Curatorial Reports

'The Curatorial Reports of the Nova Scotia Museum Complex contain information on the collections and the preliminary results of research projects carried out under the program of the Museum. The reports may be cited in publications but their manuscript status should be clearly indicated.'

Acknowledgements

The editor would like to extend thanks to the Nova Scotian archaeological community for their support and contribution to the Special Places program of the Nova Scotia Museum. The summary reports presented in this document are merely a brief synthesis of the often arduous work carried out over extended periods by the dedicated archaeologists of the province. This work has contributed greatly to our knowledge of Nova Scotia's past.

The editor gratefully acknowledges the significant contribution of Brian Preston, Curator of Archaeology at the Nova Scotia Museum. Charles Lindsay provided information on recent projects undertaken by Parks Canada. David Christianson kindly permitted the use of figures from his excellent Belleisle report. This document benefited greatly from comments made by the staff of the Nova Scotia Museum, in particular Brenda Boutilier, Robert Frame, Richard Wilcox and Sheila Stevenson.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table of Contents</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix A - Bibliography</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix B - Glossary</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix C - Parks Canada</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix D - Shubenacadie Canal</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INTRODUCTION

The Special Places Protection Act, administered by the Nova Scotia Museum for the Department of Education, provides for the preservation, protection, regulation, exploration, excavation, acquisition and study of archaeological sites which are considered important parts of the human heritage of the province. The fundamental mechanism for achieving this purpose is the Heritage Research Permit. The Special Places Protection Act requires that any person conducting explorations or excavations on any land in the province, including land covered with water, must first obtain a permit. Only those qualified to carry out a proper archaeological survey are granted permits, and only after submitting detailed project proposals to the Director of the museum. The province, through the Nova Scotia Museum, has the authority to select an agency to be responsible for maintaining any objects recovered in the course of the exploration. Copies of all reports, field notes, catalogues, photographs and other records must be provided to the Director.

Heritage Research Permits have been issued by the Nova Scotia Museum since 1981, when the Special Places Act came into effect. This report will attempt to summarize the projects undertaken by permit-holders through the end of 1984. All reports are kept on file at the museum, along with other relevant documents and submitted artifacts.

The Nova Scotia Museum intends to serve as a repository for all archaeological information generated within the province. It is hoped that by consolidating this information in one location the museum can serve as a focal point for those doing work in the field. The ultimate objective of the Special Places program is to promote greater quantity and quality of research so that a comprehensive picture of the province's history can be achieved. The museum currently maintains collections and documentation from hundreds of sites throughout the province. Additional documentation obtained through research will make these records even more valuable to investigators.

The Nova Scotia Museum will undertake to promote the advancement of archaeology so that interested members of the general public can be given an opportunity to work alongside professionals. An active education program can be expected to enlighten the public about archaeological concerns and lessen damage to sites at the hands of uninformed collectors.

A brief glossary has been appended to this report for the use of those unfamiliar with the terminology. It is by no means complete, nor are the definitions universal. Errors and omissions are solely the responsibility of the editor.
During the month of May 1981 an archaeological survey was conducted along the eastern end of the Annapolis River. A walking survey included the stretch of the river from Kingston to Bridgetown. Both the north and south sides of the river were investigated, and 13 archaeological resource locations were recorded (11 prehistoric*, 2 historic*). A further 2 prehistoric locations were recorded on the Bay of Fundy.

With the exception of the coastal sites and an historic cemetery, all locations found were situated on river terraces. The annual flooding of the Annapolis River has caused a considerable accumulation of silts and this circumstance, compounded by the prevalence of dense undergrowth, limited the success of the survey. However, the fact that a number of resource locations were encountered indicates that this end of the river played a role in the prehistory of Nova Scotia. Three of the sites are viable locations for extensive excavations, and the listing of all recorded locations is recommended.

The sites are designated

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<th>Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BfDf-1*</td>
<td>BfDg-5</td>
<td>BfDh-9</td>
<td>BgDg-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BfDf-2</td>
<td>BfDg-6</td>
<td>BfDh-10</td>
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<td>BfDh-11</td>
<td></td>
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<td>BfDh-12</td>
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<td>BfDf-5</td>
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<td>BfDf-6</td>
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<td>BfDh-14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1981NS2

Marek Wiechula
Underwater Archaeological Society of Nova Scotia

Uniacke Lake

Project not carried out.

