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THE PLACENTIA UNCOVERED /PLAISANCE À DÉCOUVERT ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT

SUMMARY OF 2004 FIELDWORK

Amanda Crompton

This year saw the fourth field season of archaeological research in Placentia under the *Placentia Uncovered / Plaisance à découvert Archaeology Project*, directed by Amanda Crompton. This year, the French settlement of Placentia (which dates between 1662 and 1713) was exclusively the focus of archaeological fieldwork.

Full-scale excavation at two French sites ran concurrently during this season. Amanda Crompton supervised excavations at the Vieux Fort (ChAl-04) on Mount Pleasant; this site is the location of the first fort constructed by the French upon the founding of the colony in 1662. The fort was in use until approximately 1685, at which point the fort was abandoned and the site was never re-occupied. Excavations this year continued the focus of the previous four seasons, exploring Structure A, a very large (ca. 23 x 7 m) stone-walled building found within the fort. All evidence collected from four years of excavation indicate that this structure functioned as a barracks, or residential structure for the military personnel at the fort. The structure had two rooms separated by an internal wall. The southern room (partially excavated in 2001 and 2002) is the larger of the two, and features a large stone fireplace built into the southwest corner of the structure. This year's excavations were planned to explore the northern room of the building, and to locate the northern gable end of the structure. Excavations uncovered not only the northern wall

of the structure, but also a second stone and brick fireplace structure. Remnants of an earlier, destroyed third fireplace were also located below this. This northern section of Structure A is unquestionably the best-preserved section of the site, with intact deposits well over one and a half metres in depth. Notable finds include many fragments from a Beauvais stoneware jug, brightly-coloured sherds of French faience, a good assortment of clay tobacco pipe bowls, several coins, and part of a copper spigot. Analysis of the material culture gathered from the past four seasons is ongoing as part of Crompton's Ph.D. dissertation at Memorial University.

Catherine Murphy supervised excavations at the Mount Pleasant Knoll site (ChAl-11). This site is located in a grassy meadow at the base of Mount Pleasant, and consists of two occupations: a late seventeenth century French context, and an English context dating to the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century. This season's work at this site built on previous years of excavation and survey. Murphy found further evidence that the French context consisted of a wooden-framed structure, destroyed by fire in the late seventeenth century. A number of domestic artefacts indicate that this site was likely of a residential nature: the artefacts include French earthenwares, stonewares, and highly decorated French faience, as well as tobacco pipes and finely-blown wineglass fragments. Documentary and cartographic evidence indicates that this site had been selected by the French Governor Antoine Parat as the location for the construction of a residence in the late seventeenth century. This residence was apparently destroyed a few short years later by English raiders. Analysis of the material culture is ongoing; in addition, further archival work is underway to cement the link between the excavated site and the documentary record relating to Parat's residence. This site and its analysis will form the basis of Murphy's M.A. thesis at Memorial University.

The *Placentia Uncovered / Plaisance à découvert Archaeology Project* is a community-based project, and is an initiative of the Placentia Heritage Advisory Committee. In 2004, the archaeology project received funding and support from a number of organisations and institutions, and deserve acknowledgement here. They are: Human Resources Development Canada, the Newfoundland Archaeological Heritage Outreach Program (NAHOP), the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the Institute of Social and Economic Research, the J.R. Smallwood Foundation, the Town of Placentia, and the Placentia Area Historical Society.✍

ARCHAEOLOGY IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR 2004



Stephen Hull
Provincial Archaeology Office

Memorial University NAHOP students Meghan Negriijn and John Shea at the Mount Pleasant Knoll site.
Photo courtesy Catherine Murphy.



The later stone-and-brick fireplace feature identified in the north room of Structure A at the Vieux Fort.
Photo courtesy Amanda Crompton.

BACCALIEU TRAIL ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT, 2004

SUMMARY OF 2004 FIELDWORK

Bill Gilbert

In 2004 the Baccalieu Trail Heritage Corporation conducted field work over a 23 week period from May 31 to October 29. During this time excavations took place at Dildo Island, Cupids and New Perlican and surveys were conducted in Hant's Harbour and Old Perlican.

Dildo Island

Four weeks (May 31 to June 25) were spent conducting excavations at the Recent Indian site on Dildo Island. In 2001 we uncovered and mapped a rectangular concentration of fire-cracked rocks and beach cobbles in the northeast corner of the site and in 2002 a five metre long Recent Indian linear hearth (fireplace) was uncovered in the southwest portion of the site. In 2004 the stone feature, which we now believe to be the remains of an Indian sweat lodge, was excavated and the hearth was mapped, excavated and reconstructed. A hide covered wigwam was also erected at the north end of the site in a place where archaeological evidence indicates that a wigwam once stood.

The hearth produced a number of Indian artifacts (including a complete spear point and several stone knives), a number of charcoal samples and 1030 fragments of calcined bone. Three of the charcoal samples were sent to the Beta Analytic lab in Florida for dating and the results indicate that the fireplace was in use around A.D. 800. The bones recovered from the fireplace have been sent to Kathlyn Stewart at the Canadian Museum of Nature in Hull for analysis. Once this analysis is completed, we will have a much better understanding of the types of animals hunted by the Indian people who lived on Dildo Island 1200 years ago. The analysis may also give us some indication of the time of year the site was occupied.

Cupids

A total of twelve weeks (June 28 - September 17) were spent excavating at Cupids this year. During this time excavations were conducted at a number of locations at the site and testing was carried out elsewhere in Cupids in an attempt to find the saw mill and brew house built there by the colonists in 1612.

At the site excavations concentrated in three main areas: a 5 m x 5 m unit was opened up in the northeast corner of the site to determine the location of the site boundary; a 2 m x 4 m area was excavated just northeast of the 17th century dwelling house; and a 2 m x 5 m area was excavated on the western edge a cellar located at the north end of the site. In all, approximately 14,000 artifacts were recovered at Cupids this year.

While no evidence of a fence or palisade was found in the northeast corner of the site, we were able to determine the boundary of the site in this area. Many interesting artifacts were recovered from the area northeast of the dwelling house but among the most interesting were over 100 small fragments of gold leaf that probably once adorned a book - perhaps a bible. Excavations on the western edge of the cellar confirmed that this structure, which was erected sometime around 1800, had destroyed part of a 17th century stone wall which once formed the northern boundary of the site. Work here also uncovered a number of 17th century flagstones.

Unfortunately, our search for the saw mill and brew house was far less productive. It would seem logical to assume that the saw mill was built on the river west of the site and at a point where there is sufficient force to drive a water wheel. Yet, while we found the remains of both a saw mill and a stone lined channel leading to it,

extensive testing indicated that both the mill and the channel had been constructed in the 19th century.

We know from Henry Crout's diary that the brew house was located across the salt water pond from the plantation and there is a spring in this area that has been used by the residents of Cupids since at least the early 19th century. However, when we tested in this area we found only a shallow 19th century well and, although we did uncover a few artifacts that date to the 17th century, there was no clear evidence of a brew house. It may be that the remains of this structure are located a little farther south under the present day road.

New Perlican

From September 20 to October 2 the crew worked at the Cupids Archaeology Lab cataloguing and analyzing the data recovered during the field season and on October 4 we returned to New Perlican to conduct three weeks of excavations at the Hefford Plantation (October 4-20).

Most of our work in New Perlican over the previous two field seasons focused on Area B just east of George Peddle's house where over 12,000 artifacts have been recovered. This year we conducted some preliminary excavations at three other locations within the boundaries of the site: Area C located in the southwestern corner of the site on the edge of the bank just above the beach; Area D near the western boundary of the site between George Peddle's barn and the beach; and Area E at the northern end of the site just a few metres south of the William Hefford headstone.

A 1 m x 3 m trench excavated in Area E uncovered a 20 cm thick cultural deposit beneath a 35 cm plough zone. This cultural deposit produced over 150 late 17th and early 18th century artifacts including five clay pipe bowls and a wrought iron padlock. Six 1 m x 1 m units were excavated in Area D and while the deposits were relatively shallow they produced an abundance of late 17th century artifacts including 345 clay tobacco pipe stems and 42 pipe bowls and bowl fragments.

However, the most interesting part of the site that we sampled this season was Area C. Here a 1 m x 5 m trench exposed part of a rubble filled pit 10 ft. wide and 3 ft 2 in deep. At the bottom of this pit is a deposit of burnt timbers that is clearly the remains of a wooden structure that once stood over the pit. Artifacts recovered from amongst both the burnt timbers and the rubble that was dumped over them indicate that the structure was burnt and the pit filled in during the late 17th century. The burnt timbers were left in place, covered in polyfoam and plastic and the trench was refilled at the end of the season. We hope to return to New Perlican in 2005 to do more work in both Area D and elsewhere at the Hefford Plantation.

Hant's Harbour

On October 21 and 22 our crew conducted an initial survey of Hant's Harbour and on the eastern side of the harbour, on the neck just south of Custer's Head, we discovered a site that produced both prehistoric Indian and late 17th century European material. We established a grid in this area, dug a total of 13 test pits and recovered 486 artifacts.. Evidence of the English occupation includes wrought iron nails, fragments of late seventeenth-century bottle glass, shards from various types of coarse earthenware vessels (including Verwood and North Devonware) and clay tobacco pipe fragments. The pipe fragments include one nearly complete bowl that dates to the late seventeenth or early eighteenth century. The aboriginal presence is attested to by a number of chert flakes found scattered over the site and a patinated biface fragment that is clearly of Recent Indian origin.

Old Perlican

Our last two days in the field were spent doing some preliminary survey work in Old Perlican. When we first arrived we were shown around by Mr. Fred Cramm, a retired school teacher and member of the local historical society. Among the things Fred showed us was the headstone of John Barrett (or possibly Parrett) “who departed this life anno dom 1714 age 60 years”. In a vegetable garden belonging to Mr. Ron Barrett located about 10 metres northeast of this stone we found a late 17th/early 18th century site. A number of artifacts were collected from the surface in the garden and eight test pits were dug. The artifacts include a wide range of ceramics, among them German manufactured Westerwald stoneware, tin glazed earthenwares, and coarse earthenwares made in South Somerset, Verwood in Dorset, and the Saintonge region of France. Fragments of late 17th century/early 18th century dark green bottle glass were also collected as well as a number of clay tobacco pipe bowl and stem fragments. The bore diameters of the pipe stems range from 8/64 to 4/68 and when we applied Binford’s straight line regression formula to this sample it produced a mean date for the site of 1704.

