Canadian Archaeological Association
Association Canadienne d'Archéologie

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CAA / ACA

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CONGRÈS ANNUEL DE L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE D'ARCHÉOLOGIE

C·A·A 2008 A·C·A

CANADIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

TRENT UNIVERSITY

CANADIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION/L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE d'ARCHÉOLOGIE

Congrès Annuel / Annual Meeting

7-11 May/mai 2008
Trent University Archaeological Research Centre /Centre de Recherche d'Archéologie de l'Université Trent
Peterborough, Ontario

Principal Speaker
Professor Emeritus Jane Kelley, University of Calgary

Call for Papers

We are now actively soliciting papers and sessions on any aspect of archaeology for the 2008 annual meeting. Please send your title and a brief (150 word) abstract to Professor Susan Jamieson at sjamieson@trentu.ca. The deadline for the receipt of abstracts for papers and/or session is 15 February 2008.

We are also pleased to announce the following planned sessions and organizers. If you are interested in contributing to one or more of these, please contact the session organiser directly. The timetabling of all events will only begin in February 2008.

Session Title	Contact
The analysis and reconstruction of palaeoenvironments	Jocelyn Williams
Current research in Latin American archaeology	Paul Healy
Current research in Northeastern archaeology	Susan Jamieson
Current research in Mediterranean archaeology	Sally Stewart
New approaches to Iroquoian ceramics	Kostalena Michelaki
Advances in archaeological GIS and remote sensing	James Conolly & Michael Harrower
Gateway communities in hunter-gatherer settlement systems	Natalie Brewster
Identifying contexts for deeply buried sites	Andrew Stewart
Early watercraft in Northeastern North America and implications for archaeology	David Sanger
Bridging theoretical constructs with archaeometric data: integrative case studies	Brandi MacDonald & Rudy Reimer
The future of the past: undergraduate research in archaeology [poster session]	Meghan Burchell & Trevor Orchard
Old problems, new approaches: novel applications of method and theory	Lisa Hodgetts
Archaeology of rock art and landscape	Dagmara Zawadska
Canadian farmstead archaeology	Dena Doroszenko
Parks Canada: current research	Sheryl Smith
Round table discussion: First Peoples and Ontario Archaeology	Kris Nahrgang

A special half day workshop «**An introduction to using OpenSource GIS in archaeology**» will also be an optional activity, for a modest fee of $25/person (with a maximum attendance of 20, available on a first come, first serve basis). At least three field trips are also in the planning stage to Lang Pioneer Village, Serpent Mounds, and Peterborough Petroglyphs. Costs for these trips will also be modestly priced.

For more information please contact / notre courriel: caa2008@gmail.com or
CAA 2008 / Trent University Archaeological Research Centre /
Trent University / Peterborough, Ontario / K9J 7B8

News & Announcements

Dale Kennedy, 2007 Recipient of the James and Margaret Pendergast Award

By Pat Allen

The James and Margaret Pendergast Award for Avocational Archaeology is given in memory of the Pendergasts; Jim was a dedicated avocational archaeologist whose body of research and written work would be the envy of many a professional. While Jim did the field work and writing, Margaret was no less involved in that she provided a continuous open house for the many archaeologists, students and others who would stop by to visit.

The 2007 James and Margaret Pendergast Award goes to Dale Kennedy of Bird Cove, Newfoundland and Labrador.

Dale has been a pioneer in developing community-based archaeology in his home province since 1993, combining a deep respect for his roots and concern for a fading way of life with a growing determination to extend the knowledge of his region's history. Dale has been instrumental in creating the Bird Cove Archaeology Project, a research project on Newfoundland's Northern Peninsula, that in just ten years has made major contributions to understanding and re-evaluating Newfoundland's pre-contact and historic period.

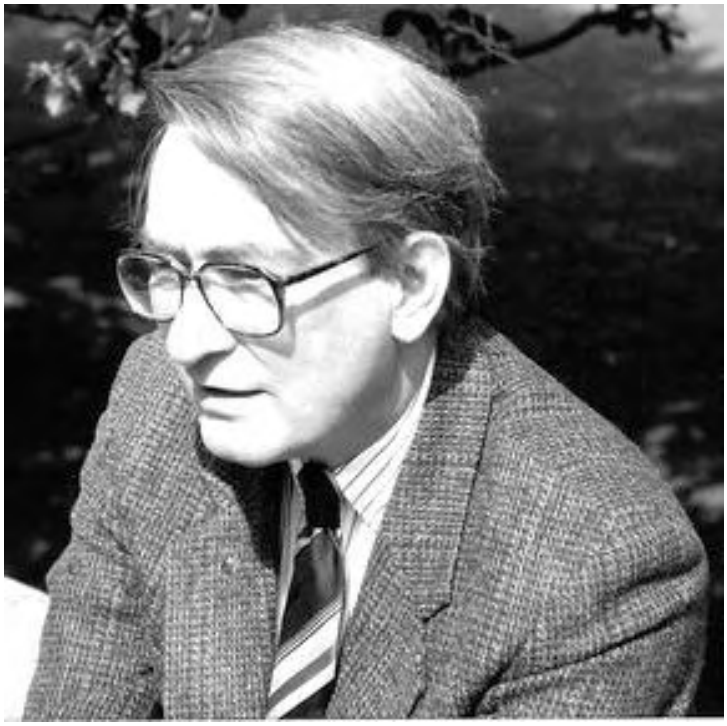
Dale's contributions to archaeology in western Newfoundland have been very significant in terms of support for both research and public education. However, this nomination is based as much on his contributions to his community and to providing a model for community-based archaeology in Newfoundland and in Canada. Over the past decade the Big Droke Foundation and the Bird Cove Archaeology Project have provided nearly 300 seasonal jobs to local residents, including employment in the archaeological field projects (where a highly skilled cadre of local field workers has been trained and recruited to work on international projects), as staff in the Interpretation Centre, and as construction workers in renovating the Interpretation Centre and building educational infrastructure including walkways to sites and onsite interpretation panels. The field projects and the museum have brought tourists and visitors to the Bird Cove region, significantly benefiting the local hotel and other businesses. Among the visitors have been archaeological professionals and students from a number of countries.

His dedication to the survival of his community via self-education and determination has resulted in 10 years of training for and research by various student archaeologists. The tourism and economic benefits are equally wonderful.

Dale Kennedy also represents a lot of heritage minded individuals who turn over their archaeological discoveries, local knowledge and volunteer time to academic, museum or consulting archaeologists. Sometimes their names appear in the Acknowledgements section of resulting research reports, but sadly sometimes they do not. We are pleased to present him with the Pendergast Award to recognize his past, and encourage his future, achievements.

Bruce G. Trigger, Winner of the 2007 Smith-Wintemberg Award

At the annual conference held in St. John's, Newfoundland, Bruce Trigger was named the recipient of the 2007 Smith-Wintemberg Award. The award honours scholars who have made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of the discipline of archaeology, or to our knowledge of the archaeological past in Canada. It recognizes outstanding achievement or service. Ronald Williamson's nomination letter amply describes Bruce's contributions to archaeology in Canada and is reproduced below, followed by a few words of thanks provided by Bruce's daughter Rosalyn Trigger.



I write to nominate Bruce Trigger for the highest recognition in Canadian archaeology, the Smith - Wintemberg award. I do so with a sad heart of course because of his recent passing at such a young age and that of his wife Barbara, so soon thereafter. Bruce was our signpost in so many ways. He contextualized archaeology within broader society not only for the Canadian public but on the world stage, he was our leading advocate for the creative middle ground in archaeological theory while serving as a critical architect of social evolutionary thought; he was an insightful historian of the discipline; he was our most important guide for understanding the power of archaeological knowledge and our societal responsibilities in using that knowledge, and while he was an Egyptologist who had broadened his work to include a cross-cultural analysis of the nature of early civilizations; he was also our foremost authority on the ethnohistory and archaeology of Aboriginal cultures in northeastern North America — a true renaissance figure. He was simply one of the most influential archaeologists of the twentieth century.

Many of his abilities and roles resulted in unique and important impacts on Canadian archaeology. His arguments for the middle ground, for example, emanating from one of the country's most influential research institutions, appears to have reinforced the resistance of many Canadian archaeologists to any one particular theoretical perspective and indeed represented a force against what Jane Kelley has called, disciplinary "presentism," where anything over five or ten years old is considered not worth citing. While he always considered carefully new theoretical suppositions, Bruce's commitment to the theoretical middle ground and his insistence on the application of theory to data in his own work, resulted in some of the highest quality Canadian-based archaeological scholarship ever. His use of multiple bodies of theory at the broadest level possible, for example, was instrumental in his exceptional comparative analysis of seven ancient societies in *Understanding Early Civilizations*. This volume demonstrated forever that a theoretically informed pluralism represents the best way to appreciate the complexity of the past.

Trigger also lead the Canadian search to define and understand archaeology as part of the wider world. In particular, even if Canadian archaeologists are not overtly committed to theoretical perspectives, many of us have been cautioned by Bruce's words to bring to our texts an acute awareness of the power and responsibilities that come with the production of archaeological knowledge. Not only

issues, such as who owns the past, but he demonstrated how archaeology has been unable to achieve, at any point in its history, complete freedom from political biases. In one of his masterpieces, *A History of Archaeological Thought*, Cambridge University Press's all-time best-seller in archaeology and now in its second considerably revised edition, an analysis of the social and political contexts in which archaeological theory was developed and deployed was a central theme. In this vein, he strongly cautioned Canadians and their neighbours that archaeological research and interpretations could be used to reinforce prejudicial positions at the expense of Canadian indigenous peoples. He worked to counter those trends. In two of his most frequently cited works, *The Children of Aataentsic* and *Natives and Newcomers*, he combined history, ethnography, and archaeology in a unique fashion, giving Aboriginal peoples their own voices, and making the analyses appealing to all thinking Canadians. It is for these reasons that these works enjoyed significant influence outside of scholarly circles and well beyond Canada. His active protest against Canadian Museums, in support of the First Nation's boycott of The Spirit Sings in 1988, helped a conservative academy come to an understanding of how little Canadian society was doing to resolve the economic, social and political problems that were facing indigenous peoples. For his ground-breaking works and ethical stance, Trigger was adopted as a honourary member of the Great Turtle Clan of the Wendat Confederacy an honour to which he often referred as his most meaningful. In later years, Bruce worked with Eldon Yellowhorn, the first Aboriginal PhD graduate in archaeology in Canada. Eldon has gone on to teach at Simon Fraser University and represents an articulate spokesperson for an internalist archaeology that will draw on Aboriginal cultural traditions and oral narratives in the study of local history, searching for their reflections in the archaeological record.

As one of the editors of the festschrift in his honour, *The Archaeology of Bruce Trigger: Theoretical Empiricism*, I noticed a glaring omission in his list of distinguished honours and awards. While he had been awarded a fellowship in, and Innis-GÈrin Medal from, the Royal Society of Canada, the Cornplanter Medal for Iroquois Research, the Prix Victor Barbeau and Prix Leon-Gérin, five honourary doctorates, numerous invitations to deliver distinguished lectures, many prestigious book awards, the Lifetime Achievement Award of the Society for American Archaeology and an appointment as an Officer of the Order of Canada, his own national archaeological association (CAA) had failed to honour him. I know through discussions with him that he would have valued an award from the Canadian Archaeological Association because of his dedication to Canada and his steady commitment to the nation having declined many offers to teach elsewhere in the world. He was a truly great Canadian archaeologist and deserves our highest recognition by our national organization.

Yours very sincerely,

Ronald F. Williamson, PhD
April 30, 2007

WEETALUCKTUK AWARD

2006-2007

Graduate Category

Barbara Leskovec
Memorial University of Newfoundland

"A Rural Tavern in Ferryland: Social Life in Eighteenth-Century Newfoundland"

Pointe-à-Callière Winner of Two Prestigious Awards From the Société des musées québécois 2007

Montréal, October 9, 2007 —At its annual congress held in Montréal from October 2 to 4, 2007, the Société des musées québécois (SMQ) presented two prestigious awards to Pointe-à-Callière, the Montréal Museum of Archaeology and History: the Award of Excellence for the *Japan* exhibition, and the Publication Award for *St. Lawrence Iroquoians, Corn People.*

The Société des musées québécois Awards aim to recognize, stimulate, and reward excellence in museum practices in Québec. They honour the achievements of SMQ members whose initiatives have made a significant contribution to the advancement of Québec museology.

Japan Exhibition, Award of Excellence

During the Société des musées québécois Awards evening, Pointe-à-Callière was presented with the Award of Excellence for its exhibition entitled *Japan*. This award is given to "a group or institution whose museum project goes beyond established standards and is distinguished by the quality of other productions presented over the course of the year."

The *Japan* exhibition, presented from May 16 to October 15, 2006, featured 150 exceptional archaeological objects — including a National Treasure: a haniwa statuette depicting a warrior. The exhibition allowed visitors to get "a first time overview of Japanese archaeology" and to make a fascinating discovery of Japanese prehistory, from 35,000 years before present to the 6th century A.D. This was also the first time that the Tokyo National Museum lent a collection of objects of this importance to a foreign museum. Ten other Japanese museums also took part in the exhibition. According to the SMQ, this clearly demonstrates the seriousness of Pointe-à-Callière's reputation, as well as the daring spirit of initiative of Executive Director Francine Lelièvre and her team.

In addition, the members of the jury also noted that the exhibition's accompanying catalogue is one of the very few texts on ancient Japan available in French.

Lastly, the SMQ mentioned that Pointe-à-Callière's encounter with the Consulate General of Japan at Montréal and the city's Japanese-Canadian community acted as a trigger for the first ever *Japan Month* in Québec.

St. Lawrence Iroquoians, Corn People, Publication Award

Pointe-à-Callière received the Publication Award for its book *St. Lawrence Iroquoians, Corn People*. This abundantly illustrated book describes the way of life of the first horticulturalists in the St. Lawrence Valley beginning in the year 1000 A.D. The book also examines the causes of the disappearance of these Iroquoian groups in the second half of the 16th century, and offers hypotheses to help us to get a better understanding of this little known page in the history of the continent. According to the author, archaeologist Roland Tremblay, "the dispersal of these populations is a situation that is complex and still mysterious to researchers… one for which there is no clear and definitive answer."

St. Lawrence Iroquoians, Corn People, the book accompanying the exhibition of the same name, was a first in the field of publishing and in the popularization of anthropology and archaeology in Québec. The members of the jury were keen to highlight the book's success in making its scientific, historical, and archaeological content accessible to a broad audience, including the non-initiated, specialists, and Amerindian communities.

The Société des musées québécois also drew attention to Pointe-à-Callière's association with Éditions de l'Homme, through which the book was made available to a vast distribution network,

Mainly in Québec and in France. For all of these reasons, *St. Lawrence Iroquoians, Corn People* stood out from all other publications competing for this award. The book is on sale at the Museum Gift Shop, located at 150 Saint-Paul Street West, in Old Montréal.

Take note that the *St. Lawrence Iroquoians, Corn People* exhibition is currently being presented elsewhere in Québec, at the Musée de l'Amérique Française, until March 9, 2008. It will then go on tour throughout Canada and in Europe.

Pointe-à-Callière, Montréal Museum of Archaeology and History

Pointe-à-Callière, Montréal's Museum of Archaeology and History, opened its doors on May 17, 1992, on the site of Montréal's birthplace. It's mission: to foster appreciation and increase awareness of the Montréal of yesterday and today through education, conservation and research activities revolving around Montréal's archaeological and historical heritage; the museum also strives to build links with regional, national and international networks in these fields, for the benefit of its visitors.

Pointe-à-Callière has received over 60 awards — including nine international awards — since it first opened. For a complete list of awards Pointe-à-Callière has received, please visit the following page on our website:

www.pacmusee.qc.ca/pages/musee/prix_excellence.aspx?lang=EN-CA

The Museum receives funding from the City of Montréal.

Catherine Roberge, Communications Coordinator
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www.pacmuseum.qc.ca

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS AWARDS FOR 2007

The CAA presents annual awards to acknowledge outstanding contributions in public communication that further insight and appreciation of Canadian Archaeology. These awards recognize contributions by journalists, film producers, professional archaeologists and institutions.

We are looking for material in the following categories produced or published in 2007:

High Quality Magazine or Newspaper Articles

Pamphlets, Brochures, Books or Other Publications Aimed at the General Public

Television or Radio Shows

Electronic Publishing (CD-Roms and Websites)

For further information, please check the CAA website or contact committee chair,

David Denton
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For submissions, please send six (6) copies of materials for consideration to:

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50 Boul. Lamaque, Suite 101
Val-d'Or, QC
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Deadline for 2007 Submissions: Feb. 15, 2008!

Books Available for Review - November 2007

The *Canadian Journal of Archaeology* publishes reviews of books dealing with any aspect of Canadian archaeology or by Canadian archaeologists, books on other areas that would be of interest to a considerable number of Canadian archaeologists, and books of general interest dealing with archaeological issues, theory, or methods. Members interested in doing reviews should check the CAA website occasionally, as the list of books available will be updated periodically. Contact the book review editor (Alan McMillan) at mcmillan@sfu.ca with requests or questions. Reviews can be submitted by email attachment, in Word format. Check recent issues of the journal for organization and format. Reviewers should plan to complete and submit their reviews within a maximum of six months to allow for timely publication in the journal. The following books are available for review:

Bintliff, John (editor) 2006. *A Companion to Archaeology*. Blackwell, Malden, MA.

Bryant, Laureen Marie 2007. *A Reanalysis of The Long Creek Site: 45 Years after the Excavation.* Occasional Paper of the Archaeological Society of Alberta, Calgary.

Chacon, Richard J. and Rubén G. Mendoza (editors) 2007. *North American Indigenous Warfare and Ritual Violence.* University of Arizona Press, Tucson. (can be reviewed with companion volume Latin American Indigenous Warfare and Ritual Violence, with the same editors and publisher).

Dillehay, Tom D. 2007. *Monuments, Empires, and Resistance: The Araucanian Polity and Ritual Narratives*. Cambridge Case Studies in Archaeology, Cambridge University Pres, New York.

Goffer, Zvi 2007. *Archaeological Chemistry* (2nd edition). John Wiley & Sons, Hoboken, NJ.

Kehoe, Alice Beck and Thomas C. Pleger 2007. *Archaeology: A Concise Introduction*. Waveland Press, Long Grove, IL.

Khlobystin, Leonid P. 2006. *Taymyr: The Archaeology of Northernmost Eurasia.* Contributions to Circumpolar Anthropology 5, University of Alaska Press, Fairbanks.

Kuzmin, Yaraslov V., Susan G. Keates, and Chen Shen (editors) 2007. *Origin and Spread of Microblade Technology in Northern Asia and North America.* Archaeology Press, Department of Archaeology, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC.

Lilley, Ian (editor) 2006. *Archaeology of Oceania: Australia and the Pacific Islands.* Blackwell, Malden, MA.

Little, Barbara J. and Paul A. Shackel (editors) 2007. *Archaeology as a Tool of Civic Engagement*. AltaMira Press, Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Lanham MD.

McCarter, Susan Foster 2007. *Neolithic*. Routledge, London and New York.

Nelson, Sarah Milledge (editor) 2007. *Women in Antiquity: Theoretical Approaches to Gender and Archaeology*. Gender and Archaeology Series, AltaMira Press, Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, Lanham MD.

Pauketat, Timothy R. 2007. *Chiefdoms and Other Archaeological Delusions*. AltaMira Press, Lanham, MD.

Robb, John 2007. *The Early Mediterranean Village: Agency, Material Culture, and Social Change in Neolithic Italy*. Cambridge Studies in Archaeology, Cambridge University Press, New York.

Schmidt, Peter R. 2006. *Historical Archaeology in Africa: Representation, Social Memory, and Oral Traditions*. AltaMira Press, Lanham MD.

Tarlow, Sarah 2007. *The Archaeology of Improvement in Britain, 1750-1850.* Cambridge Studies in Archaeology, Cambridge University Press, New York.

Vivian, Brian, Amanda Dow and Brian O.K. Reeves 2006. *Historical Resource Impact Assessment and Conservation Excavations at Cougar Ridge Off-Site Sewer Services*. Occasional Paper of the Archaeological Society of Alberta, Calgary.

Atlantic Fieldwork News

Editor: Stephen Hull

NEW BRUNSWICK, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND AND MAINE

Archaeological Prospectors – Jason Jeandron

The 2006 field season was another busy one for the crew at Archaeological Prospectors. Field projects stretched across New Brunswick, Maine and Prince Edward Island, including traditional archaeology and geophysical surveying.

A hectic field season occurred surrounding the construction of the new Trans-Canada Highway through west-central New Brunswick. Several watercourses were tested producing artifacts at two locations. While one site is still being interpreted, over 800 flakes of glacially transported rhyolite were recovered from the first terrace above the modern flood plain of a tributary to the St. John River. In excess of 90 test units (1 x 1 m) were excavated under tent during the late fall and winter producing a couple of pit features and a potential hearth. Archaeological assessments also took place at three river crossings in the northern part of New Brunswick for proposed bridge replacements resulting in the need for follow-up testing at locations of high potential.

Feature 2 excavated at the Lower Guisiguit Brook Site, New Brunswick

Excavation underway, under tent. Lower Guisiguit Brook in mid-ground, diversion ditch left of tent

Selected of bleached volcanic flakes from the Lower Guisiguit Brook Site

Archaeological testing also occurred at the Roma at Three Rivers Park on PEI. Expansion to the thriving heritage park required testing in the area of proposed landscaping and construction to mitigate damage to any unknown early 18th century features. The results of the testing produced artifacts associated with a nearby late 19th century homestead.

Palaeoindian research continued with the creation of digital terrain models in order to define palaeo-shorelines for the Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene. A pedestrian survey has been completed along a stream outlet on a delta complex along with preliminary testing to confirm its suitability; however it has yet to yield any results.

The role of geophysics in archaeology is slowly continuing to grow in both Canada and the USA. As more projects return fruitful results highlighting the locations of features, artifact scatters and buried landscapes, the archaeological community is beginning to embrace the technique which has been a mainstay in Western Europe for decades. Archaeological Prospectors conducted numerous geophysical surveys including a Middle Woodland period shell midden on the southern coast of New Brunswick, a Late Palaeoindian habitation site in southern Maine, and abandoned cemeteries throughout the province.

