

The shared stories of people and plants

A preliminary look at the plants of archaeological sites



Makkovik and area visit: Sept 4–7, 2012 – Trip Report

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Purpose of the trip

- The purpose of this trip was to look at plants of archaeological sites in the Makkovik area, and observe vegetation patterns at these sites. This is one component of a larger project looking at



broader relationships between people and plants.

- Guidance on archaeological site locations was provided by Jamie Brake (Nunatsiavut

Government Archaeologist). All sites were visited with Conservation Officer Errol Andersen and/or Guide Sheldon Andersen. This preliminary work was previously discussed with Carla Pamak, Nunatsiavut Government Research Advisor.

Activities during this trip

- Visited 11 archaeological sites (1 other site visited in July) in the Makkovik area
- At each site, noted vegetation communities
- At four sites, conducted detailed sampling using a 1 x 1 m quadrat (in photo)
- Using this quadrat, recorded all species of plants, lichens and moss,



- both at and adjacent to archaeological sites
- Collected plants where species was unknown, for later identification
- Visited the old Moravian Mission site and other shoreline sites to look for garden species that are still locally harvested
- Met with Janine Lightfoot and Carol Gear to provide an update on my research activities and to follow-up on my previous report

Next steps

- I will analyse the information collected during these site visits to look for patterns between archaeological sites and plants. All results will be shared with the Makkovik Inuit Community Government as soon as they are available.
- I will begin to develop a formal proposal for further research in Makkovik, for your review.
- I hope to visit again in winter 2013 to continue developing a multi-year project in Makkovik.

I am grateful to Errol Andersen, Sheldon Andersen and Jamie Brake, whose knowledge, skill and time made this work possible. I also thank Janine Lightfoot and Carol Gear for helpful feedback and ideas on this work. Nakummek!

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Trip report completed Sept 17, 2012

Questions? Comments? Suggestions?

Please contact Erica Oberndorfer - email: personal info removed / phone: personal info removed

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Nakummek! ~ Thank you!