



# Acknowledgments

The Symposium Committee of the Ontario Archaeological Society is grateful for the generous support of the following donors:

Archaeological Services Inc.

Historic Horizon Inc.

Huronina Museum

Marshalltown Trowel Company

Mayer Heritage Consultants Inc.

Tilley Endurables

Volunteers who have donated their time and efforts.

Credits for illustrations on covers: The Public Archives, Ottawa  
Front cover: the Du Creux's *Chorographia Regionis Huronum* 1660  
Back cover: *Corographie du Pays des Hurons*. Circa 1639-1648

## The 2000 Symposium Committee

Committee Chair: James Shropshire, President Toronto Chapter  
Registration: Norma Knowlton, Vice-President Toronto Chapter  
Audio-Visual: Annie Gould, Secretary Toronto Chapter  
Finance: Melanie Priestman, Treasurer Toronto Chapter  
Program Printing: Marjorie Clarkson, Toronto Chapter  
Program: Gary Warrick, Wilfrid Laurier University  
Rosemary Vyvyan, Huronia Historic Parks  
Local Arrangements: Jamie Hunter, Huronia Museum  
Rosemary Vyvyan, Huronia Historic Parks

# **SPECIAL EVENTS**

**(in order of occurrence)**

## **RECEPTION AT HURONIA MUSEUM**

The traditional Symposium Reception will be held at the Huronia Museum at 8 PM Friday evening. Besides wine and cheese and other drinks for the abstainers, there will be the opportunity to see what the museum has to offer. Jamie Hunter, Curator of the Huronia Museum, will be the host. All those wishing transportation to attend should meet at the South Lobby of the Highland Inn at 7:30 PM. Buses will leave from there; the last bus will return to the hotel at 11:30 PM.

## **SUNRISE CEREMONY**

The ceremony will be held at the Huron/Wendat Village by people from Rama First Nation. This is an inspiring way to start the day. It may even get you awake for the papers after partying the night before.

## **ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING**

The only general meeting in the year for all Ontario Archaeological Society members is held during the Symposium. Important constitutional changes are planned. Only the votes at the meeting count. In addition, this is a chance to voice your opinions and raise any issues. Please note the time and location in the schedule at the end of the Saturday papers. There will be ample time between the end of the meeting and the beginning of the Happy Hour.

## **BANQUET**

The Banquet will start at 7:30 PM in the Burgundy Room. There will be a cash bar starting at 7:00 Pm. Following the dinner, awards will be presented. Cindy Thompson, a popular local entertainer who has played with Ashley MacIsaac, will then entertain us with her fiddle.

## **TOURS**

Tours will take place Sunday morning. Exact times and locations for the Tours will be announced.

## **RAFFLE**

Tickets will be sold at the Registration Desk. Time of draw to be announced.

# Ontario Archaeological Society

## Agenda for Presented Papers

Friday October 13, 2000

Best Western Highland Inn: Burgundy Room South

- 9:00 - 9:10 James Shropshire, President of the Toronto Chapter  
Introductory Remarks
- 9:10 - 9:30 Rob Pihl and Ron Williamson  
Thirteenth Century Pioneers of the Barrie Area: The Wellington Site (BcGw-55)
- 9:30 - 9:50 Ron Williamson, Rob Pihl, Andrew Clish, Frank Dieterman, Bill Woodworth  
A View from the Heights: The 17<sup>th</sup> Century Holly Site (BcGw-58)
- 9:50 - 10:10 Keli Watson and Stephen Cox Thomas  
The Holly and Wellington Sites: Small Features
- 10:10 - 10:30 Coffee Break
- 10:30 - 10:50 David A. Robertson  
The Palimpsest of the Village: The Archaeology of the Dunsmore Site
- 10:50 - 11:10 Robert I. MacDonald  
Sweatlodges and Solidarity: The Archaeology of the Hubbert Site
- 11:10 - 11:30 Andrew Clish  
The Dykstra Site
- 11:30 - 11:50 Stephen Cox Thomas  
Subsistence Activity in Middle to Late Iroquoian Times Around Barrie, Ontario
- 11:50 - 1:00 Lunch
- 1:00 - 1:25 Mary Thornbush  
Holocene Floodplain Development and Implications for Archaeological Evidence of Prehistoric Human Occupation: Nottawasaga River, Southern Ontario, Canada

