of Anthropology at McMaster. In thinking about which site may provide a venue for field school, Nursery was chosen mostly because of its Princess

Point Complex component. Perhaps the site could aid in understanding local Middle Woodland-Late Woodland transitions. Smith and Crawford (1997:22), for example, mention Nursery (Arboretum) (AhGx-8) along with Princess Point (AhGx-1), Sassafras Point No. 1 (AhGx-3) and 'Old' Lilac Gardens (AhGx-6) as larger or potentially larger Princess Point Complex sites that could have been year-round or multi-season sites (cf. Stothers 1977).

Although a small number of artefacts had been recognised eroding from the shore near the boat launch in a previous year, a field visit by Martin and Meghan Burchell in 2006, within what was then the fenced-in nursery area, turned up a small number of



Map 1: 2022 Map of Nursery (AhGx-8) by Christian McCarthy



surface finds as well. This offered a place to focus first and start laying in a grid when the course began. That year, 23 one-metre square units were excavated by trowel, which still stands as a record number of excavated units on this site in any given field school season. Artefacts deriving from the precontact, early contact and modern/recent periods were recovered.

Cord-wrapped stick impressed ceramics (Princess Point Complex wares) were recovered, but not in massive numbers. Several features were also encountered, some were identified as RBG nursery (modern/recent) features (deriving from tree planting and pulling?). Feature 1, however, may have been a storage pit from the Princess Point Complex period (Martin (ed.) 2008:12, 35; cf. Martin 2008). This trend of hoping for diagnostic Princess

Point Complex features has continued to present, although most features in recent years have not been completely excavated or have been covered with geotextile after 'surface' ceramics were plotted and removed.

Notably, foreshadowed by Stothers' note about two sherds in Gee's collection, an inhabitation of the Early Ontario Iroquoian (Glen

Meyer) period (c. AD 1000-1300) or, maybe, the slightly later Uren period (c. AD 1290/1300-1330) (e.g., Feature 2 and Feature 6) was identified and may reflect a period when the site was used as a hamlet (see lack of Early Ontario Iroquoian villages around Cootes Paradise in Smith 1997:14; Martin 2022 for a summary of Cootes Paradise archaeology). Additional features that appear to be of pre- and post-Princess Princess Point Complex inhabitations have since been identified.

Two small tubular blue glass trade beads were also recovered from the site in 2006. These beads, along with one from 2010, were analysed via Instrumental Neutron Activation Analysis (INAA) by Brandi Lee MacDonald (MacDonald 2011). Martin began to wonder if there was a contact Neutral

or Seneca component at the site. Although we are currently finding it hard to corroborate, there is a passing mention of Champlain in Lake Messina/Little Lake in 1615 or 1616 (see Morris 1943:2). Later, though, in 1669, Dollier, Galinée and La Salle were nearby on their journeys via the Seneca village of Tinawatawa (Galinée 1917). With thanks to Bill Fox, Alicia Hawkins, Gary Warrick, Heather Walder and Adelphine Bonneau and others, it has more recently been clarified that these were not 17th century beads, but likely late 18th century ones (see Martin (ed.) 2020). It is now recognised that there was likely a Mississauga camp at the site, too, possibly that of Wahbanosay's (Rev. Peter Jones' maternal grandfather) extended family (Martin (ed.) 2020; Martin 2022). Peter Jones was born on nearby Burlington Hei-



Image 1: Unit 390E 485N, facing Southwest, under excavation by Christian McCarthy and Abbas Chaudhry (May 24, 2022)



ghts in 1802 (Jones 1860). A George III cypher pewter military button was recovered in 2006 and likely dates to the American War of Independence period (Mike McAllister, pers. comm., 2006). In this context of a Mississauga component, it may have been left by Mississauga allies. In 2011, a silver earbob was recovered along with additional glass beads (MacDonald 2012). Other finds in the existing collection, possibly misidentified as more recent than they really are and that could date, instead, to the peri-1800 period, require review. We have been employing 3mm mesh screens in order to recover additional beads and other minute items as well. In 2018, a red barrel-shaped glass trade bead was recovered and is thought to reflect either late Neutral or, less likely, Seneca (Bill Fox, pers. comm., Oct. 11, 2019; Bill Fox, pers. comm., June 15, 2022; Martin (ed.) 2020:51) presence at the site. The 17th century is represented by at least one bead after all! A blue and white bead fragment from 2010, but identified in 2018 could be another candidate.

With the successes of the first field season in the form of some fairly high-yielding units albeit with relatively few diagnostics, additional archaeological field schools were run at Nursery in 2009, 2016, 2018 and 2022, led by Martin (Martin 2011; Martin, ed. 2008, 2017, 2020, in prep.). In 2010, 2011 and 2012, the work was led by Burchell (Burchell, ed. 2011; Burchell and Cook 2012; Burchell and Cook, eds. 2012). Christine Cluney was the Instructional Assistant for the course in 2016, 2018 and 2022. Christine's ease with students, skills in course de-



**Image 2: Unit 411E 486N, facing North, with Feature 27 (early Middle Woodland) visible in Southwest and Feature 35 (Glen Meyer, Uren or Middleport?) visible in Northwest (May 26, 2022)**

velopment and logistics and knowledge of lab and artefact analyses have been essential for field school.

Between 2006 and 2018, only a relatively narrow eastern strip of the terrace on which Nursery sits had been investigated (see Map 1). Unit artefact counts were often in the many tens of items and up to several hundred (albeit the highest-count units to the south may have been inflated by modern items, minute calcined bone, small lithic flakes and relatively deeper soil profiles). If a Glen Meyer hamlet extended across much of that strip (between about the 510N and 480N grid lines and between about the 410E and 425E grid lines) and, yet, we had not explored further (barring some artefacts noticed in the far western area in an earlier

year), the question arose as to how far the site could extend westwards.

