

# S. J. McKee Archives



## Atkinson II site DiMe-27 2004

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions12223>

Part Of:	RG 7 Beverley Nicholson fonds
Description Level:	Sub sub series
Series Number:	2.1.3
Accession Number:	1-2010
GMD:	multiple media
Date Range:	2004
Material Details:	Field journals have been scanned in multi-page PDF files. Artifact catalogues are PDF files in spreadsheet format. Photographs are in jpeg format.

### History /

#### Biographical:

After the flooding of the Souris River in 2004 receded, Tomasin Playford and her crew of Andrea Richards, Sarah Graham and Shane Kolesar returned to the Atkinson site and commenced cleaning up the earlier excavation of Atkinson.

An area east of the Atkinson excavations was also opened for testing in 2004. This area was designated as Atkinson II. In some of the field notes it is referred to as Atkinson East. A test block was opened and fenced off from the cattle with snow fence. A 4m2 block was surveyed in (units 13 - 16) and two partial units that were truncated by the riverbank (units 11 & 12) were also placed to the south of the 4m2 block.

Three of the students who had completed the recent field school were hired as crew. Jessica McKenzie, Evie Fevez and Emily Ansell joined the crew at the Atkinson II site.

#### Recoveries from XU 13 - 16:

Large bison bone was recovered from units 11 and 12 and a metal tobacco box seal was recovered from unit 12. More small pieces of metal found in levels 2 and three together with small bone fragments. A bone fragment with butchering marks from a metal tool was recovered from level 6 and pottery was found in level 9. A few lithic flakes were found in level 13 and in a trench at the bottom of unit 13 above a calcite cemented layer. Recoveries from these tests were sparse and diminished as the excavation series became more distant from the river. It is likely that the remains that were recovered represent the northern edge of these occupations.

The upper occupation at Atkinson II appears to be an early historic occupation with a sparse scatter of bone and a few pieces of metal. The lower layers, below level 7 are likely precontact. Units 9 and 10 were dug as test pits and produced very little in the way of cultural materials.

#### Scope and Content:

Sub-sub-sub series contains: Summary information of field methodology, number and co-ordinates of excavations, personnel and their staff position; Field journals are daily records of recoveries, features and activities at the site; Site records include excavation level and unit summaries, feature sheets, profiles; sample records and maps; Artifact catalogues are lists and identifications of all artifacts recovered; Photographs are of excavation units, features, the landscape and personnel.

Name Access: Atkinson II site DiMe-27 2004

Subject Access: Archaeology  
North Lauder locale  
Atkinson site DiMe-27  
Atkinson II site 2004



### Atkinson site DiMe-27 2004

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions12190>

Part Of: RG 7 Beverley Nicholson fonds

Description Level: Sub sub series

Series Number: 2.1.2

Accession Number: 1-2010

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 2004

Material Details: Field journals have been scanned in multi-page PDF files. Artifact catalogues are PDF files in spreadsheet format. Photographs are in jpeg format.

In 2004 Tomasin Playford and her crew of Andrea Richards, Sarah Graham and Shane Kolesar cleared sand cover from over the 2003 excavations and extended sand clearing back from the north edge of the 2003 units to permit implementation of four additional units. During this sand clearing a hearth was identified together with small numbers of lithics and pottery body sherds. This occupation had been noted during sand clearing in 2003 and a charcoal sample was collected and radiocarbon dated to 1440 A.D. This hearth was assigned to Atkinson II, a later occupation.

Four units (5, 6, 7, & 8) were surveyed in adjacent to the 2003 units. Excavation proceeded by means of shovel shaving until the datum pegs from the previous year were located. The new units were then given datum pegs and string boundaries and the high pressure pump was set up for water screening of silt/clay matrix.

Continued to shovel shave levels 1 - 4 and recovered small burned and unburned bone fragments. Level 5 produced a projectile point, an end scraper and a large heat-treated Swan River Chert (SRC) flake. Other SRC flakes were also recovered. Levels 6 and 7 yielded large numbers of flake debitage. The matrix in levels 5-7 contained a scatter of small, bright red ochre particles. The river began to rise on the ninth of June and the site was sandbagged on June 11th, temporarily bringing an end to excavation for Atkinson 1. Tomasin and her crew were relocated to the Crepeele site, west of Lauder.

On July 20th, Tomasin and her crew returned to the Atkinson site and commenced cleaning up the earlier excavation following the flooding. Following the clean up, excavations were resumed on the units that had been opened. An additional Gowen point was recovered from level 8 as well as some poorly preserved bison bone. A lot flakes and small amounts of bone were recovered on west side of block and larger bone and flakes in bone bed along the east side in levels 8 - 10. Two bifaces were recovered in level 11 and a third in level 13. The excavations were terminated at level 18 when water started coming up through the unit floors.

Scope and Content:

Sub-sub-sub series contains: Summary information of field methodology, number and coordinates of excavations, personnel and their staff position; Field journals are daily records of recoveries, features and activities at the site; Site records include excavation level and unit summaries, feature sheets, profiles; sample records and maps; Artifact catalogues are lists and identifications of all artifacts recovered; Photographs are of excavation units, features, the landscape and personnel.