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

Discovering Ancient Landscapes Under the Sea
(Dr. Trevor Bell, Memorial University of Newfoundland)

Dr. Trevor Bell, Professor of Geography and Coracle Irish-Newfoundland Fellow at Memorial University of Newfoundland, is co-founder of a new collaborative research initiative to investigate the exciting prehistoric archaeological potential of our Atlantic seabed. The research network – the Submerged Landscapes Archaeological Network (SLAN) – is a multidisciplinary consortium of researchers from universities and government agencies in Ireland, Northern Ireland and Newfoundland. The research network has three main goals: (i) to demonstrate that ancient landscapes are preserved on the seabed of inshore coastal waters around Ireland and Newfoundland; (ii) to locate and record archaeological sites and materials preserved on these submerged landscapes; and (iii) to understand how these earliest coastal environments facilitated the expansion and growth of the first populations of Ireland and Newfoundland and how the evolving coastal landscape and marine resources may have stimulated social and cultural change across prehistoric times and into the Middle Ages.

SLAN has established partnerships with the Geological Survey of Ireland, the Marine Institute of Ireland, the Geological Survey of Canada (Atlantic), the Canadian Hydrographic Survey, and Fisheries and Oceans Canada in seabed mapping of coastal and nearshore environments. Although these surveys are primarily designed for marine resource mapping, they provide unprecedented opportunities for mapping submerged landscapes and archaeology.

Initial research has focused on the development of palaeogeographic maps of Ireland and Newfoundland to identify the depth and position of submerged shorelines at selected time periods. These maps are now being used to plan seabed surveys in selected regions.

A feature article on SLAN, its scientific basis and objectives, appeared in the summer issue of Archaeology Ireland. There is also a web site (http://www.science.ulster.ac.uk/cma/slan/) to keep the public on both sides of the Atlantic up-to-date on research developments and exciting new discoveries. Trevor Bell can be reached at: tbell@mun.ca.

Recent Investigations of Maritime Archaic Structures at White Point, Northern Labrador

(Christopher B. Wolff, Department of Anthropology, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX)

In the summer of 2006, excavation and survey of a series of Maritime Archaic structures was conducted at White Point, northern Labrador as part of my doctoral research project at Southern Methodist University. This document reports preliminary findings from that field work and discusses initial ideas concerning the cultural activity that created the investigated sites. In particular, it discusses a group of Maritime Archaic pithouses, two of which we excavated, and the excavation of a Maritime Archaic longhouse.

Although there have been several publications concerning the evolution of Maritime Archaic structures and settlement patterns, there has not been a great deal of discussion concerning the relationship that such an evolution had with the basic socio-economic units (i.e. households) within Maritime Archaic culture. My main research goal for fieldwork in northern Labrador was to assess how changes in structures relating to an increase in cultural complexity affected Maritime Archaic households and their social and spatial organization. For the purposes of this research, increased cultural complexity does not necessarily imply the rise of social hierarchies, situational or institutional–although it may–but more simplistically refers to the amount of working parts within society. In other words, people living in larger groups and, therefore, negotiating increased social interaction.

Current chronological assessments of the Maritime Archaic occupation of northern Labrador places it from approximately 6500 to 3500 years ago, although very few dates have been published from the region. Primarily, the cultural chronology of northern Labrador has been based on reconstructions of sea levels in the region, formed largely from Clark and Fitzhugh's data, which draw on radiocarbon dating of cultural materials found in archaeological contexts and the assessment of prehistoric marine limits. These data are problematic, however, when assessing the chronology of the Saglek Bay region because it is at the northernmost limit of their sea level reconstructions, and there is significant regional variation in the isostatic uplift and eustatic processes along the coasts of Newfoundland and Labrador.

The widely accepted trajectory for residential development by Maritime Archaic peoples is from small, individual pithouses and tent rings, to larger, rectangular multi-roomed structures, to longhouses. The pithouses are usually single room structures, often circular or oval, and roughly four to five meters in diameter. The longhouses are all linearly arranged, are generally the width of a single room (~4-5 m), and can range from three roomed structures (~12-15 m) to sizes in excess of 100 meters in length, with many room segments. Maritime Archaic structures are often constructed on ancient beaches, with partially excavated interiors in most cases, and often cobble stones are used to provide foundations and flooring. Interestingly, the interior floor space of early Maritime Archaic pithouses is comparable to the segmented rooms of structures found in their later periods. For that reason, I chose to excavate several early houses and a later period longhouse and compare their interior use of space and patterning of material culture to assess if there were any diachronic changes in household organization in relationship to the changes in overall structure morphology.

White Point was chosen for field research because it was one of the few locations in Labrador where there are well documented Maritime Archaic structures in close proximity to each other that range from the earliest to the latest occupations by that group. Because of the difficult logistics and large expense associated with working in northern Labrador, I considered it vital to be able to set up a single camp where I could access multiple sites. I also wanted to minimize distance between the houses we excavated in order to maintain some environmental consistency so that the variables affecting how the structures were built and maintained would be less numerous. In this manner, I was attempting to

examine any standardization and/or variation in house construction and the organization of their interiors. My hope is that by investigating similarities and differences in design and use of structures, and contrasting them with changing environmental conditions, I may be able to reconstruct how Maritime Archaic households adapted to changes in both their social organization and their environment. This research may help us to better understand the effects of greater complexity on individual family units within Maritime Archaic society. Households are often reflective of the broader society, and therefore, data resulting from this research may help us address issues concerning the degree of complexity that Maritime Archaic society attained. This research also has broader implications concerning the development of social stratification in hunter-gatherer societies, both past and present, found elsewhere in the world.

Over the course of the summer we surveyed the larger part of the White Point area. We relocated sites found during Penney and Thomson's survey of the area in 1989, and found several new sites, one of which contained the pithouses we investigated. Our first order of business was to find a well-defined longhouse to excavate, which we did at IcCp-34 (White Point 16). This site also contains at least two more longhouses, several tent rings (both Maritime Archaic and Paleoeskimo), and seven Inuit graves, probably dating to the early twentieth century. We excavated the longhouse following the thin, natural stratigraphy of the deposits and recovered a large number of artifacts, which presently includes at least 157 formal tools and roughly 15,000 flakes.

Preliminary mapping and analyses of the longhouse suggests it was approximately twenty meters in length and roughly five meters wide, and probably divided into three rooms. It appears that some of the interior rocks and cobbles were washed into the structure making it initially difficult to assess clear room divisions. It was situated lengthwise about halfway down the slope of a narrow hill that inclined toward large bedrock outcrops at the shore margin. It was dug into the slope of the hill, and, therefore, the upslope wall was mainly unmodified cobble beach and the stratigraphy along that wall was substantially deeper than other areas of the structure. The down slope wall was more ephemeral and defined by a thin row of cobblestones on and near the surface. Further spatial analyses of the provenience of all artifacts and debitage are needed to get a better idea of how the longhouse's occupants organized their space. Because all formal artifacts were point provenienced using a total station, and debitage was collected in 50 cm2 quadrants, we should have the resolution to assess household organization accurately. During excavation it appeared that there were differences in the frequencies of artifacts throughout the house that will be beneficial in our assessment. Moreover, it appears that there is evidence that the house was reoccupied based on initial investigations of its stratigraphy. However, it should be stated that all analyses are in their infancy and much remains to be done.

View of partially excavated longhouse (IcCp-34)

looking southwest

The greatest frequency of formal artifacts was made from Ramah chert (77.70%), followed distantly by other cherts (8.28%), quartz (5.10%), slate (4.46%), and quartzite (4.46%). Debitage analyses have not yet been completed beyond initial counts in the field, although it appears the raw material frequencies are similar to that of the formal tools.

The greatest frequency of tools is projectile points (combined 31.85%), including stemmed points, a nipple-based point, a flake point, and undetermined distal, lateral, and medial fragments. The projectile point frequencies in the table below include broken and whole points and refitting has yet to be attempted, so they are probably inflated somewhat, and likely to be lowered following further analyses. Moreover, additional formal tools are likely to be found in the sample bags containing debitage so these initial tool frequencies are subject to change.

The only unequivocal feature at this point in our investigation is a central hearth feature. It consisted of reddish burnt soil, infused with charcoal and ash, as well as fire-cracked rock, including possible heat-treated quartz. I took a large soil sample from the hearth to be floated and examined for organic material in our lab. I also took multiple charcoal samples to be sent off for radiocarbon dating. Two other possible hearth features, one in each of the other possible rooms, were not as clear, but there appeared to be signs of burning and possible heat-treatment of rocks. Multiple charcoal samples were taken from other parts of the house, and may be associated with the possible burning of the structure. As of yet, no dates have been acquired from the White Point sites, but six samples have been sent off for analysis.

type	count	% total
adze	1	0.64
biface	34	21.66
celt	1	0.64
core	16	10.19
endscraper	6	3.82
flake pt.	1	0.64
knife	10	6.37
microblade	1	0.64
nipple-based pt.	1	0.64
pieces esquillee	5	3.18
stemmed pt.	30	19.11
unident. object	21	13.38
unident. pt.	18	11.46
utilized flake	12	7.64
totals	157	100.00

For-mal tools from White Point 16 (IcCp-34)

Corey Hutchins and Meghan Negrijn found the pithouse site (IcCp-41, White Point 21) as they were surveying other parts of White Point on one of our rare days off. The site is roughly 120 meters north of the longhouse on the crest of White Point, and in a position to see both shorelines of the small peninsula. The site consists of a row of six boulder pithouse structures arranged linearly along the east-west oriented highest beach terrace. All but the most westerly house was similar in size, while that house was slightly larger. They all appeared to have small rectangular entrances that all faced southerly, but not always at the same orientation. Each of them appears to have a central hearth feature including a large, vertically-positioned, flat stone probably used as a heat deflector. Several of them also appeared to have an associated external cache. Because of time constraints we were only able to excavate two of the middle structures (Pithouse 1 and 2). However, all of the structures were mapped and documented and will be reported on more extensively in my thesis and upcoming papers and reports.

Pithouses 1 and 2 (Pithouse 2 in foreground) looking approximately east

Pithouse 1 is perhaps the most interesting structure and I plan to publish more on this unique house in the near future. As we were trying to figure out which house to excavate I lifted a large slab in its center and immediately found half of a large finely-made Ramah chert nipple-based spear point. It was stuck into a deposit of red ochre roughly 60

centimeters in diameter and 20 centimeters deep. After further excavation, its other half was recovered nearby, as well as another purposefully broken nipple-based spear point. All of the pieces are covered in red ochre, either directly or from their being stuck into the large central deposit.

Further analysis is needed to better assess their context, but this could be the first indication that the Maritime Archaic people had ideological components to their architecture, and/or that they were places of ritual. Currently I am examining ethnographic, ethnohistoric, and archaeological literature to find analogous instances of household ritual. To speculate, this looks like the ritual killing of a structure. The paucity of other tools and debitage, other than four Pre-Dorset microblade tools recovered from the surface, suggests that this house was never occupied or immaculately cleaned before it was "killed" for whatever reason. Whichever it was–and hopefully future analyses will help in this assessment–it is unknown for the Maritime Archaic and will be an important addition to our understanding of their culture.

In contrast, Pithouse 2, which was only five meters to the west of Pithouse 1, contained evidence of a living floor, with a significant collection of debitage and a small number of formal tools (3 biface fragments, 2 utilized flakes, 3 cores, 2 projectile point fragments). Interestingly, while the formal tools were all made from Ramah chert and Ramah quartzite, much of the debitage consisted of quartz. This is probably because there is a quartz outcrop downhill from the site toward the northern shore of the peninsula that was used extensively as a quarry. It is fine-grained white quartz with dark green streaks and inclusions making it very distinctive. Large boulders from the quarry were carried uphill and are found around the pithouses, and appear to be the source of quartz found at the longhouse site. Much of the quartz found within Pithouse 2 and the longhouse appears to be fire-cracked, therefore their occupants may have been heat-treating it to make it better suited for tool processing. This quarry may have been one of the factors that drew Maritime Archaic people to this spot initially, although there are a lot of variables that would make White Point an attractive spot to set up camp.

As Thomson (1989) discusses, the White Point sites are situated along a caribou trail, and during our stay there we encountered several dozen of them, including large bucks, does, and yearlings. There are also many species of migratory waterfowl and marine mammals. The sites' locations on a small peninsula extending well into the sea would have put them in excellent positions to take advantage of migratory seal species going up and down the coast. Moreover, we were visited by a couple of polar bears as we slept, although, luckily, our makeshift bear fence did its job thanks to Corey Hutchins for its construction and Pat Sutherland and Peter Ramsden for their design help. We also encountered a couple of arctic foxes that were able to steal away with the char that two of the Inuk students working with us, Gabriel Saurek and Richard Maggo, were able to catch. Today there are plenty of faunal resources in the area, as well as several species of edible berries and herbs that grow all along the coast of Labrador. All of these resources were probably also available at the time of Maritime Archaic occupation and almost certainly would have been part of their subsistence strategies. Unfortunately, the acidic nature of the soil did not preserve any faunal material; although I retain hope that some data can be recovered from float testing soil samples taken from the various structures.

Obviously this report is preliminary, but initial findings are promising. Research is ongoing and much more needs to be done and will be published in the months to come. Tentatively, it seems that the boulder pithouses at IcCp-41 contain evidence of early ritual behavior by the Maritime Archaic, although their location on a cobble beach will make it difficult to accurately assess the cultural deposition and subsequent taphonomy of the site. I suspect this is one of the reasons boulder pithouses have not been excavated frequently. This may be the reason we have not yet seen deposits as found in Pithouse 1. There may simply be a research bias favoring

longhouses and more manageable sites that do not require moving lots of heavy rocks and where there is a better chance of finding cultural material in good stratigraphic context. That said, the position, architecture, and ritual deposits found in the pithouses, as well as the wealth of artifacts and their distribution in the longhouse, may provide information concerning increasing social complexity in Maritime Archaic society and the architectural trajectory from pithouses to longhouses.

Baccalieu Trail Archaeology
(William Gilbert)

During the 2006 season the Baccalieu Trail Heritage Corporation conducted excavations and/or survey work at four locations: Cupids, New Perlican, Hant's Harbour and Bay de Verde.

Cupids

A total of nine weeks (July 24 - September 22) was spent conducting excavations and survey work at Cupids in 2006. During this time excavations were concentrated at the south end of the site in an attempt to uncover more evidence of the enclosure wall erected by John Guy in 1612. Survey work was also undertaken in an effort to locate the fort constructed by Guy in the summer of 1612.

As excavations have expanded beyond the dwelling house and storehouse over the last few years, evidence of the enclosure that once surrounded these buildings has begun to emerge. In 2002 we uncovered a 20 inch (51 cm) wide builders' trench running along the northern boundary of the site and in 2003 we found the base of a two foot (61 cm) wide stone wall extending west beyond the trench. The area between the trench and the wall had been disturbed by a cellar built there in the 19th century but there can be little doubt that both the wall and the trench once formed part of the north wall of the enclosure. In 2003 we also found two 10 inch (25 cm) wide postholes eight feet apart at the centres that form a line running roughly parallel to and eighteen feet (5.5 m) east of the storehouse. In 2005 we uncovered another two 10 inch wide postholes at the south end of the site. These two posts are six feet apart at the centres and form a line that runs roughly parallel to and eighteen feet south of the dwelling house. While two posts do not necessarily make a wall, the size, location and orientation of these postholes suggested that they were probably part of the enclosure as well.

In 2006 we opened up a 26 square metre area at the south end of the site in an effort to locate more evidence of the south enclosure wall. Unfortunately, some of this area had been extensively ploughed during the 1970s (and probably well before then) and, where this occurred, any evidence of posts that may once have existed appears to have been obliterated. However, two postholes were uncovered in the eastern half of this area. These posts run along the same line established by the two uncovered to the west in 2005 and, like them, are six feet apart at the centres. The easternmost of the two is quite substantial and appears to have been the corner post which connected the south and east enclosure walls.

The discovery of these features has allowed us to produce a map which shows the approximate outline of the enclosure (in yellow) as it relates to both the seventeenth-century buildings located inside it (also in yellow), the structures currently standing in the area (in grey) and the surrounding topography. The West Brook is shown following the course it would have followed before it was diverted a number of years ago. Much of the land north of Sea Forest Drive is man-made. In 1610, and for many years thereafter, the salt water would have extended south at least as far as the present day road. While further excavations may result in some changes, the outline of the enclosure shown here should be fairly accurate and provides us with important information on which to base further excavations and research.

If these features are part of the original enclosure then they also provide important clues about how the enclosure was built. Clearly part of the north wall, facing the harbour, was of stone construction

while the substantial trench extending east from the stone wall suggests that this portion of the enclosure (also facing the harbour) was probably built by placing posts side by side in the ground similar to the way nineteenth-century American frontier forts are often depicted. In the a letter written on May 16, 1611 John Guy talks about mounting guns "upon a platforme made of great posts and rails and great Poles sixteene foot long set upright around about" but this appears to have been separate from the enclosure.

The size and spacing of the posts to the east and south of the dwelling house and storehouse indicate that this part of the enclosure wall was probably of post and rail construction. This technique was often used in building seventeenth-century wooden defence works. Horizontal rails ran between the main supporting posts and vertical planks, or pales, were fastened to the rails to create a continuous, solid wall. Often the pales were sharpened at the top to further deter unwanted visitors. A distance of six to eight feet between the supporting posts would have been fairly common. A description of this type of fortification from 1622 states that the posts should be seven feet apart and that the pales should be seven feet high. The pales used at Cupers Cove, and the wall of which they were a part, were probably about the same height.

While half of the crew was engaged in uncovering the south enclosure wall, the other half was busy looking for the fort erected by the colonists in the summer of 1612. When John Guy's party arrived at Cupids in 1610 one of the first things they did was erect a defence works. Guy provides no clues as to the location of this fortification and, as mentioned above, although some have suggested that it was part of the enclosure, it seems more likely that it was separate from it. In the summer of 1612 Guy undertook the construction of another fortification in an attempt to protect the colony from the pirates who were raiding the coast that year. In a letter to Sir Percival Willoughby written on August 27, 1612, Henry Crout reported that the governor, "must make him selfe strong doubting of other Pirates yf the same come not againe. Therefore it is requisite that the general and cheefest place [i.e. Cupids] should be made strong for the plantation before any other be taken in hand... "(Mi x 1/15). Seven days later, on September 3, John Slany wrote to Willoughby from London that, "Master Guy is now makinge a Fort which is almost Finished which he writes will be impregnable..."(Mi x 11/18).

Whether the fortification erected in 1610 and the one built in 1612 were in the same place we cannot say but we do have some clues as to the location of the second fort. In his diary entry for December 12, 1612 Crout records that, "our Freshe watter lake by the Fort was frozen over", and on January 23, 1613 he reports that, " the freesh watter lake between the Fort and the house [was] all Frozen over..." (Quinn 1979:165-166, 169). The "freesh watter lake" mentioned by Crout is obviously Cupids Pond and "the house" is probably either the main dwelling house or one of the other dwellings within or near the enclosure. So, the fort built in 1612 must have been located near Cupids Pond. On first reading, Crout's statement that the lake was "between the fort and the house"seems to suggest that the fort was on the other side of Cupids Pond opposite the plantation. However, such a location makes no sense strategically and would have rendered the fort incapable of defending the harbour: hardly the "impregnable" fortification described by Slany. Instead, what Crout probably means is that that part of the lake "between the Fort and the house" had frozen over. In other words, the fort was located at some distance along the lake from the plantation and it was this section of the lake that had frozen. Since a fort located farther west along the lake would have been almost as useless as one located on the other side, it seemed logical to assume that it was somewhere farther east along the lake and nearer the entrance to Cupids Harbour.

There is one place in Cupids harbour that seemed to fit all the above criteria. Roughly 450 metres east of the enclosure at the eastern end of Cupids Pond and about 150 metres back from the current shoreline is a high, level terrace. Rising twelve metres above the

harbour entrance, the terrace runs parallel to it for about 115 metres from northeast to southwest and is roughly 25 metres wide at its widest point near the eastern end. The terrace would make a natural fortification with steep shale cliffs dropping away for about eight metres to the north facing the harbour and a narrow spine of rock rising up to a height of twelve metres behind it to the south before dropping steeply away to Cupids Pond. The entrance to Bay de Grave can be clearly seen from the terrace and, perhaps just as importantly, the terrace can be seen by anyone sailing into the bay. So, we reasoned, a fort located in this area would warn any potential attackers that the harbour was well fortified and act as a deterrent to anyone contemplating such an action.

A total of four weeks was spent testing this terrace. During this time, four 1m wide trenches of varying lengths, four 1m x 1m test units, and a series of 40cm x 40cm test pits were dug but no evidence of anything dating from the seventeenth century was recovered. Further testing was also conducted along the side of Cupids Pond between the terrace and the plantation site but to no avail. Despite our best efforts, the location of the fort built at Cupids in 1612 still remains a mystery.

New Perlican

A total of five weeks (September 24 - October 27) were spent conducting excavations at the Hefford Plantation site in New Perlican this year. During this time our efforts concentrated on Area B and Area C.

Area B

Records indicate that William Hefford had erected one dwelling house and nine store rooms and lodging houses at New Perlican by 1677 (C.O. 1/41). Area B, located just east of George Peddle's house, has produced thousands of late seventeenth-century artifacts over the past five years and would seem a likely location for at least some of these structures. Despite this, we have been unable to pinpoint the location of any seventeenth-century buildings in the area. In 2006 we excavated a total of fourteen square metres running from west to east across area B in another attempt to locate evidence of early buildings but, once again, while the area produced numerous artifacts, no trace of any building was uncovered.

The reason for this may well lie in the nature of the terrain itself. Today much of this area consists of manicured lawns. However, excavations have revealed that the landscape was very different three centuries ago. Over the past 300 years human activity has resulted in the accumulation of between 60cm and 80cm of organically enriched soil over what was once a boulder strewn, gravel beach. Any structures that may once have stood here would almost certainly have been erected on wooden stilts and shores above the boulders. By their very nature, such buildings would have left little evidence of their existence. It may still be possible to determine the approximate location of some of the buildings that once stood in Area B by plotting in the distribution of artifacts such as nails, window glass and ceramic. However, a more precise understanding of the nature of these buildings may not be possible.

