

# PROVINCIAL ARCHAEOLOGY OFFICE NEWSLETTER

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ARCHAEOLOGY IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR 2003



GOVERNMENT OF  
NEWFOUNDLAND  
AND LABRADOR  
Department of  
Tourism, Culture  
and Recreation  
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## PROVINCIAL ARCHAEOLOGY OFFICE

*SUMMARY OF 2003 FIELD SEASON*

### Stephen Hull

After the extensive flooding suffered by the Town of Badger in the winter of 2003, the PAO felt that a visit to the Beothuk site at Pope's Point to check on its condition was warranted. As it turns out what remains of the site managed to survive the flooding.

More extensive field work was conducted by the PAO in June when two members of the Office went to Southern Labrador for a week. Fifteen known sites were revisited and ten new sites were found. All of the known Tracey Road sites were revisited (west side of Red Bay); unfortunately these sites are badly disturbed if not destroyed by road construction. The oldest precontact site known in the Province, Pinware Hill site was also relocated. Flakes and biface fragments were surface collected from this disturbed site. A new Maritime Archaic Indian site, Pinware Knob, was located just across the road from the Pinware Hill site. This site is not as old as the Pinware Hill site but it is probably in the range of 7000 years B.P. Numerous flakes and several biface fragments were collected from this deflated site.

The main reason for the trip to Labrador was to salvage the previously recorded Quartz Point site which is on the east side of Red Bay near the town's two cemeteries. It was reported to the PAO in 2002 by a visitor from the United States who collected an almost complete Maritime Archaic Indian serrated 'nipple-based' biface. While in the area in the fall of 2002 on another matter a PAO staff member noted that the site was undergoing erosion due to vehicular traffic.

We surface collected from an area of 97m<sup>2</sup>, dug 47

test pits and, using trowels, salvage excavated 18m<sup>2</sup>. Nine biface fragments, two hammer stones and several large milk white quartzite boulders typical of the debitage from the site were recovered during the excavation. A possible hearth was noted and most of the debitage and the artifacts seemed to cluster around this feature. A small piece of charcoal recovered in association with this possible hearth returned an AMS date of 7450 ± 60 BP. To date, a cursory examination of the debitage recovered has yielded several other biface fragments and at least one scraper.

## BURNSIDE HERITAGE FOUNDATION INC.

*SUMMARY OF 2003 FIELD SEASON*

### Laurie McLean

The Burnside Heritage Foundation Inc. (BHF) interpretation centre was open from August 2 until November 28 in 2003. Archaeological field work started on September 3 and continued until November 27. Nine square metres were dug at Sailor South (DeAj-5), a Dorset Paleoeskimo site found in the community of Salvage during the 2002 BHF field season. Our goal was to determine the presence or absence of features within a 45 square metre section of the occupation that offered the greatest chance of containing such remains. No features were located although 883 stone artifacts, including 810 flakes, were recovered. These include an endblade, four microblades, a thumbnail scraper and 12 tip flute spalls. Most objects were made on rhyolite obtained in the Bloody Bay Cove quarry. Nine fragments of non-aboriginal artifacts are evidence for European-descended people living on the site.

The BHF conducted salvage excavations at the Sailor Site (DeAj-1) which lies 80 metres north of Sailor South and is separated from it by an eight metre high cliff. The Sailor site is a multi-component locality that was originally identified by Paul Carignan in 1973. Most of the site was destroyed by the excavation of a gravel pit early in the 1950s and the vestigial portion is eroding along its seaward edge. The BHF conducts annual surface collections here and implemented salvage excavations during 2002. A very rich area was laid bare by erosion during 2003, prompting us to excavate 1.5 square metres along the endangered bank this year. 2769 stone artifacts, including 2662 flakes, recovered through excavations and surface collections represent Dorset Paleoeskimos. 33 fragments of non-aboriginal items resulted from historic occupation of the area by European-descended people.

Boat travel was limited this year, but 316 stone artifacts were collected from the surface and eroding sod at the Beaches site (DeAk-1). 55 stone artifacts were found on the surface of Bloody Bay Cove-2 (DeAl-6) and one stone item was found at the Howard site (DeAl-12). Both of these sites lie within the Bloody Bay Cove quarry. Previously collected flake bags from eight sites were re-examined in the Burnside laboratory and catalogued in 2003.

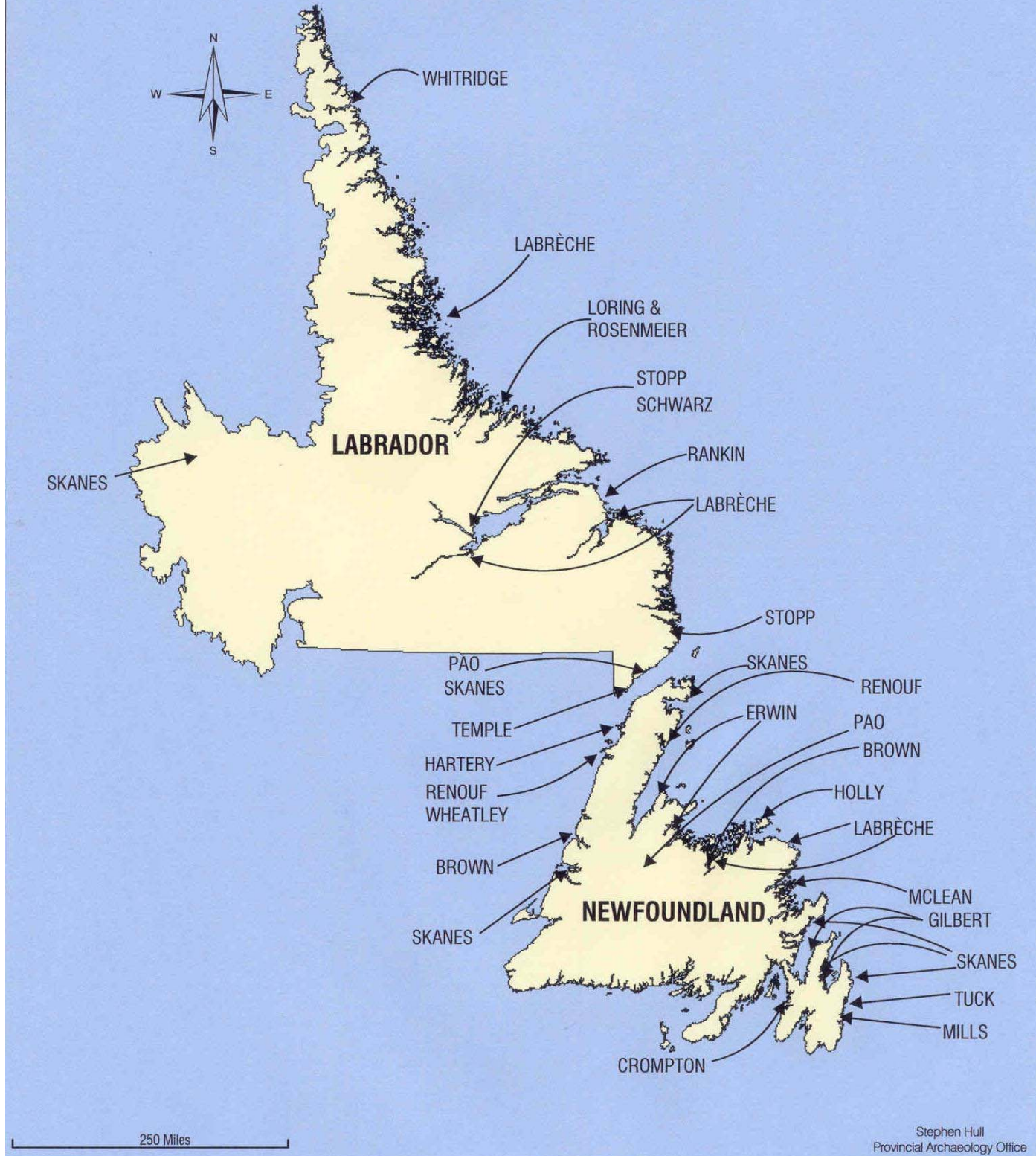
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Biface recovered from the Quartz Point site in 2002 by Donna Madonna, an American tourist.