- 1:25 – 1:50 Harry Lerner  
Classification and Analysis of Chipped Lithics from Southwestern Ontario
- 1:50 – 2:15 Robin Feeney  
Reconstructing Past Human Behaviour Through Stone Tools
- ✓ 2:15 – 2:40 Frank Dieterman  
(Don't) Fence Me In: The Landscape of Place
- 2:40 – 3:00 Coffee Break
- ✓ 3:00 – 3:25 Holly Martelle  
Pots, Potters and Pottery Making at the Ball Site
- ✓ 3:25 – 3:50 Dean Knight  
Over a Quarter Century at The Ball Site
- 3:50 – 4:15 Erin McFaul and Sheryl Smith  
Protecting Underwater Heritage in the Kawarthas: A Joint Approach

## **Saturday October 14, 2000**

8:00 – 8:30 Sunrise Ceremony: **Huron/Wendat Village**

### **Best Western Highland Inn: Burgundy Room**

- ✓ 9:00 – 9:25 Marti Latta  
The University of Toronto in Huronia: Past and Future
- ✓ 9:25 – 9:50 Paul Lennox and Sue Anderson  
Native Journeys in Simcoe County: Past and Present
- 9:50 – 10:15 Charles Garrad  
The Wendat: 1650 Dispersal and the 1999 Return
- 10:15 – 10:30 Coffee Break
- ✓ 10:30 – 11:15 Bruce Trigger  
The Liberation of Wendake
- 11:15 – 11:40 John Steckley  
1747 Wyandot Elders List

- 11:40 – 12:05 Peter Hamalainen  
Appreciating Uncle Bonaparte: Thoughts on the Petun Bone Tool Assemblage
- 12:05 – 1:00 Lunch
- ✓ 1:00 – 1:25 Caroline Walker  
The Petun Copper-Based Metal Collection in the Context of Northeastern North America
- 1:25 – 1:50 Ron Hancock et al  
What the Elemental Analysis of Red Glass Trade Beads Can, Or Cannot, Tell Us About Their Owners
- ✓ 1:50 – 2:15 Bill Fox  
Nanuuba Wakandagi Among the Ontario Iroquois
- 2:15 – 2:40 Coffee Break
- ✓ 2:40 – 3:05 Alicia Hawkins  
Genoa Frilled Pottery and the Wenro in Huronia
- ✓ 3:05 – 3:30 Lawrence Jackson and Lisa Merritt  
Archaeological Investigations of Group Identity at The Charity Site, BeHb-4, Christian Island, Georgian Bay
- ✓ 3:30 – 3:55 John Triggs  
Sainte-Marie among the Hurons: A Re-interpretation Based on Recent Archaeological Investigations
- 4:15 – 5:15 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING  
Location: **Georgian Room**

**Program Abstracts**  
**(In Order of Presentation)**

**Friday October 13, 2000**

**Thirteenth Century Pioneers of the Barrie Area: The Wellington Site (BcGw-55)**

**Rob Pihl and Ron Williamson  
Archaeological Services Inc.**

The Wellington Site (BcGw-55) was excavated during the 1998 field season and consists of two widely spaced longhouses separated by an artifact-laden activity area, and a midden located at the edge of a valley. The material culture and settlement pattern will be briefly described. The site is a small Middle Iroquoian special purpose site dating to the Uren period, ca. A.D. 1280-1330, which is substantiated by a calibrated <sup>14</sup>C date of AD 1256 +/- 50. This early date and features of the site's settlement pattern strongly suggest that the Wellington site, like the nearby Barrie site, was a pioneering settlement effort of Iroquoian peoples in Simcoe County.

