

ARCH-NOTES

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JANUARY 1967

EXECUTIVE

President and  
Corresponding Secretary:  
Dr. R. Dean Axelson,  
247 Truman Road,  
Willowdale, Ontario.

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Mrs. Eilene Balsky

Treasurer:  
Miss. Lorna Procter

Vice President:  
Mr. Joseph DeRyck

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Miss. Phyllis Bowland

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The next meeting of The Ontario Archaeological Society will be held at 8 p.m., Wednesday, January 18, in Room 251, Board of Education Centre, 155 College Street, Toronto.

Our speaker for the evening will be Father William A. Russell (S.J.). His topic, Some Archaeological Discoveries in Great Britain (Illustrated), covers a number of Roman and prehistoric archaeological sites visited during his recent year's sojourn in Wales.

The business portion of this meeting will include the annual committee reports and election of the 1967 Executive.

Nominations from the floor or by mail are in order, providing the member concerned has previously agreed to allow his name to stand.

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THE DECEMBER BANQUET

The Society's 1966 Annual Banquet was quite a successful affair. Some 50 members and guests gathered at the Commercial Travellers' Association Salesman's Club to enjoy a most delicious smorgasbord and listen to Mr. Walter Kenyon describe his work on the Royal Ontario Museum's LSM-7 burial mound.

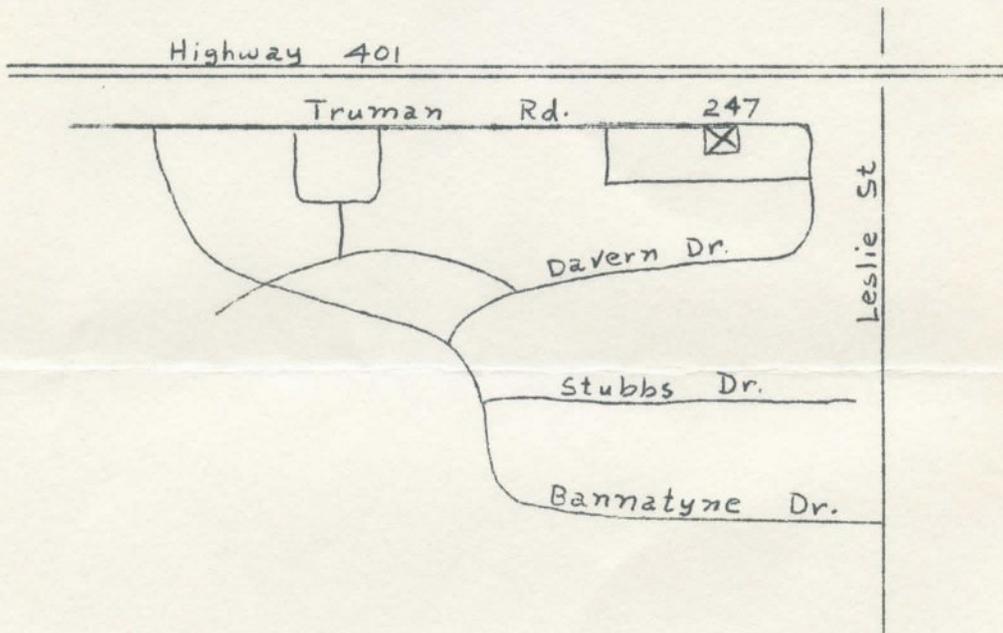
This mound, built by the people of the Laurel culture, was roughly 75 feet in diameter and 8 feet high. Thirteen hematite-painted bundle burials were encountered, but no grave goods. There were several unusual features to this mound, and Mr. Kenyon drew comparisons with the Oak Point Island mound, some 70 miles to the east; with the Hungry Hall mound, at the mouth of the Rainy River; with the LeVesconte mound, on the Trent River, and with several other mounds in Minnesota and in the Ohio Valley.

