

the east a similar ridge separates the flat from Digdeguash Inlet. To the north of this clay flat, where there is now an open field, the standing forest broke off the keen winds of winter ; and to the south was the sea-beach, where drift wood in abundance was thrown up, and where boats or canoes could be kept, secure from the rising and falling tide.

The tide rises from twenty to twenty-five feet at this place; and as the lower half of the beach is stony, it is probable that the savages who dwelt there obtained their principal supplies of shell-fish at some other point. A sandy beach, and therefore one more suitable for clams, exists on the river about half a mile further up than Phil's Beach; and extensive sand-flats abounding with these bivalves are found around the shores of Hog Island, off the mouth of the Bocabec River. These sands, below the surface, are black with accumulated organic matter, resulting from the decay of marine animals (clams, etc.) and would be valuable as a fertilizer of the clay fields found in the valleys along these shores. Sea-fish and marine animals no doubt abounded then, as now, along the whole of this river. Herring and other fish are now taken in great quantities in the weirs at the mouth of the Bocabec.

The position of the aboriginal settlement at Phil's Beach was also very advantageous for hunting. The inhabitants of the village could float up with the tide three miles, to the head of navigation, whence they had a five mile range for hunting beaver and larger game on the branches of the Bocabec River; or by going out of the river and passing into Digdeguash Inlet, a still more extensive woodland tract was open to them. From the mouth of the Bocabec they could also cross Passamaquoddy Bay in various directions in search of seals and sea-birds.

The position of this village was well chosen for defence. Its inhabitants appear to have had an outpost at the point on the eastern side of the entrance to the Bocabec River, whence a view could be had of all canoes approaching from the Digdeguash or Magaguadavic River, or the more open part of the Passamaquoddy Bay. Another section of the settlement occupied a small beach on the Bocabec River a little further