kiggavik Uranium Project

Baker Lake Northwest Territories Canada

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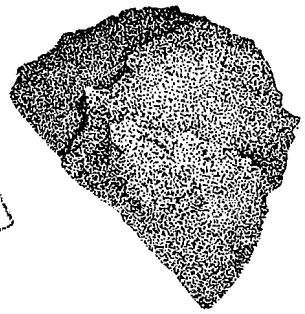
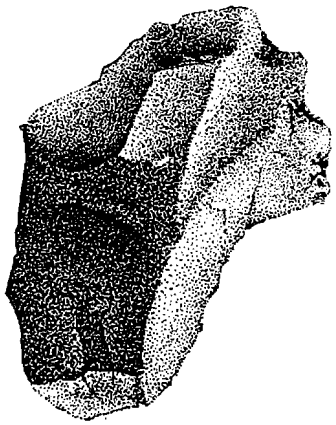
Environmental Assessment

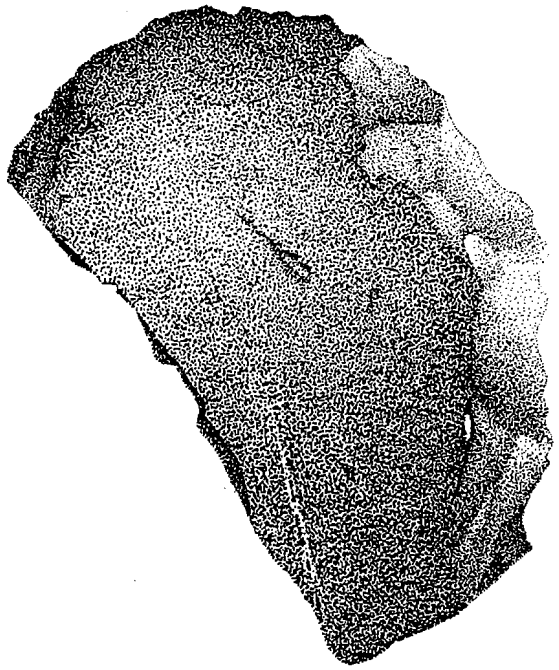
Prepared by Beak Consultants Limited

Supporting Document No. 9

Archaeology







Urangesellschaft Canada Limited

Toronto, Ontario Canada
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SUPPORTING DOCUMENT NO. 9

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS IN THE VICINITY OF THE KIGGAVIK URANIUM MINE PROJECT, DISTRICT OF KEEWATIN, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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1.0 SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1.1 Summary

Archaeological impact assessments of those areas which may be affected by the Kiggavik uranium development were performed during the summer field seasons of 1988 and 1989. An initial archaeological survey of all potentially affected areas was carried out 18-22 July 1988. Due to the numerous archaeological sites encountered during that season, further survey and controlled excavations were performed from 01-31 July 1989, with a crew composed of the principal investigator and three field assistants. The data resulting from these two field seasons now allow a complete assessment of the archaeological resources of the area.

Previous archaeological research indicated that the interior District of Keewatin, in the vicinity of the Kiggavik project, has been occupied almost continuously for at least the last 8,000 years, with five major archaeological traditions in the region at different periods.

Fifty-three archaeological sites were recorded during the present survey. These can be grouped into two broad categories. The first consists of large, easily identifiable architectural remains such as tent rings, caches, inuksuit, and kayak stands, which are found mainly on the margins of large bodies of water. These sites represent, for the most part, prehistoric and historic Caribou Inuit occupations. The second category of site consists of scatters of stone tool waste, in some cases associated with structural remains such as tent rings, which are found mainly at caribou lookouts at inland localities. As a result of the 1989 excavations, these latter sites have been identified as belonging primarily to the Taltheilei tradition, which is ancestral to the historic Chipewyan peoples who occupied some portions of the barrenlands seasonally until approximately 200 years ago. Both categories of site are archaeologically significant.

Areas in which survey and excavation occurred have been divided into five major zones, for ease of presentation; archaeological data from each will be summarized below.

1. Limestone Quarry and Associated Winter Access Road

The immediate vicinity of the proposed limestone quarry north of Aberdeen Lake did not contain any archaeological traces. The road from the quarry to Aberdeen Lake passes three archaeological sites consisting of tent rings and other stone constructions. The winter road will proceed down the centre of the southeastern arm of Aberdeen Lake, where it will pass twenty archaeological sites on the northern shore. These sites are attributed to Inuit occupations, and were recorded through a combination of air and ground survey. These sites are not directly threatened by the road, which will proceed along the lake ice. Finally, two stone tool scatters were identified on the esker which is traversed by the proposed road midway between the Lone Gull field camp and Aberdeen Lake; no sites were encountered in the river valleys which bisect the esker.

2. Deep-water Harbour Sites in Chesterfield Narrows

During the 1988 season, four proposed dock sites in Chesterfield Narrows were examined for archaeological evidence. These sites are unlikely to be developed because current plans do not call for the use of a deepwater harbour. The Chesterfield Narrows area exhibits dense concentrations of archaeological sites, representing Inuit occupations. If new plans call for the development of these sites, further archaeological recording and excavation will be necessary. One of the identified sites contains at least one human burial, which was not disturbed during the present survey. This site is known to Urangesellschaft Canada and was previously removed from the list of sites under active consideration because of the burial.

3. Barge Dock and Road to Town of Baker Lake

A barge dock site immediately east of the town of Baker Lake is now the preferred alternative to the harbour sites in Chesterfield Narrows. A relatively intensive survey was performed in the immediate vicinity of the proposed dock; no archaeological traces were found. The road from this dock to the town of Baker Lake was flown in 1988, and most of its length was walked in 1989, with no archaeological features observed.

4. Winter Road from Baker Lake to Kiggavik Project Area

The winter access road from the Kiggavik site area to the town of Baker Lake was surveyed by helicopter. The winter road tends to follow the lowest ground available, which is frozen during the road's use. As a result, the road would avoid any archaeological sites which, in this area, occur almost exclusively on areas of high ground which serve as observation points and as a refuge from insects and boggy conditions. Two stops were made along the road's length; at one, a rocky knoll west of Thom Lake, several archaeological features and three quartzite flakes were recovered. This knoll will not be affected by the winter road, and was surveyed primarily to ascertain whether archaeological sites exist in this general area.

5. Main Mine Site Area

During both field seasons, the main Kiggavik site area was intensively surveyed by foot, helicopter, or a combination of these two methods. The current temporary campsite, the proposed permanent campsites, the two open pits, mill sites, roads, waste disposal areas, and three possible airstrips were surveyed and found to be free of archaeological materials. The area around Skinny Lake, however, which is the preferred water source and a potential source of gravel and fill, is a noteable exception. Twenty-three archaeological sites were recorded near Skinny Lake, the majority of which are clustered around its southern end. Most of the 1989 field season was devoted to excavation of these sites. All of the sites occur on local points of high ground overlooking Skinny Lake, and were probably used by hunters as lookouts for caribou movements. Caribou movements were likely concentrated in this area, due to a gap in the local escarpment which allows convenient north-south movement. All sites which have yielded diagnostic artifacts have been determined to represent the Taltheilei archaeological tradition, and are likely to be Middle or Late Taltheilei, which has been dated elsewhere at 150 to 1750 A.D.

1.2 Recommendations

1. The following portions of the development can proceed as planned if identified archaeological sites are avoided. Territorial Land Use Regulations stipulate that archaeological sites must be avoided by a minimum of 30 metres; however a larger margin would be preferable:

- o limestone quarry and associated winter road;
- o winter road from Baker Lake to Kiggavik project area; and
- o barge dock and road to town of Baker Lake.

2. If a deepwater dock and the associated winter access road at Chesterfield Narrows were to be developed, further survey is necessary because this area is extremely rich in archaeological materials. Preliminary survey was insufficient for a detailed assessment of these sites.

3. The main Kiggavik project area is, for the most part, free of archaeological remains. The Skinny Lake area, however, is unusually and significantly rich in surface scatters of stone tool waste, as well as in archaeological features such as tent rings, most of which contain associated buried stone tool samples. Survey and excavation conducted during the 1989 field season has defined the extent of these sites.

   An extensive area, at the south end of Skinny Lake, was fully mitigated by systematic excavation in 1989; and could, therefore, be developed if precautions are taken to assure that adjacent areas are not affected. This area is defined as between the following boundaries: to the east, the narrow (5 metre wide) spit of land separating Skinny Lake from the L-shaped lake to the south (centre of spit: UTM 14WNG E7220 N5245); and to the northwest, the creek bed which empties into Skinny Lake at UTM coordinates 14WNG E71775 N52420.

   The area between these boundaries, and to the south, has been fully mitigated. The remainder of the margin of Skinny Lake requires further archaeological excavation if development is to proceed in this area.

4. If, at some future date, the Kiggavik project considers development of additional uranium finds, or if the project requires development of any areas not previously surveyed, additional archaeological survey will be required.

5. Urangesellschaft Canada Ltd. should ensure that its employees and contractors know that archaeological sites and specimens in the Northwest Territories are

protected by the Northwest Territories Archaeological Sites Regulations. The Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre in Yellowknife administers these Regulations, and can be contacted for more information.

2.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This report details the Kiggavik Archaeological work performed under Northwest Territories permits 88-646 and 89-664. Charles Arnold of the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre, Yellowknife, deserves many thanks for his help and advice during the Kiggavik project. The information and logistical support from Wilson Eedy, Don Lush, and Rob Watters of Beak Consultants Ltd. is also much appreciated. In addition, all of the people around the Lone Gull field camp provided a good working atmosphere during the fieldwork. The responsibility for all interpretations, however, is mine.

I was fortunate to have an excellent archaeological field crew in 1989, consisting of Lucy Scottie, Robert Tookoome, and Deborah Webster. I have many fond memories of working with these people. I also greatly appreciate the citizens of Baker Lake who discussed various aspects of the archaeology with me - I learned much from them.

Maps were produced by Mark Green of Beak Consultants Ltd., and Heather Henderson identified the historic ceramics from Chesterfield Narrows on the basis of photographs.

3.0 INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of archaeological investigations conducted during the summers of 1988 and 1989, in areas which may be affected by proposed development of the Kiggavik Uranium Mining Project, a project of Urangesellschaft Canada Ltd. The Kiggavik uranium deposit is located approximately 75 kilometres west of Baker Lake. Its development involves a camp site, air strip, mill site, dock near Baker Lake, winter road network, a separate limestone quarry and two planned open pit mining and tailings areas. In several cases, a number of alternative locations were considered for a single facility, such as the air strip, mill, camp and dock sites. These locations are described in Volume 1 of the Kiggavik Environmental Assessment Report.

Archaeological investigations occurred in two main phases. A rapid survey of all potentially affected areas by the project occurred during 1988, resulting in identification of 33 archaeological sites. Controlled excavation was kept to a minimum during this season because simple identification of the presence or absence of archaeological sites within the project area was considered the primary goal of the survey. During 1989, a series of sites within the primary Kiggavik project area were fully excavated, and further surveys were carried out in areas most likely to be affected by the potential development of the Kiggavik project, resulting in the recording of twenty further sites.

The following report is presented in seven sections: summary and recommendations, introduction, summary of the prehistory of interior Keewatin District, description of 1988 survey methods, description of 1989 survey and excavation methods, summary description of the archaeological data and conclusions, including a consideration of the significance of the archaeological sites encountered. An appendix contains summary data for each of the 53 archaeological sites recorded during the Kiggavik archaeological surveys.

4.0 PREHISTORY OF THE INTERIOR DISTRICT OF KEEWATIN

In order to assess the nature and significance of the archaeological remains which were encountered during the survey, a review of the current state of knowledge of the prehistory of this area was conducted. For the purposes of this report, archaeological traces from the interior District of Keewatin will be emphasized. The northern and eastern coasts, and interior regions to the south and west will be considered only briefly. In addition, historic European exploration and occupation of this region will not be considered here, as no sites directly related to these events were encountered during the survey. Key sites mentioned in the text are indicated on maps in the appendices.

