

THE OTTAWA ARCHAEOLOGIST



HOW TO COPE WITH OTTAWA'S WINTER HEAD INDOORS TO DO ARCHAEOLOGY !!!

Plus – 2014 Annual Reports

Ottawa Chapter
Ontario Archaeological Society, Inc.
PO Box 4939, Station E, Ottawa, ON, K1S 5J1
www.ottawaoas.ca

BACKGROUND

On June 30th 1971 the Ottawa Chapter of the OAS was founded by: Mrs. J. D. Bradford, Mr. David J.A. Croft, Clyde C. Kennedy, Barry M. Mitchell, Mrs. Glenna Reid, Dr. Donald S. Robertson, Mr. Michael J. Shchepanek, Mr. and Mrs. Iain Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Watson, Dr. James V. Wright, Col. and Mrs. Lou H. Wylie.

Since September 1976 The Ottawa Archaeologist has been the newsletter of the Ottawa Chapter. It is published 3-5 times annually. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the Editorial Committee, the Executive, or the OAS. Other newsletters may reprint notes and papers with an appropriate credit line.

Submissions are always welcome and very much appreciated. Please send to the address below!

2014 Executive Committee: Please contact us through ottawaoas@gmail.com

President: André Miller
Vice President: Stacey Girling-Christie
Treasurer: Bill MacLennan
Secretary: Karen Lochhead
Directors at Large: Bradley Drouin
Elizabeth Imrie
Ben Mortimer
Glenna Roberts
Newsletter Editor: Marian Clark
Webmaster: Yvon Riendeau
Peggi Armstrong Public Archaeology Award: Lois King

Any member of the Ontario Archaeological Society may join one of its local Chapters.

FEES:
Individual: OAS \$36 w/ OA* \$48 Ottawa \$20
Family: OAS \$40 w /OA \$52 Ottawa \$25
Students: OAS \$25 w/OA \$34 Ottawa \$12
Institutional/Corporate w/OA \$62
Life Membership w/OA \$800
*Ontario Archaeology publication

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Cover Photo :
Chasing January Blues at the Chapter Meeting
Photo by Marian Clark



Ontario Archaeological Society – Ottawa Chapter

André Miller - President

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

2014 was a very happy and busy year for the Chapter, and 2015 looks very promising. You will find reports from 2014 and recent pictures elsewhere in this issue of the Ottawa Archaeologist.

It's early in the year to make a full assessment of all activities, but I will try to do my best. First, I must thank all presenters from last fall, Jean-Luc Pilon and Ron Williamson, and the presenters at the first half of 2014 who came to the Routhier Centre and the War Museum. Particularly, I would like to thank the Ottawa Chapter Executive for taking up their organizational role with such enthusiasm.

Last year the Archaeology Month in the National Capital, (August) had been active in Quebec for over 10 years. I invites institutions, organizations, and associations from all regions of Quebec to include a special archaeological activity or event for the public. The "Month" has become a tradition, and last year, for the second time, it happened on both side of the Ottawa River. The National Capital Commission, the City of Ottawa and Ville de Gatineau were all very happy to be involved in organizing Archaeology Month in the National Capital Region.

To launch the program, the NCC, with Archaeologist Ian Badgley, offered the public an opportunity to excavate at Leamy Lake Park in Gatineau and Vincent Massey Park in Ottawa. At the same time, the Canadian Museum of History organized activities around Colonel By Day. The Chapter members participated at all these activities with our display and Bill McLennan, Marian Clark, Stacey Girling-Christie and I conducted public archaeology activities at Bonnechere Provincial Park at the annual Archaeology Day event. With such strong support from members of OAS in their various positions in the Ottawa community, there would seem to be good reason to believe that Archaeology Month could have a repeat performance in Ottawa in 2015. Whatever the future brings, last year was very impressive and indeed, become an Ottawa tradition. Here follows reports from our Executive giving you a snap shot of the many and various activities which took place throughout 2014 – an exceptional year for the Ottawa Chapter.