Later that afternoon we discovered a second site south of the fish plant on a piece of land roughly 100 metres east of the beach and just north of a stream that flows into Old Perlican Harbour. Scattered over the surface we found numerous fragments of coarse earthenware, including South Somerset, Verwood and Meridaware; shards of dark green bottle glass, including a rim fragment from a late 17th century bottle; a number of clay pipe bowl fragments including a late 17th century bowl with a mulberry design; and 32 clay pipe stems. The bore diameters of these stems range from 8/64 to 5/64. However, the stems with the larger, and

The patinated biface fragment found in Hant's Harbour. (Gilbert)



presumably older, bore diameters predominated and when we applied Binford’s straight line regression formula to this sample, we came up with a mean date of 1676 for the site.

Unfortunately, the artifacts we found scattered on the surface were there because the area had been bulldozed only about a year before. When we dug test pits we soon found that almost all of the topsoil had been removed. We later discovered a mound of dirt and rocks located between the site and the beach where all the topsoil had been dumped. In all, an area measuring roughly 100 ft by 100 ft had been leveled in this manner. This unfortunate situation underlines the urgent need to conduct a thorough survey of the archaeological resources of the Baccalieu Trail region. Had this site been found a year earlier, it could have been saved from destruction. We can only hope that some portion of it remains undisturbed outside the bulldozed area.

Baccalieu Trail Archaeology Web Site

In 2004 the Baccalieu Trail Heritage Corporation launched the Baccalieu Trail Archaeology Web Site. The web site provides information on discoveries made at the various sites excavated by the BTHC over the past eleven years; transcriptions of a number of 17th century documents related to these sites; historical and archaeological information on a number of other places on the Baccalieu Trail; updates on new discoveries as they are made and much more. The web address for the site is www.baccalieudigs.ca 📌

Face from a 17th century German bellarmine bottle found east of the dwelling house in Cupids. (Gilbert)



A late 17th century clay pipe bowl found among the burnt timbers in the pit at New Perlican. (Gilbert)



The Recent Indian spear point found next to the linear hearth on Dildo Island. (Gilbert)



NACHVAK ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT

SUMMARY OF 2004 FIELDWORK

Mark Penney

In 2004, the Nachvak Archaeological Project expanded not only in terms of duration and crew size, but in research breadth as well. Under the lead supervision of my graduate supervisor, Dr. Peter Whitridge, and with the help of many others¹, I was able to successfully carry out the field component of my Master's Research.

Fieldwork took place at Nachvak Fjord, Northern Labrador between July 8-Sept 2, 2004.

Our crew established a base camp at the inner reaches of Nachvak Fjord on a beautiful strand at the junction where the fjord splits into two arms. From this locale, Dr. Whitridge and his crew had quick and easy access to *Nachvak Village* (IgCx-3), and for myself, the *Kogarsok Brook-1 Site* (IgCx-8) was only a short jaunt away. It was at this site, which had been only briefly surveyed the previous year, where I planned to focus my excavations. Based on a few surface finds, I was fairly confident that the site was affiliated with the Late Dorset Palaeoeskimo (AD 500-1250) and I was eager to get started. However, the powers of nature in the Torngat Mountains are an ever-present force and they often prompt alternate methods. An unexpected high and strong current at Kogarsok Brook forced us to implement the Zodiac to and from the site, and even though the distance was quite short, frequent fierce winds would often halt any attempts to work there. If these logistics were not troublesome enough, there were also two days when a mother polar bear and her two young cubs decided that the site was a wonderful place to lounge around in back dirt and trample our dig buckets. A "Plan B" was in order and the results were most fortunate.

A systematic shovel survey along a grassy terrace between camp and *Nachvak Village* revealed a gem of a site. Positive test pits along the extent of *The Lower Terrace* (IgCx-11) revealed a substantial Late Dorset habitation site, superimposed by thin Thule and Labrador Inuit components. Excavations focussed on a Dorset house that contained many interesting features and diagnostic artefacts. While the house was only partially uncovered, it revealed large Ramah Chert concentrations, a lamp stand and cooking area, and information on dwelling construction and organization. Artefacts associated with this area included various forms of soapstone vessels, diagnostic Late Dorset points and stemmed bifaces, a cache of preforms, and numerous cutting/slicing tools. Early impressions of the data point to a cold-season occupation from where people could take advantage of the resources at the nearby polynya.

As for *Kogarsok Brook-1*, I tested the site and was able to excavate three separate activity areas. The site revealed no signs of habitation and appears to be a short-term, warm season camp and/or gathering area. The majority of the artefacts are associated with hunting and processing game and Ramah Chert is supplemented by black chert and other lithics. As well, one area of the site contained a large amount of primary reduction debris in the form of cores and large flakes. The materials here are a mix of Ramah Chert and coarse-grained quartzite. Interestingly, these artefacts are covered and mixed with ash and a red ochre-like substance hinting at some type of ceremonial context. I feel this newly acquired data will add to our understanding of long-term development and change in Late Dorset culture in northern Labrador. ♣

¹Funding for this graduate project was supplemented in the form of research grants, aids or scholarships from NSTP, ISER, the Smallwood Foundation, and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. In addition, supports in the form of field-worker salaries were available from the NAHOP and the LIA.



Camp at Nachvak 2004. (M.Penney)

Lower terrace survey in Nachvak Fjord. (M.Penney)



Testing at IgCx-8 in Nachvak Fjord. (M.Penney)



Inner Nachvak Fjord. (M.Penney)

FLEUR DE LYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT

SUMMARY OF 2004 FIELDWORK

John Erwin

The Fleur de Lys Archaeological Project welcomed back the Memorial University of Newfoundland Archaeology Field School for a third consecutive year. Our investigations were centered at Cow Cove 3 (EaBa-16), a warm weather Dorset occupation in the neighboring community of Coachman's Cove. Field school participants continued excavations that began in 2002 by further delineating the extent of the Dorset occupation at this locality. The focus of this year's excavation was an outdoor activity area which was marked by the presence of spatially discreet scatters of flakes and unfinished broken tools of comparable material. Further study of this lithic debitage, including planned re-fitting analysis, may yield further information on the activity areas across this site and their relationship with the Groswater occupation at the nearby Cow Cove 1 (EaBa-16) site.

Planned fieldwork in 2005 includes the completion of excavations at Cow Cove 3, and the continuation of regional survey work that is intended to more fully explore Palaeoeskimo site location criteria. This work is intended to produce further evidence for warm weather seasonality and mobility patterning amongst Palaeoeskimo groups in the region. ↙



Memorial University of Newfoundland Archaeology Field School excavation at Cow Cove 3 (EaBa-16) (Erwin).

SNACK COVE, LABRADOR

SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK 2004

Natalie Brewster

In July-August 2004 excavations were conducted at Snack Cove 1 & 3, as a part of the Porcupine Strand Archaeology Project. The Goal of this year's fieldwork at Snack Cove was to excavate a dwelling from each site in order to gain insight into the nature of Inuit occupations in southern Labrador and their relationship with Europeans during the Contact Period.

Snack Cove 3 is a 17th century Labrador Inuit site that has approximately 7 depressions in a linear distribution, 3 of which have been confirmed as dwellings. House 1 was excavated in 2003 and has been identified as the remains of a fall/winter dwelling. This summer, efforts were focused on House 2 which has also been identified as a fall/winter dwelling. House 2 contained a paved stone floor, a well preserved faunal collection, and several artifacts

including the bone and iron ulu pictured at right. Several test units were opened outside of House 2 in an attempt to uncover a midden, however no middens were found. Upon completion of House 2, two test units were excavated in the third depression. The test units revealed faunal material, and a paved stone floor, confirming the presence of a third dwelling.

After work at Snack Cove 3 was finished, the crew moved on to Snack Cove 1 which is comprised of three Labrador Inuit tent rings. Tent Ring A, a short term warm weather dwelling was mapped and excavated. The tent ring contained an internal hearth feature and rear platform; few artifacts and poorly preserved faunal materials were recovered. ↙



Bone and Iron Ulu from Snack Cove 3 (Brewster)

BIRD COVE-PLUM POINT ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT 2004

SUMMARY OF 2004 FIELDWORK

Latonia Hartery

As in previous years, the 2004 field season in the Bird Cove-Plum Point area involved a number of activities that focused on both pure research and cultural resource management.

Initially, the season was spent visiting a number of historic sites, such as Captain Cook's cairn and the Bakery site, in order to protect their surface features from compromising and overgrowing tuckamore. A trip to Old Ferolle Island revealed that the French bread oven at the Bakery site had suffered an inward collapse of the limestone rock, which once supported the oven's dome, as well as the loosening of rocks in its walls and base. Once the stunted spruce and shrubs were cleared using root cutters and saws, the feature seemed to be in a little better condition than originally thought. However, the oven will be monitored until excavations take place there within the next two years.

After implementing measures to preserve both the cairn and the oven, we proceeded to Fisherman Cove-2 (EgBf-14), a Groswater Paleoeskimo site. The archaeological material recovered was confined to an area measuring four square metres. EgBf-14 is located on the southwestern end of the Dog Peninsula, beneath a

limestone bluff, and is 29m from the shoreline of picturesque St. Margaret's Bay (Figure 1). This site was first discovered by David Reader in 1997 and immediately peaked considerable interest when a caribou hoof amulet, similar to those found at Eskimobyen, Abverdjar (Igloodik), and on Mansel Island etc., was found in a test pit. The excavations this year revealed additional finely crafted artefacts such as end blades and knives, which were sandwiched between pockets of red ochre, inside a hearth feature. No scrapers or microblades were found. Slate and Cow Head cherts were the most common raw material. A radiocarbon sample was isolated from the hearth and has been sent for dating but the results have not yet been received.

Towards the end of August a water and sewer system was planned for residents in a sub-division of Bird Cove known as Big Droke. Since this location is well known for its Maritime Archaic Indian material culture, a concerted effort was made to test the area and ensure development would not destroy potential sites. No new sites were discovered and the highly anticipated and much needed new system went forward to the delight of local residents. 🪦



Calcined caribou hoof amulet from Fisherman Cove-2
3 cm length. (Hartery)

Fisherman Cove-2, Excavation team on the left in photo. (Hartery)



AMERINDIAN OCCUPATIONS OF THE INTERMEDIATE PERIOD IN GOOSE BAY, LABRADOR

SUMMARY OF 2004 FIELDWORK

Scott Neilsen

This past summer Derrick LeGrow jr., Jodie Ashini and I excavated archaeological sites FhCb-04 and FhCc-01 in Goose Bay, Labrador. These sites were originally documented in 1998 during the Impact Assessment for the Lower Churchill Hydro

Development, by archaeologists working for Jacques Whitford Environmental Ltd. Both sites are attributed to Amerindians of the Intermediate Period. Site FhCb-04 is a relatively small single occupation site; cultural material recovered at this site includes debitage, utilized flakes, bifaces, hearth stones, charcoal samples, and a pit oven. The lithics recovered consist of tan quartzite and multi-coloured cherts. This assemblage is consistent with Saunders Complex sites from the north Labrador coast and Charles Complex sites from Northwest River. A radiocarbon date of 2810 +/- 70 BP also places this site within the date range of the Saunders and Charles Complexes.