Area C

Human activity has left a much more substantial mark on the landscape in Area C located in the southwestern corner of the site on the edge of the bank just above the beach. In 2004 we discovered a seventeenth-century, rubble filled pit in this area and the excavation of this pit was ongoing during 2004 and 2005. In 2006 we drew a profile of the pit and excavated the remainder of it.

The pit is roughly circular and measures 10 ft. (3.05 m) wide and 3 ft 2 in (98 cm) deep. It had been filled in with rubble beneath which was a deposit of burnt timbers that was clearly the remains of a wooden structure that had once stood over the pit. An analysis of the material recovered from the pit indicates that the structure burnt and the pit was filled in sometime in the late seventeenth century.

While we may never know for sure, it is possible that this is one of the structures destroyed by D'Iberville during his raid on New Perlican on February 9, 1697 (Prowse 1895:232). It may be that this pit was part of a larger structure that once stood in Area C. In 2007 we will expand the excavation beyond the pit to see if any evidence of such a structure can be found.

Excavating the pit in Area C, New Perlican

Hants Harbour

The Custer's Head site is located on the eastern side of Hant's Harbor on the grassy neck leading out to Custer's Head. It was discovered during a two day survey of the harbour conducted in 2004 and contains both a Recent Indian component and a seventeenth and early eighteenth-century European component. In 2005 we returned to Custer's Head for one day and dug three 1m x 1m units at the site. In one of these units we uncovered the edge of what appeared to be a stone footing.

We returned to Custer's Head for one day (November 8) in 2006. During that time we reopened the unit in which the feature had been found and extended it west by another metre creating a 1m x 2m trench. This trench revealed the remains of what was indeed a substantial stone footing. Artifacts found around and directly above this footing indicate that it is part of a building dating to the late seventeenth or early eighteenth century.

Hant's Harbour was probably utilized by migratory fishermen throughout the seventeenth century but it appears that year- round settlement did not begin until around 1690. When the French raided Hant's Harbour on February 7, 1697, they reported seeing four houses there although all the inhabitants had fled. Once the fear of French attack had subsided the harbour was quickly reoccupied. A list of inhabitants compiled in 1698 indicates that there were forty-one people living at Hant's Harbour at that time including four planters, one woman, seven children and 29 servants. Although it is too early to say for sure, it may be that the structure we discovered is the dwelling house of one of these four planters. It certainly looks like a substantial building.

Uncovering the stone footing at Custer's Head, Hant's Harbour

Bay de Verde

While digging around the foundations of his house in Bay de Verde about twenty years ago, Brian Walsh discovered some European artifacts. I was first made aware of this about ten years ago when I visited Brian and he showed me some of the things he had uncovered. These included a large number of clay tobacco pipe stems with 7/64 and 8/64 bore diameters (indicating that they were of seventeenth-century origin) and several seventeenth-century clay

tobacco pipe bowls. The earliest of these bowls appears to have been made sometime between roughly 1620 and 1650. We had wanted to visit Bay de Verde for a long time but our busy field schedule had prevented us from doing so. However, on November 15 we made a trip to Bay de Verde to do some initial survey work.

We conducted a walking survey of the town and then returned to Brian's property to have a closer look. Several test pits were dug along a line running roughly 10m north of and parallel to Brian's house and these revealed more seventeenth-century material in this area. Artifacts recovered include a late seventeenth-century pipe bowl fragment, a late seventeenth-century bottle neck fragment, and shards of Westerwald stoneware, tin-glazed coarse earthenware, and coarse earthenware made in Verwood, Dorset. Testing indicates that the site covers an area measuring at least 15m x 15m and is probably quite a bit larger. Some damage has been caused by water and sewer lines. We plan to return to Bay de Verde at sometime in the future to sample the site and determine its boundaries.

Primary Sources

Colonial Office, C.O. 1/41 (1677 Census).

The Middleton Manuscript (or 'Willoughby Papers') Mi X I/1-66. Papers of Sir Percival Willoughby Relating to the Newfoundland Company, 1610-1631. Transcriptions on file at the Provincial Archives of Newfoundland and Labrador, St. John's.

The Bird Cove Archaeology Project
(Latonia Hartery, University of Calgary)

In 2006, the Bird Cove Archaeology Project focused entirely on survey. This year, under a new auspice entitled Pushing the Boundaries: Survey from Bird Cove to Pond Cove, we expanded outside the towns of Bird Cove, Brig Bay and Plum Point to include the neighbouring towns of Blue Cove and Pond Cove. To date, what we have learned about the history and prehistory of this area has largely come from sites located in Bird Cove, most of which are focused on the Dog Peninsula. This summer the aim was to gain insight into the question of whether the Dog Peninsula was saturated with archaeological sites because it offered something special that other areas did not, or was its archaeological richness a result of the fact that most survey so far has been carried out in Bird Cove. Therefore, we expanded outside Bird Cove into Blue Cove and Pond Cove with substantial reward. Six new archaeological sites were discovered, four in the new survey area and two in the former.

Our approach to discovering new sites was threefold in design. First, we utilized information about settlement patterns and site distributions from literature reviews; second we established hypotheses on site lotions based on our own archaeological research in Bird Cove; and finally, we incorporated more local help since there has rarely been a time that local leads had not been fruitful. However, the local approach had a distinct form. Based on my last ten years in the Bird Cove area, I realized that evenings spent in homes, socializing over food and tea and building trust, garners more information about site location and land use than any formal inquiry ever could. Many teas and pounds later, as well as with a few leads from the Provincial Archaeology Office (PAO), the following discoveries were made and are discussed in a North to South location on the coast.

Ste. Genevieve River-1 (EgBe-01) was our first site visit. Hull and Renolds, who previously visited and recorded the site in 2002, suggested it may have a greater diversity than they had time to explore. They were correct. We divided the site into an Early Recent Indian occupation near the shore (EgBe-02), and a possible Maritime Archaic Indian site at a higher elevation near the road. In Pond Cove, we surveyed the stunning Seal Point, which juts out into the ocean and is characterized by a number of raised terraces. It also had a similar appearance to Dog Point of the Dog Peninsula, which is home to

several Palaeoeskimo sites. Local residents reported that there should be at least one historic site on the Point; this was welcome news since prehistoric ones, due to prior research goals, outnumber historic sites in this heart of the Basque and French cod fishery. One hundred test pits later the historic site Seal Point (EgBf-33), likely dated to between 1860 and 1920, was recovered but no Palaoeskimo sites were found. Further south in Blue Cove, the historic site Blue Cove-1 (EgBf-34) was recorded and we visited Fish Island -1 (EgBf-29), which had been reported to the PAO by residents but never checked by an archaeologist. This French site has a badly preserved bake oven but does feature some interesting ceramics. Unfortunately, much of Blue Cove is badly disturbed from companies mining gravel for road construction, etc., since the early 1960s. The Cove would have been filled with panoramic views of the ocean and beautiful sheltered terraces but the latter have long since been obliterated. Elders of the town reported that a burial was destroyed 'many years ago' that was not aboriginal but European in nature. However, the objects found within the grave were of a style they did not recognize. No one seems to know the whereabouts of these objects and many of the locals that worked on the project with the construction companies have since passed on.

Our third study of a prehistoric site arose when we discovered the Palaeoeskimo lithic manufacturing camp on Old Ferolle Island called Clement's Landing (EgBf-36). The site was named after boat operator Clement Gould who skillfully put us ashore directly below the site. The fourth aboriginal site recorded was Marks (EgBf-35) on the Dog Peninsula. It was revealed to us by three different residents, and I inquired about its location based on research I had previously executed for the document A History of Bird Cove. The site is likely an interment of a Montagnais family from the Lower North Shore of Québec who made the Dog Peninsula their home for a short time in the late 1800s (there are several landmarks in the Bird Cove area named after the family). No test pits were implemented for obvious reasons but the site was recorded based on corroborating historical texts with local knowledge and experience.

These finds, combined with a town presentation, interviews with CBC Radio based on the discoveries, and coverage in the Northern Pen, as well as developmental meetings for our new organization Amina Anthropological Resources Association, made for a very busy, productive, and joyful summer. We recorded and reported on six new sites, which now makes the total in that area a staggering 38 in total. Four of these were in the expanded research area. Although not as numerous as those on the Dog Peninsula, these new finds show that research potential exists in the Blue Cove-Pond Cove area. A final yet interesting aspect is that of the six sites, at least two have no prior counterparts; i.e. this is the first Palaoeskimo lithic manufacturing camp and Montagnais burial to be recorded in our research area.

Excavation at Ashuanipi Lake, western Labrador

(Jamie Brake, MA Candidate, Memorial University of Newfoundland)

In the summer of 2006 the first in-depth archaeological excavation ever done in western Labrador was conducted at Ferguson Bay 1 (FfDn-01) by a team from Memorial University. The crew included Ainslie Cogswell, Jodie Ashini, Matt Beaudion, Scott Neilsen and myself (Jamie Brake). Scott Neilsen, Jody Ashini and I also spent time on Ashuanipi Lake during the 2005 summer field season as part of a survey project, the purpose of which was to assess the archaeological potential of the area. That year we also explored Ashuanipi River and part of Menihek Lake, further to the north. While we were on Ashuanipi Lake in 2005 we visited the Ferguson Bay 1 site that had been archaeologically tested in the early 1990s by F. Niellon who noted the presence of chert flakes which attested to a prehistoric presence at the site. We did a little more testing in the area that summer and found two hearth features, hundreds of stone flakes and half of a bifacially worked stone tool.

During the survey we recorded a number of previously unknown pre-contact sites on the lake but it was decided that I would return to the Ferguson Bay 1 site in 2006 to excavate. This was because the amount of cultural material recovered, the size of the site and because of its strategic location on a sandy beach near a part of the lake which never freezes. With the help of Scott Neilsen and the field crew mentioned above I was able to successfully complete the field portion of MA research project at the site, the overall goal of which is to help build an understanding of the culture history of interior Labrador.

Ferguson Bay 1 is located on the northwestern shore of Ashuanipi Lake very near where the lake narrows and becomes Ashuanipi River. This lake is part of an historic Innu travel route through the interior of Labrador and a radio carbon sample that we collected in 2005 has produced a date which shows that Ferguson Bay 1 was used at least as early as 1400 +/- 40 years B.P. Another charcoal sample we collected produced a date which demonstrates that the site was also used 1000 +/- 40 years B.P. During the excavation this past summer we were able to open up just over twenty square meters at the site. This year we discovered two more hearth features, one of which (Feature 2) seems to have been used several centuries earlier than the other (Feature 1). In and around Feature 2 we recovered many artifacts including a number of bifacial and unifacial stone tools, as well as thousands of flakes. Feature 2 is a linear hearth which was not completely excavated and therefore its total length is not yet known. The uncovered portion of this feature is approximately one meter wide by three meters long and runs parallel to Ashuanipi Lake. Feature 1 appears to have been used in both pre-contact times and right through the historic period. Historic artifacts such as an Innu snowshoe needle (made of metal), three beads, buttons (some glass and one made of bone), some cloth, a piece of leather, a square nail, a musket ball, pieces of birch bark, 44-40 caliber bullet shells, some unidentified pieces of metal and melted glass were found in and around this feature. Large numbers of stone flakes were also found in this part of the excavation area – some were found along with historic artifacts but most were found deeper down in the soil. Also found near this feature were two pieces of what appear to be flaked glass which could have interesting implications. A number of charcoal samples were also collected from both hearth features. In addition, Richard Josephs, a micromorphologist from the University of North Dakota spent a week at the site with us and during this time he collected soil samples right through and underneath Feature 1 which will provide environmental information on the site.

Feature 2, view grid south

2006 Fleur de Lys Archaeological Project
(John Erwin and Amanda Crompton, Memorial University of Newfoundland)

In July 2006, the Fleur de Lys Archaeological Project welcomed back the Memorial University

Archaeology Field School to resume excavations at Cow Cove 3 (EaBa-16), and to begin a new operation at French Island Tickle (EaBa-19). Excavations at Cow Cove 3, a Groswater and Dorset multi-component camp yielded a number of surprises, including preserved organic artifacts and hundreds of pieces of soapstone debris, neither of which were encountered in the previous years of excavations. Work at French Island Tickle confirmed the French use of this site during the late 17th century, and a Dorset cultural affiliation for the lithic materials that were found below this historic occupation.

Cow Cove 3 (EaBa-16)

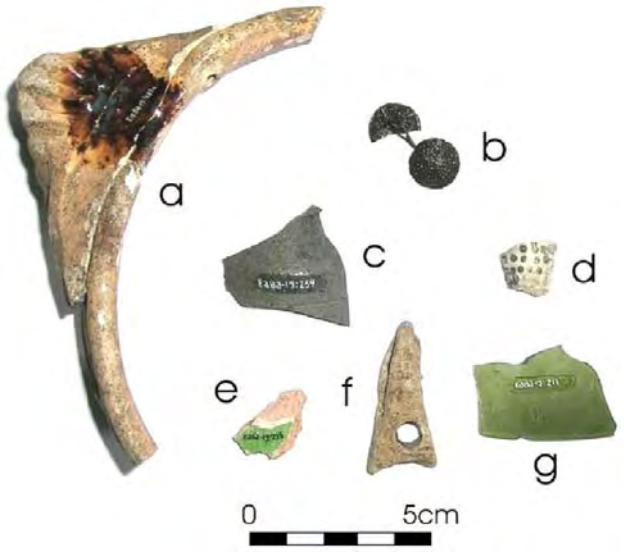
At Cow Cove 3, the naturally deposited layers of mussel shell partially neutralized the acidity of the soils and facilitated the preservation of hundreds of faunal samples, as well as a number of organic artifacts (Figure below: top row: awl, bottom row (left to right) preform, socketed single holed endblade, endblade preform, needle). All of these specimens were recovered on the last day of excavations from two adjacent 1x1m units. The shape of the point and the technique of its manufacture indicate that it was fashioned by the Dorset occupants of the site. The physical proximity of the other organic artifacts suggests that they are also Dorset in origin. The lack of such artifacts in other areas of the site further suggests they are part of an isolated activity area adjacent an ancient beach line. The presence of soapstone debris along the eastern edge of the site links the use of Cow Cove 3 to Fleur de Lys 1 (EaBa-1), the soapstone quarry in Fleur de Lys. While hundreds of pieces of soapstone were found, none of the specimens showed any sign of use, but rather, were comparable to debris associated with vessel finishing practices observed in Fleur de Lys.

Cow Cove 3 organic artifacts

French Island Tickle (EaBa-19)

French Island Tickle (EaBa-19) is located on the western end of French Island in the southern portion of Coachman's Cove Harbour. The site is situated adjacent the ocean, atop two grassy beach ridges that are approximately 3 to 4 meters above sea level. The site overlooks a narrow tickle that separates French Island from the eastern end of the long peninsula that borders the southern portion of Coachman's Cove harbour.

The site was discovered in 2000 as part of Erwin's survey of the Baie Verte Peninsula. An historic French component of undetermined date was identified overlying a prehistoric use of the site, tentatively identified as Dorset Palaeoeskimo. The 2006 excavations confirmed the French use of the site dating to the later seventeenth century, and the prehistoric use to that of the Dorset.



French Island Tickle artifacts

The investigation of the historic component of French Island Tickle resulted in the recovery of a sample of almost exclusively French ceramics, including Normandy stoneware, Saintonge coarse earthenwares, and Beauvais coarse earthenware. Numerous fishhooks and lead line weights indicate this site was used as fishing premises. Additionally, gunflints, and sprue from lead shot manufacture may indicate evidence of hunting activities. The presence of numerous large wrought iron nails amidst charcoal remains also suggests an extensive destruction layer of an historic structure. The recovery of food service vessel fragments and stemware also indicates a domestic use of the site (Figure page 21, bottom right: (a) Beauvais coarse earthenware, (b) copper cufflinks, (c) Normandy Stoneware, (d) pipe bowl fragment (Mulberry), (e) Saintonge coarse earthenware, (f) lead fishing weight, (g) bottle glass).

This site is significant insofar as it is the first undisturbed French site to be excavated on the Baie Verte Peninsula with good archaeological potential. Additionally, the site's early date places it in a period for which we have very little documentary and cartographic information. Further excavation at this site should prove useful for extending the interpretation of the French shore in this area, beyond the limitations of the historic record.

Conche Archaeology Project: Salmon Net (EfAx-25)

(Mary Melnik, MA Candidate, Memorial University of Newfoundland)

In 2006, the Conche Archaeology Project, part of The Northern Peninsula Archaeology and Landscape History Program, returned to the beautiful town of Conche on the northeast coast of the Great Northern Peninsula. The research project this past summer focussed on Salmon Net (EfAx-25), a Groswater Palaeoeskimo site located south of Conche on the east side of the Fox Head Peninsula. Bradley Drouin identified Salmon Net during a 2004 survey of the region, and his primary data indicated that it was a site of high archaeological potential that would yield particularly good evidence of Groswater Palaeoeskimos. Thus, excavations at Salmon Net were initiated by Dr. M.A.P. Renouf and supervised by her graduate student Mary Melnik as part of her M.A. research project.

Ms. Melnik's primary research objective is to compare the data from Salmon Net with other Groswater occupation sites in Newfoundland, particularly those on the west coast of the Northern Peninsula, in order to better understand Groswater culture. Prior to the identification of Salmon Net and the 2006 excavation of the site, there had not been a Groswater site identified or investigated on the east coast of the Northern Peninsula. Thus, the fieldwork from this summer serves to bridge a gap of time and space in our knowledge of Groswater occupation of Newfoundland.

The summer began with unpredictable circumstances as a polar bear wandered into Conche at the beginning of June, just days before the fieldwork was supposed to begin. The start of the excavations was consequently delayed a few days but fortunately we proceeded without incident and from then on things ran quite smoothly. Thanks to a very hard working and efficient team, which consisted of Todd Kristensen, Justin Foley, Dan Melnik, Mark Penney and Mary Melnik, over the seven-week field season we were able to open up an area of 38m^2; 31m^2 of which was excavated down to sterile. Some of the most interesting and significant finds, which will be discussed below, were the amount of fire-cracked rock in the cultural Level 3, the quantity and diversity of diagnostic artifacts collected, and the structural evidence we uncovered.

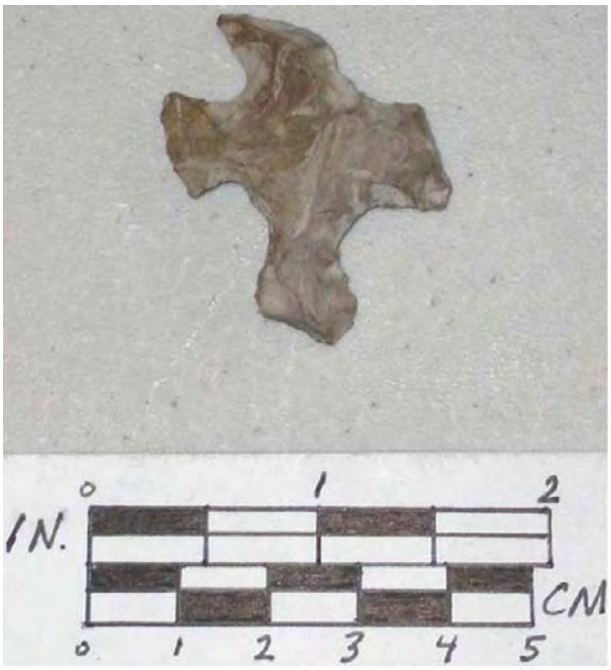
One aspect of the excavation that left an impression was the amount of fire-cracked rock (FCR) we encountered throughout the cultural Level 3. The cultural Level 3 was literally cemented with FCR, layer upon layer, and in most places it seemed like there was more FCR than soil. Presumably, the reason why we found so much FCR at Salmon Net is because of intensive hearth activity and that rocks

were used to aid in cooking and/or for warmth. In other words, there could be a lot of FCR because this was a processing site and a lot of cooking or smoking of meat was taking place, and/or this could be a cold-season site rocks were continuously being heated to keep warm. The amount and use of heating rocks and hearth activity may be a factor of the apparent lack of soapstone vessel use in Groswater technology for creating heat and light.

In total 829 artifacts were collected, all of which are characteristically associated with Groswater Palaeoeskimos. We found numerous examples of "typical" Groswater tools, including box-based, side-notched endblades; a variety of thin, asymmetrical, corner notched bifaces; chipped and ground burin-like tools; circular, ovate and triangular sideblades; rectangular 'eared' and triangular scrapers; concave side-scrapers; and microblades. However, a number of different or unusual artifact styles and artifact types were also identified.

To begin, a range of endblade styles were recovered. When excavation of the cultural Level 3 got underway, we found very finely made, often ground and serrated endblades. Many of these are similar to those found at Phillip's Garden West, which Renouf has labelled a Groswater variant. As excavations continued it was noted that the endblades further down in Level 3 were similar in form but not as finely made, nor were they ground or serrated like those we had been finding at first. Finally, a few particularly small endblades were also unearthed, which, because of their size (and the technology) seem more likely to be arrow points.

Besides endblades, we also found four unusual scrapers/side-scrapers, including one spoke-shave; two abraders, one was fine grained and therefore probably used to grind bone and the other was coarse and probably used to grind stone; a pecked stone; a few pieces of soapstone, including one piece that was worked; and a roughly knapped artistic representation made on low-lustre chert. Furthermore, the excavations revealed an unusual group of stemmed sideblades and a group of solicified slate adzes, which are reminiscent of solicified slate artifacts (particularly adzes) from Pre-Dorset contexts.



Artistic representation on chert

In total 17 features were identified, including structural evidence from the original occupation of the site, at the bottom of cultural Level 3. For example a post hole and semi-circular clay mounds, which appear as though they would have been formed on the inside of a skin tent to keep out the draft, were identified. From the various features, and structural-type slab rocks, it was determined that at one time there was a semi-circular or oval structure at Salmon Net.

