

University of Southern Maine

Guide to
Casco Bay Archaeological Project Collection,
1884-1991 (inclusive), 1978-1980 (bulk)

by

Yolande E. Bennett

August 2022

Last updated: August 2022

Department of Geography-Anthropology

University of Southern Maine

37 College Ave.

Gorham, ME 04038

<https://usm.maine.edu/geography-anthropology>

(207) 780-5321

Summary Information

Repository: University of Southern Maine

Creator: Department of Geography-Anthropology, University of Southern Maine

Title: Casco Bay Archaeological Project Collection, 1884-1991 (inclusive), 1978-1980 (bulk)

Identifier: E78.M2-MeU-G-US

Date: 1884-1991. Majority of material found within 1978-1980

Extent: 1 carton (1.25 linear feet)

Language of Materials: Materials in English.

Overview: The collection of the Casco Bay Archaeological Project, an archaeological survey which involved the locating, mapping, measuring, and dating of archaeological sites in northeastern Casco Bay, Maine.

Terms of Use: Access for this collection is restricted; consult repository for details.

Processing Information: Processed in August 2022 by Thomas C. Bennett, with assistance from Yolande E. Bennett.

Administrative Information

Sponsor: This collection has been processed through a grant in support of the *Climate Change and the Shell Middens of Casco Bay Project*, which aims to increase awareness of middens and the threat presented by coastal erosion, highlight climate change and its effects on Maine's littoral zone, and enlist the public in protecting these important cultural resources.

Historical Information

The Casco Bay Archaeological Project involved an archaeological survey of islands in Casco Bay, southwestern Maine, between 1978 and 1991. The project was undertaken by the Department of Geography-Anthropology at the University of Southern Maine, and conducted under the direction of Dr. David Yesner, Archaeologist, with assistance from Robert French, Geographer. The survey program involved the locating, mapping, measuring, and dating of archaeological sites in northeastern Casco Bay. It formed a part of a larger project whose chief goals were to reconstruct prehistoric subsistence and settlement patterns in the Casco Bay regions; to correlate prehistoric site locations with various biogeographical variables, including topography, vegetation, and climate; to reconstruct changing settlement patterns in the region and their relation to sea-level dynamics; to examine the relationship of prehistoric and historic occupations of the Casco Bay region; to determine which sites were in greatest danger of destruction through natural erosion or man-made factors; and to suggest the sites or site districts that were of substantial import for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

During the 1978 field season, a total of eighty-seven sites were located on twenty-four islands of northeastern Casco Bay, and a total of sixty-seven new prehistoric sites were recorded for this region. Site locations, dimensions, elevations, and stratigraphy were recorded for each site, as were local soil and vegetation types, distance to mean high tide, and degree of observed erosion or modification. Detailed maps were drawn up for each island, indicating site locations as well as topography, vegetation, potential food resources, and other relevant features in site vicinities. More detailed maps were also drawn up for ecological features in the vicinity of larger or otherwise significant sites.

Between 1987 and 1991, a continued archaeological survey of select portions of Casco Bay was undertaken. It was led by Dr. Nathan Hamilton, assistant professor of archaeology at the University of Southern Maine, with assistance from Dr. David Yesner, Diana Crader, and Robert J. French. The chief goals of this survey were to examine the development of maritime hunter-fisher-gatherer adaptations

among the prehistoric aboriginal populations, along the coast of the Gulf of Maine on the North Atlantic coast of the United States and Canada.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged in 3 series, and 3 subseries:

Series I. Casco Bay Archaeological Project Survey Maps and Site Forms, 1978-1980, undated (#1.1-3.18)

- Subseries A. Bangs Island - Great Diamond Island, 1978-1980, undated (#1.1-1.21)
- Subseries B. Great Moshier Island - Pond Island, 1978-1980, undated (#2.1-2.19)
- Subseries C. Pumpkin Knob - Williams Island, 1978-1979, undated (#3.1-3.18)

Series II. Casco Bay Archaeological Project Reports, 1884-1991, undated (bulk 1978-1979) (#4.1-4.12)

Series III. Maps, Articles, and Reports, 1967-1985, undated (bulk 1979) (#5.1-5.10)

Scope and Content

The collection primarily contains original survey maps, site forms, reports, and proposals documenting the Casco Bay Archaeological Project.

