

PROVINCIAL ARCHAEOLOGY OFFICE NEWSLETTER

Volume 4

ARCHAEOLOGY IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR 2005



GOVERNMENT OF
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AND LABRADOR
Department of
Tourism, Culture
and Recreation
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IMPORTANT NOTICE

**To all archaeologists who plan to work in central or northern
Labrador, including the Torngat Mountains National Park
Reserve this summer**

Please be advised there are changes in the regulatory authorities and regulatory requirements for specified areas in Labrador now that the Labrador Inuit Lands Claims Agreement is in effect.

The Agreement creates two categories of land: the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area (Settlement Area) and Labrador Inuit Lands. The Settlement Area includes the five Inuit communities of Nain, Hopedale, Postville, Makkovik and Rigolet, as well as the Torngat Mountains National Park Reserve. A new Inuit regional government, the Nunatsiavut Government, has responsibility with regard to regulating archaeological activities in Labrador Inuit Lands and the Inuit communities. The Government of Canada will regulate archaeological activities on federal lands within the Settlement Area, including the Torngat Mountains National Park Reserve. The Province will continue to be the regulatory authority in the Settlement Area outside Labrador Inuit Lands and the Inuit communities.

You should submit your archaeological permit application to the appropriate authority as soon as possible. If you are unsure of which government is responsible for the jurisdiction where you plan to carry out fieldwork activities, please contact this office and we will provide you with the necessary details. The following is contact information for archaeologists who plan to work in northern Labrador:

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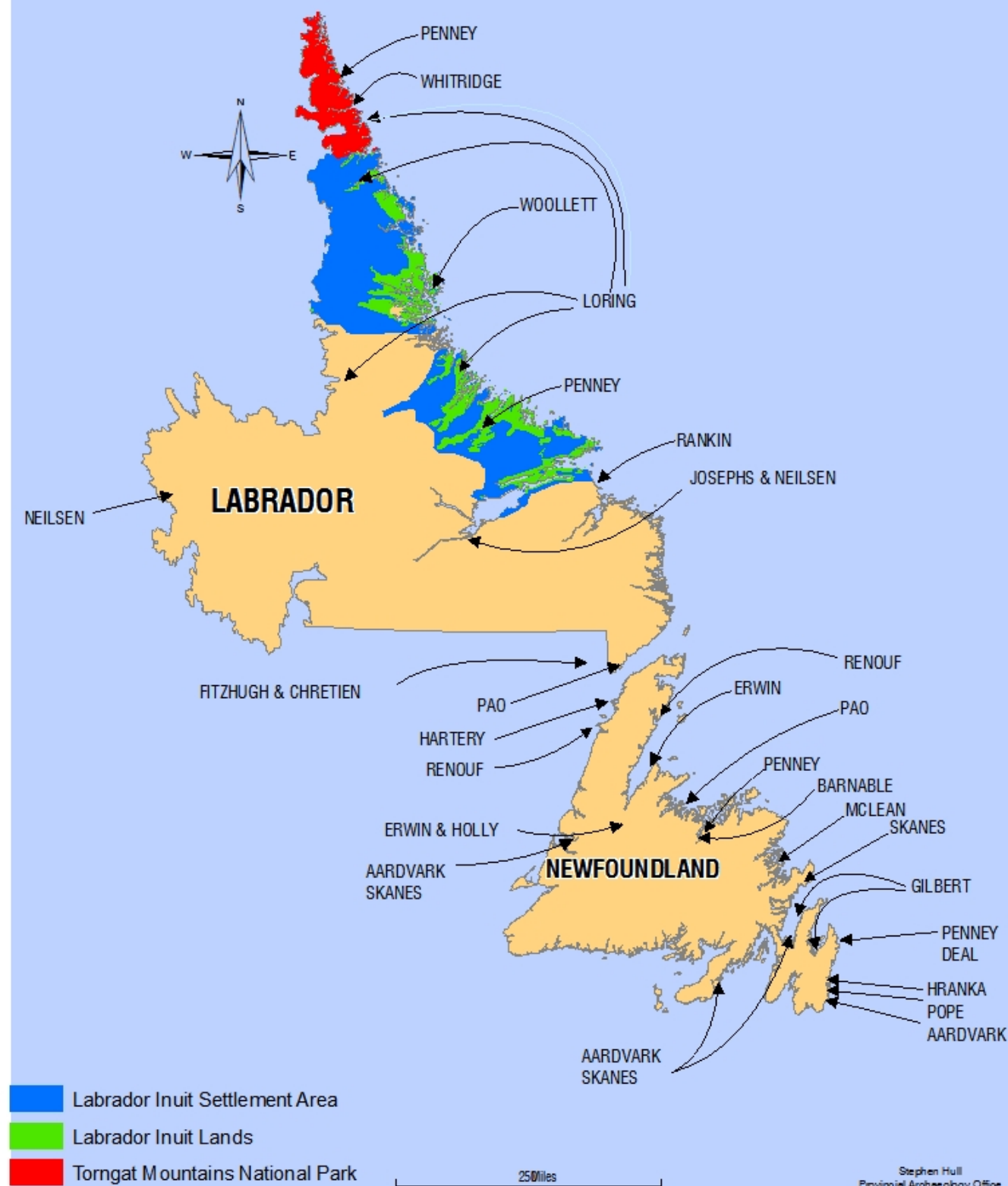
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ARCHAEOLOGY IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR 2005



The Provincial Archaeology Office

Martha Drake

The Provincial Archaeology Office was fortunate this past summer to have Lena Onalik working with us for 16 weeks, thanks to the sponsorship and support of the Young Canada Works Program, the Labrador Inuit Association, and the Department of Tourism, Culture and Recreation. Lena was hired by our office to assist in compiling duplicate copies of all archaeological reports, maps and records associated with the coming into effect of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement in northern Labrador. The agreement came into effect on December 1, 2005. This documentation will be transferred to the Nunatsiavut Government, a new regional Inuit government, for their use in archaeological resource management. We also took this opportunity to use this time as a mentorship period for Lena, whereby she could become immersed on a daily basis in archaeological resource management activities.

Lena is completing her last term in MUN's Archaeology program and is interested in moving back to Labrador to seek out job opportunities. We hope the time she has spent with us will help her find employment in her chosen field in Labrador. ✍



Lena working on Nunatsiavut Government maps

Archaeological Listings on the Canadian Register of Historic Places

Dale Jarvis

The Canadian Register of Historic Places is a searchable database accessible via the Internet. It describes historic places formally recognized by local, provincial and territorial governments, and by the federal government, and can be found online at www.historicplaces.ca.

Canada's historic places capture the spirit of the nation, providing the connecting fabric that links us together as Canadians. The Canadian Register of Historic Places provides a single source of information for all those historic places recognized for their heritage value at the local, provincial, territorial and national levels across the country.

In Newfoundland and Labrador, the Register is administered by the Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador. In order for a site to be listed, that historic place must be nominated to the Canadian Register by a Federal, Provincial or Territorial Registrar and must meet certain eligibility criteria, including the Canadian Register of Historic Places documentation standards. A nominated historic place that meets these criteria will be listed on the Canadian Register.

A historic place must meet three basic criteria to be listed on the Canadian Register:

- It must meet the definition of 'historic place': a structure, building, group of buildings, district, landscape, archaeological site or other place in Canada that has been formally recognized for its heritage value by an appropriate authority within a federal, provincial or territorial jurisdiction;
- The required documentation must be supplied, and;
- Its specific location must be publicly identifiable.

While the majority of designated sites in the province are architectural in nature, there are several archaeological sites that have been designated as historic places by the province under the Historic Resources Act. To date, these sites include Provincial Historic Sites such as the shipwreck sites at Conche's Martinique Bay (Borden number EfAx-03), the HMS Sapphire at Bay Bulls (Borden number ChAe-01), and the Trinity Harbour wreck sites (Borden number DcAi-02), which have all been placed on the Canadian Register.

Incorporated municipalities, under the Municipalities Act, also have the authority to designate archaeological sites as municipal heritage sites, though these sites are still protected under the Historic Resources Act. Municipal designation of archaeological sites allows municipalities to promote their own local history on the Canadian Register, and provide information to students, researchers and tourists. The wrecks of the USS Truxtun DD-229 (Borden number CfAu-01) and the USS Pollux AKS-2 (Borden number CfAu-02) have been designated by the Town of St. Lawrence, and have also been placed on the Canadian Register.

One of the key issues that has been raised with archaeological sites is the requirement to have specific site locations made public. Provincial and territorial registrars have been reluctant to list culturally sensitive sites, or sites which could be susceptible to looting, on the Canadian Register. In response to this, the Canadian Register is currently considering options for listing sensitive archaeological sites without providing specific site locations to the general public.

For more information on the Canadian Register of Historic Places contact:

Dale Jarvis, Provincial Registrar
 Historic Places Initiative
 Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador
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Geoarchaeological Investigations At Two Intermediate Period Amerindian Sites Near Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Labrador


Summary of 2005 Micromorphological Investigation

Richard L. Josephs and Scott W. Neilson

During August 2004, Dr. Richard L. Josephs, geoarchaeologist from the University of North Dakota, was invited by Dr. Lisa Rankin and Mr. Scott W. Neilson to collect micromorphological samples at two Intermediate Period Amerindian sites, Ushpitun 2 (FhCb-4) and Pmiusiku 1 (FhCc-1), located near Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Labrador. The archaeological fieldwork conducted at these sites is summarized in the 2005 (Volume 3) PAO newsletter by Neilson (pages 9 and 10).

Micromorphology is the study of undisturbed soil or sediment in thin section – a three-dimensional translucent slice of the material-in-question. The thin sections are examined using a petrographic (polarized-light) microscope through which various distinguishing optical properties are observed and recorded. Micromorphology is used to answer questions concerning the composition, structure, origin, and depositional history of the soil or sediment as well as to distinguish between natural (geogenic, pedogenic) and cultural (anthropogenic) processes that have affected the encompassing matrix.

A total of 20 thin sections (14 from Ushpitun 2, 6 from Pmiusiku 1) were examined at the Department of Geology and Geological Engineering, University of North Dakota, during fall 2004 and winter 2005. The results of the investigation revealed distinct

similarities and differences between the soils at the two sites and the processes responsible for transporting and depositing the original parent material. Micromorphology provided valuable proxy data for interpreting cultural remains at Ushpitun 2 and Pmiusiku 1. The dynamic depositional environment evinced in the sediments at Ushpitun 2 undoubtedly contributed to the temporary nature of this “specialized activity camp,” whereas the more stable environment recorded in the Pmiusiku 1 sediments correlates with the more generalized “base camp” activities recognized here. Gleyed humo-ferric podzols at the Ushpitun 2 site are comprised of unoriented, moderately to poorly sorted, coarse sands and loamy coarse sands (Figure 1). The parent sediment was deposited under high energy conditions in a peritidal environment. Based on paleoshoreline reconstructions for the study area during its time of occupation (ca. 3000 BP), the micromorphological evidence supports the location of the Ushpitun 2 site along the shoreline of a small, detached island at the head of the proto-Goose Bay peninsula, near the western extent of Hamilton Inlet – a mixed wave and tide-dominated ria (Figure 2). Gleyed humo-ferric podzols at the Pmiusiku 1 site are comprised of unoriented, well sorted to moderately well sorted, loamy fine sands, fine sandy loam, and loam (Figure 3). The parent sediment was deposited under relatively low energy conditions, primarily eolian, across a newly exposed, unvegetated landscape beginning as early as 3750 BP. Based on paleoshoreline reconstructions for the study area during its time of occupation, sometime between 3750 and 3000 BP, the micromorphological evidence supports the location of the Pmiusiku 1 site near the center of the emerging Goose Bay peninsula. 

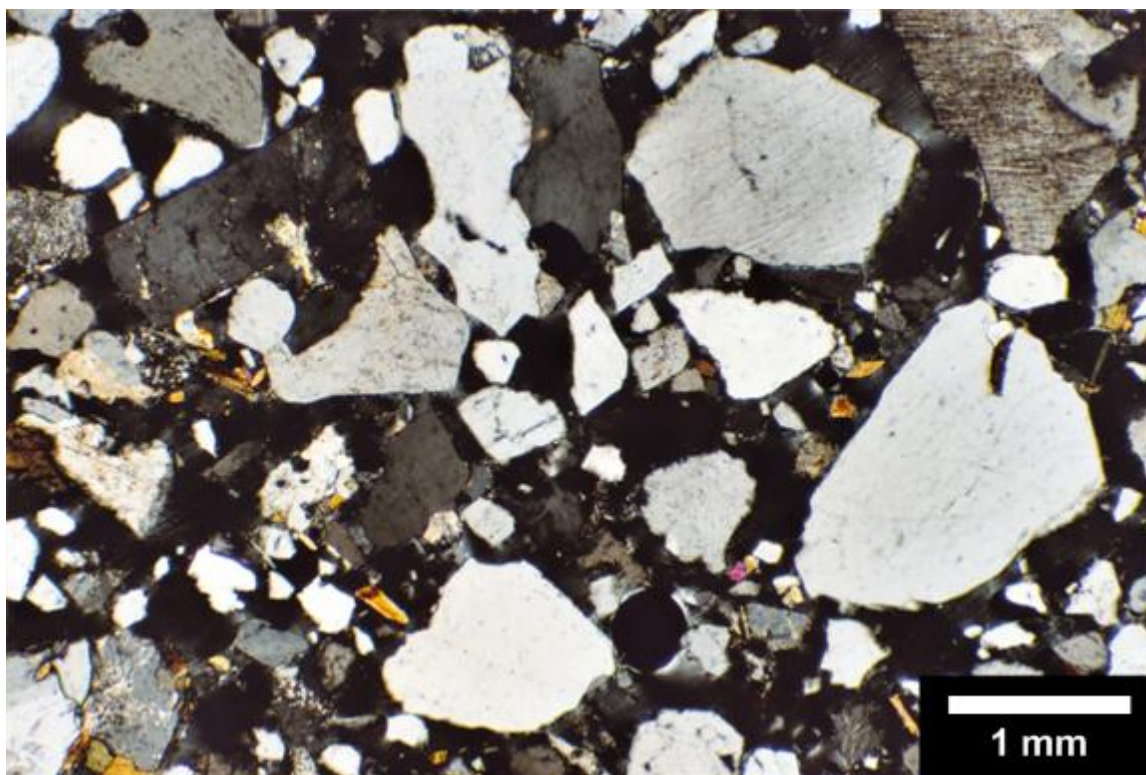


Figure 1. Photomicrograph taken in cross-polarized light at 20x magnification showing a representative sample of the Ushpitun 2 soil. (Josephs and Neilson)

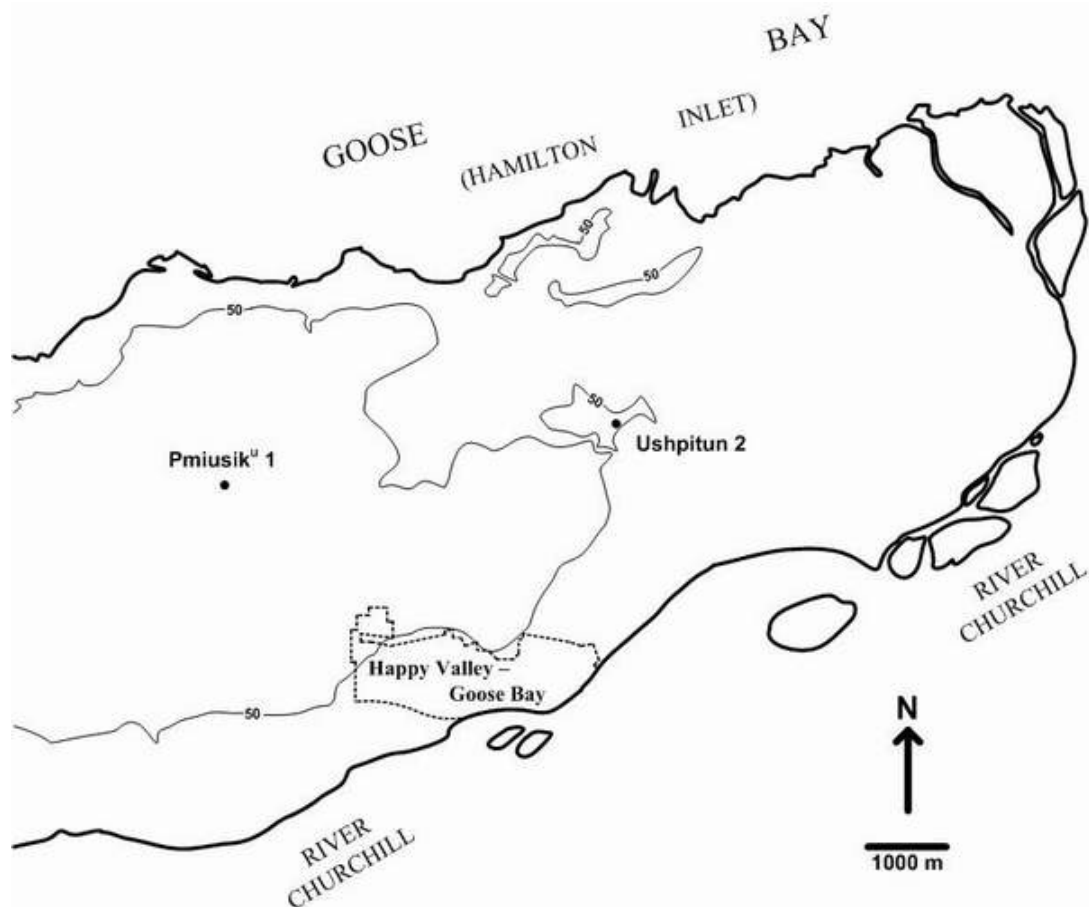


Figure 2. Location of the Ushpitun 2 and Pmiusik^u 1 sites with respect to the 3000 BP Paleoshoreline, the present 50-foot contour interval. (Josephs and Neilson)

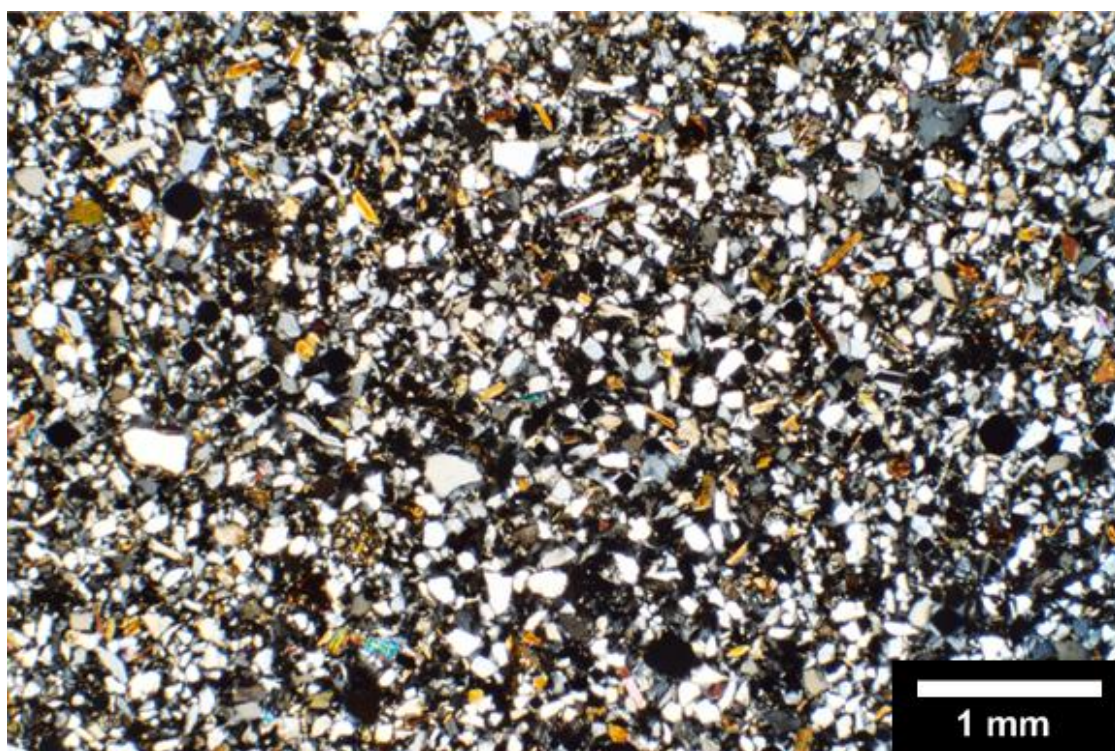


Figure 3. Photomicrograph taken in cross-polarized light at 20x magnification showing a representative sample of the Pmiusik^u 1 soil. (Josephs and Neilson)


Gerald Penney Associates Limited

Gerald Penney

Gerald Penney Associates Limited held four research permits in 2005: two for projects in Labrador, one on Newfoundland's northeast coast, and one in the capital city.

In Labrador we assessed uranium diamond drill operations for Altius Minerals near Postville, and assessed, with Gary Baikie of Thule Consulting Inc., a proposed garnet quarry operation at the Iron Strand in the Torngat Mountains region of northern Labrador.

On the Island we surveyed at Wigwam Point, near Botwood, for a proposed aboriginal peoples interpretation centre. In St. John's we monitored construction activities associated with an extension to the Anna Templeton Centre on Duckworth Streets, the former Commercial Bank, built in 1848.

In addition we are continuing our historic and cartographic documentation and analysis in preparation for a three-phase laying of a two kilometer interceptor sewer pipe along Water Street and Harbour Drive as part of the harbour clean-up project. 



Miriam Bay, Postville, Labrador (Penney)



Outflow of Miriam Lake, Iron Strand (Penney)



Wigwam Point (Penney)



Anna Templeton Centre testing (Penney)

Cleares Cove, Fermeuse Bay, Newfoundland (CfAf-23)

Peter Pope

Peter Pope and a small crew of students from Memorial University of Newfoundland and Université de Montréal carried out test excavations this past summer of 2005 at Cleares Cove (CfAf-23), in Fermeuse Bay, about 100 km south of St John's, Newfoundland. On the basis of James Yonge's map of 1663 and our survey in 2002, we suspected that this was the site of a 17th-century fishing plantation, or permanent settlement. The one-month dig was designed to determine if this was, in fact, so and also to assess the site as a possible topic for graduate research. In the end, our hopes were surpassed.

We excavated a 1 x 6 m test trench in a raised plateau surrounding the remains of a root cellar, where we had recovered early straw green window glass fragments in 2002. This test trench revealed a series of stone features reaching back from the late 19th century to the early 18th, including a thick beach cobble deposit dating about 1800, which seems most likely to be a lane to access the beach from a house site further inland. In part of this test excavation we uncovered a square-timber floor frame. A complete Barnstaple-style pipe bowl in situ suggested that this feature burned about 1700, perhaps as a result of d'Iberville's attack in 1696. This floor feature overlies another square-timber floor frame. These each very likely relate to successive 17th-century planter houses, on the basis of the framing technique and associated material culture, including diamond pane window glass and North Devon slip-decorated coarse earthenware. Underlying these features we found remains of a spruce-fir post and wattle construction, likely relating to the migratory fishery. We did not reach sterile soil in this excavation.