Site FhCc-01 is relatively near FhCb-04, but at a higher elevation; indicating that it is likely to date earlier in the culture-history sequence. Limited excavation, survey and testing at this site confirmed the location of the site identified in 1998, but also identified the location of no less than 3 more loci. Material recovered at this site includes debitage, scrapers and faunal fragments. The Lithics recovered consist of red quartzite, tan quartzite, rose quartzite and multi-coloured cherts; indicating an affinity with Saunders Complex sites of the north Labrador coast and Brinex Complex sites from Northwest River. Site elevations are also consistent with this assessment; however, with no radiocarbon dates available this assignment remains speculative. With the recovery of additional loci in very close proximity to one another it seems possible that this site is larger than was originally assessed. However, it is also possible that these loci represent separate occupations at different times. Analysis of the lithic types and their distribution between loci should provide some clarification to this problem; but it is important to remember that a very small portion of the site was excavated and the other loci were only subjected to testing. It seems likely that additional excavation at this site would recover more Intermediate Amerindian material, some of which (mainly charcoal samples) may help in firming the early culture-history sequence of the Period. 📌



Pit feature associated with charcoal and stones. Has similar characteristics to an Innu Sand Oven, used for baking Bannock. (Neilsen)

GERALD PENNEY ASSOCIATES LIMITED

SUMMARY OF 2004 FIELDWORK

Gerald Penney

Gerald Penney Associates Limited held five research permits in 2004; two for projects in Labrador, one on Newfoundland's west coast, and two in the capital city.

In Labrador we monitored fuel line modification activities at a radar site north of Nain in the Kiglapait Mountains, and assessed, with Gary Baikie of Thule Consulting Inc., a proposed feldspar quarry on the trans-Labrador highway, near Churchill Falls.

On the Island we surveyed an area of new lands for expansion to the Humber Valley Resort, near Deer Lake. In St. John's we spot tested along a 600 meter section of Water Street West (historically Riverhead) in preparation for the laying of an interceptor sewer pipe in 2005 as the initial phase of the harbour clean-up project (photo). Also, we surveyed the proposed

development area for a new inner city hotel at Bell and Henry Streets. 📌



Looking east along the route of the harbour inteceptor sewer - a trench 7 x 7 m will be dug along the south margin of the roadway. (G. Penney)

QUEBEC

SUMMARY OF 2004 FIELDWORK

Jean-Yves Pintal

During the summer of 2004, two assessment studies were conducted near the mouth of the Blanc-Sablon River, in a provincial archaeological park that encompasses the west bank of this waterway. During the first study, which was done next to the bridge for Transports Québec, a 25-square-metre site from the middle post-Archaic period (1820+/-70 B.P., Beta-196930) was totally excavated and two activity areas were located (ca. 5000 flakes and 15 tools). The western half of the site corresponds to a small lithic workshop, used mainly for making Blanc-Sablon quartzite bifacial preforms, although some clams were eaten in that area. The eastern half yielded the remains of what appears to be a semicircular house (ca. 3.5 m diameter) with a central fireplace, in which bones identified as beaver and seal were found. The fireplace also contained some 90 Native ceramic sherds, bearing, in the case of the collar pieces, thin incised lines. Similar ceramics have already been found in the western half of the Quebec Lower North Shore, namely in Kegaska and La Romaine (Unamen Shipi).

The second study, which was carried out for the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications du Québec, involved the excavation of a partly eroded recent post-Archaic site (420+/-60 BP, Beta-196929) (ca. 20 square metres). This excavation led to the discovery of a fireplace measuring 6 metres long by 25 centimetres thick and containing mostly burned bones, mainly from seal. Artifacts were not very abundant (less than 1000 flakes and a dozen tools), but more than 200 sherds of Native ceramics were unearthed. Although this pottery is still being analyzed, it can already be said to resemble recent Woodland vases found in the St. Lawrence River Valley. Considering the length of the fireplace and the relative scarcity of lithic tools, our working hypothesis is that this site corresponds to the remains of a meeting place where several families gathered on the west bank of the Blanc-Sablon River, celebrating the encounter with a feast (makushan). 📌

SOUTHERN LABRADOR

SUMMARY OF 2004 FIELDWORK

Blair Temple

During the summer of 2004, excavations took place at the old Jersey community of L'Anse au Cotard, Labrador (just west of L'Anse au Clair, near the Labrador/Quebec border). Excavations focused on one of three structures, believed to be a dwelling dating to the nineteenth century. This structure is present in the form of a partially exposed, mortared stone foundation, approximately 7.5 x 11 meters, with a small outbuilding extending off the western wall of the structure. Based on the artifacts recovered, combined with information from historical sources and genealogical research, the structure is believed to date from the 1830's to the late nineteenth century.

A large quantity of artifacts were recovered, many typical of nineteenth-century sites in Newfoundland and Labrador. Large quantities of ceramics were found, including numerous decorated and undecorated Pearlware, Whiteware and Ironstone vessels. Other ceramic wares found include several fragments of Normandy stoneware as well as sherds of a yellow glazed coarse earthenware, possibly American. Of particular interest is the lone fragment of Tin-glazed earthenware discovered, likely a family heirloom. Several different types of decorated tobacco pipe bowls were recovered, one of which can tentatively be identified as having been produced by a J. Cornwell of London. Also found were marked pipe stems with "J. Collings" on one side and "Jersey" on the other. These have tentatively been attributed to a Joseph Collings, producing tobacco pipes in Jersey during the nineteenth-century. A variety of other decorated pipe bowls and stamped stems were found as well, some of which were produced in Canada and Scotland.

A surprising quantity of cutlery was recovered, including iron(?) knives with bone handles and pewter spoons of different

sizes. Many common nineteenth-century artifacts such as glass beads, copper thimbles, bone buttons and gun flints were discovered, but also much more interesting objects such as copper commercial tokens, a small bone cross and what appears to be a possible bone sled runner. Woodworking tools, possibly associated with coopering were also found.

The Pointe St. Charles (EiBg-138) archaeological site provides a tight nineteenth-century date (1830s-1880/90's), is especially rich in terms of the quantity, and to a degree, the quality of the material found, and gives an excellent picture of life in Labrador during the nineteenth-century.

Other projects

The Town of L'Anse au Clair proposed to construct a parking lot at the western end of the community near the shoreline for tourists visiting the Jersey Rooms archaeological site. A large area was tested and surveyed, with another new site, the Letto Site (EiBg-152), being discovered near the town of L'Anse au Clair. A large number of flakes were recovered, as well as six preforms and biface fragments. Most of this material appears to be Recent Indian. While the site is terribly disturbed due to soil and fill removal in the past, there is a good possibility that secure portions of the site do still exist.

During the summer of 2004, two HRIA's were conducted in L'Anse au Diable, Labrador, at the Outcrop Site (EjBe-70) first identified in 2002. This site is very close to an active rock quarry project, and it was felt that previous and current quarry work may have damaged the archaeological site. The entire area surrounding the rock outcrop and the archaeological site was intensively tested, and it was determined that while the quarry activity itself did not harm the archaeological site, the access road leading north to the quarry may have caused damage as the site may possibly extend under the road.



Jersey Rooms - Pointe St. Charles (EiBg-138). (Temple)

Throughout the summer, a number of archaeological sites on the Labrador Straits were revisited to assess their current condition. Through the course of these investigations, two new archaeological sites were identified: L'Anse Amour-2 (EiBf-40) and The Old Graveyard Site (EiBg-153). L'Anse Amour-2, found on the east side of the road going into the community of L'Anse Amour, produced a large quantity of flakes, and one possible Dorset microblade. The Old Graveyard Site is found on the beach in L'Anse au Clair, near the old cemetery. A very nice Groswater burin-like tool was found on the surface, along with a number of flakes.

Pearlware flow blue bowl recovered from Pointe St. Charles.
(Temple)



ARCHAEOLOGY AT FERRYLAND, NEWFOUNDLAND

SUMMARY OF 2004 FIELDWORK

James Tuck

Despite miserable weather and reduced funding the 2004 season at Ferryland was an overwhelming success. One of the three houses purchased by the Department of Tourism, Culture and Recreation was removed late in the summer and beneath and adjacent to it were found the remains of three stone structures believed to have been used during the early years of the Colony of Avalon, probably in the early 1620s. A fourth structure seems to have utilized two of the partly demolished walls of these structures to create a domestic space, including a fireplace and brick oven, probably immediately after the French destruction of the settlement in 1696.

One of the early structures also contains a large fireplace and was probably also a domestic structure. Although the floor has been reached in only a small area several interesting objects emerged from the destruction rubble. These include the skull and lower mandible of a large raptor and an nearly complete *terra sigillata* costrel. The latter is of a rare and expensive type of ceramics made in Estremoz, Portugal and collected by such notables as Philip II of Spain and Charles I of England. Ferryland is believed to be the only site in the New World where such ceramics have been found.

Also of interest are a Queen Anne period mug associated with the post-destruction occupation and a lead token bearing the initials "DK". The latter was found in the house

believed to have been built by Sir David Kirke. According to Paul Berry, Curator of the National Currency Collection at the Bank of Canada it is a trade token, in all likelihood issued by Sir David Kirke and probably the earliest piece of money manufactured for use in what is now Canada.

A lead token bearing the initials "DK". (Tuck)



Terra sigillata costrel recovered from Ferryland. (Tuck)

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK AT OAKES BAY 1 (HeCg-08) AND GREEN ISLAND 6 (HkCk-01)

SUMMARY OF 2002 FIELDWORK

Jim Woollett and Susan Kaplan

In the summer of 2002, an excavation and survey project was carried out at the Neoeskimo sites of Oakes Bay 1 and Green Island 6. The archaeological project was the final phase of a multi-year project intended to reinforce palaeoeconomic reconstructions with precise dendrochronological dates, to identify further sites as suitable candidates for dendrochronological dating and to improve

palaeoclimatological reconstructions for Labrador with extended tree ring records. This project was funded by the National Science Foundation (U.S.A.) and directed by Dr. Susan Kaplan (Peary- MacMillan Arctic Museum and Arctic Studies Center (Bowdoin College, Maine). The field project was carried out by a team of fieldworkers from Nain and Bowdoin College supervised by Jim Woollett.

