THE ISTMUS OF CHIGNECTO
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE SURVEY OF ACADIAN SETTLEMENTS
(1670-1755)

by
PIERRE NADON
(1968)

REPORT ON THE 1972 EXCAVATION OF TWO ACADIAN HOUSES
AT GRAND PRE NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK, NOVA SCOTIA

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E. FRANK KORVEMAKER
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### TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Pages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preface</td>
<td>vi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>I Introduction</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technique</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soil Description</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historical Background</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>II The Village Sites</strong></td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baie Verte</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beaubassin</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beausejour</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butte a Mirande</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butte a Roger.</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butte du Portage</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cap St-Laurent</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ile La Valliere.</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jolicoeur</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>La Butte</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>La Coupe</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>La Planche</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Le Lac</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mainkanne</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Menoudy.</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nampanne</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oueskak.</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pont a Buot.</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pres des Bourgs.</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pres des Richards.</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riviere des Heberts (ou des Mines)</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shemogue</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Fig. 1 Illustration Showing Use of Grid System for Locating Features on a Site Survey ...................... 5

2 Location of a Site Using a Prismatic Compass ............ 5

3 Location of a Site on a Map ............................... 5

4 Map of Chignecto Isthmus .................................. 13

5 Map of Baie Verte Area ..................................... 76

6 Map of Beausejour and Beaubassin Area (Nova Scotia-New Brunswick Border) ...................... 77

7 Map of Oueskak (Westcox) Area ............................ 78

8 Map of Point de Bute and Jolicure Area .................. 79

9 Map of Maccan, Napan, Amherst Area ..................... 80

10 Map of Menoudy Area ..................................... 81

11 Map of Tintamarre (Sackville) Area ....................... 82

12 Photographs of Sites 6E6A and 6E6B ....................... 83

13 Photographs of Sites 6E3A and 6E4B ....................... 84

14 Photographs of Site ................................. 6B8A .................. 85
During the summer of 1967 an Acadian site survey project was begun by the research group of the National Historic Sites Service. Under the direction of J. D. Swannack, chief archeologist at Fort Beausejour, I was responsible, between May 15 and September 20, 1967, to survey the Isthmus of Chignecto and locate physical traces of Acadian villages that had existed there before 1755.

The area covered is within a thirty mile radius of Fort Beausejour National Park (N.B.), and overlaps two provinces, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. A good part of the area is still wooded, though the virgin forest has long been destroyed and the present stands consist of second growth and younger aged trees, with a number of treeless and near treeless bogs and swamps. The human environment is essentially rural, with two main centers of population, one on the Nova Scotia side of the border, Amherst, and the other, on the New Brunswick side, Sackville. One of the largest towns of New Brunswick, Moncton, is located within thirty miles of Fort Beausejour.

The first part of the project consisted of determining the geographical confines of the original Acadian Settlement(s) along the Isthmus.

Between the beginning of the settlements in the area (1676) and the building of Fort Beausejour (1751), the historical documents distinguish between the centers of Beaubassin, Petkoudiac, Chipoudy, and Mameramcork. After
the building of Fort Beausejour the settlements south of
the Missaguash river (those in present Nova Scotia) are
abandoned, while those of Petkoudiac, Chipoudy and
Memeramcook become administrative and military dependancies
of Fort Beausejour.

This survey, along with the historical report (Coleman,
1968), deals mainly with the centers which were dependancies
of Beaubassin prior to 1751. Nevertheless, near the end of
the summer, the survey was extended to include Petkoudiac,
Memeramcook and Chipoudy. This latter part was never
completed, but sufficient data was collected to give us an
appreciation of the archaeological and ethnological possibilities
of the area.

A fair number of people were interviewed. The majority
were farmers living near possible sites. Some had been
residents in the area for more than half a century, while
others were descendants of early settlers. A certain number
of local historians were interviewed. Each case is singled
out in the report.

The great majority of people willingly accepted to be
interviewed, though in many cases I had to return to obtain
all the information I needed. During the initial interview,
farmers often felt they were dealing with the proverbial
treasure hunter. As a whole, the informants living close to
Fort Beausejour and along the route that joins Aulac to
Baie Verte were better informed on local history than those
living further away, in Nova Scotia.

A number of human factors hampered the survey. During
the last decade a number of useful informants died. The generation born between 1920 and 1940 is quite often not as familiar as the preceding generation on oral traditions. A number of people repeated what they had read in Webster (1930) or in Bird (1928). Furthermore, the people living in that area have no cultural link with the population about to be studied. This would account for certain serious gaps in the oral tradition and rule out any serious ethnological study regarding the descendants of the original settlers. The Acadian population is now centered along the Memramcook River.

The data thus collected had to be verified in the field. There is no real substitute for ground inspection. Vegetation became the more serious obstacle since we were trying to locate traces of occupation that could not have been more than a few inches above ground, if at all visible. For that reason the first two weeks of the season were ideal for ground inspection. Some areas are so agriculturally disturbed that serious ground inspection must be ruled out. Most of the Nova Scotia side of the border is affected in that way. Finally, because of the area involved, and some of the technical aspects of the work, I feel that at least two individuals should be assigned in the future for this type of work.

During the summer of 1968 certain aspects of the survey were completed. A preliminary excavation of one of the sites was started. The conclusion of this report will deal with the 1967 survey, but cannot neglect commenting on the 1968 testings when it relates to what was observed in 1967.
CHAPTER I

Introduction

The existence of the majority of the sites surveyed was known, mostly through the work of people like Webster, Ganong, and Bird. Unfortunately the sites were often described in such vague terms that no project could be conducted without a preliminary field survey. Furthermore, because of possible changes in the landscape since the 1930's, at which time great interest was shown in the traces of Acadian settlements, it was imperative that the area be revisited.

The greater part of this report deals with the description of areas visited, and the account of the people interviewed. Contrary to what was originally expected at the beginning of the survey, there are few physical traces of pre-1755 occupation. Despite the fact that some of this information is negative, it's important that it be put on record for a more comprehensive assessment of the feasibility of carrying on more extensive work in the future.

Techniques

Despite the alarming overtones regarding the original project, a certain number of areas were singled out as possible Acadian sites or even Acadian house pits. Whenever a house pit was located or symetrical depression within an area of early historical occupation, interviewing was conducted to determine local tradition regarding its origin. Furthermore a study was made of three maps of the area: The Isthmus of Chignecto, 1781, from the Atlantic Neptune; Topographical Map of Westmorland and Albert Counties, by J. D. Lake and H. S.
Peel, 1862; Topographical Township Map of Cumberland County by A. F. Church (c. 1862). These maps show settlement patterns of the area to the end of the 18th and 19th centuries. In many cases these maps enabled me to date a house pit located, which could be easily linked to these post-1755 settlements.

Whenever the words "possible Acadian house pit" are used in this report one should understand: a trace of historical occupation which is traditionally linked to an Acadian settlement site, or whose origin could not be determined through interviewing or research. It is important to keep this in mind before assessing the validity of the project simply on the basis of the number of house pits found. This is equally true regarding local rumors or fantasies too often publicized by regional historians.

As it was suggested in the Preface, I was assisted by researchers working in archives in Ottawa. Preliminary research was done in the spring of 1967 by M. Coleman regarding the sites. At the end of the same year a historical report was completed (Coleman 1967). While the survey was conducted, contact was maintained between field research and documentary research in Ottawa. At intervals during the summer, I visited archives at Moncton, Halifax, St. John, and Fredericton. Books and documents were consulted. The results of this research have been integrated in the text. Some historical data precedes the description of each site in my report. Nevertheless one should consult Margaret Coleman's historical study on the Isthmus of Chignecto (Coleman, 1968) for a better knowledge of the period.
In the course of the investigation, aerial photographs were used. They proved to be a useful tool, though not an infallible one, as it is sometimes put forward by site surveyors. In the 1950's a map was made by a Professor Cameron from Acadia University to illustrate traces of house pits at the Beaubassin site on the Trenholm property at Fort Lawrence. This map was done using aerial photographs. It was used for the preliminary excavation in 1968, but it was difficult, when at all possible, to relate this map to features on the ground.

During the 1967 survey the majority of photos studied were 1" = 1320'. The areas of Cumberland and Jolicure Ridge were studied at 1" = 200'. The immediate vicinity of Fort Beausejour was examined using an enlargement of an aerial photo of 1" = 1320' enlarged to 1" = 600'.

Topographical irregularities were recorded. Investigation on the ground was completed in the summer of 1968. Of all scales used, the enlargement of 1" = 600' remains the best tool. Some depressions were located, along with house pits, which did not appear on the photos. Furthermore, some of the promising sites are in wooded areas which obviously could not show up on aerial photographs. All in all there is no substitute for the long and sometimes painful examination on the ground.

I already mentioned the part played by the informants during the survey. Their role will be outlined in the text, and a comprehensive critique of their role in a site survey will be made in the conclusion of this report.
Following ground inspection and provenience investigation, each site has been located using the grid system (GR) of the Canadian Mines and Technical Survey maps. Example of this system follows (Fig. 1)

Using a church as the example of an object you care to refer to:

1. Find number of grid line west of church (91).
   Ascertain number of tenths church is east of 91. This is observed to be 6. Set it down thus 916. This is known as easting.

2. Find number of grid line south of church (94).
   Ascertain number of tenths church is north of 94. This is observed to be 4. Set it down thus 944. This is known as northing.

The map reference of the church is therefore 916944.

This is the way all sites have been located, which gives us a reference to the nearest 100 metres from the feature surveyed. Nevertheless, before this reference was recorded a number of steps were taken to transfer location of a site to a GR reference on a map.

I have illustrated below this procedure (see Figs. 2,3).

The object is to locate house pit "M" on the map.

1. Two prominent points, visible on the ground, have been chosen. They are described in the field notes, i.e. farm house, barn, post... along with their grid reference.

2. Bearings are then taken on these two points (A & B) using a lensatic compass. Sighting thread of compass is aimed at center of object used as point "A".
Fig. 1 Showing use of Grid System for locating features in a site survey. (M-71-105-1).

2 Location of a site using a Prismatic compass. (M-71-105-1).

3 Location of a site on a map. (M-71-105-1).
Small glass in compass is used to read degrees point "A" is from magnetic north. Same process is repeated for "B".

3. A description is given of point from which we are taking the bearing, i.e. S/E corner of pit, etc....

4. Angles must then be transferred from magnetic to grid reference. In this illustration a magnetic declination of 23° west was used. This declination is always indicated on the map. Assuming the declination is 23°, subtract 23 from magnetic angle to find grid angle. Magnetic angle of "A" is 36°, while grid angle is (36° - 23°) 13°. Magnetic angle of "B" is 90°, while grid angle is (90° - 23°) 67°.

5. To find location of "M" on map, place center of 360° compass on point "A". Draw line crossing "A". Same process will be repeated for point "B". Site "M" is where lines intersect. Location of "M" is then given to nearest 100 metres in grid reference.

Each site has been given a number following the procedure of the National Historic Sites service archeological section. 6E will be used for Acadian sites in New Brunswick, and 6B for sites in Nova Scotia. An "operation" number was assigned for each village area, and a "suboperation" letter for each house pit or each possible site (for example a mound or a small field).

SOIL DESCRIPTION

Reports may be found on soil surveys for the areas covered. They are: G. B. Whiteside and R. E. Wicklund

These reports, which also include bibliographies, should be consulted. Because of the greater interest of Fort Lawrence ridge, site of Beaubassin, I have limited my description of the Nova Scotia soils to this area.

The surface layer consists of a fine textured friable mellow soil, brown to light brown in colour which dries with a greyish cast. Below the plow zone a light gray or white sub-surface layer may occur depending to some extent upon the length of time the soil has been under cultivation and how deep it has been plowed and mixed with the subsoil. The upper part of the subsoil is a bright coloured, orange or reddish, yellow loose friable sandy-loam. It grades into a light, brownish-red to bright red firmer sub-horizon that has a fully developed thin platy structure. Below 24 inches or more the parent material is a dull brick red, slightly compacted sandy-loam to sandy-clay-loam till, that is friable and porous.

The following is representative of a virgin sandy-loam profile:

A. 1 1/2" Light ashy grey to white sandy-loam, has a pinkish cast. Practically structureless, loose and porous. pH 4.4.
Bl. 9" - 15" Light yellow to reddish yellow, loose mellow sandy-loam. Has feeble fine granular structure, contains variable amount of small sandstone pebbles. Good root penetration. pH 4.9.

B2. 15" - 27" Light brownish red to brick red sandy-loam. Firmer than Bl, but porous. Has a weak thin platy structure, contains sandstone, pebbles and chips of soft red sandstone. pH 5.0

C. Below 27". Brownish-red or dull brick red sandy-loam, firm to slightly compacted but porous. Crushes readily upon fracturing, tends to break with a flaky fracture. pH 4.7.

On the New Brunswick side of the border, the soils on Cumberland and Jolicure ridge are members of what is known as the Aulac series. These are soils that have developed on predominantly non-calcareous rock material. In 1950, only one soil type had been mapped, this was the Aulac sandy-loam. It may be described as follows:

A. 0" - 2" Dark brown to black organic matter derived from coniferous needles, fairly well decomposed. pH 4.0.

A2. 2" - 5" Greyish white sandy-loam often structureless, sometimes with slight platy structure. Friable to powdery. pH 4.4.

Bl. 5" - 13" Yellowish-brown to yellowish-red, sandy-loam, structureless or with poorly developed granular structure. Stones of grey sandstone are common, together with pebbles from grey conglomerate. A number of roots. pH 4.8 - 5.0.

B2. 13" - 21" Light reddish-brown, sandy-loam, with little to fair development of granular structure. Many small and
large stones and rounded pebbles. This layer is open, well aerated. The roots are well developed, many passing into C horizon. pH 5.4-5.6.

C. 21" and below. Light greyish-brown to reddish-brown sandy-loam structureless, firm to compact, with numerous pebbles, small fragments of grey and red sandstone, and larger stones. pH 5-6.

**HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

**THE ACADIAN SOCIETY** (prior to 1755)

A historical report has been prepared on this subject by M. Coleman (1968). The following is merely intended to present the reader of the site survey with a brief outline of the society that was concerned and a few guide lines in view of the general project.

The first settler on the Isthmus was Joseph Bourgeois who moved into the area soon after 1671. A few years later in 1676, Michel le Neuf de la Vallière, a Canadian Gentleman from Trois Rivières, was given a seigneurial grant of the entire isthmus.

In most instances references to Beaubassin apply to all settlements of the isthmus. Actually Beaubassin was confined to a small area of high ground that stretched between the Missaguash and La Planche Rivers. By 1680, as the De Meulle map illustrates, settlements had extended elsewhere. In 1696 and 1704, New Englanders landed on the Isthmus burning houses and crops at Beaubassin. Settlements may have extended further inland during this period, as Acadians searched for more defensible sites inland. Population shifts occurred throughout the 18th century, so that by 1750 most of the
Isthmus was settled. The population then totalled a little more than 2,500 people.

When viewing the eight decades of Acadian occupation of the area, one should consider the various cultural influences to which the Acadians have been subjected.

Between 1676 and 1713 the seigneurial system was applied to the area, though it seems that it was not as rigid as in the St. Lawrence valley. According to one historian, Acadian society was based primarily on kinship and village ties. The names of some of the settlements would be an illustration of this, each one being named after the family head: village des Heberts, hameau des Richards, etc. (Pauvrière 1924: I: 182). The clan as the nucleus of social and political activity may have superseded the seigneurial system even before 1713, at which date the administration of Acadia changed from French to British.

The most significant innovation under British rule was the nomination and, after 1732, election of Acadian deputies as go betweens of the Governor and the people. This measure may have had some influence on the political structure, but it could also have adapted itself to the traditional society that preceded it.

The occupation of the area of the Isthmus after 1748 by the French, and the building of Fort Beausejour in 1751 did not bring back the seigneurial system, but the marshalling of Acadians into the militia and into working parties for building the fort and the billeting of troops, must have brought some changes in the usual pattern of political and social relationships.
Further study of the Acadian society will determine which aspects of the culture have been the most influenced by the changes to which the Acadians have been subjected between 1676 and 1755. The region of the Isthmus cannot be isolated either from the historical background of which it is part. The villages should not be studied as isolated communities, but as products of a culture which extended beyond the geographical confines of the Isthmus.
Fig. 4 1751 Map of the Chignecto Isthmus, showing Acadian Settlements. (Public Archives of Canada.)
CARTE de l'isthme
d'entre la Baye Verte et la Baye françoise.
Chapter 2
THE VILLAGE SITES

BAIE VERTE

Established:
Unknown. According to Will. R. Bird, a fishing station had been established there in 1619 (W. R. Bird 1928:31). There might have been fishing station there c. 1744 (Shirley 1757: 2s). By then trade was carried out between that area and Ile Royale.

Destroyed: 1755

Importance:
In 1751, 81 inhabitants and 61 refugees (Franquet, RAPQ, 1924: 124). In 1755, 25 houses, a chapel, and a rectory (Winslow, 1884:164).

Boundaries:
Approximately 1.5 miles from Fort Gaspareau (Franquet, RAPQ, 1924; 124; Thomas, 1937: 19). Houses are spread out along the coast (A large and particular Plan..., 1755, Jefferys). Houses are spread out along both sides of the road which leads to Fort Gaspareau; the church is situated north of this road (Carte particulier de l'isthme... 1751; Plan de l'isthme..., 1752).

Traces:
No traces of French occupation were located at Baie Verte, except for a well that is said to be French, but that seems impossible to date. The two best informed persons in the area are Mrs. A. Prescott and Mr. V. E. Goodwin.

Mrs. Prescott lives in one of the better residences of Baie Verte. Her property can easily be seen, with its stone walls protecting a well-landscaped lawn. More than eighty years old, she is well-educated and spent most of her time in the area as a schoolteacher. Historical tradition has it that the French church at Baie Verte stood on her property, as did Le Loutre's rectory. For the moment she has no intention of having her property transformed into an archeological site.
Goodwin owns the general store that stands as you enter the village driving from Aulac. He is 60 years old, has a college education and an excellent memory. His knowledge of the area has been passed down from his grandfather who was born in the 1830's. Goodwin showed me on the ground where the old French road was. It's quite easy to verify this statement by consulting the Silliker land deed, where this road is shown. An old French mill, now under water, would be in line with this road, while the old French storehouse stood near the Bay. According to Goodwin, the site of the French village was slightly west of the houses now standing today. He remembers finding pottery there as a boy. Today, it is very rare for anyone to come up with anything. Goodwin does not seem to have anything in his possession at this moment. East of where the old French road once stood, there is an old well on the property of Amelia Goodwin. She has been living there since 1906. She stated the well looks like those old wells at La Coupe that people would call French. Mrs. Goodwin is a neighbour of Mrs. Prescott, whose property is said to be the site of the old French church. Nothing significant was ever found on her land, and she has no intention of letting archaeologists try looking.

