

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

Call for Session and Workshop Proposals

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

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

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

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

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

2021 Symposium Theme – Origins and Growth

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

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

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

In suggesting the twin themes of *Origins and Growth* we wish to invite session and workshop proposals which give cause to pause and evaluate the roads we have collectively travelled as an organization, as a profession, and as a discipline in our privileged access to the past, while simultaneously exploring the potential for growth in the future of the discipline. Rather than having a theme which restricts contributions to the symposium, we envision the dual themes stimulating thought and discussion around their interplay and contribution to the discipline and Ontario archaeology. We eagerly await your suggestions.

Below are some ideas for sessions and workshops to spur your thinking.

- the earliest archaeological evidence in a particular region;
- the earliest archaeological documentation of a particular tradition, items of material culture;
- reconciling archaeological and traditional origins;
- the history of archaeological research; the beginnings of our profession and its early practitioners;
- the history of the OAS and its chapters; challenges and successes through time;
- new insights as a result of new methodological and technological advances;
- Indigenous experiences with archaeology: friend or foe? (the archaeological community needs to hear from Indigenous communities about the full range of experiences that Indigenous communities have had with archaeology)
- Indigenous needs from archaeology. Like the previous theme idea, this theme must be driven by Indigenous members and communities.
- The growth and adoption of a particular technology and its influence on archaeological methodology and practice, broadly or in Ontario
- The growth, expansion, and change of a particular tradition, form of material culture, or archaeological practice

Deadline for Session and Workshop Proposals and Abstracts: April 2, 2021

The call for paper and poster abstracts will be issued April 7, 2021.

Send your Session and Workshop Proposals and Abstracts to:

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or

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Logo Competition

The 2021 Symposium needs a logo, and we are looking for someone like you to design it! We are looking for a logo that reflects this year's theme and the 50th anniversary of the Ottawa Chapter. The winner will receive a prize and get to see their design featured throughout the symposium.

Please submit your entry to OttawaOAS@gmail.com. Competition closes April 3, 2021.