



NEWSLETTER

OF THE

NOVA SCOTIA ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY

VOLUME 24, No. 2

SPRING 2012

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(Editorial date for this issue is 2012-05-20)

ABOUT THE SOCIETY ...

The Nova Scotia Archaeology Society was formed in 1987 in response to a growing interest in the Province's heritage resources.

Membership is open to all persons endorsing the objectives of the Society. The Society's year runs from September to August. Membership entitles the individual to attend Society functions, vote on Society matters and hold office. The public is welcome at monthly meetings and special events.

Monthly meetings are held at 7:30 PM on the fourth Tuesday of most months, in room 165 of the Sobey Building, located at Saint Mary's University, Halifax. During each meeting, business is briefly discussed, and a guest speaker gives a presentation on a provincial, national, or international archaeological topic. Afterwards everyone is welcome to linger for conversation.

Throughout the year special events are held, including field trips to archaeological sites, workshops, and special guest lecturers. The Society produces a semi-annual newsletter and maintains a website for its membership. Special publications of the Society are available to members at reduced rates.

NSAS membership fees are as follows: Individual \$20, Family \$25, Student \$15, Senior Citizen \$15, Institution \$45, and Class (Secondary School) \$45. The Nova Scotia Archaeology Society is a registered charitable organization. You can join the Society at any regular meeting, or by mailing an application form (available on the website), with a cheque for the appropriate amount, to:



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

SPRING 2012

Hello everyone and welcome to the Spring 2012 issue of the NSAS newsletter! In case you haven't been able to keep up with our lecture series and other events, we have had a very informative and productive year! For those of you who are on Facebook or twitter, please check us out for updates on talks and events hosted by the society or any other fun archaeological events that are coming up in the area (Facebook- Nova Scotia Archaeology Society, twitter- @nsarchsociety).

In March the NSAS held a workshop designed to help undergraduate students in archaeology with applying to grad school or getting a job in archaeology. Questionnaires were sent out to professional archaeologists all over the province in order to get advice on how to get work, and applying for graduate studies in archaeology. Based on the feedback we received after the workshop, it was considered a success and plans are in the works to hold another workshop in the fall. Questionnaires will be sent out again in the near future in order to update the information presented, but if you want to make sure that we send you one, please drop us a line at info@novascotiaarchaeologysociety.com!

This year we had a great lecture series, with topics ranging from the techniques used to record the historic Port Medway Cemetery, to a re-examination of the remains of the Unknown Soldier at Fort Anne. I really want to thank all everyone who came to speak to our membership this year and for making it a really informative lecture series. Without the knowledge, dedication, and generosity of our wonderful speakers, we wouldn't have the amazing lecture series that our membership can enjoy year after year. Now, all of that



being said, don't forget that we still have one lecture left this year! Rob Rondeau is going to talk about some of the research he has done on the Titanic during our Annual General Meeting on May 22, so don't miss out! This year we have quite a bit to talk about at the AGM, including the revisions to our Constitution and By-laws which were sent out for you all to consider, and our yearly elections! We still have spaces open for people who are interested in being on the NSAS board, so please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions or nominations you might have! Well, with all of that taken care of ...

Happy reading!

Robyn Crook
President, Nova Scotia Archaeology Society

DIGGING IN A BRAVE NEW UNDERWORLD: DIGITALLY ENGAGING ARCHAEOLOGY

Miriam L. C. Fry

At the largest academic conferences I attended this year, there was a clear generational divide in nearly every crowd. The difference was one unarticulated by age, gender or scholarly prestige, but in the way audience members engaged with the speakers and sessions. There were scholars of tradition who listened attentively, perhaps taking the occasional flurry of notes on a pad of paper or on a laptop. Then, there were the scholars who, via iPad, cell phone, laptop, and every other possible permutation of electronic devices looked first for a free Wi-Fi signal, and then proceeded to Tweet, Facebook or otherwise micro-blog their thoughts about each presenter's work. Scholars thousands of miles away could follow the presentations from home. We live in an era of the instant dissemination of ideas and findings. It's a brave new scholarly world and while we're not all running straight out to meet it, the fact is that information is open and freely accessible in a manner without parallel in human history.

When it comes to archaeological fieldwork, Nova Scotian archaeologists have taken significant steps toward digitally engaging the public in our digs – putting the 'dig' in digital, if you will. During the past three seasons, I (along with Rob Ferguson, Cate Lapointe, Jonathan Fowler, Stéphane Noël, Sarah M. MacDonald, and others) have been operating *Of Cemeteries and Cellars: The Archaeological Diary of Grand-Pré*. This blog has served to instruct and inform those uninitiated in archaeological mysteries of the research initiatives, progress and findings at Grand-Pré National Historic Site and its environs. Connected with the blog, I've also operated a Twitter account and Facebook group,

both devoted to publicizing our findings. In that capacity, I am writing to share a few observations about several years of using electronic media to publicize Nova Scotian archaeology.

Why Do It

Assuming an internet connection that cooperates, every blog post requires about two hours of time investment per dig day, between gathering photos and information about the day's finds, selecting that material, writing the article, and writing the HTML code, or using a blog editor. Depending on what your workload is like on site, the amount of time it takes you to commute, and your intent on ever having a life outside fieldwork, digitizing the field experience requires some commitment, especially if the intent is to do it on a daily basis. There are, however, benefits that greatly exceed the time cost, such as:

Smoke Signals to the City Dwellers

While we know that Nova Scotian archaeology occurs often and in any context including urban environments, the average Haligonian may have walked by archaeological sites hundreds of times without realizing that the people in vests weren't, as they supposed, construction workers with a particularly low machinery budget. The fact is that many of the continuing archaeological projects in this province occur in relatively inaccessible rural areas. By making it possible for those anywhere in the province (and, in fact, anywhere in the world) to follow our progress, we're providing the experience our occasional visitors have to anyone and everyone, regardless of their ability to physically visit the site.

Awareness At Last

Connected with the last point, I believe the single greatest mitzvah an archaeologist, particularly one working in Atlantic Canada can accomplish, is to raise awareness about what archaeology is, where and when it's done, and the significance of cultural property to all Canadians.

Whenever I mention—even to quite learned people—that I've worked in archaeology in Atlantic Canada, I almost universally get some variation on the following responses:

"Oh, Atlantic Canada? What is there to dig in Atlantic Canada?"

"Well, what you find there can't be very old, right?"

"You must really want to go dig in Egypt where the really old stuff is."

Beyond the dinosaur confusion, I would venture that the single greatest irritation for Canadian archaeologists is the amount of time we must spend addressing the misconception that Canada has a "short history". (For the record, finds at Debert are over 10,000 years old. Egypt's Middle Kingdom prospered in the early 2nd millennium BCE or less than 4000 years ago. The math is so straightfor-



ward a mummy could do it.) We have a wealth of cultural resources right here at home, but few Nova Scotians truly realize how remarkable these findings are. With a presence online, we do nothing more or less than make clear that archaeology is active, ongoing and exciting in our province. This awareness in turn leads to greater sensitivity on the part of everyday people to threats to the record—illegal construction sites, erosion, discoveries while ploughing. We build sites with educational resources and eventually they will come.

InterNetworking

Since beginning the site in May 2009, we've seen incoming links, comments, and e-mail requests from all manner of groups and individuals. Through the blog, I've met a number of archaeologists working around the world, who compare notes of our finds and theirs. Twitter has a #findoftheday hashtag to promote your special finds and this in turn connects us to finds on archaeological sites around the world. Through Twitter, an average day at Grand-Pré somehow became featured in a Swiss news magazine. We are frequently linked to by Acadian heritage organizations in Louisiana—people incapable of visiting the site at present, but nonetheless acutely interested in what we discover. I've received notes from geophysicists thrilled to see us using applied geophysics on archaeological sites in Nova Scotia.