Name Access:           Atkinson site 2004  
Subject Access:        Archaeology  
                              North Lauder locale  
                              Atkinson site DiMe-27  
                              Atkinson site 2004



## Atkinson site - DiMe-27

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions12080>

Part Of: RG 7 Beverley Nicholson fonds

Description Level: Sub-series

Series Number: 2.1

Accession Number: 1-2010

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 2003-2006

History /

Biographical:

The Atkinson site was named for the landowners Ken and Karen Atkinson who were very helpful to the archaeology and geoarchaeology crews that worked at the site. Their support made the project possible.

The Atkinson site story begins with the discovery of a charcoal lens eroding from the north bank of the Souris River in the summer of 2002. Study of Cultural Adaptations on the Prairie Ecozone (SCAPE) project geoarchaeologist Dr. Garry Running was exploring the stratigraphic layering in the bank when he noted the lens and reported it to Dr. Bev Nicholson. Upon closer examination, a tiny pressure flake was observed on the lens exposure and it was decided to collect a charcoal sample for radiocarbon dating.

The resulting date of 5250B.P. cal. 4225 B.C. placed the site in the early Archaic period. A second date on bone collagen of 5580B.P. cal. 4500 B.C. confirmed the earlier date and gave an averaged date of circa 4400 B.C or 6,500 years ago.

The Atkinson site is one of the oldest excavated sites in Manitoba. Based on the date of the site and the kind of lithics (stone tools) present it is considered a Gowen occupation. The Atkinson site is evidence that bison hunters were active on the northern plains at a very early date. Similar sites have also been found on the High Plains in the U.S. and are referred to as the Mummy Cave Complex.

The Atkinson Site is of great importance as it is the first undisturbed site of this type to be excavated in Manitoba and extends the range of these sites south and east from the type-sites in central Saskatchewan. Based on the date and sample evidence further excavations were conducted by Dr. Nicholson's team. in 2003, 2004 and 2006.

Scope and Content:

Sub series has been divided into three sub sub series including: (1) Atkinson 2003, (2) Atkinson 2004; (3) Atkinson 2006

Name Access: Atkinson site DiMe-27

Subject Access: Archaeology  
North Lauder locale  
Atkinson site DiMe-27



## Atkinson site DiMe-27 2003

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions12081>

Part Of: RG 7 Beverley Nicholson fonds

Description Level: Sub sub series

Series Number: 2.1.1  
Accession Number: 1-2010  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 2003  
Material Details: Field journals have been scanned in multi-page PDF files. Artifact catalogues are PDF files in spreadsheet format. Photographs are in jpeg format.

History /

Biographical:

Based on the results of the testing in 2002 and the radiocarbon date of 6,500 years before present, further excavation was warranted at the Atkinson site. In 2003 Field Chief Holly Alston and crew Shayne Kolesar and Andrea Richards opened a 42m test excavation (units 1 - 4) that included the hearth area.

The site area was covered with a huge sand dune that was slowly sliding into the river as the supporting bank eroded away. As the dune was removed a late woodland camp was found at the dune interface and a large chunk of charcoal dated this occupation to 440+/-60 B.P. cal.1440A.D. This indicated that the dune was a relatively late incursion over the site. This occupation is likely connected to subsequent testing to the east in 2005 that came to be known as Atkinson II.

Methodology:

The crew began shovel shaving the upper strata with the intention of establishing an arbitrary datum when artifacts were encountered or when a level 25cm above the hearth was reached. At 25cm above the hearth an arbitrary surface datum was established and excavation in 5cm levels began. The overbank deposited matrix was a dense, compacted silt clay and it was necessary to soak the excavated materials in buckets and then water screen the material with a high pressure pump over ¼ inch hardware cloth.

Lithic flakes were found at 10cm below datum, above the hearth level. In the next level, large bone, a broken projectile point and additional flakes were found. Increasing amounts of bone and lithic flakes were found as the excavation continued through levels 3 to 5. The top of the hearth was identified at 28cm below datum, below a 2cm layer of well-sorted sand. This sand layer was confined to a small area directly overlying the hearth. It was considered to be a deliberate quenching of the hearth.

After the conclusion of excavating level 6 the hearth was profiled and photographed. The charcoal and ash layer of the hearth was shown to be directly below the sand layer. Levels 6 and 7 revealed a bison bone bed that was consistent with primary and secondary butchering including elements from the vertebral column and appendicular skeleton. Two additional Gowen (Mummy Cave Series) projectile points were also recovered adjacent to the hearth. Level 8 continued to produce larger amounts of bone and many lithic flakes. Level 9 produced a few bone fragments and a small number of lithic flakes. At the conclusion of the excavations, the crew shoveled sand down from the dune to protect the site over winter and through any subsequent spring flooding.