Informal interviews with local people from Conche, as well as our own observations, yielded some information about potential economic reasons why Groswater people would have occupied Salmon Net. Cyril Foley, a local fisherman, told us that the best place people have traditionally hunted seals was just off the coast of the Salmon Net site. This is a good location for sealing because it is the most common area for the ice edge in the winter and it is where the ice first breaks up in the spring. Mr. Foley also said Salmon Net is a great spot to go bird

hunting in the spring, particularly for sea ducks. Importantly, and as was common knowledge to most residents of town, there is tremendous salmon fishing off Salmon Net. Furthermore, we observed porpoises, capelin, sea birds besides ducks, fox, and whales. Black bears are also common to the area in general and during more ancient times caribou and arctic hare may have been abundant in the area. Clearly, based on animal resources, Salmon Net could have been and was an attractive habitation spot for Groswater Palaeoeskimos for many reasons, throughout much of the year.

The data uncovered during the 2006 field season will make a great contribution to our understanding of Groswater Palaeoeskimos. However, there is also much more to be discovered at Salmon Net. Upon leaving the site after the seven-week field season, it was felt that we had just scratched the surface of what cultural material was there. For example there were some large boulders in the east wall of the excavation, which we thought might be the axial feature or main hearth of a structure, but time did not permit us to explore this possibility further. Furthermore, Drouin reported that this site defines a large area and there is a lot more land to explore and excavate. Hopefully this review of the 2006 field season at Salmon Net, as well as Mary Melnik's M.A. thesis, will inspire future research at the site and of Groswater Palaeoeskimos in general.

Burnside Heritage Foundation Inc.
(Laurie McLean, Burnside Heritage Foundation)

BHF archaeological crews visited five of the 56 known sites around Burnside in 2006. The Beaches, which was regularly occupied by First Nations People between 5000 and 250 years ago, was the priority locality this year. Excavations continued along portions of the 140 m long eroding bank where up to 90% of the site's original area has disappeared. The BHF erected a 45 m long wooden breakwater one metre in front of the bank in 1995 and 1998, but this structure has not stopped erosion. We began building a more watertight barrier built adjacent to the bank in 2004 and a second portion was erected in 2005. This type of barrier provides much more protection against erosion. A third segment of new retaining wall was built in 2006 and we hope to cover the entire eroding bank over the next few summers.

Although the entire eroding bank warrants immediate conservation measures, funding and labour limitations force us to select a portion of the unstable vertical face for excavation and installation of a breakwater each year. Our 2006 target was a five metre section running eastwards from the breakwater built in 2004. The new structure would protect part of the southern limit of the surviving Beothuk village at the site. Erosion in our 2006 target area had now reached the edge of Housepit 2's earthen wall, meaning that the interior Beothuk living area would soon be threatened. This part of the bank also had been disturbed by looters and pedestrians over the past two summers and we hoped that erecting a wooden wall in front of the bank would eliminate these problems as well as preserving the former Beothuk house from erosion. Our selection of this area in 2006 turned out to be a fortuitous decision in view of funding/labour challenges we experienced. This part of the bank is low, 15-30 cm high, compared to other sections which rise a metre above the beach, requiring less excavation in preparation for building a retaining wall which also is smaller than what is needed elsewhere at the site.

Erosion had reached S11.7 pertaining to our site grid, consequently our excavations trimmed the bank to a straight vertical surface from S11.7 W5 to S11.7 W1. Depending on the extent of erosion, sections up to 40 cm wide were dug within seven m2 in front of this section. A total 2.14 m2 of soil were excavated while 2.8 m2 from S12 W5 - S12 W2 were not dug.

Artifacts were scarce in the excavation, consisting of 81 stone items, one wrought iron nail and a small amount of animal bone apparently from a bird. Fire-cracked rock fragments were common, continuing a concentration that had been partly

Minnie Brown beginning Beaches' eroding bank excavations in 2006. Note 2004 retaining wall behind Minnie and edge of 2005 wall in upper left corner (McLean)

uncovered immediately southwards and south-westwards during 2001, 2002 and 2004 seasons. These objects, along with scattered charcoal and the aforementioned bird bone, represent the remains of a hearth or hearths used outside the nearby Beothuk housepits. The relative lack of charcoal, the small amount of bone and the low artifact count suggest that the 2006 material is hearth debris that was dumped on the wall of Housepit 2 rather than being an in situ hearth. Similar concentrations of fire-cracked rocks are characteristic of large Beothuk sites.

Although the excavated artifact sample is small, it provides some insight concerning the fire-cracked rock deposit. The wrought iron nail and two flakes of green chert are evidence for Beothuk having created the original fireplace. Beothuk may have used the rhyolite and quartz artifacts as well, but these materials were also used by other cultures. Green chert also was used by older aboriginal people, but it remains a strong Beothuk trait. Strangely, water worn flakes are the most common item, totaling 48 for 64%of the total, representing items that were removed from their original context by erosion and subsequently worn smooth by tidal activity on the beach. Water worn stone artifacts are present in great number along the gravel beach skirting the site and their high frequency in the 2006 sample suggests that the hearth debris became mixed with beach gravel thrown on top of Housepit 2's earthen wall to build it up. Beothuk inadvertently collected water worn flakes with beach gravel used in house construction

Once a straight vertical bank had been achieved, the profile was drawn and photographed in preparation for building the retaining wall. 2 x 6 lumber and 4 x 4 fence posts had previously been stained in a redwood colour, similar to red ochre, and were brought to the Beaches on October 9. Volunteers Minnie, Ed and Gavin Brown and Terry Powell assisted Laurie McLean in installing the protective barrier that day. The finished wall measures 20' long x 16" high and adjoins the 25' long section erected in 2004.

Additional Salvage Excavations along the Beaches' Eroding Bank

Emergency salvage excavations were performed along the eroding bank 40 to 55 metres west of 2006's priority area. As mentioned above, while the BHF fortifies one small part of the Beaches' unstable boundary, erosion continues along the unprotected125 metres. Our final duty during each of our 13 visits to the Beaches in 2006 saw two to four five-gallon plastic buckets filled with clumps of cultural black soil that had fallen from the bank to the tidal zone. These disturbed sections, if left on the beach, would soon be broken down by tidal activity, resulting in any artifacts present being dumped on the surface. Provenience for the dislodged soil was recorded pertaining to the closest point of the bank as many clumps lay directly at the foot of their original location or had not moved that far. The collected earth was taken to Burnside for screening on days that are too windy or too wet for traveling to the Beaches. This is a less than perfect system, but it recovers artifacts and information that would otherwise be lost.

28 buckets of soil taken to Burnside in 2006 were collected from seven 1 x 1 m units from S12 W61 to S14 W23. While most of the bank fragments were under 50 cm in diameter, the latter unit contained a metre long oval-shaped section of fine black earth that stood as a cultural island on the gravel beach. 535 stone artifacts, including 526 flakes, were found in the rich black soil from S14 W23. Altogether, 760 stone artifacts were recovered from the 28 buckets of earth. 738 of these were flakes, with 632 being rhyolite. Another 37 rhyolite flakes were collected from various surface locations along the eroding bank. A microblade and a tip flute spall represent Palaeoeskimos at the Beaches.

Non-flake artifacts include three biface fragments, 16 cores and a chert projectile point. The latter is attributable to the Little Passage Complex, the Beothuks prehistoric ancestors. This item came from S12 W44 and may be associated with a radiocarbon date of 560 + 40 BP from a hearth partly excavated in 2005 (S12 W61). These discoveries provide important evidence for prehistoric Beothuk activities distinctly separated from the cluster of Beothuk houses that we have designated Area A at the site.

Beaches Surface Collections, 2006

The rampant destruction of the Beaches has littered its eastern and southern perimeters, small pebble beaches, with stone artifacts. Many of these items, especially those from the east beach, are water worn although the south beach, which fronts actively eroding profiles, yields sharp-edged artifacts. 93 objects collected in 2006 include 87 flakes, 26 of which are water worn. One rhyolite microblade was present on the east beach, representing Palaeoeskimos. Non-flakes include one Paleoeskimo endblade preform from the east beach. A water worn endscraper, two biface fragments and a water worn biface also were retrieved.

Bloody Bay Cove Quarry Surface Finds, 2006

BHF archaeological teams discovered the Bloody Bay Cove quarry in 1989 and 1990, identifying it a vital source of stone for arrow heads, spear heads, endscrapers and other cutting tools for aboriginal residents of Bonavista Bay and slightly removed areas. People regularly stopped here throughout the majority of the bay's 5000 year aboriginal occupation and picked up supplies of rhyolite stone which were distributed throughout Bonavista Bay and beyond through northeastern Newfoundland and the Exploits River valley.

The BHF has conducted numerous excavations at many of the 11 sites making up the quarry. We excavated a tiny part of the 3150 m2 Bloody Bay Cove Summit site in 1992 and have been examining the wealth of cultural material on its' flat bedrock surface 300' above sea level since 1990. The distribution of flakes, cores and hammerstones possibly represents discrete knapping episodes. This theory was supported by samples collected in 2005 that permitted partially reassembling the large chunks of rhyolite that were broken up by chipping.

One of the BHF's 2006 archaeological goals included measuring the distribution of surface material at the site and drawing a detailed map of the record. Unfortunately, due to our labour shortage, this exercise will have to wait until another season, as we were limited to two visits to Bloody Bay Cove this year. We took this opportunity to collect artifacts from the surface of a previously un-sampled part of the site. 417 artifacts consisted of 410 rhyolite flakes, six rhyolite cores and one granite hammerstone. Single flakes were found to re-attach to four larger flakes and one core.

2006 Surface Collections At The Sailor Site (DeAj-1)

The Sailor site is a multi-component site located on the "back side" beach in the community of Salvage. First identified by Paul Carignan in 1973, it was utilized by Maritime Archaic Indians, Palaeoeski-

mos, Recent Indians and historic Newfoundland Settlers. Highway crews digging a gravel quarry destroyed much, probably the majority, of the site early in the 1950s and erosion continues to negatively impact the locality. Carignan excavated part of a Beothuk hearth there and recently the BHF has shown that the remaining 20 m2 contains substantial Paleoeskimo material mixed with historic layer artifacts.

BHF crews annually monitor this site for erosion and pedestrian damage. Two brief visits during 2006 resulted in 41 rhyolite flakes being collected from eroding surfaces and three water worn examples coming from the beach. Three glass sherds were found on the low eroding bank. While no culturally diagnostic items were present, previous BHF excavations associate these objects with the Paleoeskimo occupation. Continued archaeological research at the Sailor site and Sailor South (DeAj-5), a Paleoeskimo occupation identified by the 2002 BHF crew 40 metres to the south will provide more evidence of Salvage's strategic position for people depending on marine resources for survival.

Archaeological Surveys Outside Normal Study Area

BHF archaeologist Laurie McLean, graduate student Robin Fleming and Princeton resident Paul Abbott conducted an archaeological survey of Bonavista Bay's coastline between Plate Cove West and the Long Islands during June 12-21. Five archaeological sites were known from this area, which lies 30-40 km south of the Eastport Peninsula, but it had not been comprehensively surveyed. Rapid growth in the number of wilderness cabins and coastal erosion pose serious threats to the region's archaeological resources and Newfoundland and Labrador's Provincial Archaeology Office decided it was time to evaluate the area.

The 10-day survey identified 19 new sites, including six aboriginal occupations, 12 historic settler localities and one mixed site. Three of the aboriginal deposits yielded Paleoeskimo artifacts while the other four aboriginal components produced non-diagnostic stone flakes and tool fragments. The historic sites consist of one eroding graveyard, two resettled communities, two homesteads within former villages, one single habitation, three logging camps/saw mills, one whale butchering locality, one hunting camp and a popular harbour historically used for short stopovers. None of the historic areas appear to date before the early to mid-nineteenth century when settlers of European descent spread throughout the region. Five of the new sites are suffering from erosion.

Completely eroded Paleoeskimo site found on Wolf Island (DcAj-1), Sweet Bay (McLean)

Artifacts include 675 stone objects, with 532 coming from the seven new sites and 143 collected from the surface and eroding bank of the Unnamed site, Long Island (DdAj-4). Most of the stone objects were made on rhyolite (n = 489/73.0 %), with 425 items (63.0 %) originating from Bloody Bay Cove. Some of the patinated rhyolite also probably comes from Bloody Bay Cove while a few rhyolite objects exhibit colours not associated with that quarry. 148 chert artifacts recovered included 13 tools, compared to 18 rhyolite non-flake implements, indicating more specialized use of the rarer material. Nineteen historic objects, including bottle fragments, pot sherds and rosehead nails were retrieved from five sites. Historic areas not yielding artifacts were identified by structural remains on their surface.

Stock Cove (CkAl-3)

A multi-component aboriginal site was found by Gerald Penney at Stock Cove, Master's Head, on the southern shore of the entrance to Bull Arm, Trinity Bay in 1979. Penney's tests and 1981 excavations conducted by Doug Robbins determined the presence of Maritime Archaic Indian, Paleoeskimo and Recent Indian cultural material there. Historic Newfoundland settlers utilized an adjacent smaller cove in their pursuit of the fishery. The Stock Cove site has suffered serious erosion and Newfoundland and Labrador's Provincial Archaeology Office asked the author if he could visit the locality to assess its condition.

Tom Pinsent checking Stock Cove eroding bank and beach for artifacts

Stock Cove can only be accessed by boat and Bellevue resident Tom Pinsent, who has been monitoring the ongoing erosion, took the writer there on September 19. They measured the coastal eroding boundary at 90 metres. Artifacts were collected from a 65 metre-long section which appears to represent the extent of the utilized area. Pinsent and McLean collected 140 objects made on patinated white chert or rhyolite that originally was grey in colour. A number of Paleoeskimo tool fragments were present, but the great majority of items could not be identified pertaining to cultural group. There was insufficient time to collect all the artifacts scattered over the deteriorating bank and the adjoining beach. A proposal to conduct minimal excavations along the bank and construct a protective barrier was prepared and submitted to the Provincial Archaeology Office. This salvage activity will take place in 2007, pending approval of funding.

Archaeology in Placentia
(Steve Mills)

Archaeological investigations resumed in Placentia in 2006 after a one year hiatus. Support for the 2006 program came from the Town of Placentia and Services Canada. The primary focus of the 15-week archaeology program was the site of Fort Louis and the New Fort (CjAl-9) although limited testing was also carried out at two other sites: O'Reilly House (CjAl-5) and the Old Hospital site (CjAl-13).

Fort Louis was the second fort, and the first of any substance, built by the French in Placentia. Construction began in 1691 on the low-lying beach at Jerseyside, along the east side of the Gut, the narrow entrance to Placentia Harbour. Placentia was attacked the following year by an English squadron of five ships under the command of Commodore Williams. Williams' ships fired some 2000 rounds into the town and Fort Louis. The fort was rebuilt and at its peak, in the early eighteenth century, boasted 39 pieces of artillery, mainly 18pdrs and 24pdrs, pointing across the Gut and out the bay. Once the fort was fully armed, such a formidable array of fire deterred the British from mounting another attack on Placentia. Fort Louis and the entire town of Placentia were turned over to the British in 1714, in accordance with the Treaty of Utrecht that ended the War of the Spanish Succession (Queen Ann's War) between Britain and her allies and France and her allies.

After the English takeover of the town, Fort Louis was occupied for several years before being abandoned in the early 1720s when Fort Frederick was completed on the west side of the Gut. In the 1740s, British engineers once again returned to the site of Fort Louis and built another fort upon its ruins. The New Fort, as it was unceremoniously named, featured at least six buildings (powder magazine, storehouse, barracks and residences for the governor, officers, gunners and store keeper)

inside a re-configured fortification. Apparently, the two primary French ramparts were rebuilt for the British guns and underground rooms (casemates) were placed into the western rampart. The New Fort lasted for several decades before it too fell into ruin, probably in the 1770s.

The site of Fort Louis/New Fort had never really been forgotten by the people of Placentia, and as it remained in public hands, it was spared from major housing developments. However, the site saw considerable impact through the construction of several houses and sheds on its southern flank and a water line on its eastern flank. Perhaps worse of all was the construction of a softball field in the early 1960s that caused the bulldozing of the upper cultural layers inside the fort onto the low-lying areas to the north and east.

The site was tested by archaeologists in 1972, 1997 and in recent years by Crompton and Temple. Structural evidence of at least three building, one of the ramparts and a human internment were discovered during those earlier investigations. Crompton's and Temple's investigations revealed that the British built their storehouse and powder magazine directly upon the footings of the French soldiers' barracks.

The 2006 program primarily focussed upon the building foundations uncovered by Crompton, Temple and their crews. The project began with the development of an interpretation program in the winter that recommended further investigation of the Fort Louis and New Fort. The Town of Placentia acted upon that recommendation and preliminary testing began in early June with the uncovering of the the east side of the British storehouse foundation. This section had originally been exposed by Temple's crews in 2002 and 2003. Using the eighteenth-century plans of the New Fort, test pits were then used to identify the western corners of the storehouse, the eastern corners of the storekeeper's house and the northwest corner of the British powder magazine. By the second week of July a crew of 12 was working on the site.

By the end of the 2006 investigation the upper courses of the storehouse and storekeeper's house were fully exposed and mapped. The investigation revealed that the entire area around the buildings, and elsewhere inside the fort, had been raised nearly one metre above the beach through the addition of rubble fill. This fill had been blasted from a quarry situated at the base of the nearby mountain. Careful scrutiny of a 1740s plan of the area revealed the location of this quarry and two more besides that were used for "digging earth for the ramparts" inside the fort. Covering these rubble deposits were several layers of beach cobbles and re-deposited organic soil containing artifacts dating to circa 1900. Artifacts from within the rubble dated to a similar time. It is believed that the organic fill originated from elsewhere in the Placentia area. A few sherds of nineteenth-century refined earthenware were also recovered from the rubble.

Aerial view of the foundations for the storehouse (bottom) and storekeeper/gunners residences (top) inside the New Fort

Aerial view of the foundations for the storehouse (right) and the residences for the store keeper and the gunners (left); looking north

The absence of strata containing any sign of occupation from the British and French periods can be explained by informants' reports stating that the site was mechanically levelled for the softball field. One informant, who lived his whole life adjacent to the site, recalled that the soils from inside the fort were used to raise the low-lying wet land surrounding the fort. As the tops of the foundations were discovered very close to the surface, it is presumed that the bulldozers literally "levelled the playing field" by removing the humps in the ground, humps that were probably the upper courses of the foundations! The only artifacts recovered from the excavations in and around the storehouse and store keeper/gunners' residences that represent the historic occupations of the fort were a broken key and a piece of exploded shot, a partial tobacco pipe and a decorated pewter buckle. All of these artifacts were recovered from disturbed deposits.

In addition to uncovering the structural remains of the buildings, a section of the New Fort ramparts was also investigated. These massive defensive earthworks originally stood 11 feet high and were 45 feet wide. A single test trench on the interior of the western rampart revealed that some of the masonry façade is still intact and continues to hold back the mortared masonry fill. The trench also revealed that the ramparts were build upon unconsolidated rubble, similar to that used to raise the interior of the fort.

The site of the Governor's and Officers' residence in the New Fort was also tested with very positive results. This duplex building is located on private land bordering the south end of the Town property in what was the southern section of the fort. This area was not impacted during the softball field construction and the archaeological testing revealed that intact cultural deposits dating back to the seventeenth century are preserved there.

Testing near the sites of the seventeenth-century French convent (near O'Reilly House) and the 1720s English Governor Samuel Gledhill's mansion (the Old Hospital site) uncovered tantalizing evidence of seventeenth- and eighteenth-century structures. At both sites window glass and wrought nails were found in deposits along with French coarse earthenwares and English white slat-glazed stone wares. A particularly exciting find, near the location of the former convent, is a tiny pewter statuette of a figure believed to be St. Francis of Assisi. The French Recollect priests who occupied the convent in Placentia were a part of the Order of Franciscans, followers of St. Francis of Assisi. St. Francis of Assisi is often depicted with a lamb or wolf at his feet.

Pewter statuette of a cloaked figure, possibly St. Francis of Assisi, holding a cross with an animal at its feet. The figure is 1.75cm high.

In conclusion, the 2006 archaeology program was an enormous success in that two large buildings foundations and part of the rampart stoneworks were uncovered at Fort Louis/New Fort. The foundations were covered with geotextile filter cloth and stablilized by the addition of one to three courses of stone before the entire site was backfilled. This form of stabilization was chosen so that the site can be interpreted to the public in future years. Plans are underway for the 2007 season which will see further testing at the fort site to locate additional buildings and defensive features. Other sites in the town, in particular those tested in 2006, will also be investigated again as time permits.

A field course in archaeology is currently being developed for the Placentia campus of the College of the North Atlantic. It is planned that participants in the course will become the field crew for the 2007 season. Enhanced interpretation for the site of Fort Louis/New Fort is also in the works. Anyone seeking further information on the Placentia archaeology program should contact Steve Mills at sfmills2005@aol.com.

Archaeological Monitoring of the 2006 Ferryland Beach Stabilization
(Aardvark Archaeology Ltd.)

The wind and seas are constantly changing the landscape along the beach that surrounds the Pool at Ferryland. Strong winds and heavy seas, sometimes aided by high tides and storm surges, continuously heave the beach to and froe. In the past, this wave action has resulted in the shifting of incredible amounts of beach cobbles, so much so that the whole shape of the beach changes with time. Archaeological investigations at the site of the seventeenth-century Colony of Avalon have uncovered evidence of tremendous storm surges that had pushed waves of beach rocks more than 100 metres inland. The low-lying nature of the land that surrounds the Pool makes it susceptible to heavy seas and it was felt there is a real danger that such seas could, one day, breech the beach that separates the Pool from the rest of the harbour. Such a disaster could effectively destroy the Pool, taking away the livelihoods of several Ferryland fishing crews that operate out of the Pool.

For this reason, the Small Craft Harbour Branch of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans hired Browne's Transport of Argentia to stabilize the beach on the north side of the Ferryland Pool. The project entailed placement of armour stone (massive stones in excess of 1 sq. m.) and riprap (smaller angular stones) along the beach in a way that would protect it from storm damage. Excavations were necessary to determine the condition of the current wooden retaining wall; provide a level surface for the placement of riprap and armour stone; and to investigate the subsurface condition of the beach.

As archaeological investigations at the site of the nearby Colony of Avalon have uncovered significant finds adjacent to the project area, the Provincial Archaeology Office contracted Aardvark Archaeology Ltd. to monitor excavations on the beach. Monitoring was carried out between February 6th and 7th, 2006 under Archaeological Investigation Permit number 06.01.

