







THE DORSET PALAEOESKIMO SITES OF POINT RICHE AND PHILLIP'S  
GARDEN, PORT AU CHOIX, NORTHWESTERN NEWFOUNDLAND:  
INVESTIGATING SOCIAL AND FUNCTIONAL CONNECTIONS

by

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## **Abstract**

This thesis explores the social and functional relationship between Point Riche and Phillip's Garden, two large Dorset Palaeoeskimo sites located near Port au Choix, northwestern Newfoundland. While previous research had considerably enhanced our understanding of Point Riche itself, little was known about its specific function, seasonality and potential connection to Phillip's Garden. To contribute to a fuller understanding of these issues, this research compares between the two sites qualitative and quantitative attributes of dwelling architecture and lithic artefact assemblages. The results of these analyses suggest that Point Riche was an intermittently occupied warm-weather occupation directly associated with Phillip's Garden.

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## **CHAPTER 1**

### **Introduction**

#### **1.1 Introduction**

This thesis explores the social and functional relationship between Point Riche (EeBi-20) and Phillip's Garden (EeBi-1), two large Dorset Palaeoeskimo sites located near Port au Choix, northwestern Newfoundland. To contribute to an understanding of this relationship, qualitative and quantitative data on dwelling architecture and lithic artefact assemblages are used as a basis of comparison. Based on the results of this analysis, which suggest differences in site function and seasonality but the same family/social groups, it is argued that Point Riche was directly connected to the larger Phillip's Garden and would have represented a vital component in the livelihood of the Port au Choix Dorset. The following provides a brief overview of the specific thesis research objectives and organization of chapters.

#### **1.2 Research objectives**

While the earlier research of Renouf (1985, 1986, 1987, 1992) and Eastaugh (2002, 2003; see also Eastaugh and Taylor 2005) had considerably enhanced our understanding of Point Riche itself, little was known about its specific function, seasonality and potential connection to Phillip's Garden. Consequently, the present research was instigated to address two primary research questions: 1) what is the function

and seasonality of Point Riche and; 2) what is its social and functional relationship to Phillip's Garden? These questions are discussed individually below.

*What is the function and seasonality of Point Riche?*

Previous research by Renouf (1985, 1986, 1987, 1992) and Eastaugh (2002, 2003) suggested several potential cases for Point Riche site function. Renouf (2002:70) developed four hypotheses for its function: 1) primarily a summer occupation that complemented the late winter occupation of Phillip's Garden; 2) primarily an alternative March-April harp seal hunting location used when the Phillip's Garden shore was jammed with ice; 3) occupied in March-April by different families than those at Phillip's Garden or; 4) a combination of the above (see also Eastaugh 2002:147; Renouf 1999b:44). Despite the significant contributions of previous research, an apparent high architectural variability in a sample of three dwellings and a disconnect between the nature of dwelling architecture and the available faunal material complicated interpretations of site function.

To further consider this issue of variability, a fourth dwelling depression was investigated. The particular dwelling was chosen based on the presence of a surface depression and geophysical data (Dominic Lacroix, personal communication, 2010; Eastaugh 2002, 2003; Eastaugh and Taylor 2005) that indicated it was likely a dwelling. Data gathered from the analysis of this dwelling and from comparison with others at the site were considered together with data on the lithic artefact assemblages, including the proportions of functional tool types, to further address the issue of site function.



*What is the social and functional relationship between Point Riche and Phillip's Garden?*

If the data did not support Renouf's Hypothesis 3 then it would be reasonable to suggest a direct relationship between Point Riche and Phillip's Garden. Given their close proximity to each other and overlapping radiocarbon dates which suggest contemporaneity, it is indeed likely that the two sites were related in some way. Of particular importance to the present research was the nature of this relationship – that is, what was the potential social and functional significance of Point Riche in the context of the Phillip's Garden occupation and, at a broader scale, within the larger Port au Choix Dorset landscape.

To address this broader inter-site scale question, quantitative and qualitative attributes of dwelling architecture and lithic artefact assemblages were compared between Point Riche and Phillip's Garden. A thorough examination and comparison of dwelling architecture from the two sites provides a basis for addressing larger questions of function, permanency, seasonality, social organization and construction method. In a similar regard, a comparison of the frequency of functional lithic tool types allows for an assessment of differences in functional emphases – that is, what sorts of activities comprised the taskscapes of each site. An analysis and comparison of specific lithic tool morphologies, including shape, size and raw material use attributes, provides a sufficient basis for assessing the possibility that these two sites were occupied by similar family/social groups; close similarities in lithic tool morphologies would suggest similar family/social groups with shared technological traditions. In addition, comparison of these attributes with other Newfoundland Dorset sites provides a basis for situating Point

Riche and Phillip's Garden within the wider context of Robbins' (1985) model, as expanded by LeBlanc (2000, 2008, 2010), for regional variation of lithic tool forms on the island.

### **1.3 Thesis organization**

This thesis is comprised of eight chapters. The following Chapter 2 situates the present research within its wider cultural milieu, describing in general the Dorset occupation of Newfoundland and Labrador, and subsequently the Phillip's Garden and Point Riche sites in particular. Chapter 3 is a condensed report of the 2010 excavations at Point Riche, which formed the basis of the initial research. Chapters 4 and 5 comprise the bulk of this thesis and describe respectively the data on dwelling architecture and lithic artefact assemblages. In Chapter 6 these data are summarized and compared with available data from a number of other Dorset sites in Newfoundland and Labrador. On these bases, in Chapter 7 the research questions are addressed from a landscape perspective, considering both the physical and cultural dimensions of landscape as a means to understand the function and seasonality of Point Riche and its social and functional connection to Phillip's Garden. Conclusions are presented in Chapter 8.

## **CHAPTER 2**

### **The Dorset Palaeoeskimo**

#### **2.1 Introduction**

This chapter provides cultural context for the subsequent chapters, describing briefly the characteristics of and available knowledge about the Dorset Palaeoeskimo occupation of Newfoundland and Labrador. The discussion then focuses in on the Dorset occupation of Port au Choix, providing a general overview of and history of research at the Point Riche and Phillip's Garden sites in particular.

#### **2.2 Dorset in Newfoundland and Labrador**

The Dorset Palaeoeskimo were arctic-adapted hunter-gatherers with origins in the Eastern Arctic (Collins 1950; Jenness 1925), and are regarded as part of the Arctic Small Tool Tradition (ASTt), as defined by Irving (1957; see also Giddings 1951). These people occupied much of the Canadian Arctic (Maxwell 1985; McGhee 2001), the Québec Lower North Shore (Fitzhugh 1980; Pintal 1998), Labrador (Cox 1978; Fitzhugh 1972; Tuck 1975), Greenland (Andreasen 2000; Gronnow and Sørensen 2006), Newfoundland (Harp 1964; Renouf 1999a), and the islands of Saint-Pierre and Miquelon (Leblanc 2008). The Dorset tradition is divided into three phases based on chronology and material culture characteristics: Early (2500-2000 BP), Middle (2000-1200 BP), and Late (1000-500 BP) (Fitzhugh 2001:136). While Early, Middle and Late are recognized in Labrador, only Middle Dorset is recognized in Newfoundland (Cox 1978; Tuck and Fitzhugh 1986).

Middle Dorset tool assemblages amongst sites in the Eastern Arctic are generally similar. The typical lithic tool assemblage (e.g., Figure 2.1) normally consists of tip-fluted triangular endblades, triangular and thumbnail endscrapers, asymmetric bifacial knives, microblades and microblade cores, ground and polished burin-like-tools, and rectangular soapstone lamps and pots (Maxwell 1985:129-152; Renouf 1993a:204). Due to varying preservational conditions, there is relatively less evidence for organic tool assemblages, but such assemblages can include, but are not limited to, bone, antler and



Figure 2.1. Selected artefacts of a typical Middle Dorset tool assemblage (Phillip's Garden). First row, l-r: endblade with antler harpoon head; two endblades; two endscrapers; two burin-like tools; second row, l-r: barbed bone point fragment; three microblades; bifacial knife; third row: bone awl; fourth row: whale bone sled shoe fragment. Photo: Port au Choix Archaeology Project (PACAP).

ivory harpoon heads and foreshafts, amulets and/or pendants, various sewing implements, and whale bone sled shoes (Harp 1964; Renouf 2009b:93; Sutherland 2001; Wells 2006, 2009:114); there are also a number of organic assemblages where wooden items are present (e.g., Erwin 2001:155; Fitzhugh et al. 2006; McGhee 2001:9, 60).

The material culture of Dorset in Newfoundland was originally thought to be homogenous across the island (Fitzhugh 1980:22-23; Harp 1964:130-139; Linnamae 1975:93; Wintemberg 1940:330). However, while exhibiting the same general technological traits described above, lithic tool form and styles from different regions in fact exhibit much variability, with major differences in shape, size and raw material (LeBlanc 2000:102, 2008:159, 2010; Robbins 1986). Expanding on Robbins' (1986:121-123) earlier work on regional expression, LeBlanc (2010:48-50, Figure 9) identifies seven distinct regional variants based on differences in endblade form and raw material: Northwest Coast, Southwest Coast, South Coast/Saint Pierre, Trinity Bay, Bonavista Bay, Notre Dame Bay, and White Bay (cf. Erwin 2001:156, 2005a:129-130). In the Northwest Coast region where the Phillip's Garden and Point Riche sites are located, fine-grained cherts would have been gathered primarily from outcrops at Cow Head, St. Pauls Inlet and possibly Port au Port (Figure 2.2) (Lavers 2010; LeBlanc 2008:41, 44ff). A regionalization of lithic tools is thought to have resulted from a general decrease in residential mobility and an attendant intensification in the use of local resources (LeBlanc 2000, 2008, 2010:51; see also Robbins 1986). As suggested by Anstey (2010:31-32), the production of regionalized tool forms may also have had a significant social purpose in establishing and maintaining regional identities.

Dorset sites tend to be located on prominent headlands in primarily outer coastal areas, with fewer inner bay and interior site locations. The location of sites and available faunal remains from a small number of them (e.g., Cox and Speiss 1980; Eastaugh 2002; Hartery 2010; Hodgetts et al. 2003; Murray 1992; Pastore 1986; Simpson 1986) indicate that Dorset economy on the island was highly specialized and focused on the exploitation of marine resources, particularly harp seal. Seal remains generally comprise the majority, or at least a high proportion, of faunal assemblages regardless of the respective seasonality of sites (i.e., summer vs. winter) (Anstey et al. 2010:15; Cox and Speiss 1980; Eastaugh 2002:139; Hartery 2010:103; Hodgetts et al. 2003; Murray 1992; Simpson 1986:197).

On a very general level, Dorset dwellings in Newfoundland tend to be semi-subterranean oval or rectangular structures with hearths, axial features, benches and pits (for specific details see Barnable 2008; Curtis 2009; Eastaugh 2003; Erwin 2005b; Evans 1981; Fogt 1996; Harp 1976; Hartery and Rast 2003; LeBlanc 2003; Renouf 2003, 2006, 2011b:143-147; Robbins 1985; Wells and Renouf 2008:13; Wolff et al. 2010:173; see also Chapters 4 and 6, this thesis). The occurrence and specific nature of these attributes varies amongst the excavated dwelling remains. With an intensification of marine resource use came a general decrease in residential mobility and in turn larger dwellings and sites that may have been occupied year-round (LeBlanc 2003:498; Renouf 2003, 2011b; Robbins 1985); larger dwellings also reflect increased household size (Renouf 2003:410). Due in part to the greater amount of research done at Port au Choix, these general trends are most clearly seen at the Dorset sites there, in particular at Phillip's Garden and Point Riche.

### 2.3 Dorset at Port au Choix

There is a total of 17 identified Dorset sites and/or components at Port au Choix (Renouf 2011c:Table 1.2) (Figure 2.2). This number includes five mortuary sites and/or components: Crow Head Cave (EeBi-4), Eastern Point (EeBi-10), Eastern Point-2 (EeBi-38), Gargamelle Rockshelter (EeBi-21) and an isolated inhumation in Phillip's Garden House 12 (Brown 2011; Harp and Hughes 1968). A number of sites were interpreted as possible warm-weather sites, for example the Party (EeBi-30), Hamlyn (EeBi-39) and Lloyd (EeBi-41) sites (Renouf and Bell 1998:25, 27; Stiwich 2011). Given the extent and richness of its cultural deposits, the Northcott/Rumbolt (EeBi-5, 7) site clearly was an important locale for the Dorset at Port au Choix (Harp 1964:28; Renouf 1985:24). The largest and most extensively studied sites are Phillip's Garden and Point Riche.

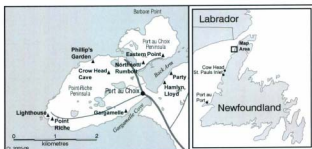


Figure 2.2. Location of sites mentioned in this chapter. Map: PACAP.

### 2.3.1 Phillip's Garden

Phillip's Garden has been the focus of archaeological research since the early twentieth century (Harp 1964, 1976; Winzemberg 1939:85-86ff). The site is one of the largest and richest Dorset sites in the Eastern Arctic, including the remains of at least 68 dwellings (cf. Eastaugh and Taylor 2011; Renouf 2003, 2006, 2009b, 2011b) which can be found scattered over a 2.17 ha meadow (Figure 2.3). The majority of excavated dwellings are large and substantially constructed with a central living area, which would have been formed by digging out a shallow depression into the sandy substrate, and with raised walls and platforms built from stacked limestone rocks (Renouf 2006:123).



Figure 2.3. Phillip's Garden showing dwelling depressions and excavation areas (up to 2002) and in inset photograph. Map: PACAP.



Most of the site is covered with about 20-60cm of dark organically enriched soil full of artefacts, faunal remains and lithic debitage, which attest to its intensity of occupation (Renouf 2011b:131).