Archaeological evidence demonstrating the occupation of this region by people belonging to five major cultural traditions has been reported. These traditions are summarized in Table 4.1, and elaborated upon below. Three of these traditions appear to have originated with Indian groups to the south and west (Northern Plano, Shield Archaic and Taltheilei), and two with Inuit groups to the north and east (Pre-Dorset and Caribou Inuit). Despite observable variation in tool types and settlement patterns, these groups certainly shared a common reliance on caribou for a large proportion of their subsistence. Fish, birds, muskoxen and other food sources were utilized, but were of secondary importance. Major caribou calving grounds occur in this area (Kelsall 1968; Kivalliq 1985); and seasonal migrations cause coalescence of caribou into groups of many thousands of animals which follow predictable routes through the region. These routes were exploited by ancient hunters in order to obtain not only meat, but also skins necessary for clothing and shelter, as well as bone and antler which served as raw material for the production of a variety of tool forms.

4.1 History of Research

The archaeology of the interior District of Keewatin begins with materials collected along the Dubawnt and Thelon rivers by the Moffat canoe expedition of 1955. Collections and site locations are reported by Harp (1959a) following the death of the expedition leader, A. R. Moffat, during the journey. Harp's own archaeological survey, conducted in 1958, recorded 42 new sites on Beverly, Aberdeen and Schultz lakes as well as along the lower Thelon river (Harp 1959b, 1960, 1961, 1962). Harp's(1961: 70) research indicated five cultural phases: "Early Indian hunters, ...Pre-Dorset Eskimos, ...Later

TABLE 4.1: CENTRAL BARRENLAND PREHISTORY (adapted from Gordon, 1981:4)

Tradition	Dates
Caribou Inuit	1750(?) to present
Taltheilei	650 B.C. to 1750 A.D.
Pre-Dorset (ASTt)	1500 to 700 B.C.
Shield Archaic	4000 to 1750 B.C.
Northern Plano (Agate Basin)	7000 to 4000 B.C.

Archaic Stage Indian hunters, ...Eskimos of the Thule culture, ...(and) Recent Caribou Eskimos".

Irving (1968) performed fieldwork on the upper Kazan River and in the North Henik and Dubawnt Lake areas in 1960, 1963 and 1964. Utilizing the resulting collections, as well as increased knowledge of Holocene climatic fluctuations in Keewatin District (Bryson et al., 1965), Irving proposed revisions to Harp's cultural chronology, including a division of the earliest archaeological materials into Paleoindian, Archaic, and Woodland traditions, as well as a chronological extension of the earliest cultural traces to at least 6,000 B.C.

With the initial definition of the cultural chronology of the area completed, a second phase of archaeological work has been performed in the interior District of Keewatin, a phase in which important individual sites were excavated under more controlled conditions. Wright(1972a, 1972b) excavated the Aberdeen site near the western end of Aberdeen Lake in 1969. This site, originally recorded by Harp, proved to be multi-component, and included Shield Archaic, Arctic Small Tool tradition (Pre-Dorset), Taltheilei tradition, and historic Caribou Eskimo occupations. The Taltheilei tradition, thought to represent prehistoric ancestors of Athapaskan peoples, was originally defined by Noble (1971) based on research to the west of Keewatin District. Wright (1976) also excavated the Grant Lake site, which had previously been visited by Moffat, Harp and Irving on separate occasions. Grant Lake proved to be an important Paleoindian site. Another important multi-component site is Migod, excavated by Gordon (1976), which contained evidence of all major prehistoric traditions thus far reported from the District of Keewatin. Gordon (1981) has presented a comprehensive summary of the relationship of human prehistory to caribou movement and climatic change in the barrenlands.

The most recent major archaeological work in the area resulted from the 1977 Polar Gas archaeology field program, which was designed to establish the distribution of sites along the proposed Polar Gas pipeline route (Schledermann and Nash 1977, Schledermann 1978). Thirty-three sites were located in the Thirty Mile Lake area on the lower Kazan River and southwest of Baker Lake, belonging to a variety of archaeological traditions ranging from Paleoindian to historic Inuit.

These publications represent the major contributions to the archaeology of the northern interior District of Keewatin. Although this report will not describe the archaeology of

the surrounding areas in detail, some key publications will be listed here. The northwest coast of Hudson Bay has seen much research, most aimed at defining the cultural succession of the coastally adapted Arctic cultures. An important early work is Mathiassen's (1927) Archaeology of the Central Eskimos; research has continued with work on Southampton Island (Collins, 1956), and coastal Hudson Bay (Taylor, 1968; McCartney, 1977; Clark, 1977, 1979; Burch, 1979; Wenzel, 1979). These studies have begun to clarify the complex relationships between the Pre-Dorset, Dorset, Thule and Caribou Inuit traditions which have existed in this region.

Important work has also occurred in the continental (i.e., non-coastal) regions adjacent to the study area. To the west, Gordon (1975) conducted a major study of the Arctic Small Tool tradition (Pre-Dorset) occupations of the upper Thelon river. Gordon continues to work at interior sites including Nadlok, south of Bathurst Inlet, at which five complex antler huts were excavated; one hut was constructed of over 3,000 caribou antlers (Gordon, 1988). Important work in the District of Mackenzie has been performed by Clark (1975), culminating in his work at Great Bear Lake (Clark, 1987); as well as by Noble (1971, 1981), MacNeish (1955), and Harp (1958). Further south, Nash (1969, 1975) has reported on a number of sites near the Keewatin-Manitoba border, including the important Pre-Dorset Seahorse Gully site near Churchill.

Following is a brief synopsis of the five major cultural traditions which have been defined for the northern interior District of Keewatin, the region in which the Kiggavik project is located.

Northern Plano Agate Basin tradition (7000-4000 B.C.)

The earliest human occupation of the District of Keewatin occurred shortly after the glaciers receded from this region, around 7000 B.C. The climate of the region was relatively warm during this period (Gordon 1981). These people, part of a broader archaeological designation known as Paleoindian, made projectile points similar to a distinctive type known as Agate Basin, first found in the western plains of the continental U.S.A. (Frison, 1983); and have been assigned to the Northern Plano Agate Basin tradition (Noble, 1971). Paleoindian peoples were highly mobile, and relied primarily on big game hunting for their subsistence, although in much of their range significant amounts of plant materials and smaller game must also have been utilized

(Kelly and Todd, 1988). Although bone preservation is poor or nonexistent at Paleoindian sites in the District of Keewatin, caribou must have been the dominant food source.

Evidence of Paleoindian populations has been found both as surface finds and in buried contexts. These finds "lie in a northeast, southwest oriented area approximately along the Dubawnt River between Schultz Lake ... and Crossing-Point-of-Deer, lower Thelon River, and continuing through Grant Lake to Firedrake Lake, upper Dubawnt River and Jarvis Lake" (Gordon, 1976: 47). Interestingly, this described area passes through the general Kiggavik project area.

The Grant Lake site is the most important Paleoindian site yet recorded in this area. It produced discrete concentrations of projectile points, endscrapers, bifaces, and other tool classes; as well as a radiocarbon date of 5270 ± 850 B.C. (Wright, 1976). There are also less extensive Paleoindian components which contain similar artifact categories at the Migod site (Gordon, 1976), one kilometre from the Grant Lake site, and at the Aberdeen site (Wright, 1972). In addition, Harp's (1961) site SL-2B, located on a ridge overlooking Schultz Lake, yielded a lithic assemblage which included Agate Basin-like points as well as a boulder outline of a house or tent feature measuring approximately 3 x 4.5 metres.

Shield Archaic (4000-1750 B.C.)

By about 4000 BC, the Paleoindian tradition in the interior Keewatin appears to have been followed by Shield Archaic peoples; in fact, Wright (1972:3) has hypothesized that the latter cultural tradition evolved from the former in situ in Keewatin District. The Shield Archaic tradition, as defined by Wright, characterized nomadic hunters and gatherers adapted to the Canadian Shield and boreal forest environments of subarctic Canada. As such, the Archaic peoples of Keewatin District may represent a marginal group within the Shield Archaic; one with a greater reliance on caribou, and less reliance on other subsistence systems, than other Shield Archaic peoples. In general, Archaic peoples throughout the Americas are considered to be relatively intensive hunters, fishers and gatherers, with more precise knowledge and more intensive utilization of specific regions than their Paleoindian predecessors (Willey, 1966).

In Keewatin, the important sites of the Shield Archaic which have been excavated and described are restricted to the Thelon River and its Dubawnt and Kazan tributaries (Gordon, 1976:49). The Aberdeen site (Wright, 1972) on western Aberdeen Lake yielded large lithic samples dominated by side-notched and lanceolate projectile points, end and side-scrapers, and bifaces. Two semi-subterranean house-pits were also recorded at the Aberdeen site, each of which measured approximately 3 x 5 metres. The Migod site, on northern Grant Lake, yielded large Shield Archaic lithic samples in stratigraphic context as well.

Pre-Dorset (1500-700 B.C.)

The Pre-Dorset tradition is a part of the broader Arctic Small Tool tradition (ASTt) (Irving, 1970), which characterized the first people to occupy the Central and High Arctic coasts following deglaciation. This major migration appears to have covered the vast distance from northern Alaska to northern Greenland within only a few hundred years at around 4000 B.P. (McGhee, 1976). The southern manifestation of the ASTt is referred to as the Pre-Dorset because it occurs stratigraphically earlier than the Dorset culture (Dorset occupations have not been recorded in the interior District of Keewatin). The most characteristic artifacts in barrenland Pre-Dorset lithic assemblages are burins (steep-faceted bone or woodworking tools), carefully flaked end and sideblades for composite projectile points, microblades and microblade cores.

Interior (non-coastal) Pre-Dorset occupations extend as far south as Lake Athabaska, Saskatchewan; and have been most fully described from a series of sites on the upper Thelon (Gordon, 1975), located to the west of the Kiggavik project area. These interior Pre-Dorset occupations seem to coincide with a marked climatic cooling episode (Gordon, 1981). Most of the barrens were occupied by Pre-Dorset peoples, with the exception of those areas north of the lower and middle Thelon River (Gordon, 1975: 95). Pre-Dorset occupations of the interior District of Mackenzie appear to have originated to the north, in Coronation or Amundsen Gulf (Maxwell, 1985); however the Pre-Dorset of interior Keewatin area is likely derived from coastal Pre-Dorset occupations near Churchill (Gordon, 1981). Pre-Dorset materials occur at the Aberdeen site (Wright, 1972), the Migod site (Gordon, 1976), and at several sites northwest of Baker Lake (Harp, 1961).

Taltheilei Tradition (650 B.C.-1750 A.D.)

The Taltheilei tradition is an interior archaeological tradition originally defined by Noble (1971) on the basis of 118 sites in the District of Mackenzie. Taltheilei is regarded as an Athapaskan tradition, directly ancestral to historic Dene peoples (Clark, 1987). In the southern barrenlands, Late Taltheilei peoples are directly ancestral to historically documented Chipewyan groups. At some time during the 18th century, Chipewyan populations were decimated by European diseases and withdrew to the south in order to engage in the fur trade. The initial expansion of Taltheilei peoples into the barrenlands seems to have occurred during a relatively warm period at approximately 700 B.C. or shortly thereafter (Gordon, 1981). In the southern barrenlands Taltheilei appears directly above Pre-Dorset levels in multi-component sites.

Taltheilei can be divided into three temporal sub-traditions (Gordon, 1981). The Early Taltheilei tradition (650 B.C. to 150 A.D.) is characterized by shouldered projectile points with ground tangs and bifacial knives. The Middle Taltheilei tradition (150 A.D. to 600 A.D.) is characterized by diamond-shaped and lanceolate projectile points with ground bases and stemmed knives. The projectile points of the Late Taltheilei tradition (600 A.D. to 1750 A.D.) have lost their stems and basal grinding, and are occasionally accompanied by side-notched points. Many classes of stone tool are common to all subdivisions of the Taltheilei tradition; including wedges, chi-thos (cobble-spall scrapers) and scrapers. In the interior district of Keewatin, major Taltheilei sites include Migod and Aberdeen.