Scope and Content:

Sub-sub-sub series contains: Summary information of field methodology, number and coordinates of excavations, personnel and their staff position; Field journals are daily records of recoveries, features and activities at the site; Site records include excavation level and unit summaries, feature sheets, profiles; sample records and maps; Artifact catalogues are lists and identifications of all artifacts recovered; Photographs are of excavation units, features, the landscape and personnel.

Name Access: Atkinson site 2003

Subject Access: Archaeology  
North Lauder locale  
Atkinson site DiMe-27  
Atkinson site 2003



## Atkinson site DiMe-27 2006

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions12258>

Part Of: RG 7 Beverley Nicholson fonds  
Description Level: Sub sub series  
Series Number: 2.1.4  
Accession Number: 1-2010  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 2006  
Material Details: Field journals have been scanned in multi-page PDF files. Artifact catalogues are PDF files in spreadsheet format. Photographs are in jpeg format.

### History /

#### Biographical:

The Atkinson site had been flooded in 2005 and there was concern about the amount of damage that might have occurred. A small crew of Tomasin Playford, Michelle Drysdale and Jessica McKenzie returned to the Atkinson site with the goals of obtaining a detailed profile of the stratigraphy at the north end of the occupation and to determine if the site extended contiguously towards the east. Two test pits were planned as well as the investigation of a couple of hearths found eroding from the riverbank. Work commenced July 4th and finished July 21st.

To the north of XU 8 (Gowen occupation) an excavation unit 18 was opened and shovel shaved to a depth of 200cm. At 195cm below surface a point bar deposit was identified indicating that any lower occupations would likely have been eroded by an earlier channel cutting event prior to formation of this point bar depositional event. Golf tees were inserted into the edge of the profile to indicate the 5cm levels superimposed on a digital photo of the section. Lithic flakes and bone fragments were scattered throughout the stratigraphic column. A radiocarbon date of 440 B.P. was obtained from the unit, indicating a much later occupation than Gowen.

Unit 19 was excavated but only yielded a small Besant component containing a small hearth (H#3). In level 9, a point tip and a small biface as well as a few undecorated pot sherds were recovered. These two units defined the extent of the Atkinson I site. An unknowable area of the site has been eroded away by the encroaching Souris River.

The two small exposed hearths were excavated but only yielded a small amount of material. Hearth 4, at the western edge of the Atkinson block yielded only a small amount of charcoal, mixed with burnt bone and a few small lithic flakes. Hearth 5, located in the high cut bank west of the main site yielded a small amount of bone from a small ungulate, a muskrat and a bird as well as a percussion cap. This latter recovery indicated that this was an early historic period site.

#### Scope and Content:

Sub-sub-sub series contains: Summary information of field methodology, number and coordinates of excavations, personnel and their staff position; Field journals are daily records of recoveries, features and activities at the site; Site records include excavation level and unit summaries, feature sheets, profiles; sample records and maps; Artifact catalogues are lists and identifications of all artifacts recovered; Photographs are of excavation units, features, the landscape and personnel.

Name Access:           Atkinson site 2006

Subject Access:       Archaeology  
                              North Lauder locale  
                              Atkinson site DiMe-27  
                              Atkinson site 2006



## Crepeelee site 2004

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions11725>

Part Of: RG 7 Beverley Nicholson fonds  
Description Level: Sub sub series  
Series Number: 1.2.2  
Accession Number: 1-2010  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 2004  
Material Details: Field journals have been scanned in multi-page PDF files. Artifact catalogues are PDF files in spreadsheet format. Photographs are in jpeg format.

### History /

#### Biographical:

The Crepeelee site was identified from the results of the Casselman survey and excavated in 2003. In 2004 the site was funded through the SCAPE project, directed by Bev Nicholson. The units were excavated by Crew Chief Tomasin Playford and crew.

Eight units were excavated in 2004, XU 1 to XU 8

The artifacts recovered from these eight excavations are faunal (animal bone), mainly bison, lithic materials (stone tools and flakes) and some ceramic (pottery). The artifact catalogue has 1258 records.

#### Scope and Content:

Sub-sub-sub series contains: Summary information of field methodology, number and co-ordinates of excavations, personnel and their staff position; Field journals are daily records of recoveries, features and activities at the site; Site records include excavation level and unit summaries, feature sheets, profiles; sample records and maps; Artifact catalogues are lists and identifications of all artifacts recovered; Photographs are of excavation units, features, the landscape and personnel.

Name Access: Crepeelee site 2004  
Subject Access: Archaeology  
Crepeelee locale  
Crepeelee site DiMe-29  
Crepeelee site 2004





## Graham site 2004

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions11967>

Part Of: RG 7 Beverley Nicholson fonds  
Description Level: Sub sub series  
Series Number: 1.4.1  
Accession Number: 1-2010  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 2004  
Material Details: Field journals have been scanned in multi-page PDF files. Artifact catalogues are PDF files in spreadsheet format. Photographs are in jpeg format.

### History /

#### Biographical:

Graham units 9 and 14 were excavated with the Crepeele site in 2004 and were reassigned to the Graham site DiMe-30 keeping the same unit numbers. Tomasin Playford was crew chief in 2004.