It's difficult to be optimistic about excavations at Baie Verte. According to historical tradition, the most interesting site is on the property of someone who refuses to let us excavate. The mill site would be under water. The storehouse site is in an area of shoreline recession, which also happens to be an area disturbed by shipbuilding
activities. The only hope left is that someone in the center of the more interesting sites change their attitude towards excavation, or at the very least let us run a geohm survey.

SITES

6E9A Post-1755

6E9B Located near GR 149969 in what seems to be a small provincial park. Area was at one time occupied by ship-building yards. Some years ago, Goodwin found some Indian axe heads which were donated to the Fort Beausejour museum.

6E9C Cut stone well on the property of Amelia Goodwin. Well has a diameter of 2 feet. It is covered by a large stone that has been pierced by a metal ring.

6E9D Site of Le Loutre rectory and French church at Baie Verte. Pot hunters have tried at various times to locate buried treasure without any success. Tradition has it that bodies were excavated on the property in the course of the last century, when the stone wall was built. The bones were re-buried where Mrs. Prescott now has a flower garden.

BEAUBASSIN

Established: 1672

Destroyed: burned, April, 1750.

Importance:
In 1750, 190 Acadians moved into French territory. (Franquet, RAPQ, 1924: 128). Number of buildings vary: 300 (Gaudet, RAC 1905, II: xiv); 140 (Richard, 1916-, II: 87). There was one church and one chapel (Richard, op. cit.; Coll; de man., III: 499). A mill was built there - or on Vaillière's island (De Meulles).

Boundaries:
On what is now Fort Lawrence ridge, Nova Scotia.
General:
The village of Beaubassin was burned by the English in 1696, and in 1704. The cemetery of Beaubassin was surrounded by a wall three or four feet high, and one feet thick (La Valliere, RAC, 1905, II: 388). Fort Lawrence was built on the site of the village in 1750.

Traces:
According to Will R. Bird, at least 30 Acadian cellars were to be found in the vicinity of Fort Lawrence in the 1920's (W. R. Bird, 1938: 238). Webster situated these just south of the railroad (J. C. Webster, 1930: 81). Both Webster and Bird seem to have identified these cellars on the basis of historical tradition. Today, it seems extremely difficult of locating informants of the same calibre as those that Webster or Bird found, since most of the younger generation is not as interested in oral tradition. (One exception may be Carswell Chandler - see below.) In 1955 cursory archeology was conducted in the area by a Professor Cameron of Acadia university. Though I never examined the artifacts, I learned from I. M. Sutherland, head of Historical Research at Historic Sites, that the great majority of the artifacts found were animal bones. Prior to his excavation, Cameron made a study of aerial photographs of the area. On the basis of Webster and Bird's testimony, and Cameron's work, there seems to be a consensus that the village of Beaubassin was situated on the high ground just south of the railroad crossing, on the Aubrey Trenholm property. Trenholm filled up all but one of the cellars more than twenty years ago. The exception is said to be the tannery site (6B1H).

Despite the consensus on the location of Beaubassin it should be added that no conclusive proof has to this date been brought forward that the village was not elsewhere.
For this reason the whole ridge was visited, and a number of other traces of historical occupation have been recorded.

Two other areas yielded ground depressions that local people linked to the Acadian occupation of the area. One such hollow exists on the Atkinson property. A depression is on a rise of ground dominating the Missaguash river, and was numbered 6B1F. It was visited during the week of June 18.

More interesting traces of historical occupation were located at the beginning of the summer at the extreme end of Fort Lawrence ridge, near GR 0127788. The site was numbered 6B1A. Carswell Chandler is the owner of the land though according to his neighbors, legal ownership seems to be obscure. When interviewed, Chandler's attitude towards excavation was equivocal, refusing to give a definite answer. According to Chandler, this site is not part of Beaubassin village. Instead it should be linked to the construction of the Isthmus railroad, when quarters were built for the workers. Traces of the railroad can be seen in the area, namely quantities of large building stones. No artifacts were uncovered near this site, but inspection of ground on the ridge, at GR 015765, near an apple tree brought out pieces of glass and metal. The field had been plowed. No visible traces of cellars were found, but a burnt area on the ridge may have an approximate location of structures. The site was numbered 6B1B.

We will now confine ourselves to the area that is considered by historical tradition as the site of Beaubassin. The area covers approximately half a square mile. The railroad crosses it in an east-west direction and it is
divided by a loose surface road which runs in a north-south direction. The large cluster of cellars described by Bird is located south of the railroad on the west side of the road. The greater part of this field is formed by pasture land. South of the pasture land there is a gentle rise of land where oats were planted when I visited the field during the 1967 season. According to Chandler, the church of Beaubassin could have stood on this rise. The land is owned by Mr. Aubrey Trenholm. Mr. Trenholm was interviewed a number of times. He remembers having filled the depressions a few decades ago, but claims he could relocate the approximate site. In any case, we have permission to excavate the part of his land that is not under cultivation. We are assured of the co-operation of the Trenholm family, since Mrs. Trenholm has been most active in promoting the history of the Fort Lawrence area. Furthermore, Trenholm is responsible for the maintenance of the cairn commemorating the site of Fort Lawrence.

North of the railroad track and east of the loose surface road, a depression was located. According to historical tradition this would be the old tannery site (W. R. Bird, 1928: 237).

This is a site where Professor Cameron did some cursory archeology in 1955. The owner of this land is Mr. Gerald Trenholm who claims that no building has disturbed the site since the French occupation. Furthermore, the soil has never been tilled as far as he knows. Trenholm has given permission to excavate. Should work be conducted in the area, test trenching should be extended to other
hollows in the same field whose contours are not as well defined but which could be promising because of the nature of the area.

SITES

6B1A The area is flat and overgrown by tall grasses. The more important depression runs north, measuring about 23' x 15'. At its southern extremity there is a small mound 24' x 24'. A narrow trench extends from this mound, in a westerly direction, towards the river Missaguash which flows a few hundred feet away. There is also a circular hollow with a diameter of 7 feet, 15 ft. to the west of the depression. Field stones are visible around the site, and, on the slopes of the main depression, seem to form a wall. Located near GR 0127788.

6B1B Located near GR 015765. Plowed field where artifacts were found. Probable post-1755.

6B1C to 6B1E Post-1755.

6B1F Located on Atkinson property. The depression is on a rise of ground dominating the Missaguash river. The hollow has been plowed over. An estimate of its dimensions would be 18 ft. x 18 ft. South of this hollow there is a matching rise. According to Atkinson, tradition has it that there was a mill and a French chapel in the area.

6B1G Post-1755

6B1H Known as tannery site. Excavated in 1968, it was then numbered, 7B1. Proved to be post-1755.
BEAUSEJOUR

Established: Houses appear there on the De Meulles map of 1686.

Destroyed: 1755

Importance: After 1751, Fort Beausejour was built in the midst of the settlement. This consisted of 86 inhabitants, and 89 refugees in 1754 (Recensement, APC, MB 18, F 12, I: 120-152). In 1755, 60 buildings stood on Beausejour ridge: among these the more prominent were two churches (one was no longer used), a storehouse, and a hospital (Supplement to Penn. Gazette, APC, C.O. 5, 16: 59; see also sketch by Hamilton). A mill appears on two French plans (Plan at profil du fort de Beausejour, 1751; Plan du fort de la Pointe de Beausejour, 1752).

Traces: In 1925, Milner wrote that traces of the French chapel were still visible, as it formed a depression of 54' x 72' (St. John Museum, Milner papers, box 5, pk. 24, shelf 2). Bird agreed with Milner by writing that in the 1920's the stone foundations of the old French church and cellars of Acadian homes still dotted the area (W. R. Bird, 1928: 233). Nevertheless, at the beginning of the century, Ganong did not seem to rely on physical traces to describe the site of the settlement, but only on tradition (Ganong: 1899, Map 44).

"If one stands at the western angle of the English trenches and looks across to the left of Sepody Mountain, he is looking over the site; and if he advances 48 paces in that direction he will stand in the middle of the site of the church."

A number of times I covered the area between Fort Beausejour and the woods north of the earthworks. The problem is twofold: because the area has been transformed to a National Park, the ground has been landscaped a number of times; furthermore it is quite possible that stones from
the Acadian buildings were used by the British after 1755 on the fortification of Fort Cumberland. No hollows or depressions were seen to indicate traces in that area of the site of Le Loutre's church or of the old French mill. A small damp area east of the trenches north of the fort could be investigated since a number of field stones are visible on the surface. (The damp area may indicate a filled-in pit.) This would be the original site of the first church at Beausejour (origin unknown).

The woods to the north of the fort are easily accessible. They are flanked on the west and east sides by open fields. Both fields are joined by a path. Three depressions were located on the west side of this wood close to the open field near GR 99803 (Sites 6E6A, 6B, 6C). The woods south of this field were also explored. Large spruce trees grow along the slopes. There are many loose fieldstones around but no traces of historical occupation. Close to a fence, which runs through the wood in a north-south direction, there are a number of small holes measuring about 5' x 10'. However, these hollows are so deep and the stones so scattered that I feel they are traces of treasure hunting in this area. North of the field, the woods are crisscrossed by a number of small lumber paths. There are a number of areas of deadwood. Surveyors have recently visited the area and their checkered paths facilitate exploration of the area. Close to GR 999807 there is a stone quarry. According to a plan that was shown to me by an engineer from Mines and Technical Surveys (Canada), Bill McLennan, a surveyor named Milton indicated on a map a stone dated 1768
close to this quarry. The quarry is on a rise of ground most probably the north extension of the rise where the hollows 6E6A, 6B and 6C, were located. According to the map, the site of the old English blockhouse is suppose to be in the vicinity of that quarry. In that area vegetation is not very thick and it would have been relatively easy to locate traces of historical occupation. Nothing was found. A number of hollows can be seen west of this quarry at the bottom of the rise and close to a loose surface road which leads back to Fort Beausejour. Their length varies between 10 and 20 feet and their depth between 1 and 6 feet. They are all about 10 ft. wide. Close to one another, they form a straight line parallel to the road. It is quite possible that they were dug when work was being conducted on the road. Unfortunately no one interviewed in the area was able to explain these hollows. The only other site located inside the wood which might necessitate some testing is southeast of the quarry. It crosses a path which is in line with a quarry. The site was numbered 6E6D.

The field on the east slope of the ridge is now government property, but was at one time farmed by Garnett Carter. Carter was interviewed at his residence near Jolicure. While farming, he had come across a number of artifacts which he still has in his possession. He indicated in the north part of his old property a depression which was number 6E6E. The contour is hardly visible, but the site was numbered because of Carter's declaration that it was not always the case.
There are a number of depressions in the open field on the east slope and beyond the loose surface road. After interviewing a number of persons in the area, it was possible to eliminate them as Acadian sites. The two persons that are better informed on the settlement pattern of the area are: Murray Siddal, at Aulac, and William Brown at Brookdale, near Amherst. In the low lands at the bottom of this slope there is only one area that could be investigated more closely. This is an area of small bulges in the neighborhood of scattered fieldstone. This area would be in line with the edge of the wood north of Fort Beausejour.

Despite the difficulties encountered in locating traces of Acadian sites in the area of Fort Beausejour, there are reasons why test trenching might prove to be worthwhile. On the one hand we have illustrations showing the approximate location of the village, on the other hand it would be interesting to find links between the village and the fort that was only a few hundred feet away.

It should be noted that this is the only area surveyed where the government is the proprietor of the land.

**SITES**

**6E6A** This depression is located about 130 feet inside the woods near GR 999803, on a rise which is the extension of Beausejour ridge. It measures 21' x 15', forming a narrow funnel towards the northeast which may be an entrance or a drain. The bottom of this depression is filled with field stones. A small tree is growing on the north wall of the hollow.

**6E6B** A 15' x 15' hollow, located 30' east of 6E6A.
This is a very large and deep depression measuring 20' x 40', and being almost 6 feet deep from the highest wall, east side of the depression. There is a certain amount of field stones on the east of the depression, which might well form a retaining wall.

Located southeast of the quarry at GR 999807, along trail. Depression measures 18' x 42'. Walls slope down at a sharp angle to the east, and very gently to the west. Trace is not very precise. It is bound by small trees. I numbered it, due to the nature of the area, yet it may well turn out to be a natural depression.

This is a negligible hollow, of 18' x 15', less than 1 foot deep, situated at GR 003801. It was brought to my attention by Garnett Carter, who claims that at one time it was deeper. Carter farmed the land before it became Federal property. According to tradition it should be an Acadian site.

BUTTE A MIRANDE

Established: Houses appear there around 1686 (Carte de Meulles).

Destroyed: 1755

Importance: It is not indicated in the censuses of 1752, 1754. Buildings appear there in 1755 (A large and particular plan..., Jefferys 1755). During the siege of Fort Beausejour in June, 1755, the British troops encamped there.

Boundaries: Situated on what is now called Mount Whatley, 1 mile from Aulac N.B.

Traces: No traces of Acadian occupation were located. A Mr. Miner, living at Mount Whatley, was said to have information
regarding cellars on his property. He could not be located.

BUTTE A ROGER

Established: Possible houses stood there in 1686 (Carte De Meulles, 1686).

Destroyed: 1755

Importance:
After the building of Fort Beausejour in 1751, an observation post was set up on this hill. A building appears there in 1751 (Carte de Franquet, 1751). In 1754, there were 18 persons living there: 4 were males (Recensement, APC, MG 18, F 12, I: 12-152). Buildings can be seen on Butte a Roger in 1755 (Sketch by Hamilton, 1755).

Boundaries:
Situated on a rise near GR 009797.

Traces:
A highway has cut through the site. Part of the hill is now used as a strawberry field.

BUTTE DU PORTAGE

Established: Date unknown. The portage route to Baie Verte is mapped out on the early maps (see, De Meulles, 1686).

Destroyed: 1755

Importance:
In 1751, there were 2 houses there, and one store; 25 refugees, only three of which were males (Franquet, RAPQ, 1924: 125). The number of refugees increased, until it reached the amount of 59, in 1754: 9 were males (Recensement, APC, MG 18, F 12, I: 120-152).

Boundaries:
The buildings stood at the head of the Missaguash river, twelve miles from Fort Beausejour (Pichon, in Webster, 1937: 31); 5/4 lieuses - approximately 3.1 miles - from Baie Verte (Franquet, RAPQ, 1924; 125). On one map, the buildings appear on the south bank of the river (Draught of the Isthmus, Tonge, 1755).

Traces:
At the turn of the century, Ganong wrote that cellars were still visible north and east of the road that wound around the "Butte" (Ganong, 1899: 287). This might be a depression located on a rise of ground close to the old route and
numbered 6E1A. The high ground, near the bridge, at GR 107925 was examined. The area had just been plowed. No artifacts were found.

According to a farmer living at Hall's Hill (farm at GR 090909), John Thomson, there are a number of cellars deep in the woods close to the "Butte". His brother, a hunter, knows their location, but I was unable to reach him.

SITE
6E1A Located near GR 109928. Two depressions, running in a north-south direction, were found on a small rise, west of the old road. The smaller depression is 17 feet square. The other is 30' x 20'. These hollows are surrounded by evergreens. The owner of the property is Blair Copp, unfavorable to excavation, unless he was subsidized.

CAP ST-LAURENT

Established: Unknown

Destroyed: Unknown

Importance:
Sixteen refugees were established there in 1754 (Recensement, APC, MG 18, F 12, I: 120-152). Little is known of Cap St-Laurent other than this mention in the 1754 census.

Traces:
With so little to go on, it is understandable that it was difficult to locate anything on the ground. All the more so if this was but a port for transients going to Isle St-Jean. Settlement would be included within GR 3001, on Cap Tormentine map, 11 L/4 W. The most natural spot is on a flat rise which juts out towards Northumberland Strait. There are marches east and west of this rise. The land is covered by tall
grasses and bushes close to the water, and overrun by thick woods to the north. Search was negative. Unless more documentary evidence was located of a lasting establishment in that area, field efforts will be useless.

**ILE LA VALLIÈRE**

**Established:** 1676, as a seigneurial grant to Michel Le Neuf de la Vallière.

**Destroyed:** A decade later buildings are still indicated on the site (De Meulles). It is not known at what date the small settlement was abandoned. By 1751 there was nothing left there.

**Importance:**
It could very well be the first area open to settlement. There may have been a mill and church built there. After 1751, the French kept a small observation post there.

**Traces:**

According to Ganong, cellars were visible there in the 19th century (Ganong, 1899: 280). Though he seems to link them to the Vallière settlement, they could have been traces of the Tonge occupation. This British officer received it as a grant, and the island then became known as Tonge's Island.

The "island" is a 50' elevation of ground that dominates the marshlands bordering Cumberland Ridge and the Missaguash River. The rise runs an approximate distance of 1,500 ft., and measures at its widest part, 900 ft. The south part has been agriculturally disturbed throughout the years. The slope there is more evident than on the north side. According to the present owner, the north part has never been cultivated. It is overgrown with shrubs and grass. The only trees on the island are planted near the farmhouse, now owned by Mr. Henry Sootiens. Mr. Sootiens is a Dutchman who has been living there for eight years. He seems ready to cooperate
with any project that could bring more light on the history of the island, one of the most historical spots of the area. On August 29, I interviewed William Brown who lived on the island for 70 years. He now lives at Brookdale, near Amherst. Historical tradition situates the Vallière settlement on the south part of the island. No new information came out of the interview. Having covered the island I saw nothing which could bring new light to what is already known. Cooperation and interest is all we have, along with a few hundred square feet in which to try test trenches or a geohm survey.

**JOLICOEUR**

**Established:** Unknown

**Destroyed:** 1755

**Importance:**

Ninty refugees were established there in 1754 (Recensement, APC MG 18, F 12, I: 120-152). This is the only mention we have of this site.

**Boundaries:**
It can only be assumed that it would be in the area of what is now Jolicure. Houses appear on both sides of the Aulac River c. 1755, but these could just as well be linked to the Le Lac settlement (A Map of that part of Nova Scotia..., 1756).

For the purpose of the field survey it was decided to link to this settlement any traces of historical occupation found east of Jolicure.