Series I, Casco Bay Archaeological Project Survey Maps and Site Forms, 1978-1980, undated (#1.1-3.18), includes original survey maps and site forms created for the Casco Bay Archaeological Project. This series is divided into three subseries.

Subseries A, Bangs Island - Great Diamond Island, 1978-1980, undated (#1.1-1.21), includes original survey maps and site forms for the following islands: Bangs, Barnes, Basket, Birch, Bowman, Brothers, Bustins, Casco Bay, Clapboard, Cliff, Cow, Crab, Crow, Cushing, Eagle, Flag, French, Great Chebeague, and Great Diamond. Folders are arranged alphabetically, by name of island.

Subseries B, Great Moshier Island - Pond Island, 1978-1980, undated (#2.1-2.19), includes original survey maps and site forms for the following islands: Great Moshier, Haskell, Hope, House, Inner Green, Jewell, Lanes, Little Birch, Horse, Little Chebeague, Little Diamond, Little Moshier, Little Whaleboat, Long, Lower Goose, Ministerial, Bates, Overset, College, Pettingill, Sow and Pigs, Pinkham, and Pond. Folders are arranged alphabetically, by name of island.

Subseries C, Pumpkin Knob - Williams Island, 1978-1979, undated (#3.1-3.18), includes original survey maps and site forms for the following islands: Pumpkin Knob, Pound of Tea, Bowman, Ragged, Ram, Sand, Rogue, Scrag, Little Iron, Shelter, Sister, Stave, Stockman, Sturdevant, Upper Flag, Upper Goose, Upper Green, Vaill, West Brown Cow, Whaleboat, White, and Williams. Folders are arranged alphabetically by name of island.

Series II, Casco Bay Archaeological Project Reports, 1884-1991, undated (bulk 1978-1979) (#4.1-4.12), includes reports, proposals, site maps, and surveys relating to the Casco Bay Archaeological Project. Folders are arranged alphabetically by author and title.

Series III, Maps, Articles, and Reports, 1967-1985, undated (bulk 1979) (#5.1-5.10), includes maps, articles, reports, drawings, and notes, primarily relating to islands found within Casco Bay. Folders are arranged alphabetically by title.

Collection Inventory

Series I. Casco Bay Archaeological Project Survey Maps and Site Forms 1978-1980, undated

Series I, Casco Bay Archaeological Project Survey Maps and Site Forms, 1978-1980, undated (#1.1-3.18), includes original survey maps and site forms created for the Casco Bay Archaeological Project. This series is arranged in three subseries.

Subseries A. Bangs Island - Great Diamond Island

1978-1980, undated

Subseries A, Bangs Island - Great Diamond Island, 1978-1980, undated (#1.1-1.21), includes original survey maps and site forms for the following islands: Bangs, Barnes, Basket, Birch, Bowman, Brothers, Bustins, Casco Bay, Clapboard, Cliff, Cow, Crab, Crow, Cushing, Eagle, Flag, French, Great Chebeague, and Great Diamond, dated between 1978-1980. Some documents are undated.

- | | | |
|-------------|---|---------|
| 1.1. | “Bangs Island, 1978” | 1978 |
| | <u>Scope and content:</u> Contains maps. | |
| 1.2. | “Barnes Island, 1978” | 1978 |
| | <u>Scope and content:</u> Contains maps. | |
| 1.3. | “Basket Island, 1979” | 1979 |
| | <u>Scope and content:</u> Contains maps and site forms. | |
| 1.4. | “Birch Island, undated” | undated |
| | <u>Scope and content:</u> Contains maps. | |
| 1.5. | “Bowman Island, 1979” | 1979 |
| | <u>Scope and content:</u> Contains maps and site forms. | |
| 1.6. | “Brothers Islands, 1979” | 1979 |
| | <u>Scope and content:</u> Contains maps and site forms. | |
| 1.7. | “Bustins Island, undated” | undated |
| | <u>Scope and content:</u> Contains maps and site forms. | |