Phillip's Garden was occupied for approximately 800 years. Based on >30 radiocarbon dates from 15 dwellings (Figure 2.4), Bell and Renouf (2011:37) divide this occupation period into three arbitrary temporal phases: an initial low-to-medium population between 1990 and 1550 cal BP (early); a period of maximum occupation between 1550 and 1350 cal BP (middle); and a return to a medium occupation before abandonment at about 1180 cal BP (late) (cf. Erwin 1995, 2011; Harp 1976). These phase divisions were made based on number of dwellings per decade with overlapping calibrated date ranges at one sigma probability (Renouf 2011b:133).

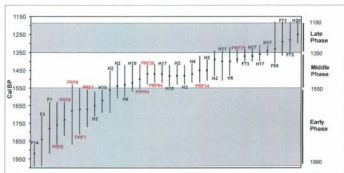


Figure 2.4. Radiocarbon dates from dwellings at Phillip's Garden and Point Riche. Red Feature numbers indicate features from Point Riche; black Feature and House numbers indicate those from Phillip's Garden.

The first archaeological excavations at Phillip's Garden were conducted by Wintenberg (1939), who tested at the site in 1927 and 1929 and noted the richness of its deposits. In the summers of 1949 and 1950 Harp (1951) tested there. Between 1961 and 1963, as the basis for his PhD research which focused on the culture history of the Dorset in Newfoundland, Harp (1964, 1976) excavated seven and extensively tested 13 dwellings at Phillip's Garden. Between 1985 and 1992, four dwellings were excavated by Renouf (1985, 1986, 1987, 1991, 1992, 1993b, 1999b, 2002, 2003, 2006, 2009b, 2011b); she also reinvestigated four others originally excavated by Harp (Cogswell 2006; Cogswell et al. 2006; Renouf 2006, 2007; Renouf et al. 2005). Due to a lack of excavation and thus lesser understanding of exterior areas, in 2008 and 2009 her focus shifted to exterior areas between dwellings, in particular between House 17 and House 18 (Renouf 2009a). Well preserved and abundant faunal remains from these dwellings and a number of excavated middens (see Hodgetts et al. 2003; Murray 1992; Renouf 2000) demonstrate that the subsistence base of the site was predominantly harp seal hunting, which took place in December (Hodgetts 2005:104) and late March-early April (Renouf 2011b:155).

### 2.3.2 Point Riche

The site at Point Riche was discovered in 1984 during a systematic survey led by Renouf (1985) (Figure 2.5), who also found the adjacent Lighthouse site (EeBi-19) to the northwest. Point Riche dates to 1870-1330 cal BP, overlapping for approximately 540 years with the occupation of Phillip's Garden (see Figure 2.4). It consists of approximately 18 dwelling depressions which were identified through visual (Renouf

1985) and geophysical survey (Eastaugh 2002, 2003; Eastaugh and Taylor 2005). The depressions are fairly evenly spread over a 150m long raised marine terrace, which is bounded to the east by a freshwater stream/marsh. The excavated dwellings at Point Riche are much smaller and less well constructed than those at Phillip's Garden; existing natural sinkholes in the limestone bedrock were used as expedient dwelling foundations (Anstey et al. 2010; Eastaugh 2002; Renouf 1992).

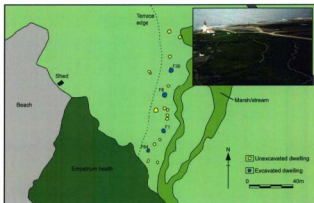


Figure 2.5. Point Riche showing location of dwellings and in inset photograph, in which the west and east edges of site terrace are indicated by the white line. In the inset photo, the Lighthouse site is located to the west (left) of the modern lighthouse. Inset photo: PACAP.

During the 1984 field season, two of these depressions were test trenched, yielding a high quantity of faunal remains and predominantly Middle Dorset artefacts; test pits were also excavated in thirteen other depressions, three of which produced cultural

material (Renouf 1985:18-20). Between 1985 and 1991 excavation of two other depressions revealed the remains of what were interpreted as dwelling structures, Feature 1 and Feature 8 (Renouf 1986, 1987, 1992). Based on the nature of its architecture and spatial patterning of artefacts, Renouf (1992:51) interpreted Feature 8 as a warm-weather dwelling. Based on an apparent lack of architecture and clustering of artefacts, Feature 1 was subsequently reinterpreted as a midden deposit rather than a dwelling (Eastaugh 2002:85, 94). In the course of excavating Feature 8, Renouf (1992:64) also sampled an associated midden deposit (Feature 14), which produced abundant lithic debitage and artefacts. Dwelling Feature 8 and midden Feature 1 are contemporaneous with the early phase Phillip's Garden dwellings, while midden Feature 14 fits more closely in age with the middle phase (Figure 2.4). In 2001 Eastaugh (2002, 2003) excavated dwelling Feature 30, and in 2010 Anstey et al. (2010; see also Chapter 3) excavated dwelling Feature 64 and associated midden Feature 75. Based on the occurrence of an interior axial feature, Feature 30 was interpreted as a winter/late spring occupation (Eastaugh 2003:453); Feature 64 was interpreted as a warm-weather occupation based on its insubstantial architecture. Dwelling Feature 30 and Feature 64 are contemporaneous with the middle phase Phillip's Garden occupation; midden Feature 75 dates to the tail end of the middle phase (see Figure 2.4). Based on faunal remains and the frequencies of tool types from the site, Eastaugh (2002:146, 2003:453; see also Renouf 1992) suggests that Point Riche was a temporary base camp, where the occupants hunted harp seal herds that migrated past the site between March and April each year.

## **2.4 Summary**

This chapter briefly summarizes the cultural background of the Dorset occupation of Newfoundland and describes briefly the Dorset occupation at Port au Choix and, in particular, past research done at Phillip's Garden and Point Riche. In the context of the Dorset occupation of Newfoundland and Labrador, Phillip's Garden and Point Riche are among the largest, if not the largest, Dorset sites in the region, and together reflect the general island-wide trend of a decrease in residential mobility. The occupations of Phillip's Garden and Point Riche overlap for about 540 years. Both sites were interpreted as primarily spring harp seal hunting locations. These interpretations are reconsidered in the following chapters.

## CHAPTER 3

### Excavation of Feature 64 at Point Riche

#### 3.1 Introduction

This chapter describes the archaeological investigations conducted at Point Riche during the summer of 2010 (Figure 3.1). It outlines the field objectives and presents an overview of field methodology and of the excavation results, describing the features and artefacts found. These data are compared with data from past field seasons at Point Riche and Phillip's Garden in the following chapters.



Figure 3.1. Map of Point Riche showing location of 2010 excavation area (shown outlined in red). Map: PACAP.

### **3.2 Field objectives**

The primary objective of the 2010 field season was to investigate a fourth depression, designated Feature 64, in the southern portion of the site (Figure 3.1). A ground-penetrating radar (GPR) survey of this depression indicated that it had various magnetic anomalies, the most obvious of which was a 'halo' around the perimeter of the depression. Given that similar haloes had been recognized in other dwellings (Eastaugh 2002:33, 35-36; Eastaugh and Taylor 2005:168, cf. 2011), and were later identified as perimeter wall berms, it was likely the depression was cultural and not natural. Our aim in excavating this dwelling was to assess whether it was similar in architecture and function to the previously excavated dwellings.

### **3.3 GPR survey**

Before excavation began a GPR survey of the Feature 64 area was conducted by Dominic Lacroix, PhD student in the Department of Archaeology, Memorial University of Newfoundland (MUN), with the assistance of the author and Dominique Lavers, Canada Research Chair (CRC) Research Assistant, Department of Archaeology, MUN. As shown in Figure 3.2 the readings suggested a possible 5.5m by 5m perimeter berm/wall surrounding the depression, indicated by a halo of high amplitude reflection. The results indicated large amounts of gravel in the northern part of the depression. The results also showed a break in the western side which appeared to be an entranceway. On these bases we decided that this was a suitable depression for excavation.

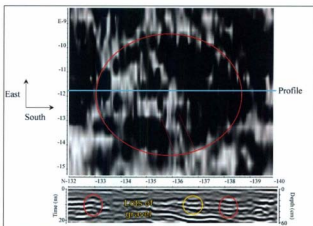


Figure 3.2. GPR results of Feature 64 shown in plan (above) and profile (below). Red ellipses indicate possible berms and yellow indicates a possible boulder or rock concentration. Analysis and figure by Dominic Lacroix.

### 3.4 Provenience

The site grid at Point Riche is based on the Parks Canada provenience system, using 10m<sup>2</sup> operations (Renouf 1985:39-41, 2002:1). Feature 64 is located within two operations: 7A516 and 7A531 (Figure 3.3). Each operation is divided into four 5m<sup>2</sup> sub-operations that are named A-D clockwise from the northwest corner (Renouf 2002:1). Each m<sup>2</sup> is given a Cartesian northing and easting relative to the main site datum (N0 E0). The prefix '7A' is the Parks Canada provenience designation of all sites within the confines of the Port au Choix National Historic Site.



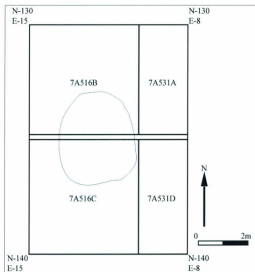


Figure 3.3. Feature 64 excavation area.

### 3.5 Methodology

In 2010 we excavated 70m<sup>2</sup> covering Feature 64 and an area adjacent to it (Figure 3.3). The techniques for excavation and recording followed the standard protocol of the Port au Choix Archaeology Project (see Eastaugh 2002; Renouf 1985, 2002, 2009a). After setting up the grid, we de-sodded the area but left a 0.25m by 7m east-west baulk for recording stratigraphy. We collected soil samples at 50cm intervals. A subset of these will be sent for XRF analysis to identify the chemical make-up of the soil; these data will

be compared to samples taken outside House 17 at Phillip's Garden (Renouf 2009a). We excavated in plan by natural level and sifted backdirt through a ¼ inch mesh screen. Plan maps and soil profiles were hand-drawn. Recording procedure also included extensive digital photography, and recording the provenience of all artefacts and features with a Total Station. All provenience data was stored in Excavation Manager, an ArcView-based GIS program. Field notes and catalogue forms are on file at the CRC Northern Peninsula Collections Room, Department of Archaeology, MUN.

### **3.6 Stratigraphy**

The stratigraphy for the Feature 64 excavation area was fairly typical for Point Riche (but see Eastaugh 2002:45-48; Renouf 1986:24, 1992:46), with a 2-3cm thick sterile sod (Level 1) overlying about 2-3cm of rooty, dense dark brown sod with a small quantity of cultural material (Level 2). Level 2A was the main cultural layer and was distinguishable from Level 2 as the soil became much looser, darker, less rooty and yielded a higher proportion of cultural material; it ranged in thickness from 5 to 15cm. Level 2 is likely an interface between Level 1 and 2A. In the centre of the depression there was no clear transition from Level 2 to Level 2A; the soil directly beneath the sod appeared more like Level 2A. Level 3 was a <5cm brown clayey soil that yielded cultural material only in the top 1-2cm; this level was notably absent from the centre of the depression. Underlying Level 3 was Level 4, a sterile limestone gravel substrate.

### 3.7 Feature descriptions

A total of 37 features was designated during the 2010 field season (Figure 3.4), the majority of which were various natural pits and/or undulations in the limestone substrate. The features are discussed below.

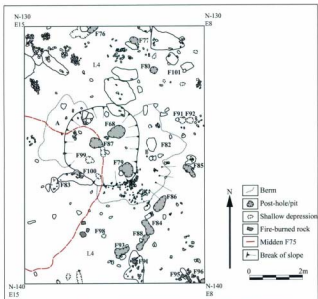


Figure 3.4. Plan map of Feature 64 at the bottom of Level 3.

Dwelling depression – Feature 64 (7A516B, C; 7A531A, D)

This was a sub-rounded depression that at ground surface was 4m wide by 3.75m long and up to 0.40m deep (Figure 3.4). The outline of this structure was defined by a berm of thin mottled Level 3 (Feature 82) on the eastern perimeter and a deposit of dry, light brown Level 4 on the south and west perimeter. Many features were found within and outside Feature 64 and are described below.

Buried sod – Features 65, 66, 69, 70, 81, 94 (7A516B, C; 531D) (Figure 3.4)

There were three different varieties of what appeared to be buried sod. Features 65 and 66 were dense deposits of Level 2 soil filled with many small roots and flecks of white sand – giving them an ashy appearance – and were 30cm by 25cm by 4cm and 62cm by 25cm by 4cm, respectively. These deposits were generally sterile and were located along the northern baulk of the excavation area.

The second variety of buried sod includes Features 69 and 70 (Figure 3.5). These deposits consisted of compact, dense brown soil with few roots and a small number of flakes; a small concentration of faunal remains and one preform was found under the northern portion of Feature 69. Feature 69 was 80cm by 50cm by 5cm and Feature 70 was 50cm by 37cm by 5cm. Both were located on the perimeter of the dwelling depression (Feature 64).

A third variety of buried sod was similar in composition to Features 65 and 66 but had a small amount of cultural material in the feature matrix. Feature 81 was a 83cm by 66cm by 5cm deposit on the northern perimeter of the dwelling depression (Feature 64);

Feature 94 was a 33cm by 67cm by 4cm deposit that lay atop Feature 95 in the southeast corner of the excavation area.



Figure 3.5. Feature 69. Photo: R. Anstey.

Flake concentration – Features 67, 74, 78 (7A516B; 7A531A) (Figure 3.4)

There were three distinct flake concentrations. Feature 67 was a 53cm by 50cm by 3cm deposit of lithic debitage within Level 2 and east of a large flat limestone boulder on the northern perimeter of the dwelling depression (Feature 64). The majority of flakes were small pressure flakes and likely the product of tool re-sharpening; lithic material was comprised of blue-grey and grey-green Cow Head chert.

Another flake concentration, Feature 74, was found about 1m north of Feature 67. This deposit was in Level 2A and was 50cm by 55cm by 3cm. It was bounded to the northeast and southwest by two large limestone rocks and lay atop and adjacent to pit Feature 77. Debitage from this deposit consisted almost entirely of small retouch flakes of blue-grey Cow Head chert.