The Canadian Archaeological Association has prominently featured us since June 2009, which in turn raises awareness across Canada in the Grand-Pré site and Acadian archaeology. The Globe & Mail used one of the blog posts as an article this past win-

ter. Also, a group of psychics (apparently somehow connected to the real life story behind the George Clooney movie *The Men Who Stare at Goats*) wanted to ‘practice’ on our artefacts, visualizing their owners and past uses. We never responded to the latter group, but it’s nice to be noticed.

The point here is that a website has a long and continuous reach, extending past our own borders (and also beyond the time limitations of the dig itself). With this ability to promote interest and enthusiasm in Nova Scotian archaeology at our—indeed, everyone’s—disposal, there’s no reason to not pursue social media. During Grand-Pré’s public archaeology programme, I was very pleased to come home at the end of the day and find that a few of our participants had been live-tweeting

their finds as throughout the day. Yes, you’re right that many of the tweets were about unidentifiable wrought iron objects, but that’s a great part of what makes it wonderful. It’s archaeology uncensored, fully accessible to anyone and everyone who wants to participate, either on site or remotely. If digital media has achieved anything for archaeology to date, it’s made it far easier to be an armchair archaeologist than ever before. This time, that’s not a bad thing.

“Of Cemeteries and Cellars: The Archaeological Diary of Grand-Pré” is accessible at:

<http://grandpre.wordpress.com>

You can also read our past posts at Twitter (grandpre2009) and the Facebook group (Archaeology at Grand-Pré).



STONEHENGE WARS: THE GREAT LATE NEOLITHIC COMPUTER CONTROVERSY

Vance Tiede

Last October, Vance Tiede spoke about Stonehenge to the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada and Nova Scotia Archaeological Society at St. Mary's University, Halifax. His ongoing research on the architectural grammar and prehistory of astronomy found in numerical artifacts, Graeco-Roman texts, aerial photogrammetry and field survey all support the lunar-solar interpretation proposed by British-American astronomer Gerald S. Hawkins in *Stonehenge Decoded* (1965). (The following is based on a paper presented by Hawkins and Tiede to the IVth Inspiration of Astronomy Conference, Oxford University, August 2003.)

Hawkins' proposal was an elegant, if novel *astro-archaeological* interpretation for Stonehenge 3-I (ca. 2600 BCE), i.e., that the architecture was designed to function as an analog computer tracking the positions of the moon over recurring cycles of 56 years to predict eclipse "danger periods." While many British archaeologists dismiss this interpretation as too early, too sophisticated, too remote or based on fortuitous alignments, others caution that in doing so, one risks overlooking the remarkable intellectual achievements of Britain's Late Neolithic astro-architects of Stonehenge.

Why was Stonehenge built? How did it function? British archaeologists have been reluctant to say. However, new analysis supports the astronomical interpretation Hawkins first published in *Nature* in 1963. At that time, many archaeologists dismissed Hawkins' theory because of the poor site plan. In 1978, one of Hawkins' chief critics, British archaeologist Richard J. C. Atkinson published a precise survey of the Station Stone rectangle, the Heelstone

and the Avenue axis, 'because the possible astronomical significance of Stonehenge has made it desirable to make new measurements of its features.' Re-calculated alignment values confirm that not only did the centre of the sun's disc line up with the axis exactly at midsummer sunrise and closely at midwinter sunset, but that the centre of the High Moon lined up with the long sides of the Station Stone rectangle at midwinter moonset. The short sides of the rectangle, being parallel to the axis, also point to the midsummer and midwinter sun. The displacements have decreased to less than 0.5°—the width of the lunar and solar discs—less than the width of the little finger at arm's length.

Atkinson himself asked: 'What is the accuracy of the alignments? ... You have to go to the site and measure things precisely'. The final result is as much as one could expect of observations with the unaided eye. This survey was perhaps the most important contribution that Atkinson made to Stonehenge astronomy.

Around 50 BC the Sicilian historian Diodorus described a temple often identified as Stonehenge:

... Hecateus [c. 350 BCE] and certain others say that in the region beyond the land of the Celts [Gaul] there lies in the ocean an island no smaller than Sicily. This island... is inhabited by the Hyperboreans... there is also on the island a magnificent sacred precinct of Apollo and a notable temple adorned with many votive offerings and spherical in shape. They also say how the moon viewed from this island appears to be but a little distance from the earth... the god visits the island every 19 years, the period in which the return of the stars [astron]

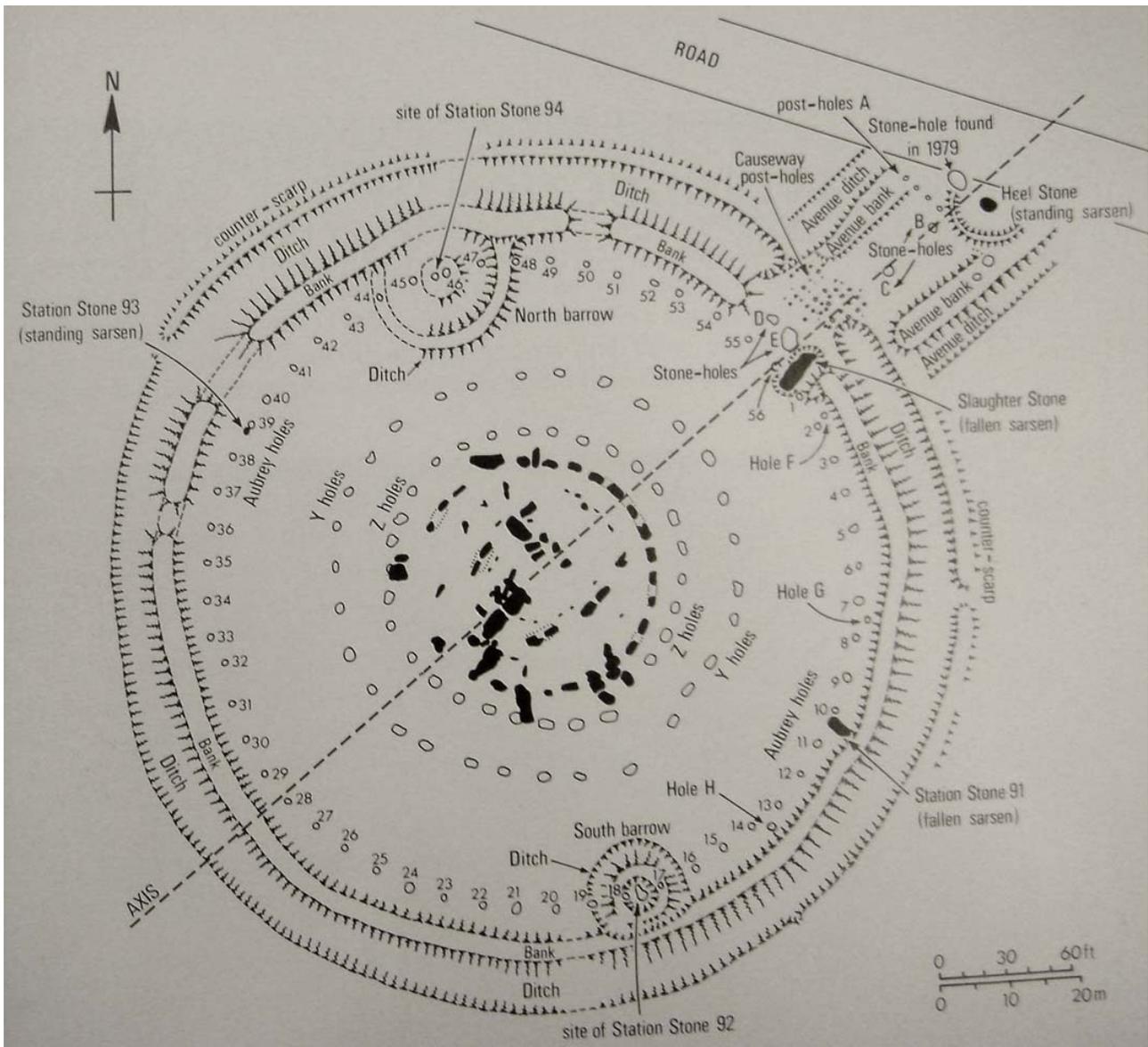


Figure 1. Site plan of Stonehenge.

to the same place in the heavens is accomplished; and for this reason the 19-year period is called by the Greeks the year of Meton (Diodorus Siculus, II).