In 2022, the previously unexamined western and northern areas started to be assessed. The results were mixed. Lithic finds were recovered throughout the area, but Indigenous ceramics were somewhat rare, small and not readily diagnostic. Additional RBG (plastic pipe trench) and likely 19th century features (clay-filled pit) were identified. A possible Archaic camp area in the westernmost units may have been encountered (Ancaster chert side scraper in Unit 330E 530N and Ancaster chert wedge in Unit 350E 520N, for example). Although impossible to say with so few units opened, the current thought is that the Early Ontario Iroquoian hamlet may not have extended much



further west than the 400E or even 410E grid lines. Unit 390E 485N (see Image 1, created by Christian McCarthy over many volunteer hours) was left incomplete with a ~34cm fill layer (beneath ~25cm of ploughzone) above an apparent dark humic layer beneath. Perhaps this represents an in-filled north-south-running depression or gully that may have served as a *de facto* western boundary for the site.

Given the presence of some exotic and pseudo-exotic lithics (including Kettle Point), a working hypothesis is that this site, through time, has been a stopover for those entering and exiting Cootes Paradise and a possible head of trails to the north and west (Theijsmeyer 2022; cf. Martin (ed.) 2008:36; Martin 2011:28; Martin 2022).

In 2023, further consideration will be given to the apparently constricted footprint of the Glen Meyer component. The extent and nature of the Mississauga component, it is hoped, will also be investigated. A new-found early Middle Woodland feature, apparently cross-cut by what seems to be a Late Woodland feature (see Image 2) will also be further explored. Sherds from each of these features have been assessed by Shalen Prado (see Prado et al. 2022) for adhering starch grains as part of the 2022 SSHRC PEG 'Collaborative Archaeologies, Decolonized Foodways' grant (see Roddick et al. 2022). Additional microbotany may be conducted on sherds recovered from the site in 2023.

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## About “Problematicals”

By Tiziana Gallo

In the Handbook of American Indians published in 1912, “problematicals” include objects made in “[...] chipped and polished stone, in clay, bone, shell, wood, and metal [...] assigned to the problematical class, since the motives which led to their manufacture, the particular significance attached to them, and the manner of their use, are and must remain largely subjects of conjecture” (Hodge 1912:307). Warren K. Moorehead, offers a more interpretative definition: “We have used the term “problematical”, as me-

aning in the strict sense, stones presumably made use of by chiefs, shamans, warriors and women for personal adornment or in ceremonies or during religious rites” (Moorehead 1917:427). Among the ground stone artifacts deemed “problematical” by these earlier authors, objects currently known as bannerstones, birdstones, and gorgets occupy a significant proportion of the Royal Ontario Museum’s legacy collections. Inherited from decontextualizing collecting practices, they received very little attention from archaeologists, possibly because they were concerned that problematicals have little

to offer in terms of interpretations.

According to Moorehead, William H. Holmes, curator of anthropology for the Smithsonian from 1897 to 1932, coined the term “problematical form” (1917:17). Holmes was highly critical of claims to the antiquity of Indigenous peoples on the continent. He refused to attribute the origin of “problematical” artifacts to the latter, seeing them instead as copies of objects supposedly brought by the Norse thousands of years ago (Moorehead 1917:419). While Townsend indicates that people found them in various contexts (“[...] ditchers, excavators, and



*drillers have found them. Gravel diggers, children at play, fishermen, even women feeding chickens are known to have found birdstones*" (Townsend 1959:2)), the removal of bannerstones, gorgets and birdstones from certain burial mounds, their elaborate manufacture and their aesthetic qualities led them to be attributed to the "mound-builders" (Feder 2013). Late 18th-century imaginaries constructed this mythical civilization to justify and legitimize the dispossession of the "problematical" Indigenous (Timmerman 2020). Supported by a "certainty of settler entitlement to Indigenous land" (Mackey 2014:242), the physical and ideological appropriation of the land by colonial powers, including through the removal of artifacts from their cultural contexts, created historical gaps that made room for expansive settler agendas and helped disconnect sites and human and non-human ancestors from their Indigenous kin.

Attributing "problematical" artifacts to mound-builders and thus valuing them as the remnants of a long gone past reinforced this disconnect. Instead of curbing the enthusiasm of antiquarians, the lack of contextual information that resulted from collecting practices contributed to their insertion within a romanticized mythical nationalism. Fetishized as the exotic remnants of a disappeared civilisation, problematics fascinated collectors to the point that they were commodified within lucrative industries that benefited both from selling and even reproducing such artifacts. However, to retain their value and mystery amongst collectors, these objects had to represent an authentic and inaccessible

past. Although antiquarian authors of the late 19th to mid-20th centuries regularly allude to how some of the objects from their collections were used by contemporary Indigenous people, these examples are usually dismissed, and Indigenous knowledge invalidated in favour of white settler speculations. Speaking of a mace-shaped stone used by an Indigenous person of the Myaamia Nation to tap sugar maples, Moorehead says: "[...] *the specimen seems to carry a moral. We cannot explain the purpose of the "ceremonial" or unknown "problematical" class through information or data obtained from modern Indians, and so far as prehistoric times are concerned, modern folk-lore sheds little light on them. In this case, the Indian made use of an unfinished ceremonial as a rude hand-hammer. No glimmer of what that specimen stood for in the mind of prehistoric man entered his head. The Miami Indian saw in this thick stone a convenient tool and he made use of it accordingly*" (1917:117).

