

# Alaska Anthropological Association Newsletter



Volume 32, Number 4

March 2007

## President's Message

*Polly Wheeler*

As springtime draws a bit closer, it's time to think about our annual spring meeting. As you can see in the schedule included in this newsletter, the upcoming meetings in Fairbanks will be excellent. As always, the meetings present a terrific opportunity to see old friends, meet new friends, and hear some exciting talks. This year, we've got some great symposia to look forward to, as well as some exciting speakers; conference organizers have arranged for have both Dennis Stanford and Shep Krech as keynote speakers. In addition to the excitement of the meetings, don't forget to attend the business meeting of the Association, to be held at 2:30 pm on March 17. Please come both to learn about the business of the Association, and to provide your valuable input as a member of the Association. As a reminder, members wishing to place resolutions on the business meeting agenda are reminded to present their issues to the board in writing at least 24 hours in advance of the annual business meeting and prior to the board meeting.

On another note, you should have received under separate cover a ballot, including two seats for the Association board and one seat for President of the Association. Both Rachel Mason and Alan Boraas have served two consecutive terms, and are unable to serve any longer. I'd like to thank them both for their dedication and service to the Association.

My two year term as president is drawing to a close. It has been a pleasure serving the membership, and while we haven't achieved everything I would have liked, we leave the Association in good stead. I wish the new president and the new Board good luck in their endeavors and I thank everyone for agreeing to serve.

As a reminder, the dates for the 36th annual meeting in Anchorage are February 28- March 1, 2008. Mark your calendars!



**Stay involved!**  
**Check the aaa webpage**  
<http://www.alaskaanthropology.org/>

# Alaska Journal of Anthropology

## Journal Editor's Message

Owen Mason

Another double issue of our journal, *Alaska Journal of Anthropology*, is at the printer, and ideally, will be distributed at the annual meeting to paid subscribers. Edited by Igor Krupnik, Yvon Csonka and Owen Mason, Volume 4 (1-2) 2006 is a festschrift for Russian prehistorian Mischa Bronshtein, entitled "The Bering Strait Universe." The issue contains 178 pages of articles and reports, with 15 interdisciplinary contributions in archaeology, linguistics, and cultural anthropology. The journal staff will begin lay-out design for Volume 5 (1) in early March, anticipating distribution by June 2007. Included in this volume will be contributed papers on the archaeology and ethnohistory throughout Alaska. Subscribe on the aaa website, or by contacting aaa treasurer Liz Williams (liz\_williams@fws.gov), or by contacting the editor (geoarch@ptialaska.net). Back issues (older than 1 year) are available at a discount.



## ALASKA ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

### President

Polly Wheeler

### Board Members

Alan Boraas

Lisa Frink

Owen Mason

Rachel Mason

Dan Odess

### Secretary - Treasurer

Liz Williams

*The purpose of the Alaska Anthropological Association is to serve as a vehicle for maintaining communication among people interested in all branches of anthropology; to promote public awareness and education of anthropological activities and goals; to foster sympathetic appreciation of the past and present cultures of Alaskan peoples; to encourage Alaskan Natives to participate in the elucidation of their respective cultures; and to facilitate the dissemination of anthropological works in both technical and non-technical formats. Membership is open to any individual or organization indicating interest and concern for the discipline of anthropology. The Association holds its annual meeting during March or April of each year and generally publishes four newsletters each year.*

*The membership cycle runs from the date of payment for one year; dues may be prepaid for more than one year at a time. Dues are \$20.00 for student members and \$40.00 for regular or institutional members. Checks or money orders, in US dollars, should be made out to the Alaska Anthropological Association. To become a member, send your name, affiliation, mailing address, city, state/province, postal code and payment to the Association at P.O. Box 241686, Anchorage, Alaska 99524-1686, USA. Items for the newsletter may be sent to the editor, Becky Saleeby, at the above address, attention "Newsletter Editor," or to becky\_saleeby@nps.gov.*



**ALASKA  
ANTHROPOLOGICAL  
ASSOCIATION**

**Annual Meeting  
March 14-17, 2007  
Westmark Hotel, Fairbanks**

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<b>2007 Meeting Registration Fee</b>	By February 21st	After February 21st	
Regular	\$95	\$120	\$ _____
Student (currently enrolled)	\$45	\$70	\$ _____
One-Day Registration	\$60	\$60	\$ _____

**Thursday Evening Banquet March 15 (\$28)** Speaker: Dennis Stanford  
Choose One: Prime Rib \_\_\_\_\_ OR Halibut \_\_\_\_\_ OR Pasta Primavera \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Friday Luncheon March 16 (\$16. 50)** Speaker: Shepard Krech III  
Choose One: Artichoke Fettuccine \_\_\_\_\_ OR Alaskan Baked Fish \_\_\_\_\_  
OR Chicken Basket \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership and Contributions**

Membership Dues	1 year	2 years	
Regular/Institutional	\$40	\$75	\$ _____
Student	\$20	\$35	\$ _____
Contribution to Student Scholarship fund			\$ _____
Contribution to Publication fund			\$ _____
Contribution to Alaska Consortium of Zooarchaeologists			\$ _____

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**Dan Odess  
University of Alaska Museum  
P.O. Box 756960  
Fairbanks, AK 99775-6960**

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# Special Interest Group News



**Alaska Consortium  
of Zooarchaeologists**  
*Debbie Corbett*



**Public Education Group**  
*Richard VanderHoek*

As the new president of ACZ, my first official duty was to preside over the move of the ACZ collections at the University of Alaska Anchorage. The Anthropology Department has acquired a new archaeology lab, Room 207 in the Beatrice MacDonald Building. In early January the ACZ collections were moved to this room. Diane Hanson ordered new museum storage cabinets. ACZ had set aside some funds for cabinets and some are being purchased with money Diane has gotten from the department. The lab is small but has a bit more work space than is available in Rooms 101 and 102.

**Editor's Note: Please see the advertisement at the end of this newsletter for the 8th annual ACZ workshop to be held in conjunction with the meetings in Fairbanks. The workshop will be held at the University of Alaska Museum of the North on March 14.**

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We would really like to get the folks who were involved in past Project Archaeology training to participate in this new training, as well as those unfamiliar with the Project Archaeology program. Regional program managers may want to consider covering expenses (substitute teacher, transportation, lodging, per diem) for a local teacher to attend this training. There is no charge for attending in the workshop, but registration is required. If you are interested in participating in the upcoming Facilitators Training or have questions about the program, please call Richard VanderHoek, state coordinator, at (907) 269-8728.

## **Announcing Project Archaeology Facilitators Training Workshop**

Project Archaeology is a program that teaches K-12 teachers to use archaeological principles and topics in their classes. The program's goals are to use these lessons to teach school children the value of cultural resources. After a hiatus this program is starting up again in Alaska, with an initial emphasis on reaching teachers in Anchorage with new Project Archaeology lesson plans and materials.