The Graham site was initially designated as a separate site early in the testing of the Crepeele locale due to what appeared to be a distinction between Early and Late Woodland ceramics. Subsequent testing has shown that this distinction was premature and that the cultural mosaic represented in the western section of the Crepeele locale does not readily separate in this manner.

#### Scope and Content:

Sub-sub-sub series contains: Summary information of field methodology, number and co-ordinates of excavations, personnel and their staff position; Field journals are daily records of recoveries, features and activities at the site; Site records include excavation level and unit summaries, feature sheets, profiles; sample records and maps; Artifact catalogues are lists and identifications of all artifacts recovered; Photographs are of excavation units, features, the landscape and personnel.

Name Access: Graham site 2004  
Subject Access: Archaeology  
Crepeele locale  
Graham site DiMe-30  
Graham site 2004



## Sarah site 2004

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions11855>

Part Of: RG 7 Beverley Nicholson fonds  
Description Level: Sub sub series  
Series Number: 1.3.2  
Accession Number: 1-2010  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 2004  
Material Details: Field journals have been scanned in multi-page PDF files. Artifact catalogues are PDF files in spreadsheet format. Photographs are in jpeg format.

### History /

#### Biographical:

The Sarah site was initially chosen for excavation based on the results of the Casselman survey. The survey recovered significant amounts of faunal remains, some ceramics and lithics from the test pits. Excavations took place in 2003 at the Sarah site DiMe-28.

In 2004 further excavation took place as part of a Brandon University Archaeology Field School. Units 10 to 18 were excavated with Denise Ens as the instructor and James Graham teaching assistant.

#### Scope and Content:

Sub-sub-sub series contains: Summary information of field methodology, number and co-ordinates of excavations, personnel and their staff position; Field journals are daily records of recoveries, features and activities at the site; Site records include excavation level and unit summaries, feature sheets, profiles; sample records and maps; Artifact catalogues are lists and identifications of all artifacts recovered; Photographs are of excavation units, features, the landscape and personnel.

Name Access: Sarah site 2004  
Subject Access: Archaeology  
Crepeele locale  
Sarah site DiMe-28  
Sarah site 2004



## Graham site 2004

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions11887>

Part Of: RG 7 Beverley Nicholson fonds  
Description Level: Sub sub series  
Series Number: 1.4.1  
Accession Number: 1-2010  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 2004  
Material Details: Field journals have been scanned in multi-page PDF files. Artifact catalogues are PDF files in spreadsheet format. Photographs are in jpeg format.

### History /

#### Biographical:

Graham units 9 and 14 were excavated with the Crepeele site in 2004 and were reassigned to the Graham site DiMe-30 keeping the same unit numbers. Tomasin Playford was crew chief in 2004.

The Graham site was initially designated as a separate site early in the testing of the Crepeele locale due to what appeared to be a distinction between Early and Late Woodland ceramics. Subsequent testing has shown that this distinction was premature and that the cultural mosaic represented in the western section of the Crepeele locale does not readily separate in this manner.

#### Scope and Content:

Sub-sub-sub series contains: Summary information of field methodology, number and co-ordinates of excavations, personnel and their staff position; Field journals are daily records of recoveries, features and activities at the site; Site records include excavation level and unit summaries, feature sheets, profiles; sample records and maps; Artifact catalogues are lists and identifications of all artifacts recovered; Photographs are of excavation units, features, the landscape and personnel.

Name Access: Graham site 2004  
Subject Access: Archaeology  
Crepeele locale  
Graham site DiMe-30  
Graham site 2004



## Crepeelee site 2004 - site records

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions11728>

Part Of: RG 7 Beverley Nicholson fonds  
Description Level: sub sub sub series  
Series Number: 1.2.2.3  
Accession Number: 1-2010  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 2004  
Material Details: Site records have been scanned in multi-page PDF files.

### History /

#### Biographical:

The Crepeelee site was identified from the results of the Casselman survey and excavated in 2003. In 2004 the site was funded through the SCAPE project, directed by Bev Nicholson. The units were excavated by Crew Chief Tomasin Playford and crew.

Eight units were excavated in 2004, XU 1 to XU 8. Each unit has a separate pdf file.

#### Scope and Content:

Site records of excavation units may include: level summaries, floor plans, feature sheets, wall profiles, unit summaries and any other additional information relating to the unit.

Name Access: Crepeelee site 2004 - site records  
Subject Access: Archaeology  
Crepeelee locale  
Crepeelee site DiMe-29  
Crepeelee site 2004



# Crepeelee site 2004 - summary information

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions11726>

Part Of: RG 7 Beverley Nicholson fonds

Description Level: sub sub sub series

Series Number: 1.2.2.1

Accession Number: 1-2010

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 2004

Material Details: Field journals have been scanned in multi-page PDF files. Artifact catalogues are PDF files in spreadsheet format. Photographs are in jpeg format.

History /

Biographical:

The Crepeelee site was identified from the results of the Casselman survey and excavated in 2003. Further units 1 to 8 were excavated in 2004. Funding was through the SCAPE project, directed by Dr. Bev Nicholson. The site was excavated by Crew Chief Tomasin Playford and crew.