Archaeologists now regard the 56 Aubrey Holes as having held large posts. But why not 57, an even multiple of the 19-year period of the Metonic cycle?

The cycle of Meton says that if there is a full moon on June 21st, the moon again will be full on June 21st, 19 years later, but at a different position on the

horizon. If the full moon starts over the Heelstone, for example, it will slowly slip away each 19 year interval. On the other hand, if you count 19, 18 and 19 (a total of 56) years, it will stay completely on the stone throughout many cycles. It would seem that the Stonehengers had knowledge of both: there are 19 stones in the bluestone horseshoe and there are 56 holes in the Aubrey circle (see Figure 1).

It is not the return of 'stars' alone to the same place in the heavens that is marked by the horizon alignments at Stonehenge, but rather of the luminous bodies (αστρον or astron in Greek), i.e., the sun,

moon and stars. We interpret Diodorus' words to mean that Stonehenge records the turning points of *the sun and seasonal zodiac stars when these astronomical bodies return to the same place in the sky during the Year of the High Moon every 19+18+19 years.*

The Roman writer Plutarch (2nd Century AD) provides the evidence to link 56 with eclipses, supported indirectly by the ancient myths of cosmic struggles between light and darkness, Greek (Typhon vs. Zeus) and Egyptian (Set vs. Horus and Osiris):

... the 56-sided polygon is said to belong to Typhon, as Eudoxus [Greek astronomer c 370 BC] has reported... There are some who give the name Typhon to the shadow of the earth, into which they believe the moon falls and so suffers eclipse... which the sun remedies by instantly shining back upon the moon when it has escaped the earth's shadow (Plutarch, De Iside et Osiride 30,44,55).

The movement of the moon has occupied the lives of many, many astronomers, and there are hundreds of terms to describe it. That the moon undergoes this movement to higher declinations, higher and higher in the sky, and then becomes lower and lower, has come out of the Stonehenge study. Farmers in Ireland's *Gaeltacht* still refer to the *oiche duibre* (night of the Dark Moon) "every 19 years when the moon stays below the mountains" (John Barber, "The Orientation of the Recumbent Stone Circles of the SW of Ireland," *Journal of the Kerry Archaeological and Historical Society*, 6: 29-39 and G.S. Hawkins, *Mindsteps to the Cosmos*, 1983, 89-90.) In other higher latitudes, it would become circumpolar, never setting—the land of the midnight moon, one could say. The 56-year cycle which controls it was not really understood or mentioned by astronomers. It is something that has come from the past to us—ancient knowledge transferred in a set of alignments.

There seems to be no practical value in what was going on at Stonehenge. One does not need Stonehenge to know when to plant seeds or when to breed cattle. Perhaps part of the purpose might have been for the handmaiden of astronomy—astrology.

Astronomy has grown out of astrology, though we may hate to face that fact. Uncanny powers were placed on celestial objects, and predictions were made which directly related, whether they came true or not, to human lives and events. There may have been some prognostication at Stonehenge.

We once said to a class of gifted students that perhaps the people at Stonehenge were able to say every 8 or 9 years, when the moon rose over the Heelstone, that it was in danger of being eclipsed. And one very, very bright young man said, "Why not the other way around? For 8 or 9 years, the people there could say that it was a clear year, the moon is safe. They would win out for 8 or 9 years. Even by saying "There is danger now of the moon disappearing and we must make preparations", they could have won out, for the eclipse might not have been observable in southern England'.

In light of Atkinson's Stonehenge survey and the ancient Greek accounts cited above, we conclude that the *inspiration of astronomical phenomena* sparked Neolithic architects' celestial vision on Salisbury Plain. What better way to recreate their lost vision than with a digital 'Virtual Stonehenge' under a digital Neolithic sky in English Heritage's new Stonehenge Visitor Centre? The astronomy has spoken and the numbers are quite clear.

Mr. Tiede received his MA in Archaeological Studies from Yale University (2001) and served as research assistant to the late Dr. Gerald S. Hawkins. Tiede's research focuses on GIS applications for astronomical orientation of ancient monumental architecture, viz., Babylonian ziggurats, Chinese pyramid-tombs (陵 or ling), Irish Early Christian oratories, and Southern Mississippian mounds.

HALIFAX CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT: THE TRILLIUM ON SOUTH PARK

Robyn Crook: Davis, MacIntyre and Associates

In September 2008, Davis Archaeological Consultants Ltd. (now Davis, MacIntyre and Associates) was contracted by W. M. Fares Group to conduct an archaeological resource impact assessment of the proposed Trillium on South Park development in metropolitan Halifax in order to locate, identify and provide a mitigation strategy for any heritage resources encountered within the study area (DeBoer et. al. 2008).

Methodology

When construction began on this site in 2008, there were three historic buildings (civic addresses 1441 & 1443, 1449 & 1451, 1467) on the site. Also in



Feature 3 after excavation. Photograph taken facing east .

September of that year, the developers, W. M. Fares Group Ltd., offered to give away the three historic buildings and to contribute \$30 000 (the estimated cost of demolition) toward their relocation. Despite this offer, the houses were not relocated and were demolished that October with excavation beginning on November 4th.

The assessment completed by DAC was coordinated with the construction schedule so that archaeologists were present at all times during the removal of the fill and soils down to the level of native till. This also facilitated the mechanical and manual excavation of *in situ* archaeological features. A sample of artifacts were collected from each of the seven features encountered, and these features were documented, photographed, mapped, and recorded according to the standards of the Nova Scotia Museum with a Maritime Archaeological Resource Inventory (MARI) form being completed for the site. The artifacts recovered from the site were processed and entered into the Nova Scotia Museum's *Museum Information Management System* (MIMS). This system includes information regarding each artifact's material, object type, decoration or manufacture technique, and provenance (feature number).

Historical Background

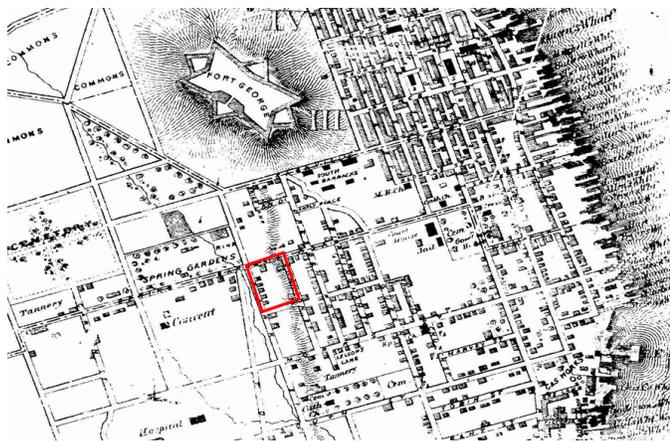
When Halifax was founded by the English in 1749, a grid of the first streets and city blocks was laid out, stretching north-south from Joseph Street (now Scotia Square) to Salter Street, and east-west from the harbour to just below the Citadel. As the city expanded, new streets were laid out to the north, south, and west of the original grid, bringing



Feature 7, wood-lined privy. Photograph facing east.