2015 – Off and Running by Marian Clark

What better way to chase the blues and forget about a very cold January than to meet up for some archaeological discussion and hands-on learning. As a testament to the power of expanded social media networking – there was standing room only at the Routhier Centre for our first lecture of the year. Ian Badgely, Archaeologist for the National Capital Commission, and Jacquie Fisher owner of Fisher Archaeological Consulting, presented an overview of work carried out along the shores of the Rideau River at Ottawa on two different projects. The site is situated at an ancient portage on the Rideau River and was occupied by Aboriginal peoples at different times during the Prehistoric period.



A packed house



Jacquie and Ian



Lab Work 101

First, Jacquie explained mitigation work along and adjacent to a section of the paved bike path which revealed a wealth of prehistoric artifacts ranging from Middle Woodland ceramics to Archaic period stone tools. Research is ongoing, however, it appears there was a very active trade network in the area with lithic material coming from Hudson Bay, Northern Quebec and south of the border.

Ian then took the stage to talk about his research around the same area last summer with a public volunteer project during Archaeology Month in the National Capital. He feels there will be much more information that can be derived from expanding the survey area to include an island and more testing along the banks of the Rideau River. We look forward to assisting him with more volunteer projects in the coming years.

The lectures were followed by something we do not normally organize for our monthly meetings – a lab session. Two rooms were taken over at the Routhier Centre and a good number of people rolled up their sleeves, grabbed a toothbrush and cleaned artifacts from the public project that they had just heard about. It was a good exercise and helped move the project ahead so more detailed analysis can begin. Thank you to every one who participated and organized this well attended event – I am sure we will have a few new members as a result of the excellent organization.

President's 2014 Report – André Miller

Status, Activities, and Accomplishments

1. Membership numbers as of December 31, 2014 total 55. Membership has decreased steadily for several years. The Ottawa Chapter Executive is very concerned about this decline and will make more efforts in that way. There seems to be both external and internal factors at play here. First, in a time of economic difficulties, individuals may make decisions to decrease expenditures; in this situation, members can give up the Ottawa Chapter OAS and still remain active through the OAS Inc. or other Archaeological Associations. The Ottawa Chapter Executive could lower its dues, but the most significant factor is the size of OAS Inc. dues, not the Chapter dues. Second, some parts of the previous OAS leadership at times appear to demonstrate low interest in archaeology, and even a lack of respect for archaeological concerns; for example, the current government of Canada and Parks Canada. The theme of the 2014 Symposium in Peterborough was very effective and appropriate for archaeologists, members and the Ottawa Chapter were well represented at "In the Land Between". The 2015 theme, "Huronian - Before and After Champlain." is perhaps more of a stretch for others in addition to archaeologists and members of the OAS.
2. The OAS Ottawa Chapter in 2014 had many activities (Heritage Day, Le Mois de l'Archéologie) and sponsored sessions at Routhier Centre and at the War Museum in Ottawa. In addition, the Executive meetings were very well-attended. The President participated as a representative at Réseau Archeo-Quebec, Quebec Association of Archaeologists (QAA) and Ottawa River Keepers on Ethical Practices, Applied Archaeology, and Public Interest in Archaeology.
3. In the fall, 2014, the Executive met at the annual Symposium in Peterborough. The Executive have worked hard to pull together our annual report to members, and preparing for future discussions. We hope you will all participate in the renewal of the OAS Ottawa Chapter membership. It is sometimes necessary to work at renewing our collective vision for where the OAS Ottawa Chapter is going and to prioritize our efforts over the next few years.

We can create some new benchmarks against which the performance of the Executive can be measured.

The Chapter focused on archaeological awareness regarding the use of funding we received from the city of Ottawa and on our operational needs. Of course, there are always new changes we need to address, notably the increasing use of social media and the creation of Email accounts for all the Chapter Executive, which will help an organization such as ours. We are really happy with the attendance of members at the lectures at Routhier Centre throughout the year. I know it is less inviting than a larger symposium where there is more interaction between sessions, getting caught up with others, but the discussions for this year (2014), the new actions and member involvement is critical to ensuring we can incorporate your suggestions and feedback into our plan and vision for where the OAS Ottawa Chapter is headed.

Finally here's a short report of activities I performed this year as the President of the Ottawa Chapter.