*Appendix B
During the month of August 1981 an archaeological resource inventory was carried out in the western portion of the Eastern Shore. The original intention was to investigate the shoreline and offshore islands between Clam Harbour and Taylor Head. This had to be discontinued because of high water conditions and strong winds which did not permit the safe operation of the boat available for the project. It was decided that the time would be better spent examining the larger lakes in the area, notably Lake Charlotte and Porters Lake. Unfortunately these lakes have been developed for private recreational use and very little of archaeological significance was encountered. The final few days of the survey were spent along the lower Musquodoboit River. This area was only given a preliminary search but the limited effort produced a number of resource locations suggesting that a more detailed survey should be conducted.

Six new sites were recorded in total. These were at Clam Harbour (2), Lake Charlotte, Oyster Pond and Musquodoboit Harbour (2). They are all prehistoric, although the Lake Charlotte site may have an historic component.

The sites are designated:

- BeCr-9
- BeCr-10
- BeCr-1
- BeCs-2
- BeCs-5
- BeCs-6
- BeCs-6

Site BeCr-4 is an eroding prehistoric site in Clam Harbour Provincial Park, at the west side of the entrance to Clam Harbour. It was first reported in 1980 during a survey of the park undertaken for the Department of Lands and Forests by the present investigator.

In 1981 the site was tested by 12 students taking the Method and Theory in Archaeology course at Saint Mary's University. The testing took place during the first three Saturdays in October under the supervision of the permit-holder and Brenda Boutilier of the Nova Scotia Museum.
Three areas of the site were excavated using one metre square units and arbitrary 10 centimetre vertical levels. Two of the areas contained only minimal cultural remains. The third was more productive but limited time did not permit extensive testing.

The material recovered comprised some 50 lithic* artifacts, lithic detritus, ceramics, and some faunal material.

1982NS1

Stephen A. Davis
Saint Mary's University
Cobequid Industrial Park, Halifax County

A preliminary archaeological assessment of the area of the proposed industrial park was undertaken on March 20. The survey included the eastern shores of Three Mile Lake, Third Lake and Perry Lake. Ice and snow conditions did not permit a complete survey. It is suspected that the designated area does not contain any archaeological sites, however, a more thorough investigation should be conducted as part of the final environmental study.

1982NS2

Stephen A. Davis
Saint Mary's University
Head of Jeddore (BeCs-4)

BeCs-4 is a badly eroded prehistoric site located to the south of the Salmon River outlet into the Head of Jeddore. A surface collection of 43 lithic specimens was recovered from the sand and gravel beach in front of this location. The beach area is completely submerged at high tide. No subsurface testing was done but the eroded bank was investigated to determine if any cultural stratigraphy was visible. With the exception of the presence of occasional flecks of charcoal which may or may not represent cultural activities, the results were negative.

The artifacts suggest that the site may represent an early Ceramic* period occupation. Limited testing is recommended to evaluate the presence or absence of cultural material in the stabilized surface behind the eroding beach area.
1982NS3

Stephen A. Davis
Saint Mary's University
Eastern Annapolis Valley

A brief re-examination was made of sites recorded during the 1981 Eastern Annapolis Valley survey (Davis, 1981NS1) with a view to planning future research. No excavation was undertaken and no material was collected.

1982NS4

Stephen A. Davis
Saint Mary's University
Eastern Guysborough County

A preliminary archaeological assessment of a proposed natural gas pipeline corridor was undertaken on behalf of Underwood-McLellan Ltd. A number of high-potential areas were identified and concentrated upon during a five day search for local information on archaeological finds along the line of the corridor. Reports of several archaeological finds were encountered, but all pertained to areas outside the proposed pipeline corridor. It is most likely that few, if any, archaeological sites exist within the corridor. The shoreline areas, both on the Eastern Shore and the Strait of Canso, have been dramatically altered through shoreline erosion. If these areas were occupied, the evidence has been destroyed.

The one area which may contain sites is the section of Salmon River which lies within the corridor, and a more detailed assessment of this area is recommended.