Charcoal samples from the LMS-7 mound have been submitted for analysis, and Mr. Kenyon hopes soon to have a carbon 14 dating for its construction.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NEWS

\* President Axelson advises us that the first O.A.S. "lab" session this year will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, February 4, at 247 Truman Road, Willowdale (See map). The agenda includes cleaning, sorting and restoration of the material recovered last year during the Beeton site excavation. Those planning to attend the full session period are advised to bring a lunch. Tea and coffee will be supplied.

Anyone still holding Beeton site material should arrange to have it taken to Dr. Axelson's house before this lab. session begins.



The O.A.S. archaeological exhibit will be on display this month at the Downsview Branch of the North York Public Library, 2793 Keele Street, Toronto.

In response to an appeal for financial assistance, the O.A.S. has sent a \$50.00 donation to the Archaeological Institute of America.

Arrangements are now underway for a joint meeting with the Archaeological Society of Western Ontario, to be held on Saturday, March 18th, at the Commercial Travellers' Salesman's Club, Toronto. It is hoped that the Morgan Chapter of the N.Y.S.A.A. will also participate, and a letter of invitation has been sent out.

Tentative plans include the presentation of papers from one or two members from each society, a display area for exhibits prepared by each society - as well as by individual members, sessions to run from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., with a lunch at 12 a.m. and a dinner at 5.30 or 6 p.m. The meals are expected to run at \$1.00 per person for the lunch, and From \$2.75 to \$3.25 per person for the dinner. Further details will be

given at the January meeting.

#### NEWS OF MEMBERS

Mr. Ross E. Channen, Director, Simcoe County Museum, is conducting a short course in the basic methods of Indian Archaeology. Classes are being held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, and will be followed by field training on an Indian site this spring.

Dr. Axelson is conducting a series of "lab" sessions for the Don Mills Archaeology Club, to provide training in the processing of excavated material through to publication.

We are pleased to welcome the following new members into the Society this month:

Mr. Michael Kerwin, Toronto, Ontario;  
 Mr. William Coren, Cooksville, Ontario;  
 Mr. Douglas A. Claeke, Agincourt, Ontario;  
 Miss. E.L. Chambers, Toronto, Ontario;  
 Messrs. Ian and Thomas Kenyon, Hamilton, Ontario;  
 Miss. Angela Kutney, Willowdale, Ontario;  
 Mr. Paul Lennox, Dunnville, Ontario;  
 Don Mills Archaeology Club, Don Mills, Ontario.

#### VIEWS AND COMMENTS

Well, here we are beginning our second year in what we had thought would be a temporary role as Arch-Notes editor. It is becoming increasingly difficult to find enough time to maintain the editorial standard we aspire to, and we hope soon to find a capable member willing to take over the job. Perhaps, as a starter, we could have someone volunteer for the position of Associate Editor?

Despite its connection in the public mind with gold-laden tombs, buried palaces and sunken treasure ships, most archaeological institutions operate on a shoestring budget.

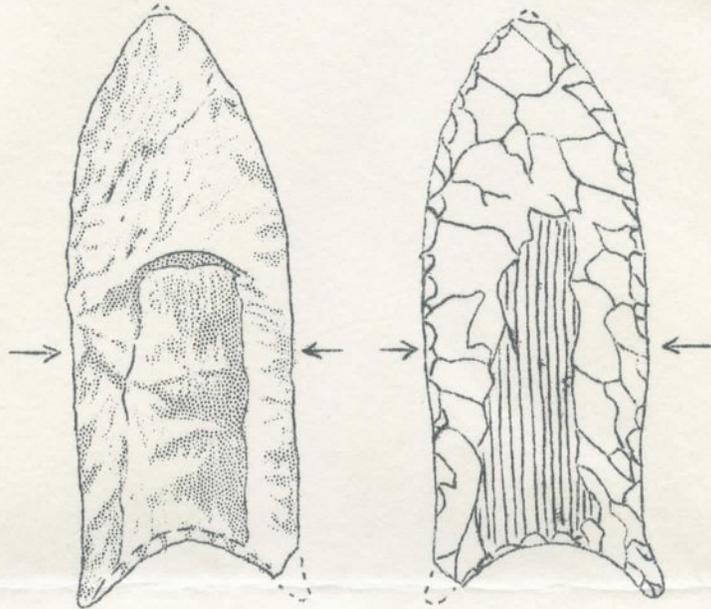
The Archaeological Institute of America is no exception. With mounting operating costs, the AIA must double its present endowment in order to carry on its expanding program of excavation, publication, popularization and teaching.