# ARCHAEOLOGY IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR 2003



## SHESHATSHIU

SUMMARY OF 2003 FIELDWORK

### Fred Schwarz

In the autumn of 2003, an archaeological survey was conducted within and around the town of Sheshatshiu, Labrador in advance of Sheshatshiu Innu reserve creation. Survey effort was largely focused on subsurface testing in areas of intact vegetation cover within and to the west of the existing community, where future development is most likely to occur. In addition to the subsurface testing program, surface inspection was undertaken in disturbed areas at lower elevation close to the present shoreline, and additional work completed to investigate sites accidentally discovered in 2002 and the summer of 2003.

At the conclusion of this work, sixteen precontact sites had been identified. Many lie within the community at elevations of 14-23m a.s.l. and yielded lithic materials consistent with Intermediate Period occupation (3500-2000 B.P.). However, several small sites were also identified to the west of the community at or above approximately 30m a.s.l. Although this latter group of sites generally yielded quartzite assemblages similar to those found at other Intermediate sites, their elevations are more consistent with occupation in the Maritime Archaic period. One of these high-elevation sites, seemingly inadvertently destroyed during construction work earlier in 2003, is represented by a long lanceolate biface of Ramah chert found by a local resident in topsoil removed from the construction site. ↙

## ELFSHOT ROCKS 2003

### Tim Rast

From August 1-17<sup>th</sup>, 2003, I toured Newfoundland and Labrador demonstrating stone tool making and teaching flintknapping workshops. I called the tour "Elfshot Rocks 2003".

The goals of the trip were to teach flintknapping, promote *Elfshot*, and educate the public about our Province's past. The flintknapping demonstrations provide excellent opportunities to inform people about the importance of protecting archaeological sites. The demos and workshops attract the amateur archaeologists in the communities who often know where sites are located. The Provincial Archaeology Office supplied me with pamphlets to give to participants interested in contacting the PAO.

Stops included the Folk Festival in St. John's, the Dildo and Area Museum, the Bonavista North Regional Museum & Gallery, Cartwright, the Bird Cove Interpretation Centre, Port au Choix Interpretation Centre, the Discovery Centre in Gros Morne, the Mary March Museum and the Boyd's Cove Interpretation Centre.

Funding was provided by the host museums, by the Craft Council of Newfoundland and Labrador and by the Department of Industry, Trade, and Rural Development.

Tim Rast is an archaeologist/flintknapper living in St. John's who owns *Elfshot*, a company that produces artifact reproductions and archaeology-themed jewelry. For more information please contact [tim@elfshotgallery.com](mailto:tim@elfshotgallery.com) or visit the brand new website [www.elfshotgallery.com](http://www.elfshotgallery.com). ↙



Tim Flintknapping during Boyd's Cove demo



Finished Obsidian Point

## EXCAVATIONS AT THE NEWMAN SITE: JOE BATT'S ARM, FOGO ISLAND

*SUMMARY OF 2003 FIELDWORK*

**Donald H. Holly Jr.**

In June of 2003 Donald Holly (University of Rhode Island) and John Erwin (Caribou Heritage Associates Inc) led excavations at the Newman site (DkAm-2) near the community of Joe Batt's Arm, Fogo Island. Bonnie McCay, an anthropologist at Rutgers University, and residents Michele Furlong and Natalie Decker aided in the excavation. The project was generously supported by the Joe Batt's Arm Recreation Committee and the community of Joe Batt's Arm.

The Newman site was discovered during the course of an archaeological survey of Fogo Island in 1997 led by the author. The site is located on Fogo Island's barren and rugged northern coast, on two small grassy terraces overlooking a small cove known as Little Grapes Cove. The upper terrace was once home to the great grandparents of a local resident, Baxter Newman, in the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. A faint imprint of the house foundation is barely visible on the surface today but evidence attesting to the Newman's presence here is rich underfoot. The site yielded a large amount of refined white earthenware, some clay pipe fragments and nails, and a few pieces of coarse earthenware, pearlware, porcelain and

stoneware. Most of this material suggests a late 18<sup>th</sup> through early/mid 19<sup>th</sup> century date of manufacture (Amanda Crompton, personal communication 2003).

The Newman site also contains a small but significant Groswater PaleoEskimo component (800 B.C to A.D. 100). Indeed, the site is the largest and richest prehistoric site known on Fogo Island to date. Groswater artifacts unearthed at the site included several hundred flakes, a core fragment and a dozen diagnostic tools—a side notched biface, seven endblades, a sideblade, a microblade, a scraper and a burin-like tool. The high proportion of endblades, the small size of most of the flaking debris and the relative absence of processing implements such as microblades may suggest that the Groswater occupants here were focused primarily on hunting related activities such as tool re-sharpening and scouting for seals. Indeed, many local residents have used the site to access and hunt harp seals in mid-winter and early spring. Moreover, excavations failed to uncover structural remains, midden deposits or hearth features. This would seem to support the interpretation that the site was used as a short-term staging area for hunters. Most of our excavations, however, were focused on the lower terrace; it is possible that evidence for a more intensive and extended Groswater occupation remains buried on the upper terrace. Plans are underway to return to the site in 2004 to explore this possibility and to collect information regarding historic land-use of the location. ↙



Excavation of the lower terrace, the Newman Site (DkAm-2).

## JACQUES WHITFORD ENVIRONMENT LIMITED AND MINASKUAT LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

*SUMMARY OF 2003 FIELDWORK*

### Yves Labrèche

#### NEWFOUNDLAND

Jacques Whitford completed two Stage 1 Historic Resources Overview Assessment (HROA) for BAE/Newplan Group Limited in September 2003. Fieldwork included archaeological surveys and subsurface testing of a proposed nine-hole golf course in the Town of Lumsden, Newfoundland (Permit 03.40) and of a proposed waste management facility located east of Norris Arm (Permit 03.41). The study team was composed of Yves Labrèche, archaeologist and permit holder, and archaeologist Roy Skanes, field co-researcher.

The study area for the Lumsden HROA included approximately 30 ha of land surrounding Goose Pond, on a peninsula delineated on the east side by Lumsden Harbour and the west side by Deadman's Bay. The study area for the Norris Arm assessment included the western part of a proposed waste management facility, or approximately 100 ha of land. The area is located east of the community of Norris Arm, between the Trans Canada Highway (south) and an abandoned railway track now converted into a trail (north). The western boundary of the study area includes an existing borrow pit.

Fieldwork involved three tasks: discussion with selected residents about land use and the natural environment; a ground survey and surface inspection of several transects across the two study areas; and close surface inspection and subsurface testing, where appropriate. Physical attributes of the study areas such as vegetation cover, landforms, soil, and evidence of land use were noted and several photographs were taken. UTM coordinates were recorded with a hand-held Geographic Positioning System (GPS) unit at 40 survey and subsurface testing locations. The level of effort for these field programs is considered to be adequate.

No historic resources were discovered during these assessments and it is concluded that the historic resources potential of the two study areas is low, with perhaps small localized areas of higher potential in Lumsden. A cemetery is also located near the east-end of the Lumsden study area and some of the headstones date to the late nineteenth century. Reports including recommendations for the protection of the cemetery were submitted to the proponent and the Provincial Archaeology Office (PAO).

#### LABRADOR

##### Voisey's Bay

Minaskuat (a partnership between Innu Environmental and Jacques Whitford) prepared an archaeological potential mapping study for Voisey's Bay Nickel Company Limited (VBNC) in March 2003. The study team was composed of archaeologist Yves Labrèche, and Dave Kearsy, a GIS/mapping specialist. This study focused on areas where construction features have been revised by VBNC since an environmental impact statement was submitted for the Voisey's Bay Mine/Mill Project in 1997. These areas are located in the vicinity of Camp Pond and the Voisey's Bay

mine site, Labrador. The study involved several steps: review of previous mapping exercises to refine methods; update the Voisey's Bay archaeological database (sites and testing locations) to include additional information collected in 2002; redesign of these data in a format amenable to digitize mapping; map and aerial photo analysis to manually delineate and describe any zone types identified within the study area; and digitize mapping information with appropriate links to discrete sections of the database.

Six zone types based on natural and cultural attributes were retained. The potential rating (high, moderate or low) of each type was based on previous assessment results at Voisey's Bay and elsewhere in Labrador. The overall potential of the study area appears to be low to moderate. For the most part, areas of moderate potential have been tested during previous historic resources assessment at Voisey's Bay. Also, only one contemporary site is located within the study area. This site contains the remains of a camp established in the spring of 1995 on the shore of Camp Pond. It was first recorded in 1995, reassessed in 1997 and subsequently released from any further studies by the PAO. The study concluded that additional pre-construction surveys, including subsurface testing, should be conducted in localized areas of moderate potential where the revised project layout interacts with such areas, but only where the level of previous survey effort was deemed to be insufficient. The total area to be further tested was estimated to be less than 2 ha.