We also excavated a 1 x 2 m test a little below the house plateau, in the adjacent boggy area. Under another cobble fill of c. 1800, we found a lot of wood debris and then a thick layer of wood chips, datable from associated artifacts to the first half of the 17th century. Digging through this layer of wood chips was like digging through a 4 inch thick piece of Aspenite -- but it served a purpose, sealing the deposit below in a matrix of wet peat. Here we uncovered the corner of a well-preserved spruce-fir pole structure, with a pole floor, dated by association to about 1600-1625. Several North Devon gravel-tempered coarse earthenware cook pots turned up in this structure. Given these finds and the architecture of the feature, we have interpreted it as a migratory fisher's cookroom. These have rarely (if ever) survived in archaeological contexts, making this a site of great interest for further research on the transition from the migratory fishery to the permanent European occupation of Newfoundland.

Our test excavations were supported by SSHRC through the Newfoundland Archaeological Heritage Outreach Program, in cooperation with the Town of Port Kirwan and the Brothers family, owners of the property. Our special thanks are due Kathy Ledwell (Brothers), whose tranquility we disturbed, the field team of Mathilde Plante St-Arnaud, Peter Simms and Janine Williams and, in the lab, Regeena Psathas. 🐾



Feature 436: Remains of a spruce-fir pole and wattle structure, dating about 1600-1625, at Cleares Cove (CfAf-23). (Pope)



Pipe: Burned remains of a square-timber floor frame, in association with a Barnstaple style clay tobacco pipe of c. 1690 - 1710, at Cleares Cove (CfAf-23). (Pope)

Porcupine Strand Archaeology Project Summary of 2005 Field Season

Lisa Rankin

The Porcupine Strand Archaeology Project returned to Snack Cove, Huntingdon island, Labrador for the purposes of excavating a third house at the contact period Inuit site of Snack Cove 3 (FkBe-3).

Snack Cove 3 is a fairly extensive Inuit settlement on a quiet cove facing the mainland. So far we have recorded the presence of seven houses here and various other associated features. House three, like the previous two houses we have excavated, was a semi-subterranean sod house with a rock pavement flanked by upright slabs and included a very long entrance passage. Similar to Houses one and two, House three included several thousand faunal remains and very few artifacts. The artifacts included stone tools, worked bone, clay pipe fragments and iron. Analysis of the faunal remains is underway, but we are expecting that they will represent a fall/winter assemblage similar to that found in the other houses. Carbon samples were collected and have been submitted for dating. Other samples taken from other houses at the site have returned dates

between AD 1590 and AD 1650, suggesting an early settlement for the Inuit in southern Labrador.

Another element of this year's field season was the integration of Labrador Métis Nation youth as field assistants and a very successful community day. During the community day our very energetic crew cooked hot dogs and hamburgers, and gave tours of the site to greater than 50 visitors that made the 1½ hour journey by boat from Cartwright. Stories and reminiscences about Snack Cove were

eagerly exchanged between locals and crew in what truly was a very enjoyable day.

A final element of the 2005 field season was a trip to Nulliak Cove and surrounding areas in northern Labrador to establish the framework for an upcoming survey in the region. Collections were made at the site which is still producing spectacular artifacts, and several nearby coves were examined. Apart from high winds which made for some interesting events on our boat, this element of the project was also enjoyable! 🍷



House Three Plan view (Rankin)



Community Day at Snack Cove (Rankin)

Notre Dame Bay 2005

Ken Reynolds

Three trips to Notre Dame Bay were undertaken during the spring and summer of 2005. The objectives were to locate historically documented Beothuk campsites, discover new sites and check on the condition of known ones. In May investigations focused on four areas: Indian Cove, Charles Brook pond and Winter Tickle in the Bay of Exploits and South Arm in New Bay. In 1792 Lt. George Pulling visited Indian Cove with the furrier Richard Richmond and recorded that there were the remains of 7 or 8 wigwams at this location. Previous testing by Thomson in 1980 and Schwarz in 1992 failed to find any evidence of this site. With the permission of the land owner, Mr. William Finn of Grand Falls-Windsor, 18 test pits were dug in what was the most likely area for this site to have been located. Five of the tests were positive, but only one produced an object of aboriginal manufacture. However, the patinated flake recovered was not culturally diagnostic. Gardening and cabin development would seem to have obliterated most of the Beothuk presence at this site.

A few kilometers to the northward lay Charles Brook pond, another well documented Beothuk campsite. Again sections of the pond had been surveyed by Thomson and Schwarz. The author had also previously made brief trips to this pond. 2005 saw the western side explored for the first time, again with negative results. As with Indian Cove these late Beothuk campsites appear to leave scant traces for the archaeologist to find.

Winter Tickle, slightly north of Charles Brook, was investigated due to a 1934 report by Diamond Jenness which shows a picture of a headland at Winter Tickle under which the caption reads "Winter Tickle Notre Dame Bay. A rifled grave lay under the high cliff, and near the water's edge was a Beothuk camp-site containing fragments of iron stolen from the hut of the first settler in the neighbourhood". A search for the grave and the Beothuk campsite was undertaken. Though neither was found, the area shown in the photograph in Jenness 1943 was relocated and therefore a Borden number (DiAt-13) was assigned.


Both Charles Brook and Winter Tickle are strategically located at narrow necks of land separating the Bay of Exploits from New Bay. Both locations had "Indian paths" connecting the two bays; these paths were undoubtedly used for centuries prior to the coming of Europeans. The South Arm site (DiAt-09) in New Bay is only 3.350 km west of Winter Tickle 1 (DiAt-05), a Maritime Archaic and Dorset site. A Palaeoeskimo designation has been given to this site based on the recovery of microblades. However, a second culture is a possibility due to the presence in one test pit of Ramah chert flakes in a bone mash. There are also two linear mounds which haven't been tested; it is unknown whether they are of cultural or natural origins. However, a test pit excavated at the base of a tree fall

50cm away from the largest mound produced a scraper, a small fragment of quartz crystal and 20 flakes. In total, 8 test units have been excavated at this site, 5 in 2003 and 3 this past summer.

Later in the summer a visit was made to western Notre Dame Bay to check on the condition of two Dorset sites on Little Bay Island. As well, the once large multi-component site at Brighton Tickle Island (DjAv-04) was also investigated. Unfortunately this site appears to have been totally destroyed due to gravel quarrying. One of the Little Bay Island sites has also been disturbed. A boardwalk has been built through DjAw-12 and stripping of sod and apparent potting has taken place. The site was threatened again this past fall when the Town of Little Bay was planning to upgrade the trail and excavate for a privy. They halted their plans once the PAO contacted them and told them of the presence of the site. In the short period of time spent at this site a fragment of a soapstone vessel, an endblade, microblade and one large retouched flake, all from disturbed contexts, were recovered. This site should be further investigated as large undisturbed portions likely remain; salvaging of the disturbed areas should be undertaken. Little Bay 1, DjAw-11, was found to be undisturbed; this site also holds potential for future work.

Another site whose status is unknown, but the worst is feared is Robert's Arm 1 (DiAw-01), a Groswater site located on the south side of Pilley's Island. Unfortunately this site was situated on private property and a road and cabin was constructed on top of the site. A letter was sent to the owner asking for permission to investigate the area, but a response was never received.

In eastern Notre Dame Bay the Dorset site, DjAq-14, at Dildo Run Provincial Park was visited and appears, at least on the surface, to be in good condition. Sod removal and looting did occur here in the early 1980's so it is unknown just how much damage was done to this site. A small, possible Palaeoeskimo site, DhAr-05, was found on a tombolo beach at the entrance to Loon Harbour; nearby was a probable historic European foundation, DhAr-06. A few kilometers to the west at Campbellton a Beaches point made from Ramah chert was discovered in a road cut during upgrading activities in that community.

Notre Dame Bay holds great promise for new sites, while a number of known ones are considered to hold good research potential. However, the disturbance and destruction of sites is a problem that is not easily remedied. Alerting community leaders, organizations and individuals of the sites in their area is one way the PAO can hopefully deter this from happening in the future. 

References

Jenness, D.
1934 The Vanished Red Indians of Newfoundland. *Canadian Geographical Journal*. January, Vol.VIII (1):26-32.



The multi-component site of Brighton Tickle Island (DjAv-04) (Reynolds)




The Dorset site Little Bay Islands2 (DjAw-12) (Reynolds)

Birchy Lake Survey

John Erwin and Donald Holly Jr.

With the assistance of Shannon Lewis of Baie Verte, a shoreline survey of Birchy Lake was conducted by John Erwin and Donald Holly Jr. from June 12 to June 24th, 2005. The survey, which encompassed the whole of the lake, was conducted by foot, kayak and speedboat. Since it is known that lake levels are variable in this area, and that partially-submerged sites have been reported, particular attention was paid to areas of the lake bed that were exposed. From this work six prehistoric sites were discovered, and an existing site re-visited. Of the six new sites, three contained Maritime Archaic materials, one Groswater Palaeoeskimo, and two were of unidentified cultural origin. Of particular significance was our discovery of Birchy Lake 9 (DiBd-1), a low-lying Groswater site that contained some remaining in-situ deposits that had escaped the

erosion of changing lake levels. Surface collection and test excavation of this site resulted in the collection of 16 artifacts and 67 flakes. The re-visit of Birchy Lake 3 (DiBe-3) also confirmed its cultural origin as Groswater Palaeoeskimo, and the presence of remaining in-situ deposits. The results from this survey are intended to direct our continued research in 2006 along the waterways which link the east and west coasts of the island across the Baie Verte Peninsula. This research is intended to identify and explore the nature of the relative subsistence and settlement schedules, mobility patterns and resource use of the various prehistoric groups who utilized Newfoundland's interior. 

Fleur de Lys Archaeological Project

Field School 2005

John Erwin

The Fleur de Lys Archaeology Project welcomed back the field component of the Memorial University of Newfoundland Archaeology Field School for the fourth consecutive year from July 1 to July 31, 2005. The focus of the field school was the continued excavation of a multi-component Palaeoeskimo site known as Cow Cove 3 (EaBa-16) located in the Town of Coachman's Cove. These investigations represent a continuation of the Fleur de Lys Archaeological Project that began in 1997, and which was responsible for the discovery of Cow Cove 3, in addition to a number of other Palaeoeskimo sites in the vicinity of the Town of Coachman's Cove. Returning students, Derrick LeGrow Jr. and Jennifer Squires, assisted as crew chiefs in excavation, which focused

on activity areas surrounding a single house structure, which we identified during the 2003 field season.

As in previous years, hundreds of artifacts and thousands of waste chert and rhyolite waste flakes were recovered. The location of these materials suggests functionally-discreet activity areas around the house and adjacent ancient raised beach ridges, which represented the water's edge, during the Palaeoeskimo occupations. The results of the 2005 field program have also helped to clarify the relationship between the Groswater and Dorset occupations at Cow Cove, and in particular, are useful in distinguishing the spatial boundaries of each occupation. While there is limited evidence for Dorset scavenging of earlier Groswater materials, there is now sufficient evidence of a Groswater occupation of this site. ▀



Donald Holly prepares his kayak. (Erwin)



Field School students catalogue artifacts. (Erwin)



The excavation of Cow Cove 3 (EaBa-16) (Erwin)

Nova Scotia: Davis Archaeological Consultants Limited

April MacIntyre

Ground breaking for the new four-star Marriott Hotel in downtown Halifax began in May 2005. Excavation was coordinated by archaeologists Stephen Davis and recent MUN graduate April MacIntyre, who conducted a full archaeological impact assessment of that portion of the city block under development. The hotel will be built at the north end of the Alexander Keith's Brewery building at the corner of Halifax's historic Hollis and Salter Streets. Most recently, the building site has been used for commercial parking and warehouse storage, but beneath several tonnes of asphalt, fill, and building rubble, some of Halifax's earliest history was unearthed.

The work was preceded by intensive archival research which showed that the city block in question was located on the outer fringe of the town of Halifax when it was founded in 1749. The first allotment of land on that block was made on July 17, 1749 to John Shippey. Shippey was granted the first license in Halifax to brew and serve liquor and he soon opened the doors to "The Double Eagle" which earned the nickname "The Split Crow" for its sign depicting the German coat of arms. While archaeologists did not have the opportunity to excavate the tavern, they were able to confirm its

location on the city block when the back wall of the building was discovered. It has since been reburied and preserved intact.

An additional 33 features were discovered including the original Hollis and Salter Streets' cobble surfaces, an attached housing development on Hollis Street along with several detached houses, stables, two privies, two wells, a cistern, several middens, and drainage systems dating from the eighteenth through twentieth centuries. A stone-lined arched tunnel was uncovered running along Hollis Street which was likely associated with Keith's brewery. The tunnel, cobble streets, and the façade of one of the attached dwellings on Hollis Street were preserved intact as well.

Along with the usual artifacts collected from historic urban contexts, archaeologists recovered a completely intact felt hat from a late eighteenth-century privy, several nineteenth-century German-imported stoneware seltzer bottles (most of them complete), a blue transfer-printed child's tea set, and an upper set of Vulcanite (rubber) dentures.

The artifacts recovered from the site are now under conservation and analysis and plans are in the works to exhibit several of the items, on loan from the Nova Scotia Museum, in rotating displays inside the hotel when it is completed in 2007. 🏗️



Ben Pentz & Jonathan Keene (MUN) excavate a late-18th/early-19th century stable near the east end of the development area. (MacIntyre)

Archaeology of an Eighteenth-century house at Ferryland

Teal Hranka

At the end of the 2004 field season, Dr. James Tuck and his crew uncovered the remains of several new structures at Ferryland (CgAf-2). Two of these structures yielded dates indicating that they had been in use during the early 17th-century period of colonization at the site. The southeast corner of a third structure was also uncovered, which appeared to have utilized two of the stone walls from these earlier structures. Evidence strongly suggested that this structure demonstrated a post-destruction occupation, following the French raid in 1696 and the consequential abandonment of Ferryland into 1697. With the help of Dr. James Tuck, Dr. Barry Gaulton and the field and lab crews of the Colony of Avalon, I was able to successfully carry out the field component of my MA research this summer, which focused upon the excavation of this third stone structure. The overall aim of my research is to develop an understanding of the English colonial experience at Ferryland during the transitional resettlement period following the raid in 1696.

Excavations revealed that the building is a domestic structure measuring 12 by 24 feet. The southern and eastern borders of the structure are indeed defined by two preexisting and partially demolished stone walls from earlier, pre-raid 17th century structures. In spite of modern disturbances to the northern and western walls, the northwest corner of the structure is clearly defined by foundation remains. Excavations of the house yielded not one, but two levels of occupation. The first occupation is represented by a well-preserved wooden floor, supported by three vertical joists set at 4-foot intervals. This occupation features a large hearth at the southern end of the house, as well as a brick oven built into the southern wall. Artifacts associated with this level, such as the Staffordshire mug depicted, date the occupation of the house to the early 18th century. The period of occupation seems to end by the 1720s. Beneath the wooden floor were the remains of an earlier occupation. This second floor is comprised of a thick, very compact layer of charred gravel. This floor features a much smaller hearth directly beneath the later broader hearth, and otherwise shares the same dimensions and structural characteristics of the later occupation. Artifacts associated with the gravel floor date to the turn of the 18th century. The house lies directly overtop a 17th-century cobblestone courtyard, which exhibits obvious signs of destruction likely associated with the French attack.

We know from the historical record that on September 21, 1696, Ferryland was subjected to a highly destructive attack by French and Native forces, which resulted in the enforced abandonment of the site for the winter of 1696-1697. Settlers returned the following spring to reestablish the colony. It prevailed through a number of continued attacks in the early part of the 18th century. There were direct attacks on the south Avalon again in both 1705 and 1708. Evidence from this year's excavations suggests that this structure represents the resettlement period of Ferryland at the turn of the 18th century. Information about the early 18th-century component of Ferryland is rare, and so this structure provided a chance to understand the development of the colony into the 18th century, and to help us understand the ways in which the raid and the sequence of events following the raid changed the social and economic context of life at Ferryland. 🍷



Staffordshire mug uncovered at Area F (c.1702-1714) (Tuck)



Structural remains of first occupation. (Tuck)

Excavations at Rattling Brook 1 (DgAt-1)

Stuart Barnable

The existence of a large Dorset site at the mouth of Rattling Brook has been known for over two decades, yet little research has been completed on this site. Rattling Brook belongs to a group of Dorset sites situated around the head of Exploits Bay in locations that suggest that they may be summer fishing stations. Rattling Brook 1 appears to be the largest of these sites. The site is located approximately 60 km from the open sea on the south end of the Bay of Exploits, near the community of Norris Arm.

In June of 2005 we began excavations, with crew assistance from a JCP and the Town of Norris Arm. During these excavations we exposed two areas deemed the best for answering our research questions pertaining to Dorset warm season adaptations. The first, Area 1, revealed the remnants of a tent ring structure as well as several unidentified features that are most likely hearth features and middens. The artifact assemblage was dominated by microblades, which may have been used in the preparation of fish resources. As well, a large amount of slate was recovered around the structure; most likely either a slate floor within the structure, or possibly an area for preparing and drying the salmon. As well, on the north east side of the site there was a cache, or cooking pit. This pit was visible from the surface but once excavated it became clear that it was a stone lined pit with an associated stone cairn to the north and a burn layer surrounding both. Artifacts recovered from the burn layer

included a thumbnail scraper and a large piece of a bone femur; most likely from a large ungulate such as a caribou.

The second area excavated, Area 3, contained what appear to be the remnants of a hearth feature. Unfortunately, due to time constraints we were unable to excavate more of this area. It is possible that feature may be associated with another structure, although it may be that there is a line of fire pits associated with the first structure. Due to the high frequency of pits associated with the structure found in area 1, it appears more likely that there is another structure in proximity to Area 3. Area 3 was not as artifact rich as Area 1, although several pieces of soapstone vessels were found.

It would appear that there are quite a number of structures at Rattling Brook 1 (DgAt-1). Most likely it is a case of an annual return to the site during the warm season months to harvest the salmon and other marine resources. The site may also act as a base point for forays into the interior of the Island as calcined bone deposits were found in Area 2 as well as the cache pit. Further work is being done to determine if the Dorset occupants of Rattling Brook would have used a fish weir. Rattling Brook is ideal for this type of situation. The river is relatively shallow, the current is fast enough to make the weir function properly and the river held an abundance of resources. 🐟



Area 1 Tent Ring (Barnable)



Area 1 Cooking Pit (Barnable)

Baccalieu Trail Archaeology 2005

Bill Gilbert

During 2005 the Baccalieu Trail Heritage Corporation conducted excavations at Cupids and New Perlican and survey work at Hant's Harbour and Harbour Grace.

Cupids

Work at Cupids started on July 4 and continued for twelve weeks. During this time we conducted excavations at both the north and south ends of the site.

To the north we uncovered the north side of a seven foot (2.13 m) deep pit that was dug for a cellar, built on the site sometime around 1800. We dug in this area to determine the amount of damage caused to the seventeenth-century site when the cellar was constructed and to see if the seventeenth-century deposits extend any farther north. It appears that the site does not extend north beyond this point. Indeed, the nineteenth-century cellar seems to have been constructed using stone scavenged from a two foot (60 cm) wide wall that originally formed part of the north wall of the enclosure built by John Guy in 1610.

On the south side of the site we excavated the southern half of a shallow seventeenth-century pit that was first discovered three years ago. This pit, located just southwest of the south end of the dwelling house, is roughly two feet (60 cm) deep and about fifteen feet (5.2 m) wide and was filled with rubble made up of stone and seventeenth-century brick. At first we thought that the pit may have been dug to provide a solid footing for another seventeenth-century

building. However, no evidence of a building was found and at this time the exact nature of the pit remains unknown. Perhaps the colonists had planned to erect a building in this area but for some reason changed their minds and filled the pit back in. Whatever its purpose, those artifacts recovered from the pit that can give us some idea of when the pit was filled in suggest that this happened sometime in the first half of the seventeenth century. All of the pipe stems recovered from the pit have 8/64 bores diameters suggesting a date of sometime between 1620 and 1650. Also recovered from the pit were several fragments of a Werra slipware dish. Dishes of this type were made in Germany between about 1590 and 1625.

Just south of the pit we uncovered two ten inch wide seventeenth-century post holes. These post holes are six feet (1.82 m) apart and form a line that runs east to west and parallel to the south end of the dwelling house. Like the stone wall at the north end of the site, these posts appear to have been part of the original 1610 enclosure. Several other features discovered along the boundaries of the site over the past few years also appear to be part of the 1610 enclosure. In 2002 part of a builders' trench was found running from east to west along the northern boundary of the site just east of the stone wall mentioned above, and in 2003 two more post holes were found running north to south along the eastern boundary of the site. These post holes, which are also ten inches wide, are eight feet (2.44 m) apart and form a line that runs parallel to the eastern end of the storehouse.

These features are enabling us to construct a much clearer picture of the original plantation and the enclosure which surrounded it. Just as John Guy recorded in his letter of May 16, 1611, the enclosure was

90 feet (27.4 m) wide (from north to south) and the dwelling house and storehouse were built inside it. If, as seems likely, these features were all part of the original enclosure, then the southern wall of the enclosure was 18 feet (5.48 m) south of the dwelling house, the eastern wall was 18 feet (5.48 m) east of the storehouse, and the north wall was 25 feet (7.62) north of the dwelling house. The southern and eastern walls consisted of a wooden palisade but at least a portion of the north wall, facing the harbour, was of stone construction. If John Guy was correct and the enclosure was 120 feet (36.57 m) long, then it must extend west for approximately another 56 feet (17 m) beyond the current excavation.



Werra slipware dish fragment made in Germany between 1590 and 1625 and found in the pit southwest of the dwelling house in Cupids. (Gilbert)

New Perlican

Excavations at Cupids ended on September 23 and on September 26 our crew moved on to the Hefford Plantation in New Perlican where we conducted five weeks of excavations. This season we worked in two areas at this site: Area C and Area D.

Area C is located in the southwest corner of the site near the edge of the bank above the beach. In 2004 we uncovered part of a rubble filled, seventeenth-century pit in Area C and in 2005 we continued excavating this pit. To date roughly two thirds of the pit has been excavated down to a layer of burnt timbers located below the rubble. The pit is ten feet (3.04 m) wide and roughly three feet (91 cm) deep and appears to have been part of a building that burnt sometime late in the seventeenth century. While we may never know for sure, this building may have been burned by D'Iberville during his attack on New Perlican on February 8, 1697.

Many artifacts were recovered from this pit but one of the most interesting is a Spanish American silver one real coin manufactured in Potosi in what is now Bolivia. According to Paul Berry, the Curator of the Canadian Currency Museum, this coin probably dates to the 1650s. What appears to be a letter 'E' can be seen on the reverse side of the coin and this is probably the mark of Antonio de Ergueta the assayer who worked at Potosi between 1651 and 1678. The numeral '3' also can be seen on the reverse of the coin where the date would normal be located. This suggests that the date of the coin may be 1653.

Area D is located on the western side of the site between a bedrock outcrop to the east and the bank above the beach to the west. It appears to have been a popular spot to have a smoke in the late seventeenth century. The area is producing a wide range of artifacts, but by far the most common items recovered from Area D to date are clay tobacco pipe stems and bowls. Literally thousands of pipe stems and dozens of bowls have been recovered from an area measuring roughly 3 m x 3 m. Located in the lee of the bedrock outcrop and with an excellent view of the harbour, Area D would have been an ideal place for a smoke break.