This is obviously too much of a financial burden for the AIA membership alone, and they are looking to others for assistance. If you would like to help them in a tangible way, contact Dr. J. Walter Graham, Secretary, Toronto Chapter AIA, Dept. of Fine Arts, University of Toronto.

There are far more fluted point finds in southern Ontario than one would suppose from reading published literature on the subject. The latest of these was brought to our attention by Mr. George Gee, one of our more active members.

He reports that this point was a surface find from the banks of Fairchild's Creek, close to the village of Onondaga, in Brantford Township, Brant County.

The material is an even dark grey flint, of good quality, with some rust coloured stains on one side. A deep flake has been removed from one face, and two flakes from the other. The base, and both sides for nearly half the length of the point, have been ground smooth. This well-executed point has an overall length of two and one-eighth inches, and a maximum thickness of one-eighth inch. (Ed. note: The stylus-cut illustration shown here is a poor copy of the original continuous-tone sketch submitted by Mr. Gee).



Careful excavation and thoughtful interpretation can often wring an amazing amount of information from the dry bones and stones of a well-preserved site. A case in point is the Olsen-Chubbuck kill site in Colorado, where a University of Colorado crew was even able to determine which way the wind was blowing on the day of the kill, some 8500 years ago.

A nine-page article on this excavation, written by Joe BenWheat, appears in the current (January) issue of Scientific American. It is well worth reading, for it provides much information on the hunting and butchering techniques of the Paleo-Indian of the American Southwest - as well as an interesting revelation concerning projectile points.

We are indebted to Dr. Donald B. Shutt for bringing two other very informative articles on New World Archaeology to our attention. Both of these appeared in Science, a publication of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

The first, written by Hansjürgen Müller-Beck, and entitled "Paleohunters in America: Origins and Diffusion" (Vol. 152, No. 3726, pp. 1191-1210), deals with Paleo-Indian cultures within the broader framework of Eurasian Paleolithic developments and Geological change. It proposes the origins, and traces the appearance, isolation and development of Paleo-Indian cultures. It is profusely illustrated and, despite its scope, very easy to follow.

The second article, "Archaeology and its New Technology", was written by Froelich Rainey and Elizabeth K. Ralph (Vol. 153, No. 3743, pp. 1481 - 1491). It details the advantages and limitations of the latest archaeological tools provided by the physical sciences, and incidentally illustrates the rapid progress made in this field since the end of World War II

Though this article will be of most value to the professional and advanced amateur, the technical explanations should pose no problem to anyone with a basic understanding of electrical phenomena.

Message from the President

Now that 1966 has rolled by and a New Year - our Centennial Year - has begun, we think back and remember what has happened during 1966. I know that I have enjoyed my position as your President, and the opportunity it has given me to work closely with a group of people having a keen common interest. I hope I have been able to add a little to the Society during my term of office - I know that I have gained much experience - and I would like to sincerely thank all those who assisted me in my efforts. I could not have done it alone.

We started a project in 1966 which I hope will be carried on by the new executive. You can call it our "Centennial Project" if you wish. The goal is to greatly increase our membership, provide a better educational program, and complete the recently started Revision of Iroquois Pottery Types and Associated Artifacts. It is hoped that the latter will add a great deal to the understanding of this phase of North American archaeology.

On behalf of the O.A.S. I have undertaken to assist the Don Mills Collegiate Archaeology Club by holding "labs" on processing artifacts after they have been excavated. This group is very eager to learn, and I think this is a good way to extend our educational program. I could use some assistance in this project, however, and would be pleased to hear from volunteers. The first session in this series will be held 7 p.m, Tuesday, January 17th, at my home, 247 Truman Road, Willowdale.

I hope you all had a Merry Christmas, and I wish everyone a very Happy and Prosperous New Year.

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Bill Donaldson, editor,  
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