Scope and Content:

Sub-sub-sub series contains: Summary information of field methodology, number and co-ordinates of excavations, personnel and their staff position.

Name Access: Crepeelee site 2004 - summary information

Subject Access: Archaeology  
Crepeelee locale  
Crepeelee site DiMe-29  
Crepeelee site 2004

## Documents

ARCH 1.1 Crepeele Locale  
1.2 Crepeele Site DiMe-29  
1.2.2 Crepeele 2004  
1.2.2.1 Summary Information

Crew Chief: Tomasin Playford with Crew of: Andrew Richards, Sarah Gordon, Sherry Lefebvre, Eric Cross

Excavation Unit	Catalogue Coordinates	Excavator
Unit 1	4550N 31W	Andrew Richards
Unit 2	4550N 31W	Andrew Richards
Unit 3	4550N 31W	Tomasin Playford
Unit 4	4550N 31W	Stephen Lefebvre
Unit 5	4550N 31W	Andrew Richards
Unit 6	4550N 31W	Eric Cross
Unit 7	4550N 31W	Tomasin Playford
Unit 8	4550N 31W	Stephen Lefebvre
Unit 9	4750N 31W	Tomasin Playford
Unit 10	4750N 31W	Stephen Lefebvre

After excavation the units 1 and 2 were consolidated together from the Crepeele site and were re-named the Crepeele site DiMe-29. The units 3-10 were re-named the Crepeele site 2004. 1.2.2.1 Summary Information

1.2.2.1\_C04\_Summary.pdf

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## Sarah site 2004 - summary information

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions11856>

Part Of: RG 7 Beverley Nicholson fonds

Description Level: sub sub sub series

Series Number: 1.3.2.1

Accession Number: 1-2010

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 2004

Material Details: Field journals have been scanned in multi-page PDF files. Artifact catalogues are PDF files in spreadsheet format. Photographs are in jpeg format.

### History /

#### Biographical:

The Sarah site was initially chosen for excavation based on the results of the Casselman survey. The survey recovered significant amounts of faunal remains, some ceramics and lithics from the test pits. Excavations took place in 2003 at the Sarah site DiMe-28.

In 2004 further excavation took place as part of a Brandon University Archaeology Field School. Units 10 to 18 were excavated with Denise Ens as the instructor and James Graham teaching assistant.

#### Scope and Content:

Sub-sub-sub series contains: Summary information of field methodology, number and co-ordinates of excavations, personnel and their staff position.

Name Access: Sarah site 2004 - summary information

Subject Access: Archaeology  
Crepelee locale  
Sarah site DiMe-28  
Sarah site 2004

## Documents

ABU 11.1 Crepelee Locale  
1.3 Sarah DiMe-28  
1.3.2.1 Summary Information

In 2004 the Brandon University Field School was held at the Sarah site in the Crepelee locale. Nine units were excavated (10-18-04).

Denise Ens was the instructor and James Graham the Teaching Assistant.

The following units were excavated:

Excavation Unit	Excavator	Recorder
Unit 10	ABU200410	Cathy Patterson
Unit 11	ABU200411	James McCreary
Unit 12	ABU200412	Audrey C. Corney
Unit 13	ABU200413	James Patterson
Unit 14	ABU200414	Eric Enns
Unit 15	ABU200415	Michael Graham
Unit 16	ABU200416	Paul Thompson
Unit 17	ABU200417	James Graham, Denise Ens
Unit 18	ABU200418	James Graham, Denise McCreary

1.3.2.1\_Sarah04\_Summary.pdf

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## Graham site 2004 - summary information

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions11888>

Part Of:	RG 7 Beverley Nicholson fonds
Description Level:	sub sub sub series
Series Number:	1.4.1.1
Accession Number:	1-2010
GMD:	multiple media
Date Range:	2004
Material Details:	Field journals have been scanned in multi-page PDF files. Artifact catalogues are PDF files in spreadsheet format. Photographs are in jpeg format.

### History /

#### Biographical:

The Graham site was initially designated as a separate site early in the testing of the Crepeele locale due to what appeared to be a distinction between Early and Late Woodland ceramics. Subsequent testing has shown that this distinction was premature and that the cultural mosaic represented in the western section of the Crepeele locale does not readily separate in this manner.

#### Scope and Content:


Sub-sub-sub series contains: Summary information of field methodology, number and co-ordinates of excavations, personnel and their staff position.


Name Access:	Graham site 2004 - summary information
Subject Access:	Archaeology Crepeele locale Graham site DiMe-30 Graham site 2004

## Documents

ARCH 1.1 Crepeele Locale  
1.4 Graham Site 2004-20  
1.4.1 Graham 2004  
1.4.1.1 Summary Information  
Core Unit: Thomas Playford, Core Wayne Kuhn and Andrew Richards  
Graham Site 1.4.1.1  
Excavation Unit: Catalogue Coordinates  
Site 1.4.1.1  
Excavation: Thomas Playford & Wayne Kuhn & Andrew Richards  
The units 9 and 11 were excavated with the Crepeele site in 2004 and were re-designated to the Graham site 2004-20 keeping the same unit numbers.