The Alaska Project Archaeology program is sponsoring a Facilitators Training Workshop in Anchorage March 6-8, 2007. The training will be by Joelle Clark from the Center for Science Teaching and Learning, Northern Arizona University. This three-day workshop will cover the newly developed Shelter module, featuring lesson plans designed for third and fourth grades centered around a Northwest Coast Plank House. This facilitator training is focused toward teachers and archaeologists. We are hoping to develop a pool of archaeologists and teacher/trainers who have been trained in the materials and who can help teach these materials to grade school teachers, and then later assist the teachers in classrooms. A two-day class teaching the new Project Archaeology shelter module to teachers will be included in the Anchorage School District Teachers Academy in June. These materials are different than the *Intrigue of the Past* lessons previously used, and were designed to both include modern teaching practices and to better fit with state and national teaching standards and curriculums.  
*Continued on left-hand column*

## Fieldwork News

### Sitka National Historical Park (SITK), Alaska, 2005 and 2006 Parkwide Inventories

*Bill Hunt*

National Park Service, Midwest Archeological Center

The second year of a four-year parkwide inventory project was completed between April 9 and May 13, 2006, building on the previous year's work. The project is directed by archeologists with the National Park Service's Midwest Archeological Center (MWAC). Overall project goals continue to be to locate, evaluate, and document as thoroughly as possible all archeological resources within Sitka National Historical Park. The objectives of the parkwide inventory are to: 1) determine the nature and extent of archeological resources in the park, especially those related to the 1804 confrontation of the Tlingit with the Russians and their allies; 2) record and evaluate those resources in the Archeological Sites Management Information System (ASMIS) database; 3) nominate eligible properties for listing in the National Register of Historic Places; and 4) recommend appropriate strategies for conserving, protecting, preserving in situ, managing, and interpreting those resources.

The 2005 field team incorporated three crews conducting shovel test, metal detection, and geophysical inventories of the park. Metal detection was restricted by dense vegetation and tree falls to an estimated 10% (5.7 acres or 23,068 m<sup>2</sup>) of the park. This work clarified the location of the 1804 battle, identified two possible activity areas, and two ash-filled features. Geophysical inventories occurred in four blocks and covered 2430 m<sup>2</sup> (0.6 acres), most of which (1830 m<sup>2</sup>) was in the Fort Clearing. Evidence was also presented for the 1804 Tlingit fortified village within the west half of the Fort Clearing. A possible fish camp may be suggested by recovery of artifacts near a depression on the west side of the park. Shovel testing in five locations incorporated 9525 m<sup>2</sup> (2.4 acres), 2925 m<sup>2</sup> in the Fort Clearing tested at 5 m intervals and the remainder at 10 m intervals. A possible historic site and an extensive charcoal of prehistoric age were identified in the woods east of the Visitor Center. A possible prehistoric site and evidence for an historic Russian homestead were noted in the Fort Clearing along with an extensive disturbed area which appears to be associated with the park's totem pole preservation trenches of the early 1970s.

In 2006, fieldwork focused on the goal of completing to the extent possible, the shovel test inventory started the previous year. Due to the dense vegetation at Sitka National Historical Park, shovel testing is the main way of locating archeological sites throughout the park. Working during the early spring allowed the shovel test team to work before the park's vegetation leafed out and expanded. In order to complete as much of the park as possible, the shovel test team was expanded in size from four people in 2005 to as many as 11 people in 2006. A total of 787 shovel tests were excavated completing inventory of park lands on the west side of the Indian River and finishing about 60% of the Fort Unit on the east side of the river. Altogether, approximately 10,061 m<sup>2</sup> (25 acres) of the park were inventoried. During this process, 482 historic and prehistoric artifacts were collected and cataloged. Newly identified prehistoric features include several charcoal and cobble-filled pits, single and multiple stratified charcoal deposits on low terraces on both sides of the Indian River, and a charcoal-filled pit tentatively identified as a roasting oven or long-term hearth. One charcoal and cobble-filled pit produced the oldest radiocarbon date seen in the park yet; e.g., 2590 ± 50 years BP. This calibrates to BC 820-760 and BC 680-550. Another dated sample from a stratified deposit dated to 1310 ± 40 BP which calibrates to AD 660-790. Four other charcoal samples date to the late prehistoric to early historic eras ranging from dates of AD 1430-1670 (calibrated date) to AD 1640-1950 (calibrated date). The larger number of later dates suggest intensification of usage of natural food resources in the park from the 1400s to the early 19th century.

*Continued on page 9*



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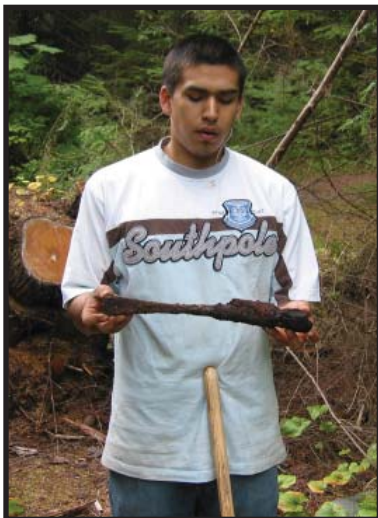
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*Continued from page 6*

Historic features were more numerous than prehistoric and include two rectangular 1940 NPS outhouse pits, a wooden platform, eight earthen World War II gun emplacements, two concentrations of late 19th century historic artifacts, several clusters of cable-girded trees and abandoned two-track roads, a hunter's tree stand, a 1930s era dump, and an element of a corduroy road built by the U.S. Army prior to 1870. Two rectangular depressions near the Tlingit Fort were also recorded but their temporal associations are not known. Public outreach was accomplished through hiring local workers, involving Tlingit in the fieldwork, radio and newspaper interviews, and participation in the park's education program involving close to 100 students from at least seven grade school and high school classes.

Fieldwork in 2007 will concentrate on completing the shovel test inventory and conducting limited testing of features and deposits identified the previous two years. Further information about this project may be had by contacting Bill Hunt at Midwest Archeological Center, National Park Service, Federal Bldg. Room 474, 100 Centennial Mall No., Lincoln, Nebraska 68508 or by email to [bill\\_hunt@nps.gov](mailto:bill_hunt@nps.gov).



Anchorage high school student Jesse Marquez-Hopson found a large woodchisel in his shovel test at the edge of the Fort Clearing.



Tlingit Kiks.ádi clan liaison Steve Johnson shovel testing near the Fort Clearing with NPS Archeological Technician Amanda Davey.

**Wednesday, March 14: 6–8PM**

**Reception and Registration at the University of Alaska Museum of the North  
Cash Bar**

**Thursday Morning**

**Posters (Thursday and Friday)**

Robert (Max) Dean: An Examination Of Hard-Rock Mining Prospects on the Kenai Peninsula, Alaska

Heather C. Hall: Ashes to Asbestos-End of an Era of a Volunteer Fire Hall in Whittier, Alaska

James Kari (Dena'inaq' Titaztunt): Some Features of the *Dena'ina Topical Dictionary*

Kathryn Krasinski and Gary Haynes (University of Nevada, Reno): Refining the Radiocarbon Record:  
Implications for Interpreting Eastern Beringian Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene Extinctions

Partlow, Megan A. (Central Washington University) and Robert E. Kopperl (Northwest Archaeological  
Associates, Inc.): Exploring The Skeletal Evidence For Dried Cod in The North Pacific

Shirar, Scott (University of Alaska Fairbanks and National Park Service): The Maiyumerak Creek Site  
(XBM-131): An Analysis of Artifacts and Faunal Remains from a Late Prehistoric House Pit in  
Northwest Alaska

Teneal Jensen: An Experiment in Archaeology; Recreating a Traditional Dena'ina Fish Cache Pit

Diane K. Hanson, G. Richard Scott, Brian Hoffman, and Roy Mitchell: 25 Years with the Belzoni Society

Shannon Huber: Reassessing the Eligibility of a National Register Site for the Abandoned Mine Lands  
Program - *The Hirshey Mine - Hope, Alaska's "End of the Road"*

Robin Mills and Steve Lanford (BLM): "Hills Bros. Coffee Can Chronology Field Guide"

Becky Saleeby and Susan Bender (National Park Service): Archeological Mentorship Program 2004 – 2006

Cody J. Strathe (University of Alaska Fairbanks): Seal Bones from the Beach Ridges: Isotopic Values of  
Cape Krusenstern Archaeofauna.