1982NS5

Stephen A. Davis
Saint Mary's University
Enfield (BfCv-11)

BfCv-11 is a badly disturbed prehistoric site on the south bank of the Shubenacadie River to the west of the Highway 2 bridge at Enfield. Previous testing of the site by the Nova Scotia Museum (1970) indicated that little of scientific value remained at this location. It was decided on the basis of this information that the site would be useful as a training location for senior students at Saint Mary's University.
Two weekend excavations were conducted in October 1982. A grid system was established which ran an east-west trench with a north-south transect. This effort failed to identify any undisturbed deposits. Agricultural and constructional activities have apparently destroyed this site as a viable heritage resource. For this reason, no further action is recommended for BfCv-11.

1983NS1

David J. Christianson
Nova Scotia Museum

Belleisle, Annapolis County (BeDi-2)

The Belleisle site constitutes the surviving material remains of a pre-Expulsion Acadian community. Formerly consisting of approximately 20 houses, Belleisle was the largest Acadian settlement on the Annapolis River apart from the administrative centre of Port Royal.

Archaeological research on Acadian settlements was initiated by the Nova Scotia Museum in the early 1970s and test excavations at Belleisle in 1972 identified a probable late pre-Expulsion Acadian house foundation.

Further excavations were undertaken at Belleisle between May 15 and August 31, 1983, investigating the method of house construction, the household material culture and the Acadian use of animals based on recovered faunal remains.

The 1983 field season saw the completion of the excavation of House 1 (see Figure 1) in the sequence of the three surviving Acadian house foundations of the Belleisle site. In addition, limited subsurface testing was initiated on House 2. Both houses exhibited evidence of having been destroyed by burning, presumably at the time of the Expulsion. House 1 had also been damaged by fire at an undetermined earlier date before being rebuilt.

Dating of the ceramics and clay tobacco pipes suggests that the site was occupied during the first half of the eighteenth century. The respective mean occupation dates, based on the Binford straight line regression formula, are 1729 for House 1 and 1738 for House 2. These dates suggest that House 1 was occupied between c.1705 and 1755, while House 2 was probably first inhabited around 1720.

Analysis of the ceramics from the site generally supports this view. The presence of certain early stoneware forms at House 1 but not at House 2 is one example of this difference. Although the community of Belleisle was first settled in 1679, no evidence of this earlier occupation was discerned.

For further details of this research, see Nova Scotia Museum Curatorial Report Number 48, which contains the final report on this project. Funding for the operation was generously provided by The Devonian Foundation, The MacDonald Stewart Foundation, Shell Canada Resources, and an anonymous Maritime Foundation.
Figure 1. House 1 floor plan.
Dr. Ronald J. Nash
St. Francis Xavier University

Northeastern Mainland

This survey project during the summer of 1983 concentrated on particular inland localities in Antigonish and Guysborough counties, the intention being to locate and identify sites pertinent to the understanding of interior prehistoric ecological adaptations. Localities were selected with respect to river transport routes and to a lesser extent, present day moose wintering areas and known sites. The following localities were examined in part: Shepard Lake, Upper Pomquet River, Upper Guysborough River, Upper Salmon River, South River Lake, Grant Lake Brook, as well as specific spots at Aspen, Glenelg Lake, Arisaig and Yankee Lake. The only new site located was a prehistoric habitation site on Pomquet Harbour (Bjck-4). A surface collection of lithic artifacts was made on the beach at this site.

City of Halifax

Princes Lodge

This permit was issued to allow the cleaning of surviving surface features of the Duke of Kent's country residence on municipal park land at Princes Lodge. The project was not designed as an archaeological investigation, and artifacts discovered incidentally were all of recent origin.

Brian L. Molyneaux
Nova Scotia Museum

McGowan Lake, Queens County

The draining of a Nova Scotia Power Corporation reservoir in Queens County during the summer of 1983 exposed the relict shorelines of McGowan Lake on the Lake there is a small, glacially polished outcrop of slate of the Halifax Formation.* This outcrop is covered with petroglyphs incised into the soft slate surface by sharp-pointed tools. The images are similar in subject and form to those carved along the southwestern shore of Kejimkujik Lake.