By the late 19th century, with the discipline's professionalization and archaeologists' firmer grasp of stratigraphy and culture-history, earthen mounds and the artifacts sometimes found in association could no longer be attributed to a vanished civilization. Nonetheless, the still problematical artifacts described by Moorehead as the "*highest attainment of art in stone on the part of our aborigines*" continued to be maintained at a distance from living Indigenous peoples and attributed to cultures "*far in advance*" of those encountered in the mound area (1917:234, 427). Although (most) North American archaeologists'

practices and mentalities have now evolved beyond linear evolutionary theories grounded in racist ideologies, the denial of Indigenous peoples' relations to the mound-builders has continuing implications to this day, with pseudo-archaeological channels thriving on negating Indigenous peoples' creation of their own heritage.

Artifacts deemed "problematic" can be seen as representative of Indigenous dispossession, both terminologically and in practice. Like Indigenous people on their own lands, artifacts that don't submit to western scientific paradigms have tended to be forced into more manageable categories. Obscured by the absence of controlled contexts, early evolutionary classification efforts led to a range of interpretations regarding problematical artifacts' potential functionality and organic succession of shapes (e.g., Brown 1908; Moorehead 1899; Peabody and Moorehead 1906). With the eventual finding of perforated stones in association with antler hooks, most "problematical" ground stone artifacts came to be lumped under the atlatl weight designation: "*By giving them a utilitarian value, it accounts in a reasonable way for the use of a great variety of stone artifacts, most of which have previously been called "ceremonial" or "problematical" forms*" (Webb and Haag 1939:57). "Atlatl weight" thus became the new word for problematical, a new problem that erased the diversity and multiplicity of morphologically, functionally, and likely semiotically varied stone objects. Despite some criticism towards this precipitated generalization (e.g., Townsend 1959:117), the atlatl weight theory

was normalized and continues to prevail to this day. With the problem of function “resolved”, comparative archaeological examples from controlled excavations could focus on formulating typological classifications coherent with existing culture-historical frameworks. However, types based on limited and vague morphological traits either excluded countless non-conform artifacts or forced them into idealized categories which maintained them in a bounded and distant past.

Despite the terminological shift and the functional and temporal resolution, “problematicals” remained problematic. From objects of desire and mystery, birdstones, gorgets and bannerstones of all sorts came to represent the darker and not so distant past of the archaeological discipline in North America. With the realization that artifacts from well excavated sites are much more loquacious, decontextualized artifacts were pushed aside as a complicated and opaque category. As the archaeological mantra goes, torn from their context, artifacts are doomed to remain muted. Townsend, himself an avid collector, said: *“It is no reflection on the curators of museums to say that in their present state, these many objects are of little use to anyone. Certainly, their educational value is practically nil”* (1959:17). Earlier encouraged, the archaeological investigation of artifacts inherited from legacy collections became frowned upon, if not ethically fraught. To defend his undertaking of a revelatory classificatory and distributional study of various ground stone artifacts from the Royal Ontario Museum’s antiquarian collections, J.V. Wright explicitly laid out the

limitations of the project: *“A number of objections may be raised regarding the validity of interpretations derived from such museum collections. The time factor is controlled inasmuch as the traits examined are thought to be diagnostic of a certain period. Any consideration of a complex of traits is prohibited by the nature of the sample. Quantitative data are also modified by an aesthetic factor which will influence the types of artifacts most likely to find their way to a museum. And, finally, the problem arises whether or not the collection is representative of the area”* (1962:124).

### Sitting with problematics

In southern Ontario archaeology, village sites with exceptionally fine-scaled chronological resolutions contrast with the uncertainty of legacy collections, among which are a fair amount of “problematics”. The importance of returning to legacy collections as new sources of data was recently emphasized during an OAS symposium session chaired by Trevor J. Orchard, and the subsequent publication of the ongoing series “New Insights from Old Collections” (Fox 2020; Harris 2020; Orchard 2020). Asking new or different questions of “problematic” artifacts helps bring new kinds of answers to the surface, which are not only relevant for our understanding of the past but are also potent in the present and for a postcolonial future. In the context of the recent deposition of the Canadian Museums Association (CMA) titled *Moved to Action: Implementing UNDRIP in Canadian Museums*, recognizing the colonial weight of legacy collections, sitting

with the discomforts (Boudreau Morris 2017), and embracing the uncertainty (Mackey 2014) that has come to define functionally and semiotically obscure artifacts is a step towards greater transparency and the reconnection of Indigenous peoples with ground stone relatives who live inside museum drawers. Pushing beyond the provenience obstacles highlighted by Wright (1962) and putting “problematic” artifacts back in conversation with each other makes space for the various narratives they hold (Bruchac 2019).

As part of my postdoctoral work with the Royal Ontario Museum’s antiquarian collections, I seek to understand how objects diluted in meta-categories like “problematics”, “atlatl weights”, “slates”, or even “birdstones” and “gorgets” can be characterized individually. While they may evoke relatively clear images for archaeologists familiar with the Northeast, such terminological categories soon collapse when hundreds of these artifacts are compared. However instructive, spatially and temporally bound cultural-historical associations revealed by rare provenienced finds are insufficient to account for the diversity contained within legacy collections. Identifying traces that speak of these objects’ various trajectories as stones consisting of mobile or travelling pieces of the land, as technological projects that underwent series of morphological metamorphoses, as materials whose surfaces and interiors were modified through relations with people and other non-humans and materials, and as both personally and institutionally curated artifacts, disentangles parts of their complicated

histories while also highlighting some of their mutual and shared relations.

