From the President’s Desk

Hello, Bonjour, Qey, Kwe’, and welcome to the inaugural issue of *Sifting Through the Backdirt*—an occasional newsletter discussing salient news and topics relating to archaeology and heritage in New Brunswick and the greater Maritime Peninsula. The intent of the newsletter is to provide our members and other interested parties with a regular source of news summarizing the activities of the Association, its membership, and the greater archaeological and heritage community. The contents of each issue will vary and include such things as updates from the Board of Directors, notifications regarding recent publications and conference presentations from our members, articles by guest contributors, Q&A’s with academics and professionals in archaeology and other related fields, and updates from the field. If you are interested in contributing to future volumes, please send an email to the Board of Directors with your ideas.

Thanks | Merci | Woliwon | Wela’in

Trevor Dow
President/Co-Editor

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News from the Board

On November 9th, 2019 the Association held its Fall General Meeting in Moncton, where a new Board of Directors was nominated for the 2020–2022 term. Your new Board of Directors consists of:

- President—Trevor Dow
- Vice President—Gabe Hrynict
- Secretary—Sara Beanlands
- Treasurer—Darcy Dignam
- Board Member—Ken Holyoke
- Board Member—Vacant

We look forward to working with you over the next two years to advance the objectives of the Association. If you have any concerns, ideas, or questions please send us an email.

Sincerely,
Your Board of Directors & Executive Committee

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Social Media
Please follow us on social media for all the latest news and updates by clicking on one of the links below.
In the Community
Trevor Dow (Co-Editor)

Community outreach is an important part of educating and engaging the public. Outreach and citizen-science programs provide archaeological professionals with opportunities to expose young and old alike to the importance of culture, history and heritage. The APANB-AAPNB supports and participates in several outreach initiatives including school education sessions, public archaeology, science fairs, conferences, and collaboration with local museums. Since archaeology is a discipline rarely covered in primary and secondary school curricula, it’s important that we work together as professionals to provide the youth in our communities with archaeological education where we can. A presentation on local archaeological history, an afternoon exploring a laboratory facility, or even the opportunity to handle artifacts and learn about how they were manufactured can light the spark of curiosity and instill a heritage ethic among youth who may be archaeology’s next generation. To that end, Association Vice-President Dr. Gabe Hrynick (UNB) was recently in Cobscook, Maine with several UNB undergraduate and graduate students to take part in an outreach program through the Maine Midden Minders program with local high school students. The Maine Midden Minders is a citizen-science project to monitor coastal archaeological sites that are threatened by sea level change and erosion. Cobscook students were trained in proper field survey techniques and had the opportunity to learn the basics of flintknapping with Dr. Hrynick, Dr. Arthur Anderson (University of New England), and Drs. Bonnie Newsom and Alice Kelley (University of Maine, Orono). Congratulations to everyone involved in this important citizen science project!

APANB in the News
Ken Holyoke (Co-Editor)

In keeping with our goals of greater engagement with the public regarding archaeological matters, the APANB-AAPNB Board has in recent months participated in conversations with media about archaeology in the news. In July, following a CBC story about “Treasure Buddies” metal detecting in the Saint John area, the Board issued a formal response to CBC alerting them to the ethical and potential legal concerns associated with metal detecting, and how the tone of the article appeared to both condone and encourage activities deemed illegal under the Heritage Conversation Act. This letter garnered a subsequent media interview and President Darcy Dignam sat down with CBC’s Information Morning Saint John to discuss our concerns, protection of archaeological sites, and how to responsibly engage with archaeology as a member of the public. In August, Darcy was invited back to the airwaves on CBC’s Information Morning Fredericton to discuss urban archaeology, legislation, regulations, and Archaeological Impact Assessments in New Brunswick. These media opportunities have generated a lot of online discussion, hundreds of “engagements” with our social media platforms, and have raised the profile of the APANB within the province, the country, and the Northeast region. Great job, Darcy—the radio loves your voice! The Board will continue to engage with CBC and local media moving forward, including what we hope to become a monthly segment on archaeology in the province and the region.
APANB 2019–2020 Speaker Series

After the Spring 2019 Annual General Meeting, the Board established the Association’s Speaker Series. This series is a combination of conference style, free public lectures and training workshops on topics relevant to archaeological professionals and students. We kicked this series off on October 19th to celebrate International Archaeology Day and have held a total of five lectures so far. The titles and abstracts of the recent presentations can be found below, and a tentative schedule of upcoming events can be found on page 4. If you are interested in giving a lecture or workshop, please reach out to the Board of Directors with your ideas.