**Traces:**

The few depressions located in the fields southeast of Jolicure were soon identified by local enquiry as post-1755. Everyone interviewed were unanimous as indicating the area west of Jolicure as the old Acadian village sites (Le Lac and Le Coupe). Certain irregularities show up on aerial photographs in the vicinity of GR 056890. This now uninhabited
rise was explored. Search was negative, though high grass could have obscured any sightings of slight hollows. It does not seem likely that the settlement extended so far along the ridge, and the woods beyond the open fields were not explored.

**LA BUTTE**

**Established:** Unknown. A settlement may have been started there at the beginning of the 18th century. *(Map: A Description of the Bay of Fundy, 1711-12).*

**Destroyed:** Burned in 1755

**Importance:**
In 1750, 86 Acadians from La Butte crossed over into French territory *(Franquet, RAPQ, 1924: 128).*

**Traces:**
The site of the settlement is now located in the center of Amherst, N.S.

**LA COUPE**

**Established:** Unknown

**Destroyed:** 1755

**Importance:**
La Coupe and Le Lac may have formed but one settlement stretched along the Aulac River. It is mentioned as a distinct settlement on the one map *(Plan de l'isthme..., 1752)*; the same is true in the censuses where Le Lac and Le Coupe are treated as two settlements. La Coupe is mentioned as the only settlement along the Aulac River on another map *(Carte Particuliere de l'isthme..., 1751).*

In 1754, 40 inhabitants lived there; no refugees were numbered *(Gaudet, RAC, 1905, II: xv).* In 1755, 70 buildings were burned there *(Abijah Willard, Coll. NBHS, 13: 68s).*

**Boundaries:**
On the high grounds, north of the Aulac river *(Plan de l'isthme... 1952).* According to another plan, which however does not name the individual settlements, there are buildings on both sides of the Aulac River in that area *(A Map of that part of Nova Scotia..., 1756).* It is two miles from Le Lac *(Abijah Willard, Coll. NBHS, 13: 54).*

Ganong places it on the south extremity of Jolicure ridge,
overlooking the La Coupe river, a tributary of the Aulac River (Ganong, 1899: 281).

Traces:

Historical tradition situates the village of La Coupe on the rise of ground west of the Aulac river, known as Jolicure Ridge. In the course of my investigation, I was obliged to take into account other traces of historical occupation in the vicinity of the Aulac River, but outside of the area sometimes referred to as the La Coupe site. Furthermore, while interviewing I realize that all did not agree with Webster's location of La Coupe. An Oulton family (living in the village crossroad at Jolicure), for example, situate the village closer to the river, near the crossroads at GR 925859. Consequently for the purpose of cataloging more easily our information, I have arbitrarily included within the La Coupe area, sites on the west slope of Cumberland Ridge in the vicinity of the Aulac River. Topographically, therefore, the area may be divided in two parts: Cumberland rise characterized by open fields that roll down towards the Aulac River, with scattered patches of wood; and the low flat pasture lands near the river, dominated at the traditional La Coupe site by gently rising ground almost completely covered by woods except for some cultivated fields on the forest edges.

The pasture land in the vicinity of the crossroads in the lowlands yielded nothing. According to the same Oulton family mentioned above, this land was cultivated about twenty years ago. At that time cellars were visible. Other interviews, however, indicated that the land described by the Oultons may well have been north of the crossroads instead
of south. If you follow the La Coupe River, you come to what has been called the Chignecto Dry Dock. A cairn has been erected by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board and may be reached by a narrow loose surface road. A depression, 6E4B, was located in a pasture field, east of this road. The pasture land along the water and the Jolicure road are dominated by a rise of ground. This is the beginning of what is exaggeratingly called Jolicure Ridge.

On the south edge of this rise there stands a barn which can be used as a good reference point. In line with this barn there is a hump which stands out when looking north from the barn. During July, a student working at the Fort Beausejour museum found an axe head and some wrought nails in the vicinity of this small mound. They were located following a heavy rainfall, a few inches below the surface. (At this moment they should be in the Moncton University museum.) On the east "slope" of the rise, there is an abandoned barn, and a stone foundation. South of this abandoned property, and in line with the crossroads, there is an 18 square foot depression with a small one foot hollow, less than 20 feet from it.

On June 5, I learned from William Landry that this was the remains of an old French hotel, a statement that was contradicted by an older resident the same day, Harry Carter. On a map of 1867, it was possible to verify Carter's testimony as being correct, and date the site as post-1755. This rise, along with the adjoining woods, belongs to John Carter, Sackville. On August 18, he gave us permission to excavate. Carter claims that he plowed that field for the
first time in 1945 (it was not under cultivation in 1967). He was using a plow which dug in the soil to a depth of 18 inches. When he began his work, the field was covered with shrubs. He came across very few stones, and could not be certain about coming across any large depression which we could link with structures of some kind. I returned a number of times to trod through the woods that extend north along the rise. The forest in this area is a mixture of broadleaf conniferous trees. Small areas of grass and shrubs are scattered throughout the woods. Only one trace of historical occupation was found in these woods, 6E4A. As we leave this area which historical tradition seems to link with the La Coupe site, we follow the loose surface road that leads to Point de Bute. As the roads winds along the Cumberland Ridge, one may be intrigued by the existence of a deep depression near GR 032847. A house stands on that site on the 1867 map. Nevertheless, I learned from Mr. Esterbrooks, a 95 year old resident of Upper Sackville, that many years ago pot hunters dug up the site in the hope of finding treasure. This could account for local rumors that it is an Acadian site.

Traces of historical occupation were found about a mile west of this site, on Howard Trueman's property. Cumberland Ridge was explored with the intention of gathering information on other sites. As it turned out, Howard Trueman pointed out to me certain topographical anomalies that tradition claims to be Acadian house sites: one is a hump (6E4H), another a hollow (which was tested with negative results, 6E4E), and the other a depression (6E4G).
The Trueman family has been living in the area since the end of the 18th century. Howard Trueman's grandfather was one of Ganong's most important informants.

Most of the slope along Cumberland Ridge is used as pasture land. The patches of woods are easily explored. Though field stones were scattered in the woods, nothing significant was located. One patch of woods about a 100 feet west of 6E4F was not sufficiently explored; it stands close to a stream.

SITES

6E4A Undefined rectangle, measuring approximately 43' x 30'. A tall spruce tree (one foot diameter) grows in the center of the depression, its branches spanning most of the area. In the southeast corner, there is a deeper hollow filled with water on June 2. There are scattered field stones near the site. A deep trench extends from the site in a northwesterly direction toward the open fields a few hundred feet away. Southwest of the depression there are two hollows (between 3 and 9 feet diameter): one is 60' away, the other is 135' away.

The site is located about a hundred feet from the Jolicure road. The depression is close to tall spruce trees that grow in an area which is more open than the woods close to the Jolicure road. The site should be located at the beginning of the summer, when undergrowth is not as thick. The site is on the property of Willie Trueman. On August 21, he gave us permission to dig. As a young boy he would play
there, but his father (who if living today would be more than one hundred years old) knew nothing of its origins.

6E4B This site is located in a pasture at GR 018853, north of the road that leads to the Chignecto (La Coupe) Dry Dock cairn. The depression measures 15' x 23'; it is 2.6' deep, its south extremity sloping and forming a hollow. There are two 2' x 3' hollows, 4 feet east of the depression. Half a dozen stones lie in the vicinity of the site, not linked to any particular structure.

According to John Carter, interviewed on August 19, this land once belonged to the Point de Butte schoolboard. Since the Provincial school reform, the land should belong to the Provincial government, yet Carter who wrote to the government concerning the situation, received no reply.

6E4F Testing of site proved to be negative.

6E4G In relation to hollow 6E4F located in open field at GR 014829, the site is located 275' away along a bearing of 105 degrees. The depression is on a small rise, with trees to the south and dead wood to the north. Towards the forest, birch trees stand close to the depression.

The pattern of the depression is difficult to make out. In a north-south direction it measures 30'. However, the width at the north end is 26', while it is 12 feet at the south end. The site is covered with deadwood and fieldstones, which makes for a
difficult estimate of the limits of the pit. When photographs were taken, some of the branches were removed. Nevertheless, in case of excavation, some preliminary cleaning of site would be necessary.

6E4H A mere hump located at GR 026843, and identified by Howard Trueman as an Acadian house pit, according to his grandfather. The mound is in line with the traditional La Coupe site, but along the Cumberland ridge, in a pasture. Some years ago the depression was filled by Trueman with stones, but he was able to relocate it quite easily.

LA PLANCHE

Established: Unknown. A settlement may have been started there at the beginning of the 18th century (Map: A Description of the Bay of Fundy, 1711-12).

Destroyed: Burned in 1750

Importance: In 1750, 56 refugees crossed over into French territory (Franquet, RAPQ, 1924: 128).

Boundaries: In vicinity of East Amherst.

Traces: The area is now almost all taken over by what may be called the suburbs of Amherst. No one seems to know of the existence of the early settlement of La Planche. I did locate a Mr. Walter Freiman in East Amherst whose father passed away recently, and who was more informed about the early Acadian settlements. However, results were negative, for the sites that he did remember have now been disturbed by the growth of Amherst.
LE LAC

Established: Unknown. Settlement was started by 1746 (Coll. de documents inédits, II: 55).

Destroyed: 1755

Importance:
One of the more important settlements of the Isthmus. French troops wintered there in 1746, and again in 1751 (Collection de documents inédits, II: 55; Journal de la Valière, RAC, 1905, II 388).

In 1754, it had a population of 116 inhabitants, and 114 refugees (Recensement, 1754, APC, MG 18, F 12, I: 120-152). When it was destroyed in 1755, more than 120 buildings were burned (Abijah Willard, Coll. NBHS 13: 54).

Boundaries:
South of the Aulac River, facing the settlement of La Coupe (Plan de l'isthme..., 1752). On another plan, houses appear on both sides of the Aulac River (Map of that part of Nova Scotia..., 1756). According to Willard, it was 9 miles from Baie Verte (Abijah Willard, Coll. NBHS 13: 68s). La Valière located it 1.5 lieues from Beausejour - approx. 4 miles (Journal de la Valière, RAC, 1905 II: 388).

Ganong situates the village on Jolicure ridge just above the present village of Jolicure (Ganong, 1899: 281).

Traces:
The traditional site of Le Lac is on the high grounds west of the village of Jolicure. It is not impossible that the site of Le Lac would be closer to the river, or on the site of present Jolicure. For obvious reasons, we cannot excavate within the confines of the village. As for the area close to the river, it is now under cultivation, or has been in recent years. If we are to compare the settlement patterns elsewhere (Beaubassin, Beausejour, Queskak...) the Acadians usually farmed the lowlands and settled the upland. Did Jolicure (Jolicoeur) exist as a distinct settlement? I arbitrarily decided to isolate it as a distinct settlement, and used the north-south road that crosses Jolicure as a dividing line. Le Lac would be west of this
The traditional site is on a rise of ground known as Jolicure Ridge. The south slope is cultivated, while along the ridge a mixture of broadleaf and coniferous trees forms a barrier of vegetation. North of the woods, marshes border Front Lake. On May 30, I interviewed William Beck, living in the area for the last 40 years. A certain Aaron Finley (who if alive would now be 95 years old) introduced Beck to the historical traditions of the area. According to Finley, there used to be an Acadian village on Jolicure Ridge along the rise that is now taken over by the forest. As a boy, Finley remembers seeing many cellars in the woods. Beck could only locate one. It is the house pit 6E3A that I located myself that same day. I returned to the same area a number of times with the students and the photographer working at Fort Beausejour. Except for a well, probably associated with 6E3A, nothing of great significance was ever located.

Small clearings are scattered throughout the woods, and are quickly overgrown by tall grass. The woods thicken as you move along the ridge in an easterly direction. As you approach the area of Jolicure village, the forest is crossed by a number of lumber paths. The coniferous forest in this part of the ridge is extremely thick, and it would be very easy to miss a significant depression. The area in line with Becks's house is easier to explore. That is precisely where 6E3A was located, along a barbed-wire fence which runs in line with Beck's property. Close to 6E3A there is a small clearing, where quantities of fieldstone,
and long, well-spaced furrows decided me to number the area. Any testing of 6E3A should be accompanied by further exploration of this field, 6E3B.

The open fields along the Jolicure road were also explored. Nothing significant was located except for some artifacts, pipe stems, pot sherds and nails in a tilled field close to farm GR 045855. The artifact site was numbered 6E3C, though nothing of great value turned up among the artifacts. Topographical anomalies show up on aerial photography, east of 6E3C, near GR 053881. Other house-pits were located in the fields near the road but interviewing managed to place these as post-1755. While most, if not all of the people were interviewed in the area, no other sites than the ones I located were brought to my attention. Of interest is the testimony of Mr. Ackerson of Jolicure who hunts quite a lot in those woods, but knew of no other house pit than 6E3A.

**SITES:**

**6E3A** The site is located near GR 039879. The easiest way to locate the depression is to use Beck as a guide. The depression is inside the woods a few dozen feet away from a barbed-wire fence which runs in line with Beck's house. Site would be east of the fence. The pit measures 40' east-west, and 20' north-south. The east part of the hollow is deeper: about 4.4' B.S., measured at highest point, while the west part is 3.7' B.S. The deeper end of the depression is separated from the other by a thin mound of fieldstones. Two bricks were found there.
On the northeast corner of the depression, there is a pile of stones covered with moss. Although the site is inside the woods, the larger trees are spaced enough to permit excavation. The major obstacles are the small undergrowth, the water at the beginning of the summer, the distance to cover to reach the site, and the mosquitoes.

6E3B Site arbitrarily numbered because of proximity of other depression 6E3A, field stones, and rumors of more house pits.

6E3C Artifacts located at this site, north of farm house GR 045877.

6E3D to 6E3F Post-1755

6E3H Well, located 75' southwest of 6E3A, along barbed-wire fence. Area of well, whose walls have collapsed, is approximately 5' x 6'. The collapsed walls have left a depression of 2 feet.

MAINKANNE*

Established: Unknown. Area south of the La Planche river was open to settlement at beginning of 18th century (Map: A Description of the Bay of Fundy, 1711, 1712). Maccan may have been settled at that time. There was a settlement there by 1746 (Coll. de doc. inédits, II: 55).

Destroyed: The Acadians left the village in 1750, but buildings were still standing in 1755.

Importance:
In 1750, 86 refugees from Maccan crossed into French territory (Franquet, RAPQ, 1924: 125).

*Spelling of this site varies from one source to the other. In the text the spelling of the present village is used.
Boundaries:
Site varies from one plan to another. On west bank of Maccan River, near mouth of Nappan River (Plan, 1749, Shirley to Board of Trade). East bank of Maccan River (Plan, 1752, tiroir 78-47). On both banks of the Maccan River (Draught of the Isthmus, Tonge 1755).

Traces:

The more probable site of the Maccan settlement is the west bank. The present village of Maccan is dominated to the north by rolling hills, less steep however than those on the other bank of the river, which also happens to be more populated than the west bank, north of the village. The landscape around the village, and to the south of it is flatter. On June 18, a depression was found on the property of Mr. Russel Harrison, 6B8A. This farmer is a descendant of the first settlers to come in the area after the expulsion of the Acadians. This depression, according to Harrison, is the last of a group of Acadian cellars that were still visible during his father's time. He was not able to clearly indicate the sites of these old cellars. A good part of his land is presently under cultivation. The rest lies fallow, with some patches of woods close to the river. This was the only trace of historical occupation found north of Maccan, though the area was explored and the people were interviewed. As a matter of fact, the people interviewed were not aware that Acadian villages other than Minoudy once stood in the area.

For example, I met a Mr. Roy Landel on July 6, who was an interested and educated man and who knows most of the people of the area. He is interested in the local history, and consequently spends most of his time speaking to the elder people. At no time was there any talk of the
Acadian sites in the vicinity of the Maccan River. He nevertheless suggested I meet a Mr. Charles Seaman, who lives along the road between River Hebert and Maccan. This same Charles Seaman was recommended by other people in the area, but I never managed to locate the person at home.

The flat area south of the Maccan was visited following a closer inspection of aerial photographs. Open fields were visited in the vicinity of GR 015640, where topographical anomalies showed up on aerial photographs. Nothing turned up, but a farmer in that area, Mr. Stanley Boyd, told me of old cellars in the woods farther south on the Maccan River, near Patton Creek. He would able to direct someone there, though his verbal description of the site was not too clear.

That same day I visited the farm of Carson Spicer. I learned from my visit that depressions that had turned up on an aerial photograph were the traces of a well long filled up by Spicer. Spicer brought me to a deep depression at the end of his property, which in my opinion was too deep to be of Acadian origin or two centuries old.

It seems that in the area of Maccan the only worthwhile site is the one on Harrison's property, 6B8A. A further interview with Carson Spicer might prove to be informative, and bring more knowledge on the subject.

SITE:

6B8A  Located at GR 012679, this small depression measures 20' x 20', with a 2' x 2' hollow in the center. This site is located in a pasture, above the 50' contour line, close to the woods and a deep ravine. On August 18,
the owner of the land, Harrison, gave us permission to excavate. Despite this permission, excavators should be very cautious when dealing with Mr. Harrison who is a very suspicious farmer. According to Harrison there are other buried "French" cellars on his property.

MENOUDY*

Established: Buildings appear on the De Meulles plan of 1686. There were settlers there in 1734 (From a birth register, Brun, 1966: 134).

Destroyed: The village was abandoned in 1750 buildings still appear there in 1755 (A large and particular plan..., Jefferys, 1755).

Importance:
169 inhabitants left the village in 1750 (Franquet, RAPQ, 1924: 128). More than 15 buildings and a mill are on a plan of 1752 (Plan, 1752, tiroir 58047).

Boundaries:
Site would be in general vicinity of present village of Minudie (Plan de l'isthme..., 1752; Carte particuliere Shegnekto Bay..., Jefferys 1755; Draught of the Isthmus, Tonge, 1755).

Traces:
Of all the areas visited this summer, it was at Menouidy that I spent most time. A number of reasons can be given for this: a high number of depressions had to be checked; the historical boundaries had to be determined and accordingly the woods north of the village proved a great obstacle to visit; a great number of people interested in the history of Menouidy were interviewed, some of whom were descendants of Acadians returning to the area after 1755, while others have private collections of historical documents in their

*Present spelling is Minudie. Original spelling will be used when distinguishing original French village from present one.
The present village of Minudie is situated on a plateau dominated to the south by rolling hills. Marshy woods extend to the north. The ground rises gently towards the west and the east, before dropping abruptly along River Hebert. Part of the fields south of the village are cultivated. The rest is pasture land, though the whole area south of the woods has been agriculturally disturbed throughout the years.