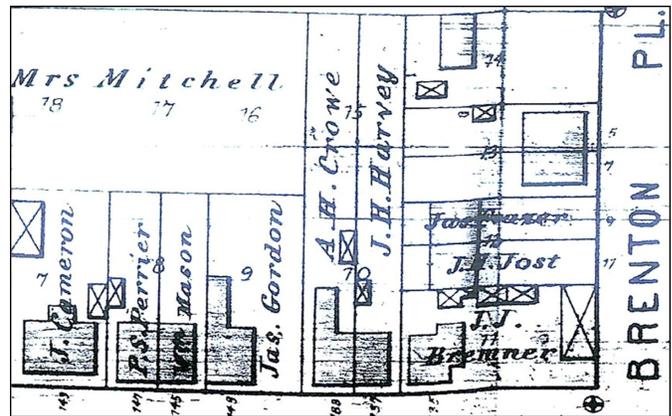
homes and businesses further and further out from the oldest area of the town. This trend included a 1764 land grant of seven and one quarter acres, lying along what is now Spring Garden Road between what was Richard Bulkeley's land to the east and the South Common to the west, given to the Honourable Jonathan Belcher, Esquire (Land Grant to Jonathan Belcher, 1747).

In 1818 the land was still a large field, owned by a judge named Sir Brenton Halliburton (Unknown, 1818). After Halliburton's death in 1860, the lot was quickly developed for urban use. South Park Street was first officially opened in 1862, when it was simply known as Park Street. At this time



Detail of A.F. Church's map of Halifax County (1865). Study area indicated in red.

there was only one house on the street with the rest of the land being used for farming (Halifax Evening Express: 25 Aug, 1862). In the years immediately following 1862 a series of houses sprang up along Park Street including five along the stretch between Brenton Place and Spring Garden Road (See Church's Map, 1865). By 1869 the land on the very corner of South Park and Brenton Place was in possession of James John Bremner, merchant, militia officer, and government official (McAlpine's City Directory, 1869-1870). When he died in 1921 he left the house and its contents to his daughter, Josephine Grant Bremner (Last Will and Testament, 1918).

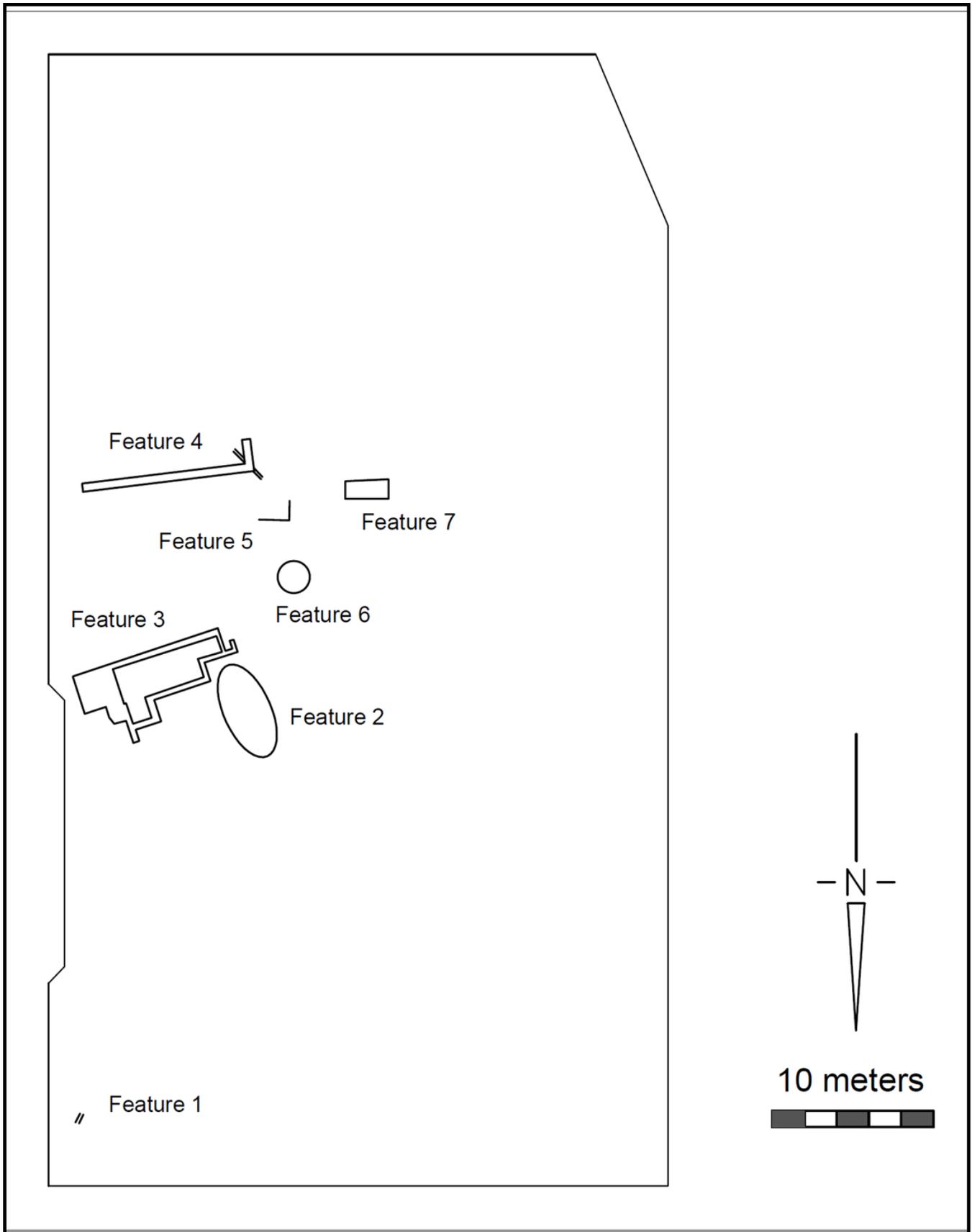


Detail of Hopkin's Atlas (1878).

Archaeological Resources

Feature 1 was a coarse earthenware pipe located approximately 1.2 meters below the pre-November 2008 surface level. This section of pipe was likely connected to one of the houses that were originally on the site and dates to between the late 19th and mid 20th centuries. There were no artifacts directly associated with the feature.

Feature 2 was a shallow midden or ash pit which contained ash and structural debris, such as brick and mortar, possibly from Feature 3. This feature contained artifacts dating to the last half of the 19th century and early 20th century, including part of a lady's leather shoe (Victorian in style), medicine bottles and a variety of kitchen wares.



Archaeological site plan.



Medicinal bottles inc. Minard's Liniment developed by Dr. Levi Minard in Hants County N.S. ca. 1860 (Feature 3).

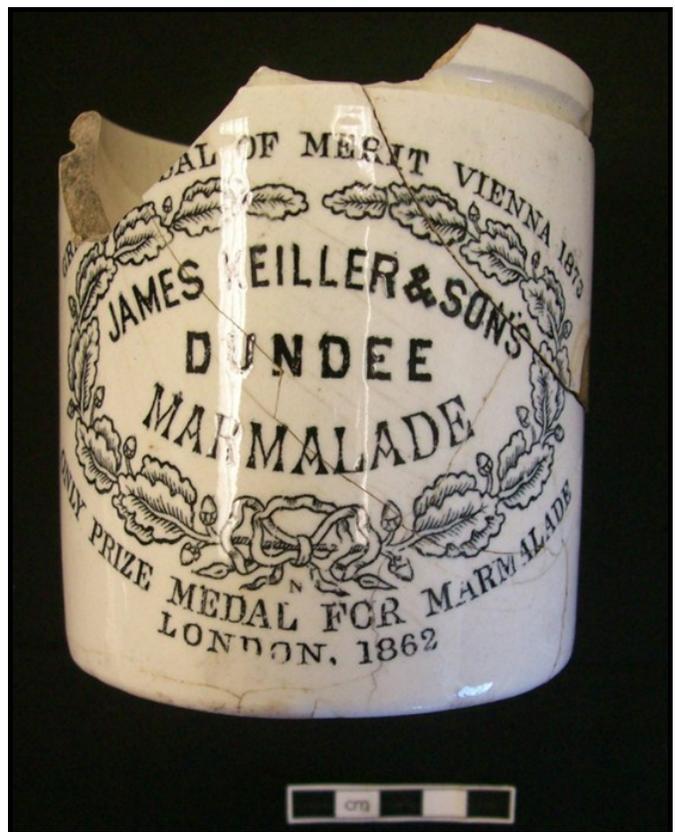
Feature 3 was an irregularly shaped brick structure in poor condition with a floor made partially of brick and partially of local slate. When this feature was demolished, it was discovered that part of the feature was built on what appeared to be an earlier foundation constructed out of Halifax ironstone.