Dr. David Black (UNB) “The History of Archaeology in Charlotte County”

Congratulations to APANB Board Member Dr. David Black for the release of his new video documentary to coincide with the 150th anniversary of the Saxby Gale. In this documentary, Dr. Black uses the anniversary as a focal event around which he summarizes the history of archaeological research in the county from the 18th century to recent times. This history provides a context for current concerns about the effects of environmental change. This documentary is now available to view on the Association’s YouTube page.

Dr. Katherine Patton (UoT) “A History of Tsimshian fisheries: exploring long-term interactions between people and fish on the northern Northwest Coast of North America”

Northwest Coast archaeologists are coming to appreciate the complexity and diversity of fishing practices across the entire region and through time. While salmon was once considered a “prime mover” of social complexity in the area, we now understand that the capture, storage, and consumption of several species of fish structured social relations, settlement practices, and land-tenure systems. In this presentation, I summarize the results of recent archaeological research into several aspects of ancient Tsimshian fisheries on the northern coast.

Antonius Pronk (GNB) “Landscape Implications of a Rapidly Changing Climate: Interactions of Land, Water, and Ice”

Today’s rapidly changing environment is sometimes compared to rapid changes in the geological past. This could be during glacial-interglacial transitions, or during catastrophic events like impacts, volcanic mega eruptions, or tsunamis. One of the big differences between the present and the past is our own presence on this planet. Humans have themselves become a geological agent. In the past, during the termination of the most recent ice age and the time people moved onto the landscape, several planet scale processes were at play which effected human mobility and settlement. Recent research into the interactions of land, water and ice during this time shows that while there were likely not many early humans here during this time, they could have been everywhere because of their highly mobile nature.

Samantha Easy, Joseph Cull, & Shawna Barnaby (LiUNA) “Union of Canadian Archaeologists: CRM and LiUNA”

Samantha Easy, Joseph Cull 7 Shawna Barnaby are the Archaeology Sector Representatives for the Labourer’s International Union of North America (LiUNA) Central & Eastern Canada Organizing Fund. LiUNA is an international labor union has recently been involved in a drive to unionize archaeology in the province of Ontario. Representatives attended our Fall Membership Meeting to give a public presentation, to discuss this initiative and answer questions on this topic. Additional information on this presentation and the union drive in Ontario can be found on page 5.

Ken Holyoke (UoT) “pXRF and Carboniferous cherts in New Brunswick: Experimental Results and Insights”

XRF technology offers a non-destructive method for comparing the geochemistry of stone with archaeological tools and has been used for sourcing studies on the Maritime Peninsula with varying degrees of success. In recent years, XRF technologies have improved to the point that handheld or portable (pXRF) units are capable of meeting or exceeding the precision of past laboratory-based assessments. Despite this, source provenance studies which employ pXRF have only been proven reliable for homogeneous materials like obsidian. The analysis of non-homogeneous lithic materials (e.g., cherts, rhyolites) present challenges relating to the reproducibility and quantification of results. This paper discusses preliminary pXRF analysis of Washademoak Multi-coloured Chert and related Carboniferous cherts from throughout southeast New Brunswick, the applicability of pXRF for intra-source, between-source, and regional-scale provenance studies of heterogeneous microcrystalline stone.