- Attending and representing the Ottawa Chapter at QAA Symposium – Trois-Rivières – May 2014
- Attending and representing the Ottawa Chapter at Shoreline Clean-up with Ottawa River-keepers (Petrie Island) – June - 2014
- Archaeology Day and presentation at Bonnechere Provincial Park – July 2014
- Chair of the session “ Digging domestic Spaces: An exploration of homesteads, habitations and farms” and presentation at SHA Symposium – Quebec, January 2014
- Updating news on Twitter Account of the OAS Ottawa Chapter
<https://twitter.com/OttawaOAS>
- Coordinate the actions and expenses and Reporting for Ottawa Funding Program – Archaeological Awareness Project
- Attending almost every OAS Ottawa Chapter Executive Meeting
- Since January 2012 - Director on the board of QAA
- Attending and assessing the Public Lecture at the Canadian Museum of War – Ron Williamson

Renewal speech as President in December 2014

As stated in the OAS Ottawa Chapter Constitution at the point 5.4.2, as the President I shall ensure fulfilment of the aims of the Chapter by:

- Calling Executive meetings;
- Presiding over Executive and General meetings;
- Planning the agenda for Executive and General Meetings;
- Being responsible for communication, on behalf of the Chapter, with Executive Committee of The Ontario Archaeological Society, with other organizations and with the public;
- Being responsible, with the assistance of the Treasurer and other members of the Executive for maintaining the financial solvency of the Chapter;
- Acting as an ex-officio member of all committees

Report of the Vice-President - Stacey Girling-Christie

Once again we have enjoyed an exciting year of speakers, community events and meetings. The purchase of new OAS banners is a wonderful addition to our public forums. After years of saying I would join in the summertime activities at Bonnechere Park, I actually went. We had a great day. The weather was nice and the kids were very patient with my attempts to help make pots. The Ottawa Chapter was well represented at the OAS annual symposium in Peterborough. Some unexpected on-the-spot brainstorming took place

regarding the packing/shipping of the OA journal. Our special event co-hosted with the AIA at the Canadian War Museum with Ron Williamson was very popular.

I would like to thank the Chapter Executive and members for making 2014 such a successful year. I encourage all of our members to look at our upcoming 2015 events – there is always lots going on.

Report of the Past President 2014 – Glenna Roberts

Over the years there have not been many Past Presidents of the Ottawa Chapter OAS. They don't happen very frequently and they must step down from the Executive after one year (as specified in the Constitution). Some have remained strong and active members of the Chapter and the OAS for many years after their presidential term. For example, Lois King is coordinator for the Peggy Armstrong Public Archaeology Award, Marian Clark faithfully creates our newsletter, *The Ottawa Archaeologist*, and Jim Montgomery took on the demanding position of Treasurer of the OAS for several years. More recently, Irene Ann Lacroix moved to California the year of our Symposium in Petawawa. She was able to return for the event itself and eventually to Ottawa, and she is now fully involved in raising her young family. Heather Stronach still lives in Aylmer, Québec, and is deeply engaged in her responsible position as Executive Director of the Regional Association of West Quebecers.

As the responsibilities of the Past President are loosely defined -- “to provide advice, in particular, information concerning the past activities of the Chapter,” -- I felt free to do whatever I thought would contribute to the Chapter's present activities. These included everything from helping engage speakers for meetings to providing juice and cookies. When appropriate, I continued to communicate with the membership about items of archaeological interest and about activities, such as the excavation opportunities that were offered by the National Capital Commission last August. I enjoyed engaging with the public on Heritage Day in February and Colonel By Day in August. Due to my centrally located apartment, I welcomed members of the Executive for their regular meetings throughout the year and offered it as a post-office for mailing the last edition of *Ontario Archaeology*. I was privileged by the editor to act as proof reader for our newsletter.

My past/post presidential year in 2014 was so satisfying that I wanted to continue my involvement with the Executive of the Ottawa Chapter in 2015 by becoming a Director. I feel very fortunate to have had the opportunity to be involved over the years with archaeology through the Ontario Archaeological Society. The subject of archaeology has held my interest since third year high school. I have been a member of the OAS on and off for over 60 years. My advice to all is “Keep up your membership – you'll never regret it!”