1.4.1.1\_Graham04\_Summary.pdf

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## Graham site 2004 - field journals

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions11890>

Part Of: RG 7 Beverley Nicholson fonds  
Description Level: sub sub sub series  
Series Number: 1.4.1.2  
Accession Number: 1-2010  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 2004  
Material Details: Field journals have been scanned in multi-page PDF files.  
History /  
Biographical:

Graham units 9 and 14 were excavated with the Crepeele site in 2004 and were reassigned to the Graham site DiMe-30 keeping the same unit numbers.

Field journals from 2004 contain notes concerning the Graham, Sarah and Atkinson sites. The relevant page numbers are noted.

### Scope and Content:

Record of daily observations at the site including: excavation methods, items recovered, features, local environment and weather.

Name Access: Graham site 2004 - field journals  
Subject Access: Archaeology  
Crepeele locale  
Graham site DiMe-30  
Graham site 2004



## Graham site 2008 - Bev Nicholson field journal

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions11960>

Part Of: RG 7 Beverley Nicholson fonds  
Description Level: File  
Series Number: 1.4.4.2  
File Number: 1  
Accession Number: 1-2010  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 2008  
Physical Description: 6 pages  
Material Details: Field journals have been scanned in multi-page PDF files.



History /

Biographical:

In 2008 Brandon University Archaeology returned to the Crepeele locale to conduct further testing at the Graham and Crepeele sites. Four units (XU 47-49 & 53) were excavated at Graham 2008 in order to collect samples and add further data to previous excavations. The usual excavation methodology was employed.

The small crew was directed by Bev Nicholson with Crew of Bill Foy, Andrew Lints & Kim Harrison

Recoveries included faunal (mostly bison), lithics and ceramics.

The field journals contain information about both the Crepeele and Graham sites 2008.

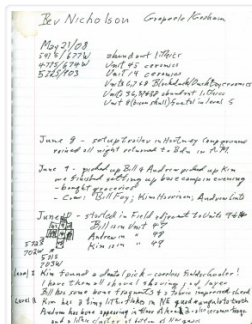
Scope and Content:

Record of daily observations at the site including: excavation methods, items recovered, features, local environment and weather.

Name Access: Graham site 2008 - Bev Nicholson field journal

Subject Access: Archaeology  
Crepeele locale  
Graham site DiMe-30  
Graham site 2008

## Documents



1.4.4.2.1\_Graham08\_B  
Nicholson.pdf

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## Crepeele site 2008 - Bev Nicholson field journal

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions11809>

Part Of: RG 7 Beverley Nicholson fonds

Description Level: sub sub sub series

Series Number: 1.2.5.2

File Number: 1



Accession Number: 1-2010  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 2008  
Physical Description: 6 pages  
Material Details: Field journals have been scanned in multi-page PDF files.  
History /  
Biographical:

The Crepeele site was identified from the results of the Casselman survey and excavated in 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2007.

In 2008 a small crew under the direction of Bev Nicholson returned to the site to gather further samples and verify profiles. Three units (XU 50, 51 and 52) were excavated. As well the Graham site 2008 was also excavated.

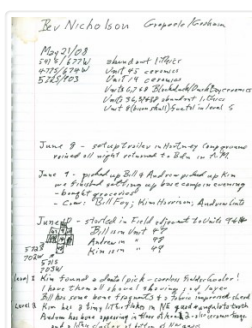
The field journals contain information about both the Crepeele and Graham sites 2008.

#### Scope and Content:

Record of daily observations at the site including: excavation methods, items recovered, features, local environment and weather.

Name Access: Crepeele site 2008 - Bev Nicholson field journal  
Subject Access: Archaeology  
Crepeele locale  
Crepeele site DiMe-29  
Crepeele site 2008

## Documents



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## ARCH 2: North Lauder locale

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions12079>

Part Of: RG 7 Beverley Nicholson fonds

Description Level: Series  
Series Number: 2  
Accession Number: 1-2010  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 1997 to present

History /

Biographical:

#### ARCH 2: North Lauder Locale

The North Lauder locale has a long archaeological and geological history that is important for understanding the forces that shaped the region. Archaeological research in the locale shows that the area has been occupied by humans for at least the past 6,500 years. Environmental forces provided an area of diverse resources that attracted early peoples.

#### Environment of the Lauder Sandhills

The North Lauder locale is part of the greater Lauder Sandhills area. The glaciers that covered this region began to recede approximately 11,000 years ago leaving a large lake known as glacial Lake Hind. The Souris River, the Lauder Sandhills and the Oak Lake Aquifer are remnants of the environmental and geological forces that shaped the region.

The Lauder Sandhills region is characterized by a landscape of sand sheets and stabilized sand dunes interspersed with a variety of wetlands. This complex topographic and hydrological situation favoured the development of an island mosaic of mixed forest, wetland and meadow, surrounded by mixed grass prairie. The result was a large, isolated ecotone which provided a rich variety of subsistence resources for hunter-gatherers.