### **From material properties to acquisition histories**

Considering “problematical” artifacts from a material perspective involves retracing connections between their geological formation, geomorphological processes, and their subsequent histories up to today. Variations in the appearance, textures, and properties of modified stones – both as broad petrographic types and as singular pieces – can speak about sourcing strategies and about access and relations to places. Stone properties like granulometry, hardness, and laminations influence breakage habits (e.g., conchoidal vs cleaving or fissile fracture), which in turn guide the selection of the techniques and gestures that, along with many other transformative encounters, give shape to ground stone objects (Figure 1, a to b) (Cipolla and Gallo 2021). More than simple substrates, stones play a role in each artifact’s changing shapes, uses, and meanings. Stone properties and transformative potentials can both be informed by shaping traces and inform on non-visible shaping strategies. Furthermore, being aware of how each stone is more likely to react to the application of techniques like knapping, splitting, sawing, pecking, grinding, incising, or polishing, helps distinguish between “unfinished”, “finished”, and reshaped objects without having to resort solely to morphological expectations of what these should look like. With the presence of roughouts and preforms within the

collections, potential production centers and exchange networks can be circumscribed, and shaping steps related to stone properties, geographic area, and tradition. Revisiting these so-called “problematical” objects’ materials and morphologies facilitates the critical re-examination of known types and the recognition of others.

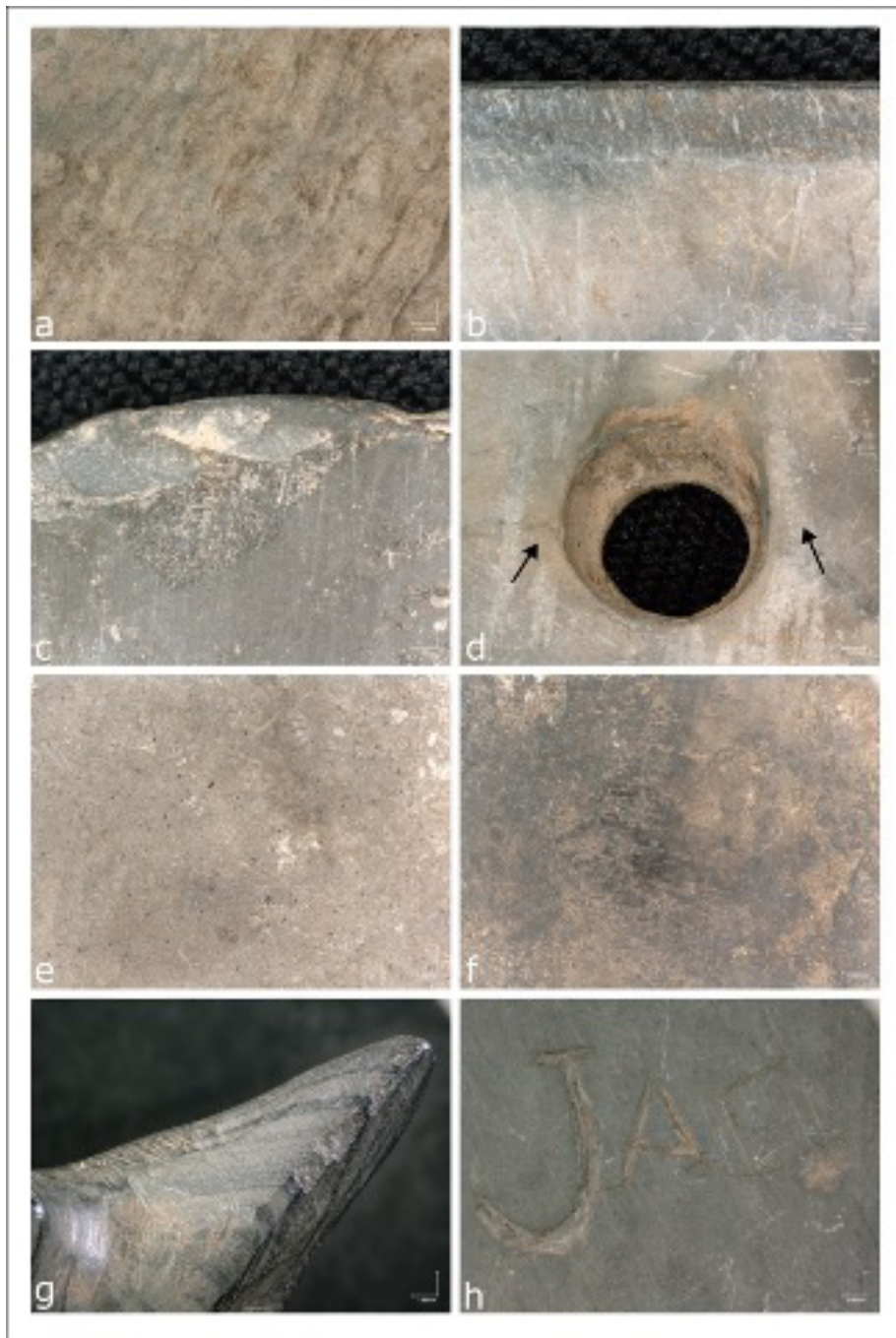
Paying attention to the traces accumulated by these ground stone artifacts is a powerful way of re-connecting with absence of context, composite parts, shaping tools, etc., and of retracing some of their past encounters. These involve the places, practices, worldviews, and materials entangled in shaping and reshaping, use, breakage, deposition, curation, and beyond. Naked eye observations combined with low-power microscopy help document traces including scars, fractures, perforations, striations, polishes, patinas and residues (Figure 1, c to f). Among the zones affected by wear, perforations, faces and edges reveal areas of prolonged contact and friction, the presence and orientation of attachments, of wrappings, and of working areas. Patinated, discoloured or carbonized areas can also serve to partially recreate depositional environments and help identify objects that might have come from more sensitive contexts. Furthermore, traceological observations can provide fresh and more nuanced perspectives on functional variability when birdstones and bannerstones are assumed to be atlatl weights, and gorgets, ornaments worn close to the throat. Overall, detangling palimpsests of traces from successive life stages helps resituate artifacts within their broader

contexts, as part of their depositional environment, as preserved parts of composite objects, and as active participants within complex practices.

