

Jordan Pottery Excavation Project Fonds, 1966-1991, n.d. (non-inclusive)

RG 587

Creator: David W. Rupp – Department of Classics, Brock University

Extent: .9 m (2 ½ boxes) textual records

Abstract: The textual material of the Jordan Pottery Excavation Project Fonds consists of administrative records, data and diagrams regarding the project.

Materials: Textual material, drawings, 76 b&w photos and 4 b&w negatives

Processed by: Anne Adams

Finding Aid: Anne Adams

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Acquisition Info:

Files were donated by Dr. David W. Rupp and the Department of Classics at Brock University on June 3, 2010

Administrative History:

Jordan Pottery Project

Professor David W. Rupp of the Department of Classics conducted an archaeological excavation of a small nineteenth century pottery workshop on the escarpment near Jordan, Ontario. The dig was held under the auspices of the Jordan Historical Museum of the Twenty, the Niagara Peninsula Society of the Archaeological Institute of America and the Brock University Museum of Cypriote Antiquities. The site was said to have been home to the workshop, but early land documents for the area have been lost over the years. The purpose of the project was to train interested volunteers in archaeological field techniques. Mr. Jon Jouppien, Mrs. Rita Michael and Glen Smith also worked with the team thanks to an Ontario Heritage Foundation grant. A partially intact and extremely well-preserved kiln was discovered, as well as pottery, glass bottles and nails. Some of the pottery at the site had the name B. Lent U.C. on it.

The U.C. stands for Upper Canada. The closest estimate of the operation of the kiln falls between 1820 and 1840. The material which was found at the dig was studied by Dr. Rupp's students from his Classical Archaeology course. The focus was on the cultural aspects of the pottery rather than the pottery itself.

Some stone tools were also found near the site giving speculation that the site might have been the home to archaic Native People.

Dr. David W. Rupp

David W. Rupp received an A.B. [which is the same as B.A.] in Anthropology from the University of Michigan, an M.A. in Classical Archaeology from the University of Pennsylvania, and a Ph.D. from Bryn Mawr College in Greek Art and Architecture.

David W. Rupp was a member of the Department of Classics at Brock University from September 1974 until June 2004. During his time at Brock University, he created the undergraduate major in Ancient Art and Archaeology, developed the Archaeological Practicum in Cyprus, Israel and Greece and founded the Brock University Archaeological Society. He also led study tours in Greece and was an active member of the Niagara Peninsula Society of the Archaeological Institute of America. His work has taken him to Canada, the United States, Italy, Greece, Cyprus and Israel.

Dr. Rupp has presented numerous scholarly papers as well as publishing articles and monographs. He has also written a guidebook to Athens. He served as the President of Athens College – Psychiko College of the Hellenic-American Education Foundation in Psychiko-Attikis, Greece from 2005-2010. He has also served as the Director of the Canadian Institute in Greece since 2005. He currently resides in Athens.

Benjamin Lent

Benjamin Lent was a stoneware potter who had lived in New York and New Jersey. He ran a red earthenware pottery workshop in what was Louth Township, above the village of Jordan. The workshop operated between 1835 and 1842. The shapes and forms of Lent's work reflected the traditions of potteries from the Mid-Atlantic States. A number of the vessels were stamped with B. Lent U.C. or decorated with geometric designs or floral motifs of the Pennsylvanian German tradition. His business ended abruptly, probably due to a fire which destroyed the workshop.

Organization:

The records are arranged into 3 series.

Series I – Administrative Records, 1966-1987, n.d. (non-inclusive)

Sub-Series A. Correspondence, 1976-1987

Sub-Series B. Finances and Fundraising, 1976-1982, n.d.

Sub-Series C. Personnel, 1977-1978, 1980, 1982-1983, 1986-1987

Sub-Series D. History and Research Documents, 1984, 1986, n.d.

Series II – Publicity, 1966, 1976-1981, 1981, 1984-1987, n.d.

Series III – Archaeological Dig, 1976-1980, 1982-1985, 1991, n.d.

Sub-Series A. Reports, 1977-1979, 1991

Sub-Series B. Data, 1976-1978, 1980, 1984-1985, n.d.

Sub-Series C. Log Books, 1976-1979

Sub-Series D. Diagrams, 1978-1980, 1982-1983, n.d.

Inventory:

Series I – Administrative Records

Sub-Series A. Correspondence, 1976-1987

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- 1.2 Correspondence, 1977
- 1.3 Correspondence with students, 1977, 1981-1982
- 1.4 Correspondence with Brock University regarding budget, 1977-1980
- 1.5 Correspondence, 1978
- 1.6 Correspondence with David Dunlop including the paper *Archeomagnetism of a 19th Century Pottery Kiln near Jordan, Ontario* by David Dunlop and Murray B. Zinn, 1978-1980
- 1.7 Correspondence, 1979
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Sub-Series B – Finances and Fundraising, 1976-1982, n.d.