At Oakes Bay 1, on Dog Island in the vicinity of Nain, a substantial portion of a sod house was excavated; revealing floor and sleeping platform areas with fallen wood roof structures well preserved in waterlogged sediments and permafrost. The house, which may date to the early 18th century or before, was sampled for recovery of dateable wood remains, as well as ecofacts for economic and palaeoenvironmental studies. Middens associated with the house were sampled as well, and provided large collections of animal bones, other ecofacts and organic artifacts including wood and sealskin, extraordinarily well preserved in permafrost. Analyses of these materials are currently in progress. The outstanding quality of preservation at the site provides excellent possibilities for future work at the site.

Green Island 6, a second Neoeskimo winter sod house settlement on Green Island in Okak Bay was surveyed and tested in order to determine if contexts with well-preserved organic

remains dateable through dendrochronology could be identified. Surficial artifact scatters and extant stone and turf structures tentatively indicate an extensive Paleoeskimo occupation and a substantial if perhaps brief Neoeskimo occupation somewhere between the 14th to 17th century, preservation conditions for bone, wood and other organics proved to be poor. ↙



Frozen wood from Oakes Bay 1. (Wollett & Kaplan)



Inuit house excavation at Oakes Bay 1. (Wollett & Kaplan)

PORT AU CHOIX ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT

SUMMARY OF 2004 FIELDWORK

Phillip's Garden, Barbace Cove & Conche

M.A.P. Renouf, Bradley Drouin, Patty Wells

The Port au Choix Archaeology Project ran three research programs this summer at Phillip's Garden and Barbace Cove in the Port au Choix National Historic Park, and in the Conche area on the northeast coast of the Northern Peninsula.

The program at Phillip's Garden concentrated on determining the size and construction of some of the larger houses at this Dorset Palaeoskimo site (ca. 2000-1200 BP). Renouf has identified at least 68 dwellings at this site, a place from which the Dorset hunted harp seals in March and April each year. Some of the large dwellings were excavated by Dr. Elmer Harp in the early 1960s but details of the architecture such as post-holes and exterior dimensions were not recorded. Renouf and her team did limited re-excavation of two of the dwellings excavated by Harp and found that one (House 2) was very large, with an exterior footprint of 78.4 m². It had two and possibly a third evenly spaced post-holes down the centre which would have supported a gabled roof. One of the post-holes was 81 cm deep and the two others were 55 cm deep, indicating a substantial and well-constructed dwelling. Excavation of one of the post-holes revealed a series of deposits that suggest at least two construction phases related to this dwelling. The older phase consisted of the large deep post-holes and a younger phase consisted of filling in these to make smaller, shallower and narrower holes for much smaller posts. The discoveries from this season confirm that Dorset architecture at this site was more complex and permanent than previously thought. It also confirms that the dwellings here could have accommodated more than one or two families, as earlier suggested by Harp.

Renouf and her team returned to the French Basque site of Barbace Cove on the Port au Choix peninsula to search for evidence of a roofing structure over the oven excavated during the field season in 2003. This well-protected cove was a French summer fishing station used from at least the eighteenth century up until the turn of the twentieth century. In 2003 the team excavated the remains of one bread oven (Event 12). This feature would have been part of a fishing room that usually consisted of a stage, a beach for processing cod, a bread oven, and possibly a cook-house and sleeping quarters. Last year Renouf and her team identified the platform on which the oven would have rested, as well as some of the materials used in its construction. The platform at 29 m² and the footprint of the oven at 9.5 m² suggest a large communal oven providing bread for the 50-100 French fishermen who would have fished out of Barbace Cove and processed cod on its beaches. Excavations this season extended to the east of the platform wall to include all of sub-operation 7A945B. While no evidence of supports for a roof was found the team did locate the remains of another bread oven that had been partially dismantled, presumably for the construction of the adjacent, excavated oven feature. The well placed platform stones of this older oven were removed and only the rubble interior of the platform remained. No oven materials were found in association with this feature. The area also revealed a deposit of fish bone that indicates that at least some cod processing was done on shore behind the beaches and well away from the water. Ceramics and glass recovered confirm a late

eighteenth, early nineteenth century date for this structure. The oven (Event 12) was covered in sand bags for protection.

The main objective of the 2004 summer field season was to identify new archaeological sites on the East Coast of the Northern Peninsula. Bradley Drouin and his crew surveyed the region between Canada Bay and Hare Bay and focused their efforts on four main areas: Englee, Conche, St. Julien's and Croque.

Five new sites were identified in Englee: White Point (EeBa-10), the Compton site (EeBa-11), the Duck Trail site (EeBa-12), Fillier-2 site (EeBa-13) and Fillier Ridge site (EeBa-14). Based on preliminary artifact analysis the five sites in Englee have been identified as Palaeoskimo with the White Point site being Dorset based on the presence of a tip flute spall.

Conche produced a wider array of new sites with four historic and ten prehistoric sites, ranging from Maritime Archaic to Dorset. The four historic sites of Rancid Seal (EfAx-20), the Bottom site (EfAx-21), Sleepy Cove (EfAx-22) and Martinique Bay-1 (EfAx-23) were all located in Martinique Bay at the bottom of Conche harbour. The sites mainly consisted of scattered nails and iron artifacts. Sleepy Cove however produced one pipe stem, earthenware and a few other ceramic fragments. The dating of the sites based on artifactual material has not yet been completed. Interestingly the Bottom site also contained a prehistoric component. Two lithic cores and two flake concentrations were found on the lower terrace (~2-4 masl).

The remaining prehistoric sites were located along the western shore of Conche harbour from the southern tip of the Conche Peninsula, known as Fox Head, to Chest Head in the town of Conche. The sites located directly along the coast at Fox Head were (moving south to north): Fox Head-3 (EfAx-18), Fox Head-1 (EfAx-16), Fox Head-2 (EfAx-17), the Dock site (EfAx-24), Fox Head-4 (EfAx-19), Salmon Net (EfAx-25), Green Cove-2 (EfAx-28), Green Cove (EfAx-12), First Cove (EfAx-26), and the Carroll site (EfAx-27). Based on artifact assemblages Fox Head-3, Fox Head-1, the Dock site, Fox Head-4, and Green Cove-2 are Dorset sites. This is based primarily on the presence of tip flute spalls and diagnostic endblades. Salmon Net and Green Cove are two Groswater sites, the first of their kind to be found on the East Coast of the Northern Peninsula. This is based primarily on the presence of endblades which have been ground, very finely flaked and notched. First Cove is possibly a Maritime Archaic site based on ground slate flakes, similar to ones already found at EfAx-1 (Foley Garden site) and flakes of Ramah chert. Fox Head-2 only contained one flake but is spatially located close to the Dock site. In addition, Steve Carroll donated a large fragmented soapstone pot that he found during the building of an extension on his house. No testing was done due to the extensive disturbance caused by the construction. Further testing of EfAx-1 and EfAx-2 (Chest Head) revealed the limits of these sites. As expected Chest Head is very disturbed by modern and historic root cellars, gardens, and house foundations. However, the site is much larger than previously thought. EfAx-1 on the other hand, is smaller than what was expected. A number of ground slate flakes were found along with a beautiful finely flaked Ramah chert projectile point.

Preliminary testing in Croque and St. Julien's was also completed this summer. No new sites were identified; however further testing is needed in St. Julien's and Croque. █



Older (right) and younger (left) bread oven platforms, Barbace Cove, Port au Choix. (Renouf, Drouin & Wells)



FIELDWORK AT NACHVAK FIORD

SUMMARY OF 2004 FIELDWORK

Peter Whitridge

In July and August 2004 Peter Whitridge (Memorial University of Newfoundland) and a crew of students from MUN and Nain (Matthew Beaudoin, Juliana Coffey, Erin Glavine, John Higdon, Irena Juracic, Johnny Harris, Juliana Lidd, and Mark Penney) continued with the project of survey and excavation at Nachvak Fjord, northern Labrador (N59 04' W63 53') begun in summer 2003. Excavation was conducted at two Inuit winter village sites, and several previously reported sites in the inner, middle and outer fiord zones were revisited. Finds and photographs were exhibited at an open house in Nain at the end of the season.

Work focussed on the site of Nachvak Village (IgCx-3), a late Thule/early historic Inuit winter village consisting of approximately 16 sod, stone, and whale bone winter houses, of which one (H.2) was excavated in 2003. An excavation area of 26 m² was opened over a single-platform house (H.6) in the central-rear portion of the elevated grassy terrace on which the site is situated, 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. Both house floors were exposed and mapped, but insufficient time remained at our inner fiord camp to explore subfloor deposits, so the excavation floors were covered with tarps and the houses mostly backfilled, to be completed in summer 2005. The artifact assemblages were consistent with those recovered from H.2, consisting mostly of slate, soapstone and whale bone artifacts (as well as intrusive chert artifacts spanning much of the

Paleoeskimo period), with small quantities of European metal objects (mostly nails) attesting to a limited protohistoric or contact-era (likely late 17th-early 18th c.) occupation of a predominantly precontact Thule site.

Three 1x3 m test trenches were excavated at the historic Inuit winter village of Kongu (IgCv-7) visited by Jens Haven in 1773. Trenches sampled extramural midden deposits adjacent to the entrance tunnels of houses in the western, central and eastern portions of the site, which appears to consist of four large multifamily ("communal") semi-subterranean houses, and as many as six smaller and less heavily constructed structures (one- or two-family houses, outbuildings, and perhaps festival houses). Ground slate was significantly absent from the IgCv-7 collection, but only a limited range of European artifact types (primarily nails and beads) occurred in lower midden levels. European ceramics date mostly from the middle half of the 19th c. Thus, for several decades early in the site's occupation its residents appear not to have had much access to, or interest in, the full range of European goods likely available at Nain. By the mid-to-late 19th c. the community had been substantially abandoned for the village site at Ivitak Cove, opposite the Hudson's Bay Company Post founded in 1868. ✍

Johnny Harris excavating entrance tunnel of House 6, IgCx-3, Nachvak Fiord. (Whitridge)



Excavating House 12, IgCx-3 (L to R: Juliana Lidd, John Higdon, Juliana Coffey, and Johnny Harris), Nachvak Fiord. (Whitridge)



BURNSIDE HERITAGE FOUNDATION INC.