Speaking to settler ontologies of ownership and appropriation of Indigenous spaces are the complicated relations between the modern finder of an artifact, the find place and the artifact itself. The manipulation, modification and exhibition of these ground stone objects in private collections and museums also have tangible material impacts. Like Townsend, whose self-diagnosed “collector’s fever” was ignited by birdstones “*cleansed of the soil and rubbed to a gloss*” (1959:1), other collectors also likely interfered with ground stone objects by cleaning and polishing their surface, sometimes using metal files to “fix” broken parts (Figure 1g). Traces of copper wires, glue, or fibre are indicative of mounting for display, while surface stains and discolorations can result from sitting inside a “smoke-filled hobby room” (Townsend 1959:1), or until the mid-20th century, from the application of pesticides and chemicals as part of museum conservation (Hawks 2001). Fresh scratches, fractures and other residues can be acquired through ground stones’ close co-habitation with other artifacts, while intentional markings can include successive catalogue numbers, the name and date of the find spot, a personal anecdote related to the find, or the new “owner’s” engraved initials (Figure 1h).

Identifying modern modifications requires a critical engagement with notions of authenticity. On the one hand is the unquestionable existence of fraudulent replicas made for the





**Figure 1: Traces identified on “problematical” artifacts with the Royal Ontario Museum’s legacy collections: a) Gorget preform with pecking traces covering the stone’s fissile sedimentary layers, NS21576; b) Grinding striations delimiting a gorget’s bevelled edge, NS268; c) Broad-based birdstone with scars, striations and a rounded edge resulting from use, NS35639; d) Gorget perforation showing polish and lateral striations (indicated by arrows) resulting from attachment, NS1506; e and f) Dorsal and ventral face of the same gorget, with different patinas, NS217; g) Reshaped birdstone beak showing facets and regular striations resulting from the use of a metal file, NS131; h) Initials engraved on a gorget’s surface, NS29211. Courtesy of ROM (Royal Ontario Museum), Toronto, Canada. ©ROM**

antiquarian market, to which Townsend dedicated an entire chapter of his *Birdstones of the North American Indian* (1959:269-305). On the other hand, is the question of temporality and of how a few contextualized finds and resulting typologies helped secure “problematical” artifacts within a bounded past, leaving little room for the continuity of practices in the present. Categorizing “problematicals” as either artifacts or as fraudulent pieces according to a period of manufacture revealed by the use of modern tools thus risks reproducing evolutionary principles similar to those that supported the mound-builder myth. However, while the traces of metal files or drills easily detected on some ground stone objects are insufficient to reject an Indigenous provenience, their intentional camouflage and artificial patination can be seen as more suspect. Looking for modern shaping traces among collections of “problematicals” can thus both help identify settler-made intruders and help bridge the typologically imposed temporal disconnect between these objects and Indigenous people today.

The persistent separation of current Indigenous peoples and artifacts from legacy collections is closely tied to the contexts in which collectors and museum curators acquired the latter. Information such as the acquisition date, the name of the collector(s), whether the artifacts were sold or donated, and provenance information of a scale varying from lot and concession numbers to township, county, or broader area (e.g., western Ontario) constitute significant keys around which information originating from the artifacts can

be both spatially and historically articulated. However limited, provenance can be used to regroup artifacts by locality and to retrace their connections among themselves, to Indigenous nations in the present, to specific communities, and in some cases, to specific individuals within these communities. It also allows to trace connections among related objects found in a same area and to *"place many such objects back into communication, if not physically, then virtually, with others like themselves"* (Bruchac 2019:6), setting them into motion so they can pursue their trajectories as knowledge keepers, whether through repatriation or other Indigenous-led initiatives.

## Conclusion

The appropriation and deflection of Indigenous material culture, both cause and consequence of colonialism, was reaffirmed through the "problematization" of countless ground stone artifacts. Once fetishized, these objects came to represent some of the problems contained within the archaeological discipline itself. Like decolonization approaches, a move towards deproblematization cannot be disentangled from places and histories, however uncomfortable and problematic they may be. Nonetheless, it is still possible to bridge some of the gaps created by artifact extractivism and fetishism by asking different questions of these objects and retracing their broader relations. Leaving too much in the hands of context, however precious it may be, deprives us from different kinds of knowledges, erases broad aspects of Indigenous histories,

and impedes the reconnection of present and future Indigenous peoples with their ground stone relatives. As a non-Indigenous researcher, my preliminary work with these collections is about recognizing and detangling their complex histories and making space for these "problematical" artifacts to tell their story by helping to reinstate them as objects of knowledge.