Based on the results of this mapping study and following further revisions of the Voisey's Bay layout and work areas, Minaskuat conducted a Stage 1 HROA for VBNC in July 2003 (Permit 03.15). This HROA involved background research and a field program consisting of ground surveys and subsurface testing in the vicinity of Camp Pond. The study team for the field assessment included lead archaeologist and permit holder Yves Labrèche and two field research assistants. The study area for the assessment included: a south route option for a waste rock haul road; and the eastern section of an airstrip and a pipeline route located north of Camp Pond. The scope of fieldwork also included the assessment of new potential findings reported by site monitors or construction supervisors, if required. The lead archaeologist also delivered a series of four historic resources education and orientation seminars to construction supervisors, leaders and monitors, as well as other employees working at the site. The purpose of these sessions was to provide relevant information on historic resources as well as illustrations and guidelines for the identification and protection of historic resources during construction. A total of 63 individuals attended these sessions.

The field survey included a walkover and surface inspection of the entire study area and subsurface testing where appropriate within pre-selected areas of moderate potential. A total of 202 test pits were excavated at seven testing locations, including three locations along the southern route and four on the north side of Camp Pond. No historic resources were discovered during this field assessment. Results further substantiate the conclusions reached in the archaeological potential mapping study that predicted a low to moderate probability of encountering historic resources within the study area. It was recommended that VBNC be allowed to proceed with construction and associated activities as long as

ground disturbance created by such activities does not occur within 50 m from historic resources or burial locations identified during previous assessments at Voisey's Bay. Trans Labrador Highway

Minasquat conducted two Stage 1 HROA in Labrador for the Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Works Services and Transportation (WST) in August 2003. Both HROAs involved background research and archaeological field surveys. The study area for the first HROA included a 25-km segment of the route located immediately south of Happy Valley- Goose Bay (western segment) and another 25-km segment extending west from Cartwright Junction (eastern segment). The second HROA focused on a 3-km section of the Pinsents Arm access road between Charlottetown and Pinsents Arm. The pre-selected section is located at the east end of the access road. The study team included archaeologist and permit holder Yves Labrèche assisted by two field research assistants for the assessment of the two segments of the cut route (Permit 03.29) and one assistant for the Pinsents Arm HROA (Permit 03.35).

Pre-fieldwork research included: review of relevant reports and background materials compiled for the TLH -

Phases II and III environmental assessments; review of the Newfoundland and Labrador Archaeological Site database and other relevant documents at the PAO; map and aerial photo analysis; and pre-selection of field survey areas. Fieldwork involved aerial and ground surveys; the final selection of areas to be further inspected or tested during ground investigations; and close surface inspection and subsurface testing, where appropriate.

No historic resources were discovered during these field programs. Based on the results of the background research and of the field program, it was concluded that the historic resources potential of these study areas appears to be lower than anticipated. It varies from low to moderate in both areas, but may include small localized areas of higher potential within lower-rated zones within the Pinsents Arm study area. The level of effort committed to date for the assessment of historic resources in these study areas is considered to be adequate. No further studies are deemed necessary as long as activities that have some potential to create ground disturbance do not occur near any sites reported during previous assessments in the vicinity of the road segments targeted for construction. ✎



Lumsden Proposed Golf Course

Collapsed wooden structure on sand dune, with Roy Skanes and Goose Pond in background, looking southeast, September 3, 2003.

#### Voisey's Bay

Field research assistants with partly completed airstrip and grader in background, looking southwest, July 10, 2003 (9407: 3).



## PORT AU CHOIX ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT

### SUMMARY OF 2003 FIELDWORK

#### Patty Wells

Excavations and survey by members of the Port au Choix Archaeology Project were conducted in Back Arm and Barbace Cove on the northwest coast of the Northern Peninsula, and Conche, Crouse and Boutitou on the northeast coast of the peninsula.

Two excavations ran in the Port au Choix area during the summer of 2003. Priscilla Renouf directed excavation of a French Basque bread oven at Barbace Cove on the Port au Choix Peninsula. The excavation revealed aspects of the oven's design and construction. Local limestone slabs and rubble formed the platform upon which the oven was constructed. Very little of the oven itself or the superstructure remained. Nevertheless one whole and a number of fragmented clay tiles from the oven floor were recovered indicating construction features of the lower part of the oven and many scattered red brick in the front of the oven indicated the location of the chimney. Identifiable ceramics recovered include Saintonge and Normandy stoneware. Elsewhere in the Port au Choix area, Masters student Kendra Wheatley directed excavations at the Party Site, a Groswater Palaeoeskimo campsite on the southern shore of Back Arm. She excavated 45m<sup>2</sup> on two terraces revealing a number of tool manufacturing/resharpening areas and one hearth feature. Preliminary analysis of the material and radiocarbon dates suggest the area was reoccupied briefly over a long period of time.

Surveys were conducted on the northeast coast of the Northern Peninsula. Renouf revisited the large Dorset site of Chest Head on the outskirts of Conche to produce a general surface map of the area and determine the size of the site and the extent of any disturbance. Results suggest significant disturbance in some areas, but potentially undisturbed portions of the site could prove productive. Surface survey of Crouse Harbour by Peter Pope and Patty Wells revealed a number of features including possible bread ovens and cabin foundations related to French fishing operations in the area. A brief surface survey of Boutitou, a small former fishing station on the coast just north of Canada Harbour revealed a number of features related to the French fishery. These include possible building foundations and inscriptions in stone. ↙

## ADLAVIK HARBOUR, NEAR MAKKOVIK, LABRADOR

### SUMMARY OF 2003 FIELDWORK

#### Stephen Loring

The summer of 2003 marked the fifth field season for the Central Coast of Labrador Community Archaeology Project, a long-term research collaboration between the community of Makkovik (including the local historical society and its White Elephant Museum and the J. C. Erhardt School), the Arctic Studies Center and Brown University. The Central Coast of Labrador Community Archaeology Project integrates high-school curriculum development and local heritage concerns

with archaeological fieldwork at the mid-18th century Labrador Inuit village site at Adlavik Harbour (GgBq-1). Project co-directors **Stephen Loring** and **Leah Rosenmeier** (Brown University PhD candidate and the Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq) spent the latter part of July and much of August conducting fieldwork with a team of four Inuit students from Makkovik. When it was occupied, ca. 1750, the site at Adlavik Harbour was situated about half way along the Labrador coast between the French and English fishing stations in southern Labrador and Newfoundland and the Thule Inuit whaling villages scattered about the north coast.

During the 2003 fieldseason archaeological veterans **Erin Andersen** and **Jillian Mitchell** welcomed newcomers **Julia Ford** and **Jason Voisey** to the vagaries of life on Adlavik Island. The team completed excavation of the large communal house structure (House-1), further sampled the midden in front of House-2 and partially excavated a newly recognized feature; House-4. Previous field-seasons had focused on excavations in House-1 as well as in the House-1 and House-3 middens so that with the House-4 excavations of this year a fairly substantial and representative portion of the site has been excavated. The preservation in House-4 was excellent and over 100 kgs of faunal remains – principally seal, but also polar bear, black bear, caribou and walrus – and a nearly equal amount of mussel shell, were recovered. The faunal material is being analyzed by **Leah Rosenmeier** and **Sarah Lansing** (Michigan State University).

Prior to our fieldwork it was hypothesized that Adlavik Harbour's strategic location most likely meant that the families who lived there could have served as middlemen or entrepreneurs in the emerging global capitalist system by serving as a conduit by which Inuit resources –baleen, ivory, seal and whale oil, furs and fish– could be exchanged for European products and raw materials. However, the artifact assemblage lacks many of the expected material correlates of an emerging social hierarchy based on formal trade and control of European materials. Evidence of firearms remains exceedingly rare, as are pipes, beads, European clothing and tea-paraphernalia which would be expected if the Adlavik residents had been in formal trading relations with the Europeans. Instead, the Adlavik assemblage is dominated by hand-wrought iron nails and spikes as well as pieces of sheet lead, copper and brass, all of which was quite likely looted from seasonally-abandoned Basque and English fishing stations along the Strait of Belle Isle. By the middle of the 18th century stone tools, except for the ubiquitous soapstone pots and lamps, had disappeared from the Inuit tool assemblage, replaced by cold-hammered iron knives, spears and end-blades. Analysis of the Adlavik Harbour collection forms an exceptionally vivid picture of 18<sup>th</sup> century Labrador Inuit lifeways and provides insight to a critical link in the transformation of Inuit economy from one of regional self-sufficiency to one increasingly linked to western capitalist, colonial and evangelical influences.

