## Prehistoric sites found in P.E.I.

Last year, during an archaeological expedition in Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia, federal government archaeologists discovered a number of prehistoric sites.

The expedition under the direction of Dr. David Keenlyside of the National Museum of Man included a search of the saltwater lagoons in the Souris areas of northeastern Prince Edward Island.

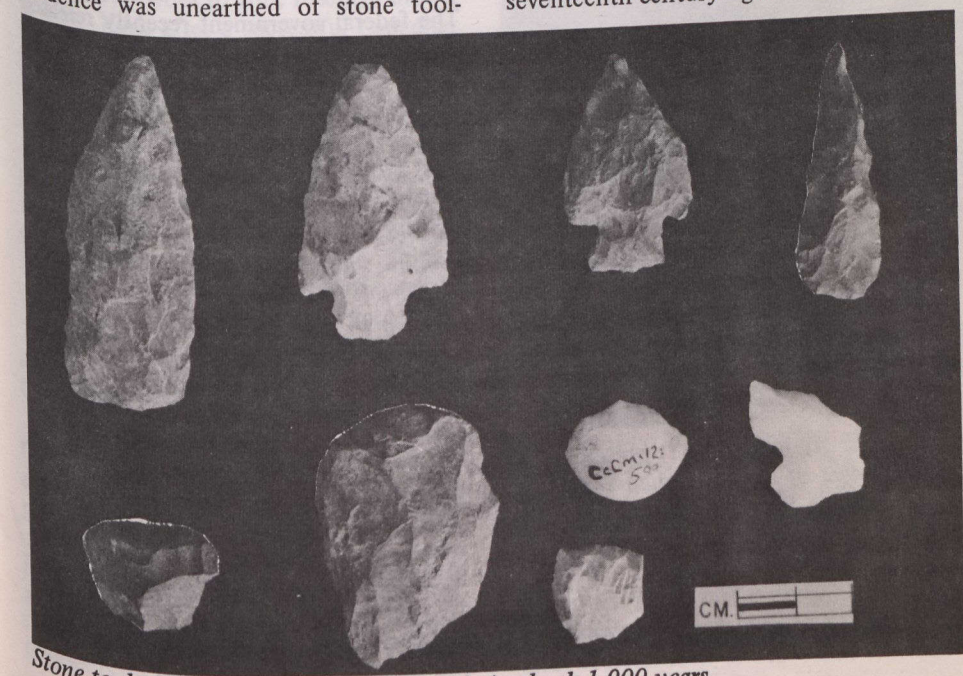
The research was part of a broader look at the southern Gulf of St. Lawrence to determine the antiquity of man in the Maritimes and to reconstruct the ways in which prehistoric man adapted to and exploited the natural land and marine resources of the region.

Twenty prehistoric sites were identified in Prince Edward Island, most representing seasonal habitations over the past 2,000-3,000 years. However, there were isolated finds seen in local archaeological collections which suggested a much longer occupation of people in this region, perhaps as far back as 10,000-11,000 years ago. Two archaeological sites, one dating from about 1,000 years ago and a second, 2,000 years ago were explored through controlled test excavations by a crew of seven students.

Discoveries included various types of stone implement related to fishing and hunting activities, and utilitarian cooking and food processing tools such as ceramic earthenware. At the 2,000-year-old site evidence was unearthed of stone tool-making activities, including unfinished tools, broken implements and flaking waste material. Organic material at the 1,000-year-old site was well-preserved – tools and waste debris of bone will be studied to determine the diet of these people their reason for settling there and the time of the year when people lived on these sites. The present evidence indicates that these early occupants of P.E.I. were probably ancestors of the present day Micmac peoples.

*Archaeologists gather fossils at the site in Souris, Prince Edward Island.*

On one of the sites near the surface of the archaeological deposits, fragments of seventeenth-century glass and earthenware were discovered. These finds represent some of the earliest imported European materials (probably French) to the island and are similar to early French artifacts discovered at Fort Louisbourg in Nova Scotia. The archaeological research in the area will continue this summer.




David L. Keenlyside photos

*Stone tools found at the prehistoric site dating back 1,000 years.*

## CIDA studies Senegal project

The benefits of proposed developments in the Senegal River Basin would outweigh the negative effects, according to a recently-released study of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the Organization for the Development of the Senegal River (OMVS).

The report, entitled *Assessment of Environmental Effects of Proposed Developments in the Senegal River Basin,* was prepared by Jean-Guy Saint-Martin, CIDA's director-general of Francophone Africa division and Dr. Moustapha Ba of the OMVS.

Dr. Ba said that construction of dams, be it in West Africa or elsewhere, will naturally change the physical and human environment to some extent. He added that although this is true of the construction of the Diama and Manantali dams, it must be remembered that these dams are being constructed with the ultimate goals of ensuring a water supply, even in times of drought, reducing desertification and ensuring the population's food self-sufficiency.

According to Mr. Saint-Martin, the OMVS project, like all projects implemented by CIDA, was subject to an assessment of its advantages and disadvantages. It was important he said that the harmful effects of such a development program be identified and corrective measures be taken to prevent irreparable damage.

The project, said Dr. Ba and Mr. Saint-Martin, centres on the development of small irrigated areas to preserve the family units, enable farmers to grow food crops of their choice, and encourage farming with draught animals, not mechanized farming.

The two experts acknowledged that the urban development which will follow the establishment of some small-scale industries (tanneries, food processing facilities) will affect certain artisans, but they pointed out that it would create new jobs in the same field for these people.