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## Ontario Archaeological Society

### Annual Business Meeting: Minutes (Draft)

Saturday, October 29, 2022, 4:20-6:00 pm  
49th Annual OAS Symposium,  
Royal Botanical Gardens, Burlington

#### Board Members:

#### In Attendance:

Jill Taylor-Hollings, President  
Abbey Flower, Vice President  
Nancy Kallina, Treasurer  
Josh Dent, Director of Member Services; Webmaster  
Craig Ramsoomair, Director of Outreach

Jeff Seibert, Director of Heritage Advocacy

Greg Braun, Director of Publications  
Susan Dermarkar, Director of Chapter Services (via Zoom)

#### Regrets:

Jim Sherratt, Past-President  
Jake Cousineau, Director of Education  
Executive Director – Vacant, to be

determined

Members: 22 for most of meeting (one online)

#### 1. President's opening remarks 1.1 Indigenous and Land Acknowledgement

*We would like to acknowledge that our meeting is taking place on tradi-*

*tional Indigenous territory. There are many Indigenous nations in what is now known as Ontario and they have shaped the history of this land for thousands of years. On these lands, Indigenous peoples have developed distinct languages, customs, economies, laws, and ways of life. We want to show respect for this by acknowledging that we are on the land of the Algonquin, Cree, Oji-Cree, Delaware, Mississauga, Odawa, Ojibway, Potawatomi, Haudenosaunee, Huron-Wendat, Métis, and Inuit.*

## 1.2 Motion to adopt the agenda

Matt Beaudoin 1st; Craig Ramsomair 2nd; passed unanimously

## 2. Minutes of the previous annual business meeting

### 2.1 Motion to approve the minutes of the last Annual Business Meeting (Dec. 18, 2021)

Moved Tom Mohr; 2nd Jeff Seibert; passed unanimously

### 2.2 Matters arising from these minutes

- None raised

## 3. President's report

- Highlights of what the OAS and the volunteer board have been doing over the last year – in particular, as a president from the north, Jill wants to look at archaeology in other regions of the province and foster more interactions between archaeologists across Ontario.
- Several changes to the board this year – Jill's first year as president;

Jim outgoing as Past-President; Susan as new director as Chapter Services; Greg moved into the Director of Publications role; Jake new Director of Education and another more northern archaeologist. ED position has been empty for several months, after Chiara moved to a full time position and we thank her for her service as the ED. The OAS is actively seeking to fill this role.

- Continue with the Indigenous Archaeological Monitor Training program – Alicia Hawkins, Sarah Hazell, Jake and other volunteers continue their hard work to coordinate training sessions with First Nations communities. Partnered with the Canadian Archaeological Association to organize new workshops with a geophysical component. Working with seven new communities this year to organize training sessions. Looking to also develop the training program in Northwestern Ontario with First Nations in that region next year. Looking forward to working with various partners to make that happen.
- Woodland Cultural Centre (WCC) – Craig with WCC employees organized an online tour of the facility and fundraising event for the centre. Virtual event made it available to wider membership to learn about the WCC and some of the Residential School Survivor experiences.
- Hired three Summer Experience Program (SEP) students this past year thanks to funding from the Ontario Ministry of Culture, all

wonderful students to work with: Leandro Iglesias joined onto the Hamilton OAS Symposium Planning Committee; and Lauryn Eady-Sitar and Amanda Henderson, both from Lakehead University, worked with Jill, Jake and Josh on various projects.

- Nine OAS chapters: in speaking with chapter presidents, they are doing a mix of both in-person and online meetings or sessions. Utilizing the shift to virtual world to have presenters from further afield. Glad that the chapters have been able to continue and revive their activities.
- Special thanks to Hamilton Chapter for picking up and planning the OAS Symposium this year after they had to cancel hosting in person 2020 Symposium, due to the pandemic. It was moved online and organized mainly by the board (followed by Ottawa hosting in 2021 for their 50th anniversary). Thank you for all their hard work, it's been a great symposium so far and wonderful to return in-person attendance.
- *Ontario Archaeology* journal continues – testament that the publication is still running and recently reached it's 100th volume publication milestone. OA Vol. 101 should be coming soon. Thanks to the editors Bonnie Glencross and Suzanne Needs-Howarth and contributing authors.
- *Arch Notes*: Thanks to the editors Katie Mather and Sarah Timmins who have been working hard to keep the newsletter going. Content has been a bit of a struggle. If



you have any ideas, please submit these for a future issue, and/or encourage others to submit.

- New website – big thanks to Josh for helping to coordinate the development of a new website for the OAS, to make it more accessible for the membership and more functional for the organization. It looks great!

#### **4. Treasurer's report**

- Introduction from Nancy, what brought her to join the board this year.
- 4.1 Financial statements
  - Have enjoyed working with the board and with an organization with finances as stable as the OAS.
  - Nancy provided an overview of the Treasurer's financial report and 2021 financial statements. Details provided in the report attached to the agenda.
  - Noted and explained that due to the OAS receiving and spending large Ontario Trillium Foundation grants (thanks to Alicia Hawkins and Sarah Hazell obtaining them), an apparent discrepancy or loss was only due to the timing of when some of the Indigenous Archaeological Monitor training sessions occurred compared to when the balance of the associated funds were received. Once rectified, the society did not experience a loss.
  - 2022 has been a very stable year for the society to date.

At the moment have some temporary savings with the part-time ED position not yet filled and reduction in hours from 20 to 10 hours a week for the beginning of the year

- the Provincial Heritage Organization (PHO) grant that provides our main funding of \$42,000 from the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries has not been awarded yet (or to other PHOs). At the moment have no reason to believe the fund will not be received, but currently have no timeline on when.
- Motion that the 2021 financial statement be approved: Moved by Holly Martelle, Alicia Hawkins 2nd; passed unanimously

#### **4.2 Appointment of auditors**

Motion to appoint the auditors Weinberg & Gaspirc for the 2022 financial year: Moved by Matt Beaudoin; Abbey Flower 2nd; passed unanimously

#### **5. Election of Directors**

- No director positions currently vacant, but are looking for a President-Elect. No nominations from the floor. Jill asked that the membership present think about who might be a good candidate through their networks.