**A View from the Heights: The 14<sup>th</sup> Century Holly Site (BcGw-58)**

**Ron Williamson, Rob Pihl, Andrew Clish, Frank Dieterman and Bill Woodworth  
Archaeological Services Inc.**

The Holly Site (BcGw-58) was excavated over the previous three field seasons and consists of a 1.5 ha. 14<sup>th</sup> century village surrounding the corner of a ravine overlooking the Bear Creek drainage. The site includes at least four major longhouses showing substantial domestic use and extensive re-building, three very small, special purpose structures, several large middens and multiple rows of exterior posts but no surrounding palisade. This paper provides a preliminary overview of the site's material culture, settlement pattern and chronology, and offers our initial interpretation of the site's context within the Middle Iroquoian occupation of southern Simcoe County.

The positioning of the longhouses in relation to the surrounding landscape also affords a unique opportunity to explore how the aboriginal concept of space may have influenced site placement and settlement pattern, and how the landscape can be interpreted from a GIS view shed perspective.

**Keli Watson and Stephen Cox Thomas  
Archaeological Services Inc.**

At the Middle Iroquoian villages of Holly and Wellington, several unusual small features were excavated, each one yielding the partially articulated remains of several animals of different species. An attempt will be made to determine their function by analysing the bones, considering the context of the features and examining the archaeological and ethnographic records for comparisons. The possibilities that these animals were used for subsistence purposes and/or that they are the remains of ritual events, will all be addressed.

**The Palimpsest of the Village: The Archaeology of the Dunsmore Site**

**David A. Robertson  
Archaeological Services Inc.**

Located in southernmost Huronia, the Dunsmore site (BcGw-10) is a two hectare, mid- to late fifteenth century Iroquoian settlement of a type that, at first glance, might be classified, with little reservation, as a "village". When we consider the criteria that are generally used to define the Iroquoian village, however, it becomes apparent that Dunsmore, and perhaps several other sites in southern Simcoe County, deserve a second look. The typical Iroquoian village of the fifteenth century has generally been defined on the basis of the appearance of discrete groups of aligned longhouses, by substantial increases in house length and in the degree of internal standardisation. The overall distribution of structure types within the occupation area of the Dunsmore site, and their heterogeneity of form do not lend themselves well to this characterisation. Instead, the settlement pattern, artifact and subsistence data suggest that the Dunsmore settlement had a complex history: one which involved both seasonal tenancies and year-round occupation, either concomitantly or over a greater span of time.

**Sweatlodges and Solidarity: The Archaeology of the Hubbert Site**

**Robert I. MacDonald  
Archaeological Services Inc.**

In 1990, Archaeological Services Inc. undertook salvage excavations at the Hubbert site (BbGw-9), a Late Woodland period settlement located on the eastern margin of the

Innisfil upland overlooking the broad valley of Lovers Creek. An earlier controlled surface collection indicated the site area to be approximately 1 hectare, about one-third of which was excavated to reveal two longhouses and a portion of a third. Excavation of 174 cultural features, as well as screening of topsoil in the midden area and the controlled surface collection, resulted in the recovery of over 1800 artifacts, plus floral and faunal remains. A radiocarbon determination on maize returned a date of 550 ± 75 BP (WAT-2964), which has been calibrated to circa A.D. 1408.

Ring-shaped clusters of smaller posts, centrally located along the longhouse corridors, were tentatively identified as ground-level sweat lodges, since none were surrounding fire places. The most conspicuous features, however, were semi-subterranean sweat lodges, seventeen of which were distributed between the three houses. This paper summarizes all aspects of the Hubbert site investigation, highlighting the unusually high density of semi-subterranean sweat lodges and the insights that they might offer when considering Hubbert in the context of regional socio-political organization around the turn of the fifteenth century.

### **The Dykstra Site**

**Andrew Clish  
Archaeological Services Inc.**

The Dykstra Site (BbGw-5) is a small Middle Iroquoian special purpose settlement located in the southwestern area of Barrie. This paper will provide preliminary interpretations of site settlement patterns and analyses of materials found on the site during the 2000 excavation. The site will also be examined relative to other Iroquoian sites found in the area in an attempt to relate the occupation of Dykstra to those sites.