All of the pipe bowls recovered from Area D appear to date from between roughly 1670 and 1700 but some of the other artifacts are of an earlier date. These include a small copper thimble from the first half of the seventeenth century and an Elizabethan silver thruppence (three pence) bearing the date 1573. Given the context in which they were found, it seems likely that these objects were lost around the same time that the pipes were discarded: the coin had clearly been in circulation for a long time and the thimble could have been in someone's possession for many years. However, it is also possible that these artifacts relate to an earlier chapter in the history of New Perlican.



Elizabethan silver thruppence (three pence) minted in 1573 and found in Area D, Hefford Plantation, New Perlican. (Gilbert)



Spanish American silver 1 real coin minted in Potosi, Bolivia in the 1650s and found in the pit in Area C, Hefford Plantation, New Perlican. (Gilbert)

Survey Work

In addition to our work at Cupids and New Perlican this year our crew spent one day (November 2) conducting further survey work at Hant's Harbour and another day (November 4) conducting some initial survey work on the south side of Harbour Grace.

Hant's Harbour

In 2004 we conducted a survey of Hant's Harbour and discovered a site on the neck leading out to Custer's Head on the eastern side of the harbour. The site produced both aboriginal and European material. The aboriginal material appears to be Recent Indian and the European material is late seventeenth and early eighteenth-century English. We spent two days surveying the Custer's Head site in 2004 and in 2005 we returned for another day of testing. Three 1m x1m units were dug at Custer's Head on November 2, 2005. More Recent Indian and English material was recovered. We also uncovered what may be the footing for a late seventeenth-century building.

Harbour Grace

At Harbour Grace we conducted extensive testing on the south side of the harbour where the marina now stands. Prior to the construction of the marina this area was the location of a large natural salt water pool formed by a barachois beach. The fact that both the Cupids and Ferryland sites are located next to very similar salt water pools led us to wonder if the Bristol's Hope Plantation, established in Harbour Grace in 1618, might not have been located in this area. Over fifty test pits were dug from east to west on the bank behind and running parallel to the marina but no evidence of an occupation dating to before 1800 was found. Exactly where within the boundaries of present day Harbour Grace the Bristol's Hope Plantation was located remains a mystery but it now seems clear that it was not located in the vicinity of the marina. 🖋️

Aardvark Archaeology Ltd.

Steve Mills

Archaeologists from Aardvark Archaeology Ltd were involved with five heritage projects in 2005 including four historic resource impact assessments and an interpretative program for Signal Hill National Historic Site. The assessments were carried out at Powers Cove, Collier Point, Renew's and Pasadena.

Powers Cove

The project at Powers Cove, in Mortier Bay on the Burin Peninsula involved an assessment of an area proposed for a new marine center to service offshore oil vessels (Figure 1). Although Mortier Bay has a long and rich cultural history dating back thousands of years, no significant cultural resources were evident in the study area, or along the access route leading from the highway to the coast. Powers Cove is in an exposed part of the bay and the water is especially deep. Storm surges are common in the cove during foul weather. Informants from the area reported that the cove was primarily used for pasturing animals and berry picking. It appears that nearby harbours and coves, notably Mooring Cove and Marystown, were preferred over Powers Cove as a place to settle in historic times. Whereas Paleoeskimo sites have been recorded in the outer parts of the bay, there were no signs of Aboriginal habitation on the coast this deep in the bay.



Figure 1 Powers Cove, Mortier Bay. (Mills)

Collier Point

An historic resources impact assessment was carried out along 1km of shoreline and the adjacent acreage on the east side of Collier Point, near Long Cove in Trinity Bay. (Figure 2). Other than ephemeral signs of recreational camping, no significant discoveries were made in the project area. Informants reported that this section of shoreline offers little in the way of protection from the easterly gales and nor is there decent anchorage in the project area. Although important archaeological sites are located on nearby Dildo Island, within a view of Collier Point, this area apparently did not witness permanent settlement until the mid-nineteenth century when fishing families moved into the adjacent and better protected

communities of Long Cove and Norman's Cove, slightly deeper into Chapel Arm.

Renews

Aardvark archaeologists investigated a small section of the Mount, in Renew's during the summer of 2005. Located some 90km south of St. John's harbour, Renew's is one of the earliest European settlements in Newfoundland. Archaeological investigations on and near the Mount between 1993 and 2003 recorded numerous features, house foundations and gun batteries dating from the sixteenth century onwards. Renew's is also situated along the East Coast Hiking Trail and a rest area for the trail was proposed for the Mount as it provides a particularly scenic vista of the harbour (Figure 3). Although the 2005 project area was relatively limited in size (measuring just 7m by 8m), significant archaeological resources were located within metres of the proposed rest area.

Three trenches excavated during the assessment uncovered a small assortment of ceramic and glass artifacts dating from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries (Figure 4). These included Westerwald stoneware, Italian marbled slipware, and refined earthenwares from Britain. Other than a few wrought nails, there were no structural signs of buildings in the project area. The artifacts were evenly distributed within a single stratum beginning just beneath the sod. It is common to find cultural material in a "sheet scatter" on sites that were intensively occupied for long periods. Previous excavations within 30m of the study area uncovered a planter's house from the 1660s and gun batteries and associated structures from the 1770s. House and root cellar depressions from the late-eighteenth century and nineteenth century planters have also been recorded nearby. In all likelihood, the cultural material recovered from the 2005 assessment relate to these planter occupations.



Figure 2 Blair Temple investigating the eroding bank along Collier Point. (Mills)

Pasadena

A short salvage project was carried out at the South Brook Park site (DgBj-3), an early Maritime Archaic encampment within the town of Pasadena on the southwest shore of Deer Lake. David Reader conducted investigations at this site in 1993, 1994 and 1998 where he discovered what could be the earliest cultural evidence on the island of Newfoundland (Reader 1994, 1995 and 1999). Reader and his crews found two broken quartz projectile points, stylistically dated to between 8800-8000 BP and a full channel gouge believed to date between 7000-6500 BP. The projectile points are near matches to ones recovered by Dr. Robert McGhee and Dr. James Tuck at the Cowpath and Pinware Hill sites in southern Labrador (McGhee and Tuck, 1975). Similar full channel gouges were also found on southern Labrador sites dating between 7000-6500 BP. Of the hundreds of fragments of lithic debitage collected during Reader's investigations, most of them are quartz and quartzite. This predominance of quartz and quartzite is also typical of early Paleo Indian sites in southern Labrador. Similar amounts of quartz or quartzite debitage have yet to be discovered in archaeological contexts elsewhere on the island part of the province. One charcoal sample from the site was carbon collected and dated in 1998, producing a date of 5140 ± 50 BP.

Unfortunately, the South Brook Park site has suffered considerably both from natural erosion, and recent encroachments from the

camp ground park where the site is located. A road cut has destroyed the west side of the site and trailer camping lots have impacted much of the eastern section of the site. Excavation of a waterline to the lake and construction of a pump house caused additional subsurface damage. Mostly, this damage occurred prior to 1993, the year that the site was discovered.

The 2005 archaeological assessment saw the excavation of an additional 5.5m in the most productive part of the site and a program of test pits elsewhere on the site (Figures 5 & 6). Two hundred and thirty-eight artifacts were recovered; all but one of them flakes, including one utilized flake and a hammer stone (Figure 7). Sixty per cent of the flakes were quartz or quartzite while forty per cent were cherts. This ratio of quartz/quartzite to chert closely matches the findings from Reader's investigations.

The program of controlled test pitting suggests that the most productive part of the site is restricted within an area measuring approximately 10m square. One of the objectives of the 2005 assessment was to retrieve a charcoal sample that could be used to secure another dating device for the site. However, this objective was not achieved. Nevertheless, the South Brook Park site remains to be an important resource for the province as it apparently represents the earliest evidence of humans in this part of North America



Figure 3 Dr. James Tuck excavating test trenches on the Mount in Renew. (Mills)



Figure 4 Eighteenth- and nineteenth-century refined earthenwares from Renew. (Mills)



Figure 5 2005 excavation trenches at South Brook Park (DgBj-3). (Mills)



Figure 6 Gary Short (left) and David Fry (right) test pitting at South Brook Park (DgBj-3). (Mills)




Figure 7 Utilized flake and hammer stone from South Brook Park (DgBj-3) (Mills)

Signal Hill National Historic Site

Aardvark Archaeology Ltd produced an interpretation program of the archaeological resources on Signal Hill National Historic Site in St. John's (Figure 8). This pilot project collated all of the known archaeological resources investigated at the site since the mid-1960s. Archaeologists Edward Jelks and Robert Ferguson each conducted major archaeological projects on Signal Hill in the 1960s and 1980s. Karlis Karklins in 1969 and Bill Gilbert in the 1990s conducted small-scale investigations at the site. Primarily, these projects focused on the many military-related structures and defensive positions built between 1795 and 1945 (Figures 9 to 11). These include barracks, hospitals, gun and mortar batteries, magazines, canteens and storehouses from the British era (1795-1870) and even American gun batteries and machine gun nests from the Second World War. American soldiers occupied Signal Hill between 1941 and 1945 and gun positions were built there to protect St. John's.

This archaeological interpretative piece will be used in the production of "History at Your Feet", a tour program designed to provide participants with a more personal and in-depth experience than what is currently offered at the site. Using a variety of resources including excavation photographs, historic documents, artist's conceptions and actual artifacts, the participants will experience how archaeological investigations are conducted and how these resources are combined to interpret the military and social history of the site

(Figures 8 & 9). It is anticipated that this program will be in place for the 2006 visitation season. 

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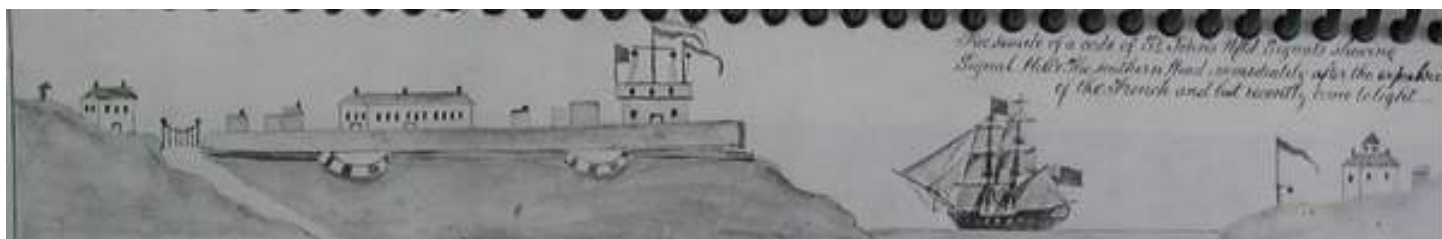


Figure 8 Defences on top of Signal Hill in 1800 (from Candow 1979) (Mills)



Figure 9 Workers excavating at Ladies Lookout in 1966 (From Jelks 1973) (Mills)



Figure 10 Archaeologist Edward Jelks standing by the excavated ruins of the 1835 canteen at Ladies Lookout in 1966.
(From Jelks 1973) (Mills)



Figure 11 Foundations exposed at the Queen's Battery in 1966 (From Jelks 1973) (Mills)

St. Lawrence Gateways Project

2005 Field Report

William W. Fitzhugh¹ and Yves Chrétien²

Introduction

The 2005 St. Lawrence Gateways Project conducted its fifth season along the Quebec Lower North Shore from 23 July to 25 August. Project goals include investigation of the prehistory and early history of the LNS from its earliest settlement to modern times with emphasis on aboriginal culture history, history of early European exploration and contact with Native peoples, and identification of shifting boundary zones between Inuit, Innu, and European groups. Field research has been conducted yearly since 2001 and detailed yearly reports have been issued (Fitzhugh 2001; Fitzhugh and Gallon 2002; Fitzhugh and Sharp 2003; Fitzhugh, Chrétien, and Sharp 2004; Herzog and Moreau 2004; Fitzhugh, Chrétien, and Sharp 2005; Fitzhugh in press).

The archaeology of the Quebec Lower North Shore is poorly known and has not been received much scholarly attention because it has been pursued more from a cultural resource management than a research perspective. The region is remote, rugged, and ethnically diverse, and while archaeologically rich, is almost unknown to the broader academic community. Only Blanc Sablon has a long and published record of prehistoric archaeology (e.g. Harp 1963; Martijn 1974, McGhee and Tuck 1975; Levesque 2002; Pintal 1998), while reports by Niellon (1986, 1996), Niellon and Jones (1984), Drouin

(1988), Turgeon (1987, 1990, 1994), and others provide a framework for the historical period, with most interest focused on early European settlement, especially Basque.

Our first Quebec LNS project in 2001 surveyed the coast from the Mingan Islands to the Strait of Belle Isle (Fitzhugh 2001). In subsequent years we narrowed the focus to the least-known region between Cape Whittle and St. Augustine, concentrating on the outer island and headland regions. Discovery of a Basque site at Hare Harbor on Petit Mécatina led to initiation of a multi-year program at this site, but surveys and excavations was also conducted at other sites. During the course of this work we have identified and excavated Early and Late Maritime Archaic sites with longhouses, located the western-most known Groswater Paleoeskimo sites, and have found traces of Inuit presence west of their historically-recorded locations in the vicinity of St. Paul River (Fitzhugh in press).

The 2005 field season concentrated on studies of the Mécatina Basque site by combining an exploratory survey of the site's underwater resources with excavation of a wet portion of the land site that promised to provide information on organic remains not preserved elsewhere on shore. We also planned to expand surveys around our base location at Harrington Harbor.

Hare Harbor 1

The 2005 excavations at the Hare Harbor-1 (EdBt-3) Basque site on Petit Mécatina had three goals: surveying the underwater site discovered in 2003; excavating the wet deposits found in Area 3 in 2004; and searching for other features and structures. For the first

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task we were assisted by two underwater archeologists from Montreal, Eric Phaneuf and Frederic Savard. Presence of post-16th C. clay pipe and ceramic artifacts and Anja Herzog's research with Jean-Francois Moreau on glass beads had provided us with the likelihood that the site may date to the late 17th or early 18th century, more than one hundred years later than Basque occupations in Red Bay and other locations where the Basque pursued whaling operations. We hoped that the underwater material would help refine the date and determine if whaling was a major activity or simply an incidental pursuit. The excavation of Area 3 was to explore the possibility of obtaining organic artifacts and materials not preserved in other areas of the site. The third goal was to explore other areas of the site for future excavation. Since the excavation crew numbered only six and we had only two weeks available we focused on the bog area as our main target on land.

Underwater Surveys The diving operation lasted one week and was devoted to exploring the waters near the site that had been briefly examined in 2003 by Wilson Evans of Harrington Harbor. At that time Evans noted the presence of large amounts of tile, rock piles, wood timbers, and whalebones, as well as several anchors resulting from use of the area by 20th C. seal-hunters and fishermen. This year's project was designed to explore the cove, prepare a preliminary map, plot and collect samples visible on the bottom, and determine the depth of the deposit and potential for future excavation. This portion of our work took place over five days when the weather was suitable for diving. We were assisted by Wilson Evans who loaned tanks and provided air, a compressor, and a dredge.

The diving survey identified cultural materials from about 10m to 100m from shore in water ranging in depth from 3 to 20 meters. Water depths in Hare Harbor reach 30-35 meters inside the harbor, which connects with the sea over a sill 20 meters deep. This sill and the small size of the harbor help create an ideal environment for sedimentation and organic preservation. Exposure of tiles and other material indicated that the cove is subject to a small degree of storm surge, but during the summer it is still and visibility can be as great as 15 meters. Much of the cultural deposit is found between 3-15 meters depth and is easily visible with natural light. The only complication is the 20-30 degree slope of the bottom in the prime research area.

Exploration revealed several large piles of cobbles beginning 10-12 m from shore and extending into deeper water aligned perpendicular to the shore. Because we found pieces of limestone and non-local rock we initially assumed these piles were dumps of ballast rock discharged by vessels moored with stern fasts ashore and anchors offshore. However the rock needs to be carefully inspected and it is possible that these stone piles may be foundations for wood pilings for a pier structure (Brad Loewen, pers. comm.).

Roof tiles are the most abundant artifacts. Virtually all are broken and probably were discarded during the process of off-loading tiles for use on shore. A half-meter deep hole excavated to test subsurface deposits revealed tiles and large amounts of wood shavings within the sediments. Wood shavings and pieces of worked wood were also present on the bottom in large quantities. A large timber projecting from the sediments seems to be a worked log rather than a ship's timber or keel and may be related to the stone foundations. No evidence of wrecks or small boats was noted, but time did not allow us to extend our survey into the deeper waters of the harbor, and we did not have remote sensing equipment available.

The small sample of artifacts collected from the bottom included materials dating from the 17-20th centuries. These specimens were plotted and collected so we could begin to compare the land and marine materials, and because local interest in the site's underwater finds has made its visible artifacts vulnerable. Finds include two early (17/18th C.) bottle forms, a ceramic vessel fragment similar to ones known from the land site, a series of tiles; samples of wood and whale bones; a fragment of a sewn leather garment; and an intact 19th C. jug and bottle fragment. These finds suggest a variety of events beginning with an extensive Basque deposit and some 19th and 20th century materials. The 19th century objects may be related to the Hare Harbor-2 site about 500m east of HH-1, which has no harbor and may have used the Hare Harbor-1 cove.

Land Site Operation Excavations on land were directed at Area 3, where in 2004 we recovered cultural deposits with wood in a peat bog that begins east of grid 6-7E. Last year's finds from TP 1-3, which included barrel parts, a wood pin, and other worked wood artifacts, suggested this area might produce organic remains and different types of activities not represented in the Area 1 cookhouse and the Area 2 outdoor work area.

The 9-11E Trench While excavating a small trench to drain water from the bog we came across tiles and worked wood artifacts, particularly in the 10-11E area north of TP3. We therefore decided to extend TP3 north as a 2x6 m trench to incorporate these finds. Yves excavated 8N/11E adjacent to TP3 and found centimeter-thick micro-levels within the cultural zone that seemed to be re-occupation horizons. These 'floors' or 're-vegetation horizons' could be detected most easily when excavating by hand, as the sterile peat lenses separated easily from the underlying occupation levels and could be peeled up like a carpet. In the future it would be interesting to excavate this area by micro-levels to gain a more precise chronological understanding of this micro-stratigraphy.

Yves' square (8N/11E) produced a number of finds, the most interesting being a 20-cm diameter wood bowl found in the upper part of the cultural zone at -159 BT (below the A3 datum). Its rim and inner surfaces were poorly preserved, but its bottom was sound. We photographed it and packed it in wet peat for shipment to conservators in Quebec. This square also produced a barrel top, tile fragments, the top fragment of a 0.5 cm thick perforated soapstone object (a pendant?), and a piece of leather. The cultural levels in this square begin 15 cm below the surface starting with a heavy concentration of charcoal which may indicate a terminal occupation fire event.

The square to the north (10N/11E) had the drainage trench excavated through the middle of the southern half of the square, so only the northern 110 cm of the square was excavated. Small rocks that had fallen from the cliff were present in the sterile upper peat (level 2). Here also, the cultural level began with abundant charcoal. The square contained only a small amount of worked wood: a barrel top and stave, and some trimmed branches. As in 8N/11E, micro-stratigraphy was found within the cultural zone revealing layers of axe-cut wood chips, slivers, and charcoal interspersed with thin layers of sterile peat. Tiles and other artifacts (seven fragments of earthenware – some with punctuate decoration), mica fragments, a grindstone fragment, were relatively rare. No nails or iron were found. Here and in most other squares we found small cobbles or pieces of heavy greenstone rock. They appear to have been used and were quite common, but their function eluded us. Sterile peat with

wood and roots extends 30-40 cm below the base of the cultural level to sand and bedrock.

Bog Excavation Area 3 is a boggy area created by a rock ridge that runs north and south beneath the surface of the 6-7E line, restricting the flow of water from the flat terrain east of the site. The area is too wet for alder and spruce and is vegetated by sphagnum, mosses, and bog plants. The wet, spongy soil has four levels: (1) a 3-5 cm thick turf zone; (2) 10-15 cm of wet unconsolidated peat; (3) 5-15 cm of more consolidated peat containing charcoal, roof tiles, wood artifacts, and cut or burned wood, and within this zone one can recognize several sub-levels consisting of charcoal-stained 'floors' alternating with sterile brown peat levels that lack charcoal or cultural material; and (4) a sterile zone consisting of consolidated peat laced with rotting wood and roots. Level 3 stratigraphy consisted of thin light brown peat zones varying in thickness from 0.25-1.0 cm. Recognition of these zones depended to some degree on the degree of local disturbance, with wetter areas having these levels less distinct as a result of churning by foot traffic. In the wetter areas, especially where we had removed brush and disturbed the ground cover, the upper two levels quickly became a mud mire. The most abundant charcoal and the best preserved culturally-modified wood were found in the highest and the lowest parts of level 3.

It appears that site occupants tried to stabilize the bog surface to make it more suitable as a transit or work area. We found large and small rocks and flat paving stones present in the wettest areas of levels 2 and 3, where they appear to form a rough SW-NE oriented pavement, and in the northern squares (12N/17-18E) slabs and rocks seem to form part of a floor that extends north into what we think may be a blacksmithing area. All wood detritus found in these levels show signs of working (trimmed branches, axe-cuts, planed surfaces) whereas wood from the deeper levels consisted of unworked root and stump fragments imbedded in undisturbed peat. Levels 2-4 also often contained rocks that appear to have fallen from the cliff above. These could usually be distinguished from placed rocks because the latter were usually rounded beach rocks or slabs whereas the former were angular and match the geology of the cliff's granites and schist.

Cultural Deposits The cultural materials recovered from Area 3 were different from those found in Areas 1 and 2. In particular there are very few tiles, nails, and ceramics. But there were some similarities, including abundant charcoal (present in patches and not dominant throughout the area or within all micro-levels in a given square). Formal hearths and distinct pavement areas were not present except possibly in the 12 N squares. These features suggest that Area 3 was not used as a habitation or a roofed work station like Area 1, and the absence of artifacts, hearths and tiles suggests it was not the same kind of work area as Area 2. Area 3 appears always to have been wet, to varying degrees, which precluded it from being used as a dedicated work area. This is contrary to my hypothesis of last year based on TP 1-3, which suggested that the area might have been a habitation or work area that subsequently had become boggy due to the build-up of turf and peat. What seemed to be oriented planking in TP 2 turned out to be the remains of a barrel, and upon full excavation, the only structural organization noted was the pavement noted above. Except for barrel staves and headers, the other planks and wood remains are not structurally organized and appear to have been placed opportunistically, often superimposed or crossing at random angles in ways to suggest it accumulated as detritus from preparing firewood or splitting and cutting billets.

Preservation The wet peaty deposits are highly acidic and have preserved wood and some other materials that were not found elsewhere in the site. Wood was in excellent condition in the water-saturated sterile peat beneath the cultural levels, but was less well preserved at higher levels. Some of wood planks (barrel parts?) were ephemeral in the uppermost cultural level, but in other areas was in good condition, particularly when associated with charcoal, which was abundant at the interface between the post-occupation peat and the cultural level, raising the possibility that burning may have been associated with the termination of the occupation. Even the most well-preserved barrel parts had soft and flaky surfaces and eroded edges, making identification of their details difficult. On the other hand, a sheet of copper came out of the peat in bright condition, although much of its body had corroded away, and an iron maul head appeared little rusted when removed from the soil.