**Treasurer's Report – Ottawa Chapter, OAS
Statement to December 31, 2014 by Bill MacLennan**

2014	2013		
BANK BALANCE - START OF YEAR			17,122 14,268
PLUS - CASH RECEIPTS			
	Membership fees for the Chapter		1054 1337
	Membership fees for the Provincial Society		
	Grants (City of Ottawa)		3000
	Donations		120
	Interest		16.47 28.92
	Publication sales		30 25
	OAS mailing		250
	Other receipts	OA mailing reimbursement	4323 42.5
	TOTAL RECEIPTS		5423.47 4803.42
LESS - CASH PAYMENTS			
	Payments from City grant		2199.39 731.86
	Membership fees for the Provincial Society		
	Administration	bank charges, postage, etc.	80.96 38.13
	Publications (Brochures, Newsletter)		51.22 95.82
	Storage Unit		495 495
	Public Archeology	OAS/AIA joint talk	171.34
	Facilities Rental		49.5 82.52
	Membership (Archeo-Quebec + CHOO/COPO)		50 100
	PO Box rental		235.04 235.04
	OA mailing	Envelopes, postage	4323.01
	TOTAL PAYMENTS		7484.12 1949.71
BANK BALANCE - END OF YEAR			15,061 17,122

NEWS AND NOTES AND COMING EVENTS

Get all you updates on FACEBOOK www.facebook.com and TWITTER @Ottawa OAS
See our links from the Chapter's web site www.ottawaoas.com

Unless otherwise noted all Chapter meetings take place the third Thursday of the month at the City of Ottawa Routhier Centre, 172 Guigues St. corner Cumberland St. Main Floor, parking available.

February 19, Thursday 7:30 p.m. Ben Mortimer, Senior Archaeologist and Associate, Paterson Group Consulting Engineers, Ottawa; and Janet Young, Curator, Physical Anthropology, Canadian Museum of History

Ottawa's "Lost" Cemetery: Preliminary Findings from the Barrack Hill Burial Ground Investigations A discussion of the history of Barrack Hill cemetery in downtown Ottawa. The speakers will present the findings of archaeological investigations in 2014, the analysis that has been done and what will be undertaken on the individuals who were found, and on their eventual reburial.

In September 2013, construction activity in downtown Ottawa unearthed human remains. The Paterson Group, under the direction of Senior Archaeologist Ben Mortimer, undertook the subsequent archaeological burial site investigation. Research revealed the remains to be from the Barrack Hill Cemetery, Bytown's first burial ground, established circa 1827. Records of the time indicated that the burials were relocated upon the cemetery's closing in 1845, and, with that, the cemetery faded from public memory. Though intermittent discoveries of human remains during construction activities in the subsequent years occasionally hinted to the lack of complete relocation of the burials it was not until 2013 that measures were taken to investigate the extent of what remained. Subsequently, the burial site investigation and the archaeological removal of the remains in 2014 revealed 19 burials and amassed a collection of scattered skeletal remains from the disturbed remnants of the cemetery. These discovered individuals who lived alongside the founders of the nation's Capital were amongst its earliest inhabitants. They lived with, or possibly even were themselves, the people who helped build the Rideau Canal, now a National Historic Site of Canada and UNESCO World Heritage Site. Consequently, the Barrack Hill Cemetery can be considered to be of great historical and archaeological significance. In view of that, the Canadian Museum of History graciously provided their facilities and services of Dr. Janet Young, physical anthropologist, for an advanced assessment of the remains prior to their reinterment. This presentation first provides a summary of the archaeological investigation (present context, historical and archaeological background, methods, and finds). Secondly, while the analysis is in its preliminary stages, an overview of the osteological analysis of the remains is offered, providing some insight into life and death in Bytown.

