

Preface

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Welcome to Our Lands Speak Occasional Papers in Ontario Archaeology No. 1.

In 2019, Ontario archaeology remains in an ongoing state of change, as it has for the last four decades. Consulting archaeology continues to dominate fieldwork and reporting with, comparatively speaking, limited amounts of field and detailed laboratory research being undertaken by academics at universities and museums. This is extremely demanding given the requirements of both the clients and the *2011 Standards and Guidelines for the Consultant Archeologist* of Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport. As a result, few have the time, energy, or financial support to take on original research and publication. For those consulting archaeologists who can produce publishable reports on some aspects of their research, there are very few options in terms of Canadian publication venues. Longer works on site excavations or multiple site syntheses, which are extremely important to our profession, are seldom published.

Our Lands Speak Occasional Papers in Ontario Archaeology is a high-quality publication series which will be issued as often as possible based on the availability of high-quality manuscripts on subjects in and affecting Ontario archaeology. Our goal is to create additional space to disseminate information about Ontario's rich archaeological history, including both historic and prehistoric work, as well as important First Nation perspectives. Another objective of this series is to make use of current advances in publication technologies. The print versions of the Occasional Papers will include high-quality colour illustrations which few North American journals or monograph series currently offer. Both print and digital versions will be created. Use will also be made of newer methods for distributing information on the availability of these publications.

One of the major exceptions to the general lack of long-term research programs by consulting archaeologists has been the ongoing research in the Rice Lake, Otonabee River, and South Kawartha Lakes area by Dr. Lawrence J. Jackson. Over 40 years, Jackson has succeeded in undertaking a significant program of academic research while earning his living as an archaeological consultant. This is, indeed, a rare achievement. Jackson's research focuses on the early occupation of his study area by Palaeo-Indian peoples who lived there between 11,000 and 12,000 years ago. The volume begins with discovery of the Waverly Heights site with a single piece of chert during an archaeological resource assessment in the City of Peterborough. Subsequently, an area close to 100 square metres was excavated with about 80% dug using fine mesh screen. Recoveries included calcined remains of large cervids (caribou?) and fish, as well as numerous channel flakes from producing fluted projectile points. These excavations provided new insights into the occupation of the Otonabee River area by Early Palaeo-Indians in an urban area since most sites have already been destroyed.

In the remainder of this volume, Jackson summarizes the results of his research in the Rice Lake and South Kawartha Lakes areas over the past 40 years, including major excavations of the earliest Gainey Phase Sandy Ridge and Halstead sites on Rice Lake, as well as interior hunting ambush sites such as Linton Springs and the Chemong Portage site linking the Otonabee River and South Kawartha Lakes. This work clearly reinforces Jackson's position as one of the foremost Palaeo-Indian scholars in Ontario and Canada. This volume is a major contribution to Palaeo-Indian studies and will be of interest to those with similar interests in Canada, the United States, and beyond.