Two excavations were monitored and a third hole was recorded after it was dug. The first trench (Hole #1), was 35m long by 2-3m wide, and 2m deep was dug along the western end of the beach, beginning at the eastern end of the existing wooden wharf. It was dug to determine the depth of the wooden posts that made up the retaining wall along the western edge of the beach. The posts that supported the wall were buried approximately 1m to 1.5 m below the current surface and were held together and in line with ribbands: wooden members nailed horizontally near the bottom exterior side of the posts. A cribwork filled with rocks on the interior side supported the wall. No artifacts were recorded in this trench.

A second trench (Hole # 2) was dug some 30m east of the first trench, where the beach reaches furthest to the north. It was filled in with armour stone. No

Hole #1 being excavated at the west end of the beach

The third excavation (Hole # 3, approximately 2m square) was dug at the water line a few metres west of the boardwalk on the north side of the Colony of Avalon archaeological site. The hole was placed at the water's edge to determine whether bedrock was present in the area. At a depth of approximately 1m to 1.5m below the surface, the excavator dug through strata containing organic matter, branches and cultural material. The excavation was halted and a small collection of artifacts was gathered from the backdirt.

The cultural material consisted mainly of branches, bark and pieces of cut wood, all remarkably well preserved. Several cut food bones were recovered along with brickbats, potsherds and tobacco pipe stems. The matrix surrounding these artifacts was a combination of black organic muck and grey sand. As it was excavated with a 1.5m bucket, determining precise stratigraphic control was impossible; however, it did appear that the organic material originated from a compressed deposit more than 1m below the surface. It was not possible to determine how thick this deposit had been as the hole would immediately fill with water as soon as it was excavated. In total, twenty artifacts were collected.

The artifacts from Hole # 3 can be loosely dated to the late-seventeenth century or early- eighteenth century by the ceramics: English West country tall pot and storage jar fragments; and the clay tobacco pipe stems with bore sizes ranging from 5 to 6/64^{ths} of an inch. The assemblage is typical of what you might expect to find on a beach: worn out boots, pieces of leather clothing, broken bricks and pottery fragments, tobacco pipe stems, fish and cow bones together with barrel parts, wood chips and branches from the fishing related structures.

Although it is difficult to be definitive on what the findings in Hole # 3 mean exactly, it does offer suggestions that the late seventeenth century or eighteenth-century beach in this part of the Pool was considerably different than what it is in modern times. The water in this area is shallow and the beach is poorly protected from the north and easterly winds. Apparently, for these reasons, fishermen have traditionally used the better-protected area inside of the Pool as an operational base to process their catches. An interview with longtime Ferryland resident Mr. Al Harvey, (age 65) indicated that he could not recall any fishing stages along this particular part of the beach. However, he did state that his mother had mentioned that houses once stood near this stretch of beach, presumably in the early twentieth century.

Location of Hole # 3

Historic maps of the Pool from the seventeenth and nineteenth centuries corroborate Mr. Harvey's information as they indicate that this area has been shallow and rocky for centuries. Such conditions

made this part of the beach less than ideal for bringing in fishing boats. On the other hand, perhaps the shallow water made it a perfect place for debris to collect. Waterlogged branches, bark and other wood debris, together with refuse from those living in the area, likely gathered along the landwash before sinking to the bottom. At some point in time, possibly a couple of centuries ago, a “great big sea” pushed a massive amount of cobbles over the shallow areas of the landwash, burying the debris and changing the landscape significantly. Whereas today there is a cobble beach several metres in height, in the past this beach was likely much lower and wider.

Another possibility is that this part of the beach was associated with the seventeenth-century defensive ditch that protected the east side of the Colony of Avalon. This ditch was excavated several years ago and one theory is that it was open to the ocean on its north side (Dr. James Tuck pers. com.). A stratum of beach cobbles and pebbles, excavated along the east and south sides of the Colony, is thought to represent a sea surge by hurricane-force seas around the year 1700 (Dr. Barry Gaulton pers com.). This distinctive deposit appears to have been channelled onto the site via the defensive ditch, which was probably still open to the sea at that time.

The point of this discussion is to suggest that the beach area to the north of the Pool was, at one time, quite a bit different than it is today. One might counter that this is an obvious conclusion, given that coastal landscapes change over time, however, now we have the archaeological proof of these changes.

Archaeological Assessment of the Mockbeggar Plantation Provincial Historic Site, Bonavista
(Aardvark Archaeology Ltd.)

At the request of the Historic Sites Branch, Department of Tourism, Culture and Recreation, an archaeological assessment was carried out in the fall of 2006 at in Bonavista, Newfoundland, at the Mockbeggar Plantation Provincial Historic Site. This project was followed by a brief salvage dig in late-November. The site celebrates F. Gordon Bradley’s role in the struggle for confederation during the latter half of the 1940s. On the former Bradley property, donated by the family to the Province of Newfoundland in 1980, is a large three-story wood structure that was a part of a fishing room first mentioned by the name "Mockbeggar Premises" in the year 1806. The history of the structure itself, known as the "Big Store", is vague, however, and there is a belief that it may have been built early in the eighteenth century prior to its first appearance in the documentary evidence.

The objectives of the assessment were to attempt to provide archaeological evidence for the age of the Big Store and to determine what other structures, if any, might have existed on the Mockbeggar property and to determine the functions of any structures that were discovered. The archaeological investigation was carried out under Archaeological Permit number 06.50.

The Mockbeggar Plantation is situated in Mockbeggar Cove along the west side of the community, a short distance north of the inner harbour. For most people, Bonavista is perhaps best known as the landfall of John Cabot in 1497, however, the town also played a role in the English cod fishery since the seventeenth century, as it was at the northern reaches for their Newfoundland fishery. By the late 1600s there were hundreds of English migratory fishermen in the harbour and a small number of families who stayed there year round. In the eighteenth century the town grew along with the increase in the English fishery in the both Bonavista and Trinity Bays. By the end of the 1780s, Bonavista had a permanent resident population of about 450.

Early owners of the Mockbeggar property between the late 1700s and early 1800s are believed to be Joseph White of Poole, England; his nephew Samuel White; his nephew Samuel Rolles and Benjamin Lester and Company. The property first appears in the historical record by the Mockbeggar name in the 1805-1806 Register of Fishing Rooms

in Bonavista Bay. At that time the property is described as "…three stages, extending along the landwash North and South two hundred and twenty yards, bounded on the North by the sea and on the South by a void space where a ship's room formerly stood. The stores and other erections stand between parallel lines running East from the extremes of the landwash line." This vague allusion to the "stores and other erections" is the only reference to the buildings on the property at that time.

George Garland bought the lease for the property in 1808 and added the Mockbeggar property to his holdings in the town. He also owned the Ryder, Middle and Wiltshire fishing rooms and held the lease on the Bottom Room. Garland was Benjamin Lester's son-in-law and after Lester's death in 1802, he took over the Newfoundland businesses.

The Mockbeggar property is in the center of the image, bounded by the white fence

Thirty-three test pits were dug during the assessment, in addition to an intensive excavation beneath the Big Store. As many of the test pits were in excess of 70cm deep, attempts to photograph the profiles proved futile. Profiles were drawn for several test pits and the stratigraphies were recorded in the others. Where cultural layers were noted, the artifacts from each layer were bagged separately. Much of the Mockbeggar property is a peat bog and the archaeological testing discovered that, in many places, this peat lies just beneath a thick and tenacious sod. With few exceptions, the test pits were dug down to sterile peat.

From the archaeological assessment it is clear that there are three periods of occupation or use of the Mockbeggar property. The first is confined to a narrow strip of more or less stable land immediately adjacent to the present beach, which has undoubtedly encroached on the property toward the east since the time it was first utilized by Europeans. The evidence for this occupation consists of tobacco pipe fragments, ceramics and a gunflint that can confidently be dated to the last quarter of the seventeenth century and/or the early years of the eighteenth century and sherds from at least two coarse stoneware vessels from Normandy in France. One of these Normandy vessels was double stamped with marks identifying it as an export vessel such as the ones used to export honey and butter.

Normandy coarse stoneware sherds from beneath the Big Store, detail of the stamps at right

No evidence of buildings, other than twigs, branches and wood chips and small upright posts that may well be from the construction of flakes, was discovered. A peat deposit containing virtually solid wood chips, planks and stave pieces was discovered in several of the test pits along the west side of the site and beneath the Big Store. All of the earliest artifacts, including several butchered seal bones, were found in these wood chip deposits. If there was any habitation or other activity along the east margin of the beach it has either been destroyed by the encroaching barrier beach or was of such low visibility that it could not be detected by archaeological testing. In all likelihood the utilization of the area was seasonal and limited to the making of

fish, and structures there consisted only of more or less temporary flakes. Despite the proximity of these deposits to the Big Store, the evidence of utilization of the area is too old to bear any relation to the construction of the Big Store itself.

Curiously, the 1805-06 registry of the Ryder Room states that its store and flakes are bounded by the "Mockbeggar marsh". The Garland's hold on the Mockbeggar property ended in 1851 when it was sold to James Saint, a prominent businessman in Bonavista who also owned properties elsewhere in the town. Upon his death in 1873, James Saint turned the Mockbeggar property over to his oldest son Jabez, who continued to run the family business. In 1880 the property was turned over to the St. John's firm of Baine, Johnson Company and part of this transaction permitted Saint to stay in the house on the Mockbeggar property until his death (in 1903). Jabez and his wife Ann had a daughter, Thirza, who was apparently born in the Big Store in 1873 while the Saints were building a new house on the property in the same location of the original house. In the 1879 mortgage agreement between Jabez Saint and the Baine, Johnson Company there is another description of property. This agreement mentions a dwelling house and stores built by Jabez Saint and "other houses, stores, buildings and erections thereon…".

Baine, Johnson Company had their own financial troubles in the 1890s, and in 1898 trustees for the company sold the Mockbeggar property to John and Ann Roper, who in turn later transferred the property to their daughter Ethel and her husband, F. Gordon Bradley who move there in 1939. F. Gordon Bradley was, among other things, a politician and, as a colleague of Joseph R. Smallwood, he played an instrumental role in Newfoundland's confederation with Canada in 1949. Between 1939 and 1971, the Bradleys lived in the house, occasionally moving back and forth to Ottawa where F. Gordon was a Member of Parliament and later a Senator in the Canadian Government. Senator Bradley died in 1966 and Mrs. Bradley passed away in 1971. In 1980 their two sons, John and Gordon, transferred the Mockbeggar property to the Province of Newfoundland. Since that time the Mockbeggar property has been operating as a provincial historic site.

There have been at least four reports of human burials being found on or near the Mockbeggar property, the earliest being in the mid-nineteenth century. Three of these reported bodies wearing European style clothing, however, a nineteenth-century reference reported that the graves containing "relics of articles known to have been used by the primitive natives, the Red Indians" were found on or near the property. It is puzzling to think of why there would be any historic period burials in this area as there is no record for a church or consecrated graveyard in this part of Bonavista.

The second period of occupation begins some time late in the eighteenth century or early in the following century. It saw the construction of a dwelling on a small knoll about 50 meters from the beach, the site of the present Bradley house. Evidence for the date of occupation is scarce, but two of the most common eighteenth-century ceramic types are entirely absent from deposits believed to pertain to the first house. Neither Westerwald tankards nor English white salt-glazed stoneware, which was made in a variety of forms, was recovered from these deposits. The earliest ceramic ware found near the house is creamware, introduced by Josiah Wedgewood about 1765 and manufactured until well into the nineteenth century. Pearlware and other refined white earthenwares from the nineteenth century indicate a continuous occupation throughout that century until the structure was demolished in the early 1870s. Although the area sampled was not extensive, and more productive deposits might exist nearby, the lack of refuse suggests that the occupation of the first house was clearly not as intensive as that at many nineteenth-century structures excavated elsewhere in Newfoundland and Labrador.

A similar assemblage from test pits around the Big Store – small amounts of creamware and pearlware, other nineteenth-century ceramics and the absence

of English white salt-glazed and Westerwald ceramics – suggest that after a hiatus that encompassed most of the eighteenth century, the area where the Big Store is located began to be utilized once again about the same time that first house was constructed, ie. late-eighteenth century or early-nineteenth century.

Collection of nineteenth-century refined ceramics found near the Big Store

The best-represented occupation at the Mockbeggar premises is that which began when the Saint family razed the first house and constructed what was to become the Bradley house. The number of artifacts from both the Big Store, where the Saints lived during the construction of their dwelling and from around the dwelling itself, far outnumber objects from the two earlier occupations. A sizable collection of mid to late-nineteenth century and early-twentieth-century refined earthenwares was recovered outside the Big Store and near the Bradley house. While this may be partly a factor of preservation and the availability of ceramics during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, it is hard to escape the conclusion that the occupation of the place following about 1870 was far more intensive than ever before.

In conclusion we might present what, from an archaeological perspective, seems a likely scenario for the history of the Mockbeggar Plantation over the last 300 or so years. Beginning in the late seventeenth century the area along the beach was used for drying – and perhaps, processing – fish. The archaeological record suggests no permanent settlement at that time. During much, if not all, of the eighteenth century there seems to have been a hiatus in the utilization of the area. Although it seems to have been owned by several individuals, there is presently no evidence that anyone attempted to settle there. Indeed, even the evidence of the processing of fish is almost entirely absent.

Sometime late in the eighteenth century or early in the following century the Mockbeggar premises finally became the scene of more or less permanent settlement. The first house was built on a small dry knoll about 50 meters from the beach and at least a seasonal residence was established there. From the correspondences between the artifact assemblages at the first house and the Big Store, it seems that the latter structure was built at about the same time as the house. It is undoubtedly stretching the evidence, but the most significant event to take place during this period seems to have been the purchase of the lease to the place by the Trinity merchant George Garland. It is not inconceivable that Garland, now that he was actually in possession of the premises, developed it by building a house for his overseer and, at the same time, a large store from which to conduct his fishing and other enterprises. The purchase of the lease took place in 1806.

With regards to evidence of other buildings on the property, the archaeological survey did not find any building foundations, however, anecdotal data from Bonavista resident, Mr. Gordon Bradley indicates that there was an outhouse, carriage house, ice house, coal shed and children's play house (the Lodge) on the property. Mr. Bradley, son of Senator and Mrs. F. Gordon Bradley, is the most knowledgeable informant on the Mockbeggar property and is also well versed in Bonavista history. A thorough search for site photographs throughout Bonavista should produce evidence of the other buildings known to be located on the property.

The archaeological testing of the site did not reveal any evidence of human burials on the property, however, it should be realized that in order to find graves in what is essentially a peat bog, an intensive

program of trenching or other form of sub-surface probing would be required. However, it would be worthwhile to know the actual origin and ethnicity of any human burials in this part of the town.

Finally, it might be appropriate to comment on the name "Mockbeggar" and its relation to the premises. No one knows when the name was first applied to the place. It first appears in the early-nineteenth century. It is the name of a village in Hampshire from where some of the original settlers of Bonavista came. It is, however, a somewhat unfortunate name for, among other definitions it is a word "applied esp. to a house presenting the appearance of wealth, but vacant or inhabited by poor or miserly persons" (Webster's New International Dictionary of the English Language G. and A. Merriam Company. Springfield. 1937). It is possible that the Mockbeggar premises fits this uncomplimentary definition better than we would like to think. On a map it appears to be ideally suited as a place from which to prosecute the Bonavista fishery. It is, for instance, one of the small coves closest to the fishing grounds. From the sea or from nearby hills it appears likewise. The beach is relatively flat and lacks the steep cliffs that characterize much of the coastline to the north. From the same perspective the land appears flat and lush, suitable for building, grazing and horticulture. Only when prospective settlers stepped ashore, especially if it were during a not uncommon rainy period, would they have discovered that the promising looking cove was, in fact, a bog into which they sunk up to their ankles and almost completely unsuitable for construction or agriculture. Was the name applied as a seventeenth-century joke?

Summary of 2006 Fieldwork at Nachvak Fiord (Peter Whitridge, Memorial University of Newfoundland)

In July and August Peter Whitridge (Memorial University of Newfoundland) and a crew from Nain (Michael Pijogge, Tim Kalleo), MUN (Don Butler, Amy Fay, John Higdon, Lindsay Swinarton) and UNC-Chapel Hill (Ben Shields) continued with the multiyear program of survey and excavation at Nachvak Fiord, northern Labrador (N59 degrees 04 minutes W63 degrees 53 minutes) begun in 2003. Research activities were confined to IgCx-3, where three mostly precontact Inuit (Thule) dwelling features were investigated. An expanded sample was obtained from the midden of House 2, in the western portion of the site, complementing preliminary results from 2003. Sampling also occurred around the entrance of House 10, in a block of four houses at the eastern margin of the house row. Finally, most of House 4, in the central-rear portion of the site, was excavated, though important work on this feature (excavating beneath flagstones, identifying the house entrance) remains to be completed. Excavation areas were chosen to complement the results of 2003-05 research, and complete a preliminary archaeological overview of this large and important Labrador Inuit winter settlement.

IgCx-3 at the beginning of the 2006 season. House 4 is in the right foreground

The House 2 midden investigation revealed that refuse from this feature did not extend far from the dwelling's entrance; only a light scatter of artifacts and faunal remains were recovered from the expanded midden test. A 5 x 1 metre excavation near the entrance of House 10 produced a small but useful sample of comparative faunal material. Frozen deposits were encountered at a relatively shallow depth in some units, but only a limited

A mostly complete ulu blade from House 4

concentration of dwelling refuse was recovered. A 24 square metre excavation area centred on House 4 and its apparent tunnel occupied the crew for most of the season. Work here revealed an architecturally well-preserved dwelling with a single slab-edged sleeping platform and carefully paved floor. Substantial amounts of well-preserved baleen were recovered close to the house floor, and the platform edge appeared to have been rebuilt on multiple occasions. The southern 2 x 4 m portion of the excavation produced substantial amounts of Thule material culture in its southern reaches but did not expose an architecturally distinct house tunnel. The main living compartment may have been accessed instead through a tunnel shared with the adjacent House 3, or remodelling of the tunnel area for subsequent house construction may have destroyed the original entrance. Finds and photographs from the summer's work were exhibited at an open house in Nain at the end of the season, together with researchers from White Point.

Integrating Traditional Knowledge with Archaeological Knowledge
(Amelia Fay, MA Candidate, Memorial University of Newfoundland)

During the fall of 2006 I spent one month in Nain, Labrador conducting interviews with Inuit elders and working with various local institutions and community members as part of my MA thesis research. My overall research objective is to integrate traditional knowledge with archaeological knowledge and to present the synthesized information in a website that is accessible to the local and archaeological communities.

While in the field I conducted interviews with ten Inuit elders, four of whom spoke only Inuktitut. I hired Katie Winters- a local interpreter- as my research assistant and her skills were invaluable to me. From these interviews we were able to get a sense of the significant places along the Labrador coast north of Nain while recording place names, hunting areas and daily activities relating to subsistence and the household.

While in Nain I received support and assistance from the Nunatsiavut Government and Parks Canada. I spent some time at Jens Haven Memorial School speaking with teachers and students to get their ideas on what to put on the website in order to make it useful to them. OKalaKatiget (OK Society) informed the community of my research through their radio news briefs and was eager to help me out in any way. These interactions with different community institutions were crucial to my project's mandate of trying to make my research more collaborative.

I will be spending the next few months working on my thesis and the creation of the website, which I hope to have up and running by the summer of 2007. If anyone has comments or suggestions about my research project please feel free to email me at amelia_fay@hotmail.com.

Archaeological Assessments in Northern Labrador
(Jenneth Curtis, Parks Canada)

In September 2006, Parks Canada, accompanied by representatives of the Nunatsiavut Government and the Provincial Archaeology Office, Newfoundland and Labrador, conducted archaeological site

assessments in two regions along the northern Labrador coast. These assessments are part of ongoing research to identify potential National Historic Sites in the region. We revisited archaeological sites recorded by previous researchers and encountered several new sites along the way.

Black Island, South Aulatsivik, Labrador

Black Island is located just off the east coast of South Aulatsivik Island, about 35 km north of Nain, Labrador. The first archaeological investigation on Black Island was conducted by J. Garth Taylor in conjunction with his ethnographic research. Taylor identified the historic Inuit winter village of Khernertok and conducted test excavations around the sod houses there. In the 1970's, survey work led by William Fitzhugh, of the Smithsonian Institution, identified several Maritime Archaic and Dorset sites as well as one Groswater site on the island, for a total of ten recorded sites.

Using the information provided on the Provincial Archaeology Office site files, our goal was to relocate as many of the known sites as possible. We succeeded in covering the north half of the island, where the majority of known sites were located. As our goal was to relocate known sites we did not conduct a systematic survey, however we did encounter four new sites along the way.

Maritime Archaic On a raised beach terrace to the south of the present settlement, we found two sites, Black Island 2D (HeCi-20) and Black Island 3A (HeCi-22), that were identified by Fitzhugh as Maritime Archaic. At each site we observed a lithic scatter in an exposed area surrounded by ground cover vegetation. The lithic scatters include Ramah chert and at Black Island 3A, Mugford chert, both from sources further north up the Labrador coast. Fitzhugh reports a radiocarbon date of 4140±110 BP for Black Island 3A (PAO site file), that is consistent with a Maritime Archaic period attribution. We searched without success, for Black Island 2B (HeCi-19), another Maritime Archaic site on the same terrace. It may have been obscured by vegetation. Though no diagnostic artifacts were observed at these sites, their elevation on this raised beach terrace is consistent with a Maritime Archaic date.

Dorset Of the four Dorset sites recorded by Fitzhugh on the north half of the island we were able to locate only two. Black Island Tickle 1 (HeCi-01) is located on the middle beach terrace on the east shore of Black Island. Here we observed a lithic scatter consisting of Ramah chert flakes, but no diagnostic artifacts to confirm the Dorset date. Black Island 1A (HeCi-16) is located in a small cove on the north coast of Black Island. Fitzhugh (PAO site file) excavated 13.5 m2 here and the excavation area is clearly visible at the top of the cove. A tent ring and possible boulder structure are located against the bedrock ridge that forms the west side of the cove.