## 2007 Meeting of the Alaska Anthropological Association - Preliminary Program

### Thursday Morning

#### Session 1: *Gathering, Gardens, and Horticulture in Alaska: Some Overlooked Aspects of Subsistence*

Session co-organizers: Daniel Monteith (University of Alaska Southeast) and Elizabeth Kunibe (University of Alaska Southeast)

Currently there is a variety of new research being conducted on the resilience of gathering and gardening practices in Alaska. Research indicates that gathering and gardening strategies have been historically significant but often times these activities are overlooked in the literature. Contemporary subsistence activities are re-emphasizing the importance of gathering and gardening as a stable and healthy food source even in the midst of rapid climatic change. Gathering and gardening seems to be essential to the health and economy of many rural Alaskan communities today and the research projects in this session will examine how these practices are both preserved and perpetuated.

- 8:00 AM Daniel Monteith (University of Alaska Southeast): Alaska Native Gathering and Gardening in Southeast Alaska: Ethnohistorical Analysis and Contemporary Implications
- 8:20 AM Douglas W. Veltre (University of Alaska Anchorage): Gardening in Russian America: Archaeological Evidence from the Aleut Region
- 8:40 AM Elizabeth Kunibe (University of Alaska Southeast): Potatoes and the Kenai Peninsula: Obtaining Introduced Potato Cultivars from Russian Old Believers and Early Settlers
- 9:00 AM Alberto Pantoja, Aaron Hagerty, and Susan Emmert (USDA/ARS, Subarctic Agricultural Research Unit): Gathering, Gardening, and Agricultural Production in Alaska: Why IPM Cannot Be Overlooked even at Latitude 64° North
- 9:20 AM BREAK
- 9:40 AM Phil Loring (University of Alaska Fairbanks) and Craig Gerlach (University of Alaska Fairbanks): Outpost Gardening in Interior Alaska: Historical Dimensions of Food System Innovation and the Exploration of a Traditional and Customary Practice
- 10:00 AM Laura Henry-Stone (University of Alaska Fairbanks), Ray Barnhardt (University of Alaska Fairbanks), Craig Gerlach (University of Alaska Fairbanks): Linking Gardening with Place-Based Education at a Native Alaskan Charter School
- 10:20 AM Craig Gerlach (University of Alaska Fairbanks), Philip Loring (University of Alaska Fairbanks), Laura Henry-Stone (University of Alaska Fairbanks): Country Foods, Nutrition and Community Health in Gwich'in Ecosystems
- 10:40 AM Discussion

## 2007 Meeting of the Alaska Anthropological Association - Preliminary Program

### Thursday Morning

#### Session 2: *About Bering Strait: Current Research around the Seward Peninsula*

Session organizer: Margan Grover (US Army Corps of Engineers Alaska District)

As the former eastern reach of Beringia, the Seward Peninsula may very well be one of the earliest occupied regions in Alaska. Built on more than 10,000 years of continuous occupation, the Seward Peninsula has an active and vibrant indigenous population, and a fascinating past and future that draws researchers from around the world. This multi-disciplinary session will highlight the variety of anthropological, archaeological, ethnographic, and other research around Alaska's Seward Peninsula region.

- 8:00 AM Margan Allyn Grover (US Army Corps of Engineers Alaska District): Before the Three Lucky Swedes: Preliminary Results and Experiences from the Nome Sandspit Site.
- 8:20 AM Owen K. Mason (Geoarch Alaska): The Ipiutak Cult on the Seward Peninsula: Center or Periphery?
- 8:40 AM Roger Harritt (ENRI-UAA): Recent Discoveries at Kurigitavik Mound at Wales, Alaska, in 2006
- 9:00 AM Rachel Mason (National Park Service): Subsistence and Family Networks in Buckland
- 9:20 AM BREAK
- 9:40 AM Deanna Paniataaq Kingston: When Bad Things Happen to Good Eskimos: The Persistence of Conflict Avoidance among the King Island Inupiat
- 10:00 AM Kai Henifin (Oregon State University): Addressing Military Contamination on St. Lawrence Island, Alaska
- 10:20 AM Robert D. Shaw: A Preliminary Look at the Houses of King Island
- 10:40 AM Josh Wisniewski and Elizabeth Marino: Being as Knowing: Knowledge as Experience in a Sentient World
- 11:00 AM BREAK
- 11:20 AM Matt Ganley (Bering Straits Native Corporation) and Ted Mayac, Sr. (King Island Native Corporation): Using Oblique Aerial Photos for Place Name Identification: King Island, Alaska
- 11:40 AM Katrin Simon (University of Alaska Fairbanks): In Quest of Authentic Yup'ik Art - Concepts of Tradition
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## 2007 Meeting of the Alaska Anthropological Association - Preliminary Program

### Thursday Morning

#### Session 3: *Recent Research in Subarctic Archaeology*

Session organizer: Ben Potter

- 8:00 AM Barbara A. Crass (University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh) and Brant L. Kedrowski (University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh): Paleolithic Hearths as Viewed from Swan Point.
- 8:20 AM Charles E. Holmes: The East Beringian Tradition and the Transitional Period: New Data from Swan Point
- 8:40 AM Ben A. Potter (University of Alaska Fairbanks): Site Location Model and Survey Strategies in the Mid-Tanana Basin
- 9:00 AM Ben A. Potter (University of Alaska Fairbanks), Peter M. Bowers, and Edmund P. Gaines (Northern Land Use Research, Inc.): Chronology, Technology, and Site Structure in Central Alaska: Results of the 2006 Northern Rail Extension Project
- 9:20 AM BREAK
- 9:40 AM Brian Wygal (University of Nevada, Reno): Microblade/non-Microblade Dichotomy in Southcentral Alaska
- 10:00 AM Norman Alexander Easton (Yukon College, Whitehorse), Glen MacKay (Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre, Yellowknife), Patricia Bernice Young (University of Alaska Fairbanks): Archaeological Survey and Excavations of the Yukon–Alaska Borderlands, 2006
- 10:20 AM Vance Hutchinson (Tulane University), Norman Alexander Easton (Yukon College), Glen MacKay (Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre), Patricia Bernice Young (University of Alaska Fairbanks): Faunal Remains From the Little John Site (KdVo-6): An Early Holocene Assemblage from the Yukon–Alaska Borderlands
- 10:40 AM Aaron C. Robertson (U.S. Army Garrison, Alaska and Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands, Colorado State University): Excavations at XMH-874 and the 2006 Field Season on Donnelly Training Area
- 11:00 AM BREAK
- 11:20 AM Robert Sattler, Tom Gillispie, Tom Gamza, Elizabeth Cook (all of Tanana Chiefs Conference), and Charles Adkins (Bureau of Land Management): The Beck Site: The Historic Archaeology of an Early Gold Rush Era Dwelling, Business, and Military Site near Eagle, Alaska
- 11:40 AM Matt O’Leary (BIA- ANCSA) : Notes about Pre-20<sup>th</sup> Century Dena’ina Houses on Mulchatna River