#### **6. Next OAS Symposia**

- 2023 - Planning to potentially host next year in Bruce County, would be hosted by the main board as it will be OAS's 50th

Anniversary symposium. We will seek further approvals for holding it there from local Indigenous communities and hope to potentially partner in organization, planning and delivering the events

- 2024 - considering Thunder Bay as a location to host with that chapter. Will likely be polling membership to see if there would be enough interest and draw to that location (being rather far away from S. Ontario), preliminary feedback has been positive.

#### **7. Progress on Strategic Plan (2019-2024)**

- Continue to work on the long-term OAS strategic plan which was previously spearheaded by Alicia Hawkins, when she was President
- Leadership and the ethical practice of archaeology, education, and advocacy continue to be main goals
- Before the pandemic, board members and volunteer experts were working on a series of "Best Practices" documents and want to move these along. Looking to hire a full-time ED for the next contract – to do the typical ED activities while also take on a project coordinator role with the best practices guides; these would go on the OAS website and be useful educational tools for the general public or archaeologists just starting in the discipline; also as advice to regulators, especially in preparing for any updates to the Standards and Guidelines.

- We have quarterly meetings with the regulating Ministry, bring up concerns that we hear from our membership with respect to the practice of archaeology and working under the Ontario Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (S&Gs). Ministry has recently changed Minister and title, so we will be planning to meet with them further on this as the ministerial transition settles.
- Initiatives to continue to have more diverse representation (e.g., Indigenous, northern Ontario, etc.) on the board and its committees, working groups, etc.
- Establishing new and continuing work with different committees – RRR, Outreach, Fundraising, Human Resources, Education, etc.

## 8. Other business

8.1 Discussion on changes in terminology and in relation to the S&Gs. Opportunity with the proposed changes to the Ontario Heritage Act in the government's initiatives towards housing. Ministry wants to change the criteria for heritage properties under the act, to require two or more criteria – which likely will mean that a property will need to have something built

on it. Problematic proposed changes, but also an opportunity to propose to the government what should be changed for the better. Open invitation to collaborate among organizations (brought up by former chair of Architectural Conservancy Ontario Kae Elgie).

## 9. Motion of thanks

Motion of thanks from Jill to everyone who has been helping and supporting to board of directors throughout the year:

- Recognize Past-President Jim Sherratt and all that he has given to the board
- Co-editors of Arch Notes Katie Mather and Sarah Timmins who did great work revamping our newsletter; Katie will be stepping down after this year
- Chiara Williamson as the past ED
- Alicia, Sarah and Jake for again organizing the very successful Indigenous Archaeological Monitor Training sessions
- Ontario Archaeology co-editors – Susanne and Bonnie; big thanks to them for all their efforts this year in working toward catching up with volumes
- Josh big thanks for your huge

amount of work as the webmaster and with the new website and work for the symposium, in addition to your Director of Membership services role

- Symposium organizing committee, including SEP student Leandro Iglesias, for all their extremely hard work in organizing this wonderful event that we're at today – both online and in-person.
- Chapter executives and volunteers, thank you so much
- All other volunteers with social media, events, and everything else that helps to keep the organization going
- Cindie Tuttle as the bookkeeper, especially in the absence of an ED
- Arek Skibicki for all his tech support, especially with the new website
- And our two other 2022 SEP students Lauryn and Amanda Moved by Tom Mohr; Matt Beaudoin 2nd; passed unanimously

## 10. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting (5:50 pm): Moved by Holly Martelle and 2nd by Chris Kerns; passed unanimously

# OAS Award Winners 2022

By Kaitlyn Malleau

Once again, the OAS was pleased to celebrate the excellent work and dedication of our members at this year's Awards Ceremony! We would like to take this opportunity to thank

our winners—as well as all our members—for their ongoing commitment to the practice and promotion of ethical archaeology and heritage conservation in the province of Ontario.

We were happy to recognize those of our members who have stuck with

us for 25 years: Principal Archaeologist of TMHC, Holly Martelle, and Principal Archaeologist of Archeoworks, Kim Slocki. Here's to 25 more years!

Very excitingly, this year was one of our record highs for the number of members celebrating their 50th year

with the OAS! At the 2022 Symposium, six members were awarded their 50-year pins: Peter Carruthers who served in the Ministry of Culture for many years before becoming an affiliate of ASI, S. Allen Kominek, George Kralik, Roberta O'Brien, and long-time Thunder Bay Chapter Executive Member Bill Ross of Ross Archaeological Research Associates. A huge thanks to you all for your continued support and participation over the past 50 years!

We would like to once again impart our congratulations to the 2022 Symposium student winners! Leann Ling won for her poster *Considering Childhood Experiences in a Late 19th Century Settler-Colonial Household: Children's Toys from the Schreiber Wood Project*, and Emilia Barc won for her paper *Atypical burials, supernatural entities, and the otherness of dea-*

*th: the phenomenon of revenants, vampires and eerie hauntings in Polish folkloric anti-vampire funerary practices of 10th to 20th century.* Excellent work!

This year it was also our pleasure to award the Charles and Ella Garrad Award for Outstanding Service to Laurentian University alumnus and long-time CRM professional Amanda Black. Amanda is recognized for her com-



**Andrew Clish**

mitment to the Ontario archaeological community, having acted as the Windsor Chapter President for the past 11 years. Thank you, Amanda, for your devotion to our southern-most Chapter!

The OAS was proud to present this year's Indigenous Advocacy Award to Sarah Hazell! Known to the OAS through her tireless efforts as our Workshop Coordinator for the Indigenous Archaeological Monitor and FLR Training Program, Sarah is always working to find ways to build a more equitable atmosphere in the realms of archaeological research, legislation, and industry for Indigenous heritage professionals. Thank you, Sarah, for all your hard work!