### **Subsistence Activity in Middle to Late Iroquoian Times around Barrie, Ontario**

**Stephen Cox Thomas  
Archaeological Services Inc. Bioarchaeological Research**

CRM excavations by ASI have shed light on subsistence activities in a group of Middle to early Late Iroquoian villages in the area of Barrie, Ontario. The findings show a strong tendency for faunal resource procurement to be focused on predictable, locally available, small-unit resources. Garden-hunted mammal species and the domestic dog typically account for over half to 80% of mammal remains, indicating that a significant amount of mammal exploitation was focused on the village and its associated fields. Evidence also

indicates that most fish exploitation was done close to village sites, rounding out a picture of spatially constrained subsistence activity. The Barrie area people do not seem to have engaged in the long distance deer hunting and salmon fishing expeditions recorded for the Contact Period Huron. We infer an emphasis on passive faunal procurement techniques for most wild mammal resources-snaring and trapping rather than use of projectile weapons and spears. We also infer the use of passive techniques for fish procurement, such as netting and trapping, although passive techniques were employed more intensively in seasonal, harvest-level procurement events.

### **Holocene Floodplain Development and Implications for Archaeological Evidence of Prehistoric Human Occupation: Nottawasaga River, southern Ontario, Canada**

**M.J. Thornbush**  
**University of Toronto**

A geomorphic study of Holocene floodplain development and implications for archaeological evidence of prehistoric human floodplain occupation at the lower Nottawasaga River, Simcoe County, Canada. Examines fluvial characteristics as well as floodplain formation processes and development inside versus outside the Edenvale Moraine in respectively confined versus unconfined sections of the study area. Proposes disequilibrium Holocene floodplain development and consequently fewer late-Holocene (Woodland) archaeological sites in confined sections, a dominance of vertical accretion and invisibility of early-to-middle-Holocene (Archaic, potentially Paleo-Indian) sites in unconfined sections, and increasing channel lateral stability throughout the Holocene with increasing concentration of sites in the modern floodplain. Application of ground-penetrating radar (GPR) to decipher style and rate of Holocene floodplain development. Archaeological resource management recommendations for salvage excavations of sites liable to natural destruction and suggestions for site prospecting.

### **Classification and Analysis of Chipped Lithics from Southwestern Ontario**

**Harry Lerner**

Analysis of any kind, whether in the physical or social sciences, is invariably associated with some form of organizational framework in which data are presented in a coherent, useful manner. This paper addresses the status of classificatory, and therefore analytical, efforts that have been directed toward the chipped lithic industries of Southwestern Ontario, specifically that of the prehistoric Huron. It is suggested that approaches involving more than the traditional assessment of dimensional metrics and outline

geometry are needed. The customary categorization of distinct tool forms on the basis of the physical characteristics of implements as recovered from the archaeological record effectively ignores the dynamic developmental paths such tools followed during the course of their manufacture, use, and periodic maintenance.

The variable nature of this segment of Huron material culture implies variation not only in tool form but in tool function as well. Therefore any evaluation of these artifacts requires the investigator to consider this portion of the archaeological record at both the individual tool and whole assemblage levels. The approach taken in this paper includes not only the standard variables of analysis, i.e. maximum length, width, and thickness, but also several edge angle measurements and various dimensional ratios. In addition to these values, traditionally study-specific attributes such as raw material type, physical aspects of manufacture and use-wear traces are also considered. Collectively these variables would form a database researchers could consult and contribute to for future reference and comparison.

The assemblage from the Keffer site (AkGv-14), a late prehistoric Southern Division Huron village dating to ca AD 1450, is used as the basis for developing and testing the procedures advocated in this paper. The large number of specimens recovered in most of the traditionally recognized tool classes lends itself to this type of investigation. Also, being one of the very few Huron sites of this period to have seen near or complete excavation makes it an ideal collection to further our understanding of Huron lithic technology as a whole. The material from the Draper site (AlGt-2), also a completely excavated Huron village of the same period, provides a means of comparison at the inter-site level.