A related project (Davis, 1983NS5) demonstrated that the shores by these rapids have been occupied since at least late prehistoric times.
The petroglyphs were carved during the post-Contact* period by MicMac and others who probably camped at the narrows while hunting or fishing. It is also possible that others participated in the carving: loggers, log drivers, lumberers, or the farmers who cut the hay meadows beside the lake.

The McGowan Lake petroglyphs were first recorded in 1888, when George Creed visited the site as part of his documentation of the Kejimkujik Lake sites. However, by the time Dr. and Mrs. A. Kersall rediscovered Creed's work in the 1950s and sparked renewed interest, a hydro-electric dam had been built across the outlet of McGowan Lake, permanently submerging the petroglyphs.

The McGowan Lake reservoir was drained to its original level in the summer of 1983 to facilitate repairs to the dam, and the petroglyph site was rediscovered. During September and October, 1983, a recording project was carried out by the Nova Scotia Museum with the cooperation of the Nova Scotia Power Corporation. This effort resulted in the documentation of the McGowan Lake petroglyphs and the discovery and reporting of four other petroglyph sites on Dean Lake. A detailed catalogue and analysis of these petroglyphs is available at the Nova Scotia Museum.

1983NS5

Stephen A. Davis
Saint Mary's University

McGowan Lake, Queens County

This archaeological salvage survey of the former shorelines of McGowan/Dean Lakes exposed by the draining of the Nova Scotia Power Corporation reservoir was designed as a complement to the recording of the known petroglyph site (Molyneaux, 1983NS4).

A first phase consisted of a two day reconnaissance of the shoreline which produced six petroglyph locations and seven habitation sites. A second phase consisted of the selected testing of one of the habitation sites which was in close proximity to a petroglyph location, and which had yielded a full-grooved gouge, indicating a possible Archaic* component.

A systematic surface collection was carried out over an area of 1200 square metres. This was followed by the selective excavation of areas with artifact concentrations. No further evidence for Archaic occupation was found. The material recovered represents primarily a late Ceramic period occupation with a scattering of historic material. Of particular interest are three incised pebbles and three cut slate tablets.
Shubenacadie Canal Zone III

This project was designed to accomplish a number of goals including an investigation into the background of the site through a review of existing reports and documents and an inventory of archival material. An on-site ground survey of the entire site and peripheral areas was carried out to evaluate historic and prehistoric material relating to the site and to the canal redevelopment in particular. Recommendations of measures to ensure the conservation of important sites and the security of artifacts found on the development site were to be offered, as well as those pertaining to archaeological activities and procedures that should be incorporated into the future design and construction activities of the project. A total of 67 pertinent documents and reports were examined during the initial research phase and listed in the final report. The Public Archives of Nova Scotia, Dartmouth Heritage Museum, Nova Scotia Museum, Maritime Museum of the Atlantic and Parks Canada provided the information.

Zone III is found within Shubie Municipal Park, between Lake Charles and Lake MicMac, in Dartmouth (See Figure 2). The field phase of the project was of two weeks duration and saw the examination of both sides of the canal, with the exception of the Mossman property at the Lake MicMac end. Some areas distant from the canal itself were examined in the hope of encountering prehistoric occupations. The work entailed mapping and measuring of surface features. Nineteen canal-related features are described in the report as well as three isolated finds. Though no prehistoric archaeological sites were encountered within Zone III, two known sites were previously identified in the immediate area.

The report offers two options to prevent destruction of archaeological features of the canal. Avoidance of the site is seen as one method of protection, but the preferred option is seen as excavation/reconstruction/stabilization. A proposed budget for further work is presented at the end of the report.

Central Trust, Halifax

The discovery of the remnants of man-made structures during excavations for the foundation of the Central Trust building (bounded by Lower Water, Duke and Hollis streets in downtown Halifax) necessitated a salvage* operation to recover material dating back to the eighteenth century. The work commenced on January 5 and continued through January 7, 1984, with the assistance of the Nova Scotia Museum, Parks Canada and students from St. Mary's University. Severe dislocation of the material during construction prevented the collection of accurate chronological data.
1984NS2

Stephen A. Davis  
Saint Mary's University  

Tidewater Quarry, Rocky Lake, Halifax County

On April 28, 1984, a walking survey within the proposed boundaries of the Waverley Rock Quarry and Crusher Development was undertaken to locate prehistoric or historic cultural resources in the area. The topography of the area was probably unattractive to prehistoric groups, which may be why no evidence of early occupation was evident. An examination of rock outcroppings for possible Mi'kmaq petroglyphs was not fruitful.