A third flake concentration, Feature 78, was found within the southeast area of the dwelling depression (Feature 64). This feature was a 27cm by 28cm by 3cm concentration of resharpening and shaping flakes and seven tip-flute spalls, all of grey-green Cow Head chert.

#### Midden – Features 71, 72, 73, 75 (7A516B, C) (Figure 3.4)

A number of relatively large midden deposits was found to cover much of the southern portion of the excavation area. Feature 71 was in Level 2, was 30cm by 40cm, and contained many small retouch flakes and flake fragments, some artefacts and a small quantity of burnt seal fat. Although it appeared initially to be a discrete midden deposit, it is more likely that it was a high spot within midden Feature 75. To the southeast of the dwelling depression (Feature 64) was Feature 72 (Figure 3.7), a 130cm by 70cm by 2cm crescent-shaped ring of dry, dark black Level 2 with small flecks of sand, tiny roots, artefacts, many small flakes and flake fragments and some burnt fat.

A similar deposit (Feature 73), measuring 85cm by 68cm by 15cm, was found about 1m to the west (Figure 3.6). Both of these features are likely secondary refuse deposits formed by constant sweeping, raking and other maintenance of a nearby activity

area (see for example Hayden and Cannon 1983; Tani 1995:237). Similar features were found at the Groswater sites of Phillip's Garden East (EeBi-1) near Phillip's Garden (Renouf 1992:10) and Parke's Beach (Dg3m-1), Bay of Islands (Reader 1998); these were both interpreted as discard perimeters outlining tent structures that resulted from house cleaning. It is thus possible that Features 72 and 73 were formed in a similar fashion.



Figure 3.6. Feature 73 outlined in yellow dotted line. Photo: R. Anstey.

A large and extensive midden (Feature 75) was found in the southwestern portion of the excavation area; it measured 600cm by 300cm by 10cm. The soil matrix of the midden was distinguished from the surrounding Level 2A because it was greasier, much

darker and produced a higher proportion of cultural material. However, some areas of the midden appeared to be somewhat drier and lighter in colour. It was underlain by Level 3 (Figure 3.7), which was lighter brown in colour and produced fewer artefacts. A radiocarbon sample from this midden dated to  $1490 \pm 40$  BP (Beta-287753) (Figure 2.4).

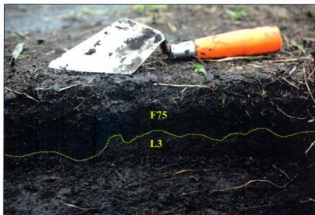


Figure 3.7. Profile of midden Feature 75 showing underlying Level 3. Trowel points north. Photo: PACAP.

This deposit yielded an exceptionally large quantity of lithic debitage representing each stage of a reduction sequence; it also contained many lithic and organic artefacts, faunal remains, burnt fat concretions and charcoal. Although the midden was fairly widespread throughout the southwestern area, a higher concentration of material was noticed at the southwest corner of the dwelling depression, on a limestone bedrock outcrop.



Feature 83 – Flake and bone dumping episode (7A516C) (Figure 3.4)

Within midden Feature 75 was a recognizably higher concentration of debitage and faunal remains (Feature 83) than found in the surrounding midden (Figure 3.8). This deposit was 100cm by 92cm by 10cm and was densely packed with debitage and faunal remains. It was initially suspected that this might have been the product of an in situ lithic reduction episode; however, given that most of the flakes and artefacts within the deposit were found in either a slanted or vertical position, it was deemed a discrete dumping episode. This deposit is thus the likely product of a reduction episode that is in secondary rather than primary context.

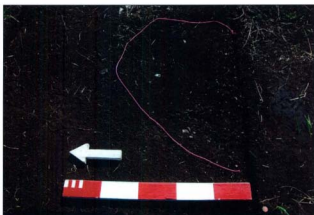


Figure 3.8. Feature 83 partially exposed. Photo: R. Amstey.

Feature 82 – Mottled soil (7A516B, C; 7A531A, D) (Figure 3.4)

This was a thin deposit of mottled Level 3 soil (Figure 3.9) and was only present on the eastern perimeter of the dwelling depression (Feature 64). It was somewhat similar in appearance and texture to an unusual mottled Level 3 soil (Feature 197) found outside House 17 at Phillip's Garden (Renouf 2009a:7). It measured 300cm by 250cm by 7cm; it was less well-defined in its southern extent and may be smaller than originally suspected.



Figure 3.9. Feature 64 looking northwest showing Feature 82, the mottled soil outlining a possible berm, outlined in yellow. Photo: R. Anstey.

However, the soil matrix seemed to be consistently compact throughout the entire deposit, especially in the southern extent where it was drier. A small number of flakes

was found within the top 1-2cm of the deposit. This feature, coupled with a deposit of dry Level 4 that surrounds much of the depression, may be the remnants of a wall berm or sitting platform. Indeed, that Level 3 was absent from the centre of the depression might suggest that it was excavated and subsequently thrown up onto the edge of the depression for such a use. A radiocarbon sample collected from the top (Level 2A) of this feature dated to  $1580 \pm 40$  BP (Beta-287751) and a nearby sample from Level 3 dated to  $1620 \pm 40$  BP (Beta-287752) (see Figure 2.4).

#### Feature 90 – Heated stone slab (7A516C) (Figure 3.4)

Sitting atop a large limestone bedrock outcrop along the southern baulk of the excavation area was a heat-fractured and discoloured sandstone slab (Feature 90) (Figure 3.10). It measured 24cm by 16cm by 2cm and was underlain by about 1-2cm of Level 2A that sat atop the limestone bedrock outcrop. A small number of flakes was associated with the feature. It is generally similar in form to a heating platform (Feature 38) found outside dwelling Feature 30 (Eastaugh 2003:462) and may have had a similar function. There was also a similar lack of observable charcoal associated with the feature.

#### Feature 95 – Heated rock concentration/hearth (7A531D) (Figure 3.4)

About 2m east of the heated stone slab (Feature 90) was a roughly linear arrangement of fire-heated and discoloured sandstone and limestone cobbles (Feature 95) (Figure 3.11). It measured 90cm by 38cm and sat atop Level 3; it also appeared to extend into the southern baulk.



Figure 3.10. Feature 90. Photo: R. Anstey.



Figure 3.11. Feature 95. Photo: R. Anstey.

Most of the rocks were cobbles but others were thin and flat; a large limestone boulder was in direct association with these rocks but did not appear to be heated. This feature is similar to a heated rock concentration (Feature 10) found outside dwelling Feature 8, which also had a similar lack of charcoal and similar types and forms of rock (Renouf 1992:56). Given the lack of associated charcoal, it is likely that Feature 95 was in secondary context, and that it may have originally formed a hearth or heating platform. The rocks might also have been used for boiling liquids (Odgaard 2003:353), but given their sooty staining, it is unlikely.

#### Feature 101 – Arrangement of divots (7A531A) (Figure 3.4)

About 1.5m northeast of the dwelling depression (Feature 64) was a horseshoe-shaped arrangement of small, 1-3cm deep pits (Feature 101) which we call divots following pit definitions used at Phillip's Garden (Renouf 2009a). This arrangement consisted of at least eight divots and measured 180cm by 110cm; Feature 80 is included in the arrangement. Each divot, aside from Feature 80, which was filled with Level 2A, was filled with a sterile Level 3. A number of similar arrangements at Phillip's Garden have been interpreted as possible drying racks or small storage shelters (Cogswell et al. 2006:21-22; Renouf 2009a:13, 2011b:147). However, given their sterile fill, it is difficult to be certain that they are cultural and not natural.

#### Pit – Features 68, 76-77, 79-80, 84-88, 91-93, 96-100 (7A516B, C; 531A, D) (Figure 3.4)

A total of 18 pit features was designated, and were found throughout the

excavation area. Feature 68 was a 50cm by 71cm by 50cm oblong pit filled with about 15cm of moist Level 2A and 35cm of a sterile black greasy soil that was largely indistinguishable from Level 2A. Both Feature 68 and Feature 79 were similar in form and position to central postholes of a dwelling (Figures 3.4, 3.12). The centre-to-centre distance between these pits was about 1.50m. At Phillip's Garden dwelling Feature 1 that distance was 1.88m (Renouf 1986:9-10); at House 17 it was 1.48m (Renouf 2007:5). Similar pits were also found in the central space of dwelling Features 8 (Renouf 1992:52) and 30 (Eastaugh 2003:459-462) at Point Riche, but lacked any formal alignment; yet, they were interpreted as central post-holes. It is thus possible given their form and position that Features 68 and 79 had a structural purpose.



Figure 3.12. Features 68 (top right) and 79 (bottom left). Photo: R. Anstey.

There were a number of similarly sterile pits. These were: Feature 76 that was oblong and measured 110cm by 50cm by 20cm; Feature 79 that was oval and measured 55cm by 55cm by 30cm; Feature 80 that was circular and 33cm by 22cm by 21cm; Feature 84 that was bilobate and 44cm by 40cm by 42cm; Feature 85 that was oblong and 70cm by 55cm by 40cm; Feature 87 that was oblong and 70cm by 36cm by 16cm; Feature 88 that was bilobate and 70cm by 35cm by 35cm; Feature 91 that was oval and 30cm by 25cm by 13cm; Feature 92 that was oval and 28cm by 25cm by 7cm; Feature 93 that was oblong and 58cm by 36cm by 10cm; Feature 96 that was circular and 25cm by 17cm by 20cm; Feature 99 that was oval and 36cm by 45cm by 10cm. The sterile black soil that is common to many of these pits is likely natural, which suggests that the pits are non-cultural.

Feature 77 was a 40cm by 45cm by 32cm circular pit that became narrower towards the bottom. It was filled with Level 2A but no artefacts were found within that matrix; however, three end-scrapers and a flake concentration (Feature 74) were found directly on top of the feature. The pit was bounded to the northeast and southwest by two large limestone rocks.

Feature 86 was different from the rest of the pits found in the excavation area (Figure 3.13). It measured 65cm by 50cm by 46cm and was filled with about 10cm of Level 2A, beneath which was about 8cm of light brown sand, which was underlain by about 28cm of sterile Level 3. A 3-4cm pocket of black ashy soil was found between the top of Level 2A and the light brown sand. A small concentration of red ochre was found

in the upper 5cm of the pit. No artefacts were found within the pit matrix. If it is cultural, its function is unknown at this point.



Figure 3.13. East-west profile of Feature 86 (Level 3 is unexcavated in this photo). Photo: R. Anstey.

Feature 97 was a >30cm by 50cm by 21cm oblong pit that continued into the south baulk. The remainder of the pit was visible on the surface as an approximately 80cm by 40cm depression. It was filled with a sterile black peaty soil different from the sterile Level 2A found in other pits, which suggests that it is likely natural.

Two pit features, Feature 98 and Feature 100, were filled with sterile Level 3. Feature 98 was circular and 23cm by 19cm by 15cm. Feature 100 was circular and 25cm by 25cm by 25cm. One bone bear amulet (Figure 3.14c) was found in the fill of Feature



100. However, this artefact likely made its way down through the pit matrix via various post-depositional processes. The two pits are likely natural.

### 3.8 Artefacts

A total of 738 lithic artefacts was found in the Feature 64 excavation area; 14 organic artefacts were also found (Table 3.1). Proportions of artefacts from within and outside midden Feature 75 are similar.

Table 3.1. Artefacts from Feature 64 and Feature 75.

Artefact	Feature 64	Feature 75	Total
Abrader	10 (2.7)	5 (1.4)	15 (2.0)
Biface	6 (1.6)	16 (4.4)	22 (3.0)
Burin-like tool	6 (1.6)	5 (1.4)	11 (1.5)
Core	60 (16.0)	58 (16.0)	118 (16.0)
Dart/Effigy	2 (0.3)	5 (1.4)	7 (0.9)
Endblade	23 (6.1)	27 (7.5)	50 (6.8)
Hammerstone	7 (1.9)	3 (0.8)	10 (1.4)
Microblade	72 (19.1)	86 (23.8)	158 (21.4)
Preform	108 (28.7)	97 (26.8)	205 (27.8)
Scraper	35 (9.3)	36 (9.9)	71 (9.6)
Slate tool	26 (6.9)	10 (2.8)	36 (4.9)
Schist	1 (0.3)	6 (1.7)	7 (0.9)
Soapstone	21 (5.6)	7 (1.9)	28 (3.8)
<b>Total</b>	<b>377 (100.1)</b>	<b>361 (99.8)</b>	<b>738 (100)</b>
Sled runner <sup>1</sup>	1	0	1
Amulet	4	0	4
Awl	0	1	1
Unid worked bone	2	2	4
Wedge	1	0	1
Preform	1	2	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>14</b>

Numbers in brackets are percentages. <sup>1</sup> Proportions are not given due to the small size of the assemblage.

Of the total lithic assemblage (Feature 64 and Feature 75 combined) preforms (27.8%; n=205), microblades (21.4%; n=158), cores (16.0%; n=118) and scrapers (9.6%; n=71) comprise the majority. Given the low number of organic artefacts, proportions are not as significant; however, the fairly high number of amulets (n=4; Figure 3.14) is curious. The results of an analysis of the total lithic artefact assemblage from the site are presented in Chapter 5 of this thesis.



Figure 3.14. Bone amulets from Feature 64. Photo: R. Ansley.

### 3.9 Faunal remains

There was a total of 3322 individual faunal specimens from the Feature 64 excavation area (Table 3.2). Although there is a high proportion of sea mammal (53.7%;

n=1785) and seal bone (38.9%; n=1291), the proportion of fish (6%; n=200) is reasonably high.

Table 3.2. Summary of faunal remains from Feature 64 and Feature 75.

<b>Taxon</b>	<b>No. (%)</b>
Unid <sup>1</sup> sea mammal	1785 (53.7)
Unid phocidae	1291 (38.9)
Unid fish	200 (6.0)
Unid bird	29 (0.9)
Unid terrestrial mammal	17 (0.5)
<b>Total</b>	<b>3322 (100)</b>

<sup>1</sup>Unid = unidentified. All faunal remains were identified by Patricia Wells.