SUMMARY OF 2004 FIELDWORK

Laurie McLean

The Burnside Heritage Foundation Inc. conducted its 15th archaeological field season from mid-June until early October, 2004. Laurie McLean directed a team of local adults and NAHOP student Robyn Fleming in the research. Excavations had been planned for the Beaches, Bloody Bay Cove-3, Howard, Sailor and Cull's Harbour Narrows. We also hoped to keep searching for new sites along the coastline between Burnside and surrounding communities. However, our first visit to the Beaches site on July 7 revealed that winter storms had undermined much of the locality's southern border, causing an eight metre long section to collapse and removing chunks of earth up to 60 cm in diameter in other places. We had to immediately begin salvaging these slumped portions of the bank to avoid completely losing the displaced artifacts and associated information. All of the ensuing field season was invested in the Beaches, except for two days spent digging at the Cull's Harbour Narrows, a few surface collections in the Bloody Bay Cove quarry throughout the summer and a brief visit to the Lakeman's Island site.

The Beaches Site (DeAk-1)

First reported by English geologist T.G.B.Lloyd in 1875, after visiting there in 1872, partly excavated by Helen Devereux in the mid-1960s and Paul Carignan in 1970, the Beaches is one of the classic sites in Newfoundland and Labrador archaeology. The Burnside Heritage Foundation Inc. has annually visited the site since 1989, monitoring erosion, conducting excavations, collecting artifacts from the surface and providing interpretive tours. Rising sea level has destroyed 90 % of the landmass described by Lloyd in 1875 and the BHF constructed a 90 metre long breakwater to protect the site's southern border in 1995 and 1999. This structure

has impeded erosion, but did not eliminate it. A severe winter storm destroyed parts of the wooden wall and accelerated destruction of the earthen bank's eastern end in 2004. This part of the site is most exposed to tidal forces and BHF teams have straightened the bank here four times since 2001.

We dug a 1 x 8 metre section along the bank in 2004. The site's ragged edge meant that each section was not one metre wide. 1455 stone artifacts, two iron objects and three small faunal samples were recovered. 1397 items were flakes, 1264 of which were made on rhyolite from the Bloody Bay Cove quarry which lies nine kilometres to the southwest. Identifiable artifacts indicated that Beothuk and Paleoeskimos are represented by the assemblage. No in situ features were recorded although 260 fire-cracked rocks and calcined bird bone suggest that a hearth existed in this area before erosion destroyed its integrity.

Excavation of clumps of sod-covered fallen bank at 17 locations along the 40 metre long section west of this year's trench yielded 673 artifacts, one shell portion and 17 fire-cracked rock fragments. This sample mostly consisted of flakes, n=646, which, along with the other artifacts are culturally non-diagnostic. An apparent hearth was recorded midway along this section of the bank. Erosion at the Beaches has deposited a wealth of mostly stone objects in the tidal zone and pebble beach skirting the site. 387 artifacts, including 343 rhyolite flakes and 22 made on chert, were found on the surface in 2004. One Paleoeskimo chert microblade was recovered, along with a Paleoeskimo endblade, a Maritime Archaic adze preform and a wrought iron nail most likely used by Beothuk at the site.

Revisited Sites

The Culls Harbour Narrows (DeAl-19) is reportedly the location of a violent encounter between Beothuk and Europeans. This locality was archaeologically identified during the 1996 BHF field season. Test excavations that year and in 1998 produced 435 rhyolite flakes, but no diagnostic tools or features. This site can be

accessed by walking which permitted digging two 1 x 1 m units in 2004 on days that were too windy to travel to the Beaches by boat. 19 rhyolite flakes and one chert example were recovered. Hopefully, further excavations at this site will provide details of its inhabitants.

Three other aboriginal sites were revisited during 2004. All three localities are eroding and 134 flakes plus six non-diagnostic preforms were recovered from their surface. All objects were made on Bloody Bay Cove rhyolite.

Burnside Heritage Foundation Inc. Tourism in 2004

1779 tourists came to the BHF interpretation centre in 2004, a 63.6% increase over 2003 when inadequate funding delayed opening until August. Boat tours were provided to the Beaches and Bloody Bay Cove quarry. Visitor response was overwhelmingly positive. To quote one visitor from Oregon who signed our guest book:

"It is encouraging to see that there is work being done to learn about and honour the indigenous people who lived on this land first. Thank you."

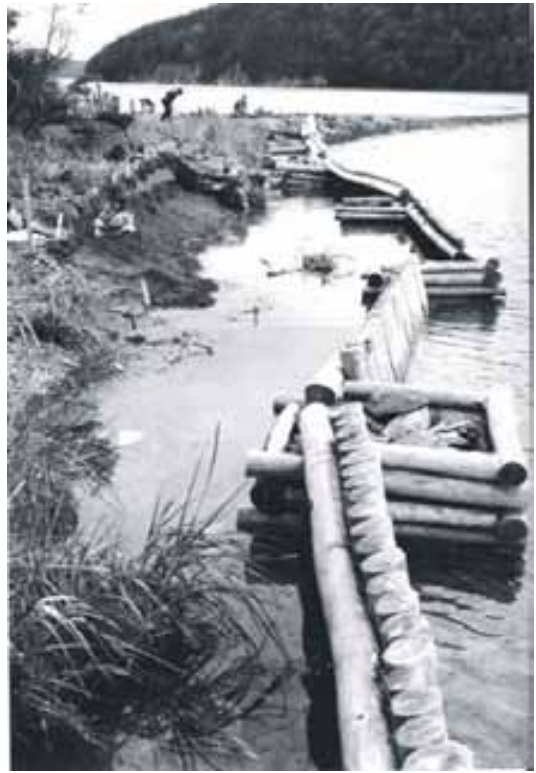
A couple from Guelph, Ontario added:

"Continue to press the government for funding/longevity. Lovely display."

Plans for 2005

We hope to continue excavating the Beaches' eroding bank in 2005 to further plot the distribution of cultural material along it. The need to construct additional breakwater structures along it will be evaluated. Discussions with the University of Arizona concerning conducting a two week archaeological field school are ongoing. As in previous BHF field seasons, we will revisit as many sites as possible and maintain our search for new localities.

The Burnside interpretation centre will be open seven days a week and boat tours to the Beaches and Bloody Bay Cove will be provided. 📌



High tide at the Beaches site (2001 photo). The in-line grid pegs show where the eroding bank was straightened in 2001. The bank edge had shifted two metres inland by 2004. Part of this breakwater was destroyed during the winter of 2004. (McLean)



The Beaches Site (1999 photo). (McLean)



PROVINCIAL MUSEUM OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

2004 SUMMARY

Kevin McAleese

In 2004 the “opening” of the new Museum housed in the facility known as “The Rooms” was deferred until 2005. This delay meant that the transfer of the Provincial Museum Archaeology and Ethnology Collections from the old Museum to the new was deferred. However during 2004 about 20% of the Collections were moved out of Duckworth St., and other temporary storage buildings, and moved into the new Museum vaults.

In addition to moving the Collections, Archaeology and Ethnology Staff also moved files, equipment and part of their Library into the new Museum. This process will increase over the next few months now that government has set June 29 as the new “opening” date for “The Rooms” (i.e. Museum, Archives and Art Gallery). Most if not all the Duckworth St. Collections will be moved by the year’s end.

Despite the delay with the Collections move, our Collections Loan Program to Community Museums and Heritage Interpretation Centres continued throughout the summer. Specific collections were also loaned to MUN Archaeology Faculty and students. The converse also occurred in that long term Loans to the Smithsonian Institution steadily returned as per the last few years.

Work also continued on the new Museum exhibits, with Dr. Jim Tuck appointed as Curator for the “ancient history” components, while Curator Mark Ferguson continued his curation of the new exhibits on European History up to 1730. Our Labrador Interpretation Centre exhibit development also continued with Elaine Anton as exhibit Curator.

In terms of Public Programming related to Archaeology & Ethnology, a new Program for Grades 4 & 5 children was developed by Bob Forsey, Education Officer and myself. This

Program deals with culture contact between the Norse and the Aboriginal people here c. AD 1000. The archaeology of L’Anse aux Meadows was featured in this Program, along with artifact replicas and replica clothing of the various ethnic groups. Tim Rast made some replica artifacts and plans are underway to make a short video of him flintknapping. 🪓

SMITHSONIAN FIELDWORK IN LABRADOR

SUMMARY OF 2004 FIELDWORK

Stephen Loring

Smithsonian fieldwork in Labrador during the summer of 2004 focused on continuing ethnohistorical and archaeological research pertaining to the Innu and their ancestors in Ntessinan. The ambiguity of the archaeological record, although rarely acknowledged, is, I suspect, even more pervasive in Labrador’s “Caribou Country” (as the American explorer and amateur ethnologist William Brooks Cabot was wont to call the barrenlands about the George River and the Height-of-Land) where visiting researchers seek to find the lithic and architectural remains left behind by ancestral Innu families. These slim material traces are scant building blocks upon which to erect an interpretation of past lifeways replete with stories, myths, strange animals and supernatural beings. For many who travel there, the interior barrenlands east of the George, are a haunted landscape littered in bones, memories and ghosts. One of these ghosts, that of the expatriated barren-ground grizzly bear (*Ursus arctos* L.), was the focus of a portion of the summer’s research.