#### Research in the Lauder Sandhills

Archaeologists from Brandon University have been conducting research in the Lauder Sandhills since 1991. Research in the North Lauder locale has focused on the Atkinson site, a 6,500 year old hunter-gatherer site and Flintstone Hill.

#### The Atkinson site

The Atkinson site is one of the oldest excavated sites in Manitoba and has been Radiocarbon dated to 6,500 years before present. The Atkinson site is located on the bank of the Souris River and was discovered when a hearth (fire pit) was seen eroding out of the bank. Based on the date of the site and the kind of lithics (stone tools) present it is considered a Gowen occupation. The Atkinson site is evidence that bison hunters were active on the northern plains at a very early date. Similar sites have also been found on the High Plains in the U.S. and are referred to as the Mummy Cave Complex.

The Atkinson Site is of great importance as it is the first undisturbed site of this type to be excavated in Manitoba and extends the range of these sites south and east from the type-sites in central Saskatchewan.

#### Flintstone Hill

The geomorphology of the glacial Lake Hind Basin over the past 11,000 years is known primarily through the study of a cut bank along the Souris River. Flint Stone Hill contains the most complete stratigraphic record for the post-glacial period on the northern plains. The site has been extensively studied by geoarchaeologists, geologists and paleoenvironmentalists over many years and their findings have contributed to our understanding of the region.

The North Lauder locale Borden designations of Atkinson site DiMe-27 and Flintstone Hill site DiMe-26.

#### Borden System

Archaeological sites in Canada are identified by the Borden system, which is a uniform site designation system. The country is divided into grids based on latitude and longitude in blocks of 10 x 20 minutes. The first 4 letters indicate the block and the following numbers indicate the actual site. For example the area of the Lauder Sandhills in southwestern Manitoba is identified by the letters DM and the North Lauder locale within that area is DiMe. The Atkinson site is DiMe-27 and the Flintstone Hill site DiMe-26. As new sites are discovered they will be numbered sequentially.

Scope and Content:

The Series has been divided into two sub-series, including (1) Atkinson site DiMe-27 and Flintstone Hill site DiMe-26.

Name Access: North Lauder locale  
Subject Access: Archaeology  
Atkinson site DiMe-27

Arrangement:

Series is arranged by site and by year of field work.



## Flintstone Hill - DiMe-26

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions12283>

Part Of: RG 7 Beverley Nicholson fonds  
Description Level: Sub-series  
Series Number: 2.2  
Accession Number: 1-2010  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 1997-2000

Flintstone Hill is located on the north bank of the Souris River. It is a deeply stratified lacustrine, fluvial and aeolian soil profile that has been exposed by the river through stream-bank erosion. This section is thought to be the most complete middle to late Holocene exposure on the northeastern plains. While the value of the site is primarily for paleo-environmental research and reconstruction, cultural deposits have been identified at the site. Local collectors have picked up lithic materials as they eroded out of the bank for the past several decades and it was they who had named the site. Mr. Bruce Timms from Lauder first drew the Flintstone Hill site to the attention of Dr. Nicholson of Brandon University.

During the mid 1990's to the early 2000's archaeological testing took place on Flintstone Hill. In 1998, an archaeological field crew dug a series of overlapping trenches down the slope of the profile and produced a schematic drawing. A peat layer at the bottom of this profile, dated from the top at 9,400 RCY and at the bottom to 10,400 RCY, has provided details of marsh plant and insect communities at this time.

Subsequent archaeological investigations at the site recovered several cultural deposits including: a hearth dating to 3250 $\pm$ 70 R.C.Y. (BETA 109529); a butchered atlas bone 4090 $\pm$ 70 R.C.Y. (BETA 109990); and bone fragments accompanied by Swan River Chert and Knife River Flint lithic flakes 5350 $\pm$ 50 (BETA 109530). While no diagnostic tools were recovered, these dates suggest that this occupation, which is contemporary with the Atkinson site, may be a Gowen occupation.

Extensive paleo-environmental research has been conducted at the site. Dr. Running, a geomorphologist from the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire, participated in the Study of Cultural Adaptations in the Prairie Ecozone (SCAPE) Project and he and his students tested the site for several years. He was joined in this effort by Dr. Havholm, Dr. Boyd, Dr. Wiseman, Dr. Beaudoin, and other SCAPE researchers in the interpretation of the paleo-environment of the Glacial Lake Hind basin. The following article is recommended reading.

Running, Garry L., Karen G. Havholm, Matt Boyd and Dion J. Wiseman  
2002 Holocene Stratigraphy and Geomorphology of Flintstone Hill, Lauder Sandhills, Glacial Lake Hind Basin, Southwestern Manitoba. *Geographie Physique et Quaternaire* 56(2-3):291-303.