Wood Most of the wood artifacts present in Area 3 were barrel staves and headers and occurred in clusters. These barrel parts seem to have been used as fill or were abandoned in haphazard ways since they are not oriented and do not have enough pieces to have been collapsed whole barrels. Only one of the many barrel staves (most of which measure 11xca. 82cm and had beveled ends on the same side of the board) had a groove for head or foot boards, and only this specimen had a possible bung hole); otherwise the pieces resemble unfinished staves and headers. However, most of the barrel features had both stave and header pieces present, suggesting that they were barrel preform bundles or partially-preserved barrels whose other parts are missing or were not preserved. In fact, many of the barrel parts and much of the wood present was soft and poorly preserved, and much did not survive excavation, although all specimens were plotted. All of the barrel and plank fragments were made of the same type of wood, which we could identify in the field only as not being coniferous. None of the barrel parts had any numbers or identification marks. One had a number of small holes that had been plugged with wood dowels. The barrel feature in 11N/20E had charred parts and was associated with large amounts of charcoal, suggesting it had been burned and may have been filled with charcoal. A few pieces of wider, thicker plank wood were found and pieces of worked wood whose functions could not be determined.

We collected five pieces of worked wood: two barrel staves, two pieces of round-edged headers, and a possible blade of a paddle or oar. All of the staves/planks were mapped, measured, and sketched, and except for the pieces collected, all were numbered, sealed in plastic, and re-interred in an 'archive' square, 6N/17E for future research, study, and conservation.

Roof Tiles As noted above, tile fragments were present in almost all of the Area 3 squares, but in much lower frequency than in the Areas 1 and 2. Most were small fragments and were highly frost-fractured. They were distributed more or less evenly from upper to lower sections of the culture zone.

Other Artifacts Other artifact types were present in low frequency in Area 3. Iron nails were almost entirely missing, with only a few specimens present, primarily in the northern squares. Two pieces of a single iron rod from 12N/18E appear to have been iron bar stock of the sort used by blacksmiths for making nails and other artifacts. Most other artifacts recovered from Area 3 were also unique single type finds: a lead musket ball, whetstones, a single flake of Ramah chert (a strange find for a Basque cultural level),

small pieces of glass and earthenware (some with remnants of green glaze), a few pieces of slate (roofing?), a piece of iron pyrite, two pieces of lead sprue, a perforated iron spoon-like object that looks like a fishing lure, the head of a double-ended iron hammer or maul, a small sheet of bright unoxidized copper, a lump of bronze, a piece of bottle cork, two pipe stem fragments, a piece of iron formed as a short tube or sleeve, and a lump of coal. Absent were any fragments of stoneware, flint strike-a-lights, beads, and soapstone which were conspicuous in Areas 1 and 2.

A Possible Iron-Working Feature or Structure

Following the recovery of a piece of iron bar stock and presence of thick layers of charcoal and hearth rocks in the two 12N squares, Yves excavated four 50 cm test pits in the area north of the Area 3 bog, finding abundant charcoal, iron, and paving. A3 TP4 revealed what seems to be part of a rock pavement 10-15 cm below the surface on which was found two nails and a piece of burned bone, and beneath the rocks was a thick deposit of charcoal. TP5 had a cultural level between 15-30 cm below the surface with tile and charcoal and a piece of mica. TP6 also had abundant tile and charcoal, and a level of charred planks that suggest the remains of a burned building. TP7 contained charcoal and fragments of burned and unburned wood in a cultural layer 9-30 cm thick. It seems likely that this area contains the remains of an iron-working shop or work space and that some of the worked wood in the bog results from processing fuel for this facility, which will be a target for our 2006 excavation program.

Area 5 Sampling

We had limited time for working in other areas of the site but spent one day expanding test pit coverage in Area 5, down-slope from Area 1 where some interesting ceramics were recovered in 2002-3. Expanding Area 5 TP5 into a 2x2m unit, Christie Leece, Helena Sharp, and Elyssa Gelmann found large amounts of tile, four pieces of stoneware, 8 pieces of iron (nails primarily), glass, a piece of chert or flint strike-a-light, 7 pieces of grooved earthenware with remnant areas of glaze, an iron point or knife tip, and abundant charcoal. The deposit seemed to be a shallow midden and gave no indication of a structure or pavements.

Yves Chrétien excavated a 2x2m TP8 between some the large boulders in the middle of Area 5, finding large amounts of tile, 13 pieces of earthenware (some with remnants of glaze), two fragments of iron spikes, 3 nails, and pieces of flint and glass.

Bill Fitzhugh excavated a 1x2m unit on a mound of boulders a few meters southwest of TP5 in an area that seemed like it might be a furnace structure. In addition to large amounts of tile, two fragments of an earthenware strap handle and a sample of charcoal were recovered, but there was no evidence for a furnace, midden, or other unusual feature. Bill also excavated three 50x50 cm pits in the bank above the landing cove, finding tile, charcoal, and nails in very thin deposits.

Other Site Areas and Reports

Harrington Harbor Island – 1 Yves Chrétien found a small prehistoric site containing flakes and chipped stone artifacts on the path west of the Harrington Harbor graveyard about 50-70 feet above sea level. The finds are from a small terrace in the stream bed whose soil has been eroded by a foot path revealing cultural materials in small blowouts and exposures. Local children have built a small cabin in the spruce thicket south of the path, north of the stream bed. We collected 10-15 tiny flakes of grey chert, patinated chert, quartz, and a few flakes of Ramah chert, as well as two tool

fragments: a narrow biface tip (possibly a drill) of grey chert and a biface tip of quartz. The un-eroded soil around the rocky knob probably has more material, but we did not want to accelerate erosion by cutting into the vegetation. However, we dug a 50 cm test pit about 15 meters to the north in a small clearing in the spruce and found a grey chert flake beneath the peat in the upper sand. The flakes are very small, so this portion of the site seems to have been for maintenance rather than production. It seems that an excavation here would produce some interesting information, and to date this is the only prehistoric site currently known on Harrington Harbor Island. If the grey chert piece is a drill, the assemblage probably dates to 3000-3500 BP. A few flakes were also found at another small site eroding from the path between this site and the graveyard.

Nob Islands On 7 August we surveyed a portion of the northern Nob Islands at the eastern side of the Baie des Rochers northwest of the summer fishing settlement at Providence Harbor. These islands are low and rocky, well-covered with tundra vegetation and lacking in blowouts or other types of exposures. There are two modern cabins on the main island, one on the southeastern end and another on the east side of the narrow glacially-carved channel that nearly bisects the island from the south. Neither was occupied during our visit, but had been used during this summer's fishing season. We found no grassy areas outside of the modern cabin sites to indicate other historic period sites and no structures or finds of prehistoric material.

We landed in a small cove on the northeastern tip of the island and found the beach littered with sharp clasts of red rhyolitic-type rock. Some of this material was so fine-grained that it could be flaked, and Yves collected several pieces that would have passed for tolerable scrapers and utilized knives had they been found in a site. This material seems to have been derived from a dike or some other intrusion in the local pink granite. Between the cove and the north end of the interior island inlet rocks protruded from the tundra and brush, appearing to have been placed, but in each case tested no cultural materials were found, and they seem to have originated from ice-rafting during the uplift process.

We then motored by speedboat around the margins of the sound leading to the river channel west of Ile au Sable and ultimately to the Tête à Baleine winter settlement. The prospects for surveying sites in this area are very limited. Even Sandy Island has little sand, and there are few locations that look promising for settlement – no high raised sandy or cobble beaches or grassy historic period alterations. There must be good harp seal hunting in some areas in the fall, but it was not obvious where they might be. The inner portions of the bay have extensive mud flats studded with boulders. It seems like an intermediate zone: lacking advantages of outer coast locations and river fish runs or forest products. Modern settlement confirms this, with few cabins present.

St. Marie Islands On 11 August we traveled to the St. Marie Islands in company with Wilson Evans, the local wildlife official, to visit the sanctuary islands in this offshore group, and surveyed the southernmost island, St. Marie. This island has been the site of a lighthouse that has operated throughout the 20th century and was decommissioned in 1999. The complex of buildings at the top of the island included an old 'bungalow' dwelling, a duplex for two families, an old lighthouse tower of cement, and a relatively new helicopter pad and steel frame light tower that now is the St. Marie Light, operated by batteries and solar power. There is also a decommissioned generator building. The harbor serving the complex has a boathouse and a floating dock maintained by Evans

for the Wildlife Service. At one time the island had several families in residence and during the summer served as camp for training and natural history instruction for LNS youth run by the Quebec-Labrador Foundation.

St. Marie Island-1 We surveyed most of the southern end of SMI during a foggy afternoon and found five sites. SMI-1 is found on a high boulder beach south of the harbor boathouse and consists of a few small one-meter diameter boulder cache pits without any sign of other structures. Site significance and prospects for research at this site are minimal.

St. Marie Island-2 This site is located on a broad raised beach series that rises south from 'boathouse cove.' Most of the beach is vegetated, but in one of the few areas of exposure we found what appears to be a small grave excavated about one half meter into the boulder beach, about 1.5 long and 0.5m wide. The southern end of the grave had been formed by natural squared blocks that gave the grave its rectangular shape. Several meters to the south a small pit has been opened. No bones or other objects were visible. This beach has good potential for site prospection, as it has a gentle slope and in places may have sandy deposits.

St. Marie Island-3 Yves Chrétien found several pieces of brown quartzite in small pockets of sediment in cracks in the bedrock on the walkway up to the lighthouse buildings at the crest of the island. The finds came from scattered pockets in the bedrock and were not concentrated in one tight locale but occurred within a 20-30 m area just above the steep wood access ramp. The bedrock here is steep, making it an unlikely location for a prehistoric site. However, three or four of the pieces -- a *pièce esquillée*, and some flakes -- had indications of working, and the presence of non-local brown quartzite suggested this might be a site. However, pebbles of this quartzite were present in the gravel that had been imported to create the walkway, making it likely that the artifacts were a result of recent construction activity.

St. Marie Island-4 Kate Blanchard, an ornithologist who worked with the Quebec-Labrador Foundation for many years, a few years ago reported that she had seen curious pits in the raised boulder beaches on St. Marie Island. Surveying the southern-most beach pass we found four areas of exposed boulder beaches, three of which had a few small pits, but nothing obvious. But on the highest beach we found two small cache pits and about 50 meters to the north, in a larger area of exposed rocks about 20 by 30 meters, we found a deep 3 by 4 m pit excavated about one meter below the surface of the beach. This pit had well-formed walls and a fairly broad floor area ca. 2 by 3 meters in area. Someone had moved a few of the boulders in the floor to see what might be found beneath them, but otherwise the structure was intact and well-preserved. The closest comparison is with some structures reported by René Levesque at Point de Belles Amour near Blanc Sablon, some of which contained chert implements. A well-made open cache pit is a few meters southwest of the large pit, and two more lie at the west end of the boulder patch. The elevation of these structures appeared about 8-10 m above sea level, but since we did not have a level or GPS available, this is only an approximation. The site is a good candidate for future excavation and could be of interest to the wildlife authorities for its historical value in promoting the island's culture history.

St. Marie Island North We surveyed the northern half of the northern St. Marie Island on the afternoon of 12 August. This island

is part of the wildlife sanctuary and has puffin and cormorant colonies on its eastern shore. The cormorant colony has killed the vegetation over an area of several hundred square meters. No prehistoric sites were found, but large amounts of ballast flint are present throughout the 150 m length of the cobble beach on the eastern side of the northern cove. This area provides the only sheltered access for landing boats on this part of the island, but only in calm weather, as the cove is open to the north. A wide variety of flint cobbles and splintered pieces, down to small flakes, is embedded in the beach cobbles. The flint occurs as rounded brown pebble-to-fist-sized nodules and irregular chalk nodules looking like Brandon flint. The broken material looks like it has been shattered in the surf, suggesting, together with the distribution of material throughout the length of the beach, that the flint has been brought up by surf and ice scouring from the bottom offshore. We searched for signs of activity around the cove and rocky point forming the east side of the cove but found nothing to suggest why ships would discharge ballast at this location, which seems suitable only for a day harbor. The wide variety of flint types includes materials we would associate with England, Scotland, and France. We collected a representative sample.

Galibois Islands This linear island chain orientated to the northeast like the St. Marie Islands lies to the west of the latter, between them and the mainland, two miles to the west. We anchored in the western harbor, which is really a small strait and is protected from heavy seas. The area is called Blais Harbor on the charts but 'Yankee Harbor' by local people. Another harbor located on the southeast side of the southern Island is labeled 'Yankee Harbor' on charts. There are some nice locations for sites on terraces adjacent to small ponds, but our surveys failed to locate prehistoric or early European sites. We found an early 20th C. summer fishing camp on the northeast tip of the island, with the remains of a hand capstan for hauling boats and several boats and a cabin. One of the boats was a small sailing vessel with no propeller shaft hole, whose planks had been fastened with hand-wrought square nails in some areas and round nails in others. Square nails were used into the mid-20th C. for fastening planks because they cut through without splitting the planking. This site may have been one of the Galibois family summer fishing camps. Although we looked several areas of the islands over carefully, no other sites were found, probably because the heavy ground cover of peat and vegetation.

Mutton Bay 4

In 2002 we learned of a series of sites high on former shores around Mutton Bay where local people used to collect artifacts during their youth. We had located and documented three of these sites, but the fourth, reported to be on the north shore of the inner bay (Baie du Portage) above the sawmill, remained to be investigated until this summer. We found the site about 100 feet (estimate based on 1:50,000 topo map) above the shore along a path that runs from the saw mill to a small pond on the table land above. The site has two 5x15m wide loci: a lower locus on an exposed granite outcrop 50 meters north and uphill from a deep, one meter-wide eroded dike fissure, and an upper locus a few meters higher and 50 meters east of L1 in an open patch of moss-covered granite. Both loci were clearly visible from the large amounts of quartz fragments strewn about on the smooth granite surface and eroding from 10 centimeter-thick patches of moss and soil that remained in place.

L1 (50-47.16'N, 59-03.31'W) is located on a sloping surface of glacially-polished granite which retained two small areas (L1A and

L1B) of 5-10 cm shallow uneroded soil and moss, surrounded by quartz flakes. The areas in between the two were probably stripped of moss by the young collectors who followed the exposed quartz debris into the surrounding in situ soil. We found flakes scattered over an area of about 30 by 20 meters with some material still in situ in the moss. Copious amounts of flaking debris were present, consisting almost exclusively of quartz; brown, milky, and grey-red quartzite; a few flakes of tan chert, small amounts of brown-tan slate, and a material resembling, but not positively identifiable as Ramah chert. We did not detect any hearths or rock features, although a few cobbles that seem likely to have been part of the site were present. Other than a few small hammer stones, the only diagnostic artifacts recovered were small circular thumbnail scrapers, pièces esquillées, and a midsection fragment of a brown quartzite biface perform. We did not attempt excavation, but this loci has enough in situ material to support a small excavation.

L2 (50-47.18°N, 59-03.31°W) presented a similar appearance, with quartz flakes scattered about in an exposed patch of granite. However this area was more level than L1 and had a few square meters of in situ soil in the middle of the exposure. This seemed a more promising area to excavate, and so we mapped the surface materials and excavated the small patch of soil, finding it full of quartz flakes but devoid of recognizable features. The lithics were similar to L1: a biface preform fragment, circular thumbnail scrapers, pièces esquillées, hammer stones, utilized flakes, and several discoidal quartz cores. We plotted these finds where they occurred upon the exposed bedrock and in a small 2x3 meter excavation of in situ soil and found the distribution to cover an area of 4x8 meters, with the long axis running downslope at 150 degrees (magnetic), making it likely that the original site area was more or less circular, 4x4 meters, with down-slope movement responsible for the displacement of materials in the southern end of the distribution. In several areas we noted small thin rock slabs and fire-cracked rocks, and a frequent association of hammer-stones and quartz cores, suggesting a production relationship. No charcoal was noted and the fire-cracked rock was not concentrated in a recognizable hearth feature. There were not boulders or cobbles that could be construed as hearth or dwelling remains. Tests in the soil outside the exposure showed that most of the cultural materials originated within the area of the exposure.

Mutton Bay 4 resembles the other small Early Archaic sites previously found here on granite exposures high above the modern shoreline and containing large amounts of quartz flaking but few diagnostic tools or features. The predominance of small circular and asymmetric thumbnail scrapers and pièces esquillées suggests skin-working and lithic reduction. The continued absence of finished bifaces and other recognizable tools may result from the activities of collectors who have visited this and other local sites over the years. A date of about 7000 BP seems likely for this and other Mutton Bay MA sites.

Conclusions


The 2005 season advanced understandings of Quebec's Lower North Shore archaeology in a number of significant areas. The initial underwater survey at Hare Harbor 1 produced a rough map of the sea floor extending from the land site shore out about 100 meters into the anchorage. In addition to mapping and obtaining video and still photographic documentation of the bottom, we found several large piles of rock arranged in linear concentrations perpendicular to the shore and plotted a number of artifact and bone finds. Some of the rock piles had Basque tiles and artifacts mixed into and on top

of the piles, dating them to the Basque occupation. Tile fragments and some bottles dating to the Basque period were collected from the surface of the sea bed in addition to a number of 18th and 19th century materials. One of the most unusual finds was a fragment of a sewn skin garment. A large worked timber was found and plotted. A small 1x1 meter test pit was excavated to a depth of ca. 75 cm and was found to contain large amounts of wood chips, worked wood, tile, and other materials, confirming the presence of a well-preserved archaeological midden. Time did not permit extending the survey into the deeper water of the cove.

Research at the land site produced finds from a bog east of the cook house from which we recovered numerous barrel parts, a wood bowl and other wood artifacts, a large maul or sledge hammer, sheets of copper, and other materials in a deposit dominated by cut brush, billets of wood, and wood chips. Tiles, nails, and slabs were relatively rare. Large rocks in the middle of the area appear to have been placed to stabilize the soggy ground and improve its usefulness as a wood-working station, and several clusters of barrel parts may have served the same purpose. The most interesting feature of this excavation was the discovery of a heavy concentration of charcoal and a piece of iron rod stock along the north edge of the excavation. Test pits containing charcoal-rich deposits and large amounts of fire-cracked rock north of the Area 3 excavation may indicate the presence of a black-smith shop on the slightly higher and better-drained ground between the bog excavation and the cliff to the north.

During the past year our work attracted the interest of whale biologists who have begun to identify whale bones from Basque sites using DNA techniques (Rastogi *et al.* 2004). Previously, identifications of whale fauna from Red Bay and other Basque sites have been made from skeletal morphology, but DNA techniques now permit more positive species determination. This year Brenna McLeod from Trent University requested samples of our whale bone and baleen from Mécatina land and underwater sites. Her work is still in progress, but one underwater sample has been identified as humpback. McLeod and others working on archaeological DNA have found that most of the whales sampled from Basque sites are bowheads, whereas previous morphological studies suggested that approximately equal numbers of bowheads and Greenland right whales were taken by 16th C. Basques. This new evidence suggests that Basque whalers may not have been the crucial factor in the population decline of the right whale, as previously supposed, leaving its cause and timing unresolved. We will continue to provide samples for this study as we recover whale materials from the underwater site.

Time did not permit much survey archaeology elsewhere along the LNS. Our visit to St. Mary Island wildlife sanctuary, approved by its officials, identified several high pithouse structures of probable Maritime Archaic origin and a number of cache pits and other features, and on St. Mary's Island North a large quantity of flint ballast rock in its northern cove. A few small sites were found on the Gallibois Islands and on the Nob Islands east of Petit Mécatina. Work in Mutton Bay expanded our inventory of early Maritime Archaic sites and collections and located a promising area for excavation at the Early Maritime Archaic Mutton Bay 2 site. We also documented a stemmed projectile point owned by Mr. Phillip Vatcher that had come from this site, providing us with our first complete point type from this site.

The collections recovered from this research are housed at the Quebec Ministry of Culture curation center in Quebec City. Anja Herzog is cataloguing the material, which is being used for her MA dissertation at Laval University. 

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Summary of 2005 fieldwork at Nachvak Fjord

Peter Whitridge

In July and August 2005 Peter Whitridge (Memorial University of Newfoundland) and a crew from MUN and Nain (Andrew Chapman, David Dicker Jr., Erin Glavine, John Higdon, Irena Jurakic, Richard Maggo, Sheena Merkeratsuk, Lindsay Swinarton) continued with the project of survey and excavation at Nachvak Fjord, northern Labrador (N59 degrees 04 minutes W63 degrees 53 minutes) which begun in 2003. Excavation was conducted at two Inuit winter sites, several Paleoeskimo, Thule, and historic Inuit sites were revisited, and some new Paleoeskimo sites were located. Finds and photographs were exhibited at an open house in Nain at the end of the season.

The first part of the summer was spent at the late Thule/early historic Inuit winter site of Nachvak Village (IgCx-3), situated on a 15 m ASL grassy terrace overlooking the junction of Tallek and Tasiuyak Arms, over 30 km from the mouth of the fjord. In 2004 a 26 m² excavation area was opened over a small sod house in the centre of the terrace (H.6), and a 38 m² area opened over a bilobate house (H.12) that is part of a group of four adjoining houses at the front of the terrace. The excavations were partially backfilled at the end of last season. In 2005 these features were reopened so that wall, tunnel and subfloor deposits could be investigated. These

produced rich ground stone and faunal assemblages; the only European manufactured material was a small amount of metal. Two wooden dolls recovered from H.6 revealed details of Labrador Thule clothing, including a distinctive style of peaked hood like that depicted in a German woodcut from 1567.

During the second half of the season excavations resumed at the late 18th/early 19th century winter village of Kongu (IgCv-7). As only one of three 2004 tests there had been excavated to sterile, the remaining two 1x3 m trenches were reopened and another 1x3 was excavated in midden next to a dwelling in the southwestern part of the house group. Early nineteenth century European manufactured goods (ceramics, nails and other metal objects, glass, beads) and Inuit artifacts of wood and whale bone were abundant in most units, while slate tools were extremely rare. Many of the ceramics showed evidence of repair, suggesting intense curation of trade goods in the decades before the arrival of the Moravian mission and Hudson's Bay Company in this part of northern Labrador. A trench in the central-rear area of the site reached a carefully prepared but lightly-used floor of colourful flagstones adjoining a bench. This *kashim*-like feature, not revealed by a surface depression, appears to have been deliberately in filled with large animal bones and boulders, hinting at a destructive abandonment perhaps related to the suppression of *kashim* activities during the early contact era. 🪓



Richard Maggo cleaning out House 6 backfill, IgCx-3. (Whitridge)



John Higdon and Erin Glavine preparing to lift a whale bone plank in House 12, IgCx-3. (Whitridge)



Wooden doll from IgCx-3 and 1567 German woodcut of a Labrador Inuit woman and child. (Whitridge)



Junction of Tallek and Tasiuyak Arms, Nachvak Fiord; IgCx-3 is at the front of the point in the middle ground. (Whitridge)



Lindsay Swinarton and Irena Jurakic excavating southwest trench, IgCv-7, as weather approaches. (Whitridge)

Archaeology Beyond the Horizon: Pre-Contact Land Tenure in Labrador West

Scott Neilsen, PhD candidate

In summer 2005 Jamie Brake, Jodie Ashini and I conducted a feasibility survey on a portion of the Ashuanipi Lake watershed in western Labrador. The purpose of this survey was to familiarize myself with western Labrador and to judge the suitability of the region for my PhD research.