Caribou Inuit (1750-Present)

The Kiggavik area is currently occupied by direct descendants of the historic Caribou Inuit, who have occupied the District of Keewatin for at least 200 years. Major modern population centres, such as Baker Lake, Chesterfield Inlet and Rankin Inlet were for the most part settled in the 1950s as an official policy of the Canadian government. At this time, year-round occupation "on the land" effectively ceased, although seasonal caribou hunting and fishing is still an important occupation for residents of these communities (Stager, 1977). Prior to intensive government influence, the Caribou Inuit occupied much of the interior and coast of Keewatin, including the Kazan, Dubawnt, and lower Thelon drainage basins. These areas, in particular the margins of major rivers and lakes, are

dominated by Inuit sites, which are characterized by stone constructions of a number of types, including inuksuit, tent rings, caches, hunting blinds, and kayak stands.

Like all other historic Inuit populations in the eastern Canadian Arctic, the Caribou Inuit are descended from a Thule culture base. Highly organized and technologically advanced Thule whale-hunters spread across the central and eastern Arctic around 1000 A.D. In certain regions Thule people may have displaced or assimilated pre-existing Dorset peoples. Burch (1979) has written that Caribou Inuit migrated from the central Arctic during the 17th century, on the basis of house types, dialect, and Inuit views of their own past. On the other hand, Clark (1977) argues that the Caribou Inuit developed from a historic Thule culture base on western Hudson Bay around 1775, and developed their distinctive inland caribou-hunting adaptation as a result of acquisition of firearms through trade.

5.0 SUMMARY OF 1988 FIELD WORK

The initial Kiggavik archaeological survey was performed from 18-22 July 1988. In total, slightly over three full (fourteen to sixteen-hour) days were spent in survey. A full initial assessment of the archaeological potential of the region was possible during that period for the following reasons:

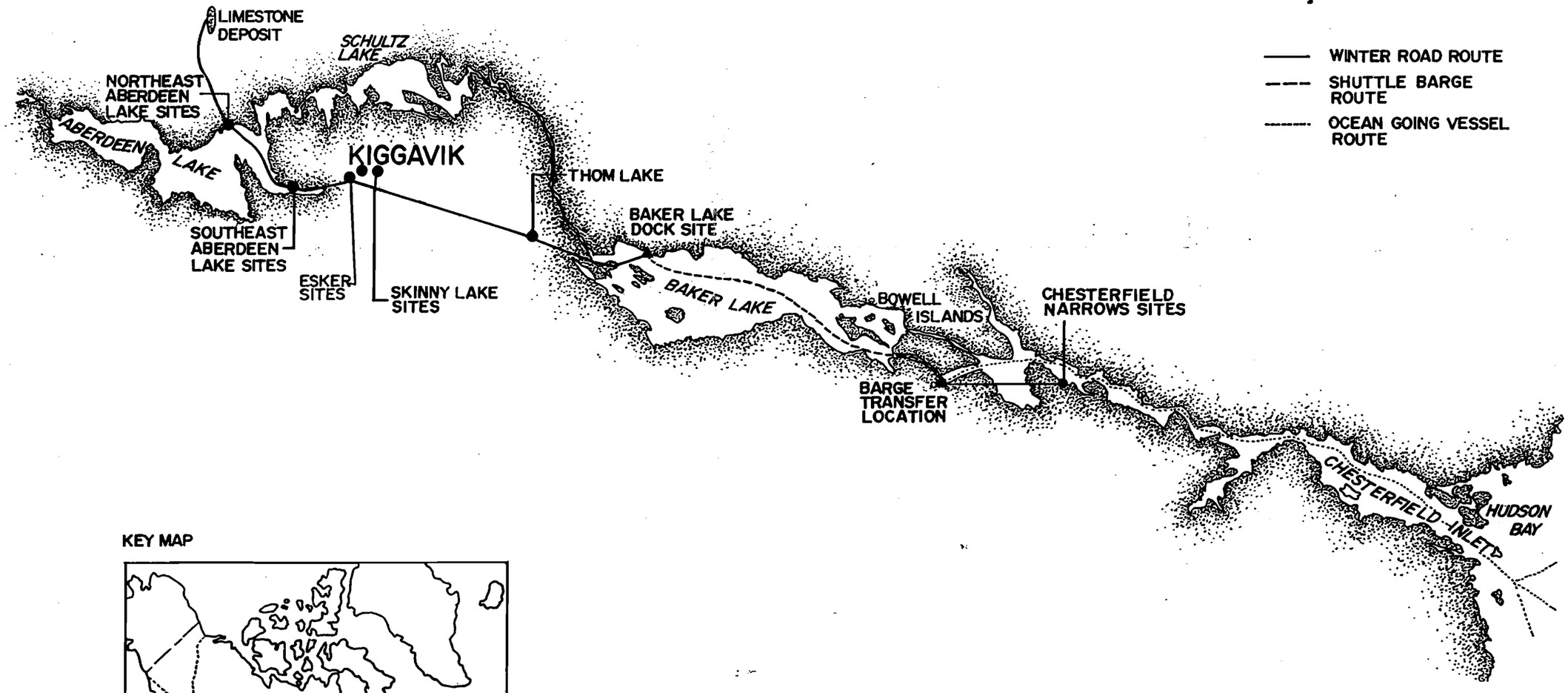
1. areas which may be affected by the project are concentrated spatially;
2. helicopters were used extensively, allowing maximum efficiency of the survey;
3. much of the area potentially affected by the Kiggavik project occurs on low-lying, boggy ground; in particular, those areas which are traversed by the winter roads; these areas are considered inappropriate for prehistoric human use; a number of these areas were surveyed, despite the low probability of prehistoric occupation, all with negative results; and
4. in most cases, no attempt was made to go beyond the recording of the presence of an archaeological site; time-consuming excavations were generally not performed.

Following is a summary of survey methods, divided into five areas for the sake of convenience (Map 1).

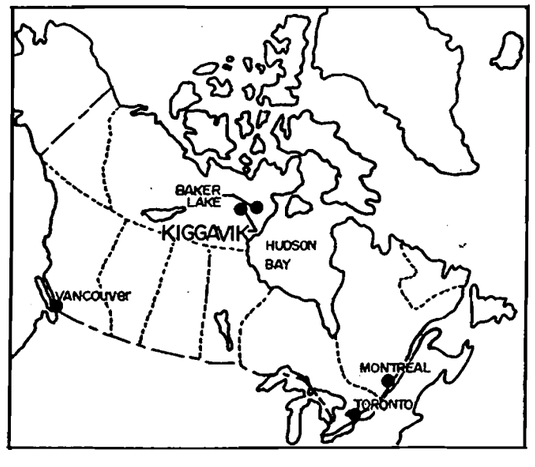
Survey of the four Chesterfield Narrows deepwater harbour sites was performed by helicopter; each site was observed from the air, following which a rapid foot survey occurred. Survey time was insufficient to determine the presence or absence of less obvious archaeological sites, such as lithic scatters on high ground adjacent to the harbour sites; however an attempt was made to record major architectural features at the sites. Three of the four potential harbour sites contain several stone features; at the fourth, a large tent ring was observed adjacent to the proposed harbour area.

The **barge dock and road to Baker Lake** were surveyed by foot and helicopter. The barge dock area was fully surveyed on foot, including all adjacent high points of land. No archaeological features were observed, although the area is clearly currently used by modern residents of Baker Lake. The road route from the dock site to the town of Baker Lake was flown slowly, at low altitude in the helicopter; no archaeological sites were observed.

MAP 1
Archaeological Site Distribution in Kiggavik Project Area



KEY MAP



The **winter road from Kiggavik to Baker Lake** was flown by helicopter. This road has been used in previous seasons, and as a result one can easily follow tire tracks for much of its length. This and other winter access roads tend to follow low, boggy ground which is, of course, frozen in the winter. As a result, areas where there is a high probability of finding evidence of prehistoric occupations are avoided. Prehistoric sites occur almost universally on high ground in this area, because they serve both as caribou lookouts and as a refuge from boggy conditions and insects. Two stops were made on this road. At the first, located where a small stream empties into Long Lake (west of Thom Lake), no archaeological sites were observed. At the second stop, on a low, rocky knoll southwest of Thom Lake, one hunting blind, one tent ring, and three stone flakes were found. This knoll will not be affected by the winter road, and was surveyed in order to ascertain whether prehistoric sites exist in this general area.

The **limestone quarry and associated winter access road** were surveyed by helicopter. The immediate quarry area was surveyed on foot, with no archaeological materials observed. One stop was made south of the quarry and approximately 12 kilometres north of Aberdeen Lake, with negative results. Three stops were made within 5 kilometres north of Aberdeen Lake, all at archaeological sites visible from the air. From this point the winter road will travel across Aberdeen Lake to the southeast, and then follow the southeast arm of Aberdeen Lake to its eastern terminus. Twelve sites were observed from the air on the north shore of this southeast arm of Aberdeen Lake. All were recorded and mapped from the air; they will not be directly affected by the proposed winter road. The helicopter landed at one of these twelve sites, LcLg-8, in order to facilitate closer observation of archaeological features present.

Finally, the **esker midway between Aberdeen Lake and the Kiggavik field camp** was visited, where one site on a spur of the esker was recorded. The following day, the esker was revisited and surveyed on foot for several hours. One further site was located on a high spur of the esker; no sites were located in the low river valleys which traverse the esker, despite survey of these areas.

The fifth area surveyed was the **main mine site area,** including proposed future locations of open pits, field camp, mill, airstrip, and associated roads and infrastructures. Throughout the survey period, much of the main Kiggavik project area was intensively surveyed by foot, helicopter, or a combination of these two methods. Southern Skinny

Lake, the length of the escarpment from Skinny Lake to the Lone Gull camp, the area around the camp, and the two open pit areas were surveyed intensively on foot, while all other identified areas were visited by helicopter, which landed at any area which could possibly yield archaeological materials. Because Skinny Lake yielded stone tools, this area was visited on three separate occasions. A 50 x 50 cm test pit was excavated inside one of the Skinny Lake tent rings, yielding lithic artifacts. Subsurface shovel testing occurred at a number of other Skinny Lake localities, with negative results.

6.0 SUMMARY OF 1989 FIELD WORK

Logistics for the 1989 field season were significantly different from those of the previous year. The period spent in the field was extended to the full month of July, with only two days lost to severe weather. The field crew was expanded from a single investigator, as was the case in 1988, to four people, including the principal investigator and three field assistants, Lucy Scottie, Robert Tookoome, and Deborah Webster. Ms. Webster is an experienced archaeological excavator with Arctic training. Ms. Scottie and Mr. Tookoome are highly-qualified residents of Baker Lake who, although they had not received archaeological training prior to the 1989 field season, proved to be excellent researchers.

In 1989, archaeological fieldwork was conducted in three specific areas; Pointer Lake, Aberdeen Lake, and Skinny Lake; with a great majority of the archaeological work concentrated in the area around Skinny Lake.

Due to technical changes, the west side of Pointer Lake was added to the list of potential sites for the Kiggavik airstrip in 1989. This area had not been surveyed in 1988. Careful foot survey of the airstrip area and of the road route from Pointer Lake to the primary Kiggavik area did not reveal any archaeological features or artifacts. The other two areas were surveyed in order to gain a more comprehensive understanding of their respective archaeological records; an outline of that work follows.

Aberdeen Lake

During the 1988 field season, a concentration of twelve sites had been observed from the helicopter along the north shore of the southeast arm of Aberdeen Lake, and had been recorded in a preliminary fashion. The helicopter had landed at only one of these sites, allowing a brief foot survey which confirmed the fact that the sites represented Prehistoric or Historic Inuit occupations. It was considered important to return to this area for more detailed observation because the sites had been recorded in such a brief fashion, and because this group of sites represented a previously unrecorded Caribou Inuit regional settlement system. Previous archaeological investigators had not ventured into the southeast arm of Aberdeen Lake, even though most other shorelines of the lake had been surveyed.

Two days were spent recording the site distributions in a small portion of this area, with eight new sites being recorded. In addition, more accurate enumerating of numbers and types of feature were made at seven of the sites which had been originally recorded in 1988. In addition to clarifying the pattern on the coast, a number of sites were recorded further inland, some over one kilometre from the Aberdeen shoreline, thus adding a new category of site to the settlement pattern. Two burials were observed at one of the sites (TMF-89-13); these features were not disturbed.

