

HIS6E01-PRINCIPLES AND METHODS OF ARCHAEOLOGY MODULE-1 BRUCE GRAHAM TRIGGER

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- Bruce Graham Trigger-anthropologist, archaeologist
- Bruce Trigger worked for most of his career as a professor in the Department of Anthropology at MCGILL UNIVERSITY in Montréal
- made significant contributions to the fields of Egyptology, the archaeology and ethno history of eastern Canada, and archaeological theory.
- Fascinated from an early age by the mystery of the Ancient World, Trigger studied anthropology at the UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO and later obtained a Ph.D. from Yale University.
- He conducted research in the Sudan and Egypt before joining McGill in 1964.
- Most of his fieldwork in Egyptology took place in Nubia.



- His most important publications in this area include *History and Settlement in Lower Nubia* (1965), *The Late Nubian Settlement at Arminna West* (1967), *The Meroitic Funerary Inscriptions from Arminna West* (1970), *Nubia under the Pharaohs* (1976) and *Early Civilizations: Ancient Egypt in Context* (1993).
- Bruce Trigger's pioneering works on the Archaeology and ethnohistory of northeastern indigenous peoples made him a leading figure in Canadian Prehistory.
- In addition to numerous journal articles, he wrote several books on the Huron (indigenous inhabitants of North America).
- He is best remembered for his outstanding two-volume history *The Children of Aataentsic (mother of man kind)* (1976).
- In 1990, Trigger was adopted as an honorary member of the Huron-Wendat nation in recognition of his contributions to its cultural history.



- Trigger published several books and articles on archaeological method and theory, which had an international impact on archaeological thought and practice.
- Among his most outstanding contributions in this field is *A History of Archaeological Thought* (1989, revised edition published in 2006)-investigates the development of theory and archaeology as a discipline-this work traces the history and context of archaeological research and practice around the world, and examines underlying ideas and values.
- *Understanding Early Civilizations* (2003), which is a comparative study of ancient civilizations focusing on the forces that shape social change, is another impressive piece of theoretical work-uses an integrated theoretical approach to look at the meaning of similarities and differences in the formation of complex societies in ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia,



- A Fellow of the ROYAL SOCIETY OF CANADA, Trigger was awarded the Innis-Gérin Medal in 1985 and he also won the Québec government's Prix Léon-Gérin in 1991. He was made an officer of the National Order of Québec and an officer of the ORDER OF CANADA in 2001 and 2005, respectively. His achievements were also celebrated by the publication of *The Archaeology of Bruce Trigger* (2006), a volume of tributes that outline his influence in archaeology



- Bruce Trigger has merged the history of archaeology with new perspectives on how to understand the past.
- He is a critical analyst and architect of social evolutionary theory, an Egyptologist, and an authority on aboriginal cultures in north-eastern North America.
- His contextualization of archaeology within broader society has encouraged appreciation of the power of archaeological knowledge and he has been an effective voice for non-oppositional forms of argument in archaeological theory.
- In *The Archaeology of Bruce Trigger*, leading scholars discuss their own approaches to the interpretation of archaeological data in relation to Trigger's fundamental intellectual contributions