Minudie has a present population of half a dozen families. Needless to add, the whole village was interviewed. Everyone I talked to forwarded me to a Mrs. Simes who lives on the outskirts of Minudie. She is the grand-daughter of Amos Seaman, who in the nineteenth century owned all the land around the village. Acadians, who had returned after the deportation of 1755, lived there as tenants. I tried unsuccessfully to meet Mrs. Simes, who is now more than 90. She lives with her daughter, who is very suspicious of strangers. Consequently, it proved impossible to meet Mrs. Simes and gain precious knowledge of the history of the area. On July 7, I had met one Harry Burke at Joggins who had some old family papers. (Burke is an Anglized form of Bourque, an Acadian name.) Studying these papers more carefully, I discovered a scribble referring to _A History of Minudie_, by Amos Seaman, p. 432. Thus there exists (or existed) a manuscript of some kind written in the 19th century by a man who was aware of the Acadians living on his property as tenants. No one I spoke to was aware of this manuscript. The possibility remains that
Mrs. Simes could shed light on the subject. Unfortunately, as mentioned above, I was unable to make any serious contact with this descendant of Amos Seaman.

I did learn, however from Mr. Ernest Coates, in Fenwick, Nova Scotia, that the Amos Seaman estate is looked after by the law firm, Hicks & Lemoyne in Amherst. For the moment this is the only contact I can suggest for a further enquiry regarding Mrs. Simes and her knowledge of Minudie. On June 22, I met James McBeth of Minudie. McBeth is a farm helper, who has been living in the area for some time, and who has hunted in the woods around Minudie. Prior to interviewing him I had located in the fields just north of the village a number of depressions. All were numbered, pending enquiry on their origin.

He was the first person to inform me that the original village was closer to the river, on the high ground north-east of the present village. Historical tradition has it that the old Acadian cemetery also stood there. My problem was to determine how old was "old", and at the same time determine the site of the original church without even being sure that there ever was a church there before 1755! It has been my experience in the course of the summer that the more important tradition that survives a lost settlement is the site of its cemetery or graveyard: in the case of a Christian community, such as the Acadians, the site of the church will mark the center of the settlement. A corollary may be added to this by pointing out that the cemetery is not ipso facto adjacent to the church. As a matter of fact, there is room to believe that in the case
of Beaubassin, at least, they were on different sides of the river (Coleman, 1968). In the case of Menoudy, it may also be argued that there was never a church there prior to the expulsion, but only a burying ground, as the services were celebrated at Beaubassin.

At the rectory of Joggins there is a church register of Minudie going back to 1849. (A copy of this is said to be at the Moncton University archives.) Before 1849, the parish of Minudie was serviced by a missionary from Memeramcook. The first page from this register reads that a Dominic Leblanc was the first to be buried in the new cemetery "4 octobre 1849". Rev. Hatherly, rector at Joggins, claims that the year 1849 marks also the building of the church that still stands today next to the cemetery. Consequently, it might be possible that the cemetery site as located by historical tradition is only the one that existed prior to 1849. Thus we would be faced with two conflicting hypotheses: that the Acadians after returning continued burying their dead in the same cemetery as their ancestors did before 1755 or; that there is another site for the original Acadian cemetery. There is a local tradition that I learned from Harry Burke, according to which a Catholic church once stood within the present village limits, where you can now see a monument raised to the memory of Amos Seaman. This sheds little light on the subject since, (a.) we cannot determine conclusively whether this church site is before or after the expulsion; or (b.) whether the church then stood next to the cemetery.

The only unambiguous conclusion I seem to have drawn
from my enquiries concerning the site of the original village is that my informants are unanimous in situating the original village on the high grounds close to the river. This would write off almost the total amount of depressions located in that area last summer.

The most interesting case I've come across in trying to determine more accurately the site of the village is the Theriault family. Though they are now culturally assimilated, their family is said to be descendants of the original Acadian stock of Minoudy.

The first to be interviewed was James Theriault, who works at the Napan experimental farm, and lives at 40 Copp St. in Amherst. The area of high ground northeast of the village was once called, according to Theriault, Fenny Point. There stood the original village. This tradition comes from his father. Nevertheless, the information was not only oral. Theriault's father was at one time in possession of a history of Menoudy. This book (or manuscript) was never found after his father's death. Theriault suggested that it could have ended up in Webster's hands, who by the way, was a good friend of Theriault's father.

Was this Seaman's History of Menoudy? It could have been, but on the other hand there seems to be another History of Menoudy floating around. On July 6, I learned from Rev. D. J. McCarthy, rectory at River Hebert, that one history of Menoudy had been given to the priest at Joggins by James Theriault's father.

The author was named Poulin. Parts of this book were copied by James Theriault's sister, who is now Mrs. Fred
Melancon, and lives at Amherst Point.

I later met Mrs. Melancon. She corrected McCarthy's version on two points: it was a history of Acadia, not only of Menoudy; and the author's name was Leblanc, not Poulin. I went through part of the notes Mrs. Melancon had taken from this book, and found material that would mostly interest a genealogist. She invited me to return, but as it turned out, I never got to see her again. Though James Theriault's sources were never located, his statement did corroborate what I had already learned about the original site of Menoudy.

The high grounds close to the village of Menoudy are now used as pasture land. They drop abruptly along the river which swerves close to Minudie, forming what Theriault called Fenny Point. Close inspection of the shore line indicated erosion throughout the years on the cliffs of Fenny Point, and consequently a gradual collapse of the high ground where the village should have stood. An obvious conclusion would be that parts of the village, assuming they stood close to the shore line, would now be gone. Though some depressions were located in the area of Fenny Point, it would be safe to say on the basis of the extent of late 18th and 19th century agricultural disturbances, that they are linked to the post-1755 settlement rather than to the original settlement. With this in mind, I decided that inspection of the woods north of the village, and beyond these open fields of Fenny Point might bear some traces of early historical occupation.

My investigation was further motivated by James McBeth's
testimony to the effect that he had seen some depressions in those same woods. Access is extremely difficult: the coniferous trees grow close to one another, the undergrowth has taken over the few small clearings; and the marshy lowlands close to the woods form a breeding ground for myriads of mosquitoes. I returned a number of times to the area until I felt I had completely explored the woods. Search was negative, but due to the nature of the terrain it would be impossible to be definite in claiming that no traces of historical occupation exist in the woods. Should it be decided to carry on work in that area, McBeth would have to be located and ask to guide people to depressions he found in woods.

For the moment I see two courses of action in any further study of the Minudie area. The first one is to do exploratory testing of the high grounds at Fenny Point, in the hope of finding traces of the village. The other course overlaps the present project. It involves a study of the Acadians after their return to the land of their ancestors. The pattern of their endless migrations can be studied more closely, since we know that groups from the Minudie stock moved in the 19th century from Minudie to St. Peter, a settlement that has disappeared but whose traces can still be seen near Joggins to-day.

The most striking characteristic of the Acadian presence in Menoudy is that it has remained part of the historical tradition of the area, whereas few of the people encountered during the summer realized that other Acadian villages such as Nampanne, or Macanne, to name but these
two, had ever existed.

**NAMPANNE***

Established: Buildings appear there on the De Meulles map of 1686. Settlers were there by 1733 (Marriage deed of Pierre Doiron, in Brun, 1966: 108).

Destroyed: The village was abandoned in 1750. Houses can still be seen there in 1755.

Importance: 142 refugees left the village in 1750.

Boundaries: The site varies from one plan to the other. South of the Nappan river (Plan, 1749; Draught of the Isthmus, Tonge, 1755); on the north bank (Plan, 1752, tiroir 58-47; Carte particuliere de l'isthme...1751).

Traces:

The present village of Nappan is dominated by a succession of rolling hills, forming an L-shaped settlement along the Maccan and Nappan Rivers. The slopes range in size: above the 50 and 100 foot contour line they form terraces, any of which would have been ideal sites for the original settlement of Minoudy, though the rises closer to the river, and below the 50 ft. contour line, would normally have been the first to be cleared by settlers. Today the whole area is occupied by farms.

Historical tradition has it that the oldest site in the area is the Noilles property. I was directed to Miss Anna Lowther who has the reputation of being knowledgeable about the local history. She claims that the Noilles property is on a rise near GR 042692, and that at one time there was a depression indicating the site. She owns the land,

*The present spelling, Nappan, will be used in the text.*
though it is now leased by the Nappan experimental farm. The depression was filled by the people at the experimental farm, who afterwards levelled the ground and cleared it of debris with a bulldozer. I learned from one of the neighbours of the site, Hibbert Lawrence, that pot hunters had been there more than 75 years ago. Another neighbour, Earle W. Black, found pot sherds on the site, but they were easily identified as 19th century blue ware. One informant, James Theriault, believes that this is a post-1755 site. All in all, besides disturbance of site by pot hunters and agricultural farm people, there seems to be some doubt as to whether the Noilles site is actually there.

I spoke to a Mrs. Pitman, who is said to be a descendant of this original Noilles. She was not of great help. She did tell me that the Noilles had at one time some property farther east of Nappan. These now belong to a Robinson family. I visited this area on July 10 with a local farmer, Howard McKay. We came to a depression (more than 6' deep) along a stream which runs towards the Nappan River more than half a mile away. Depth of pit and its distance from the river made it a very unlikely site for a 200 year old Acadian cellar. This was the only depression we located, though McKay said that at one time there were others. He showed me an old land grant of the area which was dated 1849, made out to one J. Ripley. The map accompanying the grant is of great interest, for it indicates that at that date the land was being granted south of what is now highway 2A. On one hand, it seems more likely that the depression encountered with McKay (south of the highway)
is a trace of the grants made at that time. On the other hand, it should shed more light on the pattern of settlement and explain other depressions that would be located in the future farther inland. McKay's neighbour, Bert Vanvulpen, was also interviewed but had no information to give.

The north shore of the Nappan river was also explored. The best informant in that area is Mr. Lawson Smith. He is 68 years old, but despite his knowledge of local history, he was unable to guide me to traces of Acadian occupation or even locate the original site of the village. Lawson only knew of a stone "with strange markings" found more than 40 years ago on the "Smith farm", now property of Ivan Ripley. That land is now under cultivation. Ripley knew nothing about Lawson's story.

Having explored the north end of Nappan, I then enquired to the south. Close to the Nappan-Maccan limits, there are pleasant rises of ground close to the river which form a most excellent village site. An informant living in the vicinity, Charles Fullerton, spoke of depressions and a cemetery being there in 1919 when he moved in the area. Nevertheless, I later learned that there had been a good deal of naval construction in the area at the end of the 18th century. A good number of Acadians who were employed there had their houses on these high grounds. This might also explain other depressions located in line with the Fullerton farm, but farther inland close to Eric T. Goring's property. While interviewing Goring, I learned that a traditional site for the early Acadian settlement of Nampanne
was French Hill. This piece of information had been transmitted to him by an elder, now deceased, Frank Roach. This area is now occupied by the Experimental farm.

I spoke to the superintendent at the farm, T. M. McIntyre. The farm records go back to 1887. McIntyre went through them but found no mention of cellars being filled up, or of anything significant being turned up by plowing. Without anything more precise than a deceased man's testimony, it seems rather difficult to determine what could be a good site to test on the farm grounds. In any case, the fields have been under extensive cultivation for so long that it seems rather hopeless to find any traces within the limits of the experimental farm. Despite extensive interviewing and investigation of the whole area, nothing significant was uncovered in the Nappan area. It is very easy to see that the ground had been greatly disturbed since 1755. Some new clue would have to be found regarding traces of the settlement before we can hope to obtain any results.

**OUESKAK**

**Established:** Unknown. The settlement was started in 1731 *(Hale, 1906: 232ss)*

**Destroyed:** 1755

**Importance:**
In 1754 there were 64 inhabitants *(Recensement, APC, MG 18, F 12, I: 120-152).* More than 100 buildings were burned there in 1755 *(Abijah Willard, Coll. NBHS, 13: 62).* A mill might have stood there in 1750 *(La Valiere, RAC, 1905 II: 391).*

*The name of this village varies from one map to the other: Vesckack, Weskak, etc. This spelling has been chosen to distinguish the site from Veschkok (Amherst Point).
Boundaries:
On lower grounds than present Westcock, but same area.

Traces:

According to Milner, traces of the early settlement were still visible in the 1880's (Milner, 1934: 29). During the summer of 1967, traces of historical occupation were located, but none of them proved to be remains of the original Acadian village.

It seems that the most probable site for the village would have been the terraces along the slopes which dominate the Westcox marsh. The fields are still cultivated, as they have been for decades. Furthermore, at one time the Sackville area was busy with shipbuilding, and the Westcox area was more populated than today. Thus, since the expulsion of the Acadians and the arrival of British settlers, there has been a great disturbance of the village site.

There are a number of ruins in the area but it was relatively easy to establish their origins. For example, there are a great number of depressions near GR 939802. These mark the site of the Botsford residence built around 1793 and later transformed into a hospital. There are other depressions east of these ruins, but it could be determined that houses stood there at the end of the 19th century. There is one site that could still be investigated in the area of Westcox. According to Professor Machum from Mount Allison University, there is a depression of unknown origin on the Stallworthy property. I was unable to locate it myself, nor was I able to meet Stallworthy.

The only area that might be worth testing, though no
physical traces of historical occupation were seen, is the field that extends along the 50 foot contour line, close to the Fisher property at GR 937804. In 1967, the field was not under cultivation.

PONT A BUOT

Established: Houses could have stood there around 1686 (De Meulles, 1686).

Destroyed: 1755

Importance: In 1751, the French constructed a blockhouse there to protect the crossing of the Missaguash river. Besides this blockhouse, another building appears there on Franquet's map, along what he calls "la riviere a l'ours", a creek tributary of the Missaguash. In 1752, a census raises the population to 5 settlers and 92 refugees (Gaudet, RAC, 1905, II: xv).

Boundaries: Three miles from Fort Beausejour (Thomas, 1937: 29). Three miles from Fort Lawrence (Winslow, Coll. NSHS, 1884: 146).

The traditional site is at present Point de Bute.

Traces: On the basis of historical maps it might be possible to locate Pont a Buot south of the village of Point de Bute, close to GR 033820. The slopes of Cumberland Ridge at that point are gentle and would have made possible the crossing of the river which marked the location of the village. This area, along with the traditional site, was visited. No traces of historical occupation which could be linked to the Acadian site were found.

No area could be singled out as a possible testing area, with the possible exception of a mound on Guy Dixon's property. It is located about 1,000 yards from the river, while the original French blockhouse was approximately 650 yards from the river. Considering Dixon's willingness to cooperate, there would be no problem testing the site.
PRES DES BOURGS

Established: The settlement already existed in 1746 (Coll. de Documents Inédits, II: ).

Destroyed: 1755

Importance:
In 1754, it had a population of 50, 10 of which were males; 39 refugees, 6 of which were males (Recensement, APC, MG 18, F 12, I: 120-152).

Boundaries:
Along the Tintamarre River, 4 miles north of Oueskak (Abijah Willard, Coll. NBHS, 13: 63). One map situates it west of a lake that can only be Morice Lake (Map of that part... 1756). A French map indicates the settlement close to what is now the Sackville business centre (Plan de l'isthme... 1752). Ganong, using Milner as his reference, places the settlement near Morice's brook (Ganong, 1899: 281). The local historical society considers, however, the Sackville business center as the more probable site of this settlement.

Traces:
No traces were located. The area is almost completely inhabited.

PRES DES RICHARDS

Established: Unknown

Destroyed: 1755

Importance:
It might have been an extension of Pres des Bourgs, though it appears as a distinct settlement in censuses of the 1750's. In 1754 the population numbers 31 inhabitants, 6 of which are males.

Boundaries:
According to a 1756 map, Morrice Lake could at one time have formed two distinct water sheets. Pres des Richards would have been wedged in between them (A map of that part... 1756).

Webster locates the settlement near Morice Lake.

Traces:
Earnest Esterbrooks, now 95 years old, was the only informant located. He found in his garden fieldstones which formed the outline of a house. His farm, however, is closer to the Tintamarre site. Professor Machum of Mount
Allison University was interviewed but no new evidence of the settlement turned up. The area is almost completely inhabited.

Riviere des HEBERTS (or des Mines)

Established: Area might have been settled at beginning of 18th century. A map drawn at that time indicates land south of the La Planche river as settled (A Description of the Bay of Fundy, by More, 1711, 1712). In 1749, the east bank of that river was settled (Plan, 1749 -Shirley to Board of Trade).

Destroyed: The village was abandoned in 1750, but houses still appear on a plan of 1755 (Draught of the Isthmus, Tonge, 1755).

Importance:
In 1750, 112 refugees crossed over into French territory: 20 were males (Franquet, RAPQ, 1924: 124). Approximately 13 buildings appear on a 1752 plan (Plan 1752 tiroir 58-47).

Boundaries:
Situated on the east bank of River Hebert (Plan, 1749 -Shirley to Board of Trade; Draught of the Isthmus, Tonge, 1755). Facing Minoudy (Plan,, 1749). Settlement seemed to form two main concentrations of buildings (Draught of the Isthmus; Plan 1752, tiroir 58-47)

Traces:
No traces of this settlement were found while exploring the area. The informants were the same as those used for Maccan and Minudie. Nothing was known of the original Acadian settlement.

SHEMOGUE

Established: Unknown

Destroyed: Unknown

Importance:
37 refugees were established there in 1754 (Recensement, APC MG 18, F 12, I: 120-152). It could very well have only been a camp for transients going from the isthmus to Ile St-Jean. Acadians returned to the area after 1755.

Traces:
The areas around GR 0911 was looked over. I circled
the woods but did not enter them. According to a student (Regis Brun) employed as a guide at Fort Beausejour, there are ruins in that vicinity. I did not locate any, and was not able during the rest of the summer to return to the site with Brun. Due to the little evidence we have of a settlement in that area, further investigation does not seem necessary unless new evidence turns up.

TINTAMARRE

Established: Unknown. Settlers were there by 1735 (Birth certificate of Pierre Beliveau, Gaudet, RAC, 1905, II: 47).

Destroyed: 1755

Importance:
In 1751, Franquet referred to it as a large village (Franquet, RAPQ, 1924: 127). About 184 persons lived there in 1754, besides 54 refugees (Recensement, APC, MG 18, F 12, I: 120-152). A church appears there on one plan (Plan de l'isthme..., 1752).

Traces:
According to historical tradition, the site of the French cemetery at Tintamarre is on Albert A. Wheaton's farm at GR 958874. The village would have been stretched out between the river and Morice Lake. The site of an old Baptist church can still be seen, next to Wheaton's farm. That is where the French church stood, according to local tradition. Nevertheless, when interviewed, Wheaton stated that he never found anything on his property to justify the tradition.

