

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED FEB 15 1977
DATE ENTERED JUL 21 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Fernald Point Prehistoric Site
Maine survey designation 43-24

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

[REDACTED]

Maine

VICINITY OF

23

XXXXX

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2nd Hon. William Cohen

COUNTY

Hancock

CODE

009

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME National Park Service (Acadia National Park)

STREET & NUMBER 150 Causeway Street

CITY, TOWN Boston STATE Massachusetts

VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Registry of Deeds, County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Ellsworth STATE Maine

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Archaeological Survey of Acadia National Park, 1974

DATE Fall, 1974

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Archaeology Lab, South Stevens Hall, University of Maine

CITY, TOWN Orono STATE Maine

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Fernald Point

[REDACTED] The site itself lies under a grassy field which was at one time cultivated. The field slopes from the northwest for several hundred meters and has a southeastern exposure. The site is a shell midden along the shore which decreases to a non-shell cultural midden as it rises to the west.

The front face of the site includes portions of [REDACTED]

Erosion and looters have taken a heavy toll [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] indicate a once larger site.

A 1974 survey of Acadia National Park was conducted by the University of Maine. Test pitting produced preserved food bone remains, flakes, stone artifacts and ceramics. These recoveries indicated a cultural affiliation to the ceramic period of A.D. 1 to A.D. 1600 years ago.

Further test excavations were undertaken in the summer of 1976 by the University of Maine for the Park. Twenty-three square meters were excavated to determine the content and extent of the site. A transect of test pits was extended from the shore on a line with magnetic north for 34 meters and cultural material was recovered for this whole distance. The site averaged about 35cm depth throughout the area. An area close to the coast which showed heavy shell deposition was also tested. This was the most productive area of the site and extended in some areas to 65cm depth. Several features including a well preserved primary burial were uncovered.

Artifacts recovery included bone and stone tools, food bones, flakes, ceramics and assorted historic intrusions. A possible ceramic component represented by a few distinctive stone tools found in the deepest portion of the site could indicate an earlier occupation in the 1000BC to AD1 range.

This area has been suggested as the site of a French mission settlement of 1613 which was destroyed by an English expedition in that same year.¹ No evidence was found of this settlement. Historic artifacts were found in the plow zone but did not date earlier than late colonial times.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Fernald Point site is the most significant site [redacted] Acadia National Park. Larger than most, it has proportionately suffered less from erosion than other nearby sites. For this reason it still has the potential to make a substantial contribution to the prehistory of the northern New England coast. The site has been cultivated and the presence of historic remains below the plw zone attests to other disturbances. Nevertheless, test excavations have revealed features such as hearths, a possible semi-subterranean house, and a human burial. Faunal remains are abundant in this shell midden affording an excellent opportunity for analyzing dietary pattern, seasonality, and sea and land utilization patterns. Most of the midden dates from the middle to the late ceramic period, but the presence of a celt with asymmetric bit bevelling (adze) and a spherical core hints at an earlier component. As an added feature, there is a chance that further excavation might uncover artifacts or remains dating from the short-lived Jesuit mission of Pierre Biard, although this is probably not very likely given the nature of surface disturbance due to agricultural activities.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Archaeological survey of Acadia National Park 1974, Dr. David Sanger, unpublished report at UMO, Arch. Lab, Orono, Maine

Archaeological Test Excavations at Acadia National Park 1976, Barbara Johnson, in preparation, UMO Lab., Orono, Maine
(see continuation sheet)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A [REDACTED]
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B

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 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

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D

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Dr. David Sanger
Barbara Johnson, Research Assistant

ORGANIZATION University of Maine at Orono DATE January 1977

STREET & NUMBER Archaeology Lab., South Stevens Hall TELEPHONE 207-581-7122

CITY OR TOWN Orono STATE Maine

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE Earle S. Shettleworth, Jr.

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer DATE January 17, 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Charles A. Allen DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION DATE 7-26-78

ATTEST Matthew Cole MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER DATE 7-5-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

The Prehistory of the Central Maine Coast 1971
Bruce Bourque, unpublished Ph.D dissertation. Department of
Anthropology, Harvard University. (available at Arch. Lab.
University of Maine at Orono).

The Parkman Reader: From the Works of Francis Parkman, 1955, Samuel
E. Morrison, ed. Little Brown and Co., Toronto