### 3.10 Summary and observations

In this chapter the results of the 2010 archaeological field season at Point Riche are summarized. Although yielding fairly indistinct architecture, the Feature 64 area produced a large quantity of artefacts, and combined with the other Point Riche data, provides sufficient information to fully address one of the main research objectives in this research, which is to gain a better understanding of the function and seasonality of the site through an analysis of artefacts and architecture.

The results of the 2010 excavations allow for some preliminary observations. The size and shape of the Feature 64 depression (4m x 3.75m and up to 0.40m deep) is small for a dwelling compared to those at Phillip's Garden. The lack of Level 3 in the centre of the depression and the slightly elevated eastern perimeter suggests that Level 3 was dug out and thrown up onto the eastern perimeter to form a berm. The deposits of compact soil

(Features 69 and 70) around the perimeter of the depression may also suggest sitting areas or an attempt to build up the perimeter. Breaks in elevation in the northeast and southwest perimeter may suggest entranceways. Dwelling architecture is discussed further in Chapter 4.

There appears to be a significant lithic tool-making component to the Feature 64 area. There is a high proportion of preforms and cores, and also numerous flakes; most of these items are of the same material type. There is also a relatively high number of hammerstones, which suggests tool-making activity.

It is possible that the Feature 64 area had at least two occupational phases. There appears to be a predominance of grey-blue chert within Level 2A, and a variety of colours of chert within midden Feature 75. This midden also appeared to have covered much of the western portion of the dwelling depression. This and the later radiocarbon date suggest that the midden was deposited after the occupation of the dwelling.

Various aspects of the Feature 64 area suggest short-term occupation. Like the other dwellings at Point Riche (Eastaugh 2002, 2003; Renouf 1987, 1992), the Dorset seem to have made use of a natural depression as the foundation for Feature 64. This structure is also small and with relatively indistinct and low-investment construction features. These issues are addressed more fully in the following chapters.

## **CHAPTER 4**

### **Dwelling Architecture at Point Riche and Phillip's Garden**

#### **4.1 Introduction**

This chapter reviews and compares information on the Dorset dwelling architecture of Point Riche and Phillip's Garden. The purpose is to assess the degree to which dwelling architecture from these two sites differs, ultimately providing the basis for addressing larger questions of function, permanency, seasonality, social organization and construction method; these questions are addressed in Chapters 6 and 7. Each excavated dwelling from Point Riche and a sample of those from Phillip's Garden are described in turn following an outline of methodology.

#### **4.2 Methodology**

The architecture of 15 dwellings is examined in this chapter; three from Point Riche (Features 8, 30 and 64) and 12 from Phillip's Garden (Features 1, 14, 42, 55; Houses 2, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 17 and 20). The three Point Riche dwellings were excavated by Renouf (1985, 1986, 1992), Eastaugh (2002, 2003; see also Eastaugh and Taylor 2005) and the author (Anstey et al. 2010), under the Port au Choix Archaeology Project, while the sample of Phillip's Garden dwellings were largely excavated by Harp (1964, 1976) with a lesser number excavated by Renouf (1999, 2002, 2003, 2006, 2009a). Information for this analysis was gathered from research reports, articles and unpublished field notes.

The field methodology of, and data gathered from, the more recent excavations at these two sites by members of the Port au Choix Archaeology Project are not necessarily consistent with the data gathered and methodology employed by Harp (1964, 1976) in his 1961-1963 excavations at Phillip's Garden. Unfortunately, many of his plan sketches lack the detail required for a clear understanding of dwelling architecture (Figure 4.1).

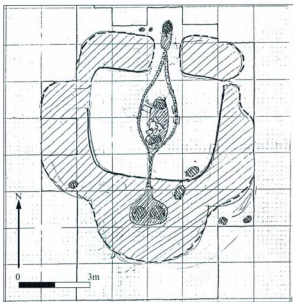


Figure 4.1. Plan map of Phillip's Garden House 17. Map adapted from Elmer Harp's 1963 field notes.

However, each of his crew members was required to draw more detailed plans of all 1.5m<sup>2</sup> (5ft<sup>2</sup>) excavation units; these individual drawings combined with field notes provide sufficient information on the architectural features of the dwellings excavated by Harp (1964, 1976). For this research, each individual unit drawing was redrawn and mended together to form a master plan view of each of Harp's dwellings examined; this was done in Adobe Photoshop and CorelDraw. In addition, with some spatial interpolation, it was possible in some cases to mend these earlier plans with Renouf's plan drawings of Harp's dwellings which she had re-excavated.

On this basis, taking into account written descriptions of each unit, I could reconstruct architectural features such as axial features, pits, post-holes and occurrence of slopes. When describing architectural features excavated by Renouf or other members of the Port au Choix Archaeology Project, Feature numbers are used; Harp did not designate Feature numbers, thus alphabetical designations corresponding to his features are used. The redrafting and mending of Harp's and Renouf's plan maps has allowed for the first time the precise measurement and identification of such features excavated by Harp. The results of this mapping project contribute greatly to the existing Port au Choix Archaeology Project architecture database, coalescing data on eight long neglected Harp dwellings with those on the dwellings more recently excavated by Renouf.

The particular dwellings examined in this chapter were selected for a number of reasons. In terms of sampling, it was necessary in this analysis to have a comparable representative sample of dwelling architecture from each site. Therefore, three dwellings (3/18; 16.7%) from Point Riche, and 12 out of a total of approximately 68 (17.6%) from

Phillip's Garden were chosen. Each dwelling also had to have been dated. A sufficient temporal context is essential for inferring diachronic patterning and/or associations between dwelling architecture at the sites; therefore, all the dwellings selected for this analysis, except for Phillip's Garden Feature 42, are dated. Feature 42, along with House 5, were chosen instead of another dated dwelling given their interpretation as warm weather occupations; these dwellings provide a sufficient basis for comparing between the two sites warm and cold season dwelling structures. As mentioned in Chapter 2, the occupational span of Phillip's Garden is divided into three chronological phases: early (1990-1550 cal BP), middle (1550-1350 cal BP), and late (1350-1180 cal BP), which represent changing intensity of occupation (Harp 1976; Erwin 1995, 2011; Renouf 2006:122, 2011). The Point Riche and Phillip's Garden dwellings are examined in the context of this chronological range.

Several characteristics of dwelling architecture are examined in this chapter. Following the methodology of Erwin (1995:92ff, 2011), Renouf (2003:408-409) and Ryan (2009:445ff), characteristics include: dwelling dimensions, area and shape; dwelling central depression dimensions, area and shape; dwelling placement and orientation; periphery markers; internal/external features; superstructure; and characteristics/attributes related to entranceways. These provide a sufficient basis for an inter-site comparison of dwelling function, permanency, seasonality, social organization and method of construction (Binford 1990:123ff; Diehl 1992, 1997:183-184ff; Kelly et al. 2005; cf. Lee and Reinhardt 2003; McGuire and Schiffer 1983; Renouf 2003:401-410; Smith 2003:170;



Steadman 1996). These characteristics are examined in turn below and summarized for each dwelling in Tables 4.1 and 4.2.

#### **4.3 Point Riche dwellings**

Previous geophysical and archaeological work identified 18 possible dwelling depressions at this site (Eastaugh 2002, 2003; Eastaugh and Taylor 2005; Renouf 1985, 1986, 1987, 1992). These dwelling depressions are evenly spread over a 150m long raised terrace, which is bounded to the east by a freshwater stream and marsh and is parallel to the dominant shoreline to the northwest; the north shoreline is not visible from the site. The numerous natural sinkholes in the limestone substrate at the site provided the Dorset with ready-made central depressions for their dwelling structures. Prior to the 2010 field season, three of these depressions had been excavated: Feature 1 and Feature 8 by Renouf (1985:18-21, 1986:21-31, 1992:45-74) and Feature 30 by Eastaugh (2002, 2003; see also Eastaugh and Taylor 2005). Although originally interpreted as a dwelling (Renouf 1986:30), Feature 1 has most recently been reinterpreted as a midden deposit given its lack of architectural or external features, and because of an absence of spatial patterning in artefacts typically associated with Dorset dwellings (Eastaugh 2002:82ff; Renouf 2003:396, cf. 1986:30). Therefore, as this analysis focuses on dwelling architecture, midden Feature 1 is not considered further. Dwelling Features 8, 30 and 64 are discussed in turn. Although Feature 64 is described in Chapter 3, it is re-summarized here – in greater detail – for comparative purposes and for the sake of consistency.

#### 4.3.1 Feature 8

The earliest Point Riche dwelling is Feature 8, dating from 1870 to 1530 cal BP (Renouf 2002:63-67) (Figure 4.2). Also the largest dwelling, it was an approximately 5.5m by 7.0m (30.7m<sup>2</sup>) oval depression defined by a crescent-shaped berm of limestone gravel up to 15cm in height and 2m in width (Eastaugh 2002:5; Renouf 1992:51). The eastern perimeter berm, at about 2m wide, was suggested by Renouf (1992:51) to be the platform sitting or sleeping area. A 3.5m break in the northwest perimeter, which was relatively level, was interpreted as a working or living area and the dwelling's entrance (Renouf 1992:51), making it oriented towards the shoreline. The dwelling's central space was defined by an oval depression 4.4m long by 3.8m wide (13.1m<sup>2</sup>). Two pit features, Features 21 and 22, were found just inside the entrance.

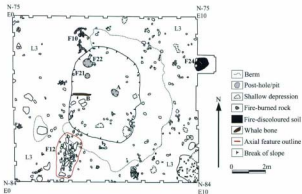


Figure 4.2. Plan of dwelling Feature 8, Point Riche. Map: PACAP.

Feature 21 was a pair of holes, 21.5cm and 9cm deep, respectively, which together formed an oblong pit measuring 60cm by 30cm (Renouf 1992:56). Feature 22 was found about 30cm north of Feature 21 and measured 63cm in length, 40cm in width and was 40cm deep (Renouf 1992:56). There was also a 28cm by 26cm and 36cm deep pit (Figure 4.2:A) in the centre of the depression (Renouf 1987:32). These three pits may have held roof support posts. There is not much other evidence for superstructure, apart from five small, shallow, indistinct depressions – or divots – just outside the eastern and northern periphery which may or may not be the remnants of perimeter superstructural supports (Figure 4.2). There was also a 90cm by 15cm slab of whale bone (Figure 4.2:B) found in the centre of the dwelling, suggesting a possible roof support beam (Renouf 1987:32).

A number of features was found outside which were presumably associated with the dwelling. Feature 12, a 2.5m by 1.0m linear arrangement of large limestone and sandstone cobbles and slabs (Figure. 4.3) extended perpendicular to the southwest corner of dwelling Feature 8; it was parallel with the shoreline to the west. A concentration of approximately 50 artefacts was found in association with this feature. Renouf (1992:60) interpreted the arrangement as the external equivalent of axial pavements typically found inside Palaeoeskimo dwellings. On the northwest corner of the dwelling was an alignment (1.4m by 4cm) of fire-heated cobbles and slabs (Feature 10) (Figure 4.4), though likely in secondary position, which Renouf (1992:56) suggests had originally formed a heating or cooking platform (cf. Renouf 1989:73); very little charcoal and a small number of artefacts were found associated.



Figure 4.3. Feature 12 looking northeast. Grid stakes in foreground are 1m apart. Photo: PACAP.



Figure 4.4. Feature 10. Sod baulks are 1m apart. North arrow shown. Photo: PACAP.

Approximately 2m east of dwelling Feature 8 was an informal pit hearth (Feature 24), 70cm in diameter and 13cm in depth and filled with charcoal-stained soil containing some faunal remains and flakes; it dated to  $1800 \pm 70$  BP (Beta-50026) (Renouf 1992:60, 2003:409). A midden deposit (Feature 14), measuring approximately 5.0m by 4.0m and 10cm in depth (Eastaugh 2002:93ff; Renouf 1992:64), was found 8m west of Feature 8, and based on mends by the author of lithic artefacts from both of these contexts the midden is likely associated with the dwelling. Based on the insubstantial nature of its construction and the exterior hearth and axial features, Renouf (1992:51) interpreted Feature 8 as a warm-weather occupation.

#### 4.3.2 Feature 30

The second Point Riche dwelling in this analysis is Feature 30, dating from 1610 to 1450 cal BP (Eastaugh 2002:73, 2003:453) (Figure 4.5). This dwelling was oval and

similar in size to Feature 8, measuring 6.2m by 5.8m (28.0m<sup>2</sup>). It was defined by a 1.60m wide ring of compacted grey-brown silty clay and on the eastern side was heightened with a low 3.20m by 1.75m and 11cm high earth/sod bank (Feature 45) overlain by a 6cm thick spread of limestone gravel (Feature 32) (Eastaugh 2002:160, 167-168, 2003:454). On top of the southern portion of the dwelling berm was a 2.16m by 1.64m arrangement of flat limestone rocks (Feature 40), some of which were fire-burned, which Eastaugh (2002:165, 2003:454) interpreted as a platform bench.

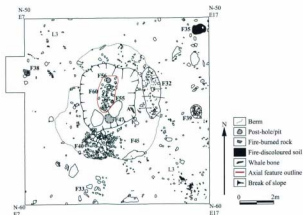


Figure 4.5. Plan of dwelling Feature 30, Point Riche. Map: PACAP.

A dense concentration of flakes associated with this feature suggested an area likely used for manufacturing stone tools. It was also suggested that the southern limit of this feature

demarcated the outer edge of the dwelling (Eastaugh 2003:459). The entrance of dwelling Feature 30 was indicated by a 1m break in the northwest corner of the berm, which faced the shoreline. The central depression was 3.60m by 3.10m (11.2m<sup>2</sup>) and 60cm deep (Eastaugh 2003:454).

Unlike Feature 8 there were a number of features within the central depression of the dwelling Feature 30. These included a 1.44m by 78cm linear arrangement of sub-angular limestone cobbles (Feature 60) oriented roughly north-south and thus parallel with the west shoreline; two large eroded limestone slabs were also associated with this arrangement (Figure 4.6) (Eastaugh 2002:172, 2003:459). Eastaugh (2002:172) points out that this feature could be the exposed portion of the underlying limestone gravel.