Scope and Content:

Sub series has been divided into two sub sub series including: (1) Flintstone Hill 1997 (2) Flintstone Hill 1998-2000

Name Access:	Flintstone Hill - DiMe-26
Subject Access:	Archaeology North Lauder locale Flintstone Hill - DiMe-26



## Sarah site DiMe-28

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions11829>

Part Of: RG 7 Beverley Nicholson fonds

Description Level: Sub-series

Series Number: 1.3

Accession Number: 1-2010

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 2003-2004

History /

Biographical:

The Sarah site was chosen for excavation based on the results of the Casselman survey. The survey recovered significant amounts of faunal remains, some ceramics and lithics from the test pits. Excavations took place in 2003 at Crepeelee West (Units 1-5) and Crepeelee East (Units 6-9). The site was subsequently renamed the Sarah site DiMe-28. In 2004 another 9 units were excavated (Units 10-18).

Based on the recoveries it was determined that the Sarah site is a stratified site with woodland ceramics in the upper occupation and late woodland points in both of the upper occupations. These upper occupations produced abundant bison bone including foetal bone. The lower occupations produced less bone and no foetal bone, although absence of foetal bone in the lower occupations does not necessarily indicate a warm season occupation. This could be due to sample error or peritoxic factors such as scavenging of the fragile bone by dogs or other carnivores.

The dates from the Sarah site include 550+/-40 B.P.; 1430+/-80 B.P.; 2810+/-80 B.P.; 3120+/-130 B.P. The lower occupations did not yield any diagnostic materials although debitage was abundant. These occupations were most productive at the edge of the large sand dune at the southern edge of the excavations. It is assumed that the major portion of these occupations have been overridden by the dune in the past 3000 years. Heavy earthmoving equipment would be required to remove this overburden which limits the possibility of future excavation.

### Environment

The Sarah site is a large area located at the eastern end of the Crepeelee locale. Ground cover is a mosaic of aspen poplar groves and patches of mesic grass prairie. Excavation profiles indicate that this has been the situation since early precontact times, although as local climatic conditions change (primarily rainfall), the relative size of these areas and where they may have occurred also changed. The soil is aeolian sand sheet derived from delta outwash deposits along the western edge of glacial Lake Hind. The present topography is a variable dune landscape reworked by aeolian activity that creates a mosaic of microhabitats. These include forested patches in the lee of sand dunes with grassland on the southern and western exposures and small damp lowlands that support balsam poplar, willows, red osier dogwood, high-bush cranberry and water birch. There is no permanent water source in the area although a small seasonal stream meanders through a damp lowland to the east of the Sarah site.

### Scope and Content:

Sub-series has been divided into sub sub series including: Sarah 2003 and Sarah 2004,

Name Access: Sarah site DiMe-28

Subject Access: Archaeology  
Crepeelee locale  
Sarah site DiMe-28



## Graham site DiMe-30

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions11886>

Part Of: RG 7 Beverley Nicholson fonds

Description Level: Sub-series

Series Number: 1.4

Accession Number: 1-2010

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 2004-2008

History /

Biographical:

The Graham site is located adjacent to the Crepeele site towards the western end of the Crepeele locale. The Graham site was initially designated as a separate site early in the testing of the Crepeele locale due to what appeared to be a distinction between Early and Late Woodland ceramics. Subsequent testing has shown that this distinction was premature and that the cultural mosaic represented in the western section of the Crepeele locale may not readily separate in this manner. However, due to the records management that was already in place, the original separate designations have been retained.

### Environment

Ground cover is a mosaic of aspen poplar groves and patches of mesic grass prairie. Excavation profiles indicate that this has been the situation since early precontact times, although as local climatic conditions change (primarily rainfall), the relative size of these areas and where they may have occurred also changed. The soil is aeolian sand sheet derived from delta outwash deposits along the western edge of glacial Lake Hind. The present topography is a variable dune landscape reworked by aeolian activity that creates a mosaic of microhabitats. These include forested patches in the lee of sand dunes grassland on the southern and western exposures and small damp lowlands that support balsam poplar, willows, red osier dogwood, high-bush cranberry and water birch. There is no permanent water source in the area although a small seasonal stream meanders through a damp lowland along the eastern margin of the Crepeele locale.

Excavations at the Graham site took place from 2004 to 2008. Analyses of the recoveries shows that, with two exceptions, all of the occupations that have been tested produced bison foetal bone. The presence of foetal bison is a strong indicator of wintering occupations...The absence of foetal in some area does not necessarily indicate warm season occupations since these excavation series are small and the absence could be due to sample error or peritoxic factors, such as scavenging of the fragile bone by dogs or other carnivores.

From this evidence the Graham site has been interpreted as being primarily a wintering area. This is consistent with the lack of surface water (snow would serve as a substitute in winter) and the abundance of wood for fuel – a critical requirement for winter occupation. Cultural occupations date from Mortlach circa 250 B.P to woodland circa 580 B.P.

### Scope and Content:

Sub-series has been divided into sub sub series including: Graham 2004, Graham 2005, Graham 2006 and Graham 2008

Name Access: Graham site DiMe-30

Subject Access: Archaeology  
Crepeele locale  
Graham site DiMe-30