1984NS3

Stephen A. Davis  
Saint Mary's University  

Shubenacadie Canal Zone III

Archaeological excavations were carried out along this section of the canal between July 30 and November 30, 1984. Several features identified in 1983 were excavated. Each revealed shallow, compacted cultural deposits.

A large number of artifacts were discovered in association with these features. Of special interest were a blacksmith shop and a house foundation of uncertain origin, apparently a hybrid of Hebridean or Skye type. Test pits within the canal itself at Lock 3 exposed evidence for the hinge mechanism of the lower gate.

1984NS4

Stephen A. Davis  
Saint Mary's University  

Mills Landfill Site, Prospect

A salvage operation on material dumped from the excavation of the Central Trust building was conducted under the supervision of the permit holder. Large numbers of artifacts were recovered including glass and ceramic fragments, leather and metal objects, clay pipe fragments and some animal bones.
Stephen A. Davis
Saint Mary’s University

Shubenacadie Canal Zone I

This project, carried out between May 28 and June 22, 1984, involved an archaeological resource inventory in the area of the entrance to the Shubenacadie Canal at Dartmouth Cove. The inventory was undertaken to ensure that proposed constructions in the area did not destroy any historically significant cultural resources.

One result of the survey was the discovery of a stone wall 20 metres in length and 2.2 metres in height. It could not be positively identified through the background document research. It is thought to be a part of Francis Hall’s original water control basin constructed between 1826 and 1833. This basin was later abandoned when it was found that an inclined railway would provide easier access to the Dartmouth lakes. The report recommends that this feature be incorporated into the redevelopment scheme at the site.

David J. Christianson
Nova Scotia Museum

Annapolis Basin

An archaeological survey of the Annapolis River Basin was conducted during the summer of 1984, with the intention of locating possible pre-Expulsion Acadian building foundations. The search examined both banks of the Annapolis River from Upper Clements/Port Royal to Lawrencetown (See Figure 3).

Approximately 22 historic sites were discovered. Eight of these have been damaged or destroyed through activities such as farming and road construction. Also found was a possible brick manufacturing site of pre-1755 vintage. Six prehistoric sites were recorded.
MAP OF THE RIVER OF ANNAPOLIS ROYAL
SURVEYED IN THE YEAR 1733 -- CORRECTION FROM OTHER SURVEYS & 1733
ONE MILE

Here Majt Elliot & Majt Forbes
with a party of eighty men were
sent off by the Indians Anno 1733.
as they were landing

Figure 3. Mitchell map of 1733 (Savary 1913).
An examination of the Shubenacadie Canal at Portobello was undertaken between September 26 and October 1, 1984. The aim of the project was to evaluate the condition of the lock at Portobello as a part of the Shubenacadie Redevelopment Project. The report lists and describes five features found at the site, and includes computer generated figures of them and indicates their locations. Six site management recommendations are outlined.

At the request of the Shubenacadie Canal Commission, an investigation into the feasibility of removing a hinge from the Wellington Lock was undertaken. The hinge was examined with the aid of two scuba divers on October 12, 1984. It was evident that only a major operation requiring heavy equipment would allow its removal. Two site management recommendations are outlined at the end of the report.

Repairs to the Nova Scotia Power Corporation dam at Sissiboo Lake necessitated the lowering of water levels during the summer of 1984, which led to the discovery of a number of prehistoric artifacts along the exposed shore of the lake. A foot survey was organized and carried out, resulting in the surface collection of 138 artifacts between October 26 and October 28, 1984. They appear to be from the late Archaic and early Ceramic periods.

The site is designated as BcDk-1.
Peter Latta  
Cumberland County Museum  

Industrial Sites, Cumberland County  

An inventory of disused industrial sites in Cumberland County was undertaken to record their present condition and exact location.