In 1975 a remarkably well-preserved skull of a Labrador Grizzly Bear was recovered from an 18th-century Labrador Eskimo midden at Okak Bay in northern Labrador. The Okak skull provided the first tangible evidence for the existence of a remnant Pleistocene grizzly bear population in the Quebec-Labrador

peninsula. Long a matter of historic speculation, derived from the accounts of 19th-century explorers and the records of the Hudson's Bay Company, the lack of physical specimens and the difficulty of travel in the Quebec-Labrador interior, had relegated the Labrador grizzly to a nebulous, near mythical status. In 1910 William Brooks Cabot made one of his intrepid journeys into the interior of Labrador. Cabot had long pursued a passionate study of the language and culture of the Innu, whose small bands, scattered across the interior of northern Quebec and Labrador, yet retained a traditional life-style linked to the hunting of migratory caribou. Cabot was aware of the stories of the large "yellow" bear among the Innu and the Hudson's Bay Company accounts of trade in grizzly bear hides and he beseeched his Innu companions to provide him with skins and skulls. The Innu always promised to acquire these for him but they never did. Given the deep respect and reverence the Innu hold for bears in particular it does not seem surprising that specimens were not forth-coming. Significantly the Innu did not deny the existence of a large bear in the barrenlands. In 1910, in a remote valley near Kamestastin, Cabot stumbled on to a strange offering which he photographed but did not otherwise disturb. Placed on the crest of a hill was a tall pole, stripped of bark and braced with rocks, on which a large bear skull had been carefully secured. This last February Dr. Arthur Spiess (Maine Historical Commission) and I used a blow-up of this photograph to compare it with the skulls of grizzly bears from the Canadian barren grounds west of Hudson's Bay and Labrador black bears housed at the Smithsonian. We were able to conclude that the Cabot photograph is very likely that of a grizzly bear skull. In preparing these results for publication I have gathered a significant amount of previously unpublished references (including accounts by Smithsonian ethnologists Lucien Turner, who was at Ft. Chimo on Ungava Bay in 1881-1883) and William Duncan Strong who wintered with an Innu family near Davis Inlet in 1927-1928. What was missing from all the published materials and archival sources was any Innu historical accounts, oral traditions or "ethnobiological" knowledge of the Labrador grizzly bear. Thus, in setting out plans for fieldwork in Labrador this past summer I hoped to be able to talk with Innu knowledgeable about the country about any memories or oral history that might be pertained regarding the great brown bear of the interior. In this respect I was greatly aided by Peter Armitage, also in Labrador during the summer and continuing with his own oral history and place name research on behalf of the Innu Nation. While older Innu recognized the association of *matashu* with a large brown bear and sometimes expressed surprise at the memory of the word, no one we talked to had much to say about its history or habits.

Actual archaeological survey work in Labrador, conducted on behalf of the Tshikapisk Foundation, an Innu experiential education initiative in Sheshatshit and Natuashish, was centered in the barrenlands adjacent Border Beacon (at the Height-of-Land west of Voisey's Bay) and, as opportunity allowed, on Shipiskan Lake and the lower portion of the Kanairiktok River. Surprisingly, after the density of sites documented at Kamestastin (approximately 50 kms to the north), the paucity of sites at Border Beacon was unexpected, limited to a pair of middle- "Maritime" Archaic sites and traces of numerous recent (since-1965) Innu camps. However, at Shipiskan Lake, during a visit to Ponus Nuk's camp, two interesting discoveries were made: 1) a very unusual large "Intermediate Indian" stemmed point of a chocolate-brown chert was found eroded out on the beach, and 2) a small Late Prehistoric Period Innu campsite was found in a surface exposure

near Mr. Nuk's house that contained the eroded remains of a hearth surrounded by small amounts of Ramah chert debitage and -surprise!- a small number of dentate-stamped grit-tempered ceramic sherds. 🪓

William Brooks Cabot's 1910 photograph of an Innu bear-skull offering, near Kamestastin. (Loring)



Grizzly bear skull from western Hudson's Bay and black bear skull from Labrador for comparison with Cabot's 1910 photograph. (Loring)

PETIT NORD SURVEY, 2004

SUMMARY OF 2004 FIELDWORK

Peter E. Pope

With the 1504-2004 celebration of the 500th anniversary of French presence in Newfoundland, came an interest in the historic French migratory fishery. On the eastern, Atlantic coast of Newfoundland's Great Northern Peninsula -- the traditional Petit Nord -- this fishery began long before the definition of a formal French Shore in 1713 and 1763. Breton crews in particular used this coast from about 1500. By the 1680s they had developed a shore-based migratory fishery about the same size as the whole contemporary English fishery on the Avalon Peninsula. To date, however, virtually no archaeological research has been done on this important chapter in Newfoundland history. Memorial University Archaeology Unit carried out a survey, in July 2004. Our objective was to identify vestiges of the French migratory fishery in waterfront areas in the heart of the old Petit Nord, between Conche and Grandois, used by French fishermen from about 1504 to 1904.

Like most Newfoundland coastal settlements, those of the Great Northern Peninsula grew around the use of harbours by the fishing industry, so that waterfronts are an important focal point of public history. We were invited by the French Shore Historical Society (of Conche, Croque and Grandois) to carry out a survey in this area, with the support of the Quebec-Labrador Foundation, who have been helping community heritage groups develop local historical interpretation. The FSHS found funding for a local crew and a boat; QLF supplied a student volunteer; and the Newfoundland Archaeological Heritage Outreach Project supported Memorial's field costs for a survey in July, 2004. Two university-trained field assistants (Michael Walsh and Christian Thériault) assisted Peter Pope in excavation and recording of features and the provenience of artifacts. We also had the assistance of three local workers, Mary Simmonds, Daphne Symmonds and Rita Barrett, who were trained in the field and turned out to have the sharp eyes needed for survey work. We cooperated with Kendra Wheatley and Bradley Drouin, who were surveying the area for Groswater and Dorset paleo-eskimo sites, under the supervision of Dr. M.A.P. Renouf, and shared lab facilities with them, courtesy of the FSHS.

We based our selection of areas to survey on local informants, landscape indications, historic maps and photos, and marine survey. French archives contain a large number of charts and plans of fishing rooms in the area, dating from the late 18th to the mid 19th centuries and a surprising number of early photographs survive, showing the fishery on the Petit Nord, particularly in Crouse, in the 1850s. Previous archaeological research on these fishing rooms, so well recorded in the historical record, has been largely incidental to other research aims. We did a lot of beach-combing, excavated many test pits, mapped features and photographed standing remains at 21 sites, between Conche and Grandois. Seventeen of these showed French materials, typically Normandy stoneware jars and pots, coarse earthenware pots, possibly from Brittany, and small brown faience pans. The most promising sites are Dos de Cheval (Long Point), EfAx-12 in Crouse, which is listed in French surveys as early as 1640. A large crucifix or *calvaire* still overlooks the site, which includes a number

of bread oven mounds and the stone footing of several buildings, likely cookrooms and cabins. Northeast Crouse, EfAx-11, is a larger and more complex site, where traces of an Anglo-Irish livyvers, who moved to what is now Crouse within living memory, overlie earlier French components. There are several *calvaires* here, a possible bread oven and stone footings, while test pits yielded 18th-century materials. Survey along the eroding vegetation edge above the water at EgAw-02, Grand St Julien, yielded quite a bit of Normandy stoneware and further work at this site is indicated. Croque Waterfront, EgAw-04, is another very promising site. We uncovered a rich deposit of 17th- and 18th-century Normandy stoneware here, in an abandoned garden just next to the very fine row of waterfront fish stores which have survived, not far from the traditional French cemetery. Recovery of a decorated pipe bowl, identical to one excavated this summer by Memorial MA student Catherine Murphy, at the site of Governor Parat's house at Placentia, makes a very strong case for the existence of a late 17th-century component here. Finds elsewhere in Croque Harbour at Southwest Croque, EgAw-05, and Genille (locally Kearney's Cove), EgAw-07, suggest that further work in this area would be fruitful. We were unable to get to L'Anse aux Millions and Pilier, two other known fishing stations within our survey area. Visits to record remains there would give us a more complete picture of the distribution of French fishing effort along this coast. Survey northwards to Fischot and Quirpon, southwards to Canaries and Orange, and eastwards to Fleur de Lys and La Scie, remain tantalizing goals, which will have to await funding of a larger research project into the history and archaeology of Newfoundland's French Shores. ♣

2004 LABRADOR FIELDWORK BRIEF

SUMMARY OF 2004 FIELDWORK

Marianne Stopp

In late June 2004, a short-term excavation took place at the Late Precontact Indian site of FbAx-01 (Eva Luther site). FbAx-01 is on the southern coast of St. Lewis Inlet in a small harbour known locally as Ship Harbour but named Effingham Harbour on NTS maps. The site faces eastward toward the mouth of St. Lewis Inlet and extends along the base of a small cliff and next to a stream draining a nearby wetland.

We have archaeological, archival, and ethnographic evidence to show that Effingham Harbour has been frequented by humans since at least the Late Precontact Indian period. Evidence of even earlier Intermediate Indian and Maritime Archaic Indian settlement at this precise location has not yet been found, but wooded terraces in the area are quite promising albeit difficult to access.

FbAx-01 has a lithic assemblage that appears to be entirely of Ramah chert, which is typical of these sites in south-central and northern Labrador. Although other known Late Precontact Indian sites south of Hamilton Inlet have often been disturbed by erosion, gardening or community development, FbAx-01 is relatively intact. Indeed, its further significance is in its three well-preserved hearth features. Each hearth is visible as a small mound overgrown by a thin (< 5cm) layer of caribou moss. The hearths consist of ash, calcined bone, bone mash, charcoal, Ramah flakes, and fire-cracked rock. There are no visible structures and chronological links

between the hearths remain uncertain until each one can be radiocarbon dated.

FbAx-01 differs somewhat from its contemporaries in the Strait of Belle Isle, which have more heterogenous lithic assemblages that include Newfoundland and local cherts. This mix points to human movement and broader regional contacts in the Straits and Côte Nord regions. FbAx-01 also stands apart from these sites inasmuch as its location puts it outside the Straits contact region. Its all-Ramah assemblage and slightly inner coastal position are site signatures that affiliate it with the northern expressions of this time period in Labrador. As such, FbAx-01 may lie within a threshold or boundary zone that represents a place from which northern groups maintained links to the southward (possibly through trade of Ramah chert).

The earliest historic reference to Effingham Harbour is in the diary of Captain George Cartwright who named many of the region's waterways and landfalls in the early 1770s, including this harbour. Cartwright was one of the first British merchants to establish himself north of the Strait of Belle Isle following the 1763 Treaty of Paris, which ceded Labrador and parts of Newfoundland from French to British dominion. There is no evidence that Cartwright or any of his crews ever resided in Effingham Harbour, however, he did have crews there rinding spruce trees for roofing material and for the fish drying process. Effingham Harbour also bears evidence of later nineteenth century use in the form of scattered ceramic shards and stove parts. Another historic feature is a well-built stone track, possibly a slipway or a cartway, that extends inland for thirty metres from water's edge to the bank of a former pond. It has no clear affiliation and may date to either the 18th or 19th century. More recent use of the area is found in local oral history, which recounts that at the turn of the twentieth century the harbour was used as a winter base for collecting firewood and for trapping. One informant, Art Luther, who grew up on nearby Battle Harbour Island, recalls that his father had a small cabin in Effingham Harbour solely for winter residency and that it was still in use into the 1950s. Today there are two recreational cabins in Effingham Harbour. One of these was built alongside the site itself but seems to have disturbed the prehistoric component only minimally.