- | | | |
|--------------|---|-----------|
| 1.8. | “Clapboard Island, 1979” | 1979 |
| | <u>Scope and content:</u> Contains maps and site forms. | |
| 1.9. | “Clapboard, Cliff, and Crotch Islands, 1970-1976” | 1970-1976 |
| | <u>Scope and content:</u> Contains maps and site forms. | |
| 1.10. | “Cliff Island, 1979” | 1979 |
| | <u>Scope and content:</u> Contains maps and site forms. | |
| 1.11. | “Cow Island, 1979” | 1979 |
| | <u>Scope and content:</u> Contains maps and site forms. | |
| 1.12. | “Crab Island, 1979” | 1979 |
| | <u>Scope and content:</u> Contains maps and site forms. | |
| 1.13. | “Crow Island, 1979” | 1979 |
| | <u>Scope and content:</u> Contains maps and site forms. | |
| 1.14. | “Cushing Island, 1980” | 1980 |
| | <u>Scope and content:</u> Contains maps. | |
| 1.15. | “Eagle Island, undated” | undated |
| | <u>Scope and content:</u> Contains maps. | |
| 1.16. | “Flag Island, undated” | undated |
| | <u>Scope and content:</u> Contains maps. | |
| 1.17. | “French Island, 1978” | 1978 |

Scope and content: Contains maps and site forms.

- 1.18. "Great Chebeague Island, 1980" (1 of 3) 1980

Scope and content: Contains maps and site forms.

- 1.19. "Great Chebeague Island, 1980" (2 of 3) 1980

Scope and content: Contains maps and site forms.

- 1.20. "Great Chebeague Island, 1980" (3 of 3) 1980

Scope and content: Contains maps and site forms.

- 1.21. "Great Diamond Island, 1979" 1979

Scope and content: Contains maps and site forms.

Subseries B. Great Moshier Island - Pond Island 1978-1980, undated

Subseries B, Great Moshier Island - Pond Island, 1978-1980, undated (#2.1-2.19), includes original survey maps and site forms for the islands Great Moshier, Haskell, Hope, House, Inner Green, Jewell, Lanes, Little Birch, Horse, Little Chebeague, Little Diamond, Little Moshier, Little Whaleboat, Long, Lower Goose, Ministerial, Bates, Overset, College, Pettingill, Sow and Pigs, Pinkham, and Pond, dated between 1978-1980. Some documents are undated.

- 2.1. "Great Moshier Island, 1979" 1979

Scope and content: Contains maps and site forms.

- 2.2. "Haskell Island, 1978" 1978

Scope and content: Contains maps and site forms.

- 2.3. "Hope Island, 1979" 1979

Scope and content: Contains maps and site forms.

2.4. “House Island, 1979” 1979

Scope and content: Contains maps.

2.5. “Inner Green Island, 1979” 1979

Scope and content: Contains maps.

2.6. “Jewell Island, 1979” 1979

Scope and content: Contains maps and site forms.

2.7. “Lanes Island, 1979” 1979

Scope and content: Contains maps and site forms.

2.8. “Little Birch and Horse Islands, 1978” 1978

Scope and content: Contains maps and site forms.

2.9. “Little Chebeague Island, 1979” 1979

Scope and content: Contains maps and site forms.

2.10. “Little Diamond Island, 1979” 1979

Scope and content: Contains site forms.

2.11. “Little Moshier Island, 1978” 1978

Scope and content: Contains maps and site forms.

2.12. “Little Whaleboat Island, 1980” 1980

Scope and content: Contains maps and site forms.