## 2007 Meeting of the Alaska Anthropological Association - Preliminary Program

### Thursday Afternoon

#### Session 4: *Student Papers*

Session organizer: Natalia Slobodina (University of Alaska Anchorage)

- 11:00 AM Kimberly Fleming (UAA): Title: Voices of Diverse Mothers: Maternal Medical Care in Anchorage
- 11:20 AM Cornelia Jessen (UAA): Women's Health Survey: An HIV/AIDS Needs Assessment in the Anchorage Area
- 11:40 AM Cody J. Strathe (UAF): Variability in Marine Ecosystem Productivity and Its Effects on Phocid Seal Abundance, Morphology, and Subsistence Hunting throughout the Holocene as Reflected in the Archaeological Record at Mink Island (XMK-030), Alaska.
- 12:00 PM Kristin Sheidt (UAA): Avian Remains at the Hungry Fox Site, Alaska: A Preliminary Report.
- LUNCH
- 2:00 PM Sargent Shriver (UAF): The Nature of Moral Intuitions in Alaska Native Populations: Questionnaire-Based Experiments.
- 2:20 PM Kelly Gwynn (UAA): Alaska Natives on the Screen and Behind the Scenes... Or Not
- 2:40 PM Kelly Gwynn (UAA): Jonathon Solomon and John F. Kennedy
- 3:00 PM Christopher Smith (UAA): The Effects of Global Terrorism, Natural Disasters and Disease in Bali on the Alaska Native Art Market
- 3:20 PM BREAK
- 3:40 PM Daniel Lewis (UAA): Life After the Fall
- 4:00 PM Chris Houlette (UAF): Reconsidering Kukulik: New Perspectives on a Forgotten Collection
- 4:20 PM Cecelia R. Yazzie: Place Names and Landscape Stories: Documenting Alaska Native Place Names and Geography in Southwest Alaska
- 4:40 PM Timothy Jankowski (UAF): A Perspective on Alaska's Wolf Control Program
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## Thursday Afternoon

### Session 5: *A Fresh Look at Nuvuk, Point Barrow, AK: Results from Recent Work*

Session organizer: Anne Jensen (UIC Science, LLC)

This session will present results to date from current research at the Nuvuk site, Pt. Barrow, Alaska. The site had been considered too eroded to be of research interest, but that is proving to be far from true. The results have implications for the origins and spread of Thule.

- 2:00 PM Anne M. Jensen (UIC Science, LLC): Archaeology of Nuvuk: Thule Cemetery and Contact-era Work Area
- 2:20 PM Claire Alix (Alaska Quaternary Center, UAF): Wood Technology at Nuvuk: New Contributions to the Knowledge of Wood Working Practices and Use in the Late Prehistory of Northern Alaska
- 2:40 PM Owen K. Mason (GeoArch Alaska): Massive Storms Rake the Pt. Barrow Spit: Comparing the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Millennia AD and the Implications for the Thule Cemetery and Global Change
- 3:00 PM Justin Tackney and Dennis H. O'Rourke (Department of Anthropology, University of Utah): Molecular Variation and Prehistory at Nuvuk, Pt. Barrow, Alaska
- 3:20 PM BREAK
- 3:40 PM Shawn Miller (Department of Anthropology, University of Utah): Human Skeletal Materials from the Excavation at Point Barrow
- 4:00 PM Laura L. Smith (Barrow Arctic Science Consortium): The Thule Cemetery at Nuvuk: Burial Patterns and Practices at the Top of the World
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## Thursday Afternoon

### Session 6: *The Anthropology of Colonialism in the Arctic*

Session organizer: Lisa Frink

Archaeologists and anthropologists are increasingly exploring the complex and long-term processes of colonialism. Because of the relatively late sequence of colonial events in Arctic North America there is a rich data set of archaeological, ethnographic, ethnohistoric, and oral historic evidence that researchers can draw from. As such our data sets and analyses will prove to be critical for cross-cultural comparisons of the contingent and patterned processes, interactions, and outcomes of colonialism among Indigenous people and settlers.

- 2:00 PM Robert E. King, (State Archaeologist, Bureau of Land Management Anchorage): Homesteading on the Last Frontier: The Sometimes Surprising story of America's Last Homesteads in Alaska and Elsewhere
- 2:20 PM Karlene Leeper (611<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineers, U.S. Air Force, Elmendorf AFB): Erosion and Memory: Post-colonial Implications for the Port Heiden, Alaska Cemetery project
- 2:40 PM Michael Nowak (Colorado College): Tracing Colonial Heritages: Socioeconomic Life in Greenland, Arctic Canada, and Alaska
- 3:00 PM Gregory A. Reinhardt (University of Indianapolis): Government-issued "Indians": Officially Sanctioned Images of American Indians
- 3:20 PM BREAK
- 3:40 PM Christyann Darwent (University of California, Davis) and Genevieve LeMoine (Peary-MacMillan Arctic Museum, Bowdoin College): Inughuit and Explorers: History and Archaeology in Northwest Greenland
- 4:00 PM A. Crowell, D. Yesner, R. Eagle, and D. Hanson: A Historic Alutiiq village on the Outer Kenai Coast: Subsistence and Trade in the Early Russian Contact Period
- 4:20 PM Rita Shepard (Cotsen Institute of Archaeology, UCLA): Semi-subterranean structures in early Viking Age Iceland
- 4:40 PM Lisa Frink (University of Nevada, Las Vegas): Technology and identity in coastal Alaska
-

**Thursday Evening: Dennis Stanford (Smithsonian Institution) *New Perspectives on the Origins of the First Americans***

6:00 PM: Cash Bar, Reception and Book Signing (Ernest S. Burch, Jr.)

7:00 PM: Dinner Service Begins

7:45 PM: Speaker Begins

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**Friday Morning**

**Session 7: *The Northern Archaic (Part I)***

Session organizers: Julie Esdale (Brown University) and Jeff Rasic (NPS)

Session discussant: William Workman

It has been almost forty years since the Northern Archaic tradition was defined based on mid-Holocene age sites containing notched projectile points and notched pebbles and other stone tools. Assemblages from sites such as Onion Portage, Tuktuk-Naiyuk and Security Cove, were noted as broadly similar to Archaic period assemblages that are widespread in North America. It remains an open question whether the Archaic in the north represents a trend toward increasing subsistence diversification and intensification as it has been interpreted in mid latitudes.

Dozens of other Northern Archaic sites have been discovered in the intervening years but our understanding of this widespread arctic phenomenon is far from clear. Studies continue to address the age and distribution of the tradition, the ethnicity of its people, human-environment interactions, as well as its very definition and material culture traits. Contributed papers revisit some of these topics, and also expand the discussion to include consideration of site structure and community organization, intersite assemblage variability, subsistence scheduling, and resource use.

9:40 AM Julie A. Esdale (Brown University): A History of Northern Archaic Research and Summary of Current Problems

10:00 AM Owen K. Mason (Geoarch Alaska) and Nancy H. Bigelow (Alaska Quaternary Center, University of Alaska Fairbanks) The Crucible of Early to Mid-Holocene Climate in Northern Alaska: Are Northern Archaic the People of the Spreading Forest?