## **Reconstructing Past Human Behaviour Through Stone Tools**

**Robin Feeney**

This study presents the results of a use-wear analysis conducted on thirty-three spokeshaves recovered from the excavations from the Keffer Site (AkGv-14), a fifteenth century Southern Division Huron settlement. The framework used for this analysis is based mainly on the method developed by Lawrence Keeley, combined with ethnohistorical and archaeological contextual information from the site itself.

Results indicate that the majority of the spokeshaves were used on bone (37.3%), and considerably fewer were used on wood (17.6%). Statistically, the notch metrics compare very well with the measurements taken from a sample of twenty-five bone awls recovered from the site. This is impressive, as it offers convincing evidence of the functional validity of the spokeshaves.

## **[Don't] Fence Me In: The Landscape of Place**

**Frank A. Dieterman**  
**University of Toronto at Mississauga**

This paper highlights the fulcrum of the shift from people living in the landscape to people living on the landscape over the period A.D. 500 to 1100. The initial stages of sedentism are demonstrated to manifest a transformation of sociocultural foundations from a focus on a convergence, espoused by Middle Woodland base camps, to a perimeter or border, as implied by the Iroquoian village:forest dichotomy. The fulcrum is Princess Point, emphasising focussed, compact and consolidated site affordances manifest through the natural landscape.

Princess Point groups' consistent selection of correlative landscape parameters, despite the relative availability of a broad environmental spectrum, is demonstrated through associations between settlement and subsistence, and specifically, mobility and social organisation. Representing an extension and refinement of the Middle Woodland settlement pattern, Princess Point site locations characterise a socially prescribed decision-making process reflecting a critical stage in the shift to sedentism investiture. This settlement tenet is further refined by the Early Ontario Iroquoians through the replacement of the landscape as a social mediator by the built environment of village, longhouse, and palisade.

The Landscape of Place is a unique detail from the larger Iroquoian sedentarisation and horticultural picture in the Great Lake region.

## **Pots, Potters and Pottery Making at the Ball Site**

**Holly Martelle**  
**University of Toronto**

This presentation provides a quick survey of potting traditions and techniques at the Ball Site, a late 16th century Huron village near Warminster, Ontario. Here, excavations spanning 25 years have helped produce one of the richest Huron contact period ceramic assemblages yet known. A survey of reconstructed vessels and vessel types is provided, as is a comparison between Ball potting traditions and those of nearby sites. Some suggestions about the organisation of ceramic production at Ball are also offered.

**Dean Knight  
Wilfrid University**

Excavations began on the Ball Site in 1975 and concluded in 1999 after 25 years of excavation. This work exposed the entire 3.1 ha. early 17<sup>th</sup> century Huron village including 71 structures, two palisades and numerous middens. This paper will discuss structures and the palisades.

**Protecting Underwater Heritage in the Kawarthas: A Joint Approach**

**Erin McFaul and Sheryl Smith  
Kawartha Anishnabe First Nation and Parks Canada**

Recreational divers and archaeologists don't always see eye-to-eye. In the last two years, a coalition of concerned heritage advocates including several Aboriginal divers, has undertaken a number of measures to protect sites in the Peterborough area, to raise awareness in the dive community about ethical behaviours at underwater sites, and to train interested divers in recording techniques so they can act as advocates and inform authorities when sites are found. These measures touch on issues such as: jurisdictions of various agencies, whose heritage is it, Aboriginal rights and responsibilities, and how to work together in the long term. Progress and pitfalls will be shared in this joint presentation.

**Saturday October 14, 2000**

**The University of Toronto in Huronia: Past and Future**

**Marti Latta  
University of Toronto**

This paper summarises Huronia-based research by faculty and students at the University of Toronto during the past fifty years. Together with an overview of published and unpublished research, it provides a helpful synopsis of the collections available for current and future researchers.