On June 14, I met Ernest Esterbrook, now 95 years old. He added little new information concerning the traditional site for Tintamarre. The only possible trace of early occupation in the area he ever found were field stones forming the outline of a house foundation, while working
his garden. His house is situated at GR 952868.

The whole area of the Tintamarre site has been agriculturally disturbed for some years. It is now almost totally under cultivation. The next step in the investigation of Tintamarre would be to move farther up along the river, following the hypothesis that the settlement extended farther inland than the traditional site. As a matter of fact, I should point out that all did not agree on the traditional site for the church. Professor Machum of Mount Allison University spoke of the rumor that there once was a French church farther inland at GR 956877. I visited the site, but saw no irregularities in the terrain.

VESCHTOCK

Established: Buildings appear on the De Meulles map of 1686.

Destroyed: The village was abandoned in 1750. Buildings still show on a 1755 map (Draught of the Isthmus, Tonge, 1755).

Importance:
In 1750, 115 refugees crossed over into French territory (Franquet, RAPQ, 1924: 128). A mill appears there on one map (Draught of the Isthmus, 1755, Tonge).

Traces:
I began by inspecting the grounds close to Layton's Lake. Investigation of Vechkok village proved to be difficult. The majority of people now living in that area have moved there recently. The older residents interviewed knew nothing about the Acadian village that once stood there. I therefore had to rely on historical maps that were not that accurate.

According to the Tonge map, which was drawn four years after the village had been abandoned, the area from present Amherst Point to Blair Lake had to be investigated. I also
had to locate a mill site somewhere in the flatlands. The lake area is dominated by a rise of ground, above the 50 foot contour line. This rise is an open field, with a few pines growing. I located an old stone wall in a patch of woods near GR 022719. The mortar and the uneven coursed stone suggest, however, a post-1755 occupation. A good part of the open fields are overgrown with tall grass which made inspection difficult. Search was negative just as it was in the woods around the lake. The fields that gently slope down towards Cumberland Basin were inspected, but nothing turned up except traces of recent occupation. The area seems to have been agriculturally disturbed for a great number of years.

The lowlands were inspected to find traces of the mill site. There is a gentle rise of ground near GR 005699 which looked like a probable site for the mill. Depressions were found there. On June 26, I interviewed Mr. Aubrey Forest regarding these depressions. The rise is called Bliss Island. Depressions indicate residences of a Brown and a Bliss family who lived there more than a century ago. Inspection of grounds showed that besides the two deeper depressions, there were other irregularities that might be investigated. About 125 ft. from the deeper pit (more than 6 ft. deep) there is a small hollow with an adjoining mound which Forest could not explain. Forest showed me an old millstone on his farm which is at GR 011708. He had to use a shovel to reach it, since it is now more than 1 foot below surface. According to Forest, it marks the site of an old mill that stood at the end of the 18th century. Records of
the historical significance of this stone are said to be kept in the Amherst Baptist church records, after having been recorded by Rev. Steele c. 1910. There is the remote possibility that this would be the French mill site, yet there is no way of knowing whether the stone was carried there, or whether it indicates the remains of a mill. Testing could be tried, though the ground at that place is extremely soggy. This millstone remains the only significant trace of real occupation I was able to record in the area.
The Acadian field survey on the Isthmus of Chignecto determined that there were few physical traces left of these early settlements. Much of the information gathered proved to be negative. Nevertheless, a great deal was accomplished: a site survey method was tested and precious experience for future projects of this kind was gained; data gained from regional historians was assessed illustrating the validity of such data for future reference; certain areas were singled out for future excavation while others were eliminated.

It was evident from the outset of the project that insufficient research preceded the field work. Researchers are not to blame; insufficient time was allowed to prepare the summer survey. The historical report should have been completed prior to the project. The excellent weekly and sometimes daily contact between the Ottawa research staff and the field group could not be a substitute for prior research. What is involved here is planification. If we are to take the Acadian project seriously we should draw a time-table concerning research prior to field investigation. Otherwise, the project should be cancelled and the efforts of everyone directed elsewhere.

Interviewing proved to be an important aspect of the project. Much of the time was spent locating informants and interviewing them. As it turned out, much of the information proved to be useless. A number of informants could not be located. Some were suspicious while others, though willing to cooperate, were unable to free themselves from
their work at the time I visited them. Whenever I located a good informant, I discovered that he was either extremely interested in local history or that he had been a resident of the area for generations. Despite the time spent in the area, I was unable to meet everyone I intended to meet, nor did I locate all the people interested in local history.

It should be possible to remedy some of these problems. Prior to the field survey, lists of informants could be established. Each area has its local historical society capable of producing such a list. It is even conceivable that the ground-work of establishing contact with individuals and locating areas or cellars worth investigating, be made by members of local historical societies. In October 1968, I met Mr. Richard Wilbur of the New Brunswick Historical Association. We agreed on the appropriateness for local historical societies to forward data concerning archeological sites to the Research Division of National Historic Sites Service. Arousing local concern may let loose a number of pot hunters on the countryside, but it may also protect these sites from amateurish excavation by bringing these sites to our attention.

A most important aspect of any survey consists of establishing contact with proprietors of future excavation areas. These contacts should be maintained following the site survey. People willing to cooperate could be put on mailing lists for greeting cards and receive some sort of official recognition for their cooperation. The alternative to this informal agreement to excavate is long and costly legal arrangements involving compensation. Despite these
informal agreements, the problem of compensation and artifact disposal should be considered. The problem is acute in the cases of areas that are under cultivation during most of the excavation season. In every case, the Division should maintain contact with the proprietors of archeological sites since the individual conducting the survey may well not be the one doing the excavation.

Ground inspection remains an essential part of site surveying. It is often considered to be the most important part of the survey. This is not entirely true when dealing with a settled area, but still a good amount of territory has to be covered. Ideally all of the territory should be covered. Actually only part of the territory is visited. Time is an important factor. Multiplying the number of surveyors may somewhat improve the situation, especially in wooded areas. Nevertheless, the main problem lies elsewhere. It lies in the fact that the ground can only be examined during a brief period that lies between the thaw and the growing season. Remains of Acadian settlements may well only be small mounds in open fields or negligible hollows inside the woods. Once a field is under cultivation, tall grasses have begun to grow, or once a forest is thick with undergrowth, no serious work can be accomplished.

A better knowledge of the area beforehand will of course enable the surveyor to spend the brief period he has in a most useful way. Once more it is evident to what extent the preparation of a project plays an important role. Observation from the air, though, remains in my opinion the better way to cover an extensive area and close
the time gap. The cost of such a venture may prove to be an obstacle, but the Division should try reaching some form of agreement with a government agency concerning the use of an aircraft, preferably a helicopter, for a few days. Air observation may not eliminate altogether ground inspection, but it will facilitate it a great deal. It is also the only way to cover a vast area in a short time.

The area visited had been studied before by regional historians. Ganong and Milner visited the area at the turn of the century; Webster and Bird in the 1930's. Little information was gathered which could seriously challenge their location of settlements. Unfortunately they often located sites in very vague terms: for example "at the crossroads" or "south part of Tonge's Island". More information is evidently needed for an archeological project: do the crossroads still exist? Are there trees on the island? etc, etc,... Furthermore it was impossible in most cases to verify their general descriptions of sites because their informants had died. A good number of the people interviewed had read their works, making it difficult to determine what information came from local tradition and what came from reading regional historians!

The statements of these historians regarding physical traces of Acadian settlements in the 20th century is even more difficult to verify. As a matter of fact, the most important reason for revisiting the area was that the landscape had changed since their visit to the area. New highways have been built, fields have been tilled, and cellars filled.
Traces of early historical occupation may have existed in the area as late as the 1930's. Unfortunately few notes were located describing in detail these historians' surveys of the area, or their reasons for identifying certain cellars as Acadian. Cursory archeology may have turned up artifacts, but no written account of any work of this kind was found. With so little to rely on, it is difficult to assess the validity of their testimony. The house pits may have been there, but who was to identify them Acadian? Informants are known to miss-date sites. For that precise reason, throughout my survey I always verified informants' statements and at all times used the words "possible Acadian site" pending testing.

Lack of proper references, missing informants, and lack of proper historical documents make it difficult to verify or agree entirely with studies made on the Isthmus of Chignecto regarding traces of Acadian settlements. One final observation may be made about the work of regional historians. Whenever regional historians have shown some interest in an area, the people interviewed were more receptive and understanding regarding the survey. There was a noticeable difference between the people living close to Fort Beausejour, Fort Lawrence, the Chignecto Dry Dock, or Baie Verte, than those living elsewhere around Westcox, Upper Sackville, or in the Amherst area.

The site survey has managed to single out areas more proper than others to conduct archeological excavation. Some house pits were located which were designated as possible Acadian sites. Among the more promising ones, the
majority are inside the woods: three near Fort Beausejour, 6E6A, 6E6B, 6E6C; two near Jolicure, 6E3A, 6E4A; and one close to Point de Bute, 6E4G; two are in open fields, 6E4B, near Point de Bute and 6B8A, near Maccan. Except the house pit near Maccan, all are in the province of New Brunswick, within a few miles of Fort Beausejour National Historic Park.

One of the obstacles of excavation is that most of the house pits are inside the woods. Distances have to be covered by the excavation groups to reach the sites. Bushes and trees must be cleared. Furthermore, the forests of the area, bordered by marshlands, are infested by mosquitoes. The situation I have just described is probably no different, and possibly better, than that prevailing in many excavation areas. Nevertheless, one must remember that all these house pits have only been considered as "possible" Acadian sites. In other words, only testing can be conclusive, but can we carry on a major excavation project simply to test a number of depressions located in "hostile" areas?

In my opinion the answer should be negative. Testing of these house pits could be part of a project that would include more area than the Isthmus. It could be handled, either by a small group operating from another major site in the vicinity, such as was done in 1967 and 1968, or by an excavation team covering a vast part of the Maritime region with the sole purpose of testing sites. Otherwise, the house pits can only be considered as a secondary objective when viewing the archeological possibilities of the Isthmus.

Following research and interviewing in 1967, and preliminary excavation in 1968, I found that well-defined
areas offered more possibilities for future excavation projects than house pits few in number and scattered across a territory. None of these areas show physical traces of Acadian occupation, but local tradition seems to agree with research when relating them to early historical occupation.

There are 4 areas concerned: the rise south of the railroad track at Fort Lawrence (site of Beaubassin); the open spaces north of Fort Beausejour (site of Beausejour); south part of Tonge's Island (site of Valliere's seigneury), and the rise, southwest of Jolicure ridge, close to the Chignecto Dry Dock, and on the John Carter property (site of La Coupe).

In each case we have permission to excavate. Access is easy and there is no heavy vegetation cover. The most important settlements of the Acadian period are represented. Testing was started in Beaubassin in 1968. At the end of the summer some Acadian buildings were located.

The site survey has shown that unless new information turned up, a number of settlements cannot hope to be excavated, Tintamarre and Baie Verte to mention but these two. Except for Beaubassin, none of those on the Nova Scotia side of the border could be located. Minudie is a special case. Because of the return of the Acadiens in the area after 1760, it will always be difficult to distinguish the pre-1755 site from the more recent one. Excavators may enjoy the technical and theoretical problems presented, but I feel that when viewing the total archeological possibilities of the area, Minudie can only be viewed as a secondary
objective, unless of course, the scope of the project was broadened to include post-1755 occupation. It should be remembered, however, that permission to excavate at Minudie was not obtained.

At the end of the summer of 1967, a number of sites along the Memeramcook and Petitkodiac Rivers were visited. Less research has been done on these settlements than on those along the Isthmus. The most interesting aspect of this area is that Acadians still settle a good part of it, thus offering more ethnohistorical possibilities than the Isthmus. The south bank of the Petitkodiac river is less settled today than the north bank. It should be revisited. The Acadian population, however, is now concentrated along the Memeramcook. Vital Gaudet, postmaster at St-Joseph de Memeramcook is a good informant to locate if any research group visits the area.

The Isthmus of Chignecto survey has demonstrated that though there are few physical traces of Acadian settlements, some promising areas could be excavated. A certain amount of knowledge has been accumulated which would facilitate the excavation. Certain obstacles remain which should be dealt with prior to any excavation project.

The fields of Beaubassin and Vallière's Island are under cultivation during part of the excavation season. Except for Beausejour, all the sites are on private property. All are fields which have been under cultivation in the recent years, with few prominent features to guide the excavator. The result might well be long periods of fruitless search.
The choice of the Isthmus of Chignecto for a site survey in 1967 was partly motivated by the presence of a major archaeological project at Fort Beausejour. Before choosing the Isthmus as a major Acadian settlement excavation project, other Acadian village sites should also be considered. The site survey of 1967 led to the preliminary excavation of Beaubassin, which increased our knowledge of Acadian material culture. Before returning to the Isthmus, the archeological possibilities of Grand Pré and Port Royal should be considered. The latter is certainly the more important in a historical perspective. As was mentioned in the Preface of the report, the Acadian sites surveyed were the products of a culture which extended beyond the geographical confines of the Isthmus of Chignecto.
APPENDIX

LIST OF INFORMANTS

Beck, William
He has been in the area for over 40 years and holds most of his knowledge from an older resident now deceased, Aaron Finley. Beck lives in a farmhouse outside Jolicure, N.B. (at GR 041874). He was once employed at Fort Beausejour by archaeologist John H. Rick.

Brown, William
He has lived on Valliere's Island for more than 70 years. He is also familiar with Regional history. Present address: Brookdale, R.R. #3, Amherst, N.S.

Brun, Regis
Student, is not a resident of the area. Nevertheless, he is familiar with Minudie. Brun was at one time employed by the Moncton University archives; he travelled extensively for that institution which is also responsible for a small museum. He has also come in contact with a number of individuals at the local and regional level who might be useful in our projects. He can be reached, C/O Moncton University.

Burke, Harry
An Antiquarian, now living in Joggins, N.S. Extremely familiar with regional history and in close contact with all the residents of the area.

Carter, Garnett
A resident for many years on the farm north of Fort Beausejour and now part of Fort Beausejour National Historic Park. Carter has in his possession artifacts he claims to have found on this property while tilling the soil. He now lives on a farm, on highway 16, near Jolicure, N.B.

Carter, Harry
He is now 89 years old, familiar with the Point de Bute - Jolicure area history, but has a slight hearing problem. In 1967 he was living at Point de Bute, but expecting to move to Sackville.

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1. This list is incomplete, but it does present the more important informants. Data, such as age, address, etc., is given for the year 1967.
Coates, Ernest

This Amherst area genealogist was not particularly helpful. Nevertheless, he is well known by those interested in local history. He is certainly a good contact. Address: Fenwick, N.S.

Esterbrooks, Ernest

A very useful informant, possibly one of the few that Ganong and Webster would have interviewed; age, 95 years old. Lives in Upper Sackville (GR 011708).

Frieman, Walter

Not a very useful informant for my project, but was referred to by a number of people as being interested in local history. His residence is in East Amherst, N.S.

Goodwin, V. E.

He is extremely well informed on the history of Baie Verte. Now 60 years old, he owns the general store as you enter the village of Baie Verte, driving from Aulac.

Goring, Eric T. (Mrs.)

I did not get much information from Mrs. Goring concerning Nappan, of which she is a resident. Nevertheless she is active in local organization, and consequently a good contact.

Landel, Roy

An interesting person to meet in the River Hebert area. He is very interested in local history and knows a number of people in the area. Landel lives in a small house at Lower River Hebert.

Lowther, Anna (Miss)

She is very well informed about the history of Nappan, of which she has been a resident for many years. Her residence is on Fenwick road, near Nappan (GR 046687).

Machum, Lloyd A. (Professor)

Author of a history of Moncton, he lectures at Mount Allison University. Professor Machum is also very involved in regional history and should be contacted if any work is done in the area.

McBeth, James

This farm hand at Minudie should be reached if any work is done in this area. He has done much hunting in the woods around Minudie, and knows of the existence of house pits there.
McIntyre, T. M. Superintendent at the Nappan experimental farm. He is very helpful, and remains a good contact if any work has to be done on the grounds of the experimental farm.

McKay, Howard A resident of Nappan, he is interested in local history.

Melancon (see Theriault)

Seaman, Charles An elderly resident of the Maccan area, along the road between River Hebert and Maccan. Many people referred me to him, but I was never able to get in touch with him.

Siddal, Murray Lived near Fort Beausejour for more than 70 years. He is now residing at Aulac, N.B.

Smith, Lawson He is 60 years old and very familiar with Amherst Point and Nappan area history. However, he is almost deaf, though communication with him is still possible (if he hears you knocking on his door). Lives on the north shore of the Nappan River (GR 053709).

Theriault, James His father, now deceased, was a descendant of those Acadians who returned to Minudie. Though culturally assimilated, Theriault remains a good contact concerning Minudie. Address: 40 Copp St., Amherst, N.S. His sister, Mrs. Fred Melancon, has a number of historical documents in her possession, some of which come from her father. She is a resident of Amherst Point.

Trenholm, Aubrey He is the proprietor of the land where Beaubassin may well be situated. His wife is a schoolteacher, active in local organizations, and interested in regional history. Their cooperation is essential and valuable, for any work in the area. They live on the site of Fort Lawrence.

Trueman, Howard There are three possible Acadian sites on his property. His father was one of Ganong's informants, and the Truemans are one of the oldest families of the area. He has a farm near Point de Bute (GR 925839).
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Fig. 5  Map of Baie Verte area. (Energy, Mines and Resources.)
Fig. 6 Map of Beausejour and Beaubassin Area. (Nova Scotia-New Brunswick Border).

(Energy, Mines and Resources.)
Fig. 7 Map of Queskak (Westcox) Area.

(Energy, Mines and Resources.)
Fig. 8 Map of Point de Bute and Jolicure Area.

(Energy, Mines and Resources.)
Fig. 9 Map of Maccan, Nappan, Amherst Area. (Energy, Mines and Resources.)
Fig. 10 Map of Menoudy Area. *(Energy, Mines and Resources.)*
Fig. 11 Map of Tintamarre (Sackville) Area.

(Energy, Mines and Resources.)
Fig. 12 (top): 6E-23 X. 6E6A. View looking south; 6' scale.
15.8.67

Fig. 12 (bottom): 6E-24 X. 6E6B. View looking south; 6' scale
15.8.67.
Fig. 13 (top): 6E-19 X. 6E3A. View looking east; 3' scale. 15.8.67.