Those included were:

1. Wagstaff Shipyards, Port Greville  
2. Maritime Handle Factory, New Annan Road, Wentworth  
3. Chignecto Marine Transport Railway, Amherst Terminus, Port Lawrence  
4. Millbrook Gold Mine, Arsenic Mill Road, Williamsdale  
5. Parrsboro Coal Piers, Parrsboro  
6. Cumberland Copper Company, Wentworth  
7. Lower Cove Grindstone Quarry, Lower Cove  
8. The Palmer Mine, Wentworth  
9. Salt springs, Salt Springs  

The status of the sites was determined from surface observation. No excavations were made during the inventory, which took place between June 1 and November 31, 1984.

Jim Ringer  
Parks Canada  

Canso Islands  

The project was conducted to assess the archaeological potential of submerged areas around the Canso Islands. The major objectives were to ascertain local diving conditions, determine equipment requirements for future work, define logistical problems and locate probable sites for a later, more substantial survey.

Free-swimming underwater searches were carried out in two coves in the area. One cove proved difficult to survey because of its loose silty bottom and heavy growth of eel grass. The other cove has a sand and gravel bottom littered with ceramic sherds and some bottle fragments. Some late eighteenth century material was encountered, but the majority was of the nineteenth century.

As a result of this preliminary survey, the report recommends that further work be carried out. A number of areas were selected as being productive for future study. The objectives of this project have been met and more work should be undertaken in the next year.
Conclusion

In addition to field work authorized by specific permits, routine site monitoring and the investigation of reported finds were carried out on a continuing basis by Nova Scotia Museum staff under the authority of a general permit. Twenty three localities were subject to this type of investigation during the period 1981-84. In chronological order of investigation these were:

- White's Lake, Halifax County
- Crystal Crescent Beach, Halifax County
- Malagawatch, Inverness County
- Shubie Park, Dartmouth
- Hunts Point, Queens County
- Barrington Passage, Shelburne County
- McNutt Island, Shelburne County
- Orangedale, Inverness County
- Debert, Colchester County
- Port Lawrence, Cumberland County
- Windsor Junction, Halifax County
- Upper Clements, Annapolis County
- Belliveau Cove, Digby County
- Port Royal, Annapolis County
- Belleisle, Annapolis County
- Cossitt House, Sydney
- Pictou
- Port Needham, Halifax
- Princes Lodge, Halifax
- Founders Square, Halifax
- Sand Hills Park, Shelburne County
- Hibernia, Queens County
- Highway 107 Bypass, Dartmouth
Appendix A - Bibliography of Nova Scotian Archaeology


Barber, Vernon C., 1980. Underwater Archaeology in the Atlantic Provinces of Canada. Occasional papers in Anthropology, No. 8, St. Mary's University, Halifax.


Appendix B - Glossary

Archaic - the prehistoric Period extending from 2500 to 8000 years before present.

Artifact - a product of human workmanship.

Binford straight line time regression formula - a method for calculating dates from Kaoln pipe stem diameters. A general reduction in pipe stem diameters from 1620 to 1800 was recognized, and it was found that it was possible to obtain reliable dates by comparing diameter measurements.

Borden System - an archaeological site identification system devised by Dr. Charles E. Borden. The alphanumeric code (eg. BcVf-3) is based on the National Topographic Series of maps of the 1:500,000 scale. The two upper-case letters refer to the particular N. T. S. map, and are derived from its latitudinal and longitudinal position. Each map is divided into smaller grids measuring 10 minutes a side and which are identified by the lower case letters. Sites within each grid are then numbered sequentially which results in a unique Borden Number for each site.

Ceramic - the prehistoric Period extending from 500 to 2500 years before present.

Contact - the Period of encounters between Native and European cultures.

Halifax Formation - a geological formation of the Cambro-Ordovician Meguma Group found in the southern mainland of the province and consisting largely of slate.

Historic - of, belonging to or existing in the period for which there are written accounts of a people.

Lithic - of or pertaining to stone.
Paleo-Indian - the prehistoric Period extending from 8000 to 11000 years before present.

Prehistoric - of, belonging to or existing in the period preceding the first written accounts of a people.

