

Conference on Iroquois Research



Fostering and promoting research on the Haudenosaunee since 1945

**October 15 and 16, 2021
76th Anniversary Edition**

ONLINE via ZOOM

Final Program

Last revision: October 6, 2021

_____ **FRIDAY** _____

7:00 — 7:30 pm

Opening Thanksgiving Address

Welcome at the Woods Edge, Announcements & Tributes
Terry Abrams and Francis Scardera

7:30—8:30 pm

Featured Film: Part 1. William Fenton

Denis Foley

Denis Foley will provide some personal anecdotes and the context to this unique interview he conducted with the late William Fenton. This rare film footage also marks the official launch of the Conference on Iroquois Research YouTube Channel—a new repository for audio and video recordings.

_____ **SATURDAY** _____

10:00-10:30 am

Mad Bear at Temple Square

Thomas W Murphy, Edmonds College

In April 1974 the Tuscarora activist Wallace “Mad Bear” Anderson joined a contingent of about fifty members of the American Indian Movement protesting outside the General Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS) in Salt Lake City, Utah. Anderson objected to the display of human remains in the LDS Church Museum. He requested repatriation of these Indigenous ancestors with a “proper burial” and a return “back to the spirit world.” This paper examines Mad Bear’s engagement with Mormonism, the display of human remains in church museums, and the long-term impact of repatriation efforts.

10:30-11:00 am

A Conceptual Framework for Indigenous Research

Lori Lambert, Montana State University

For Indigenous Peoples, research is not a new phenomenon. In countless Indigenous communities story keepers have preserved the knowledge of their community’s past, the science of medicine plants, and technology. Elders tell stories of how Western-trained researchers have marched into their communities without permission, and with disregard for the culture. Western-trained researchers have taken away stories from the community to write their books, papers, and dissertations, and have never given back to those communities. This presentation will review the history of Western research in Indigenous communities and provide a conceptual framework for researchers who anticipate doing research in Indigenous communities.

11:00-11:30 am

**Indigenous Iroquois Research In North Carolina
Reynaud Iron Horse**

Since the Tuscarora War ended in 1711-1715, many Indigenous records have been scattered and displaced across the State of North Carolina. Indigenous research identifies very unique methods to understand unfound colonial records and tribal migrations which connect to the Iroquois People of the Tuscarora Indians who remained in North Carolina to the present day in connection with their Iroquois genetic cousins in Canada and New York. The presentation will provide and implement the framework for researchers to collect data and to conduct research in Indigenous communities to fully understand the accurate historical facts and movement within the Iroquois Nation with the complexity of tribal histories, and tribal migrations which sustained the survival of the present tribal generation.

11:30-12:00 am

**The Dann Site: A Survey of an Archaeological Collection at the New York State Museum
Kailey Loughran, University at Albany SUNY**

Abstract: This presentation explores agency, power, and resistance using the material culture recovered from the Dann site, a late seventeenth century Seneca village and cemetery in Honeoye Falls, New York. Of the original 1,662 artifacts that were found on Ray Dann's farm and sold to the New York State Museum in 1913, roughly 300 objects remain in the collection today. This presentation provides a historical overview of the site and the archaeology that's taken place based on a brief study of the Seneca clay pipes and European brass pots in this collection, drawing on previous scholarship that evaluated the persistence of indigenous technologies in a rapidly changing colonial world. This discussion will reflect on the importance of future analysis of the collection in how it remains significant for the Seneca people today.

12:00-12:30 pm

LUNCH BREAK

12:30-1:00 noon

**The World Ernest Benedict Reported
Kwinn H. Doran, Shaw University**

This paper considers mid-twentieth century Mohawk newspaper editor Ernest Benedict. It partly seeks simply to better appreciate the intrinsic value and style of his editorial vision. Additionally, though, his maturing as an editor illuminates his maturation overall. He initially wanted his papers, *Kawwehras!* and "War Hoop," to host robust debate among community members. That quickly devolved from debating issues to hurtful exchanges. His editorship, therefore, shifted toward a more diplomatic and curatorial approach (while remaining engaged on issues). This illuminates how and why he developed his signature style as a leader and activist: deeply diplomatic, yet forcefully engaged on issues.

1:00-1:30 pm

Tewaarathon (Lacrosse) in the Economic, Social, and Political Life of the Kahnawá:ke Community in the Late Nineteenth Century
Gerald Reid, Sacred Heart University

During the second half the nineteenth century the Kanien'kehá:ka community of Kahnawá:ke was divided along economic, social, and political lines. In addition, it was a place in transition from an economy focused on resource extraction to one centered on commerce and wage labor. What forces held the Kahnawá:ke community together? What strategies of economic survival were pursued during this time of transition? In a report on research in progress, I examine tewaarathon, the game of lacrosse, as a centripetal force in the social and political life of the Kahnawá:ke community and as an activity that not only generated income, but also facilitated the development craftwork, entertainment work, and other economic strategies.

1:30-2:00 pm

Presentation of the new book *The Laws and the Land: The Settler Colonial Invasion of Kahnawá:ke in Nineteenth-Century Canada* by Daniel Rück
Daniel Rück, University of Ottawa

Historian Daniel Rück will present his new book on the history of Canada-Indigenous relations, and specifically the relationship between Canada and Kahnawá:ke. The book was released by UBC Press on September 15, 2021. <https://www.ubcpres.ca/the-laws-and-the-land>

2:00-2:30 pm

Saratoga: Indigenous Histories on the Upper Hudson
Karim M. Tiro, Xavier University

I am preparing a report for the National Park Service to help them better understand the significance of the Saratoga National Historical Park site to the history of Indigenous communities. Salient topics beyond military activities include the significance of fishing; relations between speakers of Iroquoian and Algonquian languages; strong Kahnawake connections to the area; relations with the Dutch-American Schuyler family; and gatherings to engage in tourist-oriented trade. I will share my findings but will also solicit recommendations and insights.

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Haudenosaunee and Indigenous Worlds

Syracuse University Press invites book proposals for review in its new Haudenosaunee and Indigenous Worlds series. This series expands the Press's historical emphasis on the "Iroquois" and Native American publications to better reflect current scholarship regarding oral tradition, decolonial studies, and Indigenous studies writ large. We welcome submissions from a diversity of authors across disciplines, traditions, and orientations, but with special emphasis on the Haudenosaunee.

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