

**2009 FIELD SEASON AT PHILLIP'S GARDEN, PORT AU CHOIX NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE**

**M.A.P. Renouf, P.J. Wells, D.A. Lavers  
Memorial University**

**Introduction**

The general objective of the 2009 field season was to continue investigating the area outside the western perimeter of Houses 17 on the upper terrace of the Dorset Palaeoeskimo site of Phillip's Garden (Renouf 2009). Our particular aims were to look for evidence of exterior activities by uncovering and delineating features, mapping artefact distributions and

17 to 93 m<sup>2</sup>. Once the sod was removed we collected soil samples at 50 cm intervals over the excavation area using a soil sampler. As in previous years, the location and outline of all features was recorded with the total station and mapped by hand. Artefact locations were shot in with the total station and flakes and faunal were collected by level within unit.

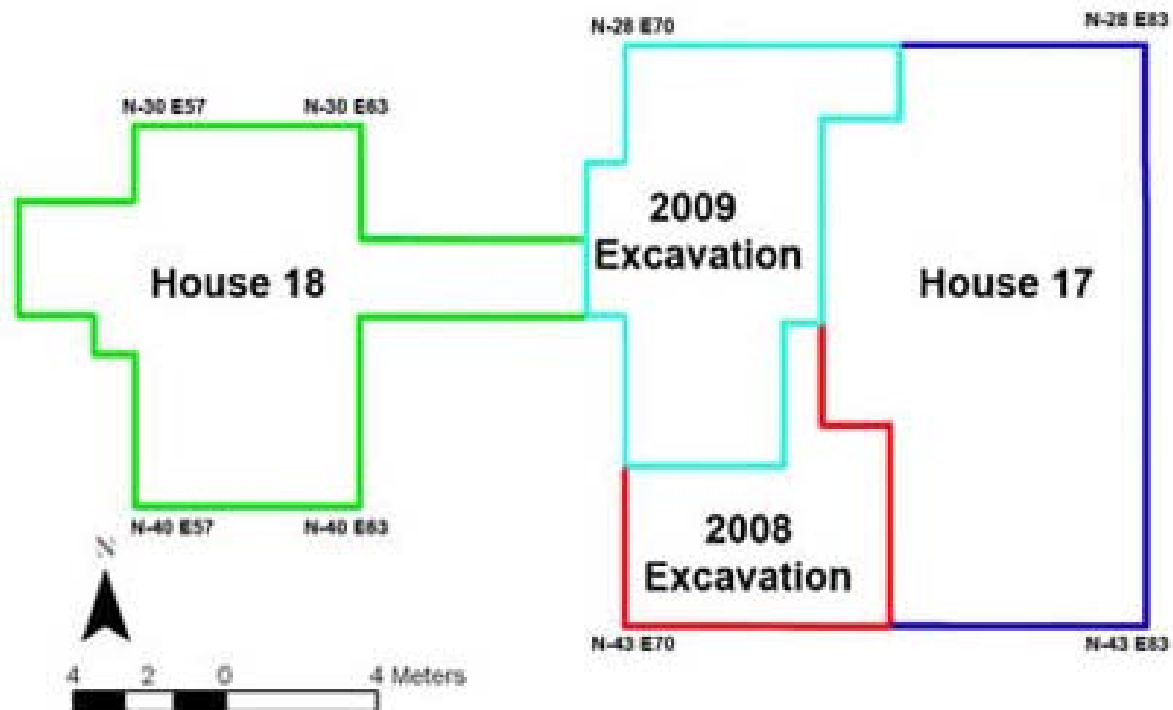


Figure 1 2008-2009 excavation areas (Renouf)

taking soil samples for multi-chemical analysis. Results of the 2008 excavations showed that there were multiple features exterior to and potentially associated with House 17. In the 2009 field season we extended our excavation northward to encompass the full extent of the area outside the western perimeter of House 17 (Figs. 1-2).

**Description**

Fifty-nine m<sup>2</sup> were excavated in 2009, bringing the total area excavated outside House

Over 100 features occurred in the 2009 excavation area, including: small, medium and large post-holes (singly or in pairs); flat-bottomed pits; areas of soil anomalies; areas of pea or angular gravel; rock pavements or concentrations, and midden deposits. Of particular note were: a gravel platform measuring 2.3 x 2.2 m (Fig. 3); an axial feature (Fig. 4), a 2.5 x 1.5 m oval area outlined by small shallow, or deep, stakeholes (Fig. 5); a 1.2 x 0.5 m oval outlined by larger and deeper stakeholes (Fig.



*Figure 3 Gravel platform outlined with pink string (Renouf, Wells, Lavers)*

*Figure 4 Axial feature. Nails at 1 m intervals (Renouf, Wells, Lavers)*





Figure 5 Oval area outlined by shallow stakeholes; each is flagged with yellow (Renouf, Wells, Lavers)

Figure 6 Oval area outlined by medium-sized, deep post-holes (Renouf, Wells, Lavers)



6) and a line of large and medium-sized post-holes at the terrace edge (Fig. 7). These and other features remain to be analyzed for patterns and associations.

**Conclusions**

Together with 2008 excavations, the 2009 field season at Phillip's Garden uncovered evidence of a complex palimpsest of features outside House 17 that indicate a wide range of structures and activities outside this, and no doubt other, houses at the site.

**References**

Renouf, M.A.P.

2009 *2008 field season at Phillip's Garden, Port au Choix National Historic Site*. Report to the Provincial Archaeology Office, Department of Tourism, Culture and Recreation, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Figure 7 Line of large, shallow post-holes at terrace edge (Renouf)