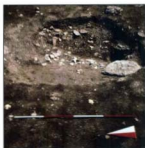


Figure 4.6. Feature 60 (in centre of photo).  
Photo: PACAP.

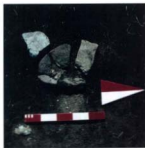


Figure 4.7. Feature 38. Photo: PACAP.

However, based on differences noted in cobble size between the underlying substrate and Feature 60 Eastaugh (2002:175, 2003:459) argues that the arrangement represents the

axial feature of dwelling Feature 30. Also in the central depression of this dwelling were three pits of varying size: Feature 47, 1.18m by 70cm and 21cm deep; Feature 55, 24cm in diameter and 8cm deep; and Feature 56, 22cm by 23cm and 27cm deep. Feature 47 and Feature 56 were interpreted as possible post-holes, while the smaller Feature 55 was interpreted as a stake hole (Eastaugh 2002:168, 170-171, 2003:459ff); a piece of red ochre was found in Feature 47. The distance between possible post-holes Feature 47 and Feature 56 was 1.9m. If these pits are part of the axial feature, its length is extended to 2.4m. All of the pits were filled with sterile brown silty clay. It is possible that these three features mark the position of structural roof supports. A 40cm by 5cm slab of whale bone was found in the centre of the dwelling (Eastaugh 2003:468), which may have served as part of the dwelling's superstructure. There was no evidence to suggest the presence of perimeter post-holes; however, a number of large limestone slabs found around the dwelling perimeter suggested hold-down rocks for a tent structure.

Like dwelling Feature 8, there were a number of features outside the perimeter of Feature 30. About 1m south of dwelling Feature 30 was an irregular arrangement of sub-angular limestone rocks (Feature 33), which measured 1.5m in length and 1.60m in width; there was a single fire-burned rock (Eastaugh 2002:161). Eastaugh (2002:161) suggests that based on the association of a single Groswater endblade with the feature, it is possible that Feature 33 predates the dwelling; he also speculates that it might otherwise be the disturbed remains of an external axial feature similar to Feature 12 outside dwelling Feature 8. About 2m east of Feature 30 was an arrangement of flat, irregular-shaped limestone rocks (Feature 39), measuring 50cm in diameter and 13cm high (Eastaugh

2002:164, 2003:462). The rocks were stacked in a shallow, round pit 70cm by 66cm and 9cm deep filled with greasy, black soil to form what appeared to be a stand or platform; it was interpreted as a pot or lamp stand (Eastaugh 2002:164, 2003:462). About 2m west of the dwelling's entrance was a 35cm by 30cm arrangement of heated and discoloured sub-angular limestone rocks (Feature 38) (Figure 4.7); no charcoal was found in association with it and Eastaugh (2002:163-164, 2003:462) interpreted the feature as a heating or cooking platform, likening it to the one found outside Feature 8 (Feature 10). A small pit hearth (Feature 35) was found about 3m northeast of dwelling Feature 30 and was defined by a shallow, subrectangular pit filled with charcoal and burnt soil clumps; it measured 70cm by 52cm and was 8cm deep (Eastaugh 2002:162, 2003:464). Eastaugh (2002:147) suggested that Feature 30 was a cold-weather occupation due to the location of the axial feature inside the dwelling, as opposed to outside which would indicate a warm-weather occupation.

#### 4.3.3 Feature 64

The youngest Point Riche dwelling in this analysis is Feature 64, dating from 1560 to 1420 cal BP (Anstey et al. 2010:2) (Figure 4.8). It has already been described in Chapter 3 and is summarized here. The exact size of this dwelling is unclear, but if we consider the ring of dry gravel surrounding the north and west perimeter (Figure 4.8:A) and the ring of compacted, dry soil (Feature 82) on the east and south perimeter to demarcate the dwelling's outer edge, then we can interpolate its dimensions to be roughly 5.2m by 5.0m (20.4m<sup>2</sup>). The ring of compacted, dry soil was a maximum of 1.75m wide



and 5cm thick; this deposit dated to  $1580 \pm 40$  BP (Beta-287751). Eastaugh (2002:454) interpreted a similar deposit in Feature 30 as part of the perimeter berm/platform of that dwelling. Unlike Feature 30, however, dwelling Feature 64 did not have a built-up platform of earth or gravel. Nevertheless, the absence of Level 3 in the centre of the depression suggests that this soil was removed by the Dorset and possibly thrown up onto the eastern perimeter where we found the compacted soil.

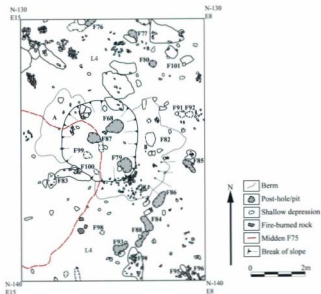


Figure 4.8. Plan of Feature 64, Point Riche.

In addition, there was a number of ancient sod deposits (Features 69, 70, and 81) surrounding the depression, which may have together served as an expedient form of platform or attempt to heighten the perimeter; these deposits averaged 5cm thick. A large, flat quartzite rock (Figure 4.8:B) on the east edge of the central depression would have been a suitable sitting or working surface. The entranceway of Feature 64 is unclear; however, given that the other Point Riche dwellings had northwest facing entrances it is reasonable to infer by extension that Feature 64 had a similar facing entrance. The dwelling's central depression was oval and 3m by 2.5m (5.9m<sup>2</sup>).

There was a total of five pits within the central depression; all were filled with sterile soil. Feature 87 was oblong and measured 70cm by 36cm and was 16cm deep; Feature 99 was oval and 36cm by 45cm and 9cm deep; and Feature 100 was circular and measured 25cm in diameter and 25cm in depth. Feature 68 and Feature 79 were both oval and measured 50cm by 71cm and 40cm deep, and 55cm by 55cm and 30cm in depth, respectively; they were 1.6m apart. These two pits are the most likely candidates for the central post-holes of the dwelling. There is an absence of pits on the western perimeter; however, four (Features 85, 86, 91, 92) were found on the eastern perimeter which may have been used as perimeter post-holes. Red ochre was found within Feature 86.

Several features were found outside the perimeter of dwelling Feature 64. About 3m southeast of the dwelling was an arrangement of fire-heated sandstone and limestone cobbles and sub-angular rocks (Feature 95) (Figure 4.9), measuring 90cm by 38cm; and extended into the south baulk. Little charcoal was associated with this feature, suggesting that it was in secondary context; it is thus interpreted as a dump of fire-burned rock.

However, it is likewise similar to the heating platform (Feature 10) found outside dwelling Feature 8, which also had a similar lack of charcoal and types and forms of rock (Renouf 1992:56). Two metres west of Feature 95 was a small slab of heat-fractured and discoloured sandstone, measuring 24cm by 16cm and 2cm thick. No charcoal was found but it is interpreted as a heating platform, somewhat similar to Feature 38 found outside dwelling Feature 30. Just south of Feature 64 was a 1.30m by 70cm crescent-shaped deposit of dry, dark black Level 2 (Feature 72) (Figure 4.10) containing small flecks of sand, tiny roots, artefact fragments, many small flakes and flake fragments and a very small quantity of burnt fat.



Figure 4.9. Feature 95. Photo: PACAP



Figure 4.10. Outline of east berm Feature 82. (top) and Feature 72 (bottom). Photo: PACAP.

This was interpreted as the discard perimeter outlining a small structure, possibly a storage tent (cf. Reader 1998; Renouf 1952:10; see also Hayden and Cannon 1983; Tani 1995:237). The orientation of this feature – northwest – is the same as that of berm

Feature 82. In addition, the position of pit Features 84, 88, 93 and 98 correlates with the outline of Feature 72, suggesting that these held perimeter supports for the structure. A midden deposit measuring approximately 6m by 3m and 10cm deep was found to the west of Feature 64, and covered its western perimeter; it dated to  $1490 \pm 40$  BP (Beta-287753), indicating that it was deposited after the occupation of Feature 64. Based on the insubstantial nature of its construction, Feature 64 is suggested to be a warm-weather occupation.

#### 4.3.4 Summary

The attributes of each Point Riche dwelling are summarized in Table 4.1. The Dorset dwellings at Point Riche display considerable variation in form but also, as previously recognized by Eastaugh (2002), remarkable similarities as well. All dwellings have a relatively small footprint (c. 20-30m<sup>2</sup>) and are oval in shape. Dwelling Feature 30 and Feature 64 have thin compacted soil berms while the berm of Feature 8 was constructed of gravel; platforms are insubstantial. Dwelling Feature 8, Feature 30, and presumably Feature 64, are all oriented towards the shoreline to the west.

Axial features are present in Feature 8 and Feature 30 and occur outside and inside those dwellings, respectively; they are both parallel to the west shoreline. There is overall little evidence for substantial superstructure, and in most cases natural pits or sinkholes in the limestone substrate seem to have been used as post-holes. All dwellings have associated exterior structures, including informal hearths and heating platforms. Midden features tend to be thin but widespread.

Interpretations of seasonality vary for each dwelling. Based on their insubstantial nature Feature 8 and Feature 64 were identified as warm-weather dwellings, while similarly ephemeral Feature 30 was suggested to be a cold-weather occupation.

Table 4.1. Summary of Point Riche dwelling attributes.

	Feature 8	Feature 30	Feature 64
Dwelling dimensions <sup>1</sup>	5.5m x 7.0m (30.7m <sup>2</sup> )	6.2m x 5.8m (28.0m <sup>2</sup> )	5.2m x 5.0m (20.4m <sup>2</sup> )
Dwelling shape	oval	oval	oval
Central d. dimensions	4.4m x 3.8m (13.1m <sup>2</sup> )	3.6m x 3.1m (11.2m <sup>2</sup> )	3m x 2.5m (5.9m <sup>2</sup> )
Central d. shape	oval	subrectangular	oval
Periphery marker	2m (max.) wide and .15m high gravel berm	1.6m (max.) wide ring of compacted soil	1.8m (max.) wide ring of compacted soil + buried sod
Platform	east: 2m wide gravel	east: 3.2m x 1.8m sod and gravel; south: 2.2m x 1.6m cobble	n/a
Entrance	NW	1m break to NW	NW?
Axial feature	external cobble and slab; 2.5m x 1.0m; PLS	internal cobble; 2.4m x .78m; PLS; possible external; 1.5m x 1.60m; PLS	n/a
Hearth	external informal pit hearth; .70m x .72m	external informal pit hearth; .70m x .52m	n/a
Heating platform	external disturbed; 1.4m x 0.4m	external; .35m x .30m	external; .24m x .16m
Lamp/pot support	n/a	external; .70m x .66m	n/a
Superstructure	3 small natural pits inside; 5 small natural divots on eastern perimeter; .90m x .15m whale bone slab	2 small and 1 large natural pits inside; 1.9m apart; no perimeter post-holes; .40m x .05m whale bone slab	5 natural pits inside; 2 possible post-holes; 1.6m apart; 4 possible perimeter post-holes

<sup>1</sup>Area calculation based on shape: oval =  $\pi r^2$  based on radius of averaged diameter; circular =  $\pi r^2$ ; subrectangular = length times width. d. = depression; PLS = parallel with west shoreline; n/a = unknown or non-existent.

#### **4.4 Phillip's Garden dwellings**

As a result of the archaeological investigations by Harp (1964, 1976) and Renouf (1985, 1986, 1987, 1991, 1992, 1993, 2006, 2009a, 2011b) a total of 68 dwellings has to date been identified at this site. However, based on the results of a magnetometer survey conducted at the site which indicated a considerable number of buried dwellings – undetectable through conventional archaeological means – Eastaugh and Taylor (2011:186; see also Eastaugh 2002:23ff) estimate the number of dwellings at Phillip's Garden to be closer to 88. The Phillip's Garden dwellings are spread over a 2.17 ha meadow which overlooks the shoreline to the north. Twenty-four of these dwellings have been excavated or tested: 20 by Harp (1964, 1976) and four by the Port au Choix Archaeology Project (Renouf 1999, 2002, 2003, 2006, 2009a). Harp, in his excavations, left dwelling architecture intact, while Renouf dismantled dwellings to further understand their construction. The majority of dwellings excavated at the site are associated with the middle (1550-1350 cal BP) phase occupation; there are fewer dwellings excavated from the early (1990-1550 cal BP) and late (1350-1180 cal BP) phases. The following describes a selection of dwellings representative of each occupational phase.

##### 4.4.1 Feature 14

The earliest Phillip's Garden dwelling in this analysis is Feature 14, dating from 1990 to 1870 cal BP (Renouf 2011b:Table 7.1) (Figure 4.11). It was an oval dwelling roughly 12m by 7.5m (74.7m<sup>2</sup>), defined by a 1m wide perimeter berm of raised and stacked limestone shingle (Renouf 1987:6c, 7, 2003:394, 409). The dwelling had two

platforms: one on the northern end of the dwelling which measured 2.5m by 4m and raised 25cm from the central depression; the other on the south measuring 1m deep and spanning the width of the dwelling (Renoaf 1987:7, 2003:394).

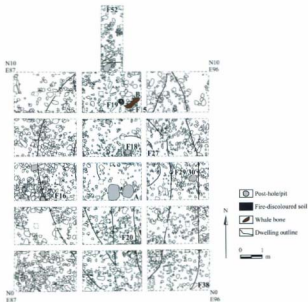


Figure 4.11. Plan of dwelling Feature 14, Phillip's Garden. Map: PACAP.

A 3.4m long by 2m wide linear trench in the southern platform suggested a north-south inland-facing cold trap entrance passage, and a slight break in the north wall implied a secondary entrance (Renouf 1987:17). The central depression, excluding the north and south platforms, was subrectangular and measured roughly 5m by 4.5m (22.5m<sup>2</sup>) (Renouf 1987:6c).