Fig. 13 (bottom): 6E-17 X. 6E4B. View looking west. Stone feature on left. 6' scale. 14.8.67.
Fig. 14 (top): 6B-2 m. 6B8A. Camera facing east. 6’ scale. 18.8.67.

Fig. 14 (bottom): 6B-3 m. 6B8A. Area shot facing north. No scale. 18.8.67.
Report on the 1972 Excavation of Two Acadian Houses at Grand Pré National Historic Park, Nova Scotia by E. Frank Korvemaker
by E. Frank Korvemaker

vii Preface

1 Acadian Houses

1 Introduction

3 House 1 (Operation 8B5)

3 Structural Review

7 Stratigraphic Review

11 House 2 (Operation 8B6)

11 Structural Review

14 Stratigraphic Review

18 Unidentified Building

18 Introduction

18 Unidentified Building (Sub Operation 8B5H)

18 Structural Review

20 Stratigraphic Review

23 Summary, Conclusion, Recommendations

23 Summary

24 Conclusions

27 Recommendations

30 Site Survey Report

30 Introduction

31 Grand Pré National Historic Park Sites

35 Grand Pré Region Sites

36 Operation 8B1

36 Operation 8B2
Illustrations

54 1 Aerial view of Grand Pré National Historic Park, Nova Scotia.
55 2 Location plan of Grand Pré National Historic Park, Nova Scotia.
56 3 Plan of the 1972 Archaeological excavation at Grand Pré National Historic Park.
57 4 Post-excavation view of Acadian House No. 1
59 5 Excavation plan of Acadian House No. 1.
60 6 View of east cellar slope.
60 7 View of wood at base of cellar.
61 8 View of stone hearth foundation.
63 9 North-south stratigraphic profile through Acadian House No. 1.
65 10 East-west stratigraphic profile through Acadian House No. 1.
66 11 Post-excavation view of Acadian House No. 2
68 12 Excavation plan of Acadian House No. 2.
70 13 View of cellar in Acadian House No. 2.
70 14 View of wood along west cellar wall.
71 15 View of drain with flagstone covering.
71 16 View of drain after partial removal of flagstone.
72 17 View of small trench in sub-operation 8B6L.
75 18 East-west stratigraphic profile through Acadian House No. 2.
76 19 East-west stratigraphic profile through drain trench.
77 20 North-south stratigraphic profile along west wall of sub-operation 8B6L.
78 21 View of south stone wall.
79 22 North-south stratigraphic profile along west wall of sub-operation 8B5H.
80 23 North-south stratigraphic profile along east wall of sub-operation 8B5H.
81 24 Plan of the Minas Basin showing locations of site surveys in Grand Pré, New Minas and the Gaspereau Valley.
82 25 Projected location of Winsiow's Camp and Acadian Roads at Grand Pré.
83 26 Location Plan for possible Acadian features in Grand Pré National Historic Park.
84 27 Location of cellars and trenches excavated in 1956.
85 28 Location plan of possible building sites south of Grand Pré National Historic Park.
86 29 Location and section plan of operation 8B1.
87 30 Plan and section view of operation 8B3 and plan of operation 8B4.
88 31 Location plan for possible Acadian Building Sites in New Minas.
89 32 Plan of wooden culvert in the Grand Pré marsh at low tide.
90 33 North face of wooden culvert, with upper mud and branch coverings and lower stone foundations.
91 34 Plan view of dyke and features at base of creek; plus a typical reconstructed section through dyke (A-B; and a section through the creek (X-V).
Section through creek at Curry Brook. Site showing wood culvert and logs.
Preface

The second in a series of Acadian settlement sites excavations was conducted by the National Historic Sites Service from June 1 to August 15, 1972, at Grand Pré National Historic Park, Nova Scotia. Two buildings were investigated during this period, and both proved to be of Acadian origin, dating between 1680 and 1755.

Miss Patricia MacDonald assisted in the overall direction of the excavation and supervised the excavation of one of the two Acadian houses. Ken Robinson was responsible for the surveying and field drawings required during the course of the project and also helped with the actual excavation. The major work was done by the crew, which consisted of students from Acadia University: Mary Lou Balcome, Linda Eagles, Gail Fuller, Cathy McCormick, Mike Boyd, Gary Campbell, Dan Davidson, Paul Fevens, Lyle Langpap, Andy Nickerson, Jim Tillotson.

Mr. Gordon Leblanc, Superintendent of Grand Pré National Historic Park, was most co-operative throughout the excavation season, as was Mr. Hovell of the Canada Manpower Centre at Acadia University, who assisted in obtaining the crew and provided the use of the Centre's facilities during
the season.

To all of the above I would like to express my gratitude, and to my wife Toni go special thanks for her secretarial services and understanding.

E. Frank Korvemaker
Acadian Houses

Introduction

The two building foundations excavated at Grand Pré National Historic Park are located on top of a level rise at the base of the Wolfville Ridge, next to the marshland (Figs. 1, 2). One building site (operation 8B5) is located at the edge of this rise, while the other (operation 8B6) is located about 60 ft. south of the edge (Fig. 3).

A certain amount of pre-excavation evidence indicated that some sort of structural remains would probably be uncovered in two specific areas. Operation 8B5 was set up to investigate a pronounced depression and adjacent mound, where a number of large stones were visible. This marks the site of Acadian house 1.

Acadian house 2 is situated about 275 ft. southwest of the former house. The site of this house (operation 8B6) was marked by a slight depression surrounded by a similarly slight ridge. No stones were visible in this area; however, the size of the depression corresponded to the possible diameter of a small house cellar. A third depression which is slightly smaller than the one at house 2, is located directly southwest of this house. It may indicate the
location of another building site, and has been designated operation 8B7. However no excavation was attempted of this latter operation.

Excavation of both house sites revealed the presence of a cellar surrounded by traces of charred wood fragments, charcoal and ashes. These traces appear to constitute the total structural remains of the original superstructures—presumably wooden houses. A stone foundation (which probably formed a fireplace) was found adjacent to the cellar in house 1, while some wood fragments found in the cellar may indicate the original cellar floor. No evidence of a cellar floor was found in Acadian house 2, however, a stone drain was uncovered leading northward from the cellar.

In addition, a stone foundation, apparently consisting of several stone walls, was found directly east of the cellar in house 1. This feature does not appear to be directly related to the main building found in operation 8B5, and will be reported on separately.
Acadian House 1 (Operation 8B5)

Excavation of this building revealed the existence of a small cellar, a stone foundation, and a variety of charcoal traces (Figs. 4,5). No conclusive evidence of any exterior walls was uncovered, hence the size of this building remains speculative at this time. Since complete excavation of this building was not accomplished, final data on certain aspects of this structure must be delayed until further excavation of the site is conducted.

Structural Review
The major feature of Acadian house 1 is the cellar, which was constructed with sloping earthen sides—a technique apparently used to avoid the construction of retaining walls. This slope was only exposed along the east wall of the cellar, where it varied between 55 and 70 degrees (Fig. 6). The cellar is estimated to be square, with sides about 15 ft. long.

At the base of excavations in 1972 (25.0 ft. ASL), a variety of wood plank and possible beam remains was uncovered (Fig. 7). Some of this wood was oriented parallel to the south wall of the cellar, while other remains lay parallel to the east wall. The wood in the eastern half of the cellar was predominantly parallel to the east cellar wall, and
apparently consists of 5 floor boards, varying in width between 0.2 and 0.85 ft. These wood remains are located between 25.11 and 25.39 ft. ASL and extend westward for 3.3 ft. from the east cellar edge. The fragmented remains at the west end of this section of wood flooring lie slightly askew to the other boards, suggesting collapse. However, fragments of two possible beams slightly further west, near the centre of the cellar, again lie parallel to the east wall, while the remaining wood fragments in the western portion of the cellar (comprising 5 floor boards) lie perpendicular to these remains, at 25.05 ft. ASL.

The length of the possible planks in the eastern half of the cellar is unknown, since they apparently extend into both sides of the 5 ft. wide trench in which they were found. The wood in the western portion of the cellar begins near the estimated centre of the cellar, and continues westward below several fill layers covering the west cellar wall. The planks are estimated to vary in width between 0.3 ft and 0.5 ft., while the beams vary between 0.2 ft. and 0.4 ft. A miscellaneous wood fragment 2.5 ft. long, 0.15 ft. wide and 0.1 ft. thick lies across the wood flooring in the east section of the cellar, and apparently constitutes collapsed rubble.

Excavation of the wood remains in the cellar was limited to the removal of only one of several fill layers apparently covering the cellar floor. There is evidence to suggest that this wood extends further west below a layer of sand,
while along the east wall some wood boards appear to extend into the east cellar slope.

Covering the wood was a layer of reddish-brown clay, mixed with charcoal traces and a few artifacts apparently of French origin. These included fragments of green glaze earthenware, clay pipes, and yellow, soft paste earthenware with a thick white and blue glaze.

The somewhat irregular placement of the wood remains in the cellar could indicate that this is part of the collapsed superstructure, and that the base of the cellar is located further down. The excavation of somewhat similar cellars at the Roma settlement on Prince Edward Island revealed no evidence of any wood flooring, but did display greater evidence of burning than was found in this cellar (Korvèmaker 1971). Possibly such evidence -- a definite charcoal layer -- exists below the present wood remains; however, further excavation of the cellar is required to verify this hypothesis.

Adjacent to the assumed location of the west cellar wall, a stone formation made of large field stones was uncovered. This feature lacked any evidence of mortar bonding and, though only partially excavated, appeared to measure approximately 7.5 feet north-south by 8.2 feet east-west. The majority of this stone formation appears to form a relatively level surface having an average elevation of 28.8 ft. ASL. The stones in this portion of the feature varied in size between 0.7 ft. by 1.3 ft. and 1.3 ft. by 2.0 ft., with the occasional smaller
stone filling in gaps between the larger ones.

Along the south and west sides of this formation, a single row of stones forms a second course, creating the impression that the level surface is surrounded on two and possibly three sides by a stone wall (Fig. 8). This suggests the existence of a single, horseshoe-shaped fireplace with the opening towards the east. Further evidence for the identification of this feature as a hearth stems from the fact that there was a noticeable absence of rubble stone in the building site, suggesting that the original superstructure was a wooden building, probably belonging to an Acadian farmer. Since it is unlikely that any farm building other than a dwelling house would have a cellar under it, and since every dwelling house required a hearth of some sort, it seems reasonable to conclude that this stone formation formed the hearth for this building. In addition, the level of the hearth floor is approximately 0.7 ft. above the sterile soil on which the remainder of the house was constructed. This height is approximately equivalent to the assumed combined thickness of a floor joist covered by a wooden floor, and would be at a suitable height to form a hearth floor level with the main floor of the house. Hence, the identification of this feature as the hearth foundation seems reasonably well founded.

Since no positive evidence was found of the exterior wall locations, the exact limits for the remainder of the house
cannot be presented at this time. Charcoal traces found north, south, and west of the cellar do suggest that the building extended to a certain degree beyond the cellar limits, but exactly how much is unknown.

The charcoal traces west of the cellar appear to present the best evidence of any pattern; hence it is possible that this house was rectangular, with a cellar below the eastern portion of the building. These charcoal traces, though vague, suggest the presence of a floor joist or floor board oriented north-south, situated 11.0 ft. west of the hearth foundation. Throughout the remainder of the building site these charcoal traces are found in a basically random pattern, and hence no structural evidence can be derived from them.

**Stratigraphic Review**

The stratigraphy of Acadian house 1 is virtually negligible in all portions of this building except the cellar. This appears to be partly due to the lack of a stone house foundation within which differing strata could be deposited, and partly due to the disturbance of the occupation level of the site by later agricultural activity.

The house was apparently constructed on top of the yellowish-red subsoil which is located directly below the plow zone throughout this area (Fig. 9, layer 2). Evidence of an occupation layer has apparently been removed by plowing of the site following the destruction of the building by fire. Traces of charcoal were found throughout the lower portion of
the topsoil (layer 1), as were the majority of artifacts presumably associated with the original occupation of the house.

Traces of reddish-brown loamy clay were found throughout the area surrounding the cellar area. This layer was probably deposited around the building during the excavation of the cellar, since a clay of this basic type has been found to exist below the yellowish-red subsoil in other sections of this site. Its present random location could be explained as being a result of redistribution during subsequent plowing activities. This was especially noticeable in the areas north and south of the cellar, where a variety of clays were found. These were not completely excavated due to a lack of time, but should be removed during further excavation and compared with the subsoils of the site to verify this hypothesis. Such examination was difficult to do this season due to the rapid dehydration of the soil. In addition, these soils should be further examined to determine if a footer trench containing a drain is located north of the cellar—as was the case in Acadian house 2.

Within the cellar itself, a more defined stratigraphic pattern was observed, but the layers excavated this season were predominantly fill deposits purposefully placed in the cellar after the building was destroyed. At the anticipated base of the cellar, a layer of reddish-brown clay covered a fair portion of the wood remains (Fig. 10, layer 5). However,
this is only one of at least two layers of fill covering the wood boards, since much of the west and north sides of the cellar are covered by a further layer of reddish-brown sand, which extends below the clay deposits mentioned above.

The clay layer contained a small amount of French artifacts, most of which were retrieved at or near the wood level, suggesting that this may be the occupation level of the cellar floor. Mixed within this layer was a deposit of small field stones, followed by another layer of soil fill, yellowish-red loamy sand (layer 2). In the centre of this layer, a further deposit of large field stones was found. These were apparently deposited within recent times, as a large quantity of 20th century trash was found among the stones.

The final layer of fill in the cellar consists of a very dark brown loam (layer 1) and in places a deposit of grey marsh mud (layer 4). Both layers were apparently deposited within the last decade in an unsuccessful attempt to fill in the cellar and level off the terrain in this portion of the park.

In addition to these deposits, more noticeable traces of charcoal were found mixed in with the topsoil covering the hearth foundation (Fig. 10, layer 3). The presence of charcoal in this area is probably associated with the destruction of the building by fire rather than the actual use of the hearth, since such structures are generally kept
reasonably clean except when in use.

In summary, it would appear from the stratigraphic evidence, that the charred remains of the original building have all but disappeared as a result of later plowing; while a number of attempts were apparently made to fill in the cellar which was located below the building. The fact that no single deposit filled the cellar, as was the case in Acadian house 2, may be attributed to the fact that unlike the other house, Acadian house 1 was not as much in the way of general farming activities, being quite close to the edge of the slope.
Acadian House 2 (Operation 8B6)

Excavation of Acadian house 2 at Grand Pré revealed basically the same features found for Acadian house 1 (Fig. 11). A cellar with sloping sides was uncovered, as were a variety of charcoal traces around the cellar—attesting to the destruction of the building by fire (Fig. 12). Neither a stone fireplace foundation, nor a wood floor was exposed in this area, although further excavation of the cellar may reveal the existence of some sort of wood remains. An additional feature uncovered in this building which was not found in Acadian house 1 consists of a stone drain leading northward from the cellar.

Structural Review

The cellar for Acadian house 2 was only partially excavated, but appears to be square, measuring approximately 23 ft. east-west by 21 ft. north-south. Like the cellar in Acadian house 1, the sides slope inward to the base of the cellar at an angle of about 70 degrees (Fig. 13). Since the base of the cellar was not exposed before excavation ceased, its horizontal dimensions are estimated to be approximately 18 ft. on all sides. Excavation within the cellar was terminated at a minimum level of 28.56 ft. ASL.
Evidence of structural features within the cellar was found along the west cellar wall, where a single vertical wooden beam was uncovered (Fig. 14). The beam appears to lie against the slope of the cellar and to have been used as a support for the main floor of the house. This wood measured 0.6 ft wide by at least 1.3 ft. long, descending beyond the limit of excavation. The top of this wood beam was located at 31.6 ft. ASL.

Excavation north of the cellar, in sub-operation 8B6k, revealed the existence of a stone drain apparently leading away from the cellar towards the marsh (Fig. 15). The top of this drain was located at 4.05 ft. BS at the north end of the trench (28.55 ft. ASL) and at 4.25 ft. BS at the south end (28.75 ft. ASL). It is situated within a 2 ft. wide trench and constructed of small field stones covered by large, thin flagstones. The field stones vary in size between 1.0 ft by 0.78 by 0.7 ft. and 0.6 ft. by 0.3 ft. by 0.1 ft., while the flagstones average about 1.5 ft. by 0.9 ft. by 0.15 ft. The interior of the drain is between 0.4 ft. and 0.5 ft. wide by 0.5 ft. deep (Fig. 16) and was partially filled with a mud deposit. The base of the drain consists of compact sand, which descend gradually from 28.07 ft. ASL at the south end to 28.05 ft. ASL at the north limit of the trench, a drop of approximately 0.02 ft. over a distance of 6.0 ft.

Surrounding the cellar, various traces of charcoal were
uncovered, with a somewhat heavier concentration located west of the cellar. In that area, the charcoal was less randomly located, and appeared to form some sort of structural pattern in a few places.

One set of charcoal traces lies almost directly in line with the top of the north cellar wall, and measures 7.5 ft. long by 0.5 ft. wide. The west end of this stain is located 23 ft. west of the northwest corner of the cellar, and is assumed to extend an additional two feet west, where it presumably meets at right angles with a similar soil stain partially uncovered in sub-operation 8B6B. These charcoal stains are located at 32.3 ft. ASL, while the majority of the charcoal traces east and west of the cellar are located between 32.5 ft. and 33.0 ft. ASL.

From this somewhat meagre evidence, it is possible that the original house measured approximately 47 ft. in length and about 23 ft. in width, with the cellar located below the east half of the house. Alternately, it is possible that the heavier charcoal concentration indicated the major deposit of charred timber where the building collapsed, falling in a westerly direction. The lack of more substantial evidence of structural remains certainly would favor the latter speculation.

In addition to these major discoveries, three minor features were also uncovered on this building site. The first consists of a few large field stones found along the
west side of the cellar, which may indicate the location of the hearth. However, no recognizable pattern could be traced from the existing stones, and hence this interpretation is open to question.

The second feature constitutes a slight but noticeable depression located about 10 ft. east of the cellar, in sub-operations 8B6A and M. This depression is somewhat egg-shaped, and descends about 0.8 ft. below the surrounding yellowish-red subsoil. A few charcoal traces were found in this 9 ft. by 10 ft. depression, but no artifacts. Its function - if other than being an accidental configuration of the land - is unknown.

The final feature in this area consists of a small trench located along the west wall of sub-operation 8B6L (Fig. 17). Filled with greyish-brown marsh mud, this 4.6 ft. wide by 1.0 ft. deep trench apparently extends in an easterly direction below the rest of the trench for an indeterminate distance. Its function is unknown at this time, although it may be related to the drain trench uncovered in sub-operation 8B6K. The base of this trench is located at 31.05 ft. ASL; however, it could possibly descend further.