In addition to our fieldwork we completed an exhibit on the research at Adlavik for the White Elephant Museum – the oldest building in Makkovik which, newly refurbished, now houses the collection of the local historical society– and participated in its formal grand opening. The archaeology of Adlavik is presented in a series of photographs, maps, text

panels and quotes from students who have participated in the program. Plans are underway to build a special display case to house the Adlavik artifacts once they have been cataloged and conserved. Both the Labrador Institute in Goose Bay and the Newfoundland Museum have expressed support for this project and are committed to seeing Labrador archaeological collections displayed in their local context and we thank both organizations for their sustained interest in the project and for their commitment to promoting cultural heritage initiatives in Labrador. In addition to the museum exhibition we have been busy developing school curriculum materials on archaeology which includes a small book about the site. As yet untitled and modeled in part on Bob McGhee's *The Burial at L'Anse Armour* the book attempts to put a human face on the past with a story of what life might have been like for the inhabitants of the sod-houses at Adlavik around two hundred and fifty years ago. Aimed at a Grade-8 audience the story, presented in the voice of an Inuit hunter reflecting on the memories of his childhood, seeks to incorporate as many aspects of the archaeological site (specific artifacts, aspects of the physical layout of the houses, the local environment) as possible and weave them into the story of a late winter adventure on the ice. Following the narrative is a short descriptive essay on the actual site with archaeological drawings and plans presenting the data on which the story was based. The first part of the book features a series of fabulous drawings by Cindy Robbins of Forteau, Labrador. A significant portion of this publication and curriculum development materials has been funded by a grant we received from the International Grenfell Association and from Newfoundland's REDAS (Regional Economic Development and Schools) program. Joan Andersen in Makkovik and Tim Borlase, the Director of Memorial University's Labrador Institute in Goose Bay are an integral part of the team working on this project. ✍

The Smithsonian Institution Arctic Studies Center has recently released:

**Fitzhugh, William, Stehen Loring & Daniel Odess (Eds)** 2002 *Honouring Our Elders: A History of Eastern Arctic Anthropology*. Contributions to Circumpolar Anthropology 2. National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution.

If you are interested in obtaining a copy of this book please contact Stephen Loring at: [loring.stephen@nsmnh.si.edu](mailto:loring.stephen@nsmnh.si.edu)

## ADLAVIK EXCAVATION: A STUDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

**Erin Andersen**

The first time I heard of the dig out at Adlavik was about five years ago. **Steve Loring** and **Leah Rosenmeier** came into my school in Makkovik, Labrador and did a presentation for us about archaeology. It was not until two years later, in late June of 2001, that I first spoke to Leah about working for them. The way it all went down was pretty simple. She asked if I wanted a job, I said I did and I was hired. At the time I could have never guessed what accepting that job would mean for me.

When I reminisce about my three summers in the field, I get a nice, content feeling; like I just ate something with

a lot of substance like mashed potatoes and gravy. Going out the first time, I was really nervous. Having never even camped out before, I had no idea what to expect once we got there. I know that people have gone farther than this, for longer periods of time and in the worst of conditions. But for me, going off like this was a huge thing. It wasn't like walking down the road and looking at the hills way off in the distance. You were no longer admiring nature from the outside but became a part of it. It was just the ocean, a few islands, and the crew. We were completely alone, but never lonely. For a time, we were a world unto ourselves. A world I always came back from revitalized, refreshed and ready to take on the challenges in this one. When you are standing on the edge of a cliff, and everything as far as you can see is absolutely perfect and beautiful, it is impossible to obsess over every little thing; whether or not I chose the right college, moving into my own place, having to leave home. It didn't matter on the island. I always felt very present and aware. I think that feeling is what brought me back for three years; that and the sense of community.

People you may have never talked to or gotten to know become intimate friends. And by intimate I mean the person you work with in a one metre by one metre square with all day is the same one that sleeps a foot away from you at night. You depend on each other, you come to accept and appreciate what everybody has to offer. And when that person who shares your square and your tent has to go into town for a night or two, it doesn't feel right until they come back "home".

I will never forget the smell of the canvas tent and the Coleman lamps, even the soil. I will never forget that one really great day when we came back in from a few late nights in town. It rained and rained so we stayed inside cleaning bones all day. I will never forget the hours spent laughing until my sides hurt, though I have already begun to forget most of the things we laughed about. Only after being home for awhile have I been able to think about what I have taken away from this experience. How strange it is now to think that, all this time there was something like this out there. When we were going to the cabin when I was a kid, which is very near Long Tickle, I had no clue something this amazing was there; just waiting for someone to find it. To think it was destined to play such a large role in this time of my life, and turn it into such a great one. I never even had an inkling. ✍

## RENEWS

### SUMMARY OF 2003 FIELDWORK

#### Stephen Mills

The Renums Archaeological Project continued for its third summer in 2003 with a 5 week investigation at the Goodridge Site (CfAf-19), first discovered in 2001. This summer's research was made possible through the support of the Newfoundland Archaeological Heritage Outreach Project, Human Resources and Development Canada, The Provincial Archaeology Office and the Heritage and Resource Development Committee of Renums and Cappahayden. The author is especially grateful to Herb and Glenda Goodridge who kindly allowed us to once again return to dig up a part of their meadow.

In the summer of 2002 test trenches in the Goodridge family meadow, situated just in from the beach at Lord's Cove on the north side of Renums Harbour, uncovered over 5,000 domestic-, leisure- and structural-related artifacts dating from the 16<sup>th</sup> century onwards. The goal of the 2003 project was to investigate this area further with hopes to uncover structural evidence from what was thought to be a residence or tavern (or combination of both) in the area.

In five weeks of digging in July and August 2003, the crew found a further 8,000 or so artifacts to add to the collection. However, it wasn't until our second last day that a linear stone feature resembling a possible foundation was uncovered several metres to the north of where the main excavation was placed. It appeared that most of the season was spent digging in the midden deposits associated with this feature. Within the midden area we found a number of cultural deposits, including a 30 to 50 cm thick layer of beach sand that had been brought up from Lord's Cove in an apparent effort to level the ground and cover over what would have been the edge of a wet peaty pasture. Artifacts from within this beach sand layer suggest that this activity occurred during the middle of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Cultural deposits were recorded above and below this beach sand deposit.

The artifact cataloguing process is currently underway and is not expected to be completed until the spring. However, preliminary analysis of the collection indicates that there was a great deal of leisure activity at the site between circa 1720 and circa 1775. This interpretation is inferred from the 4,000 or so clay tobacco pipe fragments, 72 tankards made from English White Salt Glazed (EWSG) and German Westerwald stonewares, 32 EWSG tea cups, over 60 wine bottles, 9 case (liquor) bottles, 2 snuff bottles, 2 glass decanters and fragments from 25 wine glasses. English White Salt Glaze stoneware was manufactured in the Staffordshire region between the 1720s and 1770s. It was made in a variety of table wares and became enormously popular throughout the English speaking world.

The presence of such refined English ceramics as creamwares and pearlwares in the upper cultural deposits indicate that the site was still being used into the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, although the focus of activity appears to have changed by then. There appeared to be less leisure related wares and more domestic wares in these later deposit.

There is also a significant collection of cultural material that dates to the late-17<sup>th</sup> century, including ceramic

cooking and storage pots from North Devon and the Iberian Peninsula, medicinal containers made from glass and tin-glazed earthenwares and even marbled Italian slipware serving dishes. Within the deeper deposits of the site, where the 17<sup>th</sup> century artifacts were found, we had discovered evidence of fish flakes in the 2002 season. These flakes were represented by branches, spruce or fir needles, sharpened posts and sections of split wood. These finds would suggest that the site was occupied during the late- 17<sup>th</sup> century by an English North Devon planter family.