Black Island 1A Tent Ring (excavated area in lower right corner)

A surface scatter in the middle of the cove, just east of the structures, included a microblade core of smoky quartz, supporting the recorded Dorset affiliation of this site.

Inuit The Inuit winter settlement of Khernertok (HeCi-15) is located on the east side of Black

Island, in the cove south of the present settlement. It consists of two sod houses, a tent ring, and a midden. Khernertok is documented in the Moravian diary and census accounts, Taylor presents a summary of this information providing data on the inhabitants of the "First House" in the winter of 1776-1777:

This household includes the families of Kingminguse, Pualo and Nerkingoak.

Pualo's wife Mikak is the daughter of Nerkingoak.

The families of Pualo and Nerkingoak account for 12 members in a total household of 17 persons.

Khernertok had a total population of 21 persons, thus the second house had four inhabitants.

The two sod houses are clearly visible on the shore of the cove. They are joined by a long entrance tunnel that bisects the eastern house before continuing on to the western house. The house walls are built of sod and boulders, they are approximately 1 m thick and still reach a height of 1 m from the ground surface inside the houses.

On the opposite side of the island we recorded two Inuit tent ring sites, Black Island 6 (HeCi-03) and Black Island 7 (HeCi-52), on the lowest beach terrace along Seal Tickle. Each site consists of a single tent ring, about six metres in diametre. No artifacts were observed in association with the tent rings. We also identified two boulder caches built against bedrock slabs in a cove on the western shore of the island (Black Island 8, HeCi-53).

The most prominent cultural resource on the west side of the island is the Seal House (HeCi-02), a log structure which stands on a point extending across the north end of Seal Tickle. It is approximately four metres by six metres in size and 100 years in age. This structure was used for storing seals and presently contains wooden floaters that were used with the seal nets. Associated features are evident surrounding the structure including: the remains of wooden boats, a boulder cache, artifact clusters, and faunal remains of seals and a small whale.

Okak

Okak is a region of the northern Labrador coast located between 80 and 120 km north of Nain. It consists of a group of islands at the mouth of Okak Bay along with the surrounding bay shoreline. The first systematic study of the Okak archaeological sites was conducted by Steven Cox in the 1970's and archaeological research has continued in the region ever since. This research has documented 128 archaeological sites to date, representing all cultural periods known for the Labrador coast.

The goal of the Parks Canada visit this fall was to become familiar with the archaeology of the region by visiting several key sites, and by considering Okak from the perspective of a cultural landscape. Given the limited amount of time available and the objectives of our visit, we did not attempt to make a systematic survey for sites. Most of the sites are well documented through previous archaeological survey and excavation, therefore our visit focused on observing a number of sites rather than detailed recording. In total, we visited six previously documented sites and encountered four new sites.

Nuasornak Island We began our visit at Nuasornak Island where we located the Early Palaeoeskimo site of Nuasornak 2 (HiCl-01). This site consists of numerous tent rings on a series of raised beach terraces. Along the north and northwest shores of Nuasornak Island we encountered two Inuit sites, Nuasornak 5 (HiCl-02) and Nuasornak 6 (HiCl-03), each consisting of a series of caches, tent rings, and graves.

Coffin Island The row of pinnacles (slabs of rock that have been wedged upright) at Coffin Island 1 (HjCk-07), midway up the bedrock slope on the north shore of the island, provided a spectacular example of the combination of cultural and natural features in the landscape of Okak. A second group of pinnacles, Coffin Island 3 (HjCk-14), is located

on the top of a ridge that forms the northeastern point of the island. A tent ring, Coffin Island 2 (HjCk-13), was identified on the shore, in the valley between the two pinnacle groups.

Coffin Island 3 (HjCk-14) view to north with Kaumajet Mountains in distance (G. Baikie, Parks Canada)

Okak Islands. We visited several sites on the Okak Islands. Nutak 3 (HiCk-03) includes both a Pre-Dorset surface scatter and an historic cemetery. Okak 1 (HjCl-01), the historically documented Inuit winter village of Kivalekh, provided a further sense of the cultural landscape with its numerous sod houses clearly visible. Finally, we ended our visit with an overnight stop at the site of the Okak Mission (HjCl-10) in Okak Harbour.

Our fieldwork to relocate recorded sites at Black Island and visit well known sites at Okak thus resulted in updates for a total of eleven sites, along with the identification of eight, previously undocumented sites.

Re-excavating House 17 at Phillip's Garden, Port Au Choix

(M.A.P. Renouf, Archaeology Unit, Memorial University)

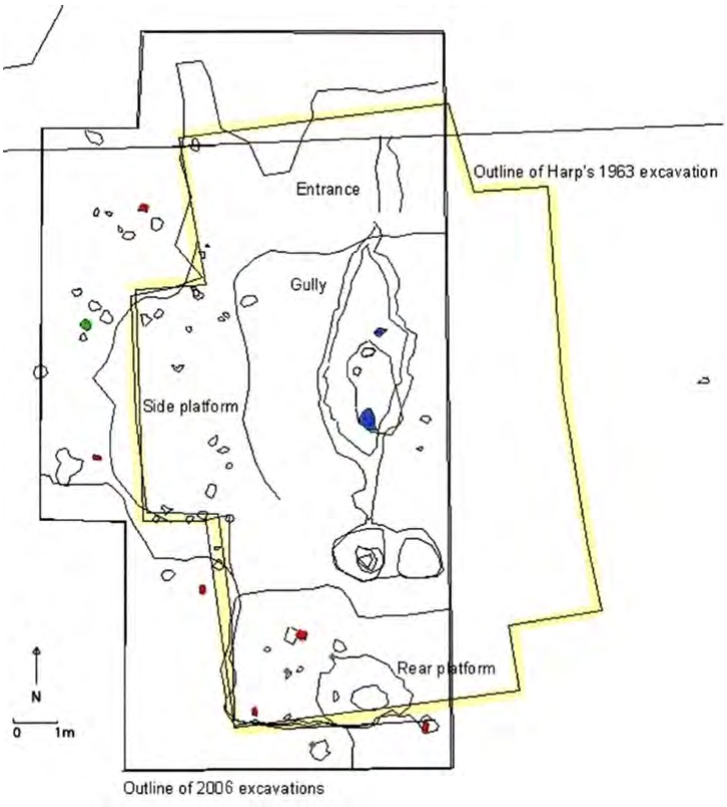
In the 2007 field season the Port au Choix Archaeology Project re-excavated House 17 at the Dorset site of Phillip's Garden in the Port au Choix National Historic Site. We had two main objectives: (1) to re-examine the axial area of the dwelling to see if it contained two central post-holes similar to those found in House 2 and House 18; (2) to excavate a substantial area outside the dwelling perimeter to assess recent reconstructions of large dwelling size based on perimeter identification. House 17 was first excavated by Elmer Harp of Dartmouth College in 1963. A single radiocarbon date is 1465 ± 51 BP (P-734), which places House 17 at the end of the middle phase of site occupation. Although Harp did not publish a description of the dwelling, his sketches and notes describe a trilobite structure with a lenticular shaped central area. We excavated 135 m2 covering the west half of the dwelling, including the central axial area and an area outside the western, southern and northern dwelling perimeter. Highlights from the 2007 excavation are described below.

Axial feature

In his field notes Harp sketched the House 17 axial feature as two central pits and a number of slabs outlined by two curved shallow gullies that converged to the front (north) and to the rear (south) to form a lenticular outline. The rear convergence terminated in two large pits. We re-exposed this area and recorded five slabs in an approximate line, indicating the central cooking area of the axial feature. Two slabs were fat-stained and discoloured from heat and we concluded that they had been part of a soapstone pot stand. The slabs and pits were in a shallow trough that measured 92 cm east-west and 190 cm north-south. There were four pits within this trough, two of which were large (33 x 45 cm; 26 x 37 cm) and deep (25 cm; 30 cm) and which we interpreted as post-holes. These are coloured blue in.

The narrow gully that outlined the axial feature was re-identified and found to measure 20-25 cm wide and a few cm deep. Although Harp depicted the gully forming two curved sides converging to form a lenticular shape, each side was composed of more than one curve and formed a scalloped outline.

There was no gravel or sand in it to suggest a drainage feature, nor was the gully on a decline. We speculated that originally something must have been set in the ground around the axial feature. This would have functioned to demarcate the space and to keep heated items contained inside and small children outside. We hypothesized that whale ribs would fit the curves and tested this using six whale ribs owned by Parks Canada and used in their Visitor Centre interpretive programs. Sizes ranged from 110 to 190 cm from distal to proximal end; the species are unknown. We placed the ribs onto the curved areas, fitting small ribs into small curves and large ribs into large curves. They fitted almost exactly, suggesting that originally whale ribs were used to outline the axial feature.



Map of House 17 showing the extent of Harp's excavation (highlighted in yellow) and the 2007 excavation

Large Post-holes

Three kinds of post-holes were found in and outside the perimeter area of the dwelling: small single, larger paired, and large single. We found six of the large single type and concluded that they represent major structural elements in the dwelling; they are shown in the figure to the left in red. These post-holes were oblong (9-17 cm wide on the narrow axis) and deep (9 to 28 cm). The depth dimension of two was incurvate and the rest were straight up-and-down. Four of the post-holes were spaced 3 m apart and a fifth was 6 m from the next. However, there was a smaller post-hole mid-way between the two which we did not identify as a deep post-hole at the time of excavation but which might be a larger hole that collapsed in the sandy matrix; this is shown in the figure to the left in green. If we are right that this was originally a major post-hole, they were spaced evenly apart at 3 m, outlining the perimeter of the structure. The sixth large single post-hole was an interior post on the inside edge of the well-defined rear platform. A large whale rib fitted nicely into each hole and they could stand up on their own. The larger of the whale ribs (190 and 183 cm) give a headroom of 174 cm at the back of the dwelling above the rear platform.

This was the first time we had excavated well outside a dwelling's perimeter and as a result we found many post-holes that represent not only major structural elements as described above but minor structures as well. These smaller post-holes are not described here and not all are shown in the figure on the left. The major post-holes suitable for whale ribs are similar to those we found after dismantling dwelling Feature 55, which dated to the end of Phillip's Garden occupation. We speculate that if we were to investigate the outside area of other houses we would find similar large and deep post-holes. If so, then whale ribs were a major structural element in Phillip's Garden dwellings.

House shape

With one exception, these large post-holes occurred on the outside perimeter of the dwelling. This was consistent with the raised perimeter surrounding the west half of the dwelling which formed a distinct

rear area (of cobble pavement) and a distinct side area (of large and small cobble rubble). If the unexcavated east half of the dwelling is similar to this, then the dwelling is distinctly trilobite as first noted by Harp. The front area of the dwelling is outlined by a 1.5 wide berm of built-up sand. Remains of a 1.6 m long entrance is centrally located.

House size

Assuming that the east half of the dwelling mirrors the re-excavated west half and that the axial feature marks the centre of the dwelling, the footprint of the dwelling measures 11.6 m east-west and 11.9 m north-south. Presuming that the front sand berm is not interior space, and taking into consideration the trilobite shape, the interior area of the dwelling is 88 m^2.

Three whale ribs standing in narrow deep post-holes that frame the rear and side of House 17. Post-hole feature 170 is in the foreground. View is to the northwest.

This is the fourth of Harp's previously excavated dwellings that we have re-excavated or re-tested since 2004. These are Houses 2, 10, 17 and 18, all dating to the middle phase of site occupation. These dwellings are large, have well-defined perimeter platforms and have two central post-holes in the axial feature. House 17 is the first dwelling where we found evidence of a gully surrounding the axial feature. It is the only dwelling where we have excavated outside the perimeter and as a result we found a series of well-defined post-holes, the largest of which likely accommodated whale ribs which formed the basic framework of the dwelling. We speculate that this is a common architecture for Phillip's Garden.

Report of Activities 2006 – Gerald Penney Associates Limited
(Gerald Penney)

Generally, 2006 was an active year (10 projects) for GPA, archaeological and heritage consultants, and one in which several projects had elements which we hope will be of interest to the archaeological community.

Long Harbour, Placentia Bay

Voisey's Bay Nickel Company Limited is proposing to locate a nickel processing plant, with associated process water supply, access roads, pipelines, conveyors and residue ponds (and/or dry ground waste storage), to the south of the community of Long Harbour-Mount Arlington Heights, Placentia Bay. The site is an extensive one, in which the PAO identified eight areas of interest, which involved some intensive fieldwork in a virtually trackless country. Fieldwork began in May and, on completion of that month's progress report, the client requested that the survey be extended to the shoreline of Long Harbour generally, which necessitated a permit extension and further fieldwork in June.

No historic resources were located during survey and testing of the footprint area of the proposed development, or the proximate shoreline. Outside the study area, at Crawleys Island, a single Recent Indian projectile point and an early European ceramic sherd (possibly of French origin) were recovered. Given the general dearth of pre-contact material previously recovered from Placentia Bay, it is hoped that the Crawleys Island site (CiAl-1) will spur some further interest. It is suggested that any further survey in this area give some attention as

well to certain areas proximate to Long Harbour: the Iona Islands, Corbin Head, and Trinny Cove.

Recent Indian point from Crawleys Island

Belleoram Barrisway

Pennecon Limited of St. John's is seeking to develop a granite quarry at a steep knob to the north of the town of Belleoram, Fortune Bay. Documentary and oral history research determined that, just to the north of a proposed loading wharf site, at the mouth of Barasway Brook, was an abandoned community, known as Belleoram Barrisway.

There were no historic resources located in testing the study area. At the client's request, survey work was extended from the quarry site to the shoreline at Belleoram Barasway. June fieldwork revealed indications of historic occupation (documented from c.1870-1930).

St. John's Harbour Interceptor Sewer

A major ongoing activity of GPA since 2004 has been background research and excavation monitoring of the St. John's Harbour Inceptor Sewer (HIS) project. Active excavation began at what was originally conceived of a Phase II of the project, along Harbour Drive. Given that the majority of Phase II excavation occurred in "made ground" from the late 1950s/early 1960s only a very few, redeposited, artifacts were recovered in three of four work zones. Work zone 1C (Ayres Cove) was of greater interest in that excavations came every close to the south side of Water Street, and the presumed natural shoreline of St. John's harbour, in the vicinity of Atlantic Place. One feature of interest was a functioning 19th century stone sewer.

Closest to Water Street at Ayres Cove the excavations encountered a disturbed and contaminated cultural matrix, with an artifact assemblage at a depth below surface consistent with our 2005 testing at Water Street west. It is anticipated that these additions to baseline data, and processes developed during 2006, will add to the interest/ interpretation as the HIS excavations continue along Water Street, east and west of the downtown core (Phases I and III).

Interior view of 19th century stone sewer at Ayres Cove (Brandon Miller photo)

Labrador uranium exploration, interior of Postville

GPA continued to provide consulting and archaeological surveying services to mineral exploration

companies active in the Central Mineral Belt of Labrador, including Aurora Energy Inc. and Crosshair Exploration and Mining Corporation. Survey activities under PAO permits were carried out in June. No historic resources were found to be at risk in the immediate proximity of proposed drill locations. Neither the location of known archaeological sites in central Labrador nor ethnographic background research is suggestive of particular risk potential at these inland locations. In several test areas, evidence of previous mineral exploration (1958-1982) was observed. The only feature encountered unrelated to mineral exploration was a small cairn of indeterminate age, observed when the helicopter "overshot" a drill location and landed on a hill overlooking Kaipokok Bay.

GPA conducted further surveys of proposed drill sites for these two clients in September and October, under the new regime of reporting archaeological activities to the Torngâsok Cultural Centre, Nunatsiavut Government. Archaeological permitting provisions of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement (2004:Part 15.6, pp. 232-236), adhere to the Historic Resources Impact Assessment Guidelines as developed by the previous permitting authority (Province of Newfoundland and Labrador), as mandated by the Historic Resources Act (1998). Reports are copied to the PAO.

A major policy change affecting the archaeological community is that proponents will henceforth be required to conduct community consultations (anticipated by s15.6.13(d)(f) and (g)) and post-fieldwork debriefings at the nearest Inuit community to the fieldwork activities.

From our experience is assisting mineral exploration clients with regulatory compliance, we suggest that a key emergent issue for the consulting side of the archaeological community is the provision of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement regarding placenames in Labrador Inuit Lands and Inuit communities. Given the necessity of employing "field names" in exploration geology, we are recommending to clients that a consultation regarding local nomenclature be initiated. In key mineral exploration areas, such consultation could conceivably be coordinated with multiple mineral exploration companies and/or archaeologists and consultants.

Further fieldwork in Labrador conducted under permit from the Nuniasivut Government was a revisit to the Iron Strand, in northern Labrador, in company with a Newfoundland Land Surveyor, to definitively record the locations of known archaeological sites and features in this area, for Freeport Resources Ltd.

47 Duckworth Street

BAE-Newplan proposes to develop the former Standard Manufacturing Company property (opposite the Fairmont-Newfoundland Hotel) as condominiums. An area in the northwest corner of the site (47 Duckworth Street) was identified by the PAO as an area of interest, proximate to Fort William (1698-1871). Peter Pope and Steve Mills had previously posited early components nearby as originating with the New Fort, a civilian refuge/fortification attached to Fort William dating from 1706-1709. An HRIA conducted by John Wicks in July 2006 uncovered early materials from potentially secure strata.

Excavations at 47 Duckworth, looking south towards the harbour

From 25 July to 21 August 2006, GPA conducted archaeological excavations the "New Fort" site (CjAe-15), 47 Duckworth Street, as part of a Stage 3 Impact Assessment. Approximately 700 artifacts were recovered from a secure occupation context dating from the late seventeenth to the early eighteenth century. It is believed the site is associated with the first incarnation of Fort William (1698-1709), and possibly more specifically to that fort's attached outer defense, the "New Fort." However, it should be noted that the artifact assemblage is utilitarian. Neither features nor artifacts definitively of military origin were identified. Including the mixed layers, some 1500 artifacts were recovered.

Flatwater Pond, Baie Verte Peninsula

This survey of a proposed cabin development at Flatwater Pond, proximate to the provincial park of that name, was undertaken for the Provinces' Lands Branch in July. No historic resources were found to be at risk. The nature of the pond's shoreline and the general aspect of the country thereabout, particularly the absence of significant soil cover, was contra-indicative of historic resource risk potential at this location.

Snooks Arm

Crew Gold Corporation is proposing to erect a wharf facility on the north shore of Snooks Arm for the purposes of off-loading gold-bearing ore from a mine in Greenland for processing at the nearby Nuggett Pond mill. The proponent requested a shoreline survey from the present-day community to the cove proposed for the wharf, known locally as "The Factory," as well as an access road from Route 416 to the proposed wharf.

The unique place of Snooks Arm in the history of Newfoundland and Labrador lies in its selection as the site of the first modern shore whaling station in North America. The Cabot Steam Whaling Company operated a whaling station and plant from here 1898 to 1916. In the course of fieldwork and oral history in August and September it was that a "guano" (meal/fertilizer) factory also operated at the present site of the village of Snooks Arm.

There are three large surviving metal artifacts associated with the century-old whaling operation: a boiler and dryer at surface in Snooks Arm, and an anchor buried at The Factory. The is also a large tryworks/boiler platform at The Factory, on a scree slope above the proposed wharf development. Local sentiment is that the anchor should be removed from the wharf site and employed with other surviving artifacts as the focal point of historical interpretation at Snooks Arm. Accordingly, it was recommended that mitigation of the proposed development should include an interpretive site at Snooks Arm, monitoring of the wharf project, artifact recovery at The Factory, and further investigation of the tryworks.

L'Anse Au Diable Fur Farm

This project involved surface survey and extensive test pitting of a 20 hectare proposed mink farm. Some development in the form of sod/overburden removal had previously taken place, and a stop work order was placed on the development by the PAO.

One new archaeological site of possible Maritime Archaic origin (L'Anse au Diable-5, EjBe-75) was encountered. Based on the small number of artifacts found, the site's elevation above the modern coastline may be the most informative aspect of this fieldwork. An additional spot find was recovered, a gunflint, but this single artifact was retrieved from the disturbed portion of the project area.

Archaeology of the Petit Nord
(Peter Pope, Memorial University of Newfoundland)

Dr. Peter Pope and a crew from Memorial University in St John's spent the summer, based in Conche, on the east coast of Newfoundland's Great Northern Peninsula, working on an early modern Breton fishing station at Dos de Cheval, Crouse

(EfAx-09). From about 1504 until 1904, fishermen from the French provinces of Brittany and Normandy set up shore stations every summer in this area, which they called "the Petit Nord". During a regional survey in 2004, we identified Dos de Cheval as having high potential. It is one of a cluster of fishing rooms scattered around Cape Rouge Harbour. Breton crews are documented here as early as 1541, when Jacques Cartier pressed them for provisions. Our site, traditionally know as "Champ Paya" or "Chien Pagan", appears in official French surveys from 1680 on. We concentrated on three areas: A, where the standing remains of several 19th-century structures are still evident; C, where we landed our boat every day, just as fishermen landed theirs day in day out, centuries ago; and D, which is overlooked by a large oak cross, for centuries a typical feature of Breton fishing rooms.

The waterfront Area C, where our fishing crews would have had their stages turned out to be the most productive. Excavation indicates that the whole second beach terrace here is anthropogenic -- alternating pebble and stone fills laid down since Europeans first used this fishing room, probably sometime about 1510. We found iron nails on the original cobble beach, lying about 75 cm below the present sod. In working our way down to the beach we also recovered an axe, numerous fish hooks, brass buttons, lead jiggers and casting waste, a surprising number of musket balls and gun flints, Normandy stoneware (both Domfront and Cotentin), as well as 18th-century brown faience and early modern coarse earthenwares with a Breton look, including pots which closely resemble type examples from the early modern kilns at Pabu-Guingamp, not far from the Breton fishing port of St Brieuc.

We also encountered the remains of one of the fishermen we were looking for, although we did not expect to find one, in person, on the beach. This was a robust, adult male, perhaps middle-aged, judging by his worn teeth. He is about 175 cm tall (say 5' 10"). There are some indications of violence, particularly a 5 cm diameter circular hole in his forehead. He was interred in a shallow grave cut into the original beach, on his back, his hands clasped in front of him, facing almost exactly magnetic east. A large spike lay across his face and several non-human long bones, perhaps from a caribou, lay under and about his cranium. There was no sign of clothing. Artifacts in associated strata suggest that the burial dates before 1700. With the advice of Archaeology Unit conservator Cathy Mathias, our lab assistant Sarah Newstead got him back to the lab in St John's in the same number of pieces in which we found him.