Initially we spent a few days getting to know Labrador City. Ed and Joyce Montague, instrumental in attracting us to this region, were a great help. They showed us around and provided space at the Labrador Gateway Museum for our use. Ed also went over maps with us and made sure we were prepared for the interior. The next week was spent surveying Ashuanipi River, between Menihék Lake and Ashuanipi Lake. The highest potential areas were heavily disturbed from camp construction and no sites were identified during the surficial survey. Having said this, there are sites present north of the river on Menihék Lake and south of the river on Ashuanipi Lake, and I would not bet against their presence along the river.

The following week was spent on Menihék Lake, between its confluence with the McPhadyen River and Esker. The purpose of this leg was to visit known sites, recorded by Moira McCaffrey, at the MacPhadyen/Menihék confluence. Sites on the southern side of the river were visited and surface collections were made where encountered. Rather than continuing north on the Menihék (to visit more known sites) we decided to return downstream, visiting selected locations along the way. Innu ethnographic sites were identified among the caribou trails on the south side of the confluence of Menihék Lake and the Clarke Lake outlet, and a monument was recorded on the north side. Only limited testing was undertaken at this site and no definite pre-contact resources were identified. However, as with the Ashuanipi River, I would not rule out the possibility of their occurrence. Returning towards Esker a stop was made at the unnamed island immediately east of Esker. A surface collection of flakes was made on the sand point/beach extending from the southwestern end of the island and an Innu ethnographic site was recorded on the northern end.

Besides time in Lab City, the remaining two weeks of the field season were spent on Ashuanipi Lake. Beginning at a boat landing southwest of the airstrip we preceded to the known site of Ferguson Bay 1, at the northern limit of Ferguson Bay. A surface collection of flakes was made on the beach in front of the site, while flakes and heavily corroded iron fragments were recovered in test pits north of the earlier investigation boundaries, and the disturbance caused by construction of 20th century cabins (one existing and at least one earlier). This is also the purported site of Fort Naskapis, a possible trading location, between French and Innu, from the 1690's. Needless to say, this area warrants further investigation. From here, our goal was to visit the Innu cemetery at the southern limit of the Lake, noting high potential areas along the way. Proceeding south along the west side of the lake we began stopping at likely locations and quickly realized that time would not allow us to meet our original goal. Virtually every landing encountered surface visible resources, either flakes or Innu ethnographic sites, and sometimes both. Almost without looking, eleven new sites were recorded and the boundaries of an existing site were expanded. As with Ferguson Bay 1, many of the new sites warrant further investigation and the

remainder of the Lake, or at least selected regions, need investigations as well.

All in all, it was a very successful season. The initial goals were met and far superseded. It is indubitable that western Labrador and the Ashuanipi watershed are suitable for PhD research, and we plan to return for further investigations next summer. This time focusing solely on Ashuanipi Lake. 🖋️



Clarke Lake outlet caribou crossing (Neilsen)



Ashuanipi Lake 11 lithic types (Neilsen)



Ashuanipi Lake Innu ethnographic site (Neilsen)




Mcphadyen River chert (Neilsen)

Summary of 2005 Fieldwork

Roy Skanes

In 2005 two Stage 1 Assessments, one Stage 2 and an Archaeological Monitoring project were completed for various developments on the Island. At Goose Pond and Little Goose, and along a narrow stretch of shoreline on Deer Lake where housing developments were proposed, no findings of historic resources significance were identified. At Ship Cove on the Burin Peninsula, where a number of shipwreck components were dredged from the seabed during wharf construction in 1999, archaeological monitoring was required during an additional phase of shoreline development. Over the course of the project, a number of fractured plank and framing components were unearthed, all of which were reburied onsite adjacent to the recently constructed wharf cribbing. Despite the fact that the cove had been used for shipbuilding over a period approximately 200 years, no articulated remains were unearthed.

In early 2005, a Stage 2 Detailed Impact Assessment was completed at Trinity, Newfoundland, in relation to a water and sewage project. The research involved the excavation of building remains on Admiral's Beach, Fort Point, thought to be a fisheries-related storehouse/cookhouse or seasonal dwelling dating to the eighteenth or early nineteenth century, but with an occupation that may have extended to the latter part of the nineteenth or early twentieth century. The building would have been predominately wooden with stone chimneys at either end, one of which was constructed into a bedrock outcrop. Due to impacts proposed for that location, once excavation and recording was completed, the majority of *in situ* building remains were dismantled. Other work completed in relation to the Stage 2 Assessment involved excavation and recording of a narrow brick drain dating to c. 1833 situated in front of the Lester-Garland House in Trinity. In that case, the corridor of the waterline leading to the Rising Tide Arts Centre was excavated and an approximately 1 m long section of drain that would be impacted was cleaned of earth, photographed and dismantled. 

The Rooms

Kevin McAleese


This year saw the new Provincial Museum at The Rooms open to the public on June 29, 2005.

The Level 3 Gallery featured an overview to the prehistory of the Province, plus a condensed review of the historic era up to c.1750. I curated many of the prehistory exhibits, along with Dr. Jim Tuck and with the support of Ingeborg Marshall. Mark Ferguson, Museum Curator of History, curated the historic era component for the most part. Some fine tuning has been done to the exhibits since the opening, and more is to follow.

The Collections area and Archaeology & Ethnology Lab on Level 0 was also largely completed by then, and over the following months work was done to get it up and running for researchers' use. Elaine Anton was appointed as Collection Manager and under her management work is continuing to make the Lab fully functional. If you wish to make arrangements to access the collections, you can contact her with your request at ecanton@gov.nl.ca or at 757-8076.

A brief survey and lithic sample collection project was undertaken later in the summer in northern Labrador. I partnered with Dr. Stephen Loring, National Museum of Natural History, along with


geologists from Altius Minerals Ltd., to collect chert samples and other lithic material. Some of this material may be used for exhibition and for public programming (i.e. artifact replica making).

The new Provincial Museum Division at The Rooms continues to be a big draw for the local and visiting public. A few small, temporary exhibits on various Ethnology and History topics opened in the fall, and many school children came for special programs, including visits to the Museum classrooms and to new traveling exhibits. Artifacts were also loaned out to community museums around the Province, with more museums and heritage groups signing up for that program. In 2006 we hope to feature some of the most interesting "finds" from the previous field season/ongoing research as part of a regular museum program, as well as re-introduce the archaeology lecture series. 

A Walk in the Park: Point Pleasant Park after Hurricane Juan

Lynne Schwarz and Fred Schwarz

Point Pleasant Park in the south end of peninsular Halifax is best known for the tranquility of its woods and its scenic views across Halifax harbour and the Northwest Arm. Because of its strategic location, the Park has also been militarily important for much of the last 250 years. It is richly-endowed with above-ground and below-ground remnants for fortifications dating from the founding of Halifax to the Second World War. Conspicuous among them are the well-known eighteenth- and nineteenth-century forts: Fort Ogilvie, Cambridge Battery, and the Prince of Wales Tower, built under the direction of the Duke of Kent. Less conspicuous are the hidden clues to the daily lives of their garrisons. Point Pleasant was also once home to the suburban farms and estates of some of Halifax's most prominent citizens. The surviving traces of these remained largely hidden until Hurricane Juan struck in September, 2003, uprooting nearly three-quarters of the trees in the Park and exposing a wealth of hitherto-unknown archaeological deposits. Since January of 2004, Black Spruce Heritage Services has been conducting archaeological work for Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) to identify and protect the Park's historic remains, initially during remediation of the storm damage and subsequently in the development of a cultural resource management plan for the Park.

Some results of this work have recently been published in *Underground Halifax: Stories of Archaeology in the City* (Nimbus Publishing Limited), edited by Paul Erickson. This lavishly-illustrated volume also contains fifteen other contributions by various authors, including articles on archival and cartographic resources, urban cultural resource management, and a variety of archaeological projects undertaken within HRM over the course of the last twenty years. 

Archaeological Assessment at DjBl-04, Woody Point, Bonne Bay

Fred Schwarz and Roy Skanes

Introduction

In the spring of 2005, the Town of Woody Point commenced construction of an access road, bus parking area and an automobile parking lot in the downtown heritage district of that community. Due to concerns of possible historic resources being present, Ken Reynolds of the Provincial Archaeology Office (PAO) visited the site in April 2005 and determined that precontact deposits, along with historic materials, were present at the site, designated Woody Point 2, (DjBl-04). The PAO issued a Stop Work Order pending completion of a Stage 1 and Stage 2 Historic Resources Impact Assessment (HRIA) to determine whether the project could proceed as originally designed. In June of 2005, Fred Schwarz and Roy Skanes were retained by the Town of Woody Point to undertake a Stage 1 assessment of the access road and parking lot, and a Stage 2 assessment in the form of small test excavations in the area of DjBl-04 traversed by the proposed access road. This area, and the site itself, had previously been disturbed by trenching for the installation of an underground fibre optic cable through the center of the known archaeological deposit.

Stage 1 and Stage 2 Assessments at DjBl-04 in June, 2005

Archaeological assessment at Woody Point began with the Stage 1 assessment of the proposed access road and parking area west of DjBl-04. Testpitting programs established that significant remains were not present along the access road west of DjBl-04 or within the proposed parking area. Testing results indicated that DjBl-04 is at least 30m wide east-west (in the proposed development area), and at most 45m wide. Stage 2 assessment at DjBl-04 consisted of two excavation units, one suboperation to the north of the fibre optic trench and one to the south. Both suboperations consisted of three 2x2m units separated by 20cm-wide north-south baulks. The southern suboperation was later extended by 3m² to the south in an attempt to verify a possible tent-ring structure. Thus, in all, some 12m² (minus baulks) was excavated to the north, and 15m² (minus baulks) to the south of the trench.

Excavation in the northern suboperation revealed extensively-disturbed deposits, with recent rocky overburden directly overlying subsoil in places. Elsewhere, overburden overlay a deposit of yellow builder's sand which in turn overlay a thick, compressed deposit of livestock manure with straw, associated with a barn and chicken run formerly present in the area. Prehistoric materials, interestingly, were most abundant on and above the buried manure, which also yielded the majority of the historic pieces. The historic component at the site does not appear to predate the third quarter of the nineteenth century, which corresponds well to the beginning of permanent European settlement at Woody Point.

Excavation in the southern suboperation revealed a much simpler, relatively undisturbed stratigraphy, and yielded by far the richest concentration of prehistoric materials on the site. Prehistoric artifacts include thousands of pieces of debitage, principally of vitreous west coast cherts, with slate and small amounts of quartzite. Quartz was rare and Ramah extremely rare. The predominant artifact types were slate blanks and preforms, blades, flake cores, bifaces, ground slate axes, retouched and utilized flakes, and slate

bayonets and lances. Less common were slate and chert projectile points, blade cores, chert blanks/preforms, scrapers, punches, hammerstones and abraders. One steatite bowl fragment was recovered. The steatite, one biface, one blade core and some of the blades likely pertain to the Early Palaeo-Eskimo period. The vast majority of the assemblage pertains to the Maritime Archaic period. Three features were noted, the most interesting being a curving line of large stones found directly atop the subsoil in the eastern and central portion of the southern suboperation. This feature is identified as a possible tent ring *ca.* 5m in diameter. Though no hearth has yet been located, and time constraints did not allow us to confirm this as a prehistoric habitation structure, the deposits here are nevertheless largely undisturbed and rich, and certainly hold the potential to contain structural remains.

In addition to the Stage 1 and Stage 2 assessments of DjBl-04, we received permission to test other properties in the surrounding area, and collect information about artifacts that have been found in the area in the past. The results appear to indicate that DjBl-04 extends at least 150m north-south parallel to the shore behind Water Street, with the 2005 assessment area lying at the northern end. Since DjBl-04 measures 30-45m east-west in the 2005 assessment area, the site is probably some 4500-6800m² in total size. The site is thus large, and, where we have testing or excavation data, appears relatively rich in cultural material, particularly of the Maritime Archaic period. The site is multi-component, with both Maritime Archaic and Early Palaeo-Eskimo material recovered. And results from adjoining properties suggest that the Maritime Archaic and Early Palaeo-Eskimo occupations may occur as somewhat spatially-discrete components.

The public significance of the site appears to be extraordinarily high. Its location close to Water Street already makes the site highly visible and the assessment team received many visitors, even though the tourist season had not yet begun in earnest.

Subsequent Monitoring in August, 2005

As a result of the HRIA results, development plans were amended to limit impacts to the apparently-disturbed northern portion of DjBl-04 and in August, 2005, Fred Schwarz returned to monitor mechanical excavation of the revised access road corridor and associated utility lines. The road corridor was divided into a series of provenience units and each was mechanically excavated in lots 10cm deep to subsoil, the back dirt from each bucket lift being trowel-excavated after removal.

Generally-speaking, the collection resulting from the monitoring work was comparable to that recovered during the Stage 1 and Stage 2 HRIA. The vast majority of diagnostic artifacts may be assigned to the Maritime Archaic component, with a smaller number of Groswater pieces. Generally, these appeared to derive from disturbed contexts. However, in one provenience unit, a significant and distinctive concentration of quartzite artifacts and debitage was encountered during mechanical excavation revealing a small localized area of *in situ* deposit. The remainder of this deposit, amounting to approximately 1m² was excavated manually. No well-defined hearth was found in association with this quartzite concentration.





The view north east across the Stage 2 test excavations at DjBI-04 (Schwarz)

Oakes Bay 2005

Jim Woollett

For three weeks in August, 2005, a multidisciplinary team lead by Jim Woollett (Université Laval) and Cynthia Zutter (Grant-MacEwan Community College) conducted an excavation project at the site of Oakes Bay 1 (HeCg-08), approx. 35 km east of Nain. The weatherproof and durable six-person field crew included Juliana Lidd (Nain), Claire Allum, Carleen Knight (Bowdoin College), Guillaume Leclerc (U. Laval), and Kerrie Holstead and Ashlee Pigford, in addition to Woollett and Zutter.

The site is an Inuit winter settlement on Dog Island, known historically as Parngnertok, which consists of six to seven visible sod house ruins. The site was tested initially, in very limited fashions, by J. G. Taylor and again by William Fitzhugh's survey project of 1984 (Kaplan 1985). Moravian Mission records reported by Taylor (1974) indicate that the site was occupied in the mid 18th century, apparently up until the winter of 1771-1772. Three structures are very large "communal houses" seen widely in Labrador during the 18th to early 19th century, while the others are smaller and accordingly may pre-date the 18th century.


In 2000 and 2002, Susan Kaplan (Peary- MacMillan Arctic Museum and Arctic Studies Center, Bowdoin College) and Woollett excavated sondages in the interiors of two communal houses and a large portion of a floor and sleeping platform of a smaller (and potentially older) sod house ruin. Midden areas associated with these houses were also tested; somewhat curiously, soil core testing showed that the areas with the most substantial midden

accumulations were consistently located adjacent to the eastern entrance passage walls, suggesting a common type of disposal practice over time. While relatively few artifacts were recovered, the communal houses and the smaller sod houses and their middens contained some European trade goods, such as intact and reworked iron nails, lead and copper alloy objects, highly fragmented stoneware fragments and glass beads. Organic remains were also very well preserved in wet and permafrost conditions, as animal hide, hair, worked wood, baleen fragments and quantities of animal bones were collected.

The 2005 excavation project continued the earlier program and stressed the recovery of well-preserved ecofacts from wet and frozen conditions in houses and in middens. The floor and sleeping platform areas of three further houses (two communal houses and one smaller house) were tested with trenches spanning the sleeping platform and floor, intended to orient the architectural plan of these houses and to recover artifacts for dating purposes, and plant macrofossils and insect remains for palaeoecology, land use and site formation analyses. In particular, these trenches allowed the sampling of layers of artifacts and ecofacts accumulated on the sleeping platform and on house floors. Similar architectural features were observed in all of these trenches, with floors paved in closely-fitted flat stones, the sleeping platform bounded by a low retaining wall built of stacked rock or timber, and the platform itself covered by layers of turf and brush. A lamp stand marked by a mass of solidified and burned fat was also identified in one house. Extensive wood remains, comprising long and substantial timbers were also uncovered within the houses. These remains overlaid the intact

floor deposits and were oriented roughly parallel and perpendicular to the houses' long axes, much as similar remains observed in the excavation of House 4 at Oakes Bay 1 in 2002. These wood remains certainly represent the well-preserved remains of the collapsed roof structures.

In addition to house interiors, four midden areas were also tested, including middens associated with communal houses and smaller houses. Three of these middens had a variety of organic remains well preserved in wet and/or permafrost conditions, including quantities of animal bones, wood and plant macrofossils, hide, hair and baleen. Preliminary examinations of the recovered faunal remains suggest that seals (including ringed seals and some harp and bearded seals) were consistently of primary economic importance. Nevertheless, baleen and whale bone fragments recovered also suggest that whales may have been a more important resource in the Nain region than previously thought, even if collected as scavenged carcasses, as suggested by Taylor (1974). Animal bones, artifacts, and plant macrofossils and insect remains recovered in bulk sediment samples are currently being analysed by Jim Woollett and Allison Bain at U. Laval and by Cynthia Zutter at Grant MacEwan Community College. With the 2005 field season, substantial samples of faunal remains and other ecofacts have been recovered from the

midden of each house at the site and the majority of houses themselves. It is now possible therefore to reconstruct winter land use patterns for the complete occupational history of Parngnertok and to relate changing modes of land use to local landscape histories reconstructed through ecofact studies and to existing high-resolution palaeoenvironmental studies pertinent to the Nain region. This reconstruction of long-term subsistence economies for the Dog Island locality will be instrumental for developing a long-term perspective on economic change and its association to landscape and climate change in the Nain region and throughout northern Labrador in general. 

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The site of Oakes Bay 1, or Parngnertok (HeCg-08) (Woollett)



Guillaume Leclerc at work in a midden excavation outside a communal house (Woollett)

The Northern Peninsula Archaeology and Landscape History Program

2005 Field Season

M.A.P. Renouf, P. Wells, M. Penney and A. Cogswell

The Northern Peninsula Archaeology and Landscape History Program includes the Port au Choix Archaeology Project and the Conche Archaeology Project. This report outlines the results of the 2005 excavations at Phillip's Garden (EeBi-1) in Port au Choix, and Chest Head (EfAx-2) in Conche.

Port au Choix: Phillip's Garden

As part of continuing research into Dorset Palaeoeskimo dwelling construction at Phillip's Garden, the Port au Choix Archaeology Project concentrated 2005 excavations on a large house feature, House 18. This house had been tested by Elmer Harp in 1963 and dated by him to 1683 \pm 49 BP (P-736). Site supervisor was Patty Wells. The aim of the excavation was to compare House 18 to House 2, previously excavated by Harp and re-tested by us in 2004. We found that House 2 was larger than reported, with a footprint of 94 m², and that it was more substantially constructed, with two large and deep central post-holes. We interpreted at least two stages of dwelling construction.

In 2005 we excavated 76 m² of House 18 which did not include the entire dwelling. However, the area was sufficient to indicate elements of dwelling construction and internal features (Figs 1-2). Organic preservation was excellent and we recovered a large faunal sample and a variety of organic artefacts. Preliminary results indicate that House 18 was quite large, comparable to House 2, but less well-defined. One large post-hole was associated with the

central axial feature (Fig. 3) and several smaller post-holes outlined the central depression; possibly there was a second large post-hole in the rear of the dwelling. It is also possible that there was more than one stage of construction. Final interpretation of the dwelling is the basis of Ainslie Cogswell's MA thesis.

Other features associated with the construction and use of the house included a poorly defined and roughly paved axial feature (Feature 120, measuring 3.12 m long by .80 cm wide, with a pit at each end (Features 119 and 121) (Fig. 4); the length measurement includes the pits. A large square pit (Feature 123), 55 cm wide, was located at the rear or south end of the dwelling; a number of large, slab-like rocks slumping into the feature suggested that these may have functioned as capstones (Fig. 5). We interpreted Feature 123 as a storage pit. Relatively shallow midden deposits occurred on and near the interior perimeter of the dwelling; each had a number of dumping episodes, perhaps in the clean-up of the center of the house. Material in these deposits included bone, tools, debitage and charcoal as well as large stones. A total of 1566 artefacts were recovered, bringing the total number of artefacts from House 18 to 3449.

Artefacts recovered this summer and those that Harp collected reflect a range of hunting, ritual and processing activities. These include a number of skin processing tools such as slate scrapers, chert end-scrapers, nephrite burin-like tools, and bone or needles and awls. Hunting tools include harpoon heads, endblades and bone or antler points. A variety of amulets was also recovered, most of which are schematic and realistic representations of animals. Faunal remains are consistent with other house features at the site with seal dominating the assemblage followed by some bird, fish and

a small amount of terrestrial mammals, in this case including caribou. Hannah Dean, Dominique Lavers, Mary Melnik, Meghan Negrijn, Angela Noseworthy, and John Shea.

We would like to thank the 2005 Phillip's Garden crew: Patty Wells, site supervisor, Ainslie Cogswell, crew chief, and crew members



Figure 1. House 18 excavated to the top of Level 4 and with axial feature (Feature 120) removed. Note the central pit which is a deep post-hole (Feature 119) and the rear pit which is the dismantled storage pit (Feature 123). This photograph shows the distinction between a central rock-filled area and a comparatively rock-free perimeter. Note scale and north arrow in the central area.

Photo: PAC Archaeology Project.

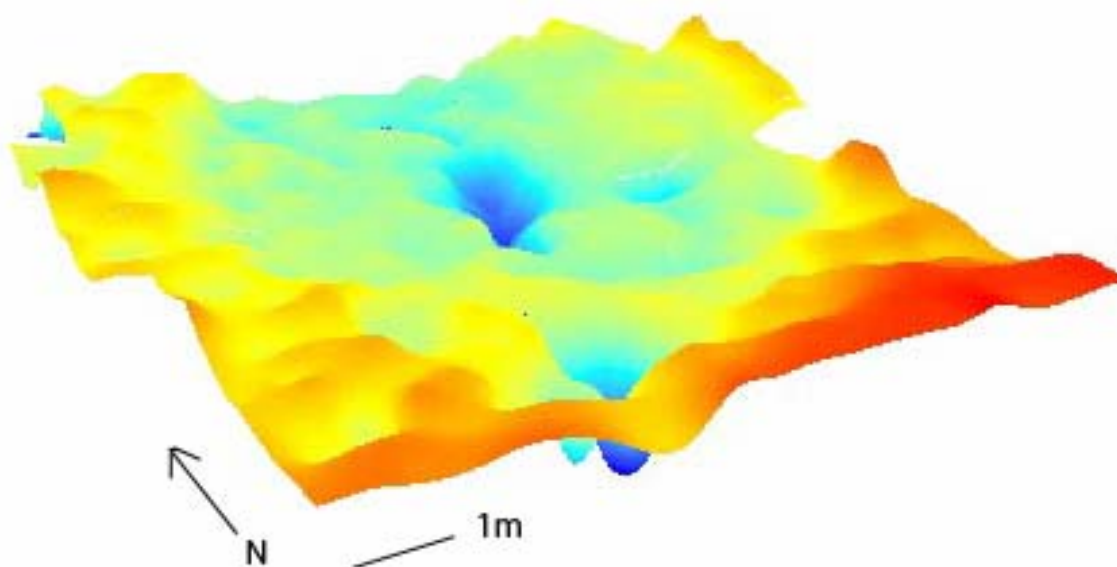


Figure 2. This shows House 18 at the top of Level 4 in relief. The dark blue area represents the lowest elevation and the orange area the highest. The contour interval is approximately 10 cm. Note the central depression and the perimeter berm which may be a platform or wall area. Scale is approximate. (Renouf)



Figure 3. House 18 post hole (Feature 119). Photo: PAC Archaeology Project



Figure 4. House 18 axial feature exposed at Level 2. Three areas are outlined in string: the central paved trough (Feature 120), a north pit (Feature 121) and a south post-hole (Feature 119). Together these three features comprise the axial feature. Photo: PAC Archaeology Project.