This feature contained large amounts of structural materials, metal elements from a stove or furnace, oyster and mussel shells, animal bone (pig and cow) and a considerable amount of ash spread throughout the feature. Artifacts collected from Feature 3 included liquor and medicinal bottles, local milk bottles, earthenware and stoneware kitchen vessels for both serving and storage, food consumption vessels made from various ceramics, marbles, clay pipe bowls and stem fragments and lead grapeshot. These artifacts date this feature to the late 19th century with very few examples from the early 19th century which may have been curated.

Although the exact function of this feature is unknown, the presence of a stove or furnace, ash, and considerable amounts of bone could suggest that it was a smokehouse. The 1878 Hopkins Atlas shows a structure in this location, and fire insurance maps

show a similar structure in the same location until 1918, with the structure disappearing from the records sometime before 1951. Business directories for the time span of 1869 to 1901 do not indicate a butcher, smokehouse, or any other business along this block that may be visible archaeologically.

Feature 4 was a mortared stone wall measuring approximately 10 meters long with a small amount of the northwest corner remaining. An earthenware sewage pipe was located in this corner, and it appears that it was built into the wall rather than being added at a later date. The majority of the structure was removed sometime prior to the beginning of this project. A small number of artifacts that date to the late 19th century were found directly alongside the feature, consisting of utilitarian and serving vessels. A large 1½ storey structure is visible on maps dating from 1878 to 1971 in the area of Feature 4 but nothing is listed in the city directories for this section of the street.



James Keiller & Sons Dundee Marmalade jar (Feature 3).



Green transfer-print pearlware plate with Benjamin Franklin quote "Sloth, like rust, consumes faster than labour wears, while the used key is always bright." c. 1784-1840 (Feature 6).

Feature 5 was an ash pit that was partially wood-lined (north and west sides), located northwest of Feature 4. The feature was less than 10 cm deep, contained no artifacts, and only appeared on the Hopkins Atlas of 1878. Although its function is unknown, the wood-lining may indicate an earlier 19th century privy that was filled in when the city adopted public sanitary sewage in the 1870s.

Feature 6 was a circular ash pit or midden approximately 2 meters in diameter containing ash and burnt wood. This feature was quite shallow and contained a number of whole and recently fractured artifacts including tumblers and liquor bottles, medicinal bottles, and ceramic utilitarian and food consumption vessels dating to the early to late 19th century. There were also a small number of pieces of salt-glazed stoneware and creamware in this feature that date to the late 18th century and were likely curated.



'Asiatic Pheasants' dinner set, Podmore, Walker & Co. c. 1834-1859 (Feature 7).

Feature 7 was a privy with three wood-lined sides, measuring roughly 2.7 meters by 1.2 meters (although the south wall was missing entirely) and a wooden bottom lined with 7 boards of various widths. The boards extended past the north wall slightly which may suggest that the privy once extended northward to form a double privy. This feature contained a large number of artifacts, both whole and fractured, including; medicinal bottles, liquor bottles, leaded glass tumblers and stemware, glass and stoneware inkwells, cosmetic items (toothpaste and ointment bottles, wooden toothbrushes and a comb), chamber pots and a number of utilitarian, serving and consumption vessels dating to the early to mid-19th century. This feature is visible on the Hopkin's Atlas from 1878 but not in later fire insurance plans which is consistent with a privy that was filled following the implementation of public sewage in the 1870's.

Discussion

During the course of this project seven archaeological features were encountered which, along with historical documents, showed the changing nature of Halifax during the 19th and 20th centuries. While this project was straightforward in terms of the nature of the work undertaken, there were a number of factors which made this project slightly out of the ordinary in terms of CRM in Halifax. In this case the developer (W. M. Fares Group Ltd.) was aware of the public concerns regarding the historic nature of the study area, as can be seen in the offer regarding the historic buildings originally located in the study area. Although the houses were eventually demolished, this offer suggests that the developer took the value of historic properties as well as the wishes of the public into consideration when making decisions about the site.

In addition to considering the concerns of the public regarding the demolition of the historic buildings on site, throughout the course of the excavation the developers contacted the media (CBC Ra-



Edward Taylor Oriental Toothpaste and Holloway's Ointment (Feature 7) 1860's.

dio) and encouraged the public to visit the site and talk to the archaeologists. While members of the public could not directly enter the site for safety reasons, many people stopped by to ask questions, take photographs, and learn about the history and archaeological potential of this part of Halifax.

This active role on the part of the developer to involve the public in the project is something that happens relatively rarely in Halifax but is far more common in places like the United Kingdom and parts of the United States. One example of the inclusion of the public in CRM work comes from York, England. In York (and other parts of Yorkshire) the York Archaeological Trust allows members of the public to learn about the projects they are involved in through their website and site visits. These visits can be scheduled (for large groups) or people can stop by the sites at times designated by archaeologists.

In discussing why involving the public in archaeology is so important for archaeologists in the UK, the Education Officer for York Archaeological Trust said that "... archaeology is about material evidence for people in the past, the vast majority of people who have lived left little to no trace in historical records. Archaeology is the only source for

these folk. As such archaeology is everybody's past ... there is widespread public interest in the past, who lived where etc. I think this is partly because our (western) society is rather fragmented, people move more than they used to. Archaeology helps give people a 'sense of place'. We need to feel rooted" (Jones 2011, Personal Communication). While these sentiments are echoed in discussions of public archaeology, it is refreshing to hear them in relation to CRM work and it is this type of approach that allows the public to learn more about archaeological sites and projects that they are likely to encounter within an urban setting.

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Crook, Robyn, Laura DeBoer and April D. MacIntyre. 2009. *The Trillium on South Park: Archaeological Resource Impact Assessment Final Report*. Submitted by Davis Archaeological Consultants Ltd. to W. M. Fares Group Ltd. and the Heritage Division of the Nova Scotia Museum.

Crown Land Grant to Jonathan Belcher. 1747. Old Grant Book 5, pp. 47-48. February 20th. On file, Crown Land Information Management Centre.



Hurd's Golden Gloss for the hair, New York c. 1850's (Feature 7).

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THE MORRIS SITE : A PRELIMINARY ARTEFACT ANALYSIS FOR TWO PRIVIES IN HALIFAX

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The study of privies from archaeological contexts provides historical archaeologists with a wealth of information about sites. Data ranging from sanitation to contemporary ceramic styles and forms can all be collected from privy excavations and subsequent artifact analyses.

The Archaeologist and the Privy: An (un)healthy relationship

Current privy studies have evolved from decades of ceramic and glass analyses to include, among other studies, the archaeobotanical analysis of seeds and archaeoparasitology—the study of parasites in archaeological contexts (Horne 1996). This paper details a preliminary artifact analysis from two privies excavated on the Morris site in downtown Halifax and the large amount of work still remaining.