Skinny Lake

The most remarkable series of finds of the 1988 season had been recorded around the southern end of Skinny Lake. These sites are important from the point of view of the construction of the Kiggavik project, because they are situated in an area which is the most likely source of water; and which is being considered as a source of gravel and fill for construction. The sites are also important from an archaeological point of view, because they occur in an area unlike other known site concentrations in the barrenlands. Virtually all other known sites cluster around major rivers and lake systems; in particular around major caribou crossings on the Thelon, Kazan, and Dubawnt river systems.

Due to the potential importance of the sites, and their presence in an area which may be affected by construction of the Kiggavik project, 1989 archaeological investigations were concentrated in the area around Skinny Lake. The archaeology was performed in order to achieve two goals. The first goal was to define the nature of the sites in this area in a more comprehensive manner, as they had only been rapidly surveyed in the previous year. Most sites recorded in the 1988 season consisted of scatters of stone tools, although more substantial archaeological features in the form of tent rings and other boulder-outlined features had been recorded at two of the sites. The extent of the sites and, more importantly, their chronological and cultural affiliations, were unknown. The second goal was to mitigate as much of the area as possible through systematic excavation and surface collection, as had been recommended in a preliminary report which resulted from the 1988 survey (Friesen 1988).

Three days were devoted to foot survey of the entire circumference of Skinny Lake and a broad zone around its southern end. In all, twelve new sites were recorded; seven around the lake and five at points of high ground on the escarpment to the south of Skinny

Lake. A significant and unexpected result of this more methodical survey was the recording of many more stone features. Whereas the 1988 survey had revealed four stone features (two tent rings and two indeterminate features) the 1989 survey resulted in a total of 31 features being identified; 29 of which were clustered around the southern end of Skinny Lake.

Most of the 1989 field season was devoted to systematic excavation of features around the southern end of Skinny Lake, with concentration on those areas most likely to be affected by the Kiggavik project. In total, nine features were fully excavated; an additional three were test excavated and found not to contain artifacts. All excavation was performed exclusively with trowels, in order to maximize control; and all sediment was screened using quarter-inch mesh. Features were excavated using one of two systems of arbitrary units. The first system, used on the two largest and most complex features, involved superimposing a metre-square grid over the entire feature, and excavating each square metre individually. The second system, used for the smaller tent rings, involved simply dividing the ring into four equal quadrants, and excavating each one individually. In all cases, all artifacts were within ten centimetres of the surface, and usually within five centimetres; therefore in all but one case the features were excavated in a single level. Accurate maps were drafted of each feature prior to excavation.

7.0 SUMMARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL DATA

A total of 53 previously undocumented archaeological sites was recorded during the Kiggavik archaeological survey. Summary information for each site is provided in the appendix, however an outline of important findings will be presented in this section. For purposes of clarity, sites will be grouped into five areas: Chesterfield Narrows, Winter Road, Skinny Lake, Southeast Aberdeen Lake, and Northeast Aberdeen Lake.

Chesterfield Narrows Sites

Although only four sites were recorded at Chesterfield Narrows during the present survey, it was clear during helicopter reconnaissance of the Narrows, from the eastern end of Baker Lake to Ippijjuaq Bay, that archaeological sites are relatively densely distributed (Map 2). Reasons for this are probably two-fold. First, a major caribou crossing point exists at Chesterfield Narrows approximately 10 kilometres northwest of the archaeological sites observed (Kivalliq 1985). This important resource, in addition to a nearby goose nesting area, would have drawn prehistoric and historic populations. Second, the Narrows represent a natural transportation corridor between Hudson Bay to the east, and Baker Lake, the Thelon river, and the Kazan river to the west.

The sites encountered on Chesterfield Narrows generally exhibit tent rings, cache structures, kayak rests, hunting blinds, and, in one case, a burial structure (Figures 1 and 2). Thus, they represent seasonal habitation by Inuit peoples. Without disturbing the burial structure at KlJs-2, it was possible to see that several metal and china objects were associated with it. One of the china fragments bore an "Imperial Ironstone China" maker's mark and a flow blue transfer print design. This type was produced in Staffordshire, England from 1877-1886 (Godden 1979); therefore at least a portion of this site must have been occupied after 1877. No further artifacts were observed at any of the sites. Although the survey was extremely brief, it is evident that most, if not all, of the archaeological sites on Chesterfield Narrows were occupied by Caribou Inuit. The historic Caribou Inuit who occupied sites in this general area later resettled in Chesterfield Inlet (Mayne and Govier 1977: 42).

Winter Road Sites

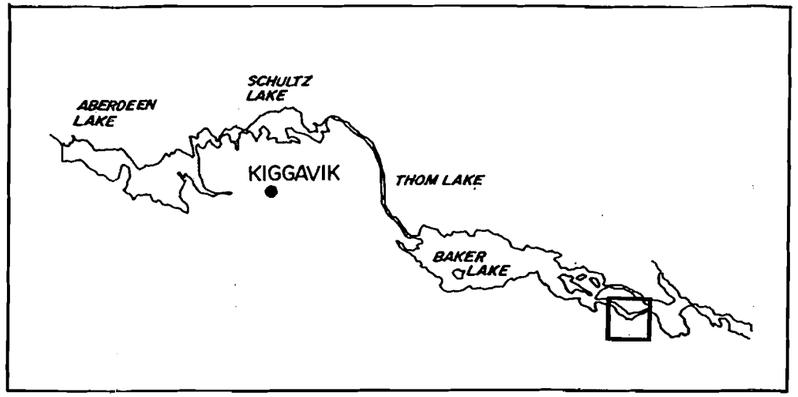
Three sites were recorded in the vicinity of proposed winter roads. The first, on a low rocky knoll southwest of Thom Lake, yielded a single hunting blind, a tent ring, and three quartzite flakes. This site likely functioned as a seasonal habitation and caribou lookout, perhaps for a single nuclear family, or a specialized hunting party. Two similar sites have been reported from within 10 km of this site (Schledermann 1978: 215), and were likely occupied by Caribou Inuit.

Further to the west, two sites were located on the esker which is bisected by the proposed winter access road from the Kiggavik project area to Aberdeen Lake. Both sites consist of scatters of stone tools, and are located on points of high ground which overlook the small rivers which flow through the esker. These sites represent caribou lookouts of unknown age. None of the stone tools could be assigned to a specific prehistoric cultural tradition.

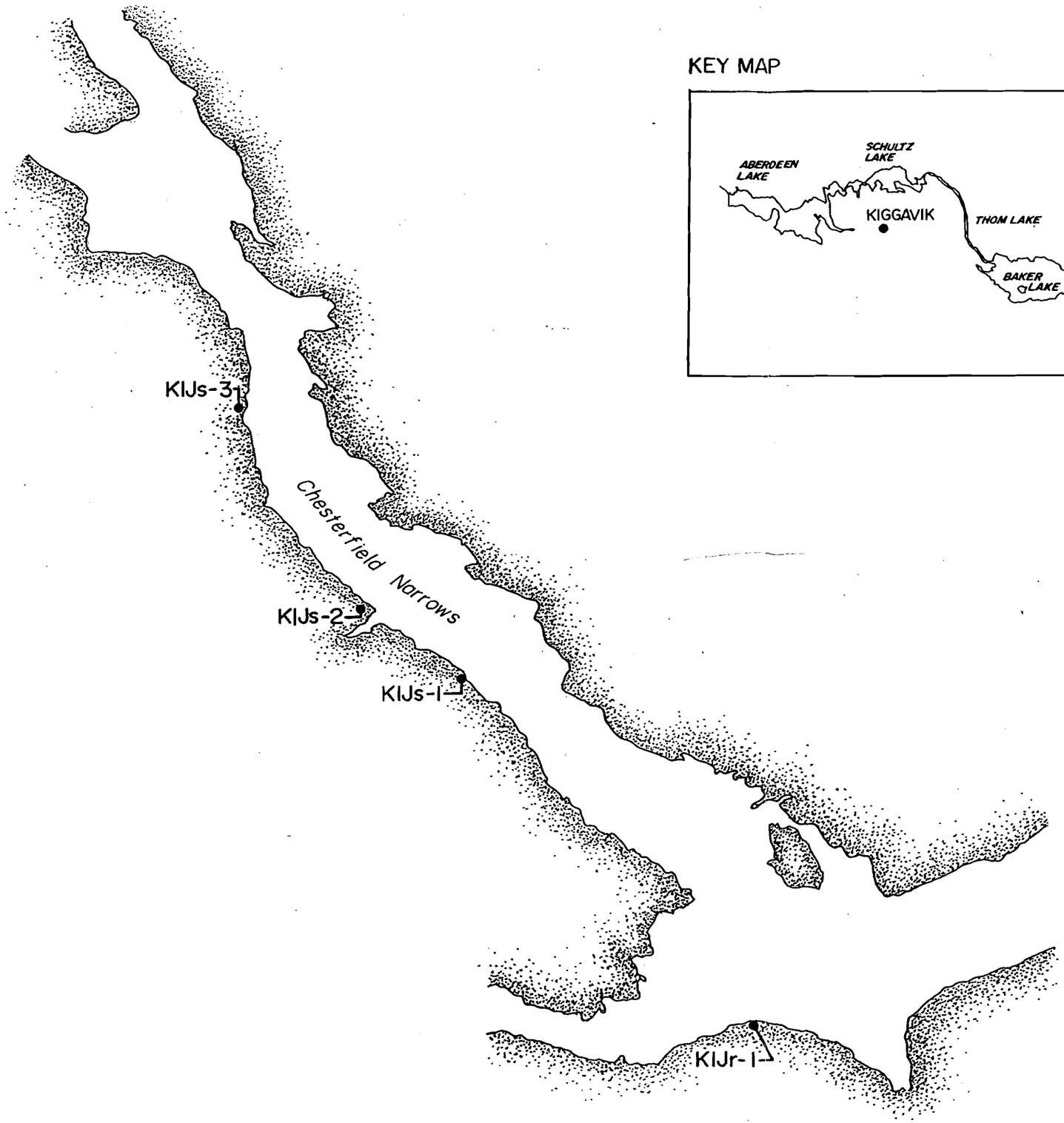
Skinny Lake Sites

Twenty-three sites were recorded in the vicinity of Skinny Lake, seventeen of which are clustered near its southern end; which is an area likely to be affected by the Kiggavik project (Map 3). These sites can be conveniently grouped into two related categories. The first category consists of scatters of stone tools, without evidence of archaeological features in the form of boulder outlines. These sites are situated on points of high ground which command broad views of surrounding areas, and must have served as caribou lookouts (Figure 3). Examples of this category of site are the six stone tool scatters located on high spurs of the escarpment southeast and southwest of Skinny Lake. These sites command an excellent view of the broad plain to the south, as well as of the gap in the escarpment which occurs directly south of Skinny Lake. The most distant examples of this category are four sites near the north end of Skinny Lake, and one site on a small rock outcrop northeast of Escarpment Lake, 3.5 km southwest of Skinny Lake (LcLe-11). Diagnostic artifacts were not observed at these surface lithic scatters, with the exception of a single Taltheilei projectile point base from TMF-89-8, located on the escarpment southeast of Skinny Lake. No bone, wood, charcoal, or other organic artifacts were recovered from any of the Skinny Lake sites.