10:20 AM Douglas D. Anderson (Brown University): Comments on the Northern Archaic

10:40 AM Robert E. Ackerman (Washington State University): Security Cove and the Northern Archaic Tradition Revisited

NOTE: Session Will Continue After Lunch

**BREAK FOR LUNCH**

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## **Friday Morning**

### Session 8: *International Collaboration for the International Polar Year (Part I)*

Organizers: Peter P. Schweitzer and Amy L. Lovecraft, UAF

The 2007 meeting of the Alaska Anthropological Association coincides with the official start date of the Fourth International Polar Year (IPY) in March 2007. Unlike its predecessors, IPY 2007–08 is characterized by a strong involvement of social scientists and northern stakeholder groups. Research focusing on people is being acknowledged as one of the key areas of the current IPY, together with the dramatic changes northern communities are facing in their social and natural environments.

A key aspect of IPY is international cooperation. While IPY certainly has fostered an increase in international collaboration, it did not invent the concept of research across national and disciplinary boundaries. This session brings together a variety of projects dedicated to the principle of international collaboration, no matter whether they are official IPY projects or not. While the projects to be presented also vary in their disciplinary home bases, they all address the “human dimensions” of northern research, that is, they are potentially relevant for anthropologists.

- 8:30 AM Peter Schweitzer and Amy Lovecraft: Introduction
- 8:40 AM Jack Kruse (UAA): Survey of Living Conditions in the Arctic: A Research Tool for Anthropologists
- 9:00 AM M. L. Druckenmiller, H. Eicken, A. L. Lovecraft (UAF): Sea-Ice System Services: A Framework for Informing an Arctic Observing Network that is Responsive to Stakeholder Needs
- 9:20 AM Chanda Meek and Martin Robards (UAF): North by 2020: Living Marine Resources Theme
- 9:40 AM Patrick Marlow and Lawrence Kaplan (UAF): Language Planning for Eskimo-Aleut Languages: A Research and Training Project for the International Polar Year
- 10 AM Discussion

NOTE: Session Will Continue After Lunch

## **BREAK FOR LUNCH**

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## 2007 Meeting of the Alaska Anthropological Association - Preliminary Program

### Friday Morning

#### Session 9: *Contributed Papers in Archaeology*

Session Chair: Morgan Blanchard

- 8:00 AM Linda Finn Yarborough (Chugach National Forest): Creating an Archaeological Predictive Model for the Seward Ranger District, Chugach National Forest
- 8:20 AM Justin Hays : A Glimpse of Early Kachemak Subsistence in the Kodiak Archipelago
- 8:40 AM Patrick G. Saltonstall (Alutiiq Museum) and Amy F. Steffian (Alutiiq Museum): Kodiak's Oldest Houses: The Origins of the Semi-subterranean *Ciqlluaq*
- 9:00 AM Sarah Meitl (UAF) and Dixie West (Natural History Museum and Biodiversity Research Center, University of Kansas): New Excavations in the Central Aleutians: Adak Island
- 9:20 AM BREAK
- 9:40 AM Dixie Lee West (Natural History Museum and Biodiversity Research Center, University of Kansas): First Report on Petroglyphs from Gillon Point, Agattu Island, Aleutian Islands, Alaska
- 10:00 AM Allison Young McLain and Marie-Amélie Salabelle: A Closer Examination of the Delarov/Unga Island Cave Masks and Other Objects, Eastern Aleutians, Alaska
- 10:20 AM Morgan Blanchard: News of Home: Interpreting a Large Collection of Newspapers and Magazines Excavated at the North Fork Telegraph Station of the Washington Alaska Military Cable and Telegraph System
- 10:40 AM G. Richard Scott, Claire Johnson, and Susan Steen (University of Nevada Reno): Eskimo Craniofacial Morphology: The Hard Chewing Hypothesis Revisited
- 11:00 AM G. Richard Scott, Verla Davis, Elyse Jolly, Alex Marko, Lindsey Moore, and Shayne Bundy (Department of Anthropology, University of Nevada Reno) Oral Pathology of Medieval and Post-Medieval Populations From the Cathedral of Santa Maria, Vitoria, Spain: A Preliminary Assessment

### **BREAK FOR LUNCH**

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## **Friday Luncheon**

Speaker: SHEPARD KRECH III (Brown University)

Lunch will be served at 12:00

Professor Krech's talk will begin at 12:45

## **Friday Afternoon**

Session 7: *The Northern Archaic (Part II)*

Session organizers: Julie Esdale (Brown University) and Jeff Rasic (NPS)

Session discussant: William Workman

- 3:00 PM Michael Kunz and Constance Adkins (Bureau of Land Management, Arctic Field Office):  
Beyond Sixty-Eight Degrees: The Northern Archaic Tradition on Alaska's North Slope
- 3:20 PM Aaron Wilson (University of Alaska Anchorage) and Jeff Rasic (Gates of the Arctic National  
Park and Preserve): Northern Archaic Settlement and Subsistence Patterns at Agiak Lake, Brooks  
Range, Alaska.
- 3:40 PM Charles E. Holmes: Regional Variation on a Common Theme: Comprehending the Later  
Holocene Archaeology in Central Alaska.
- 4:00 PM Natasha Slobodina (University of Alaska Anchorage) and Jeff Rasic (Gates of the Arctic National  
Park and Preserve): The Use of Multiple Weapon Systems Explains Some Northern Archaic  
Period Assemblage Variability: Evidence from the Rosaliya Site in the Central Brooks Range.
- 4:20 PM BREAK
- 4:40 PM Robert Gal (Western Arctic National Parklands, National Park Service): Earlier Notched Point  
Assemblages in the Western American Arctic
- 5:00 PM Robert J. Speakman (Smithsonian Institution): An Overview of Obsidian Provenance Studies in  
Alaska and Northeast Asia.
- 5:20 PM William Workman (University of Alaska Anchorage): Discussion
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## 2007 Meeting of the Alaska Anthropological Association - Preliminary Program

### Friday Afternoon

#### Session 8: *International Collaboration for the International Polar Year (Part II)*

Organizers: Peter P. Schweitzer and Amy L. Lovecraft, UAF

- 3 PM Daniel Odess and Erica Hill (UAF): International Collaboration to Investigate the Origins of Whaling in the Bering Sea
- 3:20 PM Anne M. Jensen (Barrow): IPY Projects in the Barrow Area
- 3:40 PM Peter Schweitzer, Patty Gray (both UAF) and Lee Huskey (UAA): BOREAS: Histories from the North - Environments, Movements, Narratives – Three International Projects Directed from Alaska
- 4:20 PM Discussion
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### Friday Afternoon

#### Session 10: *Forging One's Own Future: Indigenous Childhood and Youth in the Arctic*

Session organizer: Olga Ulturgasheva

The problem of ideas of future among young generation in the Arctic indigenous communities has been given rare consideration and is reflected only as a part of broader discussion on general social and economic situation in the remote areas of the Arctic North. This session is designed to explore current social situations in the Arctic indigenous communities and the ways they affect the younger generation's visions of the future. We would like to discuss how the younger generation responds and reacts to the current ideologies reinforced in the mass media, the community, the region and the household.

Since children and adolescents eventually grow up to be adults carrying with them their youthful decisions and longings, which will still matter in their adult life, it is important to consider how existing social practices and ideologies impact on young people's representations of themselves and their visions of their own future, i.e. how they evaluate their own social and economic positions in rapidly changing societies, how they orientate themselves towards the future through personal, social and culturally constituted practices, and what social resources they are drawing on while envisaging own future.