## **Native Journeys in Simcoe County: Past and Present**

**Paul Lennox**

**(Regional Archaeologist, Ontario Ministry of Transportation)**

**Sue Anderson**

**Elder, Mnjikaning First Nation, Rama Ontario**

As we are realising in Canada - indeed, in many parts of the world – the work that we do as archaeologists (certainly in Simcoe County) is bringing us face to face with First Nations People. Contrary to attempts at assimilation, they are still here! We think that Euro-American archaeologists have a role to play in helping to reconstruct that which has all but been put to rest. Archaeologists and indigenous people must work closely with each other to do this in a way that is beneficial to both of our needs.

For us, the journey has been an "eye opening" and rewarding experience. "Cultural resource management" is bigger than archaeology alone. This presentation briefly explores some of the recent events that have placed archaeologists and First Nations people on adjacent "playing fields" in Simcoe County.

### **The Wendat: The 1650 Dispersals and the 1999 Returns**

**Charles Garrad**

Between 1648 and 1651 the Wendat (Wyandot) peoples of north Simcoe and east Grey Counties of Ontario dispersed in several directions. The two principal migrations, both in 1650, were in opposite directions. The first was west from Craigeleith, with the Odawa, to Lake Superior, and ultimately to the Detroit Valley, Ohio, Kansas and Oklahoma. The second was east from Christian Island, with the French, to Quebec. In 1999 descendants of these two migrations returned to Ontario to form a new confederacy based on their shared Ontario ancestry.

### **The Liberation of Wendake**

**Bruce Trigger**

**McGill University**

This paper will trace the history of Huron archaeology since World War II, tracing its accomplishments and its significance for archaeology in general, for Canadian society, and for relations between archaeologists and First Nations.

## **1747 Wyandot Elders List**

**John Steckley  
Humber College**

In 1747, Jesuit Father Pierre Potier compiled a census of the Wyandot of the Detroit/Windsor area. The census involved the names, family relations and (sometimes) the age of people who lived in each house. Especially important is that included in that census was a list of what he termed "Les 3 Bandes huronnes avec Leurs anciens et Leurs anciennes." The "3 Bandes" were the three phratries of the Wyandot (e.g., the Deer, the Turtle and the Wolf), divided into their 10 constituent clans (three, four and three respectively). "Leurs anciens et leurs anciennes" were the sixty Elders, male and female, each placed in their appropriate clan. Thirty represented the Deer and the Wolf phratries, while the remaining thirty represented the Turtle phratry. Analysis of this list provides unique insights into the traditional position of Elder in Wyandot culture, and more generally, into the political structure of the Wyandot in the mid-eighteenth century.

### **Appreciating Uncle Bonaparte: Thoughts on the Petun Bone Tool Assemblage**

**Peter Hamalainen**

Focusing on the unusually rich and varied bone tool sample from the Sidey-Mackay site, this paper will discuss certain aspects of the Petun bone tool assemblage. Emphasis will be placed on native technology and the effect of European contact on it. As well, some additional thoughts on the analysis of bone tools will be presented.

### **The Petun Copper-based Metal Collection in the Context of Northeastern North America**

**Caroline Walker  
York University**

To the Iroquoian and Algonquian peoples of Eastern North America, a copper kettle was a cooking pot for a feast, a gift whose giving brought prestige, an urn for the bones of the dead, a mortuary offering, and a source of raw materials for an artifact production system. Ontario archaeologists, under the direction of Charles Garrad, have assembled perhaps the largest collection of such metal artifacts, spanning the Contact Period, from about 1580-1650, and representing all of the sites of the two Nations of the Petun.

As a descriptive or historical (chronological) tool, style has been used to show cultural variation and correlation, diffusion, trade, cultural persistence, migration and the rate of and direction of change. The chemical seriation model has indicated the ability of copper-based metal groups to make spatial and temporal distinctions between sites, Native groups and trade Glass Bead Periods.