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- 1.18 Fundraising, negative responses, 1977
- 1.19 Fundraising volunteer registration forms, n.d.
- 1.20 Local Initiatives Program (L.I.P.) Grant Application and correspondence, 1976

- 1.21 General fundraising information including an application for an Archaeological Research Grant, 1977, 1979
- 1.22 Financial record for 1977
- 1.23 Ontario Experience '78 Project grant, 1978
- 1.24 Request for research grant for Assessment of Research Project: Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. Included is *The Yeigh Site 1980: Preliminary Report* prepared by Rita Michael, 1980-1982

Sub- Series C – Personnel, 1977-1978, 1980, 1982-1983, 1986-1987

- 1.25 Personnel including timesheets and appointments (in alphabetical order), 1977-1978, 1980, 1982-1983
- 1.26 Reopening staff including correspondence and applications, 1986-1987

Sub-Series D – History and Research Documents, 1984, 1986, n.d.

- 1.27 Requirements for Brock University course, Classics 293A Field Archaeology, 1984
- 1.28 *An Earlier Nineteenth Century Ontario Red Earthenware Potter: Artistic Success* by David W. Rupp and *Charles D. Lent* from Landmarks of Wayne County N.Y. by M.C. White, 1986, n.d.
- 1.29 *Potters of the Niagara Peninsula* by Peter VanAsten, 1986, n.d.
- 1.30 *The Jordan Pottery Site: Some Practical Applications in Historical Archaeology of Computer-Assisted Research*, n.d.
- 1.31 *Industrial Archaeology: The Documentation of our Industrial Past* by David W. Rupp, n.d.
- 1.32 List of books and journals in research libraries, n.d.
- 1.33 Lent Family documents, n.d
- 1.34 New York Census information re. Lent Family, n.d.

Series II – Publicity, 1966, 1976-1981, 1981, 1984-1987, n.d.

- 1.35 Jordan Pottery Excavation Project fact sheet, n.d.
- 1.36 *Archaeological Institute of America* 1977 Fieldwork Bulletin listing, 1976
- 1.37 *The B. Lent Pottery c. 1836-1841* by David W. Rupp in Canadian Collector, May/June 1980
- 1.38 *Jordan Pottery Project: Grassroots Archaeology* article by David W. Rupp from Archaeology, Jul/Aug 1980
- 1.39 Archaeology calendar with Jordan Pottery pot, 1981
- 1.40-1.42 TVO series on archaeology script and correspondence including the Development Assessment Report for the proposed learning system on Archaeology, 1984-1987

1.43 *A Fast Atom Bombardment Study of the Lead Isotope Ratios in Early Nineteenth Century Niagara Peninsula Pottery Glazes* by Jack M. Miller, Timothy R.B. Jones, Tina Kenney and David W. Rupp published in the Canadian Journal of Chemistry, 1985

1.44 Newspaper clippings, 1966, 1976-1979

Series III – Archaeological Dig

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1.45 The Jordan Pottery site: A preliminary report of the 1976 excavation by Dr. David W. Rupp and J.K. Jouppien submitted to the Ministry of Culture and Recreation, 1977

1.46 Report on the Lithic Artifacts from the Jordan Pottery site, Jordan, Ontario by J. K. Jouppien, 1978

1.47 A preliminary report of the 1977 excavations by Dr. David W. Rupp and J.K. Jouppien submitted to the Ministry of Culture and Recreation, 1978

1.48 The Jordan Pottery Study Project: An interim report of the excavations by Dr. David W. Rupp and J.K. Jouppien submitted to the Ontario Heritage Foundation, 1978

1.49 The Kiln and Red Earthenware Pottery of the Jordan Pottery Site: a preliminary overview by Dr. David W. Rupp, 1978

1.50 The Jordan Pottery: a short progress report by J.K. Jouppien for the Ontario Archaeological Society, 1978

1.51 A preliminary report of the 1978 excavations by Dr. David W. Rupp submitted to the Ministry of Culture and Recreation, 1979

1.52 A second interim report by Dr. David W. Rupp submitted to Ontario Heritage Foundation, 1979

1.53 *The Jordan Pottery Site (Town of Lincoln, Region Niagara). The Red Earthenware Pottery and House of Benjamin Lent, ca 1836-1841 Volume I* – a report prepared by David W. Rupp and Jordan Pottery Project staff members submitted to the Ontario Ministry of Culture and Communications, 51 b&w photos, 1991

1.54 *The Jordan Pottery Site (Town of Lincoln, Region Niagara). The Red Earthenware Pottery and House of Benjamin Lent, ca 1836-1841 Volume II* – a report prepared by David W. Rupp and Jordan Pottery Project Staff members submitted to the Ontario Ministry of Culture and Communications, 25 b&w photos, 1991

Sub-Series B – Data, 1976-1978, 1980, 1984-1985, n.d.

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2.2 Refined white earthenware raw data, 1978

2.3 Rita Michael, clay pipes from the Jordan Pottery site, 1978

- 2.4 Tabulation of rim sherds – south trench, n.d.
- 2.5 Kiln furniture: raw data, 1978
- 2.6 Bricks and limestone slabs: raw data, 1978
- 2.7 Rita Michael, window glass: raw data, n.d.
- 2.8 Metal conservation record, 1978
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Sub-Series C – Log Books, 1976-1979

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- 2.17 Jordan Pottery Study Project day log, 1976
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- 2.20 Jordan Pottery excavation day log, 1977 (rough copy and finished copy), 1977
- 2.21 Jordan Pottery lab day log, May 10, 1977 – April 24, 1978
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- 2.23 Site day log, 1978
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- 2.25 Jordan Pottery study project lab day log, April 25, 1978 –
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Sub-Series D – Diagrams, 1978-1980, 1982-1983, n.d.

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