The session will start with brief presentations from the international panel of researchers. This will lay the groundwork for facilitated discussion related to Indigenous young people, their experiences of childhood and their conceptions of the future.

- 3:00 PM Olga Ulturgasheva: Reindeer as a Developmental Metaphor: Eveny Children's Socialization in the Forest
- 3:20 PM Lisa Wexler: Perspectives on Growing Up: Constructions from Inupiat Youth Focus Groups
- 3:40 PM Meghan McKenna: Youth-led Vulnerability Research and Adaptation to Change: Assessing the Vulnerability of Inuit Youth in Arctic Bay to Social and Climate Changes

## 2007 Meeting of the Alaska Anthropological Association - Preliminary Program

- 4:00 PM Marie Lowe (Institute of Social and Economic Research, University of Alaska Anchorage):  
Alaska Coastal Community Youth and the Future
- 4:20 PM David Maas: Potential Impacts of Outer Continental Shelf Activities on Bowhead Whaling  
Hunting in the Beaufort Sea: A Student Perspective
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### Friday Afternoon

#### Session 11: *Contributed Papers in Cultural Anthropology*

- 4:40 PM Medeia Csoba DeHass: Fractured Authority: Local and Outside Management Systems within a  
Rural Alaskan Community
- 5:00 PM Félix Torres: Whaling as War: A new perspective on Aleut and Aleut whaling based on the  
Kagamil mummies legend and the tales of the "Old Man of Micix"
- 5:20 PM Adeline Peter Raboff: Gwich'in Family Origins: The Broken Braid
- 5:40 PM Mike Burwell (US Minerals Management Service): The 1976 Decline of the Western Arctic  
Caribou Herd
- 6:00 PM Craig Mishler: Njah, njoh: Lobsticks among the Gwich'in and Others
- 

### Saturday Morning

#### Session 12: *Archaeology of Auke Lake*

Session co-organizers: Daniel Monteith and Mike Farrell (University of Alaska Southeast)

Recent development in the Juneau area includes the expansion and renovation of the historic Auke Lake trail. The new trail project is a cooperative effort between the stakeholders of the University of Alaska and the city and borough of Juneau. The geological and archaeological work is being conducted by the university and has provided field school opportunities for students. The archaeological work will add to our knowledge of both the Tlingit occupation of the area as well as historical archaeology of various industries in the region. Interpretative projects including ethnobotanical and cultural historical information of the area will follow the archaeological investigations.

- 8:00 AM J.F. Baichtal (U.S. Forest Service, Tongass National Forest) R.J. Carlson (University of  
Cambridge / U.S. Forest Service, Tongass National Forest): New Mapping of Old Landforms:  
The Paleogeography of Shell-bearing Raised Marine Deposits in Southeast Alaska and Their  
Potential Archaeological Significance



## 2007 Meeting of the Alaska Anthropological Association - Preliminary Program

- 8:20 AM Mike Farrell (University of Alaska Southeast): Public Archaeology of the Auke Lake Area: Methods and New Investigations.
- 8:40 AM Lacey Smith (University of Alaska Southeast): Geologic and Bathymetric Investigations of Auke Lake: Understanding the Human Ecology of the Auke Bay Area.
- 9:00 AM BREAK
- 9:20 AM Elizabeth Kunibe (University of Alaska Southeast): Petroglyphs of the Auk Kwáan Tlingit of Southeast Alaska: Previously Recorded and Recently Discovered Petroglyphs.
- 9:40 AM Erin Ryder (University of Alaska Southeast): Auke Lake Archaeology Project: Community Collaboration and Continuing Exploration.
- 10:00 AM J.F. Baichtal (U.S. Forest Service, Tongass National Forest), S.J. Crockford (Pacific Identifications, Inc.), R.J. Carlson (University of Cambridge / U.S. Forest Service, Tongass National Forest): Possible Evidence of Warmer, Drier Climates During the Early Holocene of Southern Southeast Alaska from Shell-Bearing Raised Marine and Peat Deposits
- 10:20 AM Discussion
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### Saturday Morning

#### Session 13: *Museums and Communities: Current Collaborations*

Session organizer: Aron L. Crowell

Museums and Alaska Native communities can creatively connect on a wide spectrum of collaborative research, exhibitions, and cultural projects. In fact, linking museum collections to source community interests and expertise is a primary focus – and challenge – of contemporary museum anthropology.

- 11:00 AM Aron L. Crowell (Arctic Studies Center, Smithsonian): Sharing Knowledge: Collaborative Study and Exhibition of the Smithsonian Alaska Collections
- 11:20 AM Dawn Biddison (Arctic Studies Center, Smithsonian): Sharing Knowledge on the Web
- 11:40 AM Terry Dickey (University of Alaska Museum) and Ronald Brower, Sr. (former director, Inupiat Heritage Center): The People of Whaling: Creating a Community-Based Exhibition
- 12:00 PM Angela Linn (University of Alaska Museum) and Molly Lee (University of Alaska Museum): Whatever Floats Your Boat: The University of Alaska Museum's Nunamiut Eskimo Kayak Project
-

## 2007 Meeting of the Alaska Anthropological Association - Preliminary Program

### Saturday Morning

#### Session 15: *Athabascan Traditions: Linking Past, Present, and Future*

Session organizers: David R. Yesner and Phyllis A. Fast

Athabascan identity and its maintenance through time is an issue to which archaeologists, historians, cultural anthropologists, and linguists can all contribute important insights. Although technologies, economies, and subsistence patterns may change, key aspects of sociality and kinship relations which are at the core of Athabascan identity have remained unchanged through various historical periods and into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This symposium explores the maintenance of Athabascan identity through the use of archaeological, historical, linguistic, and cultural data, and attempts to point some pathways toward the future.

- 8:00 AM Daniel E. Stone (Matanuska-Susitna Borough), Fran Seager-Boss (Matanuska-Susitna Borough), and David R. Yesner (University of Alaska Anchorage): Lajat: A Precontact K'enaht'ana Dena'ina Village on the North Side of Knik Arm, Upper Cook Inlet
- 8:20 AM David R. Yesner (University of Alaska Anchorage), Daniel E. Stone (Matanuska-Susitna Borough), Rita Eagle (University of Alaska Anchorage), Fran Seager-Boss (Matanuska-Susitna Borough), Christopher Roe (University of Alaska Anchorage), and Jolie Rozell (University of Alaska Anchorage): Positions of Power and the Power of Position: Landscape and Sociopolitical Meaning in an Early Contact Dena'ina Athabascan Community
- 8:40 AM Michelle LeBlanc (University of Alaska Anchorage): The Ahtna Athabascans' Skewed History
- 9:00 AM David C. Natcher (Memorial University, Newfoundland): Factors Contributing to Cultural and Spatial Variability in Landscape Burning by Gwich'in and Koyukon Athabascans of Interior Alaska
- 9:20 AM BREAK
- 9:40 AM Alan Boraas (Kenai Peninsula College): The Verb People: Observations on Language Mediated Thought among Dena'ina Athabascans
- 10:00 AM Beth Leonard (University of Alaska Fairbanks): Deg Xinag Traditional Narratives and Indigenous Education: A Learner's Perspective on Interpretation and Translation
- 10:20 AM Patricia Bernice Young (University of Alaska Fairbanks), Camille Sanford (University of Alaska Anchorage), Norman Alexander Easton (Yukon College), Glen MacKay (Prince of Wales Heritage Centre): Cross-Cultural Collaboration and the Emergence of an Athabascan Anthropology in the New Millennium
- 10:40 AM Donita L. Peter (Alaska Native Heritage Center): Revitalization of Dena'ina Language and Culture
- 11:00 AM BREAK

