

APPENDIX 4

Procedures for Recording/Avoiding Suspected Archaeological Sites

Many heritage sites may be situated on level terraces, peninsulas, bedrock and gravel exposures adjacent to the shores of lakes and rivers, and on eskers, typically with a good view. Site locations elsewhere in Nunavut suggest that habitation sites are likely to be found where portage routes begin or end, as well as where resources are concentrated, for example, where eskers are cut through by rivers and lake levels rising after deglaciation.

Some South Baffin reported sites contain tent rings, remnants of qarmaaq (sod huts) and other stone features and scatters of lithic material, as well as wood and bone fragments. Where good organic preservation exists, some sites contain well-preserved materials, such as food bones, tools and utensils that contribute further to an understanding of subsistence activities, seasonality and technology at the time of occupation. Some sites contain single or multiple stacked boulders used to direct caribou in a certain direction, markers used for direction or notice of a specific area, and places where stone tools were made. Such sites may not be immediately recognisable to lay people. Burial sites may be clearly capped with boulders or marked with a stone or other marker; others may not be as easily identified. **If any suspected sites are encountered during field activities, the following should occur. If time is short, minimum information should include site co-ordinates.**

- If possible, avoid any disturbance at the site; if disturbance is necessary, try to confine the activities to a part of the site where no bone, stone tools or boulder arrangements that may be archaeological in nature are situated, but avoid disturbance in the vicinity of a grave.
- Check for evidence of a tent ring, hearths or habitation structures; if present, sketch and avoid.
- Record the location by GPS, by elevation, with a dot and reference number on a map (and aerial photo if available), and with a sketch of site components. Describe the location, local environment (knoll, hilltop, esker, peninsula, bedrock, proximity to water, *etc.*). Photograph the suspected archaeological or other heritage material and provide a setting shot, which will help in relocation. Add your name and contact numbers to the report. If you have a copy of a site record form, feel free to fill out a form in as much detail as you like or have time for.
- Send a report on the site(s) to a designated Company representative, who will forward it to the project's archaeologist for analysis.

At some point in the future, the archaeologist will visit the sites and verify the attributes as reported. Many thanks for your co-operation.

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