Foreword

The Ontario Archaeological Society (OAS) is both pleased and proud to collaborate with the Canadian Archaeological Association (CAA) in co-publishing the proceedings of the CAA's 33rd Annual Conference in held in Ottawa in May 2000. This publication represents an important part of the Society's 50th Anniversary celebrations.

Beginning in 1950 as a non-credit class taught by Dr. J. Norman Emerson in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Toronto, the OAS has grown to become the largest archaeological organization in Canada. The Society represents the full range of archaeological practitioners in the province of Ontario from avocational to academic researcher to cultural resource manager.

This publication continues the long legacy established by the Ontario Archaeological Society of bringing archaeological information to the public. As an electronic publication, it also lays down a new benchmark for the rapid dissemination of archaeological data. We sincerely hope that the speed with which electronic publishing can be carried will be seen as an example of a viable and cost-effective alternative to traditional paper publication. It should also be seen as a potential means of reducing the growing mass of "grey literature" (i.e., publishable reports that will never be broadly available), a serious problem which threatens the integrity of the archaeological record just as much as the lack of mitigation of large-scale development.

The 26 individual articles that are presented here will now be part of the permanent electronic collection of the National Library of Canada (NLC) which has undertaken to archive, upgrade as required and maintain public access to the electronic documents collection. This removes impediments that may have allowed some to argue against electronic publication. With the NLC mandate to acquire Canadian electronic publications and guarantee public access to these over the internet in perpetuity, a whole new world of publication is opening up to the Canadian archaeological community where the horizons will be broadened and access to the fascinating record of Canada's past will become *virtually* unrestricted.

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