Figure 5. House 18 storage pit (Feature 123) at early stages of excavation. Photo: PAC Archaeology Project.

Conche: Chest Head

In the summer of 2005, the Conche Archaeology Project returned to the Conche area on the northeast coast of the Northern Peninsula. Site supervisor was Mark Penney. The research project at Conche focused on Chest Head (EfAx-2) a large Dorset Palaeoeskimo site situated at the southern end of town. Initial survey at EfAx-2 in 2003 and intensive shovel testing in 2004 revealed that Chest Head was comparable in size to Phillip's Garden at Port au Choix but was very disturbed by historic and modern land-use in the form of root cellars, house foundations, gardens, and sod cutting. However, heading into the 2005 field season, we felt that despite the disturbance factors, the site still had good archaeological potential. More specifically, we believe that the Chest Head site would form a solid data basis for a comparison between Dorset material culture and life ways on the east and west coasts of the Northern Peninsula. The major goals of 2005 at EfAx-2 were to excavate undisturbed Dorset contexts, collect a large representative sample of Dorset material culture, and to collect materials that would allow us to date the prehistoric occupation at Chest Head.

The site overlooks Conche Harbour and extends from Flynn's Beach on a lower terrace to the upper terrace which is a grassy meadow (Fig. 6). The site extends over this meadow and terminates at the forested perimeter. Along the upper terrace an ATV path bisects the site (Fig. 7). The majority of 2005 testing and excavation took place between the ATV path and the upper terrace edge. This narrow strip of land containing high and dense growth of grass was relatively untested in previous seasons, and there were no visible signs of disturbance. Furthermore, we thought that the terrace edge might be a favoured location for Dorset occupation based on experience elsewhere.

The crew consisted of three Conche residents, Marg Lewis, Sharon Foley, and Kelly Elliot and two summer students from the French Shore Historical Society, Justin Foley and Tony Gardner. Fifteen test pits between the ATV trail and the terrace edge revealed a high volume of Dorset materials in both disturbed and undisturbed contexts and this area became the focus of our excavations (Fig. 8-9). Area A (8 m²) produced a large number of Dorset artifacts. The test pits and excavations indicated an historic disturbance in the upper portion of the strata but suggested an undisturbed layer of Dorset remains underneath. The sod layer and the lower Level 2 contained Dorset lithics and a mix of recent historic remains in the form of bottle glass, iron scraps, and pottery. Level 3 was distinct and consisted of a dark and rich peaty matrix and contained large amounts of burnt sea-mammal fat and charcoal. The upper half of Level 3 continued to show signs of disturbance with the occasional intrusion of an historic period artifact. However, the level contained a uniform lens of rock rubble that showed no patterns or purposeful arrangement. Underneath this rubble lens Level 3 continued but the presence of historic materials ceased. Here we found increasing amounts of lithics and broken soapstone vessels, fat residue and disintegrated bone, and the texture of the matrix became greasier. This along with volumes of stone tools, many of which were broken, and the disorganized nature of the artifacts and rocks, let us to conclude that this was a Dorset refuse area or midden.

Area B was established a few meters to the west of Area A, again in the vicinity of productive test pits, and for its excavation we had the addition help of Memorial archaeology students Angela Noseworthy and Dominique Lavers. A total of 5 m² was excavated in a checkerboard pattern and the upper stratigraphy was similar to that of Area A. This area was different than the previous, however, in that the Level 3 soil matrix was not as black or organically rich and it was quite a bit thinner. The area did produce a large number of

artifacts and it appears that very different activities were taking place at this location.

The 2005 field season accomplished the goals that were set out at the beginning. The test pits and excavation units produced about 800 Dorset artifacts and a number of excellent charcoal samples. Although any further attempts to locate undisturbed portions of the site would likely be hampered by having to slowly excavate a thick section of disturbed strata, excavations have strengthened the argument that Chest Head was indeed an important site for Dorset


people on the east coast of the Northern Peninsula. Although no direct evidence of habitation has been discovered in the form of a dwelling feature, the large, thick midden and large numbers of soapstone vessel fragments suggest that Dorset people had established a residence for at least part of the cold season. The very high proportion of endblades and endblade preforms suggests that they were here to exploit the harp seal populations that are known to occur in this area. The large number of artifacts and the large size of the site suggest that site occupation was fairly intensive. 



Figure 6. Chest Head site showing grassy meadow on upper terrace. A test grid is in the foreground. Looking southwest. Photo: Conche Archaeology Project.



Figure 7. Chest Head, at the higher terrace edge, showing the ATV trail the runs through the site. Looking southeast. Excavators are in Area A at the terrace edge. Photo: Conche Archaeology Project.



Figure 8. Close-up of Area A, looking north. Photo: Conche Archaeology Project.

Torbay Area Downed World War II Aircraft Survey

Summary of 2005 Fieldwork

Michael Deal

In the spring of 2005 a project was initiated to re-locate and identify downed World War II aircraft crash sites in the vicinity of St. John's (formerly Torbay) Airport. The work was sponsored by the Avalon Historic Aircraft Recovery Association, as the first stage in the management of aviation resources on the Avalon Peninsula. The goal of the survey is to create an accurate inventory of resources, and to report on the condition of existing wrecks in order to assess their potential for recovery and possible use in restoration and public display. To date, two sites have been identified and associated with known crashes. The first aircraft recorded is a Westland Lysander that crashed near Pouch Cove, and the second is a Lockheed Ventura that crashed near Windsor Lake on August 5, 1943. The Lysander was almost completely salvaged by the military after the crash. However, the Ventura (#2169) exploded upon impact with a low rise of land and is represented today as a burned area with a debris field, surrounded by low juniper bushes and small spruce trees. We know from the accident report that four servicemen were killed by the crash, which was attributed to pilot error under poor flying conditions.

A local resident, Tom Kearsey, who was 13 years old at the time, visited the site on the morning of the crash. A military guard was set up to keep onlookers away from the wreck while the site was being investigated. A road was bulldozed into the site in order to

salvage larger portions of the aircraft, but souvenir hunters still walked away with many fragments.

In November of 2005 a small crew from Memorial University and the Avalon Historic Aircraft Recovery Association returned to the site to make a surface collection. A metal detector was used to isolate the main area of the crash and investigate a small mound to the east of the burned area. A datum point was established and an East-West baseline was set up across the burned area. Artifacts were then collected from a 31 square metre grid. Portable metal drawing frames were used to mark collection locations and artifacts were bagged and recorded in 20 square centimetre units (see figure 1). Even though the collection was limited to diagnostic pieces, a total of 1,430 specimens were recovered in two days. These materials were taken to the Conservation Lab at the Archaeology Unit, where Cathy Mathias and intern Karin Kierstead sorted the artifacts and identified items that required conservation. Some of the iron and composite materials are being stabilized using AGELESS oxygen scavengers. The artifacts have also been catalogued with the new Borden designation CjAe-61. Currently, individual artifacts are being identified with the help of Tony Jarvis and Paul Squires of the Ventura Memorial Association (Alberta) and entered into a computer database.

The Lockheed Ventura was a twin engine patrol bomber, with a distinctive gun turret on the rear dorsal section of the fuselage (see figure 2). Ventura 2169 was armed with six depth charges and 3,300

rounds of ammunition for 50 and 30 calibre machine guns. The materials recovered at the site include pieces of the aluminum skin of the fuselage, instrument parts, and exploded ordnance. Many different raw materials are represented, including rubber, glass, aluminum, and iron. From an archaeological perspective this site represents a worst case scenario, that is, an aircraft that exploded and burned on impact, followed by salvage and looting. Even so, a great number of identifiable specimens were recovered, along with information on the preservation of a wide range of materials. 🖱



Figure 1: Surface recovery of artifacts from Ventura 2169 crash site. (Deal)



Figure 2: A Ventura aircraft landing at Torbay Airport (NAC/ANC: PA141394) (Deal)

The Labrador Toponymy Project and its Relevance to Archaeologists

Peter Armitage¹

On the pictorial wings of placenames imaginations soar
– Keith Basso, 1988:123.

Some people may consider toponymic research to be a quaint pastime of no practical use and a waste of money (Wonders, 1987:113). However, the merits of conducting such research are increasingly clear to many anthropologists, archaeologists, biologists, geographers, land use managers, and linguists interested in language and the social construction of space and the ways that Aboriginal people organize land use with the aid of toponyms (e.g. Andrews, et

al. 1998; Denton, 2005; Kari, 1989; Rankama, 1993). Across Canada, various Aboriginal groups have embarked upon toponymy studies because they value the historic, cultural connection to the land that toponyms provide, and because they fear that this connection will be lost due to sedentarization and a breakdown in the intergenerational transmission of land-based knowledge (e.g. McHalsie, 2001).²

² Throughout Canada, toponymy has been given a low priority in land use and occupancy research, the purpose of which is to document the geographic extent of land use for the purpose of land claims negotiations. The priority in such research has been to document the spatial footprint of economic behaviour in the form of hunting, trapping, fishing, gathering, and associated travel. Toponyms are viewed more as cultural epiphenomena than as an essential methodological component of the research, and a key part of Aboriginal symbolic-political appropriation of the landscape.

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In the case of the Labrador Innu, comprehensive knowledge of toponyms now resides in the minds of only a dozen or so older people, mostly unilingual Innu-aimun speakers, who spent large portions of their lives in the country. Generating a reliable inventory of Innu toponyms is evidently a high priority, given the current demography of expert knowledge, which is why José Mailhot (a Montreal-based ethnolinguist), Marguerite MacKenzie (a Memorial University linguist), and I decided to mount the “Labrador Toponymy Project” (LABTOP).

Project description

LABTOP's aim is to complete a large database of Labrador Innu toponyms so that they can be submitted to the Geographical Names Board of Newfoundland and Labrador, assist educators in the development of school geography curriculum, provide toponyms for an eventual Akamiupishk^u (Mealy Mountains) National Park, and facilitate land use management and environmental research by Innu and non-Innu researchers, land use planners and managers. The completion of the toponymy work will fill in many blank spots on the map of Labrador, and will thereby contribute significantly to the geographic heritage of the province and Canada as a whole. The finalized toponyms will also be of practical use to archaeologists, as I explain below.

The LABTOP project is well advanced. One hundred and ninety-five digital base maps of Labrador at 1:50,000 scale have been prepared on which the finalized toponyms will be recorded. The study area covered by these maps comprises the region from the headwaters of the St. Augustin River in the southeast, to Lac Brulé in the southwest, to Michikamau Lake in the west, to the headwaters of the Fraser River in the northwest, to Nain in the northeast, and Rigolet in the east.

The project relies heavily on various toponym datasets that were collected as far back as 1975, and as such is not starting from scratch. Much of the work has focused on a large dataset called “LAMAP” which includes names collected on maps at 1:50,000 scale in 1980. This is the most comprehensive set of Innu toponyms recorded. Toponyms in other datasets were mapped at 1:250,000 scale, but as in the case of LAMAP, they were collected by researchers who were not conversant in the consistent spelling system, and were not linguistically enough aware to translate them accurately. The exact locations of many of the toponyms are also uncertain, and must be georeferenced precisely for the purpose of officialization. In 1994, Mailhot supervised a more rigorous effort to collect toponyms in the Sheshatshiu area that generated a good number of reliable names in terms of their spelling, meaning, and georeferencing (Mailhot, 1995).

The toponyms from all of these datasets have now been compared and georeferenced, their spellings and meanings clarified and standardized whenever possible, and problematic names starred for fieldwork validation. Names from the Sheshatshiu region were validated during a three week period in November 2005, and additional fieldwork is scheduled for Natuashish in March, 2006.³ Once this validation work is completed, and revised or new data processed, a community consultation concerning the standardization of the toponym spellings and other issues will be held.

At the end of the project, a digital database of toponyms, map atlas and report will be submitted to the Innu Nation. Presumably, at that point, the organization will be able to share the project results with the Geographical Names Board of Newfoundland and Labrador and other parties. The Innu will then be in a position to develop various products such as a toponymy website that educate the public at large and promote the use of Innu toponyms in Labrador.

Why should toponyms be of interest to archaeologists?

As Hanks and Winter note in the case of Dene names in the Northwest Territories, toponyms, “like archaeological sites, are byproducts of past behaviour. The collection and study of place names may assist the archaeologist doing survey in gaining a greater understanding of the relationship between behaviour and archaeological remains” (1983:49). Toponyms serve as mnemonics of contemporary and historic land use for Aboriginal people (see Basso, 1988; Fair, 1997). Although they are archived in rapidly shrinking oral traditions, toponyms continue to provide portals to vast quantities of memory about particular places on the landscape.⁴ For this reason, they can give clues to historic and possibly pre-contact land use and resource locations, thereby focusing archaeologists on places holding great historic resource potential.

Keith (2000:30) points out that the “geographic terms in geographical/literal-descriptive toponyms are demonstrative of a culture’s geographic concepts.” Toponyms often encode descriptive environmental and geographic information that remind Aboriginal people of locations rich in wildlife resources (Legat, et al., 2001; Mailhot, 1995). An example from the Innu corpus is *Kukamessat kataht*, meaning “Where There Are Lake Trout.” Other toponyms reference historical and religious events (McHalsie, 2001:135; Saladin d’Anglure, 2004). An Innu toponym with great religious significance is *Tshishkuetutsheunnu-minishtik*, an island named after an old shaman called Tshishkuetutsheunnu. One day, the old shaman was chased by a homicidal cannibal monster called Atshen. He managed to escape by hiding on this island and performing a shaking tent.

Innu toponyms are at times paired in such a way as to reflect Innu hydrographic concepts in that primary toponyms for lakes give their names to secondary ones, namely, rivers and brooks. *Mishikamau* (1°) and *Mishikamau-shipu* (2°), *Ashuapun* (1°) and *Ashuapun-shipu* (2°), *Nekanakau* (1°) and *Nekanakau-shipu* (2°) are a few examples where the addition of the term “-shipu” speaks of a river flowing out of a lake at its headwaters (Mailhot, 1995:15). A similar naming principle, called “clustering,” has been noted in Alaskan Athabaskan (Kari, 1989:135), Saami and Finnish toponymy (Rankama, 1993:58).⁵

Travel across the landscape, way-finding, and the communication of travel routes are greatly facilitated by toponyms because the names are linked to shared narratives about, and cognitive maps of, landmarks and other geographic entities along the routes (see Jett, 1997:491). Occasionally, the names encode descriptions of past environmental events such as forest fires, the traces of which may no longer be obvious to the eye (e.g. *Kaiipushkakamat* - Burnt Area Lake).

Some toponyms record significant life events such as births, deaths and burial locations, where people camped, or places where canoe-

³ Validation work is being conducted with the assistance of Innu co-researchers Jean-Pierre Ashini, Gerry Pasteen, Basile Penashue, and Tony Penashue.

⁴ I mean “landscape” in a broader sense including terrestrial and marine topographies.

⁵ “Clusters are groups of place-names which are located adjacent to each other and which have one or more elements in common” (Rankama, 1993:58).

making, salmon spearing, trapping, porcupine singeing and other forms of “economic behaviour” transpired. *Ashtunekamik*“, the Innu name for Snegamook Lake,⁶ is one example. Based on the verb *ashtunu* (he or she makes a canoe), the name refers to a canoe-building shelter. The name is evidently an old one as it appears in the Jesuit Relations for 1643-44 as *Astouregamigoukeb* (Thwaites, 1906:155).⁷

Another example is *Tshishennish kapimishinit* meaning “Where Tshishennish is Buried.” Tshishennish is the Innu name of a man called Joseph Tshishennish who was buried on the northwest shore of *Ashtunekamik*“ in 1926. After his death, Innu relatives transported a marble cross up rivers and brooks, across lakes and portages, all the way from Sheshatshiu to the site. The cross is now a prominent landmark at the lake (see Paddon, 1989:228).

For archaeologists doing ethnoarchaeological research using the map biography method, a toponymic basemap is absolutely necessary in order to assist Aboriginal experts and interpreters in translating the cognitive collages⁸ of land use into the two dimensional world of the paper NTS map with its often confusing contour lines and other cartographic conventions.⁹ In this context, the mapped toponyms serve as anchor points, well-known points of departure for marking travel routes, harvest locations, burial locations, and other data on the maps. Without a well-prepared toponymic layer, researchers run a serious risk of erroneously georeferencing spatial data. Worse, it may be impossible to locate land use activities on the maps without trustworthy, georeferenced toponyms to serve as reference points.¹⁰

In summary, toponyms constitute important intellectual infrastructure for the conduct of research on present, past, and pre-contact land use in the north. They are essential tools in the toolkit of any researcher conducting ethnoarchaeology using the map biography technique. Furthermore, they provide insights into the symbolic practices, cosmologies, and ideologies that shape Aboriginal land use and tenure¹¹ that can help archaeologists with

investigations into contemporary and historic land use, and with extrapolations to the people associated with pre-contact cultural complexes.

When completed, the LABTOP database and map atlas will give archaeologists access to a reliable inventory of toponyms for research and provide inspiration when giving new names to archaeological sites in Labrador. The database will include English translations and explanations of Innu toponyms as well as accurate georeferencing.



Memekueshu-nipi - Cave Creature Lake, in the *Akaminapishk*“ (Mealy Mountains) area of Labrador (photo courtesy Parks Canada).

Naming archaeological sites

With respect to naming sites, most archaeologists now subscribe to a praise-worthy informal policy of using Aboriginal names, rather than imposing Euro-centric ones on the landscape. These names are often generated through consultations with Aboriginal co-researchers who are most likely to be semi-literate in their own languages (at best). The end result is a mishmash of misspelled and misunderstood Aboriginal “archeonyms” that point to the current symbolic role of written Innu-aimun and Inuktitut in Labrador, but which serve little practical purpose in terms of promoting literacy in Aboriginal languages or appreciation by younger Aboriginal people of their territory and history.¹² Recent examples of misinformed naming of Innu-related sites include *Innush mak Mitta*, *Tshimiten Tshimikeishkan*, *Pitshuantshuap mak Utta*, *Tashunan*, *Mataknup*, *Tetananashk*, *Minuat Kutsk Tashunakan*, *Shkashkueikantshuap*, *Kenpash-nipi*, *Tshiashekueishits Kuanatimiu*, *Ushpitun*, *Pmuisiku*, and *Tshumushumapeu* (Provincial Archaeology Office Site Database for Labrador, 2004). How many people in the archaeological community can make sense of these names? Can Innu people themselves make sense of them?

One solution to the current *bordel* is for archaeologists to support the application of a standard, consistent Innu spelling system, rather

and acts to integrate the group socially, implying collective rights, privileges and stewardship. In addition, it broadcasts these territorial limits and implications to adjacent societies” (Keith, 2000:27).

¹² See Mailhot (1985) for a discussion about Innu literacy. “Large amounts of energy, talent, and resources are...expended in producing a literature that has little real effect on Montagnais literacy. In addition, a large part of the present day Montagnais literature is, above all, of purely symbolic value” (p.24). The state of affairs among the Labrador Innu is no different today than it was 20 years ago when Mailhot published this paper.

⁶ The official name, Snegamook, is a loan word from Innu-aimun.


⁷ Ben Andrew of Sheshatshiu gets the credit for spotting this reference which he brought to the attention of José Mailhot.

⁸ The term “cognitive collage” refers to complex mental representations of the natural environment including mental imagery of landmarks and other geographic features, culturally-derived models of topographic organization (e.g. rivers run in linear directions, upstream and downstream), memories of maps and travel routes, recall of verbal directions, etc. (see Tversky, 1993:14).

⁹ One cannot assume cartographic literacy on the part of expert informants. Innu women, in general, cannot read maps. Nowadays, many elderly male informants have greatly impaired vision and cannot read maps either. As a result, researchers and translators are completely dependent upon verbal descriptions of landscape and travel which require good comprehension of specialized geographic terminology in both English/French and the Aboriginal language on the part of the translator. The latter is also required to have a good knowledge of cartographic symbology, and an aptitude for translating visually-based narratives into cartographic representations of land forms and land use. This is a complex cultural-cognitive process which should not be ignored by researchers.

¹⁰ Map biography expert, Toby Tobias, says that the vast majority of Aboriginal informants who participated in his land use and occupancy surveys spoke English or French, and could read maps. Moreover, they used the official toponyms on NTS maps to way-find during the interviews. Although, detailed toponymic work was not required in preparation for his research, his informants did require a certain number of toponymic anchor points on the NTS maps in order to facilitate way-finding. Tobias acknowledges that a more detailed toponymic basemap may be required where informants speak only their Aboriginal language and cannot read maps (personal communication, January 2006).

¹¹ “Place names aid in the appropriation of landscape by an Aboriginal society. Naming is a creative process that anchors a society to a specific geographical area

than relying exclusively on their own transcriptions of Innu words or the approximate, phonetically-based spellings of their co-researchers.¹ That way, the names will be comprehensible to literate Innu throughout the Innu territory, no matter what dialect they speak. Whether or not the majority of Innu become fully literate in the future so that they can appropriate “archeonyms” into their linguistic community is another question altogether. Nonetheless, the use of reliable Innu toponyms that are spelled according to a consistent orthography will at least promote the development of a coherent Innu-aimun-based site naming system among archaeologists working in Labrador and adjacent parts of Quebec. 

Examples of Labrador Innu toponyms²

Amatsnuatakan - Ascending Portage.

Ashtunishish kanitsbit - Where Ashtunishish Camped. Ashtunishish is the Innu name of late Philip Michel Sr.

Ashuapamatikuan - Waiting for Caribou Place.

Etuat-shipiss – Edward Brook, named after the late Edward Rich who was employed by the HBC post at Sheshatshiu from 1869 to 1876. He spent summers salmon-fishing for the Company and winters hunting at the mouth of a brook flowing into the Churchill River.

Ishkneun-akunishkneun - Woman's Cap. The hill has the shape of an Innu women's traditional red and black cap. The hill should not be pointed at with the finger, otherwise a strong wind will come up making it very difficult to paddle a canoe.

Kanapatesbekat - Mountain with a Cliff on One Side.

Kanutishipenanut - Where People Hunt Ducks.

Kapatakuenanut - Where People Singed a Porcupine.

Kapimishikamasht - Lake That Intersects a Travel Route.

Kapishkutauakat - Lump Shaped Hill.

Pikuanipanan-shipiss - Winter Net Setting Place River (small).

Pinen-matshiteniau - Partridge Point.

Teshpitakan kaiakutet - Where a Scaffold Was Erected.

Tshipatapissinikan-nipi - Cairn Lake. A cairn was built on an island on the lake.

Uitshitshimushish kanipaiat atikua - Where Uitshitshimushish Killed Caribou.

Unaikan-shipiss - Deadfall Trap River (small).

Utshashumekuat katshikakuatakanibt - Place Where Salmon Were Spared.

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¹ For guidance in how to spell Innu words, archaeologists should consult the Innu Education Authority in Sheshatshiu which is promoting a consistent orthography, or a linguist with Innu-aimun expertise (e.g. Marguerite MacKenzie, innulang@mun.ca).

