

NON-TECHNICAL PROJECT SUMMARY

This project will involve excavation of the Tungatsivvik site, located on the eastern shore of Peterhead Inlet near the head of Frobisher Bay. This project will only be carried out with the all the necessary permits and permissions including a Government of Nunavut Class 2 Archaeology permit, which has been applied for. This site was used from 4000 years ago until the early 20th century, and we are conducting an excavation to learn more about how people long ago lived in the coastal regions of Baffin Island.

In order to learn about the site and the people who occupied it, we will be spending approximately four weeks studying the site. The crew will consist of five people, and we are presently looking for one Inuit student from Nunavut to be part of the crew. We will get to the sites by boat and camp in tents near the site. We will not be using any motorized vehicles. We will carry out excavations at the site, and at the end of our time in the field we will backfill our excavations and replace the surface vegetation to return the site to the same condition it was in before we arrived.

Detailed Project Description

Project Title: Palaeo-Eskimo Lithic Exploitation Strategies: Assessing Inferences of Cultural Change through Chert Sourcing on Southern Baffin Island.

Applicant: Anne Hamilton (University of Manitoba)

Discription of Undertaking

This project will consist of an archaeological excavation at the Tungatsivvik site (KkDo-3), located on the eastern shore of Peterhead Inlet near the head of Frobisher Bay, and a pedestrian survey in the areas surrounding the site. The excavation and survey I plan to carry out in 2009 is important for explaining our present understanding of how the coastal region of southern Baffin Island was used over time by all peoples who lived on the land.

This project will only be carried out with all of the necessary permits and permissions, including a Government of Nunavut Class 2 Archaeology permit, a Land Use Permit through INAC, and a Nunavut Water Board Water License. All subsurface site testing and excavation will follow standard archaeological procedures for sites in Nunavut. Areas chosen for excavation will be selected based on the presence of surface artifacts and/or their location within the perimeter of a tent ring structure or proximity to an archaeological feature. Each test area will be photographed before and after the excavation. The size of the test units will range from 25 × 25 cm to 50 × 50 cm, and all soil removed from these units will be screened to ensure that all cultural materials are collected. Upon completion of all subsurface activities, the units will be backfilled and the surface vegetation replaced so as to return the feature to its original state prior to excavation.

All survey will follow a systematic approach where a selected area will be walked at set intervals with each crewmember spread out approximately two to five meters from one another. Items of interest (e.g. artifacts, tent ring structures, nodules of chert) will be described and recorded using GPS, sketch maps, and photographs.

Schedule of activities for 2009

The proposed project is scheduled to start on or soon after July 31, 2009. All crewmembers will depart from Iqaluit and stay in the field until August 26, 2009, travelling to the Tungatsivvik site by boat. Approximately four weeks will be spent at the site conducting excavations and survey. The crew will then return to Iqaluit.

Preliminary plan showing the location of the lands proposed to be used

The work for this project will focus on the Tungatsivvik site and the area surrounding it (see attached maps and aerial photo). Tungatsivvik is located on the eastern shore of Peterhead inlet, approximately 10 km west of Iqaluit. Survey will take place along the shorelines of Peterhead Inlet.

Currently, there are no permanent buildings, campsites, trails, lines, air landing strips, fuel or supply storage sites, waste disposal sites, ponds, reservoirs, or other works and places in the areas proposed for use, and there are no plans to construct any of the above for the purpose of this project. This project is very small and will be restricted to setting up a single campsite adjacent to the site from which excavation activities or survey is planned.

List of structures that will be erected

Structures to be erected for this project are limited to personal camping tents (a maximum of five), an equipment tent, and a main cook tent. These structures will be secured using ropes, rocks, and tent pegs.

Equipment to be used

No motorized vehicles or pumps will be used for this project. Excavations will be conducted using trowels and shovels. The crew will be screening all of the excavated soil to ensure that small-sized cultural materials are recovered. The only mechanized equipment will be a small generator used for recharging computer equipment and a satellite phone.

Methods of Transportation

The crew will be transported to the site by boat. Once on the ground, we will be on foot for the duration of the project. No motorized vehicles will be used.

2009 Archaeology research area topographic map – Anne Hamilton



2009 Archaeology research area detail – Anne Hamilton



Baseline Data Bibliography

Milne, S. Brooke

- 2003 Identifying Pre-Dorset structural features on southern Baffin Island: Challenges and considerations for alternative sampling methods. *Études/Inuit/Studies* 27(1-2): 67-90.

Park, Robert W.

- 1998 *Archaeological Investigations at the Tungatsivvik Site (KkDo-3), Baffin Island (Summer of 1998)*, unpublished report on file, Yellowknife, Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre.
- 1999 *Archaeological Excavations at the Tungatsivvik Site (KkDo-3), Baffin Island (Summer 1999)*, unpublished report on file, Iqaluit, Department of Culture, Language, Elders, and Youth.