

KMK Archaeology Research Division Update (continued)

Here's a list of the major files the KMK-ARD has been working on. This may not be the full list of things that KMK-ARD worked on from January to March 2025, but highlights our activities.

Capacity Building

- Mi'kmaw Archaeological Field Guide - Energy, Mining, & Critical Minerals
- EverWind Strait Crossing Transmission Line Project - Guysborough and Richmond Counties
- Kmtuk Wind Power Project - Colchester County
- McCallum Settlement Quarry - Colchester County

Forestry

- Mi'kmaw Forestry Initiative - St. Croix and Digby Forestry Blocks
- Non-Consultation Archaeological Review for Requests for Information
- 32 Archaeological Project Reviews

NS Department of Public Works

- DSUP Working Group

Lands

- Assembly Lands Committee support

Parks Canada

- Unama'ki Collaborative Archaeological Technical Team (U-CATT)
- Keji / Mainland Field Unit Collaborative Archaeological Technical Team (KM-CATT)
- Grand Pré National Historic Site (NHS)
- St. Peter's Canal NHS (Stories of Pastukopa'jitek project)
- Sable Island National Park Reserve (NPR)
- Blue Mountain Birch Cove Lakes National Urban Park Reserve

Mining

- Canadian Gypsum Company (Little Narrows)

Offshore

- Caribou Ferry Terminal Dredging Project
- Nova Scotia Offshore Wind Development

Aquaculture

- Argyle Aquaculture Development Area (ADA) - Lobster Bay & Pubnico Harbour
- Aquaculture Site 1040 - Victoria Beach, Annapolis Basin
- Aquaculture Site 1360 - Merigomish Harbour
- Aquaculture Sites 1449, 1450, 1551, 1452 - St Mary's Bay, Digby County

Roads, Bridges, Culverts

- MacEachern Road Shoreline Armouring Project - Port Royal, Richmond County
- Fishermans Harbour Road Shoreline Armouring Project - Guysborough County
- Argyle Bridge - Hwy 103 Argyle Interchange Project - Yarmouth County

Municipal

- HRM Culture & Heritage Priorities Plan

Nova Scotia Power

- Tusket Powerhouse - Tidally Influenced Pool Project
- Pasi'tuek Archaeology Review
- Pasi'tuek Working Group
- Mersey River Working Group
- One Window Meeting

Marine Conservation

- Bedford Institute of Oceanography (BIO) Exhibit: Our Relationship with the Ocean
- St Anns Bank Marine Protected Area (MPA)
- Canadian Science Advisory Secretariat (CSAS) - Review and Update of the State of Knowledge for Eastern Shore Islands & Surrounding Area

Harbours

- Floating Docks at Cunard Public Space - Halifax Harbour



Boreas Heritage Consulting Inc. Update

Boreas Heritage Consulting Inc. is an independent cultural resource management firm offering quality service and professional heritage advice for clients. Based in Halifax, Nova Scotia, our experienced and dedicated staff, and specialized associates, are qualified to work throughout Atlantic Canada, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario in diverse environmental conditions, ranging from complex urban sites to isolated and remote locations. For more info, visit boreasheritage.ca.



Over the past year, Boreas Heritage Consulting Inc. undertook various archaeological assessments across Mi'kma'ki. Some of the highlights include the completion of a two-year project in the Cape Breton Highlands National Park, during which a previously unregistered Ancestral site was located, partially excavated, and preserved.

Over the past number of years, we have been mentoring and training many Mi'kmaw archaeological technicians, primarily from Unama'ki, including work at Carter's Beach, Debert, and Blandford. This year they recruited additional staff from their communities and assumed the role of mentoring new employees, greatly building capacity in Mi'kma'ki for future archaeological assessment work.



While they contributed greatly to our work and have demonstrated exceptional technical skills, we, at Boreas Heritage, have benefited from their presence, knowledge, and collaboration. Special thanks to Mark Doucette, Andrea Marshall, Sonny Doucette-Morrison, Rhonda Marshall, and John Sam Googoo of Potlotek, as well as Jodi Howe of Sipekne'katik and Ella Stevens of Wasoqopa'q. We were blessed with the presence of numerous Unama'ki Elders who guided our work at various locations and grateful for the generous support of the Unama'ki Institute of Natural Resources.

Archaeological work for Nova Scotia Power also occurred at Cowie Falls, during a 2-3 week drawdown period, where archaeologists and community monitors were present. All previously registered sites were re-visited during the course of the work and cataloguing and analysis of all Ancestral Belongings recovered is currently ongoing. It is important to highlight the significant contribution of the Mi'kmaw crew members, Allan Nickerson from Wasoqopa'q and Margie Paul of Sipekne'katik, who were an integral part of the Cowie Falls project.



