

ATTACHMENT "B"

DEVILS HEAD, CALAIS, AND SITE 97.10:
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY
FOR THE LAND FOR MAINE'S FUTURE BOARD



Looking south to St. Croix Island



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1600.

Fragments of pearlware ceramic, manufactured from about 1785 to 1840, were recovered in three testpits (tp 19, 20 and 28). Pearlware could, of course, have been in use as "old" camp ware during or after the Civil War, but its presence in three testpits grouped in a 25 m area argues for more than one vessel and breakage/discard during the first half of the 19th century.

As mentioned in the history section, there is no historic indication of Euro-american construction at the site 97.10 area before the 20th century. Therefore, it is likely that these historic period artifacts reflect "camping" activity. Because these historic artifacts are widespread within the site area (T2 tp 5 to tp 20 being about 80% of the length of the site) we conclude that this "camping" occurred as small occupations that can not be easily separated from a similar Ceramic period pattern that preceded them. In the absence of specific evidence of use of this location by groups of Euro-americans, these historic artifacts must indicate continued use of the location by Native Americans through the 17th and 18th centuries. Of course it is likely that these people were Etchemin, or ancestral Passamaquoddy-Maliseet, and (after the political alignment caused by the American Revolution) Passamaquoddy tribal members. This is one of the few archaeological sites in Maine to preserve archaeological evidence of continuing use from the Ceramic period through the 18th century and perhaps into the 19th century.

Faunal Remains

Faunal remains from a shell midden fall into two primary categories: shell and vertebrate bone. The shell in the shell midden deposits at Devil's Head is 99.9% *Mya* (soft shell clam). There are a few moon snail shells (a large univalve).

The vertebrate bone occurs both in unburned and calcined (burned to a chalky white) states. Calcined bone is produced when fresh bone is exposed to a hot fire. The only fire hot enough to produce calcined bone at this site would have been hearth fires, and thus the calcined bone records discard of bone (or animal parts containing bone) directly into the fire. As shown by the bone identifications (Appendix II), the calcined bone at this site is sub-sample of the unburnt bone, with the same range of species represented. Because we did not excavate a large sample of the middens, and because we can not sort the samples into different age groups or "occupations" based on the small samples we do have from the site, the bone sample is summarized as a unit. Thus, we characterize the "Ceramic period" and "Contact period" use of the site as one economic focus, although future work might detect shifts in economic focus over time.

The faunal sample is dominated (in numbers) by small fish bone, which is mostly alewife, with frequent flounder and sculpin. Sturgeon (scute or skin bone) is also common, although we can not directly compare the frequency of sturgeon scute with other fish bones, because sturgeon do not have boney skeletons. The comparative weights indicate that sturgeon were perhaps the second most important fish compared with alewife. Based on this species mix, perhaps fishing was being done with weirs or nets set in the intertidal zone. Three bones of (at least one individual) large cod fish are present, possibly indicating fishing further from shore and/or down the estuary.

The identified mammal bone sample is dominated by moose in both count and weight, with beaver and deer second and third. A muskrat tooth is present, indicating that muskrat were also trapped (along with the beaver?). A large duck is represented by one bone (and possibly a second,

All of the moose bone could come from one individual moose. Three of the bones are hoof bones, and the two of those that can be identified from from a left fore-hoof. Five teeth and mandible parts are also present. The mandible part is an articular process fragment from a left jaw, and all of the teeth are left teeth. The teeth include four deciduous upper molars ("baby teeth", or "?calf teeth") with their roots resorbing, and a premolar germ fragment (tooth still growing, not yet erupted). Thus these teeth document a moose about 15 to 18 months of age when the permanent premolars erupt and replace the deciduous molars. This specimen represents a summer to fall kill. These hoof bones come from T1 tp 20 and the teeth and mandible part from T1 tp 27, about 35 m apart, so perhaps two moose are represented. The very large mammal longbone is almost certainly moose, as well.

Fish bone constitutes 85% of the bone count at the site, while moose, deer and large mammal bone constitutes 56% of the bone weight at the site. All the fishbone constitutes about 16% by weight of the bone. So, there are various ways to quantify diet contribution to the site.

In sum, the diversity of faunal remains at the site is striking, probably representing multiple seasons of occupation and certainly representing a variety of fishing and hunting techniques. The economic base was probably clam harvesting and intertidal fishing, supplemented by a diversity of hunting and trapping activities.