Wet weather and the excavation of human remains cut into the time we had for survey work. We did manage to get to the Grey Islands. At Frenchman's Cove (EeAv-03), we identified a large early modern fishing station, consisting of large subrectangular cobble platforms, where we collected the base of a large coarse earthenware jar. We also recorded Grey Islands Harbour Cemetery (EeAv-02), which was in use by Anglo-Irish livyers c. 1850-1950. We revisited Northeast Crouse (EfAx-11), where we located and measured a group of nine memorial oak crosses, as well as collecting more Normandy stoneware in surface survey. A day trip just north of Cape Rouge enabled us to locate the early modern French fishing station at Pilier. Several features, including a possible bread oven and a possible ramp are still visible but we did not recover a single artifact.

This was the first year of a planned three-year investigation: An archaeology of the Petit Nord: the maritime cultural landscape of the French, seasonal, shore-based, salt-cod fishery in northern Newfoundland, 1510-1904.

Sandwich Bay Archaeological Reconnaissance
(Lisa Rankin, Memorial University of Newfoundland)

During the summer of 2006 I undertook two small archaeological projects in coastal Labrador. The first project was part of the Porcupine Strand Archaeology Project and took place in the Cartwright area over 10 days in mid-July. With the assistance of Peter Ramsden of MUN and Lewis Davis of Cartwright we surveyed several new locations in Sandwich Bay and the adjacent area for traces of early historical Inuit, Métis and European settlements. While I have been working in the Porcupine Strand area for the past five years, locating and excavating archaeological sites ranging from the Maritime Archaic of seven thousand years ago up to the historic period, for the past three years, the focus has been the excavation of a sixteenth to seventeenth century Inuit settlement at Snack Cove on Huntingdon Island, where we have investigated three sod-walled winter houses, and have recovered artifacts of both Inuit and European manufacture.

The goal in the 2006 reconnaissance was to locate other sites similar to Snack Cove to expand the knowledge of the early historic Inuit and later Métis occupation of the Sandwich Bay area and establish a research agenda for the 2007 season. I visited a number of locations around Sandwich Bay, and on the nearby coasts and islands and located several sites of early historic Inuit houses, one on an island in Indian Harbour on the west side of Huntingdon Island which I plan to excavate over the next few years. In conjunction with the Labrador Métis Nation and several other scholars of Labrador Inuit and Métis culture, I have applied for a research grant from the Federal Government to support the excavations, and employ local youth to work on the project.

I also returned to several of the sites already located by the Porcupine Strand Archaeology Project in order to tie up some loose ends with photography and maps.

White Point Reconnaissance

In addition to my work in the Cartwright area, I also conducted a study of earlier cultures in Northern Labrador. In 2006, after the Sandwich Bay survey, I moved north to White Point near Saglek Bay to several weeks investigating Maritime Archaic and Paleo-eskimo settlements. My crew of three Memorial university archaeology students - Christopher Brake, Corey Hutchings, Meghan Negrijn, and three Inuit students from Nain - Edward Barbour, Richard Maggo, and Gabriel Suratak had already made the journey to White Point ahead of me and were assisting Chris Wolff on his PhD research on two Maritime Archaic sites on White Point. When I arrived we split the crew so that a part of the crew would come and survey with me each day, and everybody had a chance to both survey and excavate. During the White Point survey we returned to many of the sites originally recorded by Gerald Penney and Callum Thomson in 1986 – expanding on their work through mapping and more intensive investigation of some sites. We also recorded several new sites including Maritime Archaic longhouses and Inuit camps.

Richard Maggo surface collecting at White Point, Labrador (Rankin)

Geoarchaeological Investigations at Ashuanipi Lake, Labrador

(Richard L. Josephs University of North Dakota, Scott W. Neilsen, and Jamie Brake, Memorial University of Newfoundland)

During August 2006, Dr. Richard L. Josephs, geoarchaeologist from the University of North Dakota, collected micromorphological samples at two Innu sites along Ashuanipi Lake, Labrador: the Ferguson Bay 1 site (FfDn-01) excavated by Mr. Jaime Brake (M.A. student, Memorial University of Newfoundland) and the Ashuanipi Lake 8 site (FeDn-01) excavated by Mr. Scott W. Neilsen (Ph.D. student, Memorial University of Newfoundland). Micromorphology is a geoarchaeological technique that investigates undisturbed soil or sediment in thin section – a three-dimensional translucent slice of the sedimentary matrix. The thin sections are examined with a petrographic (polarized-light) microscope through which various distinguishing optical properties produced by the constituent mineral grains and organic matter are analyzed. Micromorphology is used to answer questions concerning the composition, microstructure, provenance, and depositional history of the soil or sediment, to infer paleoclimate conditions under which the sediments were deposited or the soils formed, and to distinguish between natural (geogenic, pedogenic) and cultural (anthropogenic) processes that have affected the habitation site.

A total of 20 samples (sample boxes) were collected from the walls (profiles) of archaeological test units at the two sites: seven from the Ferguson Bay 1 site (FfDn-01) and thirteen from the Ashuanipi Lake 8 site (FeDn-01). Each sample box produces two 75 x 50 mm thin sections. At the time of this writing, approximately half of the samples have been prepared.

One of the principal goals of this investigation will be the microscopic examination of clay lamellae observed in the soil profiles at each site, specifically their potential use as a pedogenic dating tool. Clay lamellae form as percolating water, carrying clay particles in suspension, deposits the clay in thin, roughly horizontal, bands. Soil composition and degree of lamellae development can be used as a quasi-numeric age indicator for the soil. Micromorphology will also provide clues to the depositional development of a linear, elevated feature that forms the lakeside boundary at each of these sites. These low ridges paralleling the lake shore appear to be "lacustrine levees," likely formed by regional flooding associated with the complex interplay of glacial meltwater entering the lake and isostatic rebound of the land surface.

Richard Josephs collecting a micromorphology sample at the Ferguson Bay 1 site

Archaeology Beyond the Horizon, Season II

(Scott Neilsen, Memorial University of Newfoundland)

In summer 2005 my crew and I conducted a feasibility survey on Ashuanipi Lake in western Labrador. As a result of this work the region was judged to be suitable for further research. This past summer, July & August 2006, my crew and I retuned to Ashuanipi Lake and picked up where we left off last season. Leaving from Ferguson Bay we began by proceeding to the bottom of the Kapitagas Channel and hiking the portage trail to Rivière aux Esquimaux. We then worked our way north,

back down the channel and the lake, eventually meeting with the termination of last years survey at the northern tip of Grande Ile. Numerous ethnographic sites were identified along the channel; and pre- and post-contact archeologically sites, and ethnographic sites, were again identified along the lakeshore.

Portage trail along top of esker between Kapitagas Channel and Rivière aux Esquimaux (Neilsen)

This year also marked the beginning of excavation on the lake. My crew and I began excavation at FeDn-01, one of the sites identified last season, while Master's student Jamie Brake undertook a complementary excavation at archaeology site FfDn-01. Both were found to be multi-component sites, possibly dating back as far as 1500 years. Artifacts, charcoal samples and soil samples were collected from both sites and when analyzed will help situate these sites and the region within the culture-history and the natural environment of Newfoundland and Labrador during this time frame.

All in all, it was a very successful field season. Stage II of the Project was initiated: detailed investigation began at archaeology site FeDn-01 and the identification of sites continued. This excavation will continue in 2007, and other excavations may be initiated at selected sites from the 2006 field season. We also hope to begin incorporating primary Innu knowledge (interviews and land use documents) in 2007 and visit Oreway, south of Ferguson Bay, on Ashuanipi Lake.

Provincial Archaeology Office 2006 Fieldwork (Blair Temple, Stephen Hull & Ken Reynolds, Provincial Archaeology Office, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador)

Fort Townshend

In late November 2006, Blair Temple of the Provincial Archaeology Office monitored the excavation of a large trench in front of The Rooms cultural complex, located at Fort Townshend (CjAe-23), St. John's. The large trench, measuring approximately 9 metres in length by 2.5 metres in width and approximately 1.5 metres deep, is located approximately at the rear of the old St. John's Regional Fire Station, and will contain the concrete base on which a large sign is proposed to be built. The specific area was of immediate archaeological concern because it lies close to the known location of one of the sally-ports, as well as near the presumed locations of infantry barracks, the Governor's house and the regimental magazine. Mechanical excavation and monitoring of the trench took just one day, and no cultural material related to either the military or later occupations was recovered. In fact the only things found were the portion of a concrete foundation and partial concrete floor, both likely associated with the now dismantled fire hall. Also uncovered were inactive storm sewer pipes, also presumably associated with the fire hall.

Portion of a concrete foundation and partial concrete floor uncovered at 'The Rooms' (Temple)

Sheshatshiu

In December 2006, Blair Temple went to Sheshatshiu, Labrador, to monitor the excavation of a drainage ditch in the community. This ditch was designed to deal with the excess water that would result from the impending spring thaw, allowing the run-off water to run into Lake Melville and not flood local residents' basements. The elevations of the project area suggested that Recent Indian sites and possibly Intermediate Indian sites could be present, based on evidence from previous archaeological research in the community. With the assistance of Guy Fairplay, an employee of Innu Environmental in Sheshatshiu, the forest growth first had to be cut down and removed. However, logistic problems quickly developed and the mechanical excavation became delayed. Subsurface test-pitting was eventually employed, despite the fact that the entire project area was covered in silt which had accumulated there over the decades from past run-offs, and that this silt had frozen to the near consistency of concrete. Regardless, test pitting was successfully conducted through out the project area, producing no pre-contact or historic cultural material in any pit. The backhoe did eventually arrive, and the mechanical excavation was monitored, again producing no cultural material.

Attempts were also made during the Sheshatshiu trip to visit known archaeological sites in the community and the nearby area. However, given the snow cover at that time, none of the sites were visible and their locations difficult to determine.

Back Harbour, Twillingate

In November 2006, Ken Reynolds and Blair Temple of the Provincial Archaeology Office (PAO), and Dr. Pricilla Renouf and Patricia Wells of the Archaeology Unit, Memorial University of Newfoundland (MUN), traveled to Back Harbour, Twillingate, to locate and visit archaeological sites excavated by Don MacLeod of the National Museum of Man between 1966 and 1969 (DjAq-1 to 9). During those years, MacLeod identified and either excavated or surveyed nine sites, including the Maritime Archaic cemetery known as the Curtis Site (DjAq-1), a large unfortunately disturbed Dorset site (The Anstey site, DjAq-2), another possible Maritime Archaic cemetery (DjAq-7), as well a number of sites that show signs of extensive woodworking activities (DjAq-5 for example).

During the trip, many of the sites excavated by MacLeod during the late sixties were located using information obtained by the PAO (with the assistance of the Provincial Museum) from the Canadian Museum of Civilization, and from Don Macleod himself. The sites whose locations could be identified were visited, their exact locations finally recorded, and state of the site assessed, and when present, diagnostic cultural material collected. Jim and Rob Anstey were extremely valuable in helping us relocate these sites – Jim actually worked with MacLeod during the late sixties and could remember the location of many of the excavations. Special thanks to the Ansteys for their hospitality. Earlier in 2006, Ken Reynolds made two trips to Back Harbour on site evaluations issues, and identified several new sites in the process.

Based on the quantity of material found by local residents over the past several years in areas not previously recorded, the area shows tremendous promise for undiscovered Maritime Archaic and Dorset sites. Groswater and Beothuk material has tentatively been identified in some of the collections as well. In the weeks following the trip to Back Harbour, the PAO obtained further field notes, maps, catalogue notes, etc., pertaining to the Back Harbour sites, and the final mystery sites were identified and locations determined.

The trip was also planned so that consultation could take place with the general public and the Town Council of Twillingate, to inform them that the PAO and MUN is interested in seeing archaeology take place in the Back Harbour area again, and to get local views and opinions on the matter. This public consultation and the meeting with the town council was positive, showing that people in the

area are very keen on seeing archaeology take place there again.

Work continues on the Back Harbour sites and their collections in preparation for anticipated field work by MUN during the summer of 2007, pending approval of funding.

South Brook Park

In early May Stephen Hull and Ken Reynolds traveled to the west coast of the island to conduct a salvage excavation of the South Brook Park site (DgBj-03). This site was originally found by David Reader in 1993 while he was surveying portions of the Bay of Islands and interior areas. At the time of its discovery Reader recorded the site as being badly disturbed with both a road and a water pump house built in the middle of the site along with other forms of disturbance. Despite this Reader returned to the site over three years (1993, 1994 & 1998) and was able to recover several early looking quartzite projectile points, a lot of quartzite and a small amount of chert detritus and a fully channeled gouge, all of which are indicative of an early Maritime Archaic Indian presence. In 1998 Reader recovered charcoal which was AMS dated to 5140±50 BP (Beta 122766) which briefly made South Brook Park the earliest known archaeological site on the island.

In 2005 the park was sold to private developers and Aardvark Archaeology conducted an historic resources impact assessment of the site. Knowing the disturbed condition of the site, the PAO believed what remained could and should be quickly salvaged. In particular we were interested in finding more early artifacts or charcoal. We excavated a total of four m^2 and seven test pits.

Initially we were encouraged with regard to recovering charcoal. One of the first units we opened had a large charcoal stain running through its centre. The charcoal staining appeared to be in primary context with a large chunk of milk white quartzite just a few centimeters away.

Upon completion of the four units and test pits we concluded that the area that had not been previously excavated. In the end we did not recover any further artifacts and unfortunately the charcoal returned a recent date.

Fully channeled gouge recovered by Reader (Hull)

Gros Morne, North Arm, St. Andrews & Margaree

In July Stephen Hull again traveled to the west coast. This trip involved several small projects to check on possible sites but it also included the delivering a lecture on the history of archaeology in Gros Morne National Park at the Woody Point Interpretation Centre.

Also on the agenda was a trip up North Arm in the Bay of Islands. The mouth of the brook at the head of the arm revealed some unusual historic resources. At least four separate piles of rock were found stretching across the brook mouth. Two were on land on either side of the brook; the other two were in the water. Cut logs were visible in and amongst three of the four rock piles. It is suspected the piles were part of some sort of bridge that crossed the brook; however they are not in a straight line. From the cursory look we had that day it did not appear anyone had ever lived in the area. Which begs the

question, why would someone go through the trouble of making a bridge to cross a brook when no one lives nearby?

Rock piles (white arrows) at the mouth of the brook in North Arm (Hull)

The next task on the list during the west coast trip was to meet an individual from St. Andrews (Codroy Valley) who believed he had found a Norse site. The gentleman took me to an area overlooking the mouth of the Little Codroy River and pointed out a large earthen mound near the edge of a hill. The mound was a little more than a metre wide, at least a metre high and about 10 metres long. It appeared to be a natural mound. Four test pits confirmed this.

The last task was to check on the location of an abandoned graveyard located in the backyard of a newly constructed house in Margaree. The PAO was contacted in the spring by a surveyor who had surveyed the land for the new house. He was concerned that the house construction would impact the graves. We contacted the land owner and he told us he was aware of the graves and had no intention of disturbing them.

The graveyard was very small with just two apparent burials, both with headstones dating from the late 19th – to early 20th century.

Tors Cove

In July, a local individual reporting human remains eroding from an abandoned cemetery contacted the PAO.

Stephen Hull and Lena Onalik drove to Tors Cove to check on it. On arriving at the town, we drove to the town's vacant fish plant and wharf where there were several local people. When we mentioned what we were looking for they immediately pointed us toward the abandoned cemetery where the remains were eroding. Our initial view of the cemetery quickly revealed the location of the remains.

The cemetery is located to the south of the fish plant atop a ~ 30-foot hill. It measures ~35m north south by ~10 m east west.

Over the next few hours, approximately 18-23 burials were noted which were made apparent by small natural unmarked rocks. The suspected number of burials varies so widely because it is difficult to tell whether the stones were marking the head, foot or both of a grave. In addition, five burials have formal headstones, several of which include legible text, the earliest of which dates to 1812. The legible text include the names 'Elizabeth Driscoll Blackler, died 1812'; 'Samuel Blackler'; 'Frances Lonergan, died 1826'; 'Edward Forteau, died 1833'; and his wife 'Judy, died 1871'.

At the north end of the cemetery, we found the remains of a large wooden cross that would have marked the location of the cemetery. The cross was large enough to have been seen from anywhere in the community. All that remains of the cross is the vertical portion and a large slab of concrete into which the cross was set.

After recording the cemetery and its burials, we returned to the beach to look for eroding human remains. Approximately half way up the hill, we saw what appeared to be two long bones. We collected a tibia and fibula. The PAO has contacted

the local Catholic Church about the cemetery and having the remains reburied.

L'Anse au Diable

In the summer, the PAO had visited the site of a proposed fur farm to be constructed at L'Anse au Diable to assess the damage caused by land clearing.

Upon arriving in L'Anse au Diable the damage done by a large front-end loader was evident. The topsoil of the area, nearly 20,000m^2, had been scraped off and pushed into several large piles all in excess of two metres tall. No historic resources were found during a search of the disturbed area. Later in the fall an historic resource assessment was conducted by an archaeological consultant during which a pre-contact site was found.

While in the L'Anse au Diable area a search was conducted for several older archaeological sites that had not been revisited in several years. There was an attempt to find the Arrowhead Mine site (EjBe-16) but this was unsuccessful. It is evident that the given location on record at the PAO for this site is incorrect. There was also a search for the Juniper site (EjBe-15) which was successful.

Damage done by front-end loader in L'Anse au Diable (Hull)

Black Bank Beach

During the summer, the PAO learned of a shipwreck that had washed ashore on the beach in Black Bank Park. Locals in the area believed the wreck was possibly from one of two Basque ships that are recorded to have wrecked in the area early in the 16th century. After receiving further information about the wreck, including mapping and recording provided by Stuart Barnable and Mark Penney, wood analysis of portions of the wreck and consultation with the Underwater Archaeology Service, Parks Canada regarding construction of the ship, it was determined that the vessel was probably that of a 19th century or early 20th century origin.

In the fall, the PAO decided that the best course of action to take in order to protect and preserve the wreckage was to bury it on the beach in close proximity to where it was found. The re-burial was carried out in November and was monitored by the PAO.

Burying the Black Bank shipwreck.

Minaskuat & Jacques Whitford Environment Limited Archaeology for 2006
(Fred Schwarz and Roy Skanes)

Minaskuat Archaeologists Fred Schwarz and Roy Skanes carried out a number of Historic Resources Impact Assessments in Labrador in 2006, including two HRIAs on sections of the Trans-Labrador Highway Phase III (Happy Valley-Goose Bay to Cartwright Junction) for the Department of Transportation and Works, and an HRIA related to IOC's proposed tailings confinement area at Wabush Lake. No findings of significant historic resources were identified during either of these studies.

Large-scale projects in Labrador included Archaeological Assessments for LabMag GP Inc. of a proposed mine site in the Schefferville area, the associated slurry pipeline corridor leading south to Emeril, and a transmission line corridor extending east to Churchill Falls. The LabMag Assessment led to the recording of thirteen new precontact sites on Menihek Lake and the Ashuanipi, along with a variety of ethnographic and contemporary sites throughout the Study Area.

In addition, historic resources impact assessment work on the Churchill River for Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro resumed in 2006. An assessment of proposed transmission line corridors between Gull Island and the Strait of Belle Isle, and between Muskrat Falls and Gull Island, resulted in the recording of numerous ethnographic and contemporary sites. HRIA of the proposed Muskrat Falls Reservoir component of the Lower Churchill Hydroelectric Generation Project led to the discovery of seven new precontact sites and one historic site (almost certainly 19th century) between Gull Rapids and Muskrat Falls.

On the Island, Archaeologist Roy Skanes of Jacques Whitford Environment completed an assessment of the site selected for development of a natural gas tank farm at Grassy Point, Placentia Bay. Other than a number of areas used as vegetable gardens in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, no other sites were recorded within the Study Area.

Roy Skanes also completed two other Stage 1 Assessments on the Island in 2006 - one at Norris Point for a proposed housing development and one at Come By Chance Point, Placentia Bay, for a proposed oil refinery. With the exception of two vegetable gardens of possibly 19th century origin recorded in relation to the oil refinery project, neither of which will be impacted by development, no materials of historic resources significance were identified.

Other research completed in 2006 includes excavations at Trinity for a proposed cooperage reconstruction project. Trinity Historical Society is planning to construct a replica of a cooperage that extant historic sources indicate functioned as an essential component of the Lester, Garland and Ryan mercantile enterprises for approximately 120 years - that is, from circa 1800 to the early 20th century. It is proposed that the reconstruction be situated in a meadow to the north of the Ryan's Shop and, when completed, it will be operated by the Society as a living history exhibit.

Following a review of preliminary project details by the provincial Department of Tourism, Culture and Recreation (upon whose land the building will be constructed), a number of conditions were put in place. Key among these was that the design of the new structure should be historically accurate and in keeping with the time period as regards its overall appearance, dimensions and the types of building materials and construction technology used. As well, given that an early painting of the Lester Premises suggested that a smaller cooperage may have been erected in the meadow sometime in the 1760s, and that remains thought to be associated with the larger 19th century building were identified in the 1990s and registered as archaeological site DcAi-31, the Provincial Archaeology Office required that a Stage 1 Assessment of the property be carried out prior to commencement of any ground disturbing activities.

In the fall of 2006, the fieldwork component of the Stage 1 Assessment was conducted at Trinity for the proposed cooperage project. The primary objectives of the research were to: test two locations in the meadow - Option A and Option B - to determine which would be the most feasible location for construction; and gather - through targeted excavations of DcAi-31 - information regarding construction and operation of the 19th century cooperage to help ensure that the design and interpretive strategy for the proposed building are consistent with the requirements put in place by government.