The majority of features was found inside the dwelling (Figure 4.11). Three bone-filled pits (Features 15, 18 and 20) were found aligned along the central axis of Feature 14. Feature 15 was a shallow, circular bone-filled and stone-lined pit located in the northern platform area; it measured 30cm by 25cm and was 30cm deep (Renouf 1987:8). In the centre of the dwelling was a small 27cm diameter pit, which was centred within an oval 2m by 90cm stone-lined trough which was 20cm deep (Feature 18) (Renouf 1987:10,11, 2003:394). Two large pits, 50cm by 75cm and 50cm by 55cm, were found on the southern perimeter of this feature (Figure 4.11:A); these pits were identified after the excavation and therefore were not given Feature numbers. The trough and the pits are interpreted as the dwelling's central axial feature. The distance between Feature 15 and these two pits was 1.8m. A 1.10m by 1.40m bone-filled pit (Feature 20) was found in the southern area which may have been associated with the entrance passage.

A well-defined pit (Feature 27), measuring 35cm by 29cm and 10cm deep, was found on the eastern perimeter of the central depression (Renouf 1987:14). Two small bone-filled pits (Feature 29 and Feature 30) were found located adjacent to one another on the eastern wall. Feature 29 was 31cm in diameter and 8cm deep, and was surrounded by a number of large limestone slabs which, if included, increase this feature's dimensions to



44cm by 35cm (Renouf 1987:14). Feature 30 measured 36cm by 40cm and was 17cm deep (Renouf 1987:15). In terms of superstructure, the two large and single small pits in the central area (Feature 18) are likely to have held the main central roof supports for the dwelling, while Feature 15 and Feature 20 in the north and south, respectively, may have held subsidiary supports. There are few pits suggestive of perimeter supports; however, Feature 29 and Feature 30 in the east wall may have been used for such a purpose. In addition, a number of large slabs of whale bone was found on the north platform (Figure 4.11:B) and in the entrance passage in the south (Figure 4.11:C); these might have had a structural purpose.

There was a number of other features within the dwelling. On the north platform was an informal 24cm by 22cm arrangement of five limestone cobbles surrounding a concentration of charcoal (Feature 19); this feature was interpreted by Renouf (1987:11) as a possible hearth. A box-like structure, Feature 16, found on the dwelling's west wall consisted of a number of limestone slabs arranged in a rectangle, with two thin slabs positioned upright to form two sides and a corner of the box. This feature measured 75cm by 35cm, was 13cm high, and was within a slight depression (Renouf 1987:9). It is likely some sort of lamp or pot stand (*cf.* Renouf 1987:9-10). Two discrete midden deposits, Feature 38 and Feature 52, were found to the southeast and north of Feature 14; Feature 38 was at least 6m<sup>2</sup> and Feature 52 was about 15m<sup>2</sup> (Renouf 1987:16, 2002:25-26). Based on the presence of a cold-trap entrance passage, Renouf (1987:17) interpreted Feature 14 as a winter structure.

#### 4.4.2 Feature 1

The other early phase dwelling in this analysis is Feature 1, which dated from 1920 to 1630 cal BP (Renouf 2011b:Table 7.1) (see Figure 4.12). Based on overlapping radiocarbon dates and finds of artefacts between this dwelling and adjacent Feature 14 these two dwellings are interpreted as functionally and/or seasonally associated. Feature 1 is an oval dwelling measuring approximately 9.2m by 7m (51.5m<sup>2</sup>). The dwelling's perimeter was defined by a 1m wide area of stacked limestone shingle, which was up to 10cm higher than ground surface (Renouf 1986:5-6, 2003:392; Renouf and Murray 1999:123). To the south and north of the central depression were the dwelling's lateral platforms; these were semi-circular and measured 4.6m by 1m and 4.4m by 1.9m, respectively (Renouf 1986:6; Renouf and Murray 1999:125). A well-defined rear platform measuring roughly 4m by 2.6m was found to the west of the central depression and was paved with fist-sized cobbles that raised it 5cm above the lateral platforms, and about 35cm above the central depression (Renouf 1986:6; Renouf and Murray 1999:124). A slight break and a shallow depression in the wall to the north and one in the south perimeter were interpreted as the primary and secondary entrance, respectively; a number of flat rocks, several large pieces of whale bone (Figure 4.12:A) and compressed soil were associated with the north entrance (Renouf and Murray 1999:123). The central depression of Feature 1 was subrectangular and measured 4.2m<sup>2</sup> for a total area of 17.6m<sup>2</sup>.



Figure 4.12. Plan of dwelling Feature 1, Phillip's Garden. Map: PACAP.

There were fewer features inside Feature 1 compared to Feature 14. The axial feature of dwelling Feature 1 ran east-west and comprised two stone-lined and bone-filled

pits, Feature 5 and Feature 6, which measured 66cm by 60cm and 1.6m by 2.1m, respectively; depth ranged from 18cm to 29cm (Renouf 1986:9, 10-11; Renouf and Murray 1999:123). These pits were 1.6m apart. On the southeast corner of the dwelling on top of a stone perimeter was a 1.6m by 1.4m charcoal-stained area (Feature 4) with no formal arrangement of rocks; this feature produced a date of  $1250 \pm 60$  BP (Beta-15639), post-dating the main occupation of the dwelling (Renouf 1986:8). A box-like structure (Feature 21) was found adjacent to the box-like structure (Feature 16) on the east wall of dwelling Feature 1; it consisted of an upright slab with a number of large, flat limestone rocks, which together measured 59cm by 55cm and 15cm in depth (Renouf 1987:13). Based on the placement of the rocks within the feature it may have had a similar function as Feature 16 in dwelling Feature 14. Within the south lateral platform was an 85cm by 67cm and 15cm deep stone-lined and bone-filled pit (Feature 7) (Renouf 1986:11-12; Renouf and Murray 1999:123). Feature 9 was a stone-lined pit and measured about 80cm by 60cm and 7cm deep (Renouf 1986:12-13); Feature 12 was bone-filled and stone-lined and 60cm by 20cm and 9cm deep (Renouf 1986:13-14). In addition to the central axial pits, pit Feature 9 and Feature 12 on the southern perimeter and two small <20cm pits on the eastern perimeter may have held perimeter supports for the dwelling. A number of large whale bone slabs found on the south perimeter (Feature 13), in the north entrance (Figure 4.12:A) and within the central depression (Figure 4.12:B), might have formed part of the dwelling's superstructure. Six metres north of the Feature 1 entrance was a 15m<sup>2</sup> midden deposit, designated Feature 52 (Renouf and Murray 1999:124). Based on faunal data, Renouf and Murray (1999) interpreted Feature 14 as a winter structure.

#### 4.4.3 House 17

The first middle phase dwelling in this analysis is House 17, which dated from 1710 to 1310 cal BP (Harp 1964, 1976:127; Renouf 2006:122, 2011b:Table 7.1) (Figure 4.13). This dwelling was trilobate and had three platform areas; the sum area of these combined with the dwelling's central space made for a size of 13m by 9.3m (88.2m<sup>2</sup>) (Renouf 2007:12). The south rear platform was rectangular and consisted of a single layer of rocks that formed a pavement; it was 3.9m by 5.3m (Renouf 2007:12, 26).

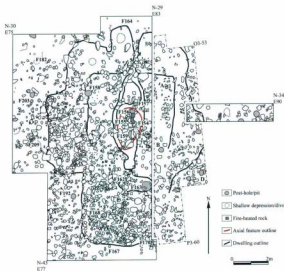


Figure 4.13. Plan of House 17, Phillip's Garden. Renouf's (2007) excavation plan, outlined by the solid line, is merged with Harp's (1963), which is outlined by the hatched line.

A 2m by 1.5m oval area of compact pavement occurred within this platform. The west lateral platform consisted of a 5cm thick rubble layer of sand, loose soil, small cobbles and a few larger rocks, on top of which was a single layer of rocks; this platform measured 4.6m by 2.9m (Renouf 2007:14). Based on Harp's (1963) field notes and sketches, the east lateral platform (as redrawn in Figure 4.12) of House 17 was likely also comprised of rubble and measured approximately 3.5m by 2.1m. The front (north) of the dwelling was defined by a 1.8m wide sandy berm (Renouf 2007:14). A break in this berm measuring 44cm wide, 1.6m long and 13cm deep was interpreted as the dwelling's entrance; a large flat limestone rock found about 75cm south was suggested to be a threshold stone or lintel (Renouf 2007:14). The central depression of the dwelling was subrectangular and measured 5.1m by  $\geq 5\text{m}$  ( $\geq 25.5\text{m}^2$ ).

A north-south axial feature (Feature 154) bisected the central space of House 17 (Figure 4.14). This feature was 1.9m by 92cm and comprised of two central post-holes which were 1.4m apart, and five limestone slabs outlined by two curved, narrow and shallow gullies that converged to the north and to the south to form a lenticular or lozenge-shaped outline (Renouf 2007:5). Two fat-stained and heat-discoloured slabs within the axial feature were interpreted as part of a pot support. The two central post-holes, Feature 157 and Feature 159, were 33cm by 45cm and 26cm by 37cm, respectively; both were about 30cm in depth (Renouf 2007:5). Also within the axial feature were two small oval post-holes, Feature 155 and Feature 156, which were 8cm by 15cm and 24cm by 16cm, respectively, and up to 8cm deep (Renouf 2007:25).



Figure 4.14. Axial hearth Feature 154, House 17, outlined by pink string. Photo: PACAP.

A large variety of other pit features was found within the dwelling perimeter. In the northwest corner of the central depression was an oval 32cm by 27cm and 13cm deep bone-filled pit (Feature 158); in the northeast (Figure 4.13:A) and southeast (Figure 4.13:B) corners were single <25cm diameter pits. Just north of the edge of the rear platform were two large pits within a shallow 2m by 90cm trough. One was a circular stone-lined pit (Feature 162), 90cm by 80cm and 60cm deep, which Renouf (2007:12) interpreted as a storage pit. A triangular 18cm by 34cm area in one corner of this pit could have been a post-hole. The second pit, Feature 163, was a shallow circular stone-lined pit measuring 90cm by 87cm and 35cm in depth (Renouf 2007:12). A 10-25cm trench connected the trough to the curved gullies of the dwelling's axial feature.

Regarding the superstructure of House 17, at least six pits (Feature's 168, 170, 182, 192, 203, 209) located around the perimeter were of suitable size, depth and shape to hold upright whale ribs, which Renouf (2007:21, see also 2009b:94, Fig. 7) suggested to be the roof supports for the dwelling. Two 25cm diameter pits (Figure 4.13:C, D) were found by Harp (1963) just outside the southeast edge of the east platform; these may also have held perimeter supports.

A palimpsest of features, including a large number of divots and pits, was found outside House 17. A number of these are of particular interest to the present analysis. A  $\geq 90\text{cm}$  by  $60\text{cm}$  patch of pea gravel was found about 2m west of the west platform of House 17 (Renouf 2009a:7). Associated with this deposit was a 2cm thick sandstone slab, several large fragments of a soapstone pot and a small burned log dated to  $1750 \pm 50$  BP (Beta-238477) (Renouf 2007:26). Renouf (2009a:7) interpreted these features as an outdoor axial hearth; it was parallel to the shoreline. Two extensive and deep ( $\geq 20\text{cm}$ ) midden deposits, Feature 164 and Feature 167, were found to the north and to the south of the dwelling, respectively. Based on its substantial nature, it is likely House 17 was intended for repeated seasonal use.

#### 4.4.4 House 2

The second middle phase dwelling in this analysis is House 2 (Figure 4.15), which dated from 1710 to 1240 cal BP (Renouf 2011b:Table 7.1). This dwelling was subrectangular with a well-defined perimeter of stacked limestone cobbles and slabs (Harp 1976:130-132; Renouf 2006:125; Renouf and Murray 1999:121, 125; Renouf et al.



2005:6); its exterior dimensions were  $\geq 10.5\text{m}$  by  $9\text{m}$  ( $\geq 94.5\text{m}^2$ ). The dwelling had three distinct platform areas: two lateral and one in the rear or south.

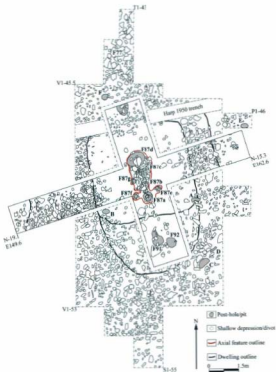


Figure 4.15. Plan of House 2, Phillip's Garden. Harp's (1963) excavation area, indicated by the hatched outline, is merged with Renouf et al.'s (2005) cross-trench map, outlined by the solid line.

The west lateral platform was 4.2m wide, while the east, interpreted as a sitting bench, was 1.3m wide (Renouf 2006:125; Renouf et al. 2005:6). Harp (1976:132) noted a particular soil anomaly throughout these platforms, which he suggested to be the remains of banked sod. The rear platform was a semi-circular area 4.5m long and 3m wide, which was relatively clear of rocks and raised 25-30cm above the central depression; it also contained two bone-filled pits (Harp 1976:132; Renouf and Murray 1999:125). The location of the entranceway to House 2 is unclear (cf. Harp 1964:22); however, based on their location in the other Phillip's Garden dwellings, it is presumed to be to the north. The central depression was 4.9m by 5.3m (25.9m<sup>2</sup>).

The axial hearth area (Feature 87) of House 2 was oriented north-south and consisted of a neatly paved trough (Feature 87c) measuring 1.2m by 75cm and comprising 4-5 layers of small limestone cobbles and rocks; including the pits, it was 2.6m by 94cm (Renouf et al. 2005:8). Renouf (2006:126) distinguished two separate phases of construction in Feature 87. There was initial construction of three large pits; two of these, Feature 87a and Feature 87d, were likely post-holes and measured 58cm in diameter and 55cm and 81cm deep, respectively (Renouf 2006:126). The third, Feature 87b, was interpreted as a storage pit and was 45cm in diameter and 65cm deep (Renouf et al. 2005:10). All of these pits were lined with small beach cobbles (Renouf 2006:125). The distance between Feature 87a and Feature 87d was 2.3m. In the later phase of construction, these two post-holes were modified into smaller ones measuring 5-8cm in diameter and 25-28cm deep (Renouf 2006:126; Renouf et al. 2005:8). The distance between these post-holes was 1.6m. In addition, at some point following its use the

storage pit had been covered with a flat limestone slab. Three small, shallow pits, measuring 20-30cm in diameter and 9-16cm deep, were also associated with Feature 87 and were interpreted by Renouf (2006:125) as subsidiary post-holes.