Stratigraphic Review

The stratigraphic pattern of Acadian house 2 is quite similar to that of house 1, particularly in the area surrounding the cellar. The soil from the original excavation of the cellar was apparently deposited east and west of this structure,
was evidenced by a fair quantity of sporadically located deposits of red clay in these areas. (Similar deposits are located east and west of the footer trench dug for construction of the stone drain.) This clay tends to be mixed in part with the yellowish-red sandy subsoil, as well as with traces of charcoal and some dark brown loam - an occurrence which can probably be attributed to the plowing of this area after the building was destroyed. Hence, the basic stratigraphy of the area outside the cellar consists of yellowish-red subsoil (Fig. 18, layer 2), covered by charcoal traces and a 0.8 ft. to 1.0 ft. thick topsoil (layer 1) - all of which are partly intermingled with red clay deposits.

The stratigraphy within the cellar is incomplete due to the partial excavation of this feature; however, several observations can be made. The basic fill deposit in the cellar consists of a vast quantity of large and small field stones, with the former generally located closer to the base of this layer (Fig. 18, layer 7). This layer would appear to constitute about 90 per cent of the fill deposited in the cellar - suggesting that a single major attempt was made to fill the cellar at some time. The virtual lack of artifacts in this layer makes it difficult to state when this fill was deposited.

Only one basic layer covers the stones - the 0.8 foot thick plowzone topsoil (layer 1), while at least two layers of fill appear to exist below the stones. A layer of reddish-
brown clay apparently covers the slope of both the east and west cellar walls (layer 4), while a layer of strong brown sandy loam covers the slope of the north wall. Along both the east and west cellar walls, some of the red clay removed during the original excavation of the cellar has fallen back along these two slopes (layer 4), while subsequent plowing also spread this layer partly over the stones at the east side of the cellar.

The stratigraphy of the footer trench wherein the stone drain was found indicates a basic single redeposition of the soil removed from the trench. However, in addition, a layer of brownish-gray sand mixed with some charcoal traces was found at the north end and near the base of this trench (Fig. 19, layer 3). This could indicate that some sort of hearth or compfire ashes were deposited in with the soil during backfilling operations. The soil within the drain itself consists of yellowish-red and reddish-brown mud (layers 5 and 6), and appears to constitute an on-going natural deposition of mud filtering down into the drain. Since it was last used (or even possibly since its construction), this drain has accumulated approximately 0.15 ft. of this mud.

A final note on the stratigraphy of this house concerns a variety of soils uncovered west of the drain trench, in sub-operation 8B6L. Along the west wall of this trench a layer of predominantly light, brownish-grey marsh mud was
found mixed with similar deposits of greyish brown mud (Fig. 21, layer 4). Partial excavation of this trench indicates that this layer may continue beneath the remaining eastern portion of this trench. This soil formation is somewhat similar to that which initially led to the discovery of the drain trench, and hence it is possible that further excavation may reveal the existence of yet another trench dating to the Acadian occupation of this site.
Unidentified Building

Introduction
An unusual conglomeration of stones - some of which appear to form a foundation for some sort of structure - was found east of the cellar in Acadian house 1 (Fig. 5). Since the overall structural pattern and stratigraphy of this feature are completely different from that of the rest of the area excavated around Acadian house 1, it would appear that this feature is not part of this building. This does not, however, necessarily preclude this structure from being related in some other way. Moreover, although it has been determined for the sake of this report, that this feature is part of a building foundation, this identification was never positively established. Arguments concerning the interpretation of this feature will be further discussed in the following structural review of this stone foundation.

Structural Review
The main feature of the mass of stones uncovered in sub-operation 8B5H consists of a segment of a wall constructed of field stones. This wall is oriented east-west, and is
located in the southern half of the trench (Fig. 21). It varies in width between 2.2 ft. and 2.5 ft. and is at least 7.5 ft. long. At the east end of this wall, a slight depression projects eastward, suggesting that this wall may have extended further east at one time. At least two stone courses exist; however, there is no evidence of any mortar bonding. The size of stone varies from 0.5 ft. by 0.7 ft. by 0.3 ft. to 0.7 ft. by 0.8 ft. by 0.4 ft. The average elevation on top of these stones is around 28.5 ft. ASL.

South of this wall, another arrangement of stones was uncovered. These may form part of another wall, or simply be collapsed rubble from the main wall described above. Further excavation would be required to determine which hypothesis is correct.

Abutting the stone wall are a number of field stones which may form the remains of another wall - thereby forming a corner with the previous wall. These stones do not form a right angle with the other wall (as would be expected if they did form a corner), nor does there appear to be more than one course of stones in this formation. However, since they do appear to have been placed in a definite interlocking pattern, a final decision on this feature must await further excavation. The existing stones form a "wall" 1.8 ft. wide by at least 3.8 ft. long.

Within the northeast corner of this trench, a further conglomeration of stones was uncovered. These stones appear
to be more randomly placed than those forming the south and possible west walls. However, they do lie roughly parallel to the south wall, and hence it is possible that they form part of a collapsed wall - the foundation of which may be located slightly further north. Since excavation of this area was arbitrarily terminated at a level of charcoal traces, further investigation of this entire trench would clarify this situation.

Artifacts retrieved from this structure all indicate a relatively recent deposition of various fill layers (some within the past 50 years), while other artifacts provided evidence of 19th century material. These observations, plus the fact that the south wall is oriented at a slightly different angle from that of Acadian house 1, suggests that these two structures are not part of the same building. The lack of any stone foundation for both of the Acadian houses would further indicate the probability that this stone feature is a later 18th or 19th century structure.

**Stratigraphic Review**

The stratigraphic record of this trench confirms some of the speculations made above, but does not conclusively date this structure to any specific period.

West and south of the stone walls, three basic layers of fill were uncovered (Fig. 22). The upper layer is the standard dark brown loam plow zone topsoil (layer 1), though more compact throughout much of this trench since it lies in
the middle of a well travelled dirt path. Beneath it, two layers of yellowish-red sand mixed with charcoal are to be found (layers 2 and 3). Both layers are of identical composition; however, a very thin deposit of charcoal marks the separation between these two layers, as it does at the base of layer 3, which is located at 27.8 ft. ASL.

The stratigraphy of the eastern third of this trench is markedly different. Below the topsoil in most of this section of the trench, a layer of dark brown loam mixed with mortar and brick fragments covered the stones (Fig. 23, layer 5). This layer was apparently brought in from another area, as it covered only part of the south stone wall, as well as part of the stones in the northeast corner of the trench and the area between these two features.

Within the southeast corner, several additional fill layers were deposited. The topsoil in this area consisted in part of reddish-brown sand (Fig. 23, layer 2), and in part of dark brown sandy loam (layer 3). Beneath it was found a layer of ashes, charcoal and brick fragments (layer 4). Within this latter layer, plastic artifacts were uncovered, indicating a relatively recent deposition.

The area bounded by the three possible stone walls contained yet a different stratigraphic pattern. Below the dark topsoil, a deposit of moist, reddish-brown sand covered the stone features. Beneath this, a layer of reddish-brown loamy clay mixed with charcoal traces was found - somewhat similar to the lower layers found in the western section
of this trench. The layer of reddish-brown loamy clay was also terminated upon the discovery of a thin layer of charcoal traces, at the same level as that found outside the stone feature. It is therefore possible that the charcoal level at the base of this trench extends below the possible west stone wall, thereby possibly refuting the theory that these stones form a wall. Since these charcoal traces are also found about 0.5 ft. below the charcoal found in Acadian house 1, this seems to indicate a further difference between this feature and the main building, and therefore confirm speculations that they are not part of the same structure.
Summary, Conclusions and Recommendations

Summary
The archaeological investigations conducted on the western section of Grand Pré National Historic Park confirmed the existence of Acadian building sites in this area. Two such house sites were excavated, arbitrarily referred to as Acadian houses 1 and 2.

The remains of Acadian house 1 constitute a cellar with some sort of wood flooring, a stone hearth foundation, and charcoal traces which may mark the site of the rest of the house. The site of the second house also exposed part of a cellar and a variety of charcoal traces; however, no conclusive evidence of the hearth was found. A stone drain was uncovered leading northward from this cellar - a feature not discovered is association with Acadian house 1.

In addition to these major structures, portions of a stone foundation for an unknown structure were unearthed east of Acadian house 1. This feature does not appear to be of Acadian origin, but no positive date could be attributed to this structure by the time excavation ceased.

The artifact return from Acadian house 1 was rather limited, though a fair quantity of pipe fragments was uncovered.
In all, about 1,100 artifacts were found in and around this building, of which only about 50 pieces could definitely be attributed to the Acadian occupation of this site. Should the unmarked pipe fragments also prove to date to the Acadian period, the number of French artifacts from this building site would then increase to about 130.

Acadian house 2 also yielded around 1,100 artifacts, of which at least 100 are thought to be of French origin. However, this number would increase to at least 450 if the pipe fragments are included.

Conclusions
Pending further investigation of these sites, it would appear that the two Acadian houses were constructed of wood and lacked any sort of foundation, save possibly a wooden sill. Both houses contained cellars, indicating that the buildings probably served as personal dwelling houses, rather than some other sort of farm building. The cellars were constructed with sloping sides, thereby avoiding the necessity of building retaining walls. This may have been done for several reasons. Possibly the houses were constructed rapidly, not allowing time to carefully construct a stone cellar and house foundation. Alternately, there is virtually no suitable field stone in the immediate vicinity, and to use such would require a fair amount of work in locating and transporting it down to the marsh area. Any stones which would have been available would probably have been set
aside for use in the construction of the hearth and chimney - as was apparently the case for these two buildings.

In determining the occupation date for these two buildings, two specific factors may assist in restricting it to a particular period of the Acadian inhabitation of Grand Pré. The first is the lack of artifacts; the second - the apparent destruction of the buildings by fire.

By comparison to the excavation of other French house sites in the Maritimes, the quantity of artifacts retrieved from this site indicates an extremely limited occupation period prior to the destruction of the houses. Since the site for both houses is level and close to the marsh, it would be unlikely that this site would have been vacated during the middle of the Acadian occupation of Grand Pré without some other inhabitant making use of the site. Hence, it is hypothesized that the brief occupation is due to the fact that the houses were probably constructed in the latter phase of Acadian settlement of this region - several years prior to the expulsion of 1755. This hypothesis is further substantiated by the following discussion on the charred remains of the two houses.

Sufficient charcoal traces were found surrounding both house cellars to assume with reasonable certainty that these two buildings were destroyed by fire. Since it has already been determined that these buildings were probably dwelling houses, they would presumably contain a reasonable quantity
of non-combustible household articles, such as ceramic plates, glass and metal objects, etc. If these buildings had been accidentally destroyed by fire, it would follow that most of these articles would have been trapped in the building, destroyed beyond all usefulness, and left in the ruins. However, this site was virtually void of French artifacts, indicating that the fire was probably set on purpose after the contents of the houses had been removed.

Such a situation arose at least once at Grand Pré: in 1755, when the Acadians were ordered to leave the area, taking with them all of the possessions that they could carry. Under these circumstances, the houses would probably have been quite thoroughly cleaned out, while anything left behind would probably have been searched through by the British soldiers before the houses were set afire. This would result in the destruction of basically vacant buildings. If one further allows for a certain amount of pilferage by later settlers of some of the structural hardware from the partially visible house ruins, an explanation for the noticeable lack of artifacts can be provided.

Further evidence for the dating of these two buildings comes from their location on top of a slight rise in the marsh. This land, according to historical documentation, constituted an island prior to the construction of the dykes. This island would have been quite small (less than the present size of Grand Pré Park), and travel between it and the mainland
would have been difficult due to the muddy nature of the marsh and the constantly reversing tides. Hence, it would appear unlikely that this island would have been occupied during the early settlement of Grand Pré, and that its use would probably have been restricted to agricultural activities.

To summarize, it would appear that both houses were constructed during the latter phase of Acadian settlement, and that they were destroyed at the time of the general expulsion of the population in 1755. The higher percentage of artifacts found in Acadian house 2 could indicate that this building was in existence slightly longer than house 1. The presence of a well-constructed stone drain in the second house also implies that a permanent residence was anticipated for this building - rather than a temporary make-shift house. Such a drain may also exist north of the cellar in house 1; however, none was discovered during the course of this excavation.

Recommendations
Towards the end of the excavation season, a number of important features began to be uncovered which require further investigation. In Acadian house 1, the wood flooring should be completely exposed to determine if it forms a collapsed ceiling for the cellar, or if it is the cellar floor. In addition, the area north of this cellar should be further investigated to determine if a drain was built for this cellar; while at the same time clarifying the unusual soil formations in sub-
operation 8B5F. Additional excavation is also recommended east, south, and west of the present excavation limits of operation 8B5 to determine if there is further structural evidence for this building.

In the area of Acadian house 2, the base of the cellar still requires to be exposed, as does the remainder of the drain. This latter feature should be followed to its exterior limits to determine if it arbitrarily terminates at the slope leading down to the marsh, or if it leads into a cistern or some other drainage feature. In addition, further excavation of sub-operation 8B6L is required to clarify the presence of the trench found along the west wall of that sub-operation.

Further investigation of the stone foundations unearthed in sub-operation 8B5H is also recommended. This feature has only been located, and still required almost total excavation if it is part of a building.

There are also several depressions and differing vegetation areas in this portion of Grand Pré National Historic Park which should be excavated. One such depression is located southwest of operation 8B6, and has already been designated operation 8B7. Another area is located about half way between Acadian houses 1 and 2, between 50 and 100 ft. west of the existing blacksmith shop. Excavation of these areas and possibly general testing of the entire field is highly recommended.
Furthermore, a map drawn by J.F. Herbin for his book "The History of Grand Pré" indicates an enclosure surrounding the Church and several other buildings at the time of the expulsion (Herbin 1913). A test trench oriented north-south, passing between the willow trees along the north side of the park, should reveal evidence of any palisade fortifications, while excavation directly west of the southwest corner of the memorial church (just inside the apple orchard) should confirm or refute the local tradition for the existence of the Priest's house in this locality.

In conclusion, it would appear that Grand Pré National Historic Park is situated on a part of the original settlement site of Grand Pré, although the majority of the settlement is undoubtedly located on the ridge south of the Dominion-Atlantic Railway tracks. Further excavation in the park could well reveal substantial evidence of Acadian settlement on this particular property, and would greatly help in the interpretation of Acadian life.
Site Survey Report

Introduction
During the course of the excavation at Grand Pré, several attempts were made to locate additional Acadian sites in the vicinity for possible future excavation (Fig. 24). These efforts included interviews with local inhabitants, site inspection of the terrain, and extrapolations based upon contemporary 18th Century maps and documents, as well as later writings about Acadian life in this area. The work itself is broken down into four categories: Grand Pré National Historic Park Site, Grand Pré Region Sites, New Minas Region Sites, Dykes.
According to John Frederick Herbin's book *The History of Grand Pré*, the present boundaries of Grand Pré National Historic Park would have included the old Acadian mission buildings, plus a substantial portion of Colonel John Winslow's 1755 encampment at Grand Pré. Consequently, several attempts were made to locate Winslow's encampment on paper, while the park staff was interviewed for any knowledge of the existence of earlier buildings on the property.

The location of Winslow's camp site was based primarily upon a sketch of the camp and Grand Pré in Herbin's book, and relating this information to present-day features in the area (Herbin 1969:104). Two different dimensions were established for the camp: one based upon a scale derived by taking the relationship of the Church to the road along a row of willows, and comparing this to the present day memorial church and the road along a similar row of willows. The second scale was achieved by measuring the distance between the road along the willow trees and the main east-west gravel road through Grand Pré village, and comparing this to the same two roads shown on Herbin's map.

According to the first scale, Winslow's camp would take
in an area measuring approximately 600 feet east-west by 200 feet north-south. The northern boundary of the camp is presumed to be just south of the present row of willow trees along the northern boundary of the park; while the western limit was set about half way between the memorial church and a row of trees just east of the blacksmith shop (Fig. 25). The western limit of Winslow's camp was set approximately half way between Herbin's Cross and the hedge along the west side of the paved road cutting through the park and leading south into Grand Pré. The southern limit of the camp, according to this extrapolation, would have been located directly in line with Evangeline's statue.

According to the second scale that was established, Winslow's campsite was considerably larger, measuring approximately 1100 feet east-west by 550 feet north-south. The northern limit was set at the same place on both maps, but the western limit in this case was situated just east of the row of trees at the west end of the park. The eastern limit was located approximately at the east end of the modern parking lot situated east of the paved road; while the southern limit was now set along the east-west fence line south of the two warehouses along the Dominion-Atlantic Railway tracks. Winslow's camp, which, according to Herbin, housed some 363 men and contained about 30 acres (Herbin 1969: 105), formed an area of approximately 3.4 acres by the first scale, and of approximately 13.9 acres by the second, larger
scale. To determine the possible accuracy of either scale, it is suggested that a test trench be excavated in the west end of the park in order to locate evidence of Winslow's palisade. Having thus established a tentative scale, it may then be possible to locate the guard house, well, church, and priest's house as shown on Herbin's map.

Additional efforts to determine the location of the latter structures were made through direct discussion with the park staff. From these interviews, it was learned that three major Acadian features were believed to exist in the main park area: the Acadian church, the priest's house, the Acadian cemetery. The present "Acadian" well next to the memorial church is attributed by the staff to later post-Acadian occupants of the area.

The site of the original Acadian church is reported to be more or less where the present memorial church stands, or perhaps slightly further east (Fig. 26). Stones from the original Church are reported to have been used to construct a stone cross marking the graveyard site (Herbin's Cross). This information has not yet been confirmed.

The priest's house is reported to be located about 10 to 15 feet west of the southwest corner of the memorial church, beneath the present day apple orchard (Fig. 25). The staff reported that, during initial development of the park by the Dominion Atlantic Railway Company, stones were uncovered in this area. All surface evidence of such stones
is now gone, nor could this information be confirmed through other sources.