- 2.13.** "Long Island, 1979" 1979
Scope and content: Contains maps and site forms.
- 2.14.** "Lower Goose Island, 1978" 1978
Scope and content: Contains maps.
- 2.15.** "Ministerial and Bates Islands, 1978" 1978
Scope and content: Contains maps and site forms.
- 2.16.** "Overset and College Islands, 1979" 1979
Scope and content: Contains maps and site forms.
- 2.17.** "Pettingill, Sow and Pigs Islands, 1978" 1978
Scope and content: Contains maps and site forms.
- 2.18.** "Pinkham Island, 1978" 1978
Scope and content: Contains maps.
- 2.19.** "Pond Island, undated" undated
Scope and content: Contains maps.

Subseries C. Pumpkin Knob - Williams Island 1978-1979, undated

Subseries C, Pumpkin Knob - Williams Island, 1978-1979, undated (#3.1-3.18), includes original survey maps and site forms for the islands Pumpkin Knob, Pound of Tea, Bowman, Ragged, Ram, Sand, Rogue, Scrag, Little Iron, Shelter, Sister, Stave, Stockman, Sturdevant, Upper Flag, Upper Goose, Upper Green, Vaill, West Brown Cow, Whaleboat, White, and Williams, dated between 1978-1979. Some documents are undated.

- | | | |
|--------------|---|---------|
| 3.1. | “Pumpkin Knob, Pound of Tea, and Bowman Island, 1979” | 1979 |
| | <u>Scope and content:</u> Contains maps and site forms. | |
| 3.2. | “Ragged Island, undated” | undated |
| | <u>Scope and content:</u> Contains maps. | |
| 3.3. | “Ram Island, 1979” | 1979 |
| | <u>Scope and content:</u> Contains maps and site forms. | |
| 3.4. | “Sand and Rogues Islands, 1979” | 1979 |
| | <u>Scope and content:</u> Contains maps and site forms. | |
| 3.5. | “Scrag and Little Iron Islands, 1978” | 1978 |
| | <u>Scope and content:</u> Contains maps and site forms. | |
| 3.6. | “Shelter Island, undated” | undated |
| | <u>Scope and content:</u> Contains maps. | |
| 3.7. | “Sister Island, 1978” | 1978 |
| | <u>Scope and content:</u> Contains maps. | |
| 3.8. | “Stave Island, 1978” | 1978 |
| | <u>Scope and content:</u> Contains maps and site forms. | |
| 3.9. | “Stockman Island, 1978” | 1978 |
| | <u>Scope and content:</u> Contains maps and site forms. | |
| 3.10. | “Sturdevant Island, 1979” | 1979 |

Scope and content: Contains maps and site forms.

3.11. “Upper Flag Island, 1978” 1978

Scope and content: Contains site forms.

3.12. “Upper Goose Island, 1978” 1978

Scope and content: Contains maps and site forms.

3.13. “Upper Green Island, 1978” 1978

Scope and content: Contains site forms.

3.14. “Vaill Island, 1979” 1979

Scope and content: Contains maps.

3.15. “West Brown Cow Island, undated” undated

Scope and content: Contains maps.

3.16. “Whaleboat Island, 1978” 1978

Scope and content: Contains site forms.

3.17. “White Island, 1978” 1978

Scope and content: Contains site forms.

3.18. “Williams Island, 1978” 1978

Scope and content: Contains site forms.

Series II. Casco Bay Archaeological Project Reports 1884-1991, undated (bulk 1978-1979)

Series II, Casco Bay Archaeological Project Reports, 1884-1991, undated (bulk 1978-1979) (#4.1-4.12), includes reports, proposals, site maps, and surveys relating to the Casco Bay Archaeological Project, dated between 1884-1991. The majority are dated between 1978-1979. Some documents are undated.