There was a small number of other pits within the dwelling's perimeter. Based on Harp's (1963) field notes there was a single pit in the southeast (Figure 4.15:A) and southwest (Figure 4.15:B) corners of the central depression. The southeast pit measured approximately 19cm by 56cm and the southwest 28cm by 38cm; depth is unknown. There were two contiguous pits within the rear platform, both of which were stone-lined and bone-filled at the time of Harp's (1963) excavation. The east pit (Feature 92) measured 46cm in diameter and 69cm deep, while the one to the west (Feature 91) measured 75cm by 47cm. Apart from the central post-holes, there is not a great deal of evidence for superstructure (cf. Renouf 2006), particularly with regard to perimeter supports. There was a total of four pits on the outer edge of the perimeter of House 2: two on the southeast (Figure 4.14:C, D) corner measuring 45cm by 38cm and 38cm by 10cm; one on the northeast (Figure 4.14:E) corner measuring 38cm by 19cm; and a single pit (Figure 4.14:F) measuring 38cm by 29cm to the northwest of what is presumed to be the dwelling's entrance. There was also a single whale bone slab of undetermined size found by Harp (1963) in the rear platform area. The only notable occurrence outside House 2, besides the aforementioned pits, was a deep and extensive midden deposit (Feature 77), located directly in front of the dwelling, on the terrace slope (Hodgetts 2002; Hodgetts et al. 2005; Renouf and Murray 1999:128). Due to the substantial nature of its architecture, Renouf (2011b:144ff) suggested that House 2 was built for repeated seasonal use.

#### 4.4.5 House 10

House 10 is the third middle phase dwelling in this analysis and dated from 1690 to 1420 cal BP (Renouf 2006:122) (Figure 4.16). This dwelling, at 12.5m by  $\geq 8.4\text{m}$  ( $\geq 105\text{m}^2$ ), is the largest yet identified at the site (Renouf 2011b:Table 7.2).

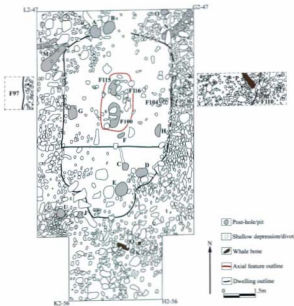


Figure 4.16. Plan of House 10, Phillip's Garden. The east-west trench, outlined by the hatched line, was excavated by Renouf et al. (2005).

It was defined by a perimeter of stacked limestone slabs and cobbles which were raised a maximum of 38.1cm above the central depression; the platforms consisted of three layers of rock (Renouf et al. 2005:13). Similar to House 2, the lateral platforms of House 10 were of unequal width; the west was 1.3m and the east 3.3m. Renouf et al. (2005:12) interpreted the west lateral platform as a sitting bench due to its narrow width. The rear platform was semi-circular and roughly 4.9m east-west by 3.4m north-south. The dwelling's entrance was an approximately 1.5m wide break in the north wall. In his field notes Harp (1962) records in the entranceway the occurrence of pea gravel as well as compacted earth. There were also two large 40-50cm diameter pits (Figure 4.16:A, B) directly in front of the entrance; the depth of these is unclear but are likely associated with the entrance. Based on Harp's (1962) field drawings, the central depression of House 10 was subrectangular and measured roughly 5.3m by 5m (26.5m<sup>2</sup>).

The axial hearth (Feature 116) was comprised of a north-south 1m by 2.5m pavement of limestone slabs, rocks and beach cobbles, which was abutted to the north and east by large stone-lined pits (Feature 100 and Feature 115); these pits measured 75cm by 38cm and 16cm by 6cm, respectively. The depth of the pits is unknown. The approximate distance between these pits was 1.5m. On the east platform of House 10 was a feature interpreted as a pot/lamp support (Feature 110). It consisted of an upright limestone slab oriented east to west. Abutting the north side of this was another slab placed face down; on the south side was a deposit of pea gravel mixed with brown soil (Renouf et al. 2005:13).

In the rear platform were three large and deep pits. Based on Harp's (1962) field notes, the northwest pit (Figure 4.16:C) was about 35cm in diameter and 86cm (36 inches) deep. This pit was connected to the central depression by a shallow, narrow trench. The pit to the east (Figure 4.16:D) was stone-lined and 40cm in diameter; depth is unknown. The southernmost pit (Figure 4.16:E) of the three measured 40cm by 45cm and was 81cm deep. Given the depth of the north and south pits it is likely that these held large load-bearing posts. The pits are roughly aligned with the central axis, which also supports this interpretation. Based on the presence of storage pits in the rear platforms of other dwellings at the site, and a moderate amount of seal bone found within it, the east stone-lined pit in the rear platform of House 10 is likely to have been used as a storage pit.

A number of other features was found in the central depression and outside the dwelling's perimeter. Just south of the axial feature was a small pit measuring 18cm by 30cm (Figure 4.16:F). On the west edge was a 40cm by 38cm pit (Figure 4.16:G); on the east edge was a 40cm by 20cm bone-filled pit (Feature 104). About 70cm south of Feature 104 was a 45cm by 15cm semi-circular pit (Figure 4.16:H), which was surrounded by a small (c. 1m<sup>2</sup>) deposit of pea gravel that was bounded to the east by the edge of the east platform and to the south by the edge of the rear platform. Less than a metre southwest of the rear platform were two pits, 38cm and 13cm in diameter (Figure 4.16:I, J). About 1.5m south of the rear platform was a 13cm diameter pit (Figure 4.16:K). Occurring on the northwest and northeast raised perimeter of the dwelling were three 20-38cm wide linear trenches (Figure 4.16:L, M, N) in the sandy substrate, some of which had small pits within them; it is uncertain whether or not these trenches were natural.

About a metre northeast of the dwelling's entrance was a pit measuring 38cm by 20cm (Figure 4.16:O). Most of the pits described above likely held elements of the dwelling's superstructure; those inside along the edge of the central depression may have held subsidiary roof supports, while those outside were likely associated with perimeter supports. A number of large pieces of whale rib and/or mandible measuring between 53-132cm in length and 13-30cm wide were also found around the perimeter (Figure 4.16:P, Q); these could also have been related to the dwelling's superstructure. A rich midden deposit (Feature 97) of unknown dimensions was located just outside the west bench (Renouf et al. 2005:12); it is uncertain whether it is associated with House 10. The substantial construction of House 10 suggests it was likely a permanent dwelling (Renouf et al. 2005:18).

#### 4.4.6 House 6

The fourth middle phase dwelling in this analysis is House 6, dating from 1600 to 1420 cal BP (Harp 1976:125; Renouf 2006:122) (Figure 4.17). Prior to the present analysis, the shape and internal layout of House 6 as depicted in Harp's (1962) plan sketches appeared unusual compared with the other middle phase dwellings at the site. According to Harp, this dwelling was an elongated oval with a large oval central depression, surrounded by a perimeter of stacked limestone slabs. The most curious feature of the dwelling, however, was its axial feature, which consisted of three large pits oriented perpendicular to the dwelling's central axis, which was oriented southwest to

northeast. The entranceway was thought to be located in the northeast corner (unit B1-20) where a series of bone-filled pits and a small deposit of compacted sand were found.

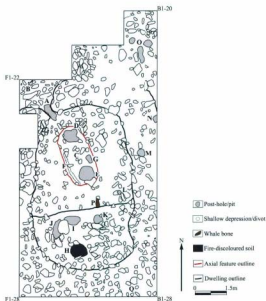


Figure 4.17. Plan of House 6 at Phillip's Garden, adapted from Harp's (1962) field sketches and notes.

However, upon a thorough re-examination of Harp's (1962) field notes it became clear that House 6 was not anomalous but in fact similar to the other middle phase



dwellings (e.g., Figure 4.16). Based on the results of this re-examination, the dwelling was subrectangular and measured  $\geq 9.3\text{m}$  north-south by  $9.1\text{m}$  east-west ( $\geq 84.6\text{m}^2$ ). It was defined by a perimeter of raised and stacked limestone shingle, rocks and cobbles. The east perimeter was  $1.5\text{--}1.8\text{m}$  in width and raised  $20.3\text{--}26.7\text{cm}$  above the floor of the central depression. Given that walls of similar width in other middle phase dwellings (e.g. House 2, House 10) were interpreted as sitting benches (Renouf 2006:125; Renouf et al. 2005:12), it is likely that the east perimeter of House 6 had a similar function. There also tends to be a wider platform on the opposite side of dwellings. On this basis, the west 'platform' of House 6 is estimated to be  $\geq 3.2\text{m}$  wide; it was raised  $10\text{--}15\text{cm}$  above the central depression. Nevertheless, further excavation extending beyond the dwelling's west perimeter may prove otherwise. The rear platform was a rough semicircle and measured  $4.4\text{m}$  east-west by  $2.6\text{m}$  north-south. On top of the southwest perimeter wall there was a small deposit of brown sterile soil, suggesting buried sod. Contrary to Harp (1962), who believed the dwelling's entrance to be located to the northeast, the entrance of House 6 is inferred to be represented by a narrow gap in the northwest corner of the dwelling; a  $15\text{--}20\text{cm}$  deep linear trough (Figure 4.17:A) was associated with this entrance, and just outside was a dense deposit of faunal remains (Figure 4.17:B). The central depression of the dwelling was subrectangular and about  $4.3\text{m}$  by  $4.2\text{m}$  ( $18.1\text{m}^2$ ).

The axial hearth area (Figure 4.17:C) of House 6 was comprised of an approximately  $2.6\text{m}$  by  $1.1\text{m}$  northwest-southeast arrangement of limestone slabs, rocks and a smaller number of granitic cobbles, which was abutted on each end by a large and deep stone lined pit. According to Harp's (1962) field notes, the northwest pit (Figure

4.17:D) was oval and 91.4cm by 60.9cm (3ft by 2ft) and 76.2cm (2.5 ft.) deep; it was straight-sided and lined with pebbles and small cobbles. The southeast pit (Figure 4.17:E) had cobbles and slabs set vertically around its edges and was roughly 75cm in diameter, with a large limestone slab covering its southern top half; depth is unknown but is presumed to have been of comparable depth as the northwest pit. These two central pits were about 1.8m apart. Just south of the southwest pit was a large slab of sandstone; on its west edge were a number of disintegrated sandstone slabs. These features are likely to have been the remains of a lamp or pot support and abrading tools, respectively. On the west side between the two central pits was a narrow 1.5m long and 5-7cm deep trench (Figure 4.17:F), which may be a similar feature to that found in the axial hearth area of House 17 (Renouf 2007:5). On the east side was a 20cm diameter and 15cm deep pit (Figure 4.17:G), which might have been a subsidiary post-hole.

There were a number of other features within and outside the dwelling's perimeter. In the south-central area of the rear platform was a roughly 20cm diameter and 10cm deep deposit of fire-burned soil (Figure 4.17:H), within which was a concentration of charcoal and one piece of fire-burned rock. This is interpreted as a possible informal hearth. Also in the rear platform were two large stone-lined and bone-filled and one small pit. The two large pits were adjacent to one another, measured 50-70cm in diameter and were 66-77.5cm in depth. The northernmost pit (Figure 4.17:I) was straight-sided, while the one to the southwest (Figure 4.17:J) had sloping edges. The former is likely either a secondary post-hole or a storage locker while the latter likely held a large load-bearing roof support post. About a metre east of these pits was a round 25cm diameter and 10.1-12.7cm deep

bone-filled pit (Figure 4.17:K), which may have supported a load-bearing post given that it is in line with the two central axial post-holes. In the southeast corner of the central depression was a small 10cm diameter pit (Figure 4.17:L) of unknown depth. In the east perimeter bench were two small c. 20cm diameter pits (Figure 4.17:M, N), one of which was 15-20cm deep; the depth of the other is unknown. A large piece of whale bone was found near these pits. About a metre northeast of House 6 was a cluster of three small pits (Figure 4.17:O) and a shallow depression; the pits were 20-50cm in depth while the depression was about 10cm deep. At least some of the aforementioned pit features likely had a function in the superstructure of House 6. Also suggestive of superstructure was the recovery of a large slab of whale bone (Figure 4.17:P) stuck vertically into the sandy substrate (Level 4), just in front of the north edge of the rear platform. Concerning the refuse disposal areas of the dwelling, Harp (1962) noted exceptionally dense concentrations of artefacts, charcoal and faunal remains – of which some were burned – just outside the southeast (Figure 4.17:Q) and northwest (Figure 4.17:B) perimeters; unfortunately, however, the spatial extent and depth of these deposits are unknown. The substantial architecture of House 6 suggests that it was a cold-weather structure.

#### 4.4.7 House 4

The fifth middle phase dwelling in this analysis is House 4, which dated from 1520 to 1410 cal BP (Harp 1976:125; Renouf 2011b:Table 7.2) (Figure 4.18). Based on reconstructing details from Harp's field notes, this dwelling was defined by a perimeter comprised of 2-3 layers of stacked limestone slabs and rocks. It was subrectangular and

measured roughly 8.6m by 9.8m (84.3m<sup>2</sup>). The dwelling had two lateral and a rear platform, which were raised 10.7-18.3cm above the central depression. The east lateral platform was 3.2m wide, while the west lateral platform was 1.3m; the latter platform was likely a sitting bench due to its narrow width. The dwelling's rear platform was 2.6m wide and, based on Harp's (1963) plan sketches, was raised about 8cm above the central depression.

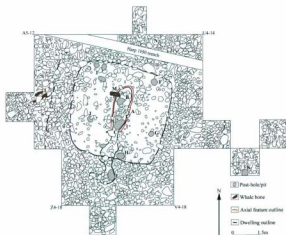


Figure 4.18. Plan of House 4 at Phillip's Garden, reconstructed from Harp's (1963) field sketches and notes.

The location of the entranceway is unclear, but is presumed to have been located in the north wall based on the location of entranceways in other Phillip's Garden dwellings. The central depression was subrectangular and measured 5.1m by 4.9m (24.7m<sup>2</sup>).