KEY MAP



MAP 2
Archaeological sites-
Chesterfield Narrows



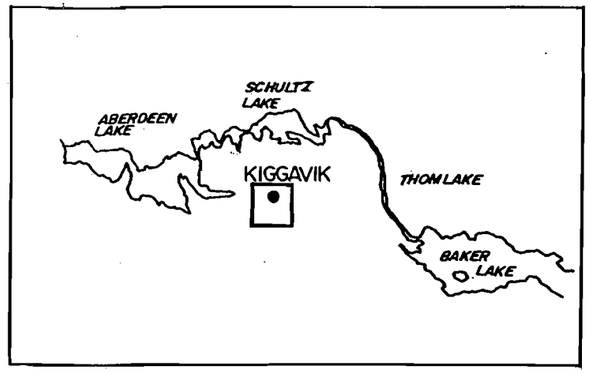
METRES
0 500 1000 1500

FIGURE 1
"KlJs-2,Chesterfield Narrows. Tent Ring"

FIGURE 2
"KIJs-2,Chesterfield Narrows. Burial Structure"

MAP 3
Archaeological Sites-
Skinny Lake

KEY MAP



TMF-89-4
TMF-89-5
TMF-89-2
TMF-89-3
TMF-89-6
TMF-89-7
LcLe-9
Skinny Lake
TMF-89-1
LcLe-8
LcLe-1
LcLe-7
LcLe-6
Proposed Pumpstation Location
LcLe-5
LcLe-4
LcLe-2
LcLe-3
TMF-89-8
TMF-89-10
Proposed Pumpstation Service Road
LcLe-11
3 Km
TMF-89-12
LcLe-10
TMF-89-11
100m.
TMF-89-9

METRES
0 125 200

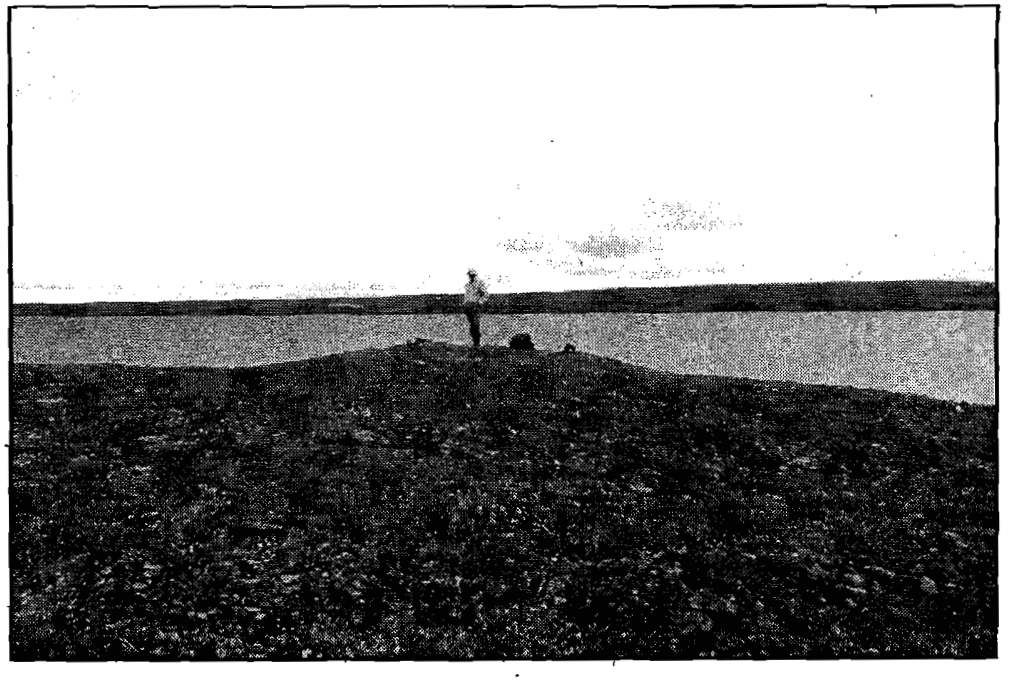


FIGURE 3
"LcLe-8,Southwest Skinny Lake,
Caribou Lookout Site Yielding Stone Tool Scatter."

The second category of site at Skinny Lake exhibits archaeological features consisting of boulder outlines; in most cases stone artifacts are associated with the features. A total of 31 features, primarily tent rings, were identified in the vicinity of Skinny Lake. Twenty-nine are concentrated along approximately 1.5 kilometres of the shoreline at the southern end of Skinny Lake. These features are generally difficult to differentiate from the surrounding landscape. In most cases, only the tops of the irregular stones used in their construction are visible through the vegetation; and this area is covered in naturally occurring stones which mimic the archaeological features. The regularity of the spatial patterning of the stones is often the only criterion which one can use to judge whether groups of stones are in fact archaeological features. In some cases, the status of an archaeological feature could not be confirmed until test excavation occurred, in order to ascertain the presence or absence of associated artifacts.

With the exception of one tent ring on the west side of Kavisilik Lake (a large lake immediately northeast of Skinny Lake), and one unidentified feature in the middle of the east shore of Skinny Lake, all observed archaeological features are concentrated at the southern end of Skinny Lake. These features have been assigned to four separate sites which have been differentiated on the basis of natural landforms and spatial clustering of archaeological features: LcLe-1, LcLe-2, LcLe-5, and LcLe-7. These sites contain 4, 5, 6, and 14 features, respectively. All features in LcLe-2 and LcLe-5 were mapped and excavated, in order to concentrate mitigation in a single area. In addition, one feature at LcLe-7 was excavated due to its unusual nature; no features at LcLe-1 were excavated.

LcLe-2 contains five features; two tent rings and three structures of indeterminate function. The first tent ring excavated, Feature 1, is 2.5 metres in diameter, and is composed of a very simple ring of stones. Very few artifacts, none diagnostic, were recovered from this features. Feature 2, on the other hand, is a much more complex tent ring and is approximately 5 metres in diameter (Figures 4 and 5). A very large lithic sample was recovered from Feature 2, including five projectile point bases diagnostic of the Taltheilei tradition. The three remaining features are all U-shaped in plan view. Features 3a and 3b are parallel structures, approximately 4.5 x 1.5 metres in area, with one open end. Feature 4 is also U-shaped, but is only 1.5 x .75 metres in area. These three features were completely excavated; no artifacts were recovered with the exception of several flakes on the surface of Feature 3a; these flakes may not be functionally associated with the feature.

FIGURE 4
Skinny Lake
LcLe-2 Feature 2
Excavation in Progress

FIGURE 5
Skinny Lake
LcLe-2 Feature 2

LcLe-5 contains 6 features; five tent rings and one indeterminate grouping of small boulder outlines. Features 1, 2, and 6 are tent rings which were fully excavated; their approximate diameters are 3, 2.5, and 3 metres, respectively. These three features produced lithic samples; the largest and most varied was recovered from Feature 1, which contained five diagnostic Taltheilei projectile point bases. Features 3 and 5 are tent rings which were test excavated and found not to contain artifacts; they are 4 and 3 metres in diameter, respectively. Finally, Feature 4 is composed of a number of smaller boulder outlines, three of which are clearly discernible. These outlines average 1.5 to 2 metres in diameter. Numerous 50 x 50 cm. test excavations did not reveal any artifacts. All features at LcLe-5 and LcLe-2 were carefully mapped and drawn.

The final excavated feature is LcLe-7 Feature 1 (Figures 6 and 7). This remarkable feature is approximately 19 x 4 metres long, and stands in significant contrast to all other features in the area. Because of its unusual nature, LcLe-7 Feature 1 was fully excavated. Interestingly, every square metre produced artifacts, reinforcing the interpretation of this feature as the remains of a single structure, rather than as a row of several tent rings. Among the artifacts were five complete or partial Taltheilei projectile points.

In addition to the twenty-three prehistoric sites, one recent campsite was observed at Skinny Lake, adjacent to LcLe-7. Recent cans and shotgun shells were observed, and close inspection did not reveal earlier materials, therefore this camp was not recorded as an archaeological site. This campsite may correspond to one of the "Special Places" indicated by the people of Baker Lake on a map of economic localities recorded by the Polar Gas Project (Stager 1977: Map 5), and could represent a recent hunting camp.

Southeast Aberdeen Sites

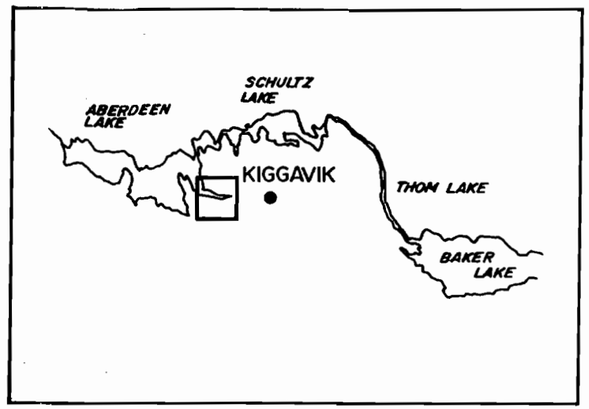
Twenty sites were recorded along the north shore of the southeast arm of Aberdeen Lake, through a combination of helicopter and foot survey (Map 4). These sites range in complexity from a single feature, interpreted here as a cache or qarmaq (temporary seasonal dwelling with stone walls and skin roof); to over 20 structures, including tent rings, caches, kayak stands, and inuksuit (cairns) (Figures 8 and 9). In most cases, caches and qarmat predominate. Two burials were observed, both at site TMF-89-13. Several of the sites appear to be relatively recent, due to excellent preservation of wood and bone,

FIGURE 6
Skinny Lake
LcLe-7 Feature 1. Excavation in Progress
Left to Right- Deborah Webster, Robert Tookoome, Lucy Scottie

FIGURE 7
Skinny Lake
LcLe-7 Feature 1

MAP 4
Archaeological Sites- Southeast Arm of Aberdeen Lake

KEY MAP



Winter Road Route to Limestone Quarry

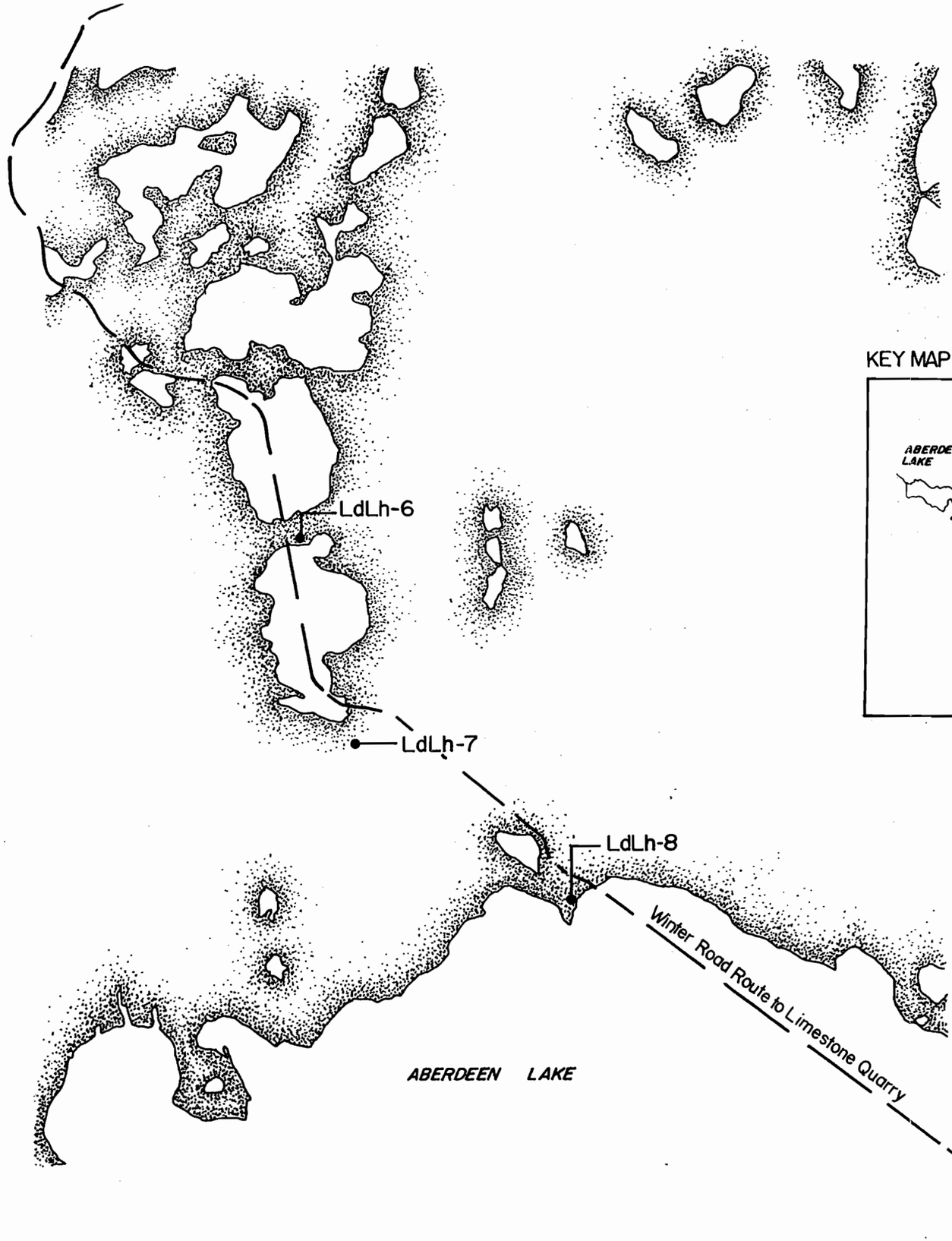
ABERDEEN LAKE

LcLg-1
LcLg-2
LcLg-3
LcLg-4
LcLg-5
LcLg-6
LcLg-7
LcLg-8
LcLg-9
LcLg-10
LcLg-11
LcLg-12