## 2007 Meeting of the Alaska Anthropological Association - Preliminary Program

- 11:20 AM Phyllis A. Fast (University of Alaska Anchorage): Athabascan Art Worldview in Transition
- 11:40 AM Debra Call (Alaska Native Heritage Center): Traditional Places and Media-generated Prejudice in a Contemporary Athabascan Community: The Knik Village Experience
- 12:00 PM Davin L. Holen (Alaska Department of Fish and Game): Modern Expression of Athabascan Culture: A Revitalization of Dena'ina Culture within the Context of Modernity
- 12:20 PM Aaron Leggett (Alaska Native Heritage Center): Forays into Anchorage Area Applied Anthropology: Dena'ina Athabascan Rediscovery in a Local Population

### Saturday Afternoon

- 2:30 PM Business Meeting

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### Culture and Change: Maintaining Values

The theme of the 2007 Alaska Archaeology Month poster is "Culture and Change: Maintaining Values." The poster was designed by Fran Seager-Boss of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, in collaboration with the Ken'ah't'ana (Knik River People) and the Nay'dini'aa'na (Chickaloon People). Dimi Macheras of Chickaloon is the talented young artist whose work will be featured on both the front and back of the poster, distributed to every school in Alaska and to the general public, free of charge.

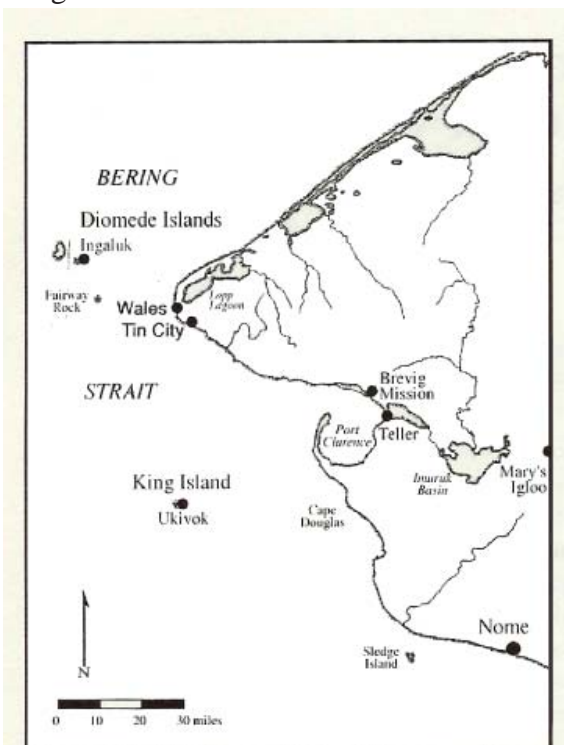
**Please consider volunteering your time by planning a presentation about culture, change, and maintaining values for your own community during Alaska Archaeology Month in April. For more information and to list your presentation in the statewide schedule of Alaska Archaeology Month events, please contact Richard VanderHoek at (907) 269-8728.**

## Different Late Prehistoric House Forms Discovered at Kurigitavik Mound in 2006.

*Roger Harritt*

ENRI, University of Alaska Anchorage.

An archaeological investigation of three of the main sites in the Wales locality began in 1998, and continues to present day (Figure 1). The project has focused on studying the dynamics of relationships between the different contemporaneous prehistoric socioterritorial groups at Wales, and the parameters and patterns of subsistence for the prehistoric occupants. From 1998 until 2004, intensive testing and excavations were carried out at all three of the main Wales sites, the Hillside site (TEL025), Beach site (TEL-026) and Kurgitavik Mound (TEL-079). In 2005 and 2006, work was focused on completing the excavation of the north block at Kurigitavik.



**Figure 1. Wales and Tin City Locations.**

Work at Kurigitavik began with excavation of a 1 x 5 m trench on the northern side of the mound. Intact, undisturbed deposits were encountered on the western side of the trench

and in the deepest levels of 1998, and a log and other wood members representing a portion of a constructed feature was found extending eastward beyond the trench. In subsequent excavations from 1999 through 2004, it was established that the feature is a house. Over the course of four field seasons, it was further exposed in stages of excavation expansions to the south and east (Figures 2 and 3).



**Figures 2, 3. Above, general view south of lower house and upper houses, 2006. Below, detail of lower level house, 2006.**



The general configuration of the lower-level house remains exposed so far includes a relatively small compartment or room located in the northern, central portion of the excavation. Deposits found within the house



area in 2000 and 2001 consist of sediments containing a large percentage of decayed organic materials, bones and bone fragments, and a relatively large frequency of artifacts and debitage. Horizontal timbers discovered in 2001 included two horizontally split log sections, one bearing clear-cut signs of wear along one edge, such as may be expected to occur on a step or on the edge of an entry resulting from continuous rubbing by human feet. Work in 2005 and 2006 expanded the north block excavation southward and eastward to expose the rest of the house remains that were initially encountered in 1998, to fully uncover the house remains in the lower levels of the excavation. The new expansion unexpectedly exposed a corner and portion of an entry tunnel of an upper level house.

After initial contact with the upper level house in 2005, plans in 2006 were to simply document elements of the upper level house located in the excavation block and proceed to uncovering the lower house. However, early in this process in 2006 a series of discoveries led to a change of plans when it became clear that the upper house remains warranted more comprehensive treatment. Specific elements of the upper house include a horizontal log wall construction technique that employed use of lengthwise grooves in the logs that appear to be for the purpose of stabilizing the horizontal stacking (Figures 4 and 5).



**Figures 4, 5. Left below, general view east of upper level house corner. Above, upper house detail.**

The lengthwise grooved logs are an attribute not previously recorded for Wales houses. Other elements of the house were the presence of a whale skull and vertebra, both adjacent to the west end of the main room. An extensive use of upright wall members in the lower house clearly distinguishes one of the differences in basic construction techniques employed in the upper and lower houses.

The upper level house appears to be substantially intact, therefore, it vastly increases the quality and quantity of data from the site and offers an opportunity to obtain an increased effectiveness and precision for the study. Artifacts from the upper house are unique and include four desiccated sections of muktuk, waterfowl feathers, and a section of large intestine that appears to be from a seal. In addition, a concave object of hide with knotted baleen straps located in the inside, possibly used for rendering seal oil was recovered as were several sections of hide with stitched seams along one or more edges. These types of animal products have not been recovered previously from the Wales sites, and they are rare in archaeological collections anywhere.

A total of 12 radiocarbon determinations have been obtained for Kurigitavik Mound as a result of the current project (Table 1 on page 30). A gross distinction in the new suite of assays is made between samples of cultural deposits from deep deposits from the south excavation trench and those from relatively shallower depths below the modern surface in the north excavation block. In the case of samples from the south trench, the two oldest, Nos. 170902 and 198685, produced ages of 990 and 1,080 years respectively, and the assays are in accord with their stratigraphic position, both from the lowest extent of a house floor overlying sterile beach sand. The remaining two south trench assays came from relatively shallower stratigraphic levels that were nevertheless intact, undisturbed cultural deposits.