- 4.1. "Braun, David P., *Explanatory Model for the Evolution of Coastal Adaptation in Prehistoric Eastern New England*, 1974" 1974
Scope and content: Contains a report by David P. Braun regarding the evolution of coastal adaptation from *American Antiquity*, vol. 39, no. 4, October 1974.
- 4.2. "Casco Bay Prehistoric Sites, 1884-1979" 1884-1979
Scope and content: Contains maps of prehistoric sites in the Casco Bay region.
- 4.3. "CBAP Progress Report and Proposal for Continued 1979 Survey Grant, 1978" 1978
Scope and content: Contains a report outlining the archaeological survey of islands in the northeastern third of Casco Bay by the Department of Geography-Anthropology of the University of Southern Maine during the summer of 1978. The purpose of this report is to indicate achievements of the 1978 archaeological survey, and prospects for a continuing program of research during 1979.
- 4.4. "Daily Log, Summer Survey, 1980" 1980
Scope and content: Contains a daily log of islands surveyed and work performed on Casco Bay during the summer of 1980.
- 4.5. "Doyle, Richard A., et. al., *Late Paleo-Indian Remains from Maine and their Correlations in Northeastern Prehistory*, 1985" 1985

Scope and content: Contains a report by Richard A. Doyle et. al.
regarding human adaptation in Maine during the late Paleo-Indian period,
from *Archaeology of Eastern North America*, vol. 13.

- 4.6. “Eastman, L. M., *Plants as Indicators of Former Dwelling Sites*, 1978” 1978

Scope and content: Contains a report by L. M. Eastman about Old World flowering
plant species, including a list of species which are indicators of former dwelling
sites.

- 4.7. “French, Robert J., Casco Bay Survey Summary, 1979” 1979

Scope and content: Contains a report by Robert J. French on the 1979 Casco Bay
Cultural Resource Survey, which involved the survey of islands to the south and
west of Casco Bay.

- 4.8. “French, Robert J., *Proposal for Low Altitude Aerial Survey in Support of Archaeological Field Studies*,
1979” 1979

Scope and content: Contains a proposal by Robert J. French in support of the
Cultural Resource Survey of Casco Bay and its utilization of air photo analysis.

- 4.9. “French, Robert J., *Report on the Development and Implementation of an Aerial Survey
Methodology*, 1979” 1979

Scope and content: Contains a report by R. J. French detailing the ongoing
cultural resource survey of Casco Bay and the development of aerial survey
methodology.

- 4.10. “Mulligan, Adair, *The Vegetational Dynamics and Flora of Whaleboat Island, Casco Bay, Maine*, 1977”
1977

Scope and content: Contains a report by Adair Mulligan on the floristic and phytosociological study of Whaleboat Island in Casco Bay.

- 4.11. "Snow, Dean R., *Rising Sea Level and Prehistoric Cultural Ecology in Northern New England*, 1972"

1972

Scope and content: Contains a report by Dean R. Snow regarding the rising sea level along the coast of northern New England.

- 4.12. "Will, Richard and Sanger, David, *An Evaluation of Shell Middens on the Coast of Maine*, 1978" 1978

Scope and content: Contains a draft report by Richard Will and David Sanger which examines and evaluates a total of 712 archaeological sites in Maine's coastal zone for potential Critical Area nominations.

Series III. Maps, Articles, and Reports 1967-1985, undated (bulk 1979)

Series III, Maps, Articles, and Reports, 1967-1985, undated (bulk 1979) (#5.1-5.10), includes maps, articles, reports, drawings, and notes, primarily relating to islands found within Casco Bay, dated between 1967-1985. The majority are dated from 1979. Some documents are undated.

- 5.1. "Great Diamond Island, 1979-1982 (1 of 2)" 1979-1982

Scope and content: Contains identification of artifacts found on Great Diamond Island Site A, with accompanying drawings. Also includes a written history of Great Diamond Island.

- 5.2. "Great Diamond Island, 1984-1985 (2 of 2)" 1984-1985

Scope and content: Contains newspaper articles and maps relating to Great Diamond Island, as well as a report on maritime adaptation in Western Maine.

- 5.3. "Great Diamond Island Site A, 1979 (1 of 2)" 1979

Scope and content: Contains two maps of Great Diamond Island, and a booklet pertaining to the history of the island.

- 5.4. "Great Diamond Island Site A, 1979 (2 of 2)" 1979

Scope and content: Contains maps, sketches, and notes relating to Great Diamond Site A.