Upcoming Lecture and Workshop Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 24</td>
<td>Hosted by Dr. Gabe Hrynick</td>
<td>Multiple Lectures</td>
<td>An Evening of New England Archaeology with Tim Spahr Dr. Arthur Anderson, and Dr. Gemma Hudgell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan TBD</td>
<td>Dr. Cora Woolsey (UNB)</td>
<td>Workshop</td>
<td>A Quick and Dirty Ceramic Analysis Workshop</td>
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<td>Feb TBD</td>
<td>Sara Beanlands (Boreas Heritage)</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb TBD</td>
<td>Steve Garcin (Boreas Heritage)</td>
<td>Workshop</td>
<td>An Introduction to Ground Penetrating Radar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar TBD</td>
<td>Dr. Gabe Hrynick</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>Recent Archaeological Work in the Maine Quoddy Region</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar TBD</td>
<td>Dr. David Black &amp; Al Honsinger</td>
<td>Workshop</td>
<td>An Introduction to Lithic Material Identification</td>
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Recent Contributions by Members

2. Black, David W. (October 2018), “...gathering pebbles on a boundless shore...‘ — The Rum Beach Site and Intertidal Archaeology in the Canadian Quoddy Region” in UNB Libraries Scholar Research Repository.

APANB t-shirts are here!

The fundraising committee recently placed an order for APANB-AAPNB branded t-shirts. While this was a limited offer, a few extras are available in select sizes for those individuals who did not get to place an order. Tastefully emblazoned with the APANB logo, these shirts are just the thing for work or the field. If you’re interested in placing an order, please send us an email.
Unionizing CRM Archaeology

Samantha Easy & Joseph Cull (Archaeology Sector Representatives, LiUNA)

For as long as anyone can remember, Archaeologists in Ontario have been tossing around the idea of a Union. It has always been a topic of conversation over a screen or across an open 1x1m square. In June of 2018, we chose a union to represent us and joined the Labourer’s International Union of North America (LiUNA).

Archaeologists are unionizing to stop a race to the bottom. High demands, low pay, unsafe working conditions, and few opportunities for professional development have created a revolving door in and out of the industry. We believe that this system undermines the quality of our work, damages our relationships with First Nations communities, and drives skilled and passionate archaeologists out of the industry. We are unionizing because we believe we can do better.

From June of 2018 to November of 2019, over 300 archaeologists have joined and our numbers grow every day! As we negotiate Archaeology’s first collective agreements, our members are committed to working together with First Nations, Professional Societies and Employers to ensure that we improve standards, advocate for ourselves, and create long term careers in the field.

When we form a union, we believe that we can make archaeology a viable career and create a means to lobby for our industry at the provincial and federal level. If we take this step together, we can join our voices and elevate the industry without affecting the competitiveness of any company. With LiUNA’s Indigenous Affairs department we can help foster relationships and partnerships between archaeologists and First Nation communities; a relationship that LiUNA has built through training initiatives, work placement and apprenticeship programs. Together, we can address the current challenges archaeology faces and create the future we want to see.

What we are doing with LiUNA is nothing short of historic. We are North America’s first archaeology union! We have a national mandate and we have spoken to archaeologists from coast to coast who are experiencing the same shortfalls that led Ontario Archaeologists to seek out a union. We’re inviting everyone to join us and build this movement with us!

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Backdirt by the Numbers
Trevor Dow (Co-Editor)

Welcome to Backdirt by the Numbers, an annual summary and analysis of Archaeological Field Research Permits (AFRPs) issued by the Province of New Brunswick for archaeological work in New Brunswick each calendar year. In recent months, the APANB-AAPNB Board of Directors received a summary from the Heritage and Archaeological Services Branch (HASB) for AFRPs issued in 2017 and 2018. Over the last several weeks, I have been reviewing and analyzing this data to identify trends, and to continue the research and analysis that was conducted for presentations given by the Board at the 51st Annual Meeting of the Canadian Archaeological Association and at the Association of Professional Archaeologists of New Brunswick 2018 Fall General Meeting.