Figure 1: Excavation of the small drain

Morris Site Inventory

Excavations at the Morris site, located on the corner of Morris and Hollis Streets, began on January 19th and ended on February 9th, 2010. When archaeologists arrived the previous buildings on-site, specifically the Victoria Apartments and the Morris' office, were demolished and relocated respectively. Archaeologists monitored the mechanical excavation of the soils to bedrock and encountered six distinct features including a 19th century foundation, a well, two levels of stone drains, and two privies. The foundation contained over one-hundred 18th and 19th century bottles and was clearly identified in historical documents. While the well, which was completely filled with cobbles, contained no artifacts, the two levels of stone drains did. The small drain, at a higher elevation than the larger system to the south-west, contained salt-glazed stoneware and tin-glaze earthenware,

representing an 18th century component to the site and the oldest artifacts recovered. The two privies that were discovered, both at varying elevations, contained an extraordinary amount of artifacts that appeared to span the 19th century. While not representing the oldest material excavated, these privies provided an excellent example of the changing ownership and social status of the Morris family living at the corner of Hollis and Morris in the 19th century.

Surveying the Historic Record:

The Morris family and the Victoria Hotel

The property on the corner of Hollis and Morris Streets in downtown Halifax has been an important site in the port city's history. Charles Morris, a former teacher and army officer from Massachusetts, was one of the first individuals to settle in Halifax after its founding in 1749. With the help of John

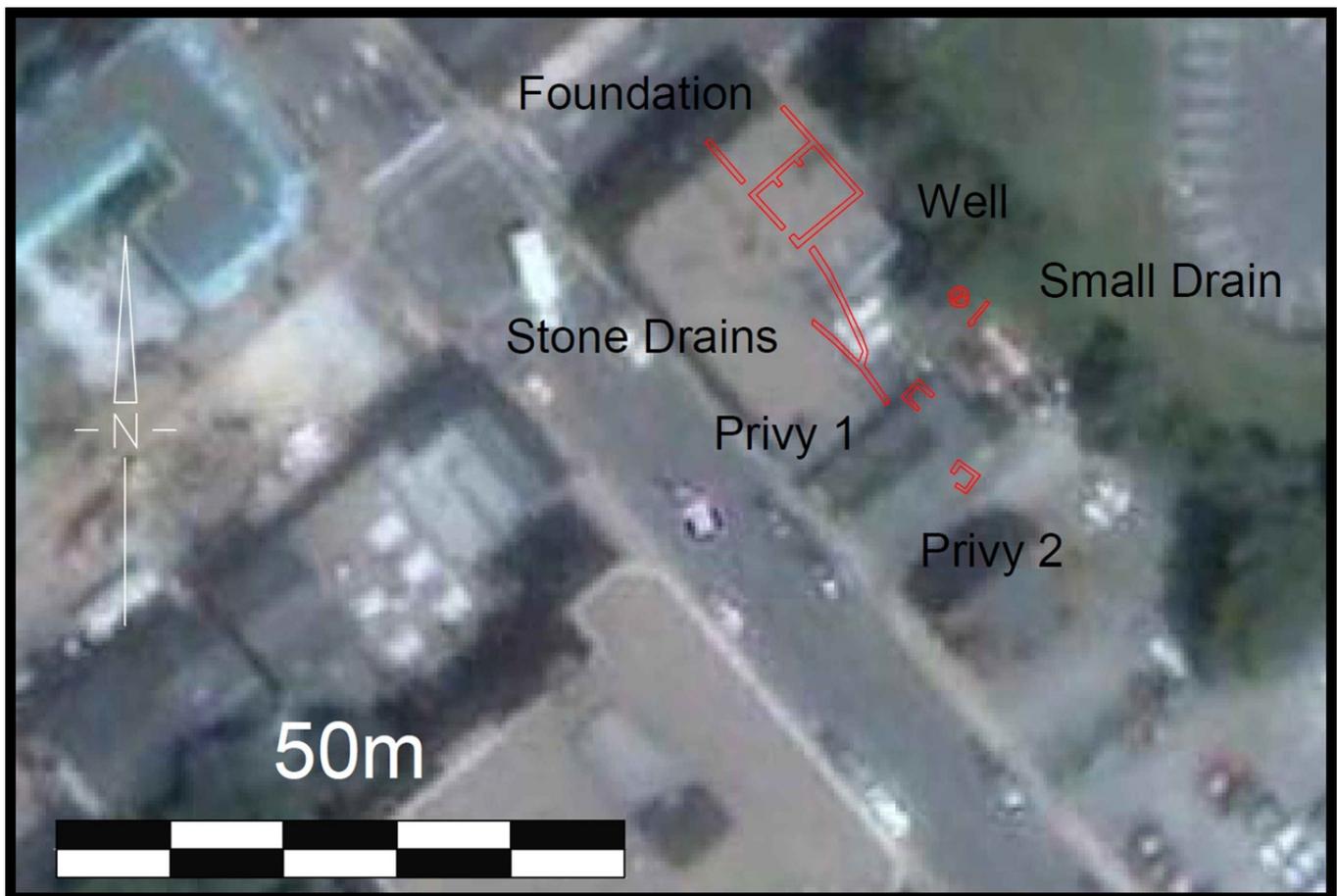


Figure 2: Site inventory on the corner of Hollis and Morris

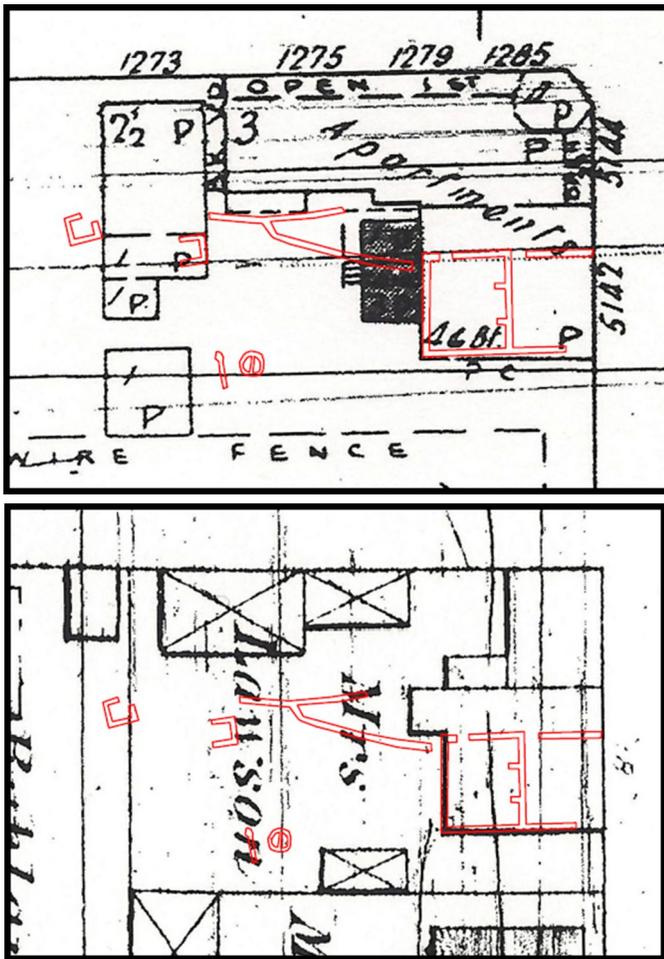


Figure 3: Comparison of 1971 (above) and 1878 (below) fire insurance plans

Browse, Morris laid out the original settlement and was named ‘Chief Surveyor of Lands within this Province’ on September 25th, 1749 (DCBO (a)). Between 1750 and his death in 1781 Charles Morris built his office building on the corner of Hollis and Morris Streets, which was left to his son Charles Morris II in his will. Charles Morris II (1731-1802) and Charles Morris III (1759-1831) carried on the family tradition as Surveyor Generals of Nova Scotia for as long as the position existed (DCBO (b) and (c)).