Wela'liek, Sara Beanlands and her team at Boreas for your submission to our ARD Newsletter!

Davis MacIntyre & Associates Update

Davis MacIntyre & Associates Limited, an archaeological consulting firm established in 2009, leads cultural resource management discipline in the Atlantic Region, with a staff comprising of over 50 years of combined experience in the field of archaeology. They provide comprehensive professional services in undertaking archaeological and historical cultural resource assessments for government, public, and private industry. For more info, visit davismacintyre.com.

Archaeological Assessments

Assessments were also conducted for Advocate Marsh dykeland upgrades in Cumberland County, the new Wyse Road to Alderney Drive Active Transportation corridor and the Dartmouth Cove lands, both in HRM. Areas of elevated potential were identified in all three assessments, including for possible submerged and/or buried terrestrial land which may contain evidence of past L'nuk settlement at both Advocate Marsh and Dartmouth Cove.



The potential for encountering historic resources was also identified at all three sites. Avoidance or additional mitigation was recommended in all three assessments. At Corbett Road Bridge in Halifax County, testing was conducted after a possible hammerstone was found during the 2023 reconnaissance. However, the testing was negative for any other artifacts or archaeological resources. The possible hammerstone (image

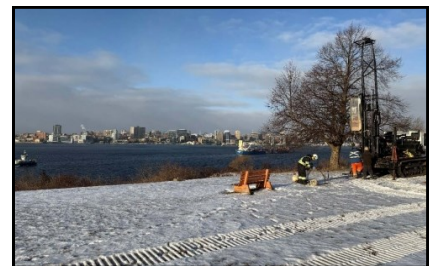
left) was found on the surface, and it is thought that it may have been washed in from somewhere upstream, possibly during a significant storm event in July 2023.

2025 Assessments

At the Knaut-Rhuland House Museum in Lunenburg, trenching was monitored. Earlier monitoring was conducted in 2024. The 2025 monitoring resulted in a small number of historic artifacts being collected and a feature (a wooden drain) being recorded. The artifacts were cleaned and catalogued and will be submitted to the Nova Scotia Museum.



NS Hospital Geotech Archaeological monitoring was conducted for geotechnical testing at the Nova Scotia Hospital site, in Dartmouth, Halifax Regional Municipality, where areas of elevated potential for historic resources had been identified during a Phase 1 assessment. The 2025 monitoring identified construction fill overlying glacial till across the site, ending in bedrock.



Community Sessions

In 2024, three community sessions were held at Wasoqopa'q First Nation to share the Mi'kmaw archaeological belongings from the 2021-2022 Tuskat Falls reservoir drawdown. A variety of archaeological belongings and small displays showcased the different tool types found, as well as items of various ages, from over 70 sites where surface collection was conducted during the drawdown.



Davis MacIntyre & Associates Update (continued)

Shovel Testing

As follow up to phase 1 assessments (desktop, predictive modeling, and reconnaissance) in 2023, shovel testing was conducted for several NS Power projects, including in the Salmontail Lake vicinity in Kings County (left image), and at the Tusket Falls Powerhouse Dam vicinity (middle image). At both sites, shovel testing did not find any L'nuk artifacts, and the testing was negative for archaeological resources. Shovel testing was also conducted at Graves Island Provincial Park (right image), upon the recommendation of a 2023 phase 1 report, and was also negative for archaeological resources. Testing in advance of refurbishment for the Williams Lake dam, Halifax County, conducted following recommendations of a 2023 phase 1 report, was also negative for archaeological resources.



Archaeological Assessments

A number of archaeological assessments for bridge replacements were conducted in 2024. These include Campbell's Creek Bridge (left image) in Cape Breton Regional Municipality, P. Joudrey Bridge in Kings County, Thumb Hill Bridge in Hants County, Dixon Bridge and Hights Brook Culvert, both in Annapolis County, Cherryfield Bridge (middle image) and Mossman Road #2 Bridge, both in Lunenburg County, and Taylor Mill Culvert, George Gibbons Bridge and Donaldson Bridge, all in Colchester County. The assessments included a desktop study, predictive modeling, and reconnaissance. Shovel testing was also conducted at P. Joudrey Bridge, Hights Brook Culvert, Cherryfield Bridge (right image) and Donaldson Bridge, as well as at Green Bay Culvert in Colchester County and MacPhee Brook Bridge in Hants County as follow up to 2023 assessments. Shovel testing at all the bridges was negative for archaeological resources.



Wela'liek, April MacIntyre
and team for your update
and contribution to our
ARD Newsletter!

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