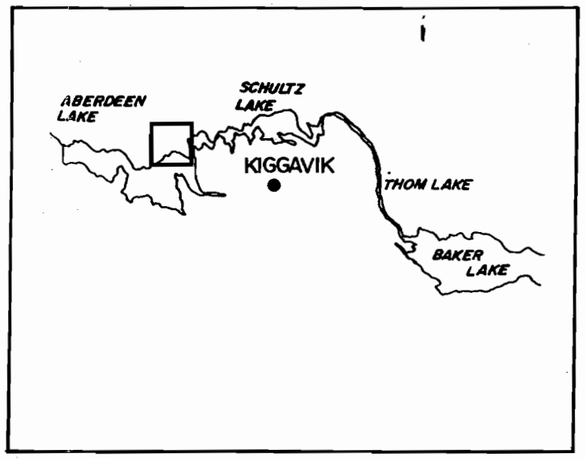
TMF-89-13
TMF-89-14
TMF-89-15
TMF-89-16
TMF-89-17
TMF-89-18
TMF-89-19
TMF-89-20

METRES
0 500 1000 2000 3000

MAP 5
Archaeological Sites-Northeast Aberdeen Lake



KEY MAP



METRES
0 1000 2000 3000

FIGURE 8
LcLe-8
Southeast Aberdeen Lake
Fox Trap or Cache Structure

FIGURE 9
LcLe-10
Southeast Aberdeen Lake.
Cluster of Four Inuksuit

as well as the presence of metal objects including cans and an oil lamp. In addition, stone flakes were observed at two of the sites. No artifacts were collected from these sites, in order to avoid biases for future research in this area.

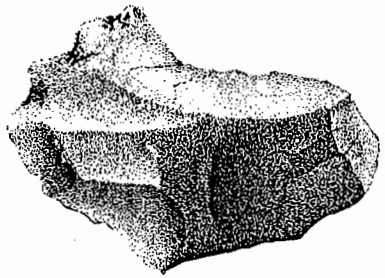
Most of these sites represent seasonal habitations, as indicated by the tent rings and qarmat; the same sites often include caches used for meat storage. In general, these sites occur on terraces overlooking Aberdeen Lake; fish may have formed an important addition to the subsistence economy which was undoubtedly dominated by caribou. A number of the sites were used for other functions. For example, several of the sites located at points of high ground up to 1 kilometre from the lakeshore must have functioned as caribou lookouts; and sites which are dominated by clusters or lines of inuksuit must have been components in large caribou drive systems. This combination of functionally different site types represents an Inuit seasonal settlement system, with each site providing a link in the subsistence system, almost certainly geared to intercepting caribou during the Fall migration.

Northeast Aberdeen Lake Sites

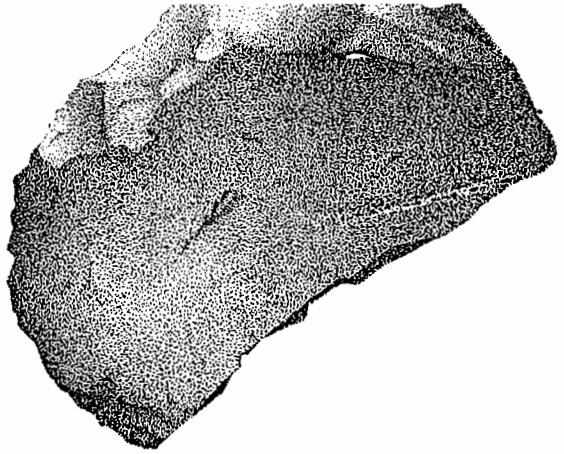
Three sites were located north of Aberdeen Lake along the proposed winter road corridor from Aberdeen Lake to the limestone quarry (Map 5). LdLh-6 consisted of a single feature on a narrow isthmus between two lakes, 5 km north of Aberdeen Lake. The feature appears to be a double hunting blind. LdLh-7 is located on a broad boulder-covered knoll 3 km north of Aberdeen lake. It consists of two tent rings and one stone feature, likely a cache or hunting blind. LdLh-8 is a tent ring located on the shore of Aberdeen Lake, and appears to be relatively recent, based on the surface location of the stones. These three sites are similar to five sites reported by Harp(1961:20) from the northeast corner of Aberdeen Lake.

Lithic Artifacts

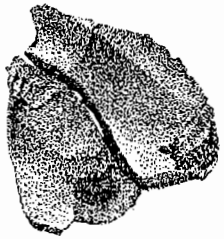
Lithic artifacts (stone tools and flakes) were collected from a total of 22 sites: 19 of the 21 Skinny Lake sites, the two esker sites, and the knoll adjacent to Thom Lake (Figure 10). None of the artifacts observed at Chesterfield Narrows or at Aberdeen were collected, so as not to obscure future archaeological investigations in these areas. Detailed lithic analyses are beyond the scope of the present report, however a brief



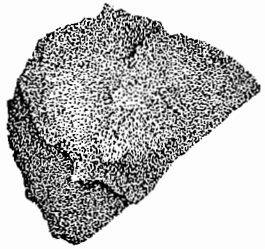
LcLe-1
Keeled Endscraper with
Denticulate Retouch



LcLe-4
Cobble Spall Scraper with
Heavy Bifacial Retouch



LcLe-11
Modified Flake with Graver Spur



LcLe-8
Biface Fragment

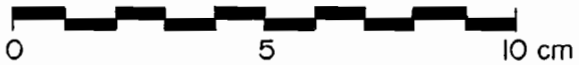


FIGURE 10
Select Lithic Artifacts from
Skinny Lake Sites

consideration of the nature of the lithic samples recovered during the Kiggavik archaeological survey will be presented here.

Without exception, the raw material utilized for stone tool manufacture is quartzite. This material is abundant throughout the study area, and occurs in two primary forms: spalls from exposed rock outcrops and rounded cobbles. Despite the fact that naturally occurring spalls predominate throughout the study area, the latter form, rounded cobbles, seems to have been the overwhelming raw material of choice for prehistoric artisans. This may be due to the fact that rounded cobbles have been transported and stressed to the point where they have broken along internal fracture planes, and the cobble end-products are relatively fracture-free. The angular nodules which would result from quarrying quartzite outcrops, on the other hand, would be full of internal fracture planes and would, therefore, be unsuitable for the production of stone tools. Colour and texture of the quartzite varies greatly within and between artifact samples.

In many cases, the cobbles appear to have been initially fractured by bipolar percussion, in which the raw material is fractured between a stone anvil and a hammerstone. In several cases, fine pressure retouch was used to finish specific tool types such as projectile points. Retouch and use-wear are notoriously difficult to analyze on quartzite tools due to the hardness and large grain size of the raw material.

Finally, a note on typology (specific artifact types) is in order. A great majority of the lithics recovered represent debitage (waste flakes) left behind after the manufacture of stone tools. These flakes, and the cores from which they are struck, are not diagnostic of any specific cultural tradition, due to the fact that all prehistoric traditions produced virtually identical flakes and cores. Certain tool types, however, change frequently enough that their presence can be considered unequivocal evidence of specific cultural traditions; chief among these are projectile points. In the case of the Skinny Lake sites, complete or partial projectile points were recovered at four sites: LcLe-2, LcLe-5, LcLe-7, and TMF-89-8 (Figures 11 to 13). These projectile points are extremely similar morphologically, and all are attributed to the Middle or Late Taltheilei tradition.

FIGURE 11
Complete and Partial Projectile Points,
LcLe-2 Feature 2

FIGURE 12
Complete and Partial Projectile Points,
LcLe-5 Feature 1

FIGURE 13
Complete and Partial Projectile Points,
LcLe-7 Feature 1

8.0 CONCLUSIONS

The 53 sites reported here can be divided into two broad categories. The first category consists of large, well-defined sites which exhibit relatively elaborate stone structures, and which usually occur on or near major bodies of water. These sites dominate the major river and lake systems in the barrenlands; in the present study they are best represented by the groups of sites at Chesterfield Narrows and on the southeast arm of Aberdeen Lake. More isolated examples include the sites north of Aberdeen Lake and, perhaps, the tent ring and hunting blind at Thom Lake. These sites represent occupation by historic and prehistoric Inuit peoples, primarily Caribou Inuit. The age of the older Inuit sites cannot be ascertained given the information collected during the present survey; however occupation of some of the sites well into the twentieth century is indicated by European materials at Chesterfield Narrows and by wooden crosses at Aberdeen Lake. A more clearly defined idea of the intensity of prehistoric and historic occupation must await future research, as must a consideration of the possibility that any of these sites may be multi-component, or may include materials which pre-date the Caribou Inuit occupations.

Functionally, these sites probably represent a combination of caribou lookouts, seasonal habitation, and food storage sites, with occasional burials present. The twenty sites recorded on the southeast arm of Aberdeen Lake form a portion of a settlement system geared to hunting and storage of caribou during the Fall migration. These sites include caribou drive systems, with prominent inuksuit arranged in clusters and rows, as well as caribou lookout sites and caches for meat storage. It is likely that fishing also occurred at these sites, and in the case of the Chesterfield Narrows sites, sea mammal hunting may have occurred. With the limited data collected during the Kiggavik survey, speculation as to the season of occupation of these sites must remain very tentative. The remains of many caches at some sites may indicate fall or winter occupation, while the lack of semi-subterranean winter dwellings, so common throughout the rest of the Canadian Arctic, might be explained by Birket-Smith's (1927:76) statement that "the one winter dwelling of the Caribou Eskimos is the snow hut". The Chesterfield Narrows sites, on the other hand, likely represent the coastal camps occupied by the historic Caribou Inuit during the Spring and Summer seasons (Mayne and Govier 1977: 42).

The second type of site occurs at inland locations, and consists either of surface lithic scatters, or of tent rings and other archaeological features, in many cases associated with lithic scatters. These sites represent lookout points at which prehistoric hunters manufactured or repaired stone tools while waiting for caribou. The great number of tent rings around the southern end of Skinny Lake indicates that this was a seasonal habitation site, as well.

The Skinny Lake sites are present in a surprising and significant density around what would at first glance appear to be a typical inland lake. Upon closer observation, it seems likely that these sites are situated at southern Skinny Lake because of its location in relation to a local escarpment. A significant gap in the long, east-west oriented escarpment occurs directly south of Skinny Lake. This gap probably serves to direct caribou migration through this area, essentially funnelling moving animals through the relatively level gap rather than over the rugged escarpment to the east or west.

Excavation and measurement of the 31 features in this area indicate a surprising variability in size and structure of archaeological features. Features identified as habitation structures range from a circular tent ring measuring 2.5 metres in diameter to a feature measuring 19 x 4 metres. This latter feature is tentatively interpreted here as a longhouse, perhaps housing three to five families. Interestingly, the three widely dispersed features which produced diagnostic projectile points or point bases can be assigned to the Taltheilei tradition; and the single surface lithic scatter which contained a diagnostic projectile point base was also Taltheilei. The Skinny Lake sites, therefore, represent a settlement system associated with seasonal caribou procurement by Taltheilei populations. I suspect that the sites were occupied relatively intensively over a short period of time, rather than occasionally over a long period of time, due to the striking similarity of projectile point morphology between sites.

In a general sense, the Kiggavik archaeological survey has contributed to knowledge of Keewatin archaeology by significantly expanding information on site distributions in this area. Several important clusters of Caribou Inuit sites have been recorded and mapped for the first time; this information will be useful in determining the nature of Caribou Inuit occupations and the nature of the prehistoric/historic cultural transition in this area.