Although the eight assays from the north block excavation appear to reflect a smooth continuum from mid level deposits to upper level deposits, in one set of dates the relative ages of assays appear to be inverted (Table 1). In this case, an AMS age determination (No. 221679; 690±40) was produced from a 2006 sample from a stratigraphic position above another sample (No. 138746; 680±60) which yielded a younger standard age determination. The younger sample was peat from the lower house was recovered from the floor deposit, uncovered from 1998 to 2004. The slightly older 2006 sample was recovered from a compacted peat layer lying directly on parallel log sections in the northwest corner of the upper house.

In the case of the 2006 AMS assay, a second set of calibration curve intercepts for the older assay (No. 221679) define a range of 560-600 BP, a temporal value consistent with the stratigraphic position of the sample. Because the difference between the two assays is only 10 years, they can be considered to be essentially the same considering the nature of radiocarbon years, and differences in the precision of

the techniques used in the assays. Therefore, the stratigraphic relationships indicate a younger age for the 2005-2006 upper house remains, a suggestion that is somewhat supported by the radiocarbon assays. Additional field investigation will resolve this issue.

It was previously believed (Harritt 2003, 2004) that the lower-level TEL-079 house partially excavated from 1998-2004 was consistent in its construction to Collins' House 2 (Dumond and Collins 2000:Fig. 2.3). However, progress made in the excavation in 2005 and 2006 revealed a significant portion of the upper house and revealed that it is strikingly consistent with Collins' House 2, and similar to Collins' Structure A, but markedly different in construction from the lower house uncovered during the present project. The horizontal log walls in the upper house and in Collins House 2 are also consistent with one type of house still used in Wales during the early 1900's with a cache platform constructed directly over the house structure (Lee and Reinhardt 2003:86). Horizontal log walls are rare in traditional Eskimo houses in other coastal areas, but one example is known for St. Michael in southern Norton Sound dating to 1887-1881 (Nelson 1983).

It is also important to note that the age range of 690-450 years for the mid to upper level deposits in the north block represents a surprisingly brief interval in the prehistory of Kurigitavik Mound, a period of only about 240 years. During this period it is now apparent that different house forms were constructed on the mound. In addition, neither of the structures excavated by Collins in 1936 nor the two structures presently being exposed by the current project reflect the same attributes as the two houses recently reported by Bandi and Blumer (2002:Figures 9 and 10 and text) for Penuk sites on St. Lawrence Island. The lower Kurigitavik house form is nevertheless fairly consistent with Penuk forms in the use of flooring stones and relatively small com-

partments such as those of small Punuk Houses found on St. Lawrence Island and elsewhere (e.g., Bandi and Blumer 2003: Fig. 10). The variations of the north block houses from those of St. Lawrence Island are important elements in the culture histories of the Bering Strait area, and they undoubtedly reflect the local Kurigitavik variant of Thule and Punuk elements (e.g., Yama'ura 1984).

Although present evidence indicates that Kurigitavik was abandoned by approximately 500 years ago, it is likely that the Upper House in the North Block and Collins' House 2 were predecessors to the 1900's houses photographed at Wales, however, the Wales locality also included other "traditional" house forms in early historic times which also represent local expressions of inherited templates for house construction (e.g., Burch 2006:118-119; Harritt 2003: Figs. 2 and 5). The preceding suggests that the different house forms reflected distinctive late prehistoric social units at Wales, which persisted for some time after contact.

Acknowledgements. The project has been supported since 1998 by Arctic Social Sciences Program, Office of Polar Programs (OPP), National Science Foundation awards to the Environment and Natural Resources Institute, University of Alaska Anchorage, Roger K. Harritt, PI. Work at the Wales sites has been supported by the Wales Native Corporation and the Wales Community since 1998. The PI is grateful for their interest in the work and for their support.

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**Table 1. Radiocarbon Ages and Calendar Dates for Cultural Deposits, Wales,  
Based on Radiometric Assays, 1998-2006**

Nos. 13913 and 221679 are AMS determinations; all others are standard C14 assays. Revised  
December 2006

Levels	BETA No.	Ages, Calibrated Dates <sup>1</sup>	Age and Date Ranges <sup>2</sup>	Mean Date <sup>3</sup>
Mid and Upper Levels, North Block	164466	450+50 (A.D. 1500)		
	138747	500+60 (A.D. 1450)		
	139113	541+51 (A.D. 1409) <sup>4</sup>		
	123365	580+60 (A.D. 1370)		
	198683	610+60 (A.D. 1350)		
	123364	620+60 (A.D. 1345)		
	138746	680+60 (A.D. 1295)		
	221679	690+40 (A.D. 1290) <sup>5</sup>	400-730 B.P., (A.D. 1220-1550)	A.D. 1385
Deep Levels, South Trench	198686	760+70 (A.D. 1270)		
	170903	820+60 (A.D. 1225)		
	170902	990+60 (A.D. 1025)		
	198685	1080+60 (A.D. 970)	690-1140 B.P., (A.D. 810-1260)	A.D. 1035

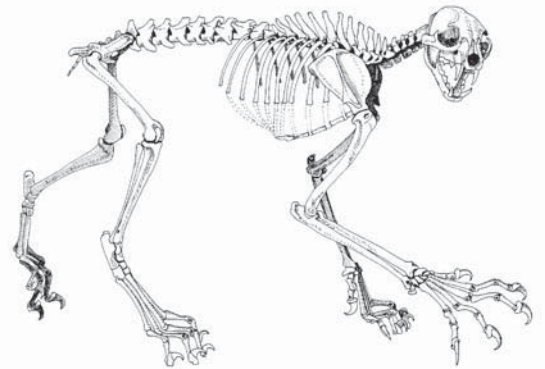
1 These are conventional, uncorrected radiocarbon ages (radiocarbon years Before Present); the calendar dates in this column are the median intercept of Beta Analytic's (Inc.) calibration of the assay. 2 The age range for single radiocarbon age determinations is simply the conventional age determination plus and minus the sigma; age ranges for multiple age determinations related to the specific cultural deposits are calculated by subtracting the sigma from the youngest radiocarbon age for the upper, most recent limit, and adding the sigma to the oldest radiocarbon age for the, oldest age limit in each set of values; calendar date ranges are calculated by simply subtracting each of the resulting age values from AD 1950. 3 Mean calendar dates are the average of the calculated calendar date ranges. 4 Age range based on rounding Beta Analytic calibrated radiocarbon year values. 5 Calibrated AMS assay based on Dumond and Griffen (2002:82-83); the age listed is the initial assay of 1220+40 BP on seal bone minus their average calibration value of 679+51 for Cape Prince of Wales samples. 5 A second set of intercepts on the calibration curve for this age determination portray a range of 600-560 years BP at two sigmas.

# The Alaska Consortium of Zooarchaeologists

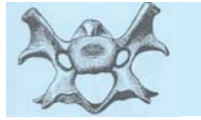
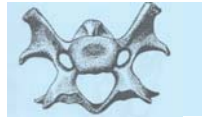
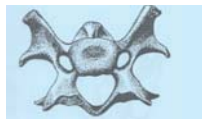
## 8th annual ACZ Workshop: Making Articulated Study Skeletons



March 14, 2007  
9:00 - 5:00  
held in conjunction with the  
Alaska Anthropological Association  
meetings, Fairbanks



The workshop will be taught by Lee Post, aka Boneman, well known throughout Alaska for his fabulous skeletal mounts of whales. We will be working on small mammals during the workshop. See <http://www.theboneman.com> for more about Lee.



For more information and  
registration  
<http://www.akzooarch.org>

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