The 2004 fieldwork involved the partial excavation of a single mound-shaped hearth with an E-W bearing length of 125 cm, a width of 80 cm, and a height above ground level of 17 cm. Three-quarters of Feature 2 were excavated and the remaining quarter left for future study. Collection was by 25 x 25 cm units at 10 cm levels. All soil was water-sieved through 1/8 inch screening, which resulted in a respectable amount of lithic and faunal material from this relatively small feature. A preliminary map of the site area was also completed and test pitting took place on upper terraces around Effingham Harbour - a task that will require much future application.

Although lithic cataloguing and analysis have only recently begun, it is clear that the hundreds of flakes are all Ramah chert, that they range from primary type to thinning flakes, and that there appear to be very few retouched flakes or tools. A radiocarbon date has been submitted and faunal remains are undergoing analysis. The objectives of the analysis are to try to identify a possible flint knapping/drop zone around the hearth feature, and to determine whether the site dates to the Daniel's Rattle period (approx. 1750 - 950 BP) or Point Revenge (approx. 1250 - 400 BP). Another goal is to identify the site's seasonality and the dietary interests of its inhabitants on the basis of faunal material. This

hearth differs from the elongated types that have been noted at contemporary sites in Newfoundland and Labrador and it is of some interest to examine this difference with respect to site use. Broader objectives of the analysis are of course to contribute to an understanding of Late Precontact Indian settlement in southern Labrador, and to consider the links between this site and its contemporaries to the north and those along the Strait of Belle Isle.

On the homeward journey I also stopped at L'Anse Amour and at Forteau. A visual survey of a large part of the L'Anse Amour dunes failed to find any cultural material. Much of the beach area seems to have stabilized with grass cover and there was little erosion, but it continues to be a place where people search for "old things." A new site was recorded in the dunes at Forteau where ATV traffic has disturbed the beaches considerably. Site EiBf-3 (Forteau Beach 3) was represented by a few Ramah flakes and a scatter of fire-cracked rocks eroding from a peat palaeosol that lay approximately 60 cm beneath the present beach surface. 🪦

FbAx-01, historic slipway or cartway overgrown by grasses and *Empetrum nigrum*, delineated by dotted lines. (Stopp)





THE ST. LAWRENCE GATEWAYS PROJECT 2001-4

SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK

William W. Fitzhugh and Yves Chrétien

The Smithsonian's St. Lawrence Gateways Project, dedicated to investigating environmental archaeological and cultural heritage research along Quebec's Lower North Shore between Cape Whittle and Blanc Sablon, completed its fourth season in 2004 (Fitzhugh 2002, 2003; Fitzhugh and Sharp 2003). The project's goals have included archaeological surveys of a little-known region, especially the outer coastal zone; excavations of key sites to develop a systematic culture historical framework; continuing research on the Hare Harbor Basque site at Petit Mécatina, and assistance to regional and local projects involving heritage preservation and tourist development. A further goal of the project is to explore cultural relationships between the Quebec LNS and adjacent regions of Newfoundland and Labrador (e.g. Pintal 1998; McGhee and Tuck 1975) and to study the prehistory, early history, and cultural transformations of a region that was an early gateway to North America. Results to date may be summarized as follows:

Maritime Archaic

Evidence of Early Maritime Archaic sites have been found on high terraces in the St. Paul River region, and in 2004 artifacts similar to those found at the L'Anse Amour mound and the Arrowhead Mine site (ca. 8000 B.P.) in the Straits was found at the Vatcher site east of Chevery. A large number of sites dating to ca. 7000-5000 B.P. are known in Mutton Bay, where expanses of quartz chippings occur on high beaches and terraces. Late Maritime Archaic sites radiocarbon-dated to 4000 B.P., with 3-5 segment longhouses associated with external caches and large single-room structures have been excavated at several sites between Petit

Mécatina and Belles Amour. These sites are found on outer coast boulder beaches and probably represent fall or spring harp seal hunting stations. The few artifacts recovered are ground stone celts typologically similar to Rattlers Bight and Port au Choix finds. Collections made by local people in La Tabatiere indicate that a red ochre Late Maritime Archaic cemetery once existed in this location.

Intermediate and Late Period Indian Occupations

Amateur and CRM archaeology has recovered considerable evidence of post Maritime Archaic occupations along this coast, but little of this information is available in published reports. The Bayfield 1 site near St. Augustine tested in 2004 offers potential to clarify post Maritime Archaic Indian prehistory. Small collections with notches and stemmed points, large end scrapers, and an absence of slate, pieces esquillées, and small round or eared endscrapers have been found in many locations, but few excavations of these materials has been undertaken. Most of these sites have no architectural remains, but at Belles Amour Point boulder beaches, pithouse dwellings with built-up boulder walls are associated with lithic tools that date typologically to the 3000-1000 period. Unusual sites like the Stubbert cache of Ramah chert blades at Kegaska are dated to ca. 1000 B.P. by elevation above sea level. Throughout this period the importation of large amounts of Ramah chert and exotics from other regions suggests long-distance trade was an important feature of Lower-North-Shore prehistory.

Paleoeskimo

One of the surprising results of our work is evidence of a substantial Groswater occupation as far west as Cape Whittle, and probably further west. Groswater sites with tool forms and West Newfoundland cherts have been found at Seal Net Point near Cape Whittle (radiocarbon-dated to 400 B.C.), Hare Harbor, and Gros Mécatina. These sites are on outer islands and appear to be open water season camps. No evidence of Labrador or Newfoundland Dorset has been found west of a possible site of this culture at Bilodeau Island. While there appears to have been a period of Indian abandonment and early Eskimo occupation in the cool

period ca. 2500-2200 B.C., Indian groups appear to have reoccupied the coast by ca. 2000 B.P.

The Mécatina Basque Site

In 2001 a Basque site was discovered at Hare Harbor on the eastern site of southern Petit Mécatina. During the past four years we have explored, mapped, and tested this site and have excavated a structure with a paved floor and a large hearth that appears to have been a workshop or cookhouse. In addition to the ubiquitous roofing tile, the site contains large amounts of Normandy stoneware, decorative tin-glazed ware, plain earthenwares, huge amounts of iron spikes and nails, and (unusual in terms of other Basque sites) clay pipes and glass beads. In 2004 we found a small iron bec-de-corbeau oil lamp similar to one found at Red Bay, and for each of the past three years fragments of Inuit soapstone lamps and cooking pots have also been recovered from the floor of the central structure. In adjacent waterlogged deposits we found well-preserved barrel parts, planks, and a decorative wood pin. A second Basque site has also been located at Boulet Harbor, east of Mutton Bay. Although small amounts of baleen are present, oil furnaces are not present and whaling must have been a minor economic activity.

Analysis of the beads and ceramics by Anja Herzog, who is studying the materials at Laval, indicates that the site dates to the 17-18th century, more than 100 years later than Basque sites previously excavated in the Straits or Gulf region. We believe that Mécatina is the remains of a small, decades-long occupation of Basque affiliation (if not origin) that was engaged in trading, fishing, and sealing at a time when the northern Gulf may have been a back-water or 'free enterprise zone' overlooked by the more dominant Dutch, French, and English powers controlling this region of Atlantic Canada.

Inuit Presence

Surveys to date have recovered no evidence of Inuit settlement between Blanc Sablon and the Mingan Islands. If Inuit were present in the eastern part of this region, as indicated by historical records of battles in the St. Paul River region, they did not leave traces typical of the prehistoric and historic period in central Labrador, e.g. semi-subterranean sod and earth winter houses, tent rings with sleeping platforms, burial cairns, etc. Year-round settlement in sod villages on the Lower-North-Shore seems highly unlikely at this point. On the other hand, we have found small versions of Inuit style fox traps at Jacques Cartier Bay, where oral historical reports suggest the presence of an Inuit grave containing a soapstone lamp. Oral history also notes a traditional name for the Mécatina Basque site as 'Eskimo Bay' – an intriguing idea when considering the soapstone vessel fragments found in the Basque occupation. While we do not see evidence of traditional Inuit territorial occupation of this region, there are indications that Inuit people were present following A.D. 1600 as seasonal or regular participants or laborers in European fishing and sealing operations. These suggestions build upon ideas explored by Reginald Auger in his excavations around Chateau and Quirpon and suggested also by historical sources, of an acculturated (and perhaps largely female) Inuit presence in the Straits and northeastern Gulf that was dependent upon and strongly linked to European clients. ↙

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NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENTS

SUMMARY OF 2004 FIELDWORK

Roy Skanes

In 2004, four historic resources assessments and one archival research project were completed for proposed developments on the Island. In Labrador, one Stage 1 Assessment and one archaeological monitoring project was carried out. The following is a brief summary of each.

NEWFOUNDLAND

Trinity

The Town of Trinity, Trinity Bay, is installing a water and sewage system throughout the community.

In early 2004, it was decided by project engineers that rather than situating the outfall in Trinity Harbour on the west side as originally proposed, a six inch diameter plastic pipe laid on the seabed would be used to direct effluent from the community to Fort Point, where it would go ashore on property owned by DFO. At Fort Point, the pipe would run along the north end of Admiral's Beach and connect with a large concrete holding tank, the installation of which would require considerable excavation and blasting. An outflow from the tank would extend through a borehole drilled through bedrock and discharge into Trinity Bay. Because it was known from previous archaeological research that the area of Fort Point where ground disturbance would occur had high potential for in situ cultural materials, an assessment of all areas of proposed impact was completed.

During fieldwork at Fort Point, the remains of a collapsed stone chimney and brick hearth were identified in the area where the tank will be situated. Excavation of a single test trench through the feature unearthed a limited sample of artifacts that suggest a late eighteenth or nineteenth century origin, but with an occupation that may have extended into the twentieth century. However, beneath the in situ arrangement of brick and stone, other much older materials were recorded, including clay smoking pipe fragments dating to the mid-late seventeenth century, as well as a single fragment of North Devon Ware. While it is possible that these artifacts were deposited as fill when the stone and brick structure was erected, their presence is, nevertheless, of interest and significance. Further archival research focusing on a search of maps and early photographic images of Fort Point may shed further light on the age and use of the structure. Full excavation of the site is proposed for early 2005.