The Skinny Lake sites are significant because of their great density around a relatively small, seemingly insignificant interior lake. Skinny Lake is 20 km south of Schultz Lake, and farther from Aberdeen Lake, Baker Lake and the Thelon River. Virtually all previously recorded archaeological sites in the interior Keewatin District occur in the vicinity of major lakes and rivers, because most previous archaeological surveys have concentrated on these geographic features. This is because archaeologists expect these areas to yield sites, and because most previous archaeological surveys have used boats as the primary mode of transport. Thus, the Skinny Lake sites add a new category of prehistoric site to our knowledge of Keewatin prehistory, which could be defined as sites at which prehistoric hunters used interior landforms, rather than water crossings, as a means to predict and intercept caribou movements.

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APPENDIX 1

Site Descriptions

APPENDIX 1: SITE DESCRIPTIONS

NOTES:

1. Site designations in the format "AaAa-1" were recorded in 1988 and have been assigned an official Borden designation by the Archaeological Survey of Canada. Site designations in the form "TMF-89-1" are field designations made in the 1989 season, and have not yet received official Borden designations.

2. For the purposes of the following descriptions, "feature" refers to any non-portable architectural construction. In the present study, stone is the primary building material in all features. The primary types of feature recorded for this report are tent rings, quarmat, caches, kayak stands, hunting blinds, and inuksuit.

3. For the purposes of the following descriptions, "artifact" refers to any specimen which exhibits features characteristic of human activity. This includes stone flakes and finished tools, as well as wood, bone, or metal objects.

Chesterfield Narrows Sites

KlJr-1

63°54'42" N, 93°58'54" W
UTM: 15VVA E5175 N8750
Location: South shore of Chesterfield Narrows, south of Bowell Islands, west of and adjacent to Ippijjuaq Bay.
Site Features: 2 hunting blinds, 1 tent ring, 1 kayak stand.
Site Type: Prehistoric or Historic Inuit seasonal habitation/ lookout.
Comments: Rapid foot survey revealed these four features as well as several additional possible tent rings. No artifacts were observed.

KlJs-1

63°56'48" N, 94°02'09" W
UTM: 15VVA E4925 N9100
Location: South shore of Chesterfield Narrows, south of Bowell Islands.
Site Features: 1 tent ring.
Site Type: Prehistoric or Historic Inuit seasonal habitation.
Comments: A single large tent ring was recorded, no artifacts were observed.

KlJs-2

63°57'09" N, 94°03'03" W
UTM: 15VVA E4825 N9163
Location: South shore of Chesterfield Narrows, south of Bowell Islands, across small creek mouth from KlJs-1.
Site Features: 6 tent rings, 11 caches, 1 grave, 1 inuksuk.
Site Type: Prehistoric or Historic Inuit seasonal habitation/ burial site.
Comments: This very rich site was surveyed rapidly; therefore the site features enumerated above represent a minimum number. Associated with the grave were historic metal and ceramic materials. The grave was not disturbed and these materials were not removed. Therefore at least a portion of this site represents an historic occupation.

KlJs-3

63°57'42" N, 94°04'18" W
UTM: 15VVA E4750 N9250
Location: South shore of Chesterfield Narrows, south of Bowell Islands.
Site Features: 1 hunting blind/cache, 2 tent rings.
Site Type: Prehistoric or Historic Inuit seasonal habitation.
Comments: No artifacts were observed.

Winter Road Sites

LbLc-1

64°18'15" N, 96°41'00" W
UTM: 14WPG E1210 N3265
Location: Rocky knoll southwest of Thom Lake.
Site Features: 1 hunting blind, 1 tent ring.
Site Type: Prehistoric or Historic Inuit seasonal habitation/ lookout.
Comments: This knoll is approximately 300 m in diameter, and provides excellent visibility in all directions. In addition to the two observed features, several quartzite flakes not directly associated with the features were collected from this knoll.

LcLf-1

64°27'30" N, 97°53'57"
UTM: 14WNG E5295 N4830
Location: Esker, 4 km east of southeast arm of Aberdeen Lake.
Site Features: None observed.
Site Type: Prehistoric surface lithic scatter/lookout.
Comments: One large quartzite core and one large conjoinable (fitting) flake were collected from a spur of the esker which overlooks a river valley which dissects the esker.

LcLf-2

64°27'15" N, 97°53'48" W
UTM: 14WNG E5310 N4785
Location: Esker, 4 km east of southeast arm of Aberdeen Lake.
Site Features: None observed.
Site Type: Prehistoric surface lithic scatter/lookout.
Comments: A lithic scatter was collected from this site. The site is situated on a spur of the esker, across the river valley from LcLf-1.

Skinny Lake Sites

LcLe-1

64°29'33" N, 97°29'51" W
UTM: 14WNG E7235 N5260
Location: Southeast corner of Skinny Lake.
Site Features: Three tent rings,one small unidentified oval feature.
Site Type: Prehistoric seasonal habitation/lookout.
Comments: In 1988, a single lithic scatter was observed at this site; closer observation away from the shoreline in 1989 revealed four features. These features were not excavated. No diagnostic tool classes were collected from the site, which affords a good view of southern Skinny Lake. The site is unstable, and is currently eroding downslope into the lake.

LcLe-2

64°29'24" N, 97°29'58" W
UTM: 14WNG E7210 N5225
Location: Isthmus which separates Skinny Lake from the small, unnamed lake due south of Skinny Lake.
Site Features: 2 tent rings, 3 unidentified stone features.
Site Type: Prehistoric seasonal habitation/lookout.
Comments: All five features were excavated. The larger of the two tent rings, feature 2, is approximately 5 metres in diameter. This feature yielded a large lithic sample, including five Taltheilei projectile point bases. The smaller tent ring, Feature 1, is approximately 2.5 metres in diameter, and yielded only undiagnostic flakes. The three unidentified features are U-shaped boulder outlines. Two, features 3a and 3b, are situated parallel to one another and are each approximately 4.5 x 1.5 metres in area, while the third, feature 4, is situated some distance to the south, and is approximately 1.5 x .75 metres in area. These three features were completely excavated, without recovery of any artifacts except for several undiagnostic flakes on the surface of feature 3a. These flakes are probably not functionally associated with the feature.

LcLe-3

64°29'18" N, 97°30'03" W
UTM: 14WNG E7205 N5210
Location: Southwest corner of small, unnamed lake south of Skinny Lake.
Site Features: None observed.
Site Type: Prehistoric surface lithic scatter/lookout.
Comments: A small lithic scatter was collected from this site.

LcLe-4

64°29'24" N, 97°30'09" W
UTM: 14WNG E7195 N5225
Location: Southwest corner of Skinny Lake.
Site Features: None observed.
Site Type: Prehistoric surface lithic scatter/lookout.
Comments: An extensive lithic scatter was collected from this site, including three biface fragments, and one chi-tho; none are diagnostic of a specific prehistoric culture. Site provides a good view of southern Skinny Lake.

LcLe-5

64°29'24" N, 97°30'18" W
UTM: 14WNG E7180 N5225
Location: Southwest corner of Skinny Lake, west of LcLe-4.
Site Features: Five tent rings, one unidentified complex boulder-outlined feature.
Site Type: Prehistoric seasonal habitation/lookout.
Comments: Three of the tent rings at this site, Features 1, 2 and 6, were excavated. These rings are 5 x 3 metres, 3 x 2.5 metres, and 4 x 3 metres in area, respectively. All yielded lithic samples, with Feature 1 producing five Taltheilei projectile point bases. Two other tent rings, Features 3 and 5, were test excavated and found not to contain any

artifacts. The final recorded feature, Feature 4, remains functionally unidentified, and is composed of three well-defined small, circular or oval boulder outlines; with a further three less well-defined outlines, all in close proximity to one another. Test excavations occurred in all of these features, with no artifacts of any kind being recovered.

LcLe-6

64°29'27" N, 97°30'24" W
UTM: 14WNG E7175 N5235
Location: Southwest corner of Skinny Lake, northwest of LcLe-5.
Site Features: None observed.
Site Type: Prehistoric surface lithic scatter/lookout.
Comments: A small lithic scatter was collected from this site; none of the specimens was diagnostic.

LcLe-7

64°29'30" N, 97°30'30" W
UTM: 14WNG E7165 N5245
Location: Southwest corner of Skinny Lake, northwest of LcLe-6.
Site Features: 1 large boulder outline, nine tent rings, four unidentified features.
Site Type: Prehistoric seasonal habitation/lookout.
Comments: Fourteen features were recorded on three separate terraces at this site, including one remarkable boulder outline which measured approximately 19 x 4 metres. This feature was fully excavated by square metre, with stone tools recovered from every square, including five Taltheilei projectile point bases. Other features from this site were not excavated, but were enumerated.

LcLe-8

64°29'45" N, 97°30'48" W
UTM: 14WNG E7145 N5290
Location: West side of Skinny Lake - near southern end.
Site Features: None observed.
Site Type: Prehistoric surface lithic scatter/lookout.
Comments: Lithic scatter yielded several quartzite flakes and an undiagnostic biface fragment. Site occurs on a small knoll which provides an excellent view of southern Skinny Lake.

LcLe-9

64°29'51" N, 97°30'48" W
UTM: 14WNG E7145 N5310
Location: West side of Skinny Lake - near southern end.
Site Features: None observed.
Site Type: Prehistoric surface lithic scatter/lookout.
Comments: This site occurs on the highest point of land on the western side of Skinny Lake, where it commands an excellent view of southern Skinny Lake as well as the interior to the west.

LcLe-10

64°29'00" N, 97°30'21" W
UTM: 14WNG E7180 N5155
Location: Escarpment peak approximately 1 km south of Skinny Lake.
Site Features: None observed.
Site Type: Prehistoric surface lithic scatter/lookout.
Comments: This peak commands a view of southern Skinny Lake as well as the broad plain south of the escarpment on which the site is located. A lithic scatter was collected from this site.

LcLe-11

64°28'15" N, 97°33'33" W
UTM: 14WNG E6925 N5005
Location: Rocky knoll northeast of Escarpment Lake, approximately 3.5 km southwest of Skinny Lake.
Site Features: None observed.
Site Type: Prehistoric surface lithic scatter/lookout.
Comments: Two conjoinable flakes were collected from this site, which commands a view of the plain to the south of the escarpment.

TMF-89-1

64°29'44" N, 97°29'38" W
UTM: 14WNG E7235 N5290
Location: Sandy Knoll, southeast corner of Skinny Lake, north of LcLe-1.
Site Features: None observed.
Site Type: Prehistoric surface lithic scatter/lookout.
Comments: One flake was collected from this site.

TMF-89-2

64°30'19" N, 97°30'22" W
UTM: 14WNG E7170 N5395
Location: Middle of east side of Skinny Lake.
Site Features: One subrectangular feature, outside dimensions 432 x 322 cm.
Site Type: Prehistoric site of indeterminate use.
Comments: One 50 x 50 cm testpit was excavated in the centre of this feature, with no artifacts recovered. Feature is located on a small knoll on the edge of Skinny Lake; the knoll is surrounded by low, boggy terrain to the north, east, and south.

TMF-89-3

64°30'32" N, 97°30'26" W
UTM: 14WNG E7165 N5435
Location: Middle of east side of Skinny Lake, north of TMF-89-2.
Site Features: None observed.
Site Type: Prehistoric surface lithic scatter/lookout.
Comments: One flake was collected from this site.

TMF-89-4

64°30'55" N, 97°32'04" W
UTM: 14WNG E7030 N5505
Location: Small lake west of Skinny Lake, near north end.
Site Features: None observed.
Site Type: Prehistoric surface lithic scatter/lookout.
Comments: Stone flakes and one broken biface collected from this small ridge.

TMF-89-5

64°31'32" N, 97°32'49" W
UTM: 14WNG E6970 N5615
Location: Broad sandy plain near north end of Skinny Lake, on west side.
Site Features: None observed.
Site Type: Prehistoric surface lithic scatter/lookout.
Comments: One flake collected.

TMF-89-6

64°31'44" N, 97°31'23" W
UTM: 14WNG E7085 N5655
Location: Middle of west shore of Porkchop Lake (large lake northeast of Skinny Lake).
Site Features: One large, poorly defined tent ring/boulder outline; outer dimensions 729 x 279 cm.
Site Type: Prehistoric seasonal habitation.
Comments: This could be two structures - impossible to ascertain without excavation. One additional possible tent ring was observed approximately 100 metres south of this site.