Ben Mortimer, Senior Archaeologist and Associate, Paterson Group Consulting Engineers, Ottawa. Ben is an archaeologist with 20 years of experience. Ben's interest in archaeology began at a young age, and he participated in his first excavations during high school. He received his Honours Bachelors of Arts in Historic and Industrial

Archaeology from Wilfrid Laurier University in 2000, Masters of Arts in Anthropology from Trent University 2012, and Advanced Diploma in GIS Applications in 2014. In 2012, after a 13 year career with Parks Canada, Ben founded the Archaeological Division at Paterson Group, Ottawa.

Janet L. Young is Curator of Physical Anthropology at the Canadian Museum of History, where she began her career in 1994. She received her BA in Archaeology and Ancient History at the Department of Classical Studies at the University of Ottawa and her Master of Science in Human Osteology, Paleopathology and Funerary Archaeology from the Department of Archaeological Sciences at the University of Bradford, England. Her PhD (2012) is in Population Health from the University of Ottawa, Institute of Population Health. She has published the results of much of her work, particularly from Arctic archaeological sites, and she has presented frequently at conferences in her specialization and to related schools and courses.

**March 8, Sunday, 2 p.m. AIA Sponsored, Theodore W. Burgh,
University of North Carolina
303 Paterson Bldg. Carleton University**

Do You Hear What I Hear? Music Culture in Ancient Israel

**March 19, Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Al Donaldson, Chair,
Ottawa-Gatineau Geoheritage Project**

Geological Attractions in and near the National Capital Region

Since inception in 2001, the Ottawa-Gatineau Geoheritage Committee has been advancing public appreciation of the geosciences via talks, displays and excursions. This illustrated presentation will highlight geological attractions in and near the National Capital Region, including a site potential significance to archaeologists.

Al Donaldson gained a deep appreciation for the vastness, beauty and geological complexity of Canada's hinterland during ten years with the Geological Survey of Canada. A decade later, he joined the Department of Geology at Carleton University, where he taught for 30 years, introducing students to the joys of Arctic research. Soon after retiring he founded the Ottawa-Gatineau Geoheritage Project, an organization that strives to advance public appreciation of the underpinnings of landscape via talks, field excursions and networking with other nature-based groups. Much of his research has been devoted to Precambrian sequences of stromatolites. As luck would have it, Paleozoic occurrences of these fascinating biogenic structures are abundant in Eastern Ontario; some will be highlighted in this presentation.

**April 16, Thursday 7:30 p.m. Michel Prévost, Chief Archivist, University of Ottawa;
President, Historical Society of the Outaouais**

The Treasures of the Archives of the University of Ottawa

The Archives of the University of Ottawa preserve and interpret a wealth of objects which demonstrate the history of the institution founded in Lower Town Ottawa in 1848 by Monseigneur Joseph-Bruno Guigues, first Catholic Bishop of Bytown. Come to this presentation to see various documents from the Archives, old photographs and highly valuable artifacts which retrace the fascinating history of the oldest and most important bilingual university in North America. M. Prévost will bring along the first year-book, the first student newspaper, medals and other artifacts discovered after the great fire of 1903, and even the keys to the first College of Bytown, the oldest artifacts in the collection.

Michel Prévost has been Chief Archivist of the University of Ottawa since 1990 and President of the Outaouais Historical Society since 1997. He has dedicated his energies over the past 35 years to spreading an awareness of history and to preserving the heritage of Ottawa-Gatineau, Eastern Ontario and the Outaouais. His unflagging commitment to preserving the historical integrity of this region's heritage has been the foundation for an abundance of published articles as well as numerous appearances on radio and television. Through his writing, heritage tours and many other activities, Michel Prévost has raised awareness of the importance of safeguarding the architectural heritage of the National Capital Region. He has been honoured over the years with many local, regional and national heritage and archival awards including recognition from the City of Ottawa, a Heritage Award from the City of Gatineau and an Award of Merit from the Ontario Museums Association. In 2004, he was named person of the year by Le Droit/Radio-Canada in the Arts and Culture category, and in 2005 he received the University of Ottawa Rector's Award for service to the University through media and community relations.



Ian Badgley and Jim Molnar chatting
at the January Meeting

**Please consult the Chapter web site
www.ottawaoas.com for updates
And
The OAS web site
www.ontarioarchaeology.on.ca
to get your 2015 membership
form & enroll/renew on-line**