Recent Publications

McCaffrey, Moira

Renouf, Priscilla

Renouf, Priscilla & Bell, Trevor

Stopp, Marianne


Wicks, John

Any comments or suggestions for the Newsletter?
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Archaeological field work at Port au Choix will be the focus of a Canadian Archaeological Association session at the upcoming CAAs at McMaster University. The session has 10 papers being presented and will focus on faculty and student research projects that have been carried out at Port au Choix over the last 20 years.

Some of the papers being presented include: “Seventy-Five Years of Archaeological Research at Port au Choix.” by Priscilla Renouf and “Palaeoethnobotanical Research at Port au Choix.” by Michael Deal. There are also papers being presented by: Trevor Bell, Joyce Macpherson and Priscilla Renouf; Heather Reid; Karen Ryan; Patty Wells; John Erwin; Maribeth Murray; and Michael Teal.

The session is being organized by Priscilla Renouf and Patty Wells and will run from 9:00 am – 2:30 pm Saturday, May 10, 2003.

For more information see the Conference Abstracts off the CAA webpage.
The PAO carried out field work in several areas of the province over the 2002 field season. In Placentia Bay the New Grove (CkAm-01) and Long Island Neck (CkAm-02) sites were revisited for the first time since they were excavated by Urve Linnamae in 1970. Both have Maritime Archaic and Dorset components. Later in the summer a visit was paid to Red Indian Lake where a spot find attributed to the Maritime Archaic Indian was identified. There was also a visit to a disturbed Maritime Archaic site located on the Northern Peninsula and Birchy Lake where a Dorset site (DiBe-03) and a Groswater and Cow Head Recent Indian site (DiBe-02) were located. Unfortunately, the Dorset site was a spot find of just a biface and the other site was badly eroded. Nonetheless, both are examples of interior land use by Palaeoeskimo groups. On the Northern Peninsula several small European sites were found along with 2 Maritime Archaic sites, both of which were badly disturbed. Another large and intact precontact site was found next to the Ste. Genevieve River just north of Plum Point.

In the fall monitoring work was done in L’Anse au Loup which led to the discovery of a disturbed Maritime Archaic and Palaeoeskimo site (Church Parking Lot, EjBf-14). Finally, another disturbed Maritime Archaic site was investigated in Red Bay (Quartz Point, EkBc-47).

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Intermediate Indians on the Northern Peninsula?

During the summer of 2002, Gregory Beaton (Graduate Student, MUN) carried out research for his Masters Thesis at Big Brook on the Northern Peninsula.

A collection of artifacts at the Provincial Museum of Newfoundland and Labrador suggested that a Maritime Archaic site had been found at Big brook during a 1975 survey of the area. Priscilla Renouf tested the area in 2001 and found in situ deposits. Beaton returned to Big Brook during June and July of 2002 and excavated a large area containing a total of 10 features. Most of the features were related to lithic reduction and biface manufacture by the Maritime Archaic as is evidenced by the nearly 30,000 flakes recovered. One feature, a large hearth, was sampled for charcoal which returned a date of 2830+/-40 BP. A large side notched biface was found nearby the hearth. Beaton has tentatively identified this feature and the biface as Intermediate Indian. This is the second suspected Intermediate Indian site on the Island, the other being Garden Cove (EjAv-02) which was found during testing of the L’Anse aux Meadows area in 1975 by Bergr Schonbach.