The 2003 season also brought forth more fragments from the most exciting find from the 2002 season. While cleaning up what was thought to be sterile soil, close to 1.2 m below the surface, the crew found an additional 20 sherds of the same 16<sup>th</sup>-century Spanish Merdia cooking pot from the year before. This vessel plus a base sherd from another possible contemporarily dated cook pot is evidence of the 16<sup>th</sup>-century migratory fishery in Renums.

We hope to return to this site for at least one more season to expose the linear stone feature from 2003 and determine whether it could be the foundation from the 17<sup>th</sup>-century planter's house and/or the tavern that produced so many of the artifacts found over the past 3 years. It is entirely possible that this could be the same structure that saw a change in function over time; however, only further investigation will answer that question. ✎

## PROVINCIAL MUSEUM OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

### ARCHAEOLOGY AND ETHNOLOGY SECTION, 2003

#### Elaine Anton

The focus for the Archaeology and Ethnology Section in 2003 largely centered around our upcoming move to *The Rooms*. Curator of Exhibits, Kevin McAleese has been working with the help of Curatorial Assistant, Lynda Keefe, on the development of the new archaeology exhibits that will be featured at *The Rooms*. Meanwhile at the Duckworth St. location, Curator of Collections, Elaine Anton, and Curatorial Assistant, Lori Balson, with the help of volunteers and Museum Interpreter staff began the packing of more than 90 cabinets of material for the move. We will be reopening to the public and researchers in our new lab and storage space at *The Rooms* at the end of June, 2004.

In addition to the tasks surrounding *The Rooms*, the Archaeology and Ethnology unit was involved in several other projects. Kevin and Elaine, along with Conservator Rose Smart, worked on the *Full Circle: First Contact* traveling exhibit, assisting in the set-up and take-down in Vancouver, Seattle, Gimli MB, and Detroit. Elaine continued working on the completion of the *Labrador Interpretation Centre* in North West River, Labrador, as well as participating in Provincial Land Claim talks. Lori worked on cataloguing private collections that were either donated to the museum or provided to us for study, as well as working on returned collections from archaeologists in the United States, Canada and the Province. Finally, we facilitated over 70 loan requests, with about half for researchers and the other half for community museums around the Province. ✎



Lord's Cove, Renewa. The Goodridge site is 20 m in from the beach to the left of the Government wharf. Photograph courtesy of Adrian Hynes, Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

## ***PORCUPINE STRAND ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT***

SUMMARY OF 2003 FIELDWORK

### **Lisa Rankin**

Between June and August of 2003 the Porcupine Strand Archaeology Project resumed fieldwork in central Labrador. This year the fieldwork focused on two small excavations and continued a limited survey for new archaeological sites. The first excavated was a late 17th century Inuit house located on Huntingdon Island. This excavation produced large quantities of faunal remains and various historic artifacts. The second excavation was of a single Maritime Archaic Indian House at the mouth of Groswater Bay. This intact house produced pre-contact artifacts and two hearth features. Survey identified another 15 new archaeological sites. 🦋

## **FORTEAU, LABRADOR**

*SUMMARY OF 2003 FIELDWORK*

### **Blair Temple**

During late September and early October, 2003, Blair Temple and Lori Balson conducted a Historic Resources Impact Assessment for the Town of Forteau, Labrador. Approximately 400 meters of proposed roadway was tested, producing two sites, Sesame Street I (EiBf-32) and Sesame Street II (EiBf-33). Both sites are believed to be Maritime Archaic Indian due to the raw materials used in the lithic found, as well as the distance of these sites from the present shoreline (this is especially so with EiBf-32, found nearly half a kilometer from shore). While artifacts were few, with EiBf-33 producing a few flakes from three test pits, EiBf-32 did produce two very nice quartz crystal preforms. 🦋



Dense tuckamore growth encountered by Blair Temple in Forteau, Labrador.

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENTS

*Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Big Eel Lake Cottage Development Area near Norris Arm, Central Newfoundland.*

**Stuart C. Brown**

Big Eel Lake lies immediately east of the Trans Canada Highway where Highway 351 diverges south-west to Norris Arm. The lake has an approximately NE-SW alignment, is about 3.5kms in and has a maximum width of 0.5kms. It is dotted with several small islands. At its northern end, the lake drains into Norris Arm by a small river named Eel Brook. The objective of the assessment was to determine if culturally significant remains existed within the cottage lots to be developed at the north-west corner of the lake over an area of 0.08 sq. kms and along the proposed access road from the Trans Canada Highway. The access route and the cottage lots were heavily forested and several lots were fairly boggy. Extensive random and judgmental test-pitting of the survey area revealed no evidence for prehistoric or early historic occupation. This is perhaps due to the nature of the terrain and the density of the vegetation. Considering the much larger resource base in Norris Arm and along the Exploits River, Big Eel Lake may have always been a somewhat marginal area. The survey was conducted for the Lands Branch, Land Management Division, Department of Government Services and Lands, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, and was carried out between June 7 and June 9, 2003.

*Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Areas B & F, Eastern Arm Pond, Rocky Harbour Cottage Development Area, Rocky Harbour, Western Newfoundland.*

Eastern Arm Pond is located on the Great Northern Peninsula approximately 4.25 kms east of Rocky Harbour and Highway 430. The pond is actually situated within the boundaries of the Gros Morne National Park but two areas on the western foreshore of the pond, designated as the Rocky Harbour Cottage Development Enclave, are under provincial control. Four cottages currently exist on the northwestern area [F] and three more in the southwestern area [B]. The survey was necessitated by a proposal to develop two new lots immediately south of the existing cottages in area F and three new lots immediately south of the cottages in area B. The pond has a roughly northwest/southeast alignment. Its length is approximately 2.75 kms and its maximum width is approximately 1.5 kms. At the southern end of the pond there is a small island. To the east of the pond, the land rises dramatically into the western slopes of the Long Range Mountains. The pond is fed by two small streams from the mountains. These are Eastern Arm Brook to the northeast and a stream which runs out of Ten Mile Pond to the east. Eastern Arm Pond is drained at its extreme southern end by Deer Brook which flows into the Gulf of St. Lawrence at Beachy Point, a few kilometres to the south of Rocky Harbour. This is rapid and shallow stream has a very rocky bed and would have been impassable for canoes. Extensive random and judgmental

test-pitting of the survey areas revealed no evidence for prehistoric or early historic occupation. The survey areas were fairly steep-sloped, densely vegetated and frequently boggy. The shoreline of the survey areas was profusely littered with large boulders. It should be noted, however, that the natural resources in the general area are abundant. The pond is populated by large salmon, rainbow trout and eels and, recently, sea trout have made an appearance. There are numerous waterfowl, especially ducks and loons. Land mammals observed in the area include moose, caribou, black bear, fox, coyote, rabbit, beaver, mink and red squirrel, to mention only the most obvious. Although beaver is present in the area, there are none in the pond itself and the water is perfectly potable. There are extensive areas of wild raspberry bushes, and other edible plants include rose hips, dogberries, cracker berries, partridgeberries, buffalo berries and bakeapples. Four species of edible fungi were also noted. The northern, eastern and southern foreshores of the pond have relatively large flat areas of open meadowland and more approachable gravelly shorelines and it is perhaps in these more favoured areas that one might expect to find evidence of prehistoric occupation targeting the extensive natural resources noted above. Special thanks go to Mr. Sandy Parsons of Norris Point who guided me into the area and was an extremely knowledgeable informant. The survey was performed for the Western Lands Office, Department of Government Services and Lands, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, and was carried out between August 25 and August 28. 📌

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENTS

### SUMMARY OF 2003 FIELDWORK

#### Roy Skanes

In 2003, Roy Skanes of Jacques Whitford Environment Limited, St. John's completed a number of archival research projects and field studies on the Island and in Labrador.

In relation to construction of *The Rooms* - the provincial government's new museum/archives/art gallery complex currently under construction at Fort Townshend - several stages of assessment and monitoring were carried out during installation of underground services. A number of site structures dating to the 1770s were encountered, including a Sally Port adjacent to the Central Fire Station and components of the back entrance to the fort at its western end. Also completed, in collaboration with Military Curator Bernard Ransom, was an analysis of historic and current elevations across the central portion of the site in the vicinity of the Casemates. The information acquired may eventually be used for future development of that area which could involve resculpting and contouring the ground to conform with historic grades and exposing and stabilizing segments of site features for exterior exhibit/interpretative purposes.