Other work completed at Fort Point in 2004 in association with the water and sewage project included an assessment of the seabed just offshore of where the holding tank will be situated on land. Because it appeared that the sewage pipe from the Town of Trinity would pass over the remains of a

shipwreck thought to be of eighteenth century origin, an assessment of the area was carried out. Specifically, this involved a diving survey to locate and clearly mark with plastic floats the full extent of the articulated structure and any associated debris field. Once in place, the locations of the floats were recorded using surveying equipment, and a 30 m buffer zone around the shipwreck was plotted on project tender drawings so that contractors were aware of the area to be avoided.

Lamaline

In the fall of 2004, it was reported to the PAO that a coffin of uncertain age (but possibly dating to the late eighteenth or early nineteenth century) was eroding from the edge of a bank overlooking the ocean at Grave Point, Lamaline, Newfoundland. Upon receipt of a number of photographs highlighting site conditions, it was determined that due to the potential for continued disturbance to human remains, a detailed assessment of the cemetery (CfAw-01) should be carried out. The primary objectives of the project were to undertake an evaluation of the cemetery to determine the extent of disturbance to graves and the potential for ongoing damage to the remaining *in situ* burials. As well, the exposed remains were to be either reburied, or excavated and returned to St. John's for conservation and storage.

Despite a thorough investigation of the beach adjacent to the cemetery, the edge of the bank and at the location where the coffin was recently exposed, no human remains or artifacts of significance were observed. It appears likely that, because of the age of the cemetery and the acidity of the local ground conditions, the bone has completely deteriorated.

It was also noted during the assessment that there are likely other burial remains within less than 1 m from the edge of the bank. At a number of locations to the west of the exposed coffin, possible grave markers were noted approximately 3 m from the edge. Because of what is likely ongoing erosion at the site, it is reasonable to assume that it is only a matter of time until other coffins are exposed as a result of run-off and high seas.

Because of the time of year when the field reconnaissance was completed some of the summer's grass was still upright or had fallen and collected in hollows that may be grave depressions; it was difficult to make an accurate count of the number of graves at the site. Nevertheless, a thorough examination of the area within what are thought to be its boundaries suggested that there are at least 20, or possibly 25. In order to obtain an accurate count, an evaluation in the spring may be necessary.

Once the exposed coffin had been cleaned and some limited excavation conducted to evaluate its condition and whether or not any bone or artifacts were present, it was carefully supported around the edges and on top with sod, soil and nylon bags filled with sand. Once completed, a beach-cobble berm approximately 75 cm high was constructed around the perimeter and slowly raised up over the underlying protective materials. The berm was then gradually tapered outward toward the sea so that if (or when) a storm with high seas does occur, the gradual incline might better shed its force. It was stated in the report on that work that the stabilization and protection measures put in place in November of 2004 should not be considered permanent and may have to be replaced or the coffin removed sometime in the near future. One large wave could very easily displace the entire structure and the coffin with it. Nevertheless, the reburial should last through the winter of 2005 and, most likely, a lot longer. The period of real concern may be in spring when tides are typically very high and storms are common.

Lake St. John

The Land Management Division of the Department of Environment and Conservation is proposing to allow cottage development on four parcels of shoreline property on Lake St. John in the Gambo/Terra Nova area. Due to potential impacts to historic resources, a Stage 1 Assessment of all areas was called for by the PAO.

Originally, it was intended to access the four study areas along the shoreline of the lake by boat. However, as it turned out, on the night prior to commencement of fieldwork – by which time the archaeology team was already on site - the Terra Nova/Gambo area received 2-4 cm of snow. As well, winds on the following morning were gusting to 90 km per hour, with temperatures of -150 C and a wind-chill in excess of -200 C. Consequently, from a health and safety perspective, boat transportation was out of the question. As well, with the ground in places snow-covered and gradually freezing, conducting the Stage 1 Assessment in accordance with provincial guidelines was not possible. Following discussions with the PAO and the Lands Management Division, it was decided that, given the circumstances, an attempt should be made to at least walk the four areas, classify each as to their high, moderate or low historic resources potential as determined from physical attributes, and conduct subsurface test pitting where possible. Based on the observations and data gathered, areas or parts of areas may then be cleared if, for example, they were judged by the archaeologist to be of low historic resources potential because of bog, extreme slope or any other conditions generally not considered attractive for human occupation. In summary, the conditions experienced at Lake St. John were such that adequate assessment was not possible. While the background research for the Stage 1 was completed, additional fieldwork will need to be carried out in 2005.

Glenwood/Appleton

In early 2004, a Stage 1 Historic Resources Assessment was completed for the proposed Glenwood/Appleton sewage treatment facility. Despite a thorough field evaluation of the site proposed for development on the shoreline of Gander River at the mouth of Salmon Brook, no materials or features of historic significance were located. As a result, other than ensuring that site workers were made aware of the culture history of the region and the possibility that undiscovered archaeological materials could be unearthed during construction, no mitigation measures were identified.

Quidi Vidi Pass Batteries, St. John's

Also completed in 2004 was a brief archival research project related to a potential development of the Quidi Vidi Pass Batteries constructed at the lower end of Quidi Vidi Lake in the 1780s during the American Revolutionary War. The project involved obtaining copies of original site mapping from the Public Records Office in London, England, and providing an overview of the military history of the area for possible use in a proposed development strategy.

LABRADOR

Red Bay

In September 2004, the field component of a Stage 1 Historic Resources Assessment was completed at Red Bay, Labrador, for a proposed hydroelectric realignment project. The area that would see ground disturbance is at the north end of Red Bay Harbour, on the west shore of what is referred to locally as "The Basin". The project would involve installation of up to 20 new hydro poles along an approximately 7 m wide and 1.5 km long,

cleared corridor, and removal of an existing, obsolete line that paralleled the shore to the east of the Southern Labrador Highway.

The field assessment for the proposed development consisted of a walkover and thorough visual inspection of the existing power line and the proposed corridor for any evidence of cultural materials and/or any areas of historic resources potential. As well, Mr. Reginald Moores of Red Bay – an individual who had worked for many years with Dr. James Tuck of Memorial University’s Archaeology Unit conducting research in the area - was contacted and questioned regarding the location of a number of known sites. Three sites in particular dating to the historic period were visited and GPS coordinates obtained, as their locations were thought to be in such close proximity to the proposed development that direct or indirect impacts could occur because of line cutting, excavation for pole installation or during future maintenance or upgrading.

Due to the proximity of the proposed power line corridor to the three archaeological sites it was recommended that the southern half of the new route be relocated to the west side of the Southern Labrador Highway to an area where no sites were present. As regards removal of the existing power line and poles adjacent to the shoreline of The Basin, given the known occupation of that area during the historic period, it was recommended that the work be completed in early winter when there was sufficient snow to cover any potential sites, and that the poles be cut at the base and the stumps left in the earth, rather than removing them with a backhoe. Such precautions would reduce the likelihood of impact to any historic resources that might be present

Dyke Lake

(B-17G Aircraft Recovery and Dismantling Project)

In August and September of 2004, the remains of a 1940s B-17G aircraft were floated off the bottom of Dyke Lake, Western

Labrador, and towed approximately 100 km downstream on prefabricated airbags to an accessible location on Lobstick Lake where it was dismantled and transported by road to Labrador City. After receiving all the necessary permits and clearances from government, the components were crated and trucked to the Southern United States where they will undergo restoration and reassembly so that the B-17G can eventually be re-flown.

One of the conditions put in place to allow the aircraft to be raised and shipped out of the country was that the Proponent - Underwater Admiralty Services (UAS) working on behalf of its principal Brooks Aviation Inc. of Douglas, Georgia – engage as part of the recovery team a qualified Archaeologist. The Archaeologist, working under permit from the PAO would act as observer during the field portion of the project. The primary role of the Archaeologist would be to: a) obtain a full recording (photographic and video) of the salvage and dismantling of the B-17 (both underwater when possible, and on land); b) complete an inspection of land areas (if required) to ensure that no historic resources were impacted by project activities; c) report to the PAO at least once a week or as considered necessary; d) and completion of a final report on the work pursuant to the Archaeological Investigation Permit Regulations to be submitted to the PAO within the specified time period.

In summary, the B-17G Aircraft Recovery and Dismantling Project – 2004 proved to be a success from the point of view that the remains were raised in tact, towed downstream, dismantled and trucked to Labrador City without mishap. A full report on the work is being prepared and will be submitted to the PAO in early 2005.



B-17 floating up from the bottom of Dyke Lake, Labrador (Skanes)



Close-up of B-17 engines and fuselage. (Skanes)

PROVINCIAL ARCHAEOLOGY OFFICE

SUMMARY OF 2004 FIELDWORK

Ken Reynolds & Stephen Hull

Cape Ray

At the behest of The Southwest Coast Development Association the PAO undertook backfilling of two eroding areas at CjBt-01. These areas will be monitored during the coming summer and if the erosion continues then further mitigative measures will have to be undertaken.

Central Newfoundland

Trips were made to Notre Dame Bay and to White Bay. In Notre Dame Bay a PAO staff member met with Dr. Jónas Kristjánsson, an expert on the Norse Sagas from Reykjavík, Iceland. Dr. Kristjánsson believes that there are Norse sites on the north-east coast of the island and has been meeting with residents and viewing possible landscapes that seem similar to Saga descriptions. A second trip was undertaken to White Bay to meet with an amateur Norse enthusiast who believed he had discovered Viking ruins on Sop's Island. These sites were the remains of resettled communities.

South Coast

Three days were spent investigating the coastline between Belloram and Coombs Cove, Fortune Bay. Only two 19th century sites were found at Mose Ambrose, one of which also contained a couple of flakes. Coastal erosion and present settlement in the choicest locations are attributed for the lack of sites.

Labrador

A day was spent in Happy Valley-Goose Bay visiting the Intermediate Indian sites excavated by Scott Neilsen.

Portugal Cove

In September the PAO spent several days recovering human remains from a previously unknown European cemetery

which were disturbed by development activity. Thirteen burials were recorded with the possibility of at least 8 more based on the evidence of surface stone "markers" and possible graves indicated by stains in soil profiles. The absence of burial goods, such as buttons, cloth or coins, makes dating the graveyard impossible. Local lore attributes the cemetery's history with the usual suspects from Portuguese explorers in the early 16th century right up to victims of a mass plague that was said to have occurred in the early 19th century in the community. All the remains will be reburied at the site and the cemetery is protected under the *Historic Resources Act*. ↙

Unmarked stone marking burial in Portugal Cove. Reynolds & Hull)





Wester Point, Portugal Cove burial behind the fence. Bell Island is in the background. . (Reynolds & Hull)

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