TMF-89-7

64°31'13" N, 97°31'04" W
UTM: 14WNG E7115 N5560
Location: North end of hill between Skinny and Porkchop Lakes.
Site Features: None observed.
Site Type: Prehistoric lithic scatter/lookout.
Comments: Stone flakes were collected.

TMF-89-8

64°29'15" N, 97°28'56" W
UTM: 14WNG E7295 N5200
Location: Peak of escarpment east of the gap south of Skinny Lake.
Site Features: None observed.
Site Type: Prehistoric lithic scatter/lookout.
Comments: Collected large sample of stone flakes, including one Taltheilei projectile point base. This site is at the highest point of the escarpment, and affords an excellent view of both the broad plain to the south and of the Skinny Lake valley to the north.

TMF-89-9

64°29'03" N, 97°28'49" W
UTM: 14WNG E7305 N5165
Location: Top of escarpment east of the gap south of Skinny Lake, south of TMF-89-8.
Site Features: None observed.
Site Type: Prehistoric lithic scatter/lookout.
Comments: Two flakes were collected. This site affords an excellent view to the south of the escarpment.

TMF-89-10

64°29'11" N, 97°29'19" W
UTM: 14WNG E7265 N5190
Location: Escarpment east of gap south of Skinny Lake. This site is on a lower level and west of TMF-89-8.
Site Features: None observed.
Site Type: Prehistoric lithic scatter/lookout.
Comments: Flakes were collected. This site affords a good view to the west, north and south.

TMF-89-11

64°28'55" N, 97°30'11" W
UTM: 14WNG E7195 N5135
Location: Low spur of the escarpment west of the gap south of Skinny Lake.
Site Features: None observed.
Site Type: Prehistoric lithic scatter/lookout.
Comments: Small lithic scatter collected. This site affords a view to the east and south.

TMF-89-12

64°28'58" N, 97°31'00" W
UTM: 14WNG E7130 N5145
Location: Peak of escarpment west of gap south of Skinny Lake.
Site Features: None observed.

Site Type: Prehistoric lithic scatter/lookout.
Comments: Lithic scatter collected. This site affords an excellent view to the east, south and north.

Southeast Aberdeen Lake Sites

LcLg-1

64°27'51" N, 98°16'48" W
UTM: 14WNG E3465 N4895
Location: North shore of southeast arm of Aberdeen Lake - near west end.
Site Features: 1 stone structure.
Site Type: Prehistoric or Historic Inuit seasonal habitation.
Comments: Observed and mapped from helicopter. One unidentified stone feature is likely a cache or qarmaq.

LcLg-2

64°27'27" N, 98°15'48" W
UTM: 14WNG E3545 N4820
Location: North shore of southeast arm of Aberdeen Lake.
Site Features: 2 stone structures.
Site Type: Prehistoric or Historic Inuit seasonal habitation.
Comments: Observed and mapped from helicopter. Two unidentified stone features are likely caches or qarmat.

LcLg-3

64°27'24" N, 98°14'09" W
UTM: 14WNG E3675 N4810
Location: North shore of southeast arm of Aberdeen Lake.
Site Features: 3 stone structures.
Site Type: Prehistoric or Historic Inuit seasonal habitation.
Comments: Observed and mapped from helicopter. Three unidentified stone features are likely caches or qarmat.

LcLg-4

64°27'18" N, 98°12'45" W
UTM: 14WNG E3790 N4795
Location: North shore of southeast arm of Aberdeen Lake.
Site Features: 1 stone structure.
Site Type: Prehistoric or Historic Inuit seasonal habitation.
Comments: Observed and mapped from helicopter. Unidentified stone feature is likely a cache or qarmaq.

LcLg-5

64°27'12" N, 98°11'24" W
UTM: 14WNG E3900 N4775
Location: North shore of southeast arm of Aberdeen Lake, at westernmost tip of small peninsula.
Site Features: 7 tent rings, 10 caches, 10 unidentified features.
Site Type: Prehistoric or Historic Inuit seasonal habitation.
Comments: Site features were recorded on foot. Unidentified features are likely either caches or qarmat. Throughout the site, bone, wood, and stone artifacts were sparsely distributed, and one iron object of indeterminate function was observed.

LcLg-6

64°27'03" N, 98°10'48" W
UTM: 14WNG E3950 N4745
Location: North shore of southeast arm of Aberdeen Lake.
Site Features: 4 simple stone features.
Site Type: Prehistoric or Historic Inuit drive system.
Comments: Recorded during foot survey. Four simple stone features are composed either of 3 stones piled vertically or of 2 large slabs leaning against one another. These four features are arranged in a linear fashion, and almost certainly represent a caribou drive system.

LcLg-7

64°27'00" N, 98°10'21" W
UTM: 14WNG E3990 N4735
Location: North shore of southeast arm of Aberdeen Lake.
Site Features: 4 tent rings, 1 inuksuk, 7 unidintified features.
Site Type: Prehistoric or Historic Inuit seasonal habitation.
Comments: Recorded during foot survey. Unidentified features are likely caches or qarmat. A large amount of caribou bone was visible on the surface of the site, as well as wooden and metal objects. This site appears to be relatively recent.

LcLg-8

64°27'09" N, 98°10'09" W
UTM: 14WNG E4000 N4765
Location: North shore of southeast arm of Aberdeen Lake - At the most narrow point of a small peninsula.
Site Features: 4 inuksuit, 5 tent rings, 4 kayak stands, 1 fox trap, 6 unidentified structures.
Site Type: Prehistoric or Historic Inuit seasonal habitation.
Comments: This site was visited briefly on foot. Quartzite flakes were observed within two larger tent rings, but were not removed so as not to bias future sampling at the site. The unidentified structures represent caches or qarmat.

LcLg-9

64°26'57" N, 98°09'21" W
UTM: 14WNG E4065 N4725
Location: North shore of southeast arm of Aberdeen Lake.
Site Features: 2 tent rings, 6 unidentified structures.
Site Type: Prehistoric or Historic Inuit seasonal habitation.
Comments: Surveyed on foot. Unidentified stone structures likely represent caches or qarmat.

LcLg-10

64°27'06" N, 98°08'57" W
UTM: 14WNG E4095 N4760
Location: North shore of southeast arm of Aberdeen Lake.
Site Features: 9 inuksuit, 3 tent rings, 1 kayak stand, 5 quarmat.
Site Type: Prehistoric or Historic Inuit seasonal habitation.
Comments: Surveyed on foot. This site is remarkable for the nine carefully constructed inuksuit which dominate this point of land.

LcLg-11

64°27'09" N, 98°07'21" W
UTM: 14WNG E4230 N4765
Location: North shore of southeast arm of Aberdeen Lake.
Site Features: 5 stone structures, 1 tent ring.
Site Type: Prehistoric or Historic Inuit seasonal habitation.
Comments: Observed and mapped from helicopter. Five unidentified stone structures likely represent cache or burial structures.

LcLg-12

64°27'06" N, 98°05'27" W
UTM: 14WNG E4375 N4760
Location: North shore of southeast arm of Aberdeen Lake - near eastern end.
Site Features: 3 tent rings, 2 inuksuit, 7 unidentified structures.
Site Type: Prehistoric or Historic seasonal habitation.
Comments: Surveyed on foot. Unidentified structures are likely caches or qarmat.

TMF-89-13

64°27'05" N, 98°09'07" W
UTM: 14WNG E4080 N4740
Location: North shore of southeast arm of Aberdeen Lake; between LcLg-9 and LcLg-10.
Site Features: 2 tent rings, 4 inuksuit, 4 caches, 2 graves, 8 unidentified features - possible quarmat.
Site Type: Prehistoric or Historic Inuit seasonal habitation/burial site.
Comments: Recorded during foot survey. The two grave features are composed of oval stone outlines and contain bone on the surface as well as fragments of fabric. Both are marked by wooden crosses. These features were not disturbed.

TMF-89-14

64°27'18" N, 98°09'00" W
UTM: 14WNG E4090 N4780
Location: North shore of southeast arm of Aberdeen Lake - north of LcLg-10.
Site Features: 3 inuksuit, 2 caches, 4 unidentified features - possible quarmat.
Site Type: Prehistoric or Historic Inuit seasonal habitation.
Comments: Recorded during foot survey. This site is approximately 100 metres inland from the shore of Aberdeen Lake, on a knoll, which affords a good view of the surrounding region.

TMF-89-15

64°27'26" N, 98°09'04" W
UTM: 14WNG E4085 N4805
Location: North of TMF-89-14.
Site Features: 1 low, horseshoe-shaped feature, 2 unidentifiable artificial features.
Site Type: Prehistoric or Historic Inuit lookout/habitation.
Comments: This site is several hundreds of metres from the lakeshore, and is located on a knoll which affords a good view in all directions. No artifacts were observed.

TMF-89-16

64°27'28" N, 98°08'26" W
UTM: 14WNG E4125 N4810
Location: East of TMF-89-15.
Site Features: 2 unidentifiable features - possible hunting blinds.
Site Type: Prehistoric or Historic Inuit - possible lookout.
Comments: This site is approximately 200 metres north of the lakeshore. No artifacts were observed.

TMF-89-17

64°27'54" N, 98°08'08" W
UTM: 14WNG E4155 N4890
Location: On unnamed crescent-shaped lake north of southeast arm of Aberdeen Lake.
Site Features: 1 inuksuk, 3 unidentified semi-circular features.
Site Type: Prehistoric or Historic Inuit - possible lookout.
Comments: Bone fragments, a metal cup, several stone cores and flakes, and a quartzite biface fragment were observed on the surface. This site is located on a high knoll on the west edge of a small lake, and affords an extensive view in all directions. The inuksuk is a simple one, constructed of two large, rounded boulders, one atop the other.

TMF-89-18

64°27'55" N, 98°07'08" W
UTM: 14WNG E4235 N4895
Location: High Bluff at northeast corner of small lake north of southeast arm of Aberdeen Lake.
Site Features: Over 20 structures, primarily tent rings, also 2 kayak rests, several unidentified structures.
Site Type: Prehistoric or Historic Inuit seasonal habitation / lookout.
Comments: This is an extensive site, and is located on a knoll with an excellent view of a large inland area not visible from sites on the lake shore. No artifacts were observed.

TMF-89-19

64°27'41" N, 98°06'38" W
UTM: 14WNG E4275 N4855
Location: North of southeast arm of Aberdeen Lake, east of lake on which TMF-89-18 is situated.
Site Features: 1 round feature - probable fox trap.
Site Type: Prehistoric or Historic Inuit - undetermined function, however a specialized procurement site is likely.
Comments: This feature is in a low, boggy area. No artifacts were observed.

TMF-89-20

64°27'34" N, 98°O6'45" W
UTM: 14WNG E4270 N4830
Location: North of southeast arm of Aberdeen Lake, south of TMF-89-19.
Site Features: 1 unidentifiable feature.
Site Type: Prehistoric or Historic Inuit - undetermined function.
Comments: Feature is a box-type structure, open at both ends, and may represent some type of specialized trap. No artifacts were observed.

Northeast Aberdeen Lake Sites

LdLh-6

64°39'15" N, 98°39'06" W
UTM: 14WNG E1670 N6975
Location: 5 km north of northeast corner of Aberdeen Lake, approximately 5 km west of peak of Peqetuaz Hill. This site is located on a narrow isthmus separating two lakes.
Site Features: 1 stone structure.
Site Type: Prehistoric or Historic Inuit cache/lookout.
Comments: This stone structure is a double cache or hunting blind. Several small fragments of recent (?) caribou bone were observed within the feature.

LdLh-7

64°38'00" N, 98°38'18" W
UTM: 14WNG E1735 N6750
Location: 3 km north of northeast corner of Aberdeen Lake.
Site Features: 2 tent rings, 1 cache/hunting stand.
Site Type: Prehistoric or Historic Inuit seasonal habitation/ lookout.
Comments: Site is located on a broad boulder-strewn knoll.

LdLh-8

64°37'06" N, 98°35'15" W
UTM: 14WNG E1975 N6580
Location: Northeast corner of Aberdeen Lake.
Site Features: 1 tent ring.
Site Type: Prehistoric or Historic Inuit seasonal habitation.
Comments: No artifacts were observed in this tent ring. This site may be relatively recent based on the shallow depth of rocks and lack of lichen growth.