

APPENDIX 4

Procedures for Recording/Avoiding Suspected Archaeological Sites, Nanuq Claimblock, NU

Most of the archaeological sites found to date in the Nanuq claimblock have been situated on elevated level vegetated or sandy terraces close to water and with a good view. Many suggest that watching for and hunting caribou was the main focus of activity at these sites and in this area, most likely in late summer. Some of the site features contain interior hearths and heavy stone walls, suggesting occupation into the fall. Trapping of wolves, foxes and other fur-bearing animals probably occurred, as these animals tend to follow the caribou seasonal movements. Fishing also was likely an important occupation, judging from the location of many sites on rivers and lakes.

None of the sites found so far contain chipping flakes or tools made of quartz, quartzite, chert, basalt or other materials. These occur in pre-contact Palaeo-Eskimo and First Nations sites in the region, where hunters sat making or re-sharpening tools such as knives and spear points whilst waiting for caribou, or sat around a campfire or in a tent or other form of shelter. Such material is most likely locally available in bedrock veins or as blocks, chunks and cobbles scattered in the glaciofluvial material or brought into the area from elsewhere. Tent rings, shelters, caches, kayak rests and other boulder features found to date inform archaeologists about how people lived in the past, and should not be disturbed. Graves in the area commonly occur as skeletal remains and grave goods on the surface in a stone chamber or sometimes surrounded by a ring of boulders or stones that may have held down a hide cover. Under no circumstances should human burial sites be disturbed in any way. **If any suspected sites are encountered during field activities, the following should occur. If time is short, minimum information should include site co-ordinates.**

- If possible, avoid any disturbance within the site (which may contain several or many boulder features such as tent rings, or scatters of lithic material); if disturbance is necessary, confine the activities to a part of the site where no bone, stone tools or boulder arrangements that may be archaeological in nature are situated. Ideally, set and maintain a 30 m buffer zone between any activity and site features. Always avoid disturbance in the vicinity of a grave.
- Check for evidence of a tent ring, hearth or wood from tent rings or other structures; if present, sketch and avoid.
- Record the location by GPS (NAD 83), by elevation, and with a dot and reference number on a map (and aerial photo if available). Describe the location, local environment (knoll, hilltop, esker, peninsula, bedrock, proximity to water, *etc.*). Photograph the suspected archaeological or other heritage material and provide a setting shot and direction of view, which will help in relocation. Add your name and contact numbers to the report. If you have a copy of a site record form, fill out a form in as much detail as you like or have time for.
- Send a report on the site or sites to Shirley Standafer-Pfister at Peregrine Diamonds, who will forward it to the firm's archaeologist for analysis.

At some point in the future, the archaeologist will visit the site(s), verify the attributes as reported, and formally record the site with the Canadian Museum of Civilisation, appending the finder's name to the record. Many thanks for your co-operation.

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