New Brunswick 2017 Permit Data Preliminary Analysis and Results:

In 2017, a total of 162 permits were issued by HASB—down approximately 8% from 2016. This included 89 permits issued to HASB, 67 issued to various Cultural Resource Management (CRM) firms, 4 issued to a University or Academic institution, and 2 unknown or unspecified entries (Plate 1, Uncorrected). However, it should be noted that 39 of those 162 permits, or 24%, were cancelled—bringing the total number of permits issued that were used down to 123. If those cancelled permits are removed from the dataset, the totals change to 56 issued to HASB and 61 issued to CRM companies, with the other two categories remaining unchanged (Plate 1, Corrected). By removing the unused permits, the corrected data provide a truer representation of the volume of work being completed.

While permits are sometimes cancelled when a project does not move forward, it appears that permits are most often cancelled when they are duplicative for a particular project. That is to say, both CRM firms and HASB typically apply for multiple permits on the same project for several different potential field directors (permit holders). This is often done to provide the institution conducting the fieldwork with flexibility in field directors based on the availability of their staff. This is a result of the fact that, unlike some other jurisdictions, in New Brunswick a single permit is not issued for each project, but multiple permits are issued for each potential permit holder on a given project. In addition to this, permits are only valid for one calendar year. Therefore any large-scale project requiring multiple years of fieldwork, also require multiple permits.

The corrected data means that in 2017 CRM firms accounted for 50% of the permits issued, with HASB at 46%, University or Academic Institutions at 3%, and 1% that were unspecified. The majority of the permits issued were for impact studies.

References:
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Backdirt by the Numbers
Trevor Dow (Co-Editor)

related to development projects at 80%, with archaeological monitoring, HASB staff, academic research, and unspecified permits making up the remaining 20% (Plate 2).

New Brunswick 2018 Permit Data Preliminary Analysis and Results:

In 2018, a total of 146 permits were issued by HASB—down approximately 9% from 2017. This included 51 permits issued to HASB, 91 issued to various CRM firms, and 4 issued to a University or Academic institution, (Plate 3). Unlike the 2017 dataset, the number of permits cancelled in 2018 was not included in the data received from HASB. Therefore the analysis for 2018 will be somewhat skewed by the inclusion of an unknown number of cancelled permits. However, we know from previous research that between 2006 and 2018 the average number of cancelled permits was approximately 16, or 12%.

A review of the uncorrected data revealed that in 2018 CRM firms accounted for 62% of the permits issued, with HASB at 35%, and University or Academic Institutions at 3%. The majority of the permits issued were for impact studies related to development projects at 76%, with archaeological monitoring at 20%, academic research at 3%, and HASB staff at 1% (Plate 4).

New Brunswick 2017-2018 Permit Data Preliminary Analysis by Sector

Further analysis of the 2017 and 2018 permit data revealed interesting insights into which industry sectors archaeological impact assessments are being completed for. Transportation and Infrastructure projects made up the majority of archaeological work undertaken in both 2017 and 2018, at 60% and 81% respectively (Plate 5).

References:
4—Dignam, Darcy J., MA, RPA; David Black, Ph.D.; Trevor Dow, B.A.; Ken Holyoke, M.A., RPA; M. Gabriel Hrynick, Ph.D.; and Sara Beanlands, MA, RPA, “More Backdirt and Bureaucracy: New data on...

Backdirt by the Numbers
Trevor Dow (Co-Editor)

New Brunswick 2006-2018 Permit Data Updated Analysis:

Between 2006 and 2018, HASB issued a total of 1,136 archaeological field research permits (AFRPs), not including cancelled permits. This included 761 permits issued to CRM firms, 352 to HASB, 17 to University or Academic institutions, and 6 unknown (Plate 6). Impact studies made up the largest percentage of permits issued during this period at 75%, with archaeological monitoring taking up 21%, and research bringing up the rear at 4%.

In closing, I would say that New Brunswick’s historic archaeological field research permit data shows interesting trends within our industry over the last decade. As our analysis of available data progresses, I will continue to disseminate the results to the membership, both through this newsletter as well as presentations, when the opportunity arises.