Three Stage 1 Assessments were completed on the Island in relation to proposed water and sewage projects and a housing development. At St. Anthony on the Great Northern Peninsula, the identified services corridor was low-lying and wet, with low historic resources potential. At Trinity, Trinity Bay, the majority of areas where infrastructure will be situated had been either excavated and filled in the past or extended

through locations with exposed or near-surface bedrock. Consequently, no mitigation measures were indicated for those locations. Assessment of the waterline corridor running in front of the Lester-Garland Building did, however, result in the identification of a brick drainage system thought to date to the 1830s. Further testing of that area may be required. Assessment of a parcel of land on Deer Lake situated to the northeast of South Brook Park where a Maritime Archaic Indian site (DgBj-03) dating to c. 5000 years BP was identified and partially excavated in the early 1990s, resulted in no findings. Consequently, other than ensuring that site workers were made aware of the possibility that cultural materials could be present and unearthed during construction of the housing development, no mitigation measures were recommended.

At L'Anse au Loup in Southern Labrador two Stage 1 Assessments related to road upgrading and construction of a school were completed for the local Town Council and the Department of Works, Services and Transportation. Both locations were of low historic resources potential, with no remains of significance identified.

Another project related to Labrador was completed for the Department of Tourism. This involved background research into a downed 1940s American aircraft reported to be situated at the southeast end of Dyke Lake in approximately 8 m of water. The project focussed on a review of existing information and informant interviews in an effort to establish potential locations where remains could be situated and their general state of preservation. A field reconnaissance of the site was scheduled but was subsequently put on hold due to the many logistical challenges.

Also carried out in 2003 was an archival investigation into the overall use and occupancy of Carbonear Island as a place of defence, seasonal fishing room and navigational light station. Carbonear Island is a registered archaeological site and protected under provincial legislation (Government of Newfoundland and Labrador: 1992). The work is being completed for Facilities Design Group Inc. as part of a development strategy for that area of Conception Bay. Focussing on a review of original correspondence, maps, plans and photographs, substantial material covering the period 1690s - 1950 was obtained from archives in St. John's, Ottawa, London, and Paris. A number of informants were also contacted and interviewed, and a field reconnaissance of Carbonear Island was completed. The combined results of the project - which includes a low-altitude, colour aerial photograph highlighting areas of interest - will be used as input to the strategy being prepared by Facilities Design Group Inc.. 📌

## FLEUR DE LYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT

SUMMARY OF 2003 FIELDWORK

### John Erwin

In 2003 we focused the activities of the field school on the excavation of Cow Cove 3 (EaBa-16), a warm season Dorset Palaeoeskimo habitation site in Coachman's Cove. Additional work was undertaken in the community of King's Point, where we discovered Manful Point 1 (DjBa-03), a Groswater Palaeoeskimo site. In addition, our survey work in the King's Point area also resulted in the location of two nearby geological outcrops that contained chert and jasper sources.

Plans for the summer of 2004 field school include a third year of excavations in Coachman's Cove and our continued survey of the Baie Verte Peninsula. For more information regarding the Fleur de Lys Archaeological Project, visit: <http://www.ucs.mun.ca/~jerwin/fdl.htm>.



Fleur de Lys Field School, 2003

## FERRYLAND

SUMMARY OF 2003 FIELDWORK

### Jim Tuck and Barry Gaulton

A dozen years have gone by since the present excavations at Ferryland began in 1992. Each year has brought to light more information about the sixteenth-century migratory fishermen and their Beothuk contemporaries, Lord Baltimore's Colony of Avalon (1621-1638) and Sir David Kirke's Pool Plantation (1638-1696). Each year has also brought surprises in the form of unexpected information, structures and artifacts. The summer of 2003 was no exception.

Excavations on the waterfront revealed the well-preserved remains of a wharf composed of sand- and rock-filled barrels believed to be the wharf mentioned by Captain Edward Wynne in a letter to George Calvert in 1622. The wharf seems to have been short-lived and was replaced by a far more substantial stone structure, probably some time in the mid-1620s. A portion of this wharf was revealed and recorded in 2003, and additional courses of rock were added to make the feature somewhat more visible.

Adjacent to the waterfront a deeply-stratified deposit revealed evidence of occupation throughout both the Avalon and Pool plantation periods. A layer consisting of thousands of fragments of thin slate slabs indicates a place where roof slates were manufactured. Slates that had been shaped were also numerous. Many had the peg holes punched, but not enlarged and rounded with a pinning iron, which as apparently done by slaters at the "job site." A mason's hammer and a trowel, almost identical to the Marshalltown 45-5 used to excavate it, were found in this layer as were tobacco pipes dating from the early seventeenth century.

Partly contemporaneous with this layer, but of a longer duration, was a deposit of refuse, including early tobacco pipes and ceramics, many hundreds of nails, fragments of window glass, roof slates and other objects that suggest the presence of a dwelling. Unfortunately no convincing evidence of the structure itself was discovered.

Above this deposit was an equally rich domestic deposit, this time accompanied by the remains of a rough stone footing for a wooden structure. No hearth or chimney base was discovered in the excavated area, and since the southern end of the structure lies beneath the present-day road, we cannot say whether such a feature might be there. Window glass and a large amount of what appears to be domestic refuse suggest a dwelling, but the apparent absence of a hearth suggests otherwise.

In the last days of the 2003 season the base of a large chimney pile was discovered immediately west of this structure. Back-to-back hearths, opening to the north and south, indicate a central chimney, the first to be found at Ferryland and the first such seventeenth-century structure anywhere in the province. Both hearths were composed largely of brick, with an apron of *terra cotta* tiles in front of the northern example. Artifacts include West Country tobacco pipes typical of the late seventeenth century as well as ceramics that suggest the same. Although the house might well have been destroyed in the French attack of 1696, no trace of burning was found.

The 2003 season proved once again to be both profitable and exciting. Prospects for 2004 are even more so.

## THE PLACENTIA UNCOVERED /PLAISANCE À DÉCOUVERT ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT

*SUMMARY OF 2003 FIELDWORK*

**Amanda Crompton**

The Placentia Uncovered/ Plaisance à découvert Archaeology Project continued excavations in the greater Placentia area during the 2003 field season. Archaeological survey identified the location of Crevecoeur Battery, a small French fortified gun platform dating to the late 17<sup>th</sup> century. The survey also explored the semicircular stone battery at Fort Frederick (an English fort dating from 1721-1811); substantial undisturbed remains of the fort were uncovered. Full-scale excavation was conducted by Blair Temple at a stone structure inside of Fort Louis/New Fort (1691-1780's). This fort was used during both the French and later English occupations of Placentia. The French and English periods of use are in evidence at the site, and the presence of waterlogged deposits mean that organic preservation is excellent. Full-scale excavation of the French Vieux Fort (1662-ca.1685) by Amanda Crompton continued this year. The Vieux Fort was the first fort constructed by the French in Placentia. Excavations in 2003 focused on the eastern end of a stone-walled structure, which probably functioned as quarters for the officers and soldiers. Plans are underway for excavations to resume in Placentia during the 2004 field season. ✍

## MEALY MOUNTAINS, TRANS-LABRADOR HIGHWAY AND SHESHATSHIU

*SUMMARY OF 2003 FIELDWORK*

**Marianne Stopp**

In 2003, Marianne Stopp conducted ethnographic work in Sheshatshiu with respect to traditional land use in the Mealy Mountains area. As well, a study of environmental impacts in the Trans-Labrador highway Phase III segment was completed in collaboration with Peter Armitage. Marianne also excavated at Lodge 1 (FbAx-04) in Lodge Bay, Labrador, at the site of George Cartwright's first merchant premises, where he lived between 1700-1704. The site of Lodge 2 (FbAx-05), upriver from Lodge Bay, was located and tested. It is the former winter settlement of Cape Charles fishing families who, like all residents between Chateaux Bay and Sandwich Bay, practiced a form of seasonal transhumance from the mid-nineteenth century to the 1990s cod moratorium. The Edward Pye site (FbAv-17) at Cape Charles was also newly recorded; it is a possible Groswater component in a disturbed (gardening) context. Finally, Marianne has moved and can be reached at [marianne.stopp@sympatico.ca](mailto:marianne.stopp@sympatico.ca). ✍