Sometime in the years before 1820, Charles Morris III had another building constructed at 5142 Morris Street which was auctioned by his widow in 1850. The property was rented until 1895 when it was sold at a Sheriff’s auction to A. J. Manley. This property was leased to Mrs. Anabel Sweet as the

Metropole Inn, followed by Mrs. Mary E. Grant who renamed the building the Victoria Inn. In 1898, the property was expanded to increase the hotel to 50 rooms plus common areas and the name was changed to the ‘New Victoria Inn’. It was because of these renovations that Charles Morris’ original office building was first moved in order to accommodate the extension to the hotel. In 1910 the Victoria Hotel was turned into apartments and called ‘Victoria Apartments’ (Shutlack 2002: 5).

The historical documents for this area come in the form of legal documents (wills, deeds, etc.) and mapping (fire insurance plans and artistic representations). Legal documents give archaeologists information on legal ownership over the property and associated buildings as well as insight into personal possessions contained within the buildings and what was done with these possessions when ownership changed hands, in some cases being disposed of in privies or middens on site. Documents such as fire insurance plans show how the property changed over time, including the construction or demolition of outbuildings, the location of potential archaeological features such as privies on the site and date ranges for such features. All of these resources are important in understanding the full history of a property in an area such as historic downtown Halifax.

Privy #1: Preliminary Artifact Analysis

The first privy was constructed with dry-laid stones and an earthen floor. A portion of the south wall had been previously impacted, likely by the installation of the Morris office as it was relocated in the late 19th century. The privy contained a dark earthy deposit, very distinct from the orange slate till common in Halifax, and had a depth of approximately 60cm. A rich artifact deposit was also present, containing a minimum of 70 vessels including three wine bottles, and several complete or near-complete examples of glass stemware. Several small finds from the privy included ceramic toothpaste containers and four toothbrushes.



Figure 4: Privy 1 after excavation

The ceramics found in this privy represent the best dating tools available to discuss the assemblage and the final dates of privy use. Present in this deposit was a single complete Mochaware chamber-pot, a small collection of ironstone plates and cups with dated registration marks, and several examples of black transfer-printed refined earthenwares. Also present was two large collections, possibly the remains of disposed sets, with Chinese Tree and Candia transfer printed patterns. Several of the Chinese Tree prints also had Wedgwood transfer printed marks. Bone china porcelain was also present. Because of these artifacts this privy has been tentatively dated to the first half of the 19th century.





Some artefacts from Privy 1.

Privy #2: Preliminary Artifact Analysis

The second privy took archaeologists by surprise—its elevation was over 1m below the first privy and it was buried below the orange slate which is typically culturally sterile. Containing the same dark earthy soil as the first privy, the artifacts deposited in this feature were far more numerous and extremely fragmented. This feature contained a minimum of 144 vessels with 109 ceramic vessels ranging from cups to platters. Thirty-five wine bottles were also recovered and dated using their finishes as a typological guide.

Far fewer small finds were present in this feature compared to the first



privy, therefore the large ceramic assemblage was the primary guide to dating the feature. Several large utilitarian creamware vessels were recovered including three chamber pots and two jugs. Several small Chinese export porcelain and bone china bowls were also recovered, providing an excellent indicator of status. Pearlware was also present in large numbers, typically in the form of a brown-banded set of plates, platters, a gravy boat and tureen. The pearlware was often impressed with HERCULANEUM (1805 to 1820) and “liver bird” (1820 to 1840) stamps, indicating that much of the set was from the Herculaneum pottery, founded by



Figure 5: Privy 2 excavation



Some artefacts from Privy 2.

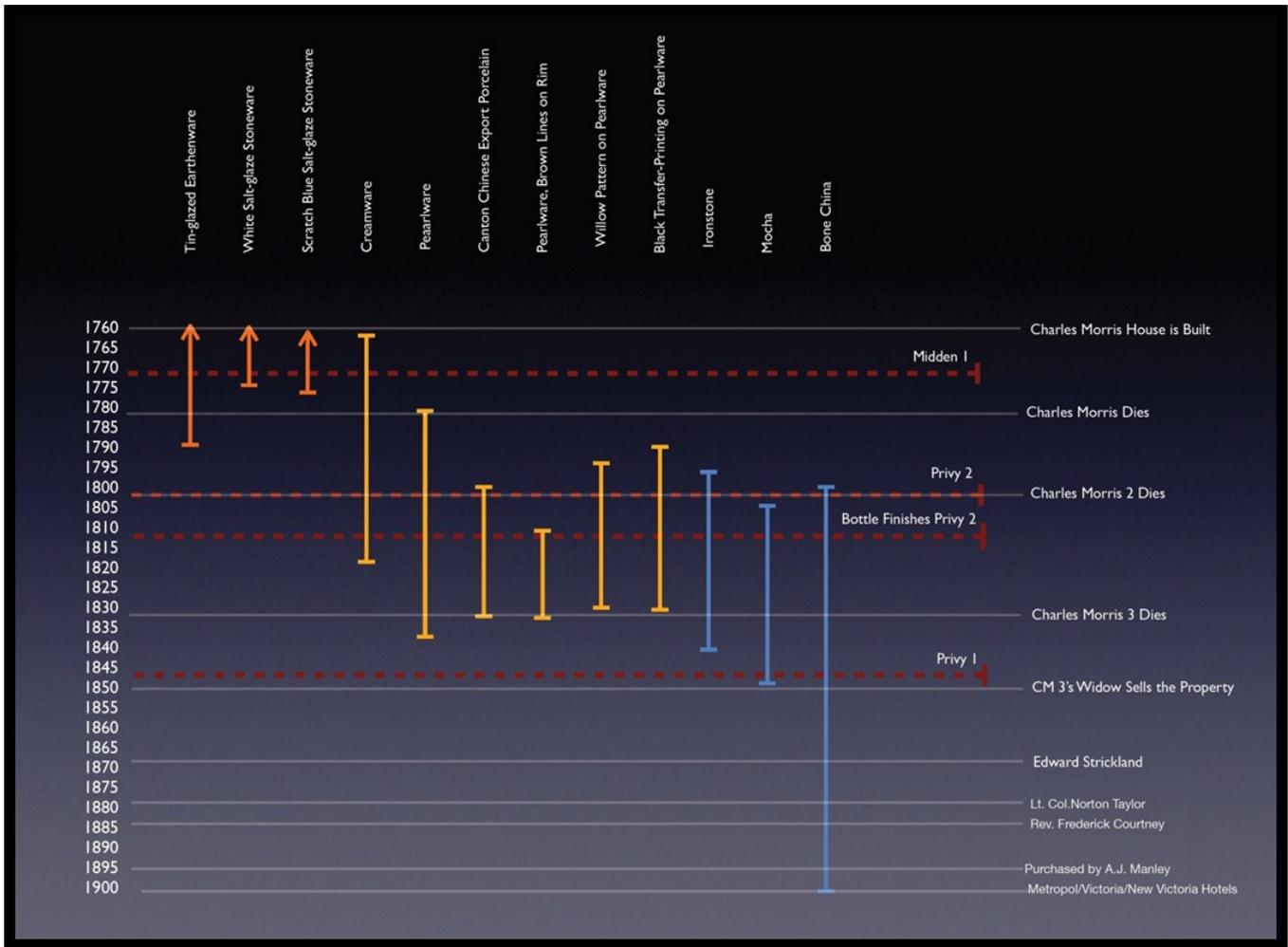


Figure 6: Ceramic manufacturing periods with major property events and mean ceramic dates for the two privies.

Samuel Worthington and three partners in 1796, on a former copper-smelting works in Toxeth Park, Liverpool. Several pieces from this set had differences in the band width, rim form, and base foot, indicating that the owners of the set may have received replacement pieces to complement missing vessels from their original purchase.