### **What the Elemental Analysis of Red Glass Trade Beads Can, Or Cannot, Tell Us About Their Owners**

**R.G.V. Hancock, F.Kwok and S.Aufreiter, M.Sempowski and A.W.Nohe,  
J.F.Moreau, K.Karklins, C.Garrad, I.Kenyon**

Single-coloured, 17<sup>th</sup> century, European glass beads that were manufactured for North American trade were made of royal blue, turquoise blue, black, white, or red glass. Blue and black beads tended to be made of a single layer of coloured glass. White and red beads were either single or multi-layered. In multi-layered glass, less of the colourant element(s) was used, presumably as a cost saving procedure. The variation of colourant concentrations is much broader than for solidly coloured glass, making the interpretation of elemental analysis data more complex.

Opaque red (redwood) glass trade beads exhibit many layering variations. The effect on data interpretation is that while the elements that define the glass matrix (Na, Ca, K, Al and Cl) are relatively consistent in concentration, the colourant element (Cu and Sn) concentrations tend to be much more variable.

Glass chemistry matches between red beads found at Seneca, Huron and Petun sites may either be the mundane results of trade or may result from the Wenro migration of 1639 into Huronia and Petunia, and the forced southern migration of people following the late 1640s battles with Five Nations Iroquois.

### **Nanuuba Wakandagi Among the Ontario Iroquois**

**William A. Fox**

The disk form of stone pipe has been documented rarely in the Ontario archaeological record. Those specimens from dateable contexts all seem to derive from the early seventeenth century. Archaeological and ethnographic evidence will be presented in an attempt to understand the meaning of these Siouan artifacts in an Ontario Iroquoian context.

**Alicia Hawkins  
University of Toronto**

In 1973, Frank Ridley proposed that frilled pottery found at some late Huron sites could be attributed to a refugee group known as the Wenro. In this paper, I examine the question of how we might identify any refugee population through material remains. I consider whether the material found at a number of sites in Huronia and Petunia bears resemblance to pottery from the suggested homelands of the Wenro, and whether there are other explanations for the rather sudden appearance of frilled pottery in Huronia.

**Archaeological Investigations of Group Identity at The Charity Site, BeHb-4,  
Christian Island, Georgian Bay**

**Lawrence Jackson and Lisa Merritt**

The opportunity to investigate archaeological indicators of group identity within a single site is not often presented in Ontario archaeology. This paper assesses evidence which suggests the identity of specific Huron subgroups in longhouses at the 1648-1650 Charity Site on Christian Island. Discovered by the Museum of Indian Archaeology in 1987 and excavated by Northeastern Archaeological Associates in 1991, the Charity Site is believed to be the actual Huron refuge village identified in the French Jesuit Relations. Excavations at three longhouses provide several lines of evidence which appear to confirm first, that this is the same village identified in the Relations, and, secondly, that specific Huron subgroups were present and maintained their separate identity in the longhouses which they occupied. The evidence of ceramics, metals and glass beads, all recovered with 1/8 inch mesh screen, strongly indicates the presence of Wenro, groups from eastern Huronia, and of highly Christianised Huron. Subsistence evidence of a starvation winter places these longhouses at the recorded winter of 1649-50. The value of fine scale excavation of longhouses, seeking trends in artifact styles, is suggested and poses an interesting contrast to machine stripping and subsoil feature excavation at Iroquoian village sites as practised in Ontario consulting.

# **Sainte-Marie among the Hurons: A Re-interpretation Based on Recent Archaeological Investigations**

**John R. Triggs**

Beginning in 1996 a program of masonry conservation was initiated for three fireplaces in the North Court of Sainte-Marie. These structures, first investigated by Kenneth Kidd in the early 1940s and later by Wilfrid Jury in the 1950s, represent the oldest surviving masonry in the province. A comprehensive restoration program involved the re-excavation of areas adjacent to the fireplaces for the purpose of recording surviving stratigraphy in addition to the excavation of deposits below the previously undisturbed hearthstones. Detailed excavation and documentation of stratigraphy using the Harris matrix revealed evidence of distinct building phases, including antecedent structures. A wealth of new data provides information with which to evaluate the chronology of construction at this 17<sup>th</sup> century mission.



