



THE MIDDEN

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THE MIDDEN

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FRONT COVER:

Daryl Fedje examines a stone tool while Al Mackie takes a break from excavating Early Lithic intertidal site 1127T, Richardson Island (photo 1127T36M, courtesy Parks Canada). See "Ventures," page 5.

A.S.B.C.

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and the spread of archaeological knowledge

Meetings featuring illustrated lectures are held on the second Wednesday of each month (except July and August) at 8:00 pm. Visitors and new members are welcome!

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ASBC DIARY

Meetings held at 8:00 pm in the Auditorium of the Vancouver Museum, 1100 Chestnut St. unless noted otherwise.

- Jan. 11 Dr. Hanna Kassir, UBC Religious Studies
"The Normans in Sicily: A Glimpse of Their Architecture"
- Feb. 8 Robin Hooper, SFU Archaeology
"Dragon Harvest: Artifacts from Ladner's Chinatown"
- Mar. 8 AT UBC MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY:
preview of exhibition, "From under the Delta:
Wet-Site Archaeology in British Columbia's
Lower Mainland"

VENTURES IN CULTURAL HERITAGE MANAGEMENT

BY IAN D. SUMPTER

As one of many federal land managers in Canada, Parks Canada plays a significant role in the protection of cultural heritage under its jurisdiction. In British Columbia recent land use agreements and business plans between Parks Canada and First Nations have been successful in fostering co-operative partnerships in natural and cultural resource protection.

Nineteen-ninety-four saw the continuation of collaborative training programs in cultural resource protection and stewardship between Parks Canada's Archaeological Services, Calgary (ARO) and two aboriginal groups whose traditional territories occur within the bounds of Gwaii Haanas-Haida Heritage Site, and Pacific Rim National Park reserves. In concert with Millennia Research of Sidney, field training in 1994 focused on aspects of coastal survey techniques, archaeological excavation, theory, and cultural resource management.

Gwaii Haanas

The 1994 Gwaii Haanas Archaeology Program (GHAP) comprised three projects: continuation of a multi-year archaeological inventory, paleoenvironmental research, and exploratory excavations at two Early Period intertidal lithic sites. The inventory was conducted by a Haida team led by Crew Supervisor Bert Wilson working under contract on a day-to-day basis with Millennia Research. Millennia's Al Mackie provided direction and training services throughout the field and post-field components.

The program's inventory component represented the fourth of a five-year coastal survey producing baseline data for the management of Native and non-Native heritage within the Haida Heritage Site/Park reserve. The field element was of approximately two months duration and encompassed the area from Nagas Point to Tasu Head on

the west side of Moresby Island. Forty-five new archaeological sites were recorded. On the east coast of Moresby Island, 23 new sites were documented by a second crew which included Ian Sumpter, Joanne McSparran, and Coast Archaeologist, Daryl Fedje.

The second component of the 1994 GHAP project included paleoenvironmental research by Daryl Fedje conducted in conjunction with Pacific Geoscience Centre (PGC) at Sidney, B.C. This multi-year research program included selective investigation of terrestrial marine transgression features and other post-glacial landforms, as well as marine paleoecology. This component will attempt to correlate known archaeological site location data for the Gwaii Haanas coastline (especially the circa 9000 year old intertidal archaeological

site distribution) with marine geological data recovered by PGC in 1993 and 1994. This should help predict where submerged, pre-10,000 year-old archaeological sites may be found.

The GHAP project included exploratory archaeological investigations at two Early Period intertidal lithic sites in the Darwin Sound area, the Richardson Island (1127T) and Echo Bay (1128T) sites. Both sites underwent controlled surface collecting and limited subsurface testing programs. Although detailed analysis has yet to be completed on the assemblages, radiocarbon dating indicates that both sites were occupied between ca. 9300 and 9100 years before present, during a time of rapid sea-level change.

Pacific Rim

At Pacific Rim National Park Reserve, Archaeological Services initiated or supported a number of cultural resource management (CRM) activities. These included the assessment of several visitor facility improvements in the Long Beach and Broken Group Island units; and revisitation of a number of threatened Native and non-Native heritage sites in the Broken Group and West Coast Trail areas.

A significant component of this program was the participation and training of two Ditidaht band members, Fred Sieber and Frank Knighton, in the various aspects of CRM. This year represented Parks Canada's second year in implementing programs oriented towards fostering co-operative resource stewardship.

Finally, the 1994 Pacific Rim program saw Archaeological Services assist the Ditidaht Band in the completion of two externally funded research-training projects: an Access to Archaeology project at three shell middens on the Tsuquanah and Iktuksasuk reserves; and a joint



Microblade core recovered from Parks Canada site 1127T, an Early Period intertidal lithic site on Richardson Island in Darwin Sound, Queen Charlotte Islands. Photo 1127T23M, 25W-94K4M31, courtesy Parks Canada.



Access to Archaeology program excavations in wet-site component at 296T on Ditidaht Band's Iktuksasuk I.R. 7, Ninitabt Lake. Crew members include (L-R) Daryl Fedje, Frank Knighton, Morley Eldridge, and Fred Sieber (photo 296T2M, courtesy Parks Canada).

Ditidaht/B.C. Archaeology Branch venture that is applying a GIS predictive model to the locating of CMTs [culturally modified trees] and habitation sites in the band's traditional territory. The field component of the Ditidaht/BC Archaeology Branch predictive model project was overseen by archaeologist Rick Howard.

The band's Access to Archaeology pro-

ject was directed by Morley Eldridge of Millennia Research, and offered Fred Sieber and Frank Knighton a 12-week training opportunity on archaeological methods through recovery of eroding material culture from three pre-contact and historic village sites. The 1994 Access to Archaeology excavations revealed an assortment of significant and perishable artifacts (i.e., traditionally made basketry,

matting, twine, bone and wood points, shell implements), fish weir remains, and botanical and faunal materials that are being lost to severe wave erosion arising from power boat use on Nitinaht Lake.

In sum . . .

A number of challenging cultural resource management activities involving Parks Canada's Archaeological Services (ARO) and two First Nation groups were implemented during the 1994 field season. With a long-term goal of co-operative resource management, Archaeological Services is committed to offering technical assistance and other services regarding cultural resource management and protection.

For further information on the above projects, contact Ian Sumpter in Victoria at (604) 363-0578, or Daryl Fedje, Coast Archaeologist, and Dr. Martin Magne, Chief of Archaeological Services, Parks Canada, Calgary, at (403) 292-6472.

Ian Sumpter is an Assistant Archaeologist with Archaeological Services, Parks Canada, Department of Canadian Heritage. Based out of Alberta Region Office, Calgary, Ian has been on assignment in Victoria since 1990. He acquired his B.A. in Archaeology from Simon Fraser University in 1980.