The Acadian cemetery appears to be more positively identified and located. A 1909 Boston newspaper (presently in the possession of Herbin's son, Herbin's Jewelery, Wolfville) describes Herbin's activities on the site and shows photos of the site and of artifacts which Herbin uncovered. Also shown is a wooden coffin Herbin reportedly unearthed at the present site of Herbin's Cross. According to park employee John Mason, a 4-foot deep trench was excavated from the front of the memorial church to the main road in the late 1950's for a new water line (Fig. 26). This trench was about two or three feet wide, and passed about 45 feet south of Herbin's Cross. At this location, a wooden plank believed to be part of a coffin was uncovered. No further excavation of this area appears to have been undertaken. Mr. Gordon Leblanc, the present park Superintendent, further indicated that any grave mounds which did still exist in Herbin's time were leveled by the Dominion-Atlantic Railway employees when they began to landscape the park in the 1920's.
Grand Pré Region Sites

Various attempts were made to locate additional Acadian buildings and roadway sites on the slopes south of Grand Pré Park, where most of the former Acadian village is reportedly located (Fig. 24). Although the terrain was not extensively searched, several house sites were located; while a possible location of three of Herbin's Grand Pré "roads" were also tentatively marked out.

Specific investigation for Acadian buildings occurred primarily on the farm of Mr. Jack Allen, who owns most of the property immediately south of the park. Mr. Allen informed us that a professor from Acadia University in Wolfville, Mr. H. Cameron, had cross-trenched all of the house sites on his property in the mid 1950's without success (Fig. 27). Moreover, Mr. Allen indicated that he did not wish to have further excavation on the property at this time, as it might cause a loss of crops or harm some of his cattle.

On-site inspection of the sites on Mr. Allen's property certainly appears to indicate the presence of some sort of earlier structures. The substantial artifact return from the visible mounds further attest to an earlier occupancy of the slopes above the park. Four mounds were located during the
course of the site inspection (Fig. 28), and are recorded as follows:

Operation 8B1
A substantial mound, measuring approximately 83 feet east-west by 42 feet north-south, is located along the west side of the so-called "Acadian Lane" on Jack Allen's property (Fig. 29). Several large stones protruding from the northeast corner of this feature could possibly form wall or fireplace remains; while the small depressions at the top of this mound could be resultant from Professor Cameron's earlier excavations. No artifacts were found in association with this grass-covered mound.

Operation 8B2
This feature consists of a slight rise in the field immediately west of Mr. Allen's property (Fig. 28), which apparently belongs to Mr. Fred Trenholm, of Grand Pré. No detailed examination of this feature was undertaken since the crop was just taking hold at the time of inspection.

Operation 8B3
A pronounced mound at the south end of Mr. Allen's cultivated field, west of the projected Acadian Lane, marks the probable location of another building site (Fig. 30). This mound measures approximately 34 feet north-south by 36 feet east-
west, and shows signs of being disturbed. Various stones are visible on the east side of the mound; while a number of artifacts were found on and around this feature. Included in the surface collection of artifacts was a clay pipe bowl fragment with a fleur-de-lys imprinted beneath a TD inscription - both of which symbols were situated within a heart outline on the back of the bowl (Fig. 30 insert). In addition, a few fragments of green glaze, crude earthenware (similar to those found at other 18th century French sites in the Maritimes) were discovered just west of this mound.

**Operation 8B4**

This suspected building site is located in the same small cultivated field as Operation 8B3, but in the northwest corner of the field (Fig. 30). This site consists of a small oval mound which is primarily comprised of reddish brown sandy clay, while the surrounding field consists mainly of dark brown sandy loam. As a result, this portion of the field provides better drainage and dries up faster than the surrounding land. There is also greater vegetation on this mound than in the rest of the field, despite uniform cultivation of the land.

The mound in this area measures approximately 30 feet north-south by 36 feet east-west, and was cluttered by a substantial quantity of clay pipe fragments, as well as fragments of grey and blue stoneware. Much of this material
and the reddish brown sandy loam, may have been brought to the surface by Professor Cameron in his earlier work on the site.

In addition to the data obtained from the inspection of Mr. Allen's property, it was learned in conversation with the owner that a number of years ago most of the north slope of the Wolfville Ridge was covered with apple trees. However, a surplus in apples resulted in a government offer of $5.00 to farmers for every tree that they cut down. Consequently, Mr. Allen and other farmers in the area used bulldozers to clear numerous fields of these trees. If this can be verified, such action would undoubtedly have disturbed or obliterated many Acadian house sites.

Grand Pré Road Site Investigations
Efforts to locate the original roadways of Grand Pré Village were made by interviewing local inhabitants, by inspection of various historical maps, and by on-site inspection of the Grand Pré region. As a result of this research, several possible Acadian roads were identified. However, the accuracy of these results is subject to serious questioning. Hence, re-examination and verification of the following is highly recommended.

For the purposes of this study, four facts were accepted as reference points without actual proof of their accuracy:
1. that a local tradition that the north-south land on Jack Allen's property, which leads straight towards the memorial church in Grand Pré Park, formed one of these Acadian roads.

2. that the main east-west road through present-day Grand Pré was a second Acadian road.

3. the relative accuracy of Herbin's map, showing Col. Winslow's camp and the village as it stood in 1755. (The source of this map could not be determined however.)

4. that the dirt road leading along the northern boundary of Grand Pré Park and parallel to the Dominion-Atlantic Railway, is the same road that Herbin claims to be another Acadian road on his map.

Based on these four assumptions, it was decided that if Jack Allen's "Acadian Lane" formed the western "road to village" on Herbin's map, then a similar north-south land should be located somewhere east of the present park limits. Using the larger of the two scales established earlier for determining the location of Colonel Winslow's camp, it was speculated that the eastern "road to village" would have to be located approximately 400 yards east of the present paved road leading into Grand Pré (Fig. 25).

Investigations in the general area thus indicated did reveal a lane somewhat similar in appearance to Mr. Allen's
"Acadian Lane"; however, no building sites were readily observed in this area. Nor were there any local traditions associated with this possible lane, portions of which are now well used by a modern farm. However, the fact that the D.A.R. tracks do cut through this lane could indicate that the lane had been in existence prior to construction of the railway, but is now gradually disappearing as a result of disuse.

In concluding this examination of the Grand Pré roadways, it is suggested that possibly both lanes did in fact exist as common throughfares to the marsh from Grand Pré village during Herbin's time (i.e. circa 1900), and that possibly he drew his map not from authentic historical sources but from the terrain as he saw it at that time. However, the possibility also exists that the lanes are genuine remnants of the Acadian period. Both theories require further examination before any final decision is made with regard to the positive location of Grand Pré's earliest roadways.
New Minas Region Sites

During the course of the 1972 excavation at Grand Pré, Mr. John Erskine, a local retired teacher, indicated the location of several building sites in the New Minas area (Fig. 24-x2,x3).

One cellar, which was partially excavated by Erskine several years ago, is located along the northern limits of a cultivated field, situated south of a massive gravel pit at the northwestern end of Jones Road, New Minas. This depression was quite pronounced, covered largely by trees and shrubs, and revealed several stones, which, according to Erskine, formed the fireplace.

Two other cellar depressions were investigated in this area. These are located along the edge of a steep slope, in a field opposite a new development east of Jones Road, New Minas (Fig. 31). One of these two depressions is supposed to mark the site of the old New Minas church during the Acadian period (Erskine 1972:36). Neither depression appears to have been disturbed, although one of them contains a large number of small stones on the slopes of the depression. The proximity of these two cellar depressions to the cliffs may prevent their eventual destruction by the
new housing development; however, it would appear that they are in danger of destruction due to the expansion of the New Minas community.
Dykes

Exploration of various Minor Basin dykes was made in order to discover if there was any structural evidence which could be detected without excavation, and which would give some insight into the construction technique used by the Acadians. To this end, three sections of the dykes were investigated: one on the Grand Pré marsh, and two in the Gaspereau Valley (Fig. 24). From this inspection, it would appear that the former structure probably dates from the 19th century; while the latter two sites may have originated during the French regime.

Grand Pré Marsh Culvert

During low tide, the remains of a wooden culvert are exposed on the seaward side of the present main dyke (Fig. 24-x4), draining a major stream leading through the marsh. The culvert is partially covered by mud and brushes, and constructed of sawn timbers which are joined with wooden dowels. Planks covering the top of the culvert are also doweled into place (Figs. 32, 33). A row of stones form the foundation for the culvert, while three vertical posts are located along the north side of this feature - possibly to help support the structure during initial construction. The
culvert is covered by two alternating layers of mud and various bushes and branches, with several feet of mud covering the upper layer of brush. No evidence of any metal was found during inspection of this feature. However, the slippery and suctioning nature of the muddy terrain at low tide made detailed examination and measurement of this culvert next to impossible, as well as dangerous.

Wallbrook Bridge Site
A long, narrow dyke - two to three feet high - running parallel to and along the south side of the Gaspereau River was tentatively identified as an Acadian dyke (Fig. 24-x5). The main area of examination was located approximately 100 yards west of the Wallbrook Bridge, at a point where a small creek enters the river. At this point the dyke was bisected by the creek, substantial erosion has revealed the structural detail of the dyke, and the clear water of low tide provided evidence of a possible sluce gate in this area (Fig. 34).

The dyke itself appears to have been constructed by horizontally placing trees parallel to the river, about 20 to 30 feet away from the bank. These trees were then anchored into place by inserting stakes between the branches into the mud. The vertical stakes, placed several paces apart, are located in pairs - one on each side of the dyke. Mud and probably sods were then forced into and over the branches to a height of at least three feet to form the dyke.
At the base of the creek, large stones were visible directly in line with the two sections of the dyke. Fragmentary remains of a pair of wooden posts were also visible protruding through the stones along the west bank of the creek; while branches placed horizontally, and again in line with the dyke, could be seen below the low water line.

Since some form of sluice gate was necessary to drain the marsh, and since a stable base would have to exist for such a structure, it is quite probable that the stones formed the foundation for such a feature, as was the case with the wooden culvert mentioned previously. The branches undoubtedly served to retain the soil on both sides of the gate and formed an integral portion of the now-eroded dyke section. Further examination of this particular feature is highly recommended, followed by a comparison of other potentially similar sites along the various rivers in the Minas Basin. Several dozen such sites can probably be located along the Gaspereau, Cornwallis, Canard, Habitant and Pereau rivers.

Curry Brook Site
This site is located near the mouth of Curry Brook, on a small stream leading into the brook from the east (Fig. 24-x6). The creek bisects the low, narrow dyke which extends along the east bank of Curry Brook, and a certain amount of structural evidence is visible here at low tide.
At a point where the dyke has collapsed or eroded into the stream, various logs and an apparent log culvert are exposed (Fig. 35). The latter log appears to have been hollowed out; however the top of this feature was either removed or has been worn through, leaving a U-shaped structure. This log was estimated to be about 15 feet long, and was situated at the base of the stream. Various horizontally placed wooden logs - more substantial than those examined at the other two sites - appear to have originally covered this feature, again presumably serving as some sort of water control gate. Upon following this stream further inland, two more possible culverts were found; however, their awkward location made positive identification difficult. No evidence of any stones or metal objects was visible at this particular site.
Summary

In summary, the very limited inspection of the region which was surveyed in 1972 revealed substantial evidence of probable Acadian features in the Minas Basin area. The location of various building sites in the Grand Pré and New Minas areas, plus the discovery of significant dyke construction details in the Gaspereau Valley certainly encourages a thorough survey of the region. Such a survey would appreciably increase existing knowledge of Acadian life styles, settlement patterns and their ability at dyke construction.
Appendix A: Occupational Distribution of Lots

Since the stratigraphy outside the house cellars on this site consists basically of a 0.8 to 1.0-foot thick plow zone topsoil covering naturally sterile subsoil, the excavation of this area was generally done in two arbitrary levels. The first lot removed the turf and between 60 to 75 per cent of the topsoil; while the second lot (and subsequent lots, if any) removed the final few inches of the plow zone. It is in this latter layer that artifacts relating to the occupation of this site were generally found to be most concentrated. Where possible, stratigraphic layers were followed during excavation.

Hence, while it is possible for most of the lots on this site to contain artifacts from any period, it is probable that the lower lots will contain a greater proportion of material which can be associated with the original occupation of the site.

The following distribution of lots is separated into one natural and three arbitrary categories. The only definite period is the Acadian one, which terminates in 1755. The other three periods were selected since substantial changes in artifacts are noticeable between all three eras, plus or minus a decade.
### Occupational Distribution of Lots: Operation 8B5

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**KEY:**
- x - probable occupation material
- + - possible occupation material

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**KEY:**
- x - probable occupation material
- + - possible occupation material

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**KEY:**

- **x** - probable occupation material
- **+** - possible occupation material
References Cited

Herbin, John Frederick
1913

Korvemaker, E. Frank
1971
1 Aerial view of Grand Pré National Historic Park, Grand Pré, Nova Scotia.
(Energy, Mines and Resources)
3 Plan of the 1972 Archaeological excavations at
Grand Pré National Historic Park. (72-17-D2).
4 Post-excavation view of Acadian house 1, operation 8B5. Photo taken facing west, 6 ft. scale (8B-246-M).
Excavation plan of Acadian house 1, operation 8B5. (72-17-D3).
Plan of Acadian House No. 1
Operation 8B5

Legend
- stone
- charcoal
  (concentrated)
- charcoal
  (traces)
- wood
- depression
- - projected features

Scale: ′=3′
6 View of east cellar wall slope in Acadian house 1. Camera facing east, 3 ft. scale (8B-83-X).

7 View of wood at base of cellar in Acadian house 1. Photo taken in trench facing west, 3 ft. scale (8B-77-X).
View of stone hearth foundation west of cellar in Acadian house 1. Photo taken in trench facing west, 3 ft. scale (8B-43-M).
9a,b,c North-south stratigraphic profile through Acadian house 1.

Layers:
1. Brown sandy loam (7.5 YR; 4/2).
2. Yellowish-red sand (5 YR; 5/8).
4. Yellowish-red sand (5 YR; 5/8) plus small stones.
   (8B-75-102-1).
East-west stratigraphic profile through Acadian house 1.

Layers:
1. Brown sandy loam (7.5 YR; 4/2).
2. Reddish-brown sandy loam (5 YR; 4/4).
4. Very dark greyish-brown marsh mud (10 YR; 3/2).
5. Reddish-brown clay (5 YR; 3/4) plus field stones.
(8B-75-102-2).
8B5A - NORTH WALL, WEST END

8B5A - NORTH WALL, MIDDLE

8B5A - NORTH SIDE, MIDDLE

8B5A - NORTH WALL, EAST END

0 1'
12 Excavation plan of Acadian house 2, operation 8B6. (72-17-D4).
13 View of cellar in Acadian house 2. Camera facing east, 8 ft. scale (8B-297-M).

14 View of wood beam along west cellar wall of Acadian house 2. Camera facing south-east to north-west, 3 ft. scale (8B-299-M).
15 View of drain with flagstone covering. Camera facing from south to north, 3 ft. scale (8B-316-M).

16 View of drain after partial removal of flagstone. Trowel for scale, facing north to south (8B-347-M).
17 View of small trench in sub-operation 8B6L. Camera facing south, 3 ft. scale (8B-304-M).
18a,b,c,d,e East-west stratigraphic profile through Acadian house 2.

Layers:
1. Dark brown sandy loam (7.5 YR; 4/4).
2. Yellowish-red loamy sand (5 YR; 5/6 → 5 YR; 5/8).
3. Pinkish grey sand (7.5 YR; 7/2).
4. Reddish-brown sandy clay (5 YR; 4/3 + 5 YR; 4/4).
5. Light brown sand (7.5 YR; 6/4).
7. Stone fill.
(8B-75-102-3).
8B6A - SOUTH WALL, EAST END

8B6A - SOUTH WALL

8B6A - SOUTH FACE

8B6A - WEST END, SOUTH WALL

8B6A - SOUTH WALL, WEST END
East-west stratigraphic profile through drain trench in Acadian house 2, (north wall of sub-operation 8B6K).

Layers:
1. Sandy loam, dark brown (7.5 YR; 4/4).
2. Mixed fill, sandy loam and clay, yellowish-red (5 YR; 4/6).
3. Sand, brownish gray (7.5 YR; 5/2).
4. Sandy clay, reddish brown (5 YR; 5/4).
5. Sandy clay, yellowish-red (5 YR; 5/6).
6. Sandy clay, reddish brown (5 YR; 4/3).
7. Soil at base of drain: sandy clay, yellowish-red (5 YR; 4/6).
8. Loamy sand, yellowish-red (5 YR; 5/6).

(8B-75-102-4).
20 North-south stratigraphic profile along west wall of sub-operation 8B6L in Acadian house 2.

Layers:
1. Dark brown dandy loam (7.5 YR; 4/4).
2. Yellowish-red sandy clay (5 YR; 4/6).
3. Yellowish-red dandy clay (5 YR; 4/6).
4. Mixture of light brownish grey mud (10 YR; 6/2); greyish brown mud (10 YR; 5/2); reddish-brown mud (5 YR; 5/3).
5. Yellowish-red loamy sand (5 YR; 5/8).
(8B-75-102-5).
View of the stone wall formations in sub-operation 8B5H. Photo taken west of trench facing east, 3 ft. scale (8B-62-X).
North-south stratigraphic profile along west wall of sub-operation 8B5H.

Layers:
1. Dark brown loam (7.5 YR; 4/2).
2. Yellowish-red sand (5 YR; 5/4) + charcoal traces.

(8B-75-102-6).
23 North-south stratigraphic profile along east wall of sub-operation 8B5H.
Layers:
1. Dark brown loam (7.5 YR; 3/2).
2. Reddish-brown dry sand (5 YR; 4/3).
3. Dark brown sandy loam (7.5 YR; 3/2).
4. Charcoal and brick mixture.
5. Dark brown loam (7.5 YR; 4/2) mixed with charcoal and mortar detritus.
(8B-75-102-7)
Plan of the Minas Basin showing the locations of site surveys in Grand Pré, New Minas and the Gaspereau Valley.

X1 - Jack Allen Sites
X2 - Jones Road Sites, New Minas
X3 -
X4 - Grand Pré Marsh Dyke Site
X5 - Wallbrook Bridge Site
X6 - Curry Brook Site
25 Projected location of Winslow's Camp and Acadian Roads at Grand Pré.
Location Plan for possible Acadian features in Grand Pré Park.
27 Section of map showing location of cellars and trenches excavated by Professor Cameron, Acadia University, in 1956.
Location Plan of possible building sites
south of Grand Pré Park
Location and section plan of operation 8B1.
30 Plan and section view of operation 8B3, and plan of operation 8B4.
31 Location plan for possible Acadian Building Sites in New Minas.
Plan of wooden culvert in the Grand Pré Marsh at low tide.
North face of wooden culvert, with upper mud and branch coverings and lower stone foundation.
Plan view of dyke and features at base of creek; plus a typical reconstructed section through dyke (A-B); and a section through the creek (X-Y).
Section through creek at Curry Brook Site showing wood culvert and logs.