Finally, last—but certainly not least—the OAS awarded not one but two Helen Devereux Awards—which just goes to show how valued mentorship is in our



**Alicia Hawkins presenting to Amanda Black**





**Jill Taylor-Hollings presenting to Holly Martelle**

sher. Not only is she a founding member of the Hamilton Chapter as well as of her CRM company, Fisher Archaeological Consulting, Jacquie has still somehow made the time to mentor each budding CRM professional that crosses her path. Jacquie takes a nurturing approach to instruction, always trying to build on the interests and aptitudes already present in those she is teaching. Passing on technical knowledge of working in both the field and the lab, Jacquie strives to offer her staff learning opportunities not easily gained by newcomers to the field of CRM today.

A huge congratulations to all our award winners! You do the OAS proud by going above and beyond to promote education and ethical archaeological practice in your everyday work!

**Do you know of someone in the Ontario Archaeological community who should be recognized for their work? Remember to submit your nominations for all awards by August 1st, 2023!**

community! Both winners have made a huge impact on the next generation of archaeologists through their uninterrupted willingness to mentor emerging CRM professionals. The first Helen Devereux Award was presented to Andrew Clish who, through his role as Senior Archaeologist at ASI, is estimated to have mentored hundreds of archaeologists over his career. Not only has he excelled in instructing emerging professionals in the ways of excavating, recording, and reporting on archaeology—but his passion for archaeological work has always ensured that his mentees have lots of fun while they learn!

Our second Helen Devereux Award was presented to Jacquie Fi-



**Ruth Macdougall and Emily Anson presenting to Jacquie Fisher**

# Thank You to Our Sponsors of the 2022 OAS Symposium



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Department of  
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**Red Branch Archaeology**



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TENTS & STRUCTURES



# 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

## Hamilton

President: Emily Anson  
Vice President: Jacqueline Fisher  
Treasurer/Membership: Ruth Macdougall  
Events Co-ordinator: Martha Tildesley  
E-mail: [oashamiltonOAS@gmail.com](mailto:oashamiltonOAS@gmail.com)  
Website: <http://hamilton.ontarioarchaeology.org>  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1453543678209795>  
Phone: (647) 449-0668  
Meetings: 7:30 pm on the 3rd Thursday of the month, Sept. to May, Fieldcote Museum, 64 Sulphur Springs Road, Ancaster  
Membership: Individual \$11, Family \$18

## Huronia

President: Victoria Brooks-Elder  
Vice President: Dayle Elder  
Treasurer: Jamie Hunter  
Past-President: John Raynor  
Email: [huroniasas@gmail.com](mailto:huroniasas@gmail.com)  
Website: <http://huroniasas.ontarioarchaeology.on.ca>  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HuroniasasChapterOfTheOntarioArchaeologySociety>  
Meetings: 7:00pm on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, Year Round at the Midland North Sports and Recreation Centre  
Membership: Individual \$15, Family \$18 Student \$10

## London

President: Chris Ellis  
Vice President: Lafe Meichenheimer  
Treasurer: Jim Keron  
Secretary: Nicole Aszalos  
Directors: Rebecca Parry, Larry Nielsen  
KEWA Editors: Christine Dodd, Chris Ellis & Chris Watts  
Website: <http://oaslondonchapter.ca/>  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/londonoas>

## noas

Email: [oaslondonchapter@gmail.com](mailto:oaslondonchapter@gmail.com)  
Mail: Museum of Ontario Archaeology, 1600 Attawandaron Rd., London, ON N6G 3M6  
Phone: (519) 473-1360  
Fax (519) 473-1363  
Meetings: 7:30 pm on 2nd Thursday of the month except May-August; at MOA  
Membership: Individual/Family \$18, Student, \$15, Institutional \$21

## Ottawa

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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Ottawa-Chapter-of-the-Ontario-Archaeological-Society-582145708470231>  
Email: [ottawaoas@gmail.com](mailto: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: Tom Mohr  
Vice-President: Bill Fox  
Treasurer: Deb Mohr  
Secretary: Dirk Verhulst  
Past President: Sheryl Smith  
Director of Indigenous Liaison: Julie Kapyrka  
Directors at Large: Robert Pearce and Morgan Tamplin  
Strata Editor: Dirk Verhulst  
Website: [peterborough.ontarioarchaeology.org](http://peterborough.ontarioarchaeology.org)  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1519076065078299>  
Meetings: 7:00 pm on the fourth Tuesday of each month,  
Membership: Individual \$12, Family \$15, Student \$8

## Thunder Bay

President: Clarence Surette  
Vice-President: Dave Norris  
Secretary/Treasurer: Laura Gosse

Director: Bill Ross

Wanikan Editor: Clarence Surette, Jill Taylor-Hollings, and Laura Gosse  
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Website: <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/programs/departments/anthropology/the-ontario-archaeological-society>  
Meetings: 7 pm on the last Friday of the month except May-August in Room BB0017, Braun Building, Lakehead University  
Membership: \$10 (as of Jan. 1, 2021)

## Toronto

President: Carole Stimmell  
Past President: Mima Kapches  
Vice President: Carla Parslow  
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Profile Editor: Carole Stimmell  
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Website: <http://toronto.ontarioarchaeology.org>  
Email: [TorontoArchaeology@gmail.com](mailto:TorontoArchaeology@gmail.com)  
Meetings: 7:30 pm on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, except June-August in U of T Anthropology Building, Room 246, 19 Russell St.  
Membership: Individual \$12, Family \$14

## 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](mailto: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

	Without OA	With OA
Individual	45 (65)*	57 (77)*
Family	52 (72)	64 (84)
Student	25 (45)	34 (54)
Institutional	75 (includes OA)	
Life	800 (includes OA)	

\*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.