² Consistent spellings, translations, and explanations of these toponyms provided by José Mailhot.

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Burnside Heritage Foundation Inc

2005 Archaeology

Laurie McLean

The BHF continued excavating and monitoring a number of sites within its study area in 2005. Monitoring consists of evaluating the effects of natural erosion and human activity on sites. This is important for the Burnside region as many sites are under attack from rising sea levels and, to a lesser degree, from hikers, boaters and cabin owners. The Beaches site, lying about 13 km north of Burnside on the coast, and the Sailor South site, in the community of Salvage, were the primary localities for this year.

BHF archaeological teams have visited the Beaches site each year since 1989, conducting a number of excavations and measuring ongoing erosion which has washed away 31,000 m² of the 35,000 m² reported there in 1872. A 90 m long retaining wall erected by the BHF in 1995 has not stopped erosion at the site, prompting construction of a new wooden barrier in 2004. The six-meter long wall built in 2004 utilized squared lumber instead of round logs and proved to be much more resistant to the effects of rising sea level. In 2005, we built another six-metre long wall section, consisting of squared lumber, in front of a severely eroding piece of the site's southern border. This year's breakwater was built where erosion had exposed aboriginal hearth remains in the bank during the 2004 field season. The two new retaining walls lie 48 meters apart and we hope to build a new breakwater in front of the remainder of the over-100 meter long eroding bank over the next few years.

When we returned to the Beaches on July 29, 2005 we observed many fire-cracked rocks and rhyolite chips, debris from tool-making, lying on the beach in front of the bank where the hearth remains were noted in 2004. We cleaned up the soil and cultural material that had fallen to the tidal level before pegging off the section to be excavated. 104 stone artifacts recovered through this exercise included 102 flakes and 2 fire-cracked rocks. The majority of the flakes, 96 in all, were rhyolite, the raw material aboriginal people obtained in Bloody Bay Cove which lies eight kilometers south of the Beaches. The Bloody Bay Cove quarry was discovered during the 1989-90 BHF field seasons and we have conducted a number of excavations there since then.

Our goal was not to excavate the entire hearth at the Beaches this year as we did not know how many meters it proceeded inwards from the bank and we did not have time to determine its complete area before building the retaining wall. Rather, we excavated minimal strips along the bank, between 16 and 75 cm wide, in order to leave a straight edge that would facilitate installing the proposed barrier. The 5.5 meter long excavated strip produced 4456 stone artifacts that primarily consisted of rhyolite flakes (87%/n = 3874). Another 338 flakes of white quartz and four of chert raised the total flakes to 4216, 94.6% of the recovered artifacts. Although seven rhyolite bifaces, partly finished implements, were recovered among the 240 non-flake items, they did not indicate the cultural group responsible for the hearth. The majority of non-flake artifacts, n = 194, consisted of white quartz cores which appear to have had small

chips/flakes hammered from their surface. The absence of finished tools and additional bone, other than three small fragments recovered, is attributable to our digging only part of the hearth and the loss of culturally diagnostic artifacts through erosion.

A charcoal sample was collected from a cluster of fire-cracked rocks and charcoal located approximately in the centre of the excavation. The sample was radiocarbon dated to 560 ± 40 years ago, telling us that the Beothuks ancestors living at the Beaches a few generations before the onset of Newfoundland's historic period made and used this hearth. This would be the people named the Little Passage complex by archaeologists. Particular types of stone arrow heads, spear heads, knives, and other stone artifacts associated with these people have been found at the Beaches site. Changes to the Little Passage way of life during the historic period resulted in the Beothuk adaptation

Once we had straightened the bank, profiled and photographed it, we could build the retaining wall. The completed structure is 20' long x 33" high. The westernmost 4' adjoin the rest of the wall at a 45° angle to protect the 70 cm wide corner at the western end of the excavation. The finished breakwater east of the 45° extension is not perfectly straight due to the presence of bedrock under thin beach gravel which did not permit placing post holes where we would have preferred. Finally, long planks fixed the breakwater to large trees on the bank.

Other Artifacts Collected Along The Eroding Bank

As mentioned above, the Beaches' total eroding edge is over 100 meters long, actually close to 150 meters. Stone flakes and other artifacts are commonly found along this exposed face. Unfortunately, we did not have sufficient time and resources to build a barrier in front of this entire surface in 2005. Sustained erosion during 2005 and 2006 will result in sections of bank falling to the beach with countless artifacts and associated information being lost. Therefore, we decided to salvage endangered sections of the bank by collecting fallen clumps of sod/soil, recording their location according to our grid and carrying them back to Burnside. These were screened when rain or wind did not permit travelling to the Beaches. Once the slumped soil had been cleaned up, we cut sections of the overhanging bank that were about to collapse, recorded their locations and carried the earthen clumps back to Burnside for screening.

This salvage exercise recovered 967 stone artifacts from 35 collection points along 80 meters of eroding bank. 626 of the objects were made on Bloody Bay Cove rhyolite, 298 were white quartz, with a few chert, Ramah Chert, quartz crystal, sandstone and granite items also present. 847 (88%) of the sample consisted of flakes, including 606 rhyolite and 211 quartz examples, but a

endblade, two endscrapers and 104 cores also were present. The types of artifacts present and their distribution along the bank add to our plotting of important areas at the site and indicate where the next protective measures might be best employed.

Excavations at Sailor South (Deaj-5)

BHF worker Marg Dyke discovered rhyolite flakes on the surface of an ATV path on Salvage's "Back Side" during the 2002 field season. Test excavations during 2002 and 2003 produced 1574 stone artifacts pertaining to the Dorset Paleoeskimo people. This preliminary examination of the Sailor South site did not reveal the presence of a hearth, house or other feature that would provide much more information about the nature of this Dorset occupation. Therefore, in 2005 we undertook further sampling of Sailor South, looking for such material. This site is accessible via a short walk which enabled us to work here on windy days that were unsuitable for travelling by boat to the Beaches site.

A 1 x 6 metre long trench was excavated this year, encompassing part of the ATV path where artifacts were initially found here. The trench is located in a small level area five to six meters from the shoreline and suggests an attractive location for a campsite. We recovered 1635 stone artifacts and four recent historic items from the trench. Following the pattern among most Bonavista Bay aboriginal sites, the majority of items were made on rhyolite from Bloody Bay Cove. Four endblades, which are stone points for spear heads, three unfinished endblades, referred to as preforms, an endscraper and a thumbnail scraper from the trench are evidence for Dorset Paleoeskimos.

Artifacts increased in number throughout the trench's six squares, moving southwards. Charcoal present in the southeast corner of S11 E0 continued into S12 E0 where it is associated with a few fire-cracked rocks lying near the 43 cm high bedrock. This suggests a small Dorset hearth built against the low bedrock backdrop. Charcoal was collected, but has not been submitted for radiocarbon dating.

Surface Collections In 2005

The Sailor Site (DeAj-1)

As mentioned earlier, rising sea level is gradually destroying many sites around Burnside. 100 meters north of the Sailor South locality, a small Paleoeskimo deposit is all that remains of a multi-component occupation called the Sailor site (DeAj-1). Early in the 1950s, excavation of gravel pit that provided fill for the highway being built

from Eastport to Salvage destroyed much of this site. The remaining portion is eroding along a low 15 meter long sod baulk.


Salvage residents have collected artifacts from the road and tidal area where the pit was dug. BHF teams visit the Sailor site each year, looking for cultural material on the surface. 156 stone items and one historic potsherd (refined white earthenware) were recovered this year from the beach and the eroding bank. Stone objects include 148 flakes, six cores, a biface and an asymmetric knife. 139 of the artifacts were made on Bloody Bay Cove rhyolite.

Bloody Bay Cove

Since identifying the Bloody Bay Cove rhyolite quarry in 1989-90, BHF archaeological teams have found nine sites within this complex. Bloody Bay Cove-1 (DeAl-1), discovered by Paul Carignan in 1970, is another lithic station associated with the quarry, raising the total number of Bloody Bay Cove sites to 10. Partial excavation of some of these activity areas and rhyolite outcrops since 1993 have recorded over 16,000 stone artifacts with hundreds of thousands of rhyolite flakes waiting further analysis.

We had planned to excavate part of Bloody Bay Cove-3 (DeAl-5) in 2005, but time did not permit this. BHF workers made a number of visits to the quarry on boat tours and for archaeological surface appraisals. 11 artifacts were collected at the Charlie site (DeAl-11), the quarry's largest outcrop-activity area and 24 were recovered from the surface of Bloody Bay Cove-2 (DeAl-6), a reduction centre. Samples of Bloody Bay Cove rhyolite were delivered to the Geo Centre on Signal Hill. Eight items were identified at Bloody Bay Cove-1 and 39 rhyolite artifacts were collected at the Bloody Bay Cove Summit (DeAl-9). A brief visit from Irish archaeologist Gabriel Cooney helped identify a number of discrete knapping episodes at the Summit site. Flakes from one of these encapsulated activity areas were subsequently refitted to form parts of two cores.

Plans For 2006

If all goes well, the BHF will carry our further salvage excavations and continue expanding the retaining wall at the Beaches site in 2006. We will also keep looking for diagnostic cultural evidence at the Bloody Bay Cove quarry. If time permits, we would like to accelerate our surveying of the coastline around Burnside, an activity that has fallen in scope over the past two seasons. The Burnside interpretation centre will be open daily and boat tours will be provided to the Beaches and Bloody Bay Cove. We hope to see you in Burnside. 



The Beaches site, 2005. Original retaining wall is in centre foreground, 2005 wall is brown-coloured, towards left hand side. (McLean)



Excavating hearth remains (note fire-cracked rocks) in the Beaches' eroding bank. (McLean)

The Bird Cove - Plum Point Archaeology Project

Summary of 2005 Fieldwork

Latonia Hartery

The 2005 season of the Bird Cove - Plum Point Archaeology Project involved an attempt to balance out the project's research focus. Since Reader's initial 1997 survey the majority of scholarly undertakings have been based on the pre-contact sites in Bird Cove. However, the historic sites of Bird Cove - Plum Point are equally as interesting as their earlier counterparts.

In the 1960s, the construction of roadways reduced the number of historic sites by physically plowing through them, both to clear land for the road itself and to acquire raw materials for road building. Casualties of this process can be found at Front Point, Brig Bay and French Cove, Bird Cove. In contrast, Old Ferolle Island in Plum Point, which is accessible only by boat, has numerous features intact, disturbed only by the inherent ravages of time. Most of the sites here are related to the Basque and French migratory cod fishery.

Historic documents make it clear that Old Ferolle (now officially known as Plum Point) has had an eventful past. According to Pierres Detcheverry's 1677 Basque publication of west coast Newfoundland sailing directions, the Old Ferolle area was initially called *Etchaire Portu* by Spanish Basques. By 1602, maps showed the location as *Ferrol Çabarra* after Ferrol, Galicia in NW Spain, since both areas shared the common trait of having a safe harbour with deep water. In addition to Basque cod fishing, there are a number of documents that describe the French fishery at Old Ferolle. When combined with Captain Cook's 1768 publication which charts Old Ferolle Island (based on Cook's 1764 survey in the area), and Miot's photos of French fisherman on the island, the written and photographic records provide a solid base to begin archaeological research. Even more impressive, is the view that a simple boat ride around Old Ferolle Island affords as it reveals a coastline strewn with stone footings of structures, bread ovens, and stone cut pathways/partitions.

The 2005 season solely concentrated on surveying the southwest portion of Old Ferolle Island at Old Ferolle Beach (EgBf-5). Before test pitting, we relocated the 23 features recorded by Jacques Whitford Environment Limited (JWEL), who briefly surveyed the island in 1993. Most features were covered with thick overgrowth, still visible and indicative of future finds. Once these features were accounted for, we added a few new ones to the list. Amidst our research team was a young Basque anthropologist, Iraitz Aguire Araugurea. Her in-depth knowledge of Basque culture history, and incredible efficiency in playing Basque cultural music, put our research into perspective and made the ties between our two geographically-separated regions less a product of the past.

The 1993 survey revealed materials such as Normandy stoneware, brown faïence holloware, and possible French-Basque coarse earthenware. Our survey was carried out to the east of Thomson's test pits in a natural dip in the otherwise level topography of the island, which the locals call "The Hollow". The ceramics, mostly Normandy stoneware, and pipes we recovered expanded on previous research and dated activity in this area of the island to c. 1750-1850, and perhaps before 1800 since no refined earthenware was found.

The historical documents and artifactual evidence indicates that Old Ferolle Island was used as a fishing station by mariners from the Basque region of Spain and France in the late 16th century, and later, from the Normandy area of France. The majority of remains recovered by JWEL, and now by the Bird Cove-Plum Point Archaeology Project, are largely related to the French presence on the island. Additional archival research in Europe, Newfoundland & Labrador and the Gulf of St. Lawrence region is necessary if we are to fully understand the history of use of this island and area. In addition, comparisons need to be made between the research results from Old Ferolle with other results garnered by active researchers who are focusing on the French Shore in Newfoundland. 🗝️



Basque anthropologist Iraitz Aguire on a stone feature at Old Ferolle Beach (Hartery)



Stone pathways/partitions on Old Ferolle Island (Hartery)

Smithsonian research in Labrador

Summer 2005

Stephen Loring

Smithsonian research in Labrador during the summer of 2005 was “eventful” to say the least. Stephen Loring, with colleagues and students, participated in three separate projects that had him surviving the to be expected onslaught of mosquitoes and black-flies (“about average density” in his opinion), as well as visitations by bears (black and white) and at least two vicious storms. He also survived going adrift at sea (once when the speed-boat line wrapped around the prop on the *Jason’s Pride* and once when the alternator belt broke), setting himself on fire (a faulty Coleman stove), falling off the dock at Nain while attached to a 90-pound boulder --a.k.a. “scientific specimen”--and finding himself surrounded by over 7000 caribou.

Summer Prelude

The Labrador summer began auspiciously enough. In June Stephen was a keynote speaker at the Labrador Exploration Symposium held in Northwest River which convened a hundred years to the minute on the anniversary of the departure of Mina Hubbard’s party, into the wilds of Labrador. The Hubbard story is one of the great melodramas of northern Canadian exploration, not so much for the geographical or scientific work accomplished (which was minor), but for the drama of the intrepid woman explorer accomplishing the journey that had defeated her husband (Leonidas had died of starvation and exposure two years earlier when his party went astray and suffered terribly). The whole story of the Hubbard expeditions to Labrador (1903-1905) is told in *Great Heart* by Jim Davidson and John Rugge (1988). Davidson and Rugge’s book must be credited with reviving all the hullabaloo over Mina’s accomplishments and the near canonization of Ms. Hubbard as one of those plucky post-Victorian women explorers much beloved in woman’s studies seminars.

Central Coast of Labrador Community Archaeology Program – VI: Napatalik Island

The archaeology component of the summer commenced in early July when Stephen returned to Makkovik for a sixth summer as director of the Central Coast of Labrador Community Archaeology Project. Since 1999 the Smithsonian’s Arctic Studies Center and a suite of collaborative entities in Newfoundland, Labrador and the States, has been conducting an annual summer field-school centered about the Inuit-Metis community of Makkovik on the central Labrador coast. In addition to conducting important archaeological research the community goals of the program include the following: 1) to work in conjunction with the Labrador Integrated School Board and local schools, to develop a program on archaeology as an integral feature of High School curriculum; 2) to provide training and employment opportunities for Inuit students and young people in the field of archaeology; 3) to work with local communities and historical societies to identify archaeological and historical resources in the vicinity of the community; and 4) foster pride in Labrador culture and heritage.

The 2003 field-season saw the completion of the fieldwork anticipated at the mid-18th century Labrador Inuit winter-house settlement at Long Tickle/Adlavik Harbour. The excavated materials are currently under-going analysis and conservation by a team of American and Canadian researchers in consultation with community elders. A small book about the site, designed for use in Labrador’s grade-school curriculum, *Anguti’s Amulet: Archaeology at Adlavik, Labrador* (co-authored by Stephen Loring, Leah Rosenmeier and the Makkovik student archaeologists) was published recently (send request for copies to Stephen Loring at the Smithsonian). By all respects the project has been a great success. Local community and Labrador Inuit Association (LIA) supporters were encouraging about a continuation of the CCLAP program. Having witnessed the

success of the Makkovik project Stephen Loring was approached by LIA members to continue the archaeology program at another site that might facilitate extending the program to include the Inuit community at Hopedale. Both Hopedale and Makkovik have local museums that are desirous to display materials derived from earlier Paleoeskimo sites. Towards that end it was decided to conduct a preliminary investigation of a Middle Dorset Paleoeskimo site situated near the Inuit community of Hopedale, to assess its significance as the loci for a subsequent multi-year research project.

Archaeology at Windy Tickle.

The Dorset or *Tunit* were the immediate Paleoeskimo predecessors of the Inuit in the eastern Canadian Arctic. Colonizing Early Dorset peoples appear to arrive in northern Labrador around 2600-2400 B.P. gradually spreading down along the northern coast. By Middle Dorset times (ca. 2000 to 1400 B.P.) Dorset people are firmly entrenched along the northern Labrador coast and on the island of Newfoundland. Although the presence of Labrador lithic raw materials in Newfoundland Dorset assemblages attests to some sort of communication between the desperate populations, Dorset presence along the central and southern Labrador coasts (between Hopedale and the Strait of Belle Isle) appears to be tenuous at best, perhaps due to the presence of coeval Indian groups. In the island archipelago south of the entrance to Windy Tickle –just north of Hopedale–, Smithsonian researchers in 1975 discovered a pair of Middle Dorset winter sites with semi-subterranean sod-houses: Napatalik North-1 (GjCc-6) and the Hettasch Dorset site (GjCb-1). Situated at the southern boundary of the Dorset culture in Labrador, in an area of known marine mammal and fish abundance, the Windy Tickle sites were thought to have the potential to address a number of intriguing questions about Dorset subsistence and the nature of Dorset social interactions (between Dorset groups in northern Labrador and Newfoundland and resident Indian populations along the central Labrador coast).

It was anticipated that field work at Windy Tickle would present an opportunity to explore the role of trade in providing a unifying dimension to Dorset cultural identity, as the Windy Tickle sites are uniquely situated at the southern limit of Labrador Dorset which in turn makes these sites among the closest to Dorset groups on Newfoundland and Indian groups in between. The Dorset families at Windy Tickle had access to important outcrops of steatite (for lamps) and nephrite (for burin and end-blade manufacture) and perhaps served as the middlemen for distribution of Ramah chert from northern Labrador which figures significantly in Newfoundland Dorset and intervening Indian sites.

The 2005 field-work on Napatalik was concentrated at the site of Napatalik North-1 (GjCc-6) on the excavation of one of two Middle Dorset houses that had been previously located. It was anticipated that the structures and their associated middens, if similar to other Labrador Middle and Late Dorset sites --such as Koliktalik (HdCg-2) near Nain and Shuldham Island-9 (IdCq-22) in Saglek-- would be quite extensive, produce many hundreds of stone tools, and necessitate several seasons to carefully excavate. The limited goals of the 2005 field-season at Windy Tickle was to assess the practicality of the setting and the site to host a community based research project, to visit the site, conduct some preliminary excavations to determine the extent of preservation of faunal remains or other organics: essentially to get the information needed to set-up a multi-year archaeology project that addresses the interests and concerns of the community of Hopedale. Surprisingly for us the cultural deposits at Napatalik North-1 proved to be quite shallow with

relatively poor faunal preservation. As it turned out, in the course of our fieldwork our team was able to completely excavate one of the two houses and excavate a majority of that house's midden.

The fieldwork at Napatalik was conducted between July 15th and August 6th. Co-directing the project at Hopedale was Beatrix Arendt, a PhD-candidate in archaeology at the University of Virginia. Our crew consisted of four Inuit students, Ashley Abel and Jackie Basto from Hopedale and Chantelle Andersen and Jillian Mitchell from Makkovik.

Contrary to expectations the Dorset house we chose to excavate contained only a very thin cultural deposit with a rather sparse stone-tool assemblage. As a consequence we were able to completely excavate the House-2 structure as well as about 60% of the adjacent house-2 midden. House-2 proved to be a shallow, oval, semi-subterranean structure about 6x4 meters with a central box-hearth made of opposing pairs of vertically set stone slabs. A modest stone tool assemblage of several hundred artifacts was recovered. Interestingly the assemblage was characterized by heavily used, exhausted and broken stone tools and a relatively small amount of Ramah chert debitage. Steatite and nephrite tools were recovered but not in significant amounts given the proximity of the site to both known and presumed lithic source outcrops. A very preliminary impression of the assemblage is that it is derived from a relatively short-lived occupation, perhaps a single season, by a group under some logistical constraints. In many respects, especially in the house architecture and the small lithic assemblage, the Napatalik Dorset house is remarkably similar to a structure at Iglusuaktialuk Island-4 West (HhCj-5) excavated by Steven Cox in 1975 as part of his dissertation research in the Okak archipelago. The Iglusuaktialuk Island-4 structure has two associated radiocarbon dates -- 1685±70 B.P. and 1860±90 B.P. -- which are slightly earlier than the one date previously reported on the Napatalik North site by William Fitzhugh: 1510±100 B.P. Fortunately the 2005 excavations recovered a number of excellent charcoal samples and a very good suite of paired (seal-mammal fat and wood charcoal) samples have been submitted for radiocarbon determinations. While not providing the hoped for extensive cultural deposits that would warrant a multi-year endeavor excavations at Napatalik promise to form an excellent contribution to our understanding and appreciation of Middle Dorset social and economic activities on the central Labrador Coast.

In the course of rainy days and late afternoons informal pedestrian surveys wandered over much of Napatalik Island. In addition to relocating the sites previously reported by William Fitzhugh and his colleagues in 1972, 1973 and 1984 we located a number of Labrador Inuit grave sites and stone fox-traps (probably associated with the sod-house village site located on the western-side of the island) and discovered a small Maritime Archaic site (Napatalik-6) adjacent to a bog in the center of the island. Small test excavations were conducted in a circular Maritime Archaic house-pit (Napatalik North-5) situated in a high boulder-field on the east side of the island and at a Paleoeskimo axial-hearth structure (Napatalik North-7) located a hundred meters or so to the south of the Dorset sod-house features. Diagnostic artifacts were not recovered at either excavation.

North Coast Survey: Moravian Mission Stations and Ramah Chert

At the conclusion of the Napatalik fieldwork Loring and Arendt, along with Kevin McAleese of the Newfoundland Museum (who

joined them at Nain) teamed-up with MUN colleague Derek Wilton (professor in the Earth Sciences Department) and Altius—a mineral exploration company based in St. John's, Newfoundland—to share the charter of the *Jason's Pride* to Ramah Bay. The two research objectives for the Smithsonian party were to 1) conduct a detailed assessment of the geological deposits containing Ramah chert (a lithic raw material of tremendous significance for the Indian and Inuit inhabitants of Labrador and the Maritime Northeast for over 7000 years) and, 2) conduct research on the nature of the social, economic and ideological interaction between the Moravian Mission and Labrador Inuit communities in the late-19th century. In consideration of the later, during the course of the northward voyage, the party made detailed assessments of the now abandoned Moravian-Inuit communities at Zoar, Okak, Hebron and Ramah. Beatrix Arendt is interested in developing a community-archaeology initiative with the L.I.A. and the Nunatsiavut government as part of her PhD research at the University of Virginia. Ms. Arendt has had considerable experience at working on 18th century sites in the mid-Atlantic and is fluent in German. Having previously worked with Loring in preparing a report on archaeological research conducted at Hebron in the summer of 1990 she has become interested in the social and economic dynamics inherent in the Inuit adoption of Christianity. Her research proposes to explore the role(s) that ideology and Christian theology play in aligning group allegiance to both external and internal forces. By examining the structure of Inuit communities (clusters of sod-houses) and house-holds she hopes to determine Inuit agency through the “patterns of choice” they use to incorporate, accept or reject “modern” social and material elements introduced by the Moravians. A multi-year research program at Moravian and Inuit sites like Hebron and Ramah has the potential to significantly expand an awareness and appreciation of the 19th century Inuit and Moravian tenure in northern Labrador. Towards this end, along with Loring and McAleese's research interests at the Ramah chert quarries, we set out on our northern voyage.