The Future of Work on the Morris Site

The preliminary analysis of the artifacts from the two privies on the Morris site has already yielded a few very interesting results. The high-status vessels, including the porcelain, large platters and serving trays, and quality stemware confirms that the owners of the vessels were indeed wealthy. The date ranges for twelve of the most unique ceramic types found in the two privies have tenta-

tively placed the final use of the second privy in 1800, around the death of Charles Morris II. The first privy begins almost immediately after the second and it was filled with vessels placing its termination date around 1850, precisely when the widow of Charles Morris III sold the property. These dates may represent changing ceramics styles but it appears likely that as property ownership changed, so did the primary serving sets.

There remains a lot of work to be done on the artifacts from the Morris site. Due to issues with the developer, which have since been resolved, the post-excavation work for this site did not begin until recently. Analysis began with the two privies due to the dense amount of artifacts present, however the small drain to the northeast contained the oldest artifacts on the site. This assemblage, in-

cluding sherds of white and scratch-blue salt-glazed stoneware and tin-glazed earthenware, dates to the mid to late 18th century and much closer to the occupation of the site by the first Charles Morris and the founding of Halifax in 1749. Future research on this site includes a deeper look into the historic record including the still-elusive will of Morris III's widow and more detailed property maps. As artifacts are cleaned and their dates are secured we will begin to know more about the lives of the Morris family, adding another rich layer of history to 18th and 19th century Halifax.

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Toothpaste container from Privy 1.



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BORROWING NSAS FIELD EQUIPMENT

Field equipment is available for borrowing from the society for members conducting fieldwork and research. The following forms are required for permission to borrow equipment. Please fill out both this page and the next one, then forward them to the society email address. These forms are also accessible on our website.

Requirements for Borrowing NSAS Fieldwork Equipment

- Completed application forms are to be submitted at least 2 weeks prior to the start date of the project.
- The applicant must be a member in good standing of the Nova Scotia Archaeology Society at the time of application and continuing through the length of the fieldwork.
- The applicant must be in possession of a heritage research permit.
- The fieldwork being conducted must be related to research and not a CRM project.
- Equipment must be returned in condition similar to that of which it was received. Condition of equipment is at the discretion of the lender. Equipment returned in poor condition or that deemed unsuitable, is subject to be replaced at the expense of the applicant.
- Equipment must be returned within a period of two weeks of the completion of the fieldwork. If fieldwork will be extending beyond the stated time frame, the applicant may contact the society and request an extension.

Signature of Applicant:

Please forward completed forms to the society email below. This form is to be signed upon acquisition of the gear. If you have questions regarding these requirements please contact the Nova Scotia Archaeology Society at: info@novascotiaarchaeologysociety.com

Application to Borrow NSAS Fieldwork Equipment

Please complete this form and return to the Nova Scotia Archaeology Society via email.

The applicant must be in possession of a Category B Heritage Research Permit prior to requesting the use of equipment.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Permit #: _____

Date of Fieldwork (start)_____ (end)_____

Equipment Requested: _____

Signature:

Please attach a description of the project including background information and send completed forms to society email below.

If you have any question regarding this application please contact the Nova Scotia Archaeology Society at: info@novascotiaarchaeologysociety.com

John Harvey Award

For outstanding undergraduate papers in Nova Scotia archaeology or by Nova Scotian archaeologists.

The John Harvey Award is an award that is given to undergraduate archaeologists writing about archaeology in Nova Scotia or students who are registered at Nova Scotian universities writing about archaeology elsewhere.

This award was started to honor the memory of John Harvey, a former Saint Mary's University student and enthusiastic participant in Nova Scotia archaeology who passed away in 2005.

Nominations for this award may be made to the Nova Scotia Archaeology Society, and should include the paper responsible for the nomination as well as a letter from the nominating professor explaining why the nominated individual should receive this award.

For further details, please contact the Nova Scotia Archaeology Society at the addresses listed below.

Deadline:

January 31, 2013



NSAS

P. O. Box 36090
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3S1
Canada

President:

info@novascottiarchaeologysociety.com

Webmaster:

davaau@eastlink.ca

Nova Scotia Archaeology Society



NOVA SCOTIA ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY FRIEND OF ARCHAEOLOGY AWARD

The Nova Scotia Archaeology Society (NSAS) was formed in 1987. It is our mandate to bring together individuals interested in the study and promotion of archaeology, particularly as it relates to all cultures of Nova Scotia; to disseminate knowledge and encourage the exchange of information among professionals and amateurs alike; and to promote the preservation and protection of archaeological sites and resources throughout the Province. Each year, the NSAS recognizes an individual who has made a significant contribution to archaeology in Nova Scotia by naming a recipient of the Friend of Archaeology Award. The Friend of Archaeology Award acknowledges individuals who encourage the preservation of archaeological sites and the promotion of public awareness of archaeology in Nova Scotia.

The award is to be presented at the NSAS Annual General Meeting held on the fourth Tuesday of May.

The award is open to any *non-professional* archaeologist - non-professional being defined as an individual who does not earn a living as an archaeologist.

The award shall consist of a plaque and be accompanied by a press release.

Nominations for the award are to be submitted in writing to the Board of Directors.

Nominations may be made by any NSAS member in good standing. This includes any member of the NSAS Board of Directors. If a board member nominates an individual they must remove themselves from the selection process.

Nominations must be signed and include the following information: why the person is deserving of this award, what contribution they have made to archaeology in Nova Scotia, when this contribution was made, and the names of contact people to verify this information.

The Board of Directors will appoint a subcommittee, consisting of one member of the Executive and two Members at Large, to study the nominations and select two nominees.

The winner will be decided by a vote of the Board of Directors with the President only voting in the case of a tie.

Nominations can be made by emailing a board member or by mailing the society.

NEWS FROM THE NOVA SCOTIA ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Archaeological Land Trust of Nova Scotia (ALTNS) is pleased to announce that it is now a Registered Charity. ALTNS is dedicated to protecting one of Nova Scotia's most precious non-renewable resources - archaeological sites - for all Nova Scotians. To achieve this goal, ALTNS pursues land ownership, conservation agreements and cooperative agreements with landowners. ALTNS works with landowners to protect significant archaeological sites throughout the province. ALTNS is currently seeking volunteers and new members to help meet its mandate. Anyone interested is asked to either look us up on the internet at www.altns.ca or contact President Craig Chandler at craig@altns.ca

The 2013 John Harvey Award: The Nova Scotia Archaeology Society offers an annual undergraduate student award of recognition: The John Harvey Award. This award is named in memory of friend and colleague, John Andrew Harvey, who passed away in February 2005. A candidate may be an undergraduate student studying archaeology in Nova Scotia, or a Nova Scotian student studying abroad. Nominees for the award will submit a paper based on their research that will appear in the society newsletter. The deadline for submissions is March 31, 2013.

NSAS Board Elections: Elections for the NSAS Board will take place during the May lecture and Annual General Meeting. If you have an interest in contributing to the future of the Society as a member of the Board please contact the NSAS President via the contact coordinates below or by contacting any current Board member.

Check out the NSAS website at:



www.novascotiaarchaeologysociety.com

NEWS FROM THE NOVA SCOTIA ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY

ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

We are accepting submissions for our upcoming newsletter, and are interested in articles or briefs drafted by professionals, amateurs, high school students, university students, or anyone else with an interest in the field of archaeology.

If possible, please send your article in an electronic format with as minimal formatting (i.e., bold text, headers, page numbers) as possible.

Remember to include your name and contact information, as well as the date. If there are graphics accompanying the article please include images as separate graphics files (BMP, GIF, JPG, PNG, etc.). If the graphics require a specific description, please provide that along with the image.

Depending on content, advertisements or 'Classifieds' are welcome, however, will be subjected to the editor's requirements for the current publication at that time.

Thank you!

Sarah-Marie McDonald

sarah_marie_mcdonald@hotmail.com