The results of research from the north end of the site indicate that the hearth area of the 19th century

cooperage where barrel fabrication would have taken place was in a relatively good state of preservation, was larger than expected measuring approximately 5 m x 3 m, had a stone foundation and, as anticipated, was paved with brick. Excavations to the south of the hearth toward the Ryan's Shop revealed that, while the entire building was likely supported on a rough-made stone foundation, large segments of it were missing. Nevertheless, it was established that the overall dimensions of the cooperage were in the order of 13 m x 7.5 m.

Also recorded at the north end of the site, extending beneath the stone foundation of the 19th century hearth, was what appears to be other building remains, consisting of stone and brickwork. Based on the limited excavation and recording completed at that location, it is difficult to provide a conclusive interpretation at this point. Nevertheless, a tentative suggestion is possible.

DcAi-31 Showing 19th Century Cooperage Remains and Construction Options A and B

As discussed above, it appears that a cooperage (or some type of structure) was in place at this general location on the Lester Premises by the 1760s. An original oil painting from that period suggests that the building was relatively small, had a chimney at one end (and therefore an interior hearth), and was oriented perpendicular to the larger, more recent structure. Based on the limited data compiled to date, it is possible that the remains unearthed in 2006 extending beneath the 19th century hearth are associated with this earlier, mid-18th century cooperage. Further field research is required to confirm this possibility and to acquire additional information related to its overall nature and extent.

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Québec

Edited by: Stephen Hull

Underwater Archaeology at the Hare Harbour Basque Site at Petit Mecatina
(William Fitzhugh Smithsonian Institution)

In August 2006 the Smithsonian Gateways Project continued work at the late 17th Century Hare Harbor Basque site at the southern tip of the Petit Mécatina Peninsula and initiated mapping and excavations at a contemporary underwater site discovered here in 2003. Due to a shorter season our work was restricted to Mécatina, and we did not survey other regions of the Québec Lower North Shore as in previous years. Our principal goals were to investigate a blacksmith structure located in 2005 and to map, test, and photograph the underwater site explored initially in 2003 and 2005.

Blacksmith Shop

Last year we opened up an 8x8 meter area in a peat bog where we recovered well-preserved barrel staves, quantities of chopped wood and charcoal, iron bar stock, a large iron maul head, and other materials. Test pits east of the bog had revealed paving slabs and thick layers of charcoal, suggesting the presence of a blacksmith operation that used the boggy area as a trash dump. Our work this year confirmed this interpretation and uncovered a stone-paved 6x6 meter floor area upon which we found a re-worked iron anchor prong, large iron round-headed bolts or pins, encrusted iron fragments, charcoal, and other materials. A small hearth area at the northwest edge of the pavement contained calcined bone fragments, and traces of charred wood flooring were found around the edges of the pavement and on what seemed to be sill footings of a roughly square structure whose north side abuts the steep talus slope at the base of the cliff. What was missing was evidence of a large furnace, which may yet be found in several peat-covered rock piles outside our excavation area. The charred flooring and sills suggest the structure may have burned at the close of the occupation. The paucity of roof tiles and nails raises the question of whether the shop had a tile roof and timber framework or might have been un-roofed.

Blacksmith shop, view to SW (Will Richard photo) (Fitzhugh)

An interesting aspect of the excavation was the relative absence of other materials as well, particularly ceramics, clay pipes, beads, and other materials we had recovered from the nearby cookhouse and its external work area. One would not expect such domestic materials in a blacksmith shop, and this is more or less, what we encountered. More unusual was the presence of several Dorset artifacts found in the floor deposits above the stone pavement, in direct association with Basque material: these include a large flake of Ramah chert, a tip-fluted Middle Dorset style point of Ramah chert, and half of a thin-walled, miniature Dorset soapstone lamp fragment about three centimetres in diameter with charred encrustations. Stylistically, the lamp dates to Middle or Late Dorset, ca. 300-1200 AD. Currently these are the westernmost Dorset finds from the Gulf of St. Lawrence. How they became associated on the floor of a Basque black-

smith shop is even more mysterious than the presence of the Inuit soapstone vessel fragments we found previously in the cookhouse, which we have attributed to Inuit service employment in the Basque operation.

Figure 4 Dorset artifacts found in Basque deposits in the Blacksmith shop (Fitzhugh)

Site Description

Most of our effort was devoted to the underwater site located in the small cove adjacent to the Basque land site. The cove is on the west side of the site and is an extension of its cobble and sand beach formation. These deposits accumulated between a rocky promontory south of the site and the steep boulder-filled talus at the base of the cliff forming the north wall of Hare Harbor. The bottom of the cove drops at a 30 degree angle from the shore to about 40 meters depth, where its inclination declines to about 15-20 degrees and slopes gently toward the bottom of Hare Harbor, whose central depth is between 25-35 meters.

Hare Harbor itself is a small, narrow inlet about a half a kilometre in length, bounded by 300-foot high cliffs on the north side and with slightly lower, less steep hills along the south shore. A small brook enters at the harbour's west end, flowing from several small ponds that drain a narrow valley cutting through the southern end of Mécatina. The rocky promontory extending south from the base of the cliff on the north side of the harbour entrance reduces the entry passage to only a few hundred meters wide. This, and a sill depth of about 25 meters, blocks all but the heaviest easterly storm seas and creates a quiet depositional environment inside the harbour for accumulation of fine sand and silt. The near-shore underwater bottom is free of sediment and covered with beach boulders, slab rocks, and occasional roof tile fragments eroded from the bank. Below the sea surge and ice scour zone, soft sediments have accumulated, and as one descends to greater depths the mud and silt deposits increase, reaching a thickness of 50-70 centimetres at 50 meters depth and probably several meters in the bottom of the harbour basin. This sedimentary regime, while protecting and covering many of the cultural deposits, creates anchoring problems for vessels using the harbour in strong winds, as we and no doubt others discovered. The deep accumulation of fine mud provides little purchase for ground tackle, and anchors easily drag unless one also has a suitably-positioned shore-fast. It is probably for this reason that the Basque vessels anchored in the small cove below the site and the sheltering cliff where they had protection from wind and waves and used shore-fast lines with seaward anchors that were unlikely to drag upslope.

In the area of the underwater site, fine harbour sediments rest on a hard sandy bottom with few rocks showing above the surface of the mud except large blocks of cliff break-down near shore at the southeast and northwest margins of the cove. Despite relatively calm waters, tidal currents and wave surge have either prevented a steady accumulation of sediment or have eroded those present, leaving many cultural materials visible on the surface over an area of 40 by 80 meters between depths of 3 to 20 meters. While roof tiles are the artifacts most commonly seen (and in the central areas of the site form a concentrated lag deposit), fragments of glass bottles and ceramic jars, pieces of wood, and whalebones are also visible on the surface. A large squared timber angles across the bottom from northeast to southwest, disappearing into the sediments, and several smaller pieces of worked wood and modern grapnel anchors lost by lobster fishermen over the years are present. In

addition to the ubiquitous tiles, a few 19-20th century artifacts found on the surface were collected in 2004-5. The presence of later materials is not unexpected, as Hare Harbor has been used almost continuously as a harp seal hunting and netting site, ever since Europeans began making permanent establishments in the vicinity in the late 18th century. Some of these finds may relate to the 19th century. Hare Harbor-2 occupation located about a half-kilometre east of Hare Harbor-1. For the most part the mud bottom is clear of vegetation, except for occasional clusters of mussels, sea urchins, and anemones, the latter being more common on rocky surfaces than on the mud bottom. Water visibility is generally good, with sufficient light to work as deep as 60-70 feet. However, rain brings a flood of organic debris and tannin-rich fresh water off the surrounding hills and from the stream drainage, creating a layer of murky brown water that spreads out over the surface of the harbour, restricting light and visibility greatly. When northerly or easterly winds prevail, this murky layer can linger at the top of the water column for several days. The onset of westerly winds quickly blows this surface level out to sea and draws cold, clear water into the harbour over the sill from outside.

The most prominent aspect of the underwater site is a series of linear mounds composed of boulders and slabs extending down-slope from near-shore to about 15 meters depth. In the central area of the site these mounds are as much as 20 meters long and 5-6 meters wide. Mounded up highest along their linear axes, their thickness ranges from 0.5-1.5 meters above the surface of the surrounding sediment. Pieces of tile, glass bottles, and wood are found on and sometimes wedged between the rocks, dating these features securely to the Basque occupation. Most rocks weigh between 4-10 kilograms, making them easily portable, and most are rounded beach cobbles, although a small percentage are flat limestone slabs with distinctive solution pits and holes. The nearest source of limestone is Mingan Islands, more than 200 km to the west; but these limestone slabs probably had a more distant origin. Given their discrete shape and presence of non-local rock, the mounds almost certainly were created as ballast dumps by ships arriving from overseas, probably from southern rather than northern Europe, judging from the absence of flint ballast. The orientation of the mounds suggest they originated from ships moored perpendicular to shore, side-by-side in the European custom for vessels in harbours with restricted anchorage swing-space, with one line ashore and another to an anchor off-shore. The largest rock mounds – two to three times the volume of the others – are in the center of the cove, and their broader, less-tidy shape suggests they formed from multiple dumping episodes by vessels repeatedly using the most advantageous mooring location. The piles located to the east and west of the central dumps are smaller and appear to have been single dumps by vessels moored occupying less desirable locations, where the water was deeper and access to the shore was made more difficult by the presence of steep rocky shores and cliff break-down. This pattern suggests that at one time several ships must have arrived from overseas, and some vessels had to take less suitable mooring locations. Alternate explanations of the mounds as foundations for wood piers or fishing stages are not supported, as the rock piles are too deep and the bottom too steeply inclined to have served this purpose; furthermore, no footings, post holes, or other foundation features are seen in the piles.

Photograph of one of the central ballast mounds (Fréderic Simard photo) (Fitzhugh)

We mapped the entire site area and set up a grid that allowed us to locate features, conduct excavations, and determine the exact size and volume of the ballast piles, which will help determine the size and tonnage of ships employed. Eight separate ballast piles are present, four of which overlap in the center of the site area. Several smaller round clusters of rocks occur as outliers from the main concentrations. The linear shape of the mounds might have originated from ballast being removed from different ships' holds via different hatches; however it might also result from rocks dumped from one place rolling or bouncing down-slope, as the angle of the bottom is quite steep. Rocks that we dislodged accidentally tended to end up at the bottom of the pile or rolled to the sides and became embedded in soft sediments.

Fitzhugh and Leece with butchered whale limb bone (W. Richard photo) (Fitzhugh)

Mapping revealed interesting features in other areas. Several large whalebones – mostly limb bones and phalanges – occur on the surface at the east end of the site, near the underwater cliff at the base of the southern promontory. Two of the limb bones brought to the surface for photography and measurement had been sawn in half longitudinally, either during the butchering process or to facilitate the release of oil from bone cavities during the rendering process. The location of these bones near the steepest part of the shore may result from use of this area as a butchering location, since its deep water allowed whales to be drawn ashore and tied to the rocks. Ships could also have been tied here, outboard of a whale to facilitate butchering and rendering. The continued absence of any sign of blubber ovens on land suggests that oil processing and casking took place aboard ship, and this interpretation is compatible with our understanding of whaling technology at the turn of the 18th century. The lack of whalebones from the ballast dump region also supports the spatial separation of mooring and routine shipboard activities from whale processing.

Analysis of DNA sampled in 2005-6 resulted in species determinations of bowhead whales from baleen samples obtained from the Mécatina land site, and a humpback whale from the underwater site. North Atlantic right whale has not been identified, and the data indicate that the samples come from different whales, eliminating the possibility that the remains were from a single kill. Likewise, the presence of butchered bones eliminates the possibility of a dead whale drifting to this location. Finds of whale remains from subsurface test pits indicates that the remains found on the surface are not the only bones to be found. Nevertheless, unless flensed whale carcasses were disposed offshore, it would appear that Basque whaling was not as intensive an activity at Hare Harbor as it was at most 16th century sites.

Investigation of the 10m long exposed portion of the large timber southwest of the central ballast piles revealed it to have been roughly squared (25-30cm on a side) at its northern end but incompletely worked in the portion that extended into the mud at its southern end. Its visible portion did not contain any iron spikes, wood pegs, or cuts suggesting its use as a ship's timber or keel, as originally surmised in 2003. Its squared cross-section would not make sense for use as a pier piling, although it could have been in the process of becoming a pier cross-beam. The absence of any timbers in the depth ranges of the stone piles may be further evidence against the presence of piers or stages.

Another activity supported in 2006 was to test for stratigraphy, depth of deposit, and presence and preservation of buried artifacts and organic remains. To pursue this goal, Erik Phaneuf, assisted by Fréderik Simard, excavated seven 0.75m square test pits at 1m intervals following a north-south grid transect between 17m and 3.5m depths. These excavations took place over most of a two-week period during which we had to modify the dredge equipment several times to facilitate adequate suction, which was a problem in the deeper pits where the water pressure nearly equalized the power of our dredge pump. Originally we had intended to excavate a trench from that deepest limit of the site at about 60 feet, to the shore, but this turned out to be impossible with our available time, equipment, and manpower, and so we settled on a series of test pits.

These excavations revealed a consistent stratigraphic pattern – a package of cultural deposits between the sterile sandy base and a post-occupation surface layer of mud. From bottom to top these layers consisted of: (1) sandy silt containing scattered tiles; (2) a layer dominated by wood debitage; (3) an intermediate level of mud with tiles and other cultural materials; (4) a layer containing a dense concentration of fish bones; and (5) an upper layer of mud with tiles, scattered wood, and other cultural materials. Layers 2-4 were observed as separate layers only in the central portion of the site, in the 10-16m depth range . TP1, the deepest at ca.17m, contained barrel hoop and wood fragments and wood shavings in a silty sand deposit, with a piece of ceramic. TP2 contained a 25cm thick layer of silty sand with many tiles, barrel hoops and wedges, and wood fragments, and some fish bones. TP3 had a basal layer of soft silt containing tiles; a second level containing organic deposits with tiles, barrel parts, wood shavings, and fish bones; and a surface level of silty sand with tiles. TP4 at 12m depth had five levels: a basal organic level of peaty deposits with scattered wood fragments; a level of wood shavings and axe-cut chunks, barrel parts, fish bones, and a wooden platter or bowl; above this, a level of coarse sand with a few tiles; above that, an organic layer filled with concentrated fish bone; and an upper layer of sandy silt with some tiles. TP 5 had a basal level of peaty organic deposits with a mixture of wood shavings, barrel parts, fish bone, and tile below a level of soft silt with a few tiles, and an upper level of sandy silt with a few tiles. TP contained a mixed 60cm thick level of tiles, barrel parts, wood fragments, bird bones (but no fish) beneath a surface level of sandy silt with a few tiles. TP6, at 3.5m depth, had a base of coarse sand below a thin level of peaty organic silt with small amounts of wood; an intermediate soft sandy layer; and a surface layer with many rocks and ballast stones, and a few tiles.

Wooden platter/bowl fragments from test pit 4 (Fitzhugh)

The wood and bone levels were as thick as 10-12 cm. Other than tiles, wooden barrel wedges and hoop fragments were the most common artifacts found, but domestic ceramics, part of a leather shoe, and a wooden bowl were also recovered. The wood level followed the initial occupation phase and was composed of masses of axe and adze cuttings of coniferous wood, suggesting a major timber squaring operation related to building shore facilities. A similar concentration of wood debitage was also found by Parks Canada divers at their excavations in Red Bay, Labrador. Once the site had been prepared, the appearance of the bone level

indicates operation of a substantial fishery. While most bones appear to be cod, other species, including several birds and seals, were represented. Sophia Perdikaris will investigate these remains to see whether they indicate processing for local consumption or export.

Finally, in addition to mapping and excavations, Fréderic Simard systematically photographed the underwater site locale, expanding on coverage he made in 2005 and providing an extensive video record of the 2006 underwater operation. Because it is difficult to produce extensive written records underwater, photographic and video documentation is especially important. Fréderic's videos provide excellent oriented overviews of the site and document the ballast mounds and various other features; they also show our grid and mapping activities, and details of excavations at test pit locations.

This summer's work confirmed the presence of a blacksmith shop at the upper end of the shore facility. While excavations are still in progress, the finds from this shop include heavy iron implements and concentrations of charcoal, but few domestic remains, tiles or iron nails. The surprising discovery of a Dorset tip-fluted point and most of a miniature soapstone lamp raises questions of a possible Dorset occupation somewhere in the vicinity, because it is unlikely that these materials could have been found elsewhere and been brought to Hare Harbor by Basque fishermen. On the other hand, extensive testing in the area failed to produce lithic flakes or other evidence of a Dorset site in the vicinity. These pieces are currently the westernmost Dorset artifacts found in the Gulf region.

Our underwater work revealed the presence of an important new Hare Harbor site component that has the potential of adding significant information about the Basque occupation not available in the poorly preserved remains from shore facilities. From various stratigraphic levels we recovered well-preserved organic and inorganic remains including ceramic and wood artifacts and concentrated levels of faunal remains and wood debitage. The deepest deposits found so far are ca. 0.75m deep and contain up to five stratigraphic levels representing a sequence of activities: (1) initial occupation; (2) intense wood-working and site preparation; (3) intermediate occupation; (4) a fishery operation; and (5) a final occupation phase. At present it is not possible to correlate these phases with occupation sequences on the land site, and their reality as events in the site's history needs further excavation and study. Nevertheless, these phases represent discrete events that add important information to the data recovered from activities on-shore. Larger excavations to be conducted in the future at the marine site should amplify these preliminary findings, particularly if, as expected, we can recover more remains from middens representing shipboard domestic life as well as industrial operations.

In addition to the above findings we have confirmed that the underwater and shore sites are contemporary Basque occupations dating to ca. late 17th to early 18th century.; that several vessels must have been moored in Hare Harbor Cove together at least at one time during the Basque occupation to account for multiple ballast piles; that the Basque operation and settlement pattern has strong similarities to Basque enterprises known from the 16th century. Labrador and Gulf of St. Lawrence and was a modest 'full-service' enterprise with shore facilities including a cook- or wash-house and a blacksmith shop; that these operations continued, probably with interruptions, over a number of years or possibly decades to account for the large size of the central ballast piles and the presence of numerous occupation levels and re-growth cycles in the peat deposits in the bog on shore. An interesting option, based on the large volume of wood shavings, chips, and larger debitage found in the underwater deposits, is to consider whether this substantial evidence for timber squaring was for local consumption and erection of shore facilities; or, whether the Basques in the late 17th century may have been preparing timber for shipment, along with other commodities, to Europe, or possibly building boats or boat components for use at the site or for sale to Natives

or others. Certainly timber would have been a precious commodity to the Basque of this time. These ideas can be explored with larger samples from future excavations.

Next year we plan to continue work at the blacksmith shop and expand underwater operations in collaboration with Brad Loewen and marine archaeology students from the University of Montreal. We plan to survey Hare Harbor with remote sensing gear to check for wrecks or other remains elsewhere in the harbour, and to excavate small blocks in the anchorage area. Meanwhile Anja Herzog of Laval University continues her study of the cultural remains recovered to date with the goal of providing specific identifications, sources, and dates that can be used for broader interpretations as to the ethnic and national identity of the voyages and their organization, financing, and provisioning. This task would be greatly facilitated by recovery of the larger and better preserved cultural materials that exist in the underwater midden.

National Park Service's 2008 Archaeological Prospection Workshop

The National Park Service's 2008 workshop on archaeological prospection techniques entitled *Current Archaeological Prospection Advances for Non-Destructive Investigations in the 21st Century* will be held May 19-23, 2008, at the Kelly Inn, Fargo, North Dakota. Lodging will be at the Best Western Kelly Inn with the meeting room at O'Kelly Event Center at the Kelly Inn. The field exercises will take place at the Biesterfeldt Site (a protohistoric village site on the Sheyenne River). Co-sponsors for the workshop include the National Park Service, the Archaeological Conservancy, Minnesota State University-Moorhead, and the State Historical Society of North Dakota. This will be the eighteenth year of the workshop dedicated to the use of geophysical, aerial photography, and other remote sensing methods as they apply to the identification, evaluation, conservation, and protection of archaeological resources across this Nation. The workshop will present lectures on the theory of operation, methodology, processing, and interpretation with on-hands use of the equipment in the field. The w orkshop this year will have a special focus on the soil magnetism and on the effects of plowing on geophysical signatures and site integrity. There is a tuition charge of $475.00. Application forms are available on the Midwest Archeological Center's web page at <http:// www.cr.nps.gov/ mwac/>. For further information, please contact Steven L. DeVore, Archeologist, National Park Service, Midwest Archeological Center, Federal Building, Room 474, 100 Centennial Mall North, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508-3873: tel: (402) 437-5392, ext. 141; fax: (402) 437-5098; email: <steve_de_vore@nps.gov>.

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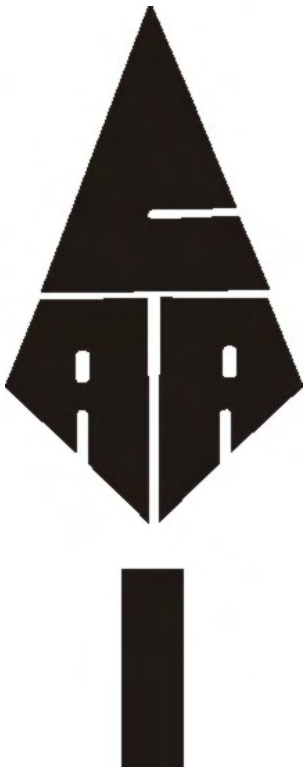

Please send submissions as .rtf attachments or (for short announcements and classifieds) as email messages directly to the *Newsletter* editor (hmartelle@tmhc.ca) or to your regional fieldwork news editor, listed below. Items can also be sent on diskette to:

Holly Martelle, *CAA Newsletter* Editor
Timmins Martelle Heritage Consultants Inc.
205 Oxford Street East, Suite 203A
London, Ontario N6A 5G6

Illustrations are gladly accepted either as hardcopy to the above address, or as .jpeg attachments via email. All photographs and drawings will be returned. Please provide a caption for each image.

Deadlines:

Spring Issue (Fieldwork News)
February 15 to the Regional Fieldwork News Coordinators

Fall Issue (CAA News and announcements)
September 15 to the *Newsletter* Editor

Beginning in 2006, the *Newsletter* will only be available online and can be accessed from the CAA website.

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