During the voyage north the *Jason's Pride* itinerary was primarily in response by the wishes of the geologists and their interests in investigating outcrops at localities in the Kiglapait's, on Okak and Opengviksoak Islands in the Okak archipelago, at sites in the Kaumajet massive and in Saglek Fiord. Taking the opportunity to go ashore, the archaeology team identified a number of small Paleoeskimo and Labrador Inuit sites at every landing, many of which had been previously visited by Smithsonian and Newfoundland Museum archaeologists in the 1980's.

Perhaps the most interesting of these short stops was a visit to the western shore of Opingiviksuak Island in Okak, where we discovered (re-discovered as it turned out) a pair of Dorset sites (HiCj-2 and 3) eroding out of a dune feature. Unknown to us at the time this site had previously been discovered and collected by Steven Cox during his earlier reconnaissance of Okak Bay in 1975 and reported in detail in his Harvard dissertation. Our visit to the site adds little to that previously reported although our collection greatly enhances the assemblage that Cox recovered. Next to one of the stone features Beatrix Arendt discovered a portion of a beautifully crafted Dorset steatite lamp. The Opingiviksuak Island-2 lamp is a significant contribution to the corpus of known Middle Dorset lamps from Labrador (including those from Koliktalik and Iglusuaktialuk Island-4 West (HhCj-5) being exceptionally well made with thin walls and lug handles.

At Ramah Bay

The desire to further investigate the archaeological potential of work at Ramah Bay was the main impetus behind the northern trip. Unfortunately the expense of securing a boat charter to northern Labrador limited our stay in the Ramah vicinity to three days, 16-18 August, one of which was devoted to a trip to the Ramah chert quarry bowl, the other two to surveying and testing in the vicinity of the Ramah Bay Mission station.

Building on earlier research by Gramly (1978), Lazenby (1980), Loring (2002) and others this summer's fieldwork consisted of a desire to make a detailed reconnaissance and assessment of the prehistoric quarrying activities at the “Quarry Bowl” at Ramah Bay. The Quarry Bowl represents one of the more accessible localities for procuring Ramah chert --the lithic raw material that figures so significantly in the entire prehistoric sequence in Newfoundland and Labrador. According to Derek Wilton, in terms of both accessibility and stone-tool quality raw material, the quarry bowl locality is by far the best location in the entire Ramah series. Although the Ramah chert geological beds stretch from the north shore of Saglek fiord through to the southern shore of Nachvak, in many places the chert outcrops midway up practically inaccessible cliff faces. Ramah chert occurs as talus at the base of these cliffs but there appear to be few relatively accessible places where the chert can be easily acquired. One conclusion we reached based on our observations at the quarry bowl is that - most likely - stone was acquired from fallen blocks in the talus as opposed to being quarried directly from chert outcrops. One of the goals of this summer's research was to conduct detailed micro-sampling of the geological deposits in order to acquire a fine-grained fingerprint of the range of chemical and mineral variation, as well as colour and texture throughout the chert deposit.

The second phase of the Ramah Bay research was to further assess the significance of the archaeological deposits and features associated with the Moravian Mission station at Ramah. The Moravian Mission at Ramah (1878-1909) was a curious attempt to administer to a surprisingly small Inuit congregation in an effort to “capture” the last unattached “wild” or “heathen” Inuit in Labrador and to challenge attempts by the Hudson's Bay Company and other commercial interests to gain inroads to Inuit trade that the Moravians had long held monopolies to. Beatrix Arendt (University of Virginia) is interested in conducting dissertation research on the nature of the social, economic and ideological interaction between the Moravian Mission and Labrador Inuit communities in the late-19th century through a comparison of historical documents with the materiality of Labrador Inuit sites. A closer examination of the social, cultural and economic interaction between the Moravians and the Inuit should be apparent when comparing Inuit households at the more central Moravian settlements like Nain—occupied 1770 to the present-- (Cabak 1990) and Hebron—occupied 1830-1959-- (Arendt and Loring 2000) with peripheral sites like Ramah. 2005 fieldwork was limited to the excavation of a pair of small test-pits in the Inuit village midden to determine the extent, depth and preservation conditions and to mapping and photographing the village area. It is very clear from our brief visit and to the subsequent visit at Hebron that a multi-year research program at these northern Moravian stations closely coordinated with the Nunatsiavut government, Parks Canada, and provincial interests (like tourism) would both provide a wonderful cultural experience for Inuit youth as well as significantly expand an awareness and appreciation of the 19th century Inuit and Moravian tenure in northern Labrador.

Anguti's Amulet, Makkovik

Loring arrived back in Makkovik on August 24th in time to participate in the celebrations surrounding the launch of the book *Anguti's Amulet*, a community archaeology publication detailing the results of the fieldwork (1999-2004) at the 18th century Labrador Inuit village site at Long Tickle in the Adlavik Islands south of Makkovik. The booklet had been written by the entire archaeology team with significant input by the student archaeologists, community representatives and the archaeology co-directors Stephen Loring and Leah Rosenmeier as part of a commitment to community interests as part of the Central Coast of Labrador Archaeology Project. The story, based on oral histories, Moravian Mission accounts, and archaeology was crafted by our archaeology team during stormy weather when we could not work at the site. The booklet was prepared as course curriculum material for Inuit students in Labrador and is the first publication in Labrador Inuktitut prepared for classroom use. Generous grants from the Labrador School Board, the Arctic Studies Center and the International Grenfell Association enabled us to distribute the book throughout the Labrador school system. Copies of the booklet can be acquired from Joan Andersen (White Elephant Museum, Makkovik, Labrador AOP 1J0) or from Stephen Loring (Smithsonian Institution, NMNH MRC-112, PO Box 37012, Washington DC 20013-7012).

Tshikapisk Archaeology: with the Innu at Kamishtashtin

In September Stephen Loring rendezvoused with Innu colleagues from the Tshikapisk Foundation (an Innu experiential education program) and flew into Kamishtashtin (in Innu-aimun "the place where the wind blows everything off the ground") where he conducted an archaeological training program with a group of Innu youth. The genesis for the research at Kamishtashtin comes directly from the Innu community of Sheshatshit, specifically from the Sheshatshit Band Council and the Tshikapisk Foundation. The project combines Loring's long-term research interests in Innu history, archaeology and culture with a research and training program geared to provide training and opportunities for Innu students. The Tshikapisk Foundation, an Innu educational initiative centered in Sheshatshiu, is committed to developing the Kamishtashtin camp as part of an experiential education program aimed at providing land-based Innu culture-centered training and experiences for Innu young people. An applied side of this program seeks to provide employment opportunities for Innu living in the country as research fieldworkers, fishing guides and leaders in adventure tourism initiatives. Integral to the archaeological research at Kamishtashtin is its commitment to training Innu students in the full-range of cultural resource preservation and management and provide instruction in cultural heritage, geology, and environmental studies that would enable Innu guides to lead subsequent visitors to the region while assuring that cultural and ecological resources were not severely impacted.

Innu archaeological research at Kamishtashtin began in 1999 and has continued to the present day. Under the co-direction of Anthony Jenkinson (Tshikapisk Foundation, Sheshatshit) and Stephen Loring more than 30 archaeological and historical site localities have been identified in the country surrounding the lake. This fall a brief archaeological reconnaissance and testing program provided documentation on several sites that appear to represent some of the oldest known Maritime Archaic sites in Labrador. As well, the first trace of a Paleoeskimo presence in the interior was documented by Jenkinson who found a Late Dorset stemmed biface on a beach near the outlet of the lake. Made of an unusual banded

grey chert that is not at all common on the Labrador coast had us speculating that perhaps the artifact originated in Ungava. Loring has long suspected that there must have been some sort of trading and/or interaction between Middle and Late Dorset and ancestral-Innu groups on the Labrador coast. Perhaps – and its all speculation at this point—with the arrival of the Inuit in northernmost Labrador and the disruption to former relationships predicated on Ramah chert procurement may have led to social alignments stretching from the interior of Labrador north to Ungava Bay.



Late Dorset stemmed biface from Kamishtashtin (Loring)

Another exciting aspect of the fall research program at Kamishtashtin was a brief stint of helicopter support provided by Altius (here a conspicuous note of thanks to Altius president Roland Butler and the head of the Labrador operations, Wayne Broomfield) which enabled us to conduct archaeological surveys to the south of Kamishtashtin, in the country between Kamishtashtin and Border Beacon, where Tshikapisk survey teams had previously identified several significant Maritime Archaic sites, and to the north of Kamishtashtin at Long Pond, an important point on the Innu travel route between the George River and Emish (Voisey's Bay). At Long Pond we were able to relocate the old Innu camp where, in 1910, William Brooks Cabot photographed the skull of a bear that the Innu had placed in a ceremonial fashion upon a long wooden pole. Recent analysis of the Cabot photograph has led Stephen Loring and Arthur Spiess to make a tentative identification of it as having belonged to a barren-ground grizzly bear. Results of this research have been submitted for publication to Arctic and should appear later this year.

Stephen Loring concluded his summer's fieldwork on the 14th of the George River caribou herd, as over 7000 animals passed by September with the arrival, at Kamishtashtin, of the first phalanx (and sometimes over) the archaeological sites. 🖋️



Old signal canon at the site of the abandoned Moravian Mission community at Okak (Loring)



Close-up of the box hearth excavated in House-2 at the Napatalik North-1 site. (Loring)



Collapsed Innu tent structure from ca. 1900, Long Pond (Loring)

Provincial Archaeology Office: Miscellaneous Field Trips

Northern Peninsula, Southern Labrador and Avalon Peninsula Stephen Hull & Delphina Mercer

In June 2005, the authors (PAO Staff) traveled across the island en route to southern Labrador. While driving over the bridge at St. Paul's Inlet (on the north side) we saw the new wharf expansion that the PAO approved earlier in the year and noticed how the land around the wharf was heavily disturbed. Knowing that there was a site close to the expansion and seeing the disturbance we decided to check on the condition of the site above. We immediately noticed flakes eroding from a high bank next to the road to the wharf. On

the higher terrace where the site is located we found a ~60 m long, 1-1.5 m wide and ~1m deep trench dug from near the saltwater back to the woods near the highway. Most of the southern half of the trench contained out of context lithics including a lot of black & grey chert as well as a lot of other fine grain chert pieces and a few pieces of pink quartzite. We also noted a lot of fire-cracked rock, calcined bone, some of which was thick, possibly from caribou long bones, as well as charcoal. All of which we think came from at least two hearths, visible in the trench wall. It is possible that there was just one long hearth. In either case, the indications of a hearth were visible for about 4-5m in the trench. Of the lithic material we collected there were no formal artifacts beyond flakes and cores.



Trench that has disturbed the site in St. Paul's (Hull)

Pinware Provincial Park plans to expand their current services to include a larger area for motor homes and an expanded turn-around area. The PAO was asked to survey the areas to be expanded. During recent work within the park on washroom facilities, the park employees recovered pipe stems, ceramics and flakes during the digging. We tested the area around the washrooms and found no further material. Further archaeological work within the Park included:

- 30-40 test pits in the area to be used for an expansion to accommodate motor homes
- ~30 test pits in the area around the current warden's cabin to be used for further expansion
- We also tested an area inside the park to be used for new campsites.

In the latter two areas, we encountered heavy frost just under the topsoil. No historic resources were found in any of the areas.

We finished our work in the park by testing an area known locally as 'House of Frost'. The site has mounds of earth indicating the foundation for a small building that was 6.3m x 3.6m on the inside; apparently, the house was so cold during the winter that the house gained the name 'House of Frost'. One earth-mounded wall on the east (grid direction) was 4.2 m long and at least 85 cm high. On the west side there was an L shaped wall that was 4.5 m long along its long axis and 2.1m long on the short axis and was just 25cm high. Ray Flynn of L'Anse au Loup Labrador told us that when he was growing up in southern Labrador it was common practice to pile up earth, boughs or snow on the windward side of a house to block the predominant wind from penetrating the house. We believe that this was what the occupants of the House of Frost were doing.

We also took advantage of an offer to go across the Pinware River. We spent a day surveying the massive sand dunes on the eastern side of the river and recovered several biface fragments and noted several small flake scatters.



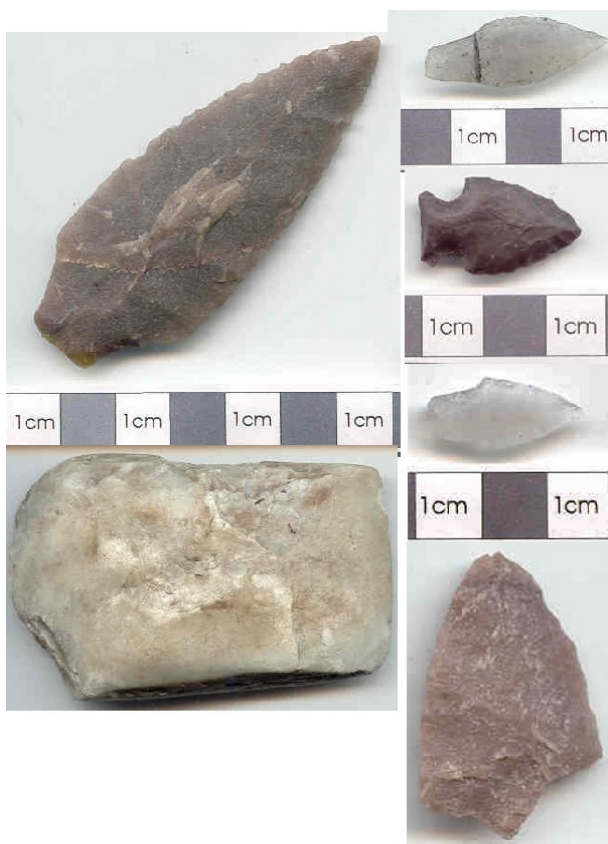
The 85cm high earthen mound at the House of Frost site (Hull)



Sand dunes on the eastern side of the Pinware River (Hull)

While completing our park work one of the park rangers, Bert locally. They included a large Maritime Archaic Indian stemmed red Hudson, said he had 'arrowheads' at home that he had collected quartzite point with a serrated blade, a small side-notched point of

fine grain red-brown chert, two small Ramah chert stemmed arrowheads, an incomplete nipple based point, three more incomplete points and a small slate axe.



Artifacts in the possession of Burt Hudson (Hull)

While in Pinware, we briefly surveyed the hill below the Pinware Hill site (EjBe-10). We found several new sites and revisited a known site. Interestingly, we noted how the lithic material changed as we increased elevation. Most consisted of little more than small flake & shatter scatters. The first and lowest elevation site had lithic material consisting entirely of grey & light grey chert, typical of Intermediate or late Maritime Archaic Indian occupations. Further up the hill the material was now clear quartz & quartzite flakes; this site was close to Pinware Knob (EjBe-73). Across the road from Pinware Knob, and at a slightly higher elevation, we saw more clear quartz & quartzite flakes. This material had a yellowish cast, similar to material we recovered from Pinware Hill (EjBe-10) two years ago. Finally, we reached what we believe is the Pinware Hill (EjBe-10) site and saw a large flake scatter of clear quartz & quartzite flakes spread over an area of ~ 6 m long and 2-3 m wide. The cultural material is eroding from the edges of the massive blowout just under the sod in a light grey sand layer. We collected an excellent charcoal sample mixed directly with many flakes, shatter and chunks of quartz & quartzite. We also collected several biface fragments. The charcoal was radiocarbon dated (with extended counting) to 7400 +/- 130 BP (Beta - 210314).

For part of an afternoon, we visited and test pitted the possible remains of Pierre Constantine's Fort (EjBe-60) in West St. Modeste. Local collectors have disturbed the fort on numerous occasions in the past. We dug five test pits both outside and what we thought

was inside the possible fort. The probable interior test pits had very little material in them. The exterior test pits contained coal, a pit or seed, possibly from some form of fruit such as a plum, red brick and iron fragments. One test pit, several metres away from the Fort, contained the most material we found in any of the test pits. It included a gun flint, a rusted pair of scissors, coarse earthenware with orange fabric and a yellow glaze on the inside, 20-25 pieces of iron, a pipe stem and bowl fragment, apparent case bottle glass, glass, burnt bone and a few other pieces of ceramic. In all cases, the material recovered was ~15-20 cm below the surface just under and in the bottom of the sod and just above a dense brownish-grey pug layer.



Scissors found at Constantine's Fort (Hull)

We also visited L'Anse au Diable where we found one new site and revisited another. The new site is near the cemetery in L'Anse au Diable and consisted of grey and white chert with several very large chunks (some larger than the palm of your hand). This material had recently eroded from the sod.

After searching in the L'Anse au Diable area we went back to L'Anse au Loup to search an area near L'Anse au Loup Brook that the town wants to develop for housing. We walked the east side of the brook following a very old trail. The trees are very dense and this will be a trying area to survey. However, it will need to be properly surveyed prior to the town's planned development. Half way back along the trail, we revisited a site and saw quartzite and grey chert flakes on the surface, as well as a few fire-cracked rocks. We then went to L'Anse au Clair, walked the Over Falls Brook trail and revisited the Over Falls Brook site.

On our return trip to St. John's, we stopped at Parson's Pond Town Hall for a pre-planned meeting with Adelaide Shears, town clerk, and three or four other residents all of whom had artifacts. Ms. Shears had seen recent reports of the excavation in Woody Point and wanted to discuss a similar excavation of sites in her town.

Most of the artifacts we saw at Parson's Pond Town Hall turned out to be Dorset, except for one large Beaches point and an unusual wooden carving found by a woman in her yard. It appears to depict a person of African descent in a kneeling position. The opposite end looks like a knife. The object is very unusual and its exact function is unclear, although it is certainly not of local origin.



Artifacts and carving seen at Parson's Pond (Hull)

Later in the summer, we also visited Ship Cove and the Cape St. Mary's Bird Sanctuary on the Avalon Peninsula. Our brief stop was done at Ship Cove was done to check on the condition of Ship Cove 1 (CgAm-01). Unfortunately, the PAO first investigated this site in January 1998 and the probable house pit that makes up the site was not visible. Our stop at the Cape St. Mary's Ecological Reserve was a little longer in duration and we noted several probable house/structural depressions.

Mr. Stan Tobin of Ship Cove reported Ship Cove 1 (CgAm-01) to the PAO in 1998; the site is on his land. According to Mr. Tobin,

the first known settlers of Ship Cove were John and Alice Skerry in 1794. Their daughters married Patrick Tobin and James Brennan. It is very unlikely that the depression we investigated dates to that age. It likely dates to the later occupants of the cove, from the mid-to-late 19th or early 20th century. The depression is about 12m long by 6-7m wide and has a hole at one end. Otherwise, the probable structure is little more than a large depression in a field. A brief search of the depression and an area of disturbed soil revealed little of archaeological value beyond recent debris and a few brick fragments.



Ship Cove (CgAm-01) (Hull)

Tony Power, the manager of the Cape St. Mary's Ecological Reserve, brought the archaeological site at Cape St. Mary's (CeAn-01) to the attention of the PAO. He had contacted the PAO about depressions that were in the area of the reserve. Test pits we not allowed because we were in an Ecological Reserve.

The fishing grounds off Cape St. Mary's have been known of and in use by European fisherman for centuries and for just as long the storms and fog off Cape St. Mary's have claimed many fishermen and their boats. The mid 19th century saw the construction of the first lighthouse at Cape St. Mary's in an attempt to rectify this situation. It is possible the depressions we noted were related to one of the early versions of the lighthouse or one of its outbuildings.

One of the depressions was oval in outline and had stones visible all around its edge. The soil removed to create the depression was piled just on the south edge of the depression. The western side of the depression had several tiers of rock that seemed to form a loose stonewall. The base of the depression was loose stone. We noted no cultural material within this or any of the other depressions. The depression was about 5m long by 1.2-1.5m wide. This depression was certainly man made, but its purpose is uncertain. According to Mr. Power, its location was never part of the earlier lighthouse infrastructure. Historically the earlier lighthouses and related outbuildings were located on the site of the current lighthouse, which is a considerable distance from the depression. Therefore, given that information and the height above sea level of the depression (several hundred feet), its function is unclear.



Depression at St. Mary's (Hull)

On August 16, 2005, the authors revisited the Bordeaux Head sites that are located just outside the community of Arnold's Cove (CkAm-04, 05). Urve Linnamae found the sites in 1970 and since their discovery, they had only been revisited once. The goal of the work was to relocate the sites and assess their condition.

Linnamae found the Bordeaux sites while she was on contract with the National Museum of Canada carrying out an archaeological survey of Placentia Bay. In total, she located 12 sites that summer. Bordeaux East produced just 13 pieces of cultural material in total.

This material came from surface collections and the excavation of one trench in which she found one dark soil lens, but she did not think it was an occupation layer. Bordeaux West was much more productive for Linnamae (163 artifacts) with an undisturbed occupation layer in her excavation trench that included a probable hearth. The area also produced a surface collection of lithic artifacts. Most of the material she collected came from the north end of the beach. A charcoal sample from the hearth returned a date of 1090 ± 90 GaK-3275, the latest date for a Dorset site on the Island.

On the north end of the beach, where Linnae recovered most of her material, we did not find any material. In fact, we could see no trace of her excavation. We did surface collect from the beach between the pond and Placentia Bay (on the saltwater side) just one possible artifact, a water worn axe or adze preform. Other than this possible artifact, we could find no trace of the site. We suspected the site was destroyed.



The surface collected water worn axe or adze preform (Hull)

The south side of the beach turned out to be a different matter. We collected 15 flakes, both from the beach and from an eroding bank. They range in colour from the typical white/grey patinated chert to very dark grey. Some are water worn while others look very fresh and new. One has possible retouch/use-wear.

With our investigation of Bordeaux West complete, we returned to the trail and to the area of Bordeaux East. While we found no trace of the latter site, we were sure we were in the right area.

When we found and searched the area of Bordeaux West, we were a little surprised to find no cultural material on the surface. We suspected that we were in the wrong area or, more likely, that the site had been destroyed. Upon returning to the PAO, we went over Linnae's report again. She records that the material she recovered was 10-12 inches under the ground. We suspect that this was why we found no surface material in the site area. In addition, after comparing her photos showing the site area to the photos we took, we are sure that we were in the right area. Judging by the photos, this small site looks to be mostly intact. 🖱️



Southern end of the Bordeaux West beach (Hull)



Our photo of the Bordeaux West site (Hull)



Linnamae's original photo of the Bordeaux West site in 1970. The site is located just above the beach in the small grassy area in the centre of the photo (Hull)

Recent Publications

Bell, T. and M.A.P. Renouf, editors.

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