## NACHVAK FJORD

*SUMMARY OF 2003 FIELDWORK*

**Peter Whitridge**

In July and August 2003 Peter Whitridge (Memorial University of Newfoundland) and a crew of four (Greg Beaton, Susie Merkeratsuk, Lena Onalik, Mark Penney) conducted exploratory survey and excavation at Nachvak Fjord, northern Labrador (N59°04' W63°53'). Work focussed on the site of Nachvak Village (IgCx-3), a late Thule/early historic Inuit winter village consisting of approximately 16 semi-subterranean sod, stone and whale bone houses on a small grassy terrace overlooking the junction of Tallek and Tasiuyak Arms, some 30 km from the mouth of the fjord. The site was mapped with a total station and a bilobate winter house fully excavated (44 sq m, covering most of the intramural area). The high proportion of ground stone in the assemblage (mostly slate blades and soapstone lamp and pot fragments) suggests a predominantly pre-contact occupation, but a moderate quantity of European metal (mainly forged nails), a piece of bottle glass, and a single large blue glass bead, indicate the site was occupied into the early contact period. The assemblage included a number of exquisite miniatures, including pots, lamps, end blades, a polar bear incised with rows of dots, and a set of three harpoon heads. An oversized slate harpoon end blade pointed to the bowhead whaling activities also reflected in the whale bone incorporated in the house construction, but small seal and caribou bone dominated the faunal assemblage.

A number of sites recorded by the Torngat Archaeology Project in 1977-78 were relocated, additional isolated Paleoeskimo, Thule and recent Inuit features recorded, and two important new sites identified. A winter village located on the north side of the fjord 8 km east of IgCx-3 consists of 6-7 semi-subterranean houses, of which five can be considered "communal houses" (~10 m in length) like those typically assigned to the mid-18th century elsewhere in northern Labrador. This likely represents the main settlement at Nachvak referred to in early Moravian documents, and marked cryptically on one cartographically-challenged early map simply as "Häusen". Based on nearby surface finds, an extensive flake scatter discovered near the mouth of Kogarsok Brook, 2 km west of IgCx-3, appears to be Late Dorset. Plans are underway to further investigate both of these sites in 2004, along with continued work at IgCx-3 and survey in the outer fjord zone. Finds and maps from IgCx-3 were displayed at a well-received community open house in the new LIA headquarters in Nain at the end of the season. ✍



Excavation of a semi-subterranean sod, stone and whale bone house at Nachvak Village (IgCx-3), Nachvak Fiord, Labrador



## BACCALIEU TRAIL ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT, 2003

*SUMMARY OF 2003 FIELDWORK*

### Bill Gilbert

Despite our late start the Baccalieu Trail Heritage Corporation's archaeology team conducted excavations at Cupids and New Perlican and some preliminary survey work at Winterton.

#### Cupids (CjAh-13)

Cupids, established in 1610, is the site of the oldest English colony in Canada. The site was discovered in 1995 and excavations have been ongoing there every year since. During this time, the remains of four early seventeenth-century buildings, a number of related features and over 100,000 artifacts have been uncovered. Nine weeks (August 18-October 17) were spent digging at Cupids in 2003, three new areas were excavated, over 10,000 artifacts recovered, and a several significant features found.

In the southeast corner of the site we uncovered what may be the first evidence of the palisade that once surrounded the plantation. About 6.7m (22 ft) east of the storehouse first uncovered in 1997, we found two 10 inch wide postholes eight feet apart. Both the size of these posts and their spacing correspond well with what we know of palisade construction at other early seventeenth-century English sites such as Martin's Hundred in Virginia. During 2004 excavations will be conducted to the northeast and southwest of this area in an attempt to locate other posts and determine whether this is the palisade erected by Governor John Guy in 1610.

In the northwest corner of the site we uncovered the remains of a substantial, two foot wide stone wall. The easternmost portion of this wall was destroyed by a cellar built around 1800 and further damage was done by a pit dug about the same time. However, traces of it have been uncovered extending west from the cellar for 4.8m (15 ft 9 in) and it undoubtedly extends west for a considerable distance beyond this. This wall was clearly not part of a building, instead it seems to have formed part of the northern boundary of the site. While hundreds of seventeenth-century artifacts were found immediately south of and up against the south side of the wall, not a single seventeenth-century artifact was found north of it indicating that it must once have formed a substantial barrier.

Among the more significant artifacts recovered during the 2003 season were several fragments of a stoneware jug and two strands of silver thread. The stoneware is from a jug that appears to have been manufactured in Raeren, Belgium sometime between 1600 and 1625 and, like a number of other artifacts recovered from the site, points to an occupation beginning early in the seventeenth-century. The silver threads suggest the presence of someone of high social standing at the site. Aside from the fact that most people could not have afforded silver embellishments on their clothing, English sumptuary laws restricted the use of silver and gold thread to individuals of high rank. Thus, whoever wore the clothing from which these silver threads came must have been of some standing, perhaps John Guy or the colony's second governor, John Mason.

#### New Perlican (CIAi-4)

Four weeks (October 20 to November 14) were spent conducting excavations at New Perlican in 2003. This site was discovered in 2001 and archaeological and documentary evidence combine to indicate that it is part of the Hefford Plantation established by at least 1675. Since its discovery, a total of 42 square metres have been excavated and over 12,300 artifacts recovered. Many of these artifacts date to the last quarter of the seventeenth-century but the wide range of material found indicates an occupation extending from circa 1675 until the present.

A minimum vessel count conducted last fall on the ceramics from the site indicates the presence of at least 23 vessels manufactured in Verwood just outside Poole in Dorset, 15 German Westerwald vessels, and eight French Saintonge vessels along with a number of English tin-glazed vessels and several Iberian storage jars. The high proportion of Verwood pottery is significant since we know that this part of Trinity Bay traded with and was settled by people from Dorset.

Among the more interesting artifacts recovered during the 2003 season were a William III ha'penny minted sometime between 1695 and 1698 and a seventeenth-century padlock. No evidence of structures has yet been uncovered but given the wealth of material found to date, we cannot be too far from a building. We know that by 1677 William Hefford had built a "dwelling house [and] nine store rooms and lodging houses" at New Perlican.

#### Winterton

##### Pinhorn's Room (CIAh -1)

Scilly Cove, as Winterton was originally known, was settled by at least 1675 at which time its most prominent planter was Richard Hopkins. While digging at New Perlican we were approached by Stewart Pitcher who showed us a silver coin his father had dug up in Winterton in the late 1960s. The coin was identified by John Berry at the Canadian Currency Museum as a Charles I Scottish 12 shilling piece minted sometime between 1637 and 1642. Apparently the coin had been found in a part of Winterton known locally as Pinhorn's Room. A number of local residents informed us that other artifacts had been found in the same location and when we looked in this area we found late seventeenth and early eighteenth-century artifacts (pottery, bottle glass, clay pipes, etc.) that had been brought up by ploughing and other activities.

Between November 12 and November 20, 2003, we spent five days conducting a survey of Pinhorn's Room. A series of test pits were dug and cultural material was collected from disturbed areas such as vegetable gardens. Over 600 artifacts were recovered, including material from the seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, scattered over an area measuring roughly 50m by 26m. Ceramics recovered include fragments of Westerwald, Bellarmine, Low Countries redware, merida ware, English delftware and South Somerset. However, as was the case in New Perlican, pottery made in Verwood was by far the most common type recovered. A number of clay tobacco pipe fragments were also recovered, the oldest of which was a pipe bowl dating to about 1660.

Based on the archaeological evidence it seems clear

that Pinhorn's Room has been occupied since the second half of the seventeenth-century and it may well be the location of Richard Hopkins' plantation.