Salvage survey - an archaeological survey undertaken at severely disturbed sites or in emergency situations using only basic information recording techniques.

Appendix C - Parks Canada Archaeology 1981 - 84 by Charles Lindsay

1981

Fortress of Louisbourg National Historic Park: Excavations in advance of and in support of restoration and animation of the French town of Louisbourg continued. Begun in 1960, the excavation program was approaching its conclusion in 1981 with a concentration on completing investigations of outbuildings and yard areas in the reconstructed portions of the town. Records are on file at the Fortress of Louisbourg.

Halifax Citadel N. H. P.: Excavations in advance of and in support of restoration were undertaken at the Citadel by Earl Luffman. These excavations investigated and salvaged architectural information from several locations. All records and a manuscript report are on file in the Archaeology Unit, Parks Canada, Halifax.

Grassy Island N. H. P.: The final year of a 3 year archaeological program at Grassy Island took place in 1981. The focus of the program was on the non-military aspects of the site - the commercial and fishing activities of this important 18th century centre of the fishing industry, in particular, were addressed. Records are on file in the Archaeology Unit, Parks Canada, Halifax. Overall direction of the program was by Birgitta Wallace and field direction was by Robert Ferguson. A major monograph on these excavations is in its final stages of preparation.

Kejimkujik National Park: Brian Molyneaux began a recording project on several groups of petroglyphs within the park. These petroglyphs are being eroded by natural forces and vandalism. Molyneaux's techniques were designed to produce a permanent, precise record of the petroglyphs before they are eventually obliterated. A report on this work, 'Kejimkujik Petroglyph Recording Project 1981' is on file in the Archaeology Unit, Parks Canada, Halifax.
1982

Halifax Citadel N. H. P.: As above.

Grand Pré N. H. P.: A brief salvage excavation by Anita Campbell in advance of stabilisation work on the Herbin monument revealed portions of the Acadian cemetery. The tops of 4 coffins were revealed, confirming documentary and oral traditions concerning the location of the cemetery. The coffins themselves were not excavated. Records are on file in the Archaeology Unit, Parks Canada, Halifax. A report on this work 'Archaeological Investigations at Grand Pré National Historic Park' was published by Parks Canada as issue no. 204, August 1983 of the Research Bulletin series.

1983

Halifax Citadel N. H. P.: As above

Cape Breton Highlands National Park: A survey for historic and prehistoric resources in the eastern coastal and inland portions of Cape Breton Highlands National Park was undertaken by Earl Luffman. Very little prehistoric material was found but several historic period domestic and industrial sites were located. Records and a draft manuscript on this survey are on file in the Archaeology Unit, Parks Canada, Halifax.

Kekinkujik National Park: Brian Molyneaux continued his recording project on portions of the petroglyphs at Fairy Bay. The results of this work are contained in a manuscript report and illustrative record on file in the Archaeology Unit, Parks Canada, Halifax.

1984

Melanson: Under the terms of an agreement between Parks Canada and the Province of Nova Scotia, Andrée Crépeau undertook the excavation of a pre-expulsion Acadian house site in the settlement established by Charles Melanson near Port Royal. The excavation revealed a complex series of building and rebuilding of possibly as many as four houses at the same location. Records of this work are on file at the Fortress of Louisbourg.
Appendix D - Shubenacadie Canal

A canal route to link Halifax Harbour with Cobequid Bay via the Shubenacadie River system was first proposed in the late 18th century by Sir John Wentworth. Various surveys were undertaken on behalf of the legislature but support for the canal was not strong. In 1826 the Shubenacadie Canal Company began construction, continuing until 1831 when damage caused by a dam break on Lake Charles forced the company into insolvency. The Inland Navigation Company picked up the pieces in 1853 and proceeded to rebuild or replace much of the original construction which had fallen into disrepair. The canal finally opened in 1861, but operated for only eight years before being forced to close by low bridge construction over the canal at Waverley.

Parts of the canal in Dartmouth are presently being rehabilitated due to an influx of money from the federal and provincial governments. The canal entrance at Dartmouth Cove and the locks between Lake Micmac and Lake Charles are receiving the most attention. The lock at Lake Fletcher is protected by the Special Places Protection Act but improvements to this section are not planned.