- 5.5. "Map Index and Code Sheets, undated" undated

Scope and content: Contains an index of islands on Casco Bay and their associated codes.

- 5.6. "Peaks and Malaga Islands, 1968, undated" 1968, undated

Scope and content: Contains a report written by Katherine W. Stewart in 1968 on the history of Peaks Island, and an undated newspaper article regarding the history of Malaga Island.

- 5.7. "Portland Islands Land Use and Zoning Study, 1985" 1985

- 5.8. "U.S. Department of Commerce, Bay of Fundy to Cape Cod map, 1967" 1967

Scope and content: Contains a map entitled *Bay of Fundy to Cape Cod*, published by the U.S. Department of Commerce in 1967.

- 5.9. "U.S. Department of Agriculture, Cumberland County Maps, 1972" 1972

Scope and content: Contains several maps of Cumberland County, published as part of a soil survey by the United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, and the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station.

- 5.10. "Yarmouth Island, undated" undated

Scope and content: Contains two map sketches of Yarmouth Island.

Controlled Access Headings

- Aerial photography in archaeology
- Archaeological surveying--Maine--Casco Bay
- Archaeology--Methodology
- Bangs Island (Me.)
- Barnes Island (Me.)
- Basket Island (Me.)
- Bates Island (Me.)
- Birch Island (Me.)
- Bowman Island (Me.)
- Brothers Island (Me.)
- Bustins Island (Me.)
- Casco Bay (Me.)--Environmental conditions
- Casco Bay (Me.)--Maps
- Clapboard Island (Me.)
- Cliff Island (Me.)
- Coastal archaeology--Maine--Casco Bay
- College Island (Me.)
- Cow Island (Me.)
- Crab Island (Me.)
- Crader, Dinah
- Crow Island (Me.)
- Cumberland County (Me.)--Maps
- Cushing Island (Me.)
- Eagle Island (Me.)

- Excavations (Archaeology)--Maine
- Flag Island (Me.)
- French Island (Me.)
- French, Robert J.
- Great Chebeague Island (Me.)
- Great Diamond Island (Me.)
- Great Moshier Island (Me.)
- Hamilton, Nathan D.
- Haskell Island (Me.)
- Historic sites--Maine
- Hope Island (Me.)
- Horse Island (Me.)
- House Island (Me.)
- Inner Green Island (Me.)
- Island archaeology
- Islands--Maine
- Jewell Island (Me.)
- Lanes Island (Me.)
- Little Birch Island (Me.)
- Little Chebeague Island (Me.)
- Little Diamond Island (Me.)
- Little Iron Island (Me.)
- Little Moshier Island (Me.)
- Little Whaleboat Island (Me.)
- Long Island (Me.)
- Lower Goose Island (Me.)
- Maine, Gulf of
- Malaga Island (Sagadahoc County, Me.)

- Ministerial Island (Me.)
- Overset Island (Me.)
- Peaks Island (Me.)
- Pettingill Island (Me.)
- Pinkham Island (Me.)
- Plant communities--Maine
- Plant ecology--Maine
- Plant remains (Archaeology)--Maine
- Pond Island (Me.)
- Portland (Me.)
- Pound of Tea Island (Me.)
- Pumpkin Knob Island (Me.)
- Ragged Island (Me.)
- Ram Island (Me.)
- Rogue Island (Me.)
- Sand Island (Me.)
- Scrag Island (Me.)
- Sea level--New England
- Shelter Island (Me.)
- Sister Island (Me.)
- Sow and Pigs Island (Me.)
- Stave Island (Me.)
- Stockman Island (Me.)
- Sturdevant Island (Me.)
- University of Southern Maine. Department of Geography-Anthropology
- Upper Flag Island (Me.)
- Upper Goose Island (Me.)
- Upper Green Island (Me.)

- Vaill Island (Me.)
- West Brown Cow Island (Me.)
- Whaleboat Island (Me.)
- White Island (Me.)
- Williams Island (Me.)
- Yarmouth Island (Me.)
- Yesner, David Raymond, 1948-