#### Other Activities

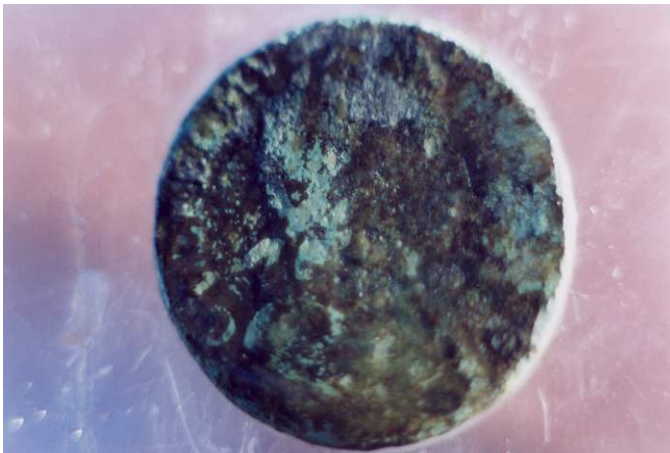
In addition to field work, the analysis and interpretation of the data recovered from Cupids and the other sites was ongoing throughout 2003. In January Barry Gaulton of Memorial University's Archaeology Unit completed a report on his analysis of 205 clay tobacco pipe fragments from Cupids. Gaulton's analysis identified a wide variety of clay pipes ranging in date from as early as between 1590 and 1610 to as late as between 1690 and 1730 as well as a number of nineteenth-century pipes. In September, 2003 Kathlyn Stewart of the Canadian Museum of Nature completed a report on her analysis of the faunal material from Cupids. Among the species identified were cow, pig, horse, sheep, seal, beaver, marten and cod. Graphic artist Hilary has been commissioned to create two paintings of early seventeenth-century Cupids based on archaeological and historical data. These paintings are part of a larger project that will also include artists' depictions of the Russell's Point Beothuk site and the Dorset Eskimo and Recent Indian sites on Dildo Island. A paper detailing the discoveries made at the Cupids since 1995 has been completed by William Gilbert and will be published in

Volume 8 of the journal *Avalon Chronicles*. Also, in 2003 the BTHC published a 32 page colour booklet *Journeys Through Time: Ten Years of Archaeology on the Baccalieu Trail* by William Gilbert.

#### Plans for 2004

In February 2004 work will begin on a Baccalieu Trail Archaeology Web Site. Funding has been secured from ACOA to hire a web site designer who will work in consultation with BTHC archaeologist William Gilbert. If everything proceeds according to plan, the web site should be up and running by May 31. Funding has also been secured to produce a second Baccalieu Trail Archaeology booklet which will be printed and ready for distribution by December 2004.

This year we plan to conduct further field work at Cupids, New Perlican, and Dildo Island and undertake a survey of Old Perlican. At Cupids our efforts will focus on trying to find more evidence of the palisade and at New Perlican we will be looking for evidence of buildings associated with the Hefford Plantation. In 2002 a 5 metre long Recent Indian fireplace dating to about 900 AD was uncovered on Dildo Island and this year we will be excavating this fireplace and looking for other related features. ↙



William III Ha'penny 1695-1698 from New Perlican



Charles I Silver 12 Shilling 1637- 1642 from Winterton



"Detail from Raeren Jug"  
Cupids 1600-1625



"Silver Threads" from Cupids

## BIRD COVE ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT

SUMMARY OF 2003 FIELDWORK

### Latonia Hartery

The 2003 archaeological research season in the Bird Cove area was characterized by new discoveries, ongoing research, international assistance, as well as efforts to complete a documentary film, which highlights both present and past archaeological research.

A fourth season of large-scale excavation was carried out at a Dorset Paleoeskimo habitation site, Peat Garden North, in the months of July and August. The site is well known for its abundance of animal remains which currently totals to 15 000 specimens, over half of which are bird remains. The most exciting discovery of the 2003 field season was a second house feature. Additional radiocarbon dates were acquired in this past year which firmly dates the site to between 1500-1100 AD. The data from Peat Garden North has attracted interest provincially, nationally and internationally. Preceding the 2003 field season, Archaeological Project Director, Latonia Hartery, and Tim Rast delivered a paper at the International Symposium on Paleoeskimo Architecture in St. Pierre which was organized by Sylvie LeBlanc and Murielle Nagy. Latonia also spoke on Peat Garden North at the National Museum of Denmark in January 2003 and will return to Copenhagen in May 2004 for the NABO Conference to deliver a report on the Groswater Paleoeskimo occupation of Peat Garden.

A second Dorset site, the Bird Cove site, was excavated to provide data that will be compared to Peat Garden North. The faunal preservation here differs greatly from the aforementioned site since the majority of animal remains at the Bird Cove site are sea mammals. Tool types include end blades, microblades and scrapers. Evidence from both sites indicates that Dorset Paleoeskimos visited what is now Bird Cove for hundreds of years and for multiple purposes. Excavations at the Bird Cove site were conducted with the assistance of volunteer archaeologists from the Maine State Museum in Augusta, Maine who were brought to Newfoundland by Dr. Steve Cox. The group included experienced avocational archaeologists, as well as professional curators and established researchers.

In July, a new site was found in Brig Bay after backhoe activity west of the Brig Bay wharf uncovered red bricks on the ocean floor. The site, named Samson, is the 31<sup>st</sup> archaeological site found in the towns of Bird Cove-Brig Bay, further demonstrating the intense occupation of this area in both the prehistoric and historic periods. The red bricks are French in origin and likely belong to one of three French canneries that once existed in Brig Bay in the 1800s. A portion of this year's research season will be devoted to French historic excavations in order to diversify the archaeology in the area, which up to this point has focused on prehistory, as well as to contribute to the celebration of French heritage in Newfoundland in accordance with the 2004 celebrations.

Two surveys were conducted within the boundaries of the town of Bird Cove. The first was for Mayor Augustine Anscombe and the Town Council. Woody Hill, east of the Interpretation Centre, was tested in preparation for implementation of a new watershed. The second, for Dennis Mahar, tested an existing trail for its potential use as a route

for all terrain vehicles and quads. The trail will be used by local residents and for guided adventure tours focused on bird watching, plant observation, and general views of the Bird Cove landscape. The trail extends from the end of Big Droke Drive to the Viking 430. Both tests were negative for archaeological resources but were positive in terms of development and increasing quality of life and tourism potential in the Bird Cove area.

In conclusion, phase two of three was completed for the documentary *Rocks to Riches* being written, directed and produced by Latonia Hartery and filmed and edited by Avenue Studios based in Calgary, AB. The documentary explores not only the impacts on the economy that archaeology has provided in Bird Cove and other rural Newfoundland areas since the ground fishery collapse but also explores the reason for the failing cod stocks. The documentary is a blend of historic photos and films, scientific studies, as well as interviews with fisherman, archaeologists, biologists, sociologists and government officials, each providing an interesting take on the state of our resources today and what are the options for a more diversified economy in out-port areas. Phase three is scheduled for summer 2004. Once completed the film will be entered into a German film festival in Kiel, Germany called Cinarchae. This festival is devoted solely to archaeological films where entries are submitted by a variety of people ranging from independent filmmakers to established institutions such as the Smithsonian or networks such as the BBC. Canadian venues will include the CBC and Aboriginal Peoples Television Network. Marketing plans are also in process to distribute the documentary to universities, libraries, museums and other archival institutes throughout the country.

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## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

### Harp, Elmer Jr.

2003 *Lives and Landscapes: A Photographic Memoir of Outport Newfoundland, 1949-61*. Montreal: McGill-Queens University Press. (Edited and introduced by M.A.P. Renouf, with a contribution by Elaine Groves Harp)

### Hodgetts, L., M.A.P. Renouf, M.S. Murray, L. Howse and D. Balkwill.

2003 Changing Diet Breadth at the Dorset Palaeoeskimo Site of Phillip's Garden, Newfoundland. *Arctic Anthropology* 40(1):106-120.

### Holly, Donald

2003 A Historiography of an Ahistory : On the Beothuk Indians. *History and Anthropology*, 14(2):127-140.

### Loring, Stephen McCaffrey, Moira, Armitage, Peter and Ashini, Daniel

2003 The Archaeology and Ethnohistory of a Drowned Land: Innu Nation Research Along the Former Michikamats Lake Shore in Nitassinan (interior Labrador). *Archaeology of Eastern North America*, 31:45-72.

### Pope, Peter

2003 The European Occupation of Southeast Newfoundland: Archaeological Perspectives on Competition for Fishing Rooms, 1530-1680. *Archéologiques. Mer et Monde: Questions d'archéologie maritime. Archéologiques, Collection Hors-Série* 1: 122-133.

### Renouf, M.A.P.

2003 Hunter-Gatherer Interactions: Mutualism and Resource Partitioning on the Island of Newfoundland. *Before Farming* 2003/1 (4): 1-16.

## UPCOMING CONFERENCE

There will be an Archaeology conference at the Battery Hotel in St. John's this fall, October 15 and 16, 2004. It is entitled "*From the Arctic to Avalon: Transforming the Northeast*"

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If you have any comments or suggestions for the next Newsletter contact Stephen Hull.