The axial hearth area of House 4 consisted of a roughly 2.6m by .75m paved trough (Figure 4.18:A), 10-15cm deep, oriented northeast-southwest, within which were two central stone-lined post-holes which were 1.4m apart. The north post-hole (Figure 4.18:B) was about 30.5cm in diameter and 45.7cm deep; it was lined with overlapping limestone slabs and pebbles positioned on a 30-40° angle. The south post-hole (Figure 4.18:C) was larger in diameter at 60.9cm by 30.5cm but shallower at 22.9cm. These post-holes are quite shallow for a dwelling of this size, and it is possible that they were not fully excavated.

Based on Harp's (1963) sketches, the axial trough appears to continue south to the rear platform where it connects with two pits. One was shallow and adjoined the other, which was large and deep forming what was likely a storage pit. The shallow trench (Figure 4.18:D) was stone-lined and 15.2cm deep; the large pit (Figure 4.18:E) was 41.9cm by 30.5cm, 24.1cm deep, and lined on its edges with vertical slabs set at about a 40° angle. The depth of this pit was also fairly shallow compared with rear pits in other middle phase dwellings, but again it is likely that this pit was not fully excavated.

There were several regularly spaced pits within the perimeter of House 4. In the northeast corner of the central depression was a 24.4cm by 15.2cm and 19.1cm deep pit (Figure 4.18:F). About 3m south of this pit was another, which was 15cm in diameter and 15cm deep (Figure 4.18:G). Just in front of the rear platform, on the east side of the axial

trench, was a 22.9cm diameter and 15.2cm deep pit (Figure 4.18:H), which was filled with a moderate amount of bone. In the northwest corner of the central depression was a cluster of three pits (Figure 4.18:I), which measured on average 15cm in diameter; their depths are unknown. Three metres south of these pits was a roughly 9cm diameter and 23cm deep pit (Figure 4.18:J). On the outer edge of the east platform was a 30.5cm diameter pit filled with faunal remains (Figure 4.18:K); it was 38–46cm in depth. These pits, combined with the recovery of large whale bone slabs on top of the west platform (Figure 4.18:L), and in and around the central axial pits (Figure 4.18:M), suggest a superstructure. A deep and extensive midden (Figure 4.18:N) was found outside the north perimeter of the dwelling; its exact dimensions are unknown. Due to the substantial nature of its architecture, it is suggested that House 4 was built for repeated seasonal use.

#### 4.4.8 House 11

House 11 is the sixth middle phase dwelling in this analysis; it dated from 1510 to 1340 cal BP (Harp 1976:125; Renouf 2011b:Table 7.2) (Figure 4.18). It was a subrectangular dwelling roughly 10.1m east-west by  $\geq 8.6$ m north-south ( $\geq 87.4\text{m}^2$ ) defined by a perimeter of raised and stacked limestone rocks. As in a number of other middle phase dwellings, the two lateral platforms of House 11 were of unequal width: the east was 3.4m while the west was 1.7m. These platforms were raised 5–13cm above the central depression. The dimensions of the north platform are unclear. However, based on Harp's (1962, 1963) profiles it was raised 5–8cm above the central depression. It is unclear where the entranceway was located; however, it was likely to the north based on

the location of entranceways in other dwellings at the site. The central depression was 5.1m north-south by 5.3m east-west (26.8m<sup>2</sup>).

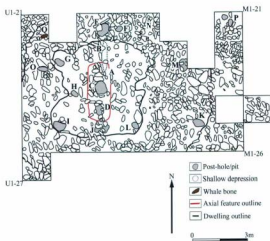


Figure 4.19. Plan of House 11 at Phillip's Garden, reconstructed from Harp's (1962, 1963) field sketches and notes.

The axial hearth area (Figure 4.19:A) of House 11 was comprised of two deep central stone-lined post-holes within a roughly linear paved area (2.6m by 93cm), which was oriented north to south. According to Harp's (1962, 1963) notes, this hearth area may have extended northward where there was a 1.5m by 22cm and 5-10cm deep trench (Figure 4.19:B). The northernmost central post-hole (Figure 4.19:C) was 76.2cm by

91.4cm and 50.8cm deep. The south central post-hole (Figure 4.19:D) measured 22.9cm in diameter and 50cm deep. These post-holes were 1.4m apart.

There were two pits within the dwelling's north platform. One was roughly 69cm in diameter and 53.3cm deep (Figure 4.19:E). It was lined with large flat limestone slabs and filled with a large quantity of faunal remains, and at its bottom a piece of red ochre was recovered. A 15cm diameter pit (Figure 4.19:F) was found about 20cm east; its depth is unknown.

A number of other pits was found within and outside the perimeter of House 11. Six pits were found around the inner edge of the central depression. In the northwest corner was a 20cm diameter and 50cm deep pit (Figure 4.19:G), which was filled with burned and unburned bone. About a metre south of this pit was another which measured 22.8cm in diameter and 55.9cm deep (Figure 4.19:H). In the southwest corner of the central depression was a 30cm diameter and 40cm deep pit (Figure 4.19:I). Just south of the axial hearth area were two pits (Figure 4.19:J), 23cm and 29cm in diameter, which might have held subsidiary supports or braces for the south central post. In the southeast corner was a small 25cm deep pit (Figure 4.19:L). On the east platform were two bone-filled pits; one was 30cm in diameter and 15cm deep (Figure 4.19:K) and the other (Figure 4.19:M) had similar dimensions but was about 15.5cm deeper. On the northeast side of the platform was a <30cm diameter and 5-10cm deep pit (Figure 4.19:N). A single pit was found on the west platform (Figure 4.19:O); it measured 15cm by 23cm. Just outside the northeast perimeter were two <20cm diameter pits (Figure 4.19:P) of unknown depth. Although relatively narrow, the pits within the central depression, including the



central post-holes, average about 49cm in depth, suggesting that they all held substantial load-bearing posts. Additional evidence suggesting superstructure includes a large section of whale rib (Figure 4.19:Q) found on the northwest perimeter of the dwelling, which might have been a structural element. Given its large size and substantial construction, House 11 was likely a permanent dwelling.

#### 4.4.9 House 5

House 5 is the youngest middle phase dwelling in this analysis; it dated from 1480 to 1320 cal BP (Harp 1976:125; Renouf 2011b:Table 7.2) (Figure 4.20). It is adjacent to the eastern perimeter of House 6 (Figure 4.20:F). This dwelling was defined by a shallow (5-8cm), semi-circular depression clear of rocks, which measured 5.9m by 3.3m (16.6m<sup>2</sup>) (Harp 1976:130; Renouf 2003:409). There was no built-up perimeter of stacked rocks or shingle. It is unclear where the dwelling's entranceway was located, but it is presumed to be on the north perimeter where there was a cluster of three or more flat rocks (Figure 4.20:A) which may have formed a threshold.

There were few features within the perimeter of House 5. There was an apparent occurrence within the dwelling of two deposits of reddened and ashy soil (Figure 4.20:B, C), which despite an absence of charcoal, Harp's (1961) crew suggested were burned central hearth areas. It is unclear what these features were exactly, but given the nature of the deposit, it is possible that they were informal hearths.

Two features of note were found outside House 5. About a metre north of the dwelling's presumed entranceway was a roughly 75cm by 94cm deposit of fire-

discoloured soil (Figure 4.20:D), and within which was a single fire-burned rock. A similar deposit was found about 2.5m to the northwest (Figure 4.20:E); it consisted of ashy soil, a thin layer of charcoal and a small number of fire-discoloured and disintegrated sandstone and limestone rocks. While it remains uncertain what exactly these deposits were, they are speculated here to have been informal hearths, and perhaps in the latter case, an exterior axial feature.

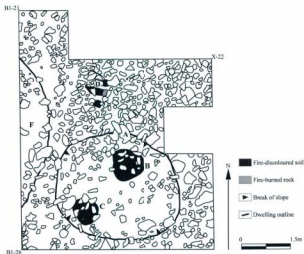


Figure 4.20. Plan of House 5 at Phillip's Garden, adapted from Harp's (1961) field notes and sketches.

Based on its insubstantial nature and a lack of associated artefacts, Harp (1976:130) suggested House 5 to be a warm-weather dwelling; the presence of exterior hearths also supports this interpretation. In addition, the informal nature of these hearths, including the two possible hearths inside the dwelling, indicates short-term occupation.

#### 4.4.10 Feature 42

While undated, Feature 42 (Figure 4.21) was identified by Renouf (2003:394) as Middle Dorset based on associated artefacts. This was a well-defined axial hearth structure surrounded by a semi-circular ring of three post-holes and 12 small depressions; these pits were 11-26cm deep and 25-31cm in diameter. The area within this perimeter measured 4.5m by 4.4m (15.5m<sup>2</sup>) (Renouf 2003:409, 2002:28). The hearth structure, measuring 2.3m by 1.3m, was comprised of two large limestone slabs levelled on a bed of pea gravel; it was oriented east to west. These slabs faced each other and a third large but narrower slab lay to the south. Between the two large slabs was a 75cm wide cleared area levelled with pea gravel surrounded by a number of smaller slabs which, if set upright, could have formed a box hearth or lamp support (Renouf 1991:56, 2002:28, 2003:394). A small quantity of fire-cracked rock was also found in association with Feature 42. Renouf (2002:30, 2003:394) interpreted Feature 42 as a warm-weather tent structure based on its insubstantial nature and a lack of artefacts.

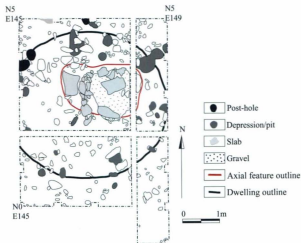


Figure 4.21. Dwelling Feature 42, Phillip's Garden. Map: PACAP.

#### 4.4.11 Feature 55

Feature 55 is the first late phase dwelling in this analysis; it dated from 1400 to 1180 cal BP (Renouf 2006:122, 2011b:Table 7.2) (Figure 4.22). This was a circular dwelling defined by a 1-2m wide perimeter of raised and stacked limestone shingle, which was interpreted as a perimeter sitting bench (Renouf 1993b:24, 1999b:40; 2002:97; 2003:394, 2006:123, 2009b:94-95). The dwelling's dimensions were 6.3m north-south and 6m east-west (29.5m<sup>2</sup>). There were two entranceways. The primary entrance was to

the north and was defined by a sand-filled depression inside two rows of vertically-placed rocks; this entrance measured 99cm by 130cm and about 10cm deep (Renouf 1993b:36, 2002:97). The secondary entrance was located to the south and was defined by a slight 1m wide dip in the perimeter.

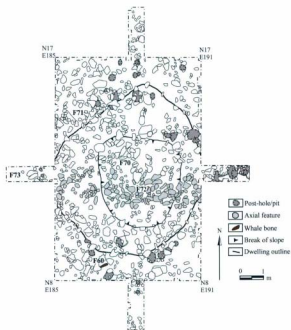


Figure 4.22. Plan of dwelling Feature 55, Phillip's Garden. Map: PACAP.

The central depression was oval in outline and recessed about 25cm below the perimeter bench; it measured 3.8m north-south by 3.4m east-west ( $9.9\text{m}^2$ ) (Renouf 2002:97, 2006:123).

An east-west axial hearth (Feature 72) bisected the interior of the dwelling. It was comprised of a rough limestone slab and cobble pavement, which measured 75-100cm wide, and spanned the width of the dwelling, at 6m (Renouf 1993b:43, 2002:103). No central post-holes or pits were associated with this axial feature. On the north side of the axial feature was a concentration of charcoal and bone mulch (Feature 70), which measured 22cm by 20cm and 9cm thick (Renouf 1993b:43, 2002:102). Renouf (2002:102) suggested an association between this deposit and the axial feature.

Twelve large post-holes ringed the perimeter of Feature 55. The identification of these contributed to the interpretation of the perimeter of stacked limestone as a sitting bench rather than a wall (Renouf 1993b:46). The post-holes ranged from 11-32cm in depth; diameter ranged from 12cm by 11cm to 20cm by 30cm (Renouf 1993b:Table 4). Ten of these were stone-lined, two outlined by rocks, but not lined, and all had a base of rock; the basal rocks of three post-holes were stained with red ochre (Renouf 1993b:49, 53, Table 4). One found on the southern perimeter, 17cm by 21cm and 10cm deep, was thought to be a possible perimeter post-hole (Renouf 1993b:53). Two large, deep post-holes about 10cm in diameter and 45-55cm deep were found outside the eastern perimeter (Renouf 1993b:38). Two sets of small subsidiary post-holes were found on the north and south perimeter. That six of these post-holes were slanted led Renouf (1993b:34) to suggest that these, and likely the others, held whale ribs which would, in conjunction with

additional wooden poles, have been used as the structural frame of the dwelling (see also Renouf 2009b:93). Just outside the south perimeter, a 40cm by 40cm whale bone slab (Feature 60) was found, which could have been structural (Renouf 1993b:38).

Two other features of note were found outside the perimeter of Feature 55. A heating platform or lamp stand (Feature 71) was found outside the northwest perimeter. It consisted of two large, flat rocks, measuring 30cm by 62cm and 31cm by 11cm; the larger rock was blackened and the smaller was fragmented, suggesting that they were heated and/or burned (Renouf 1993b:43, 45). A 10-15cm deep midden deposit (Feature 73) was found just outside the western perimeter (Renouf 1993b:54, 55a). Based on overlap of radiocarbon dates it is contemporaneous and likely associated with Feature 55. Based on faunal data from an associated midden, Hodgetts et al. (2003:116) suggested that while Feature 55 was likely a cold-weather dwelling, its occupation might have extended into the summer.

#### 4.4.12 House 20

The other late phase dwelling in this analysis is House 20, which dated from 1300 to 1180 cal BP (Harp 1976:125; Renouf 2011b:Table 7.2) (Figure 4.23). Harp (1963) excavated only a small portion (c. 18m<sup>2</sup>) of House 20; however, his data are sufficient for at least a general understanding of the dwelling. Based on his field notes, House 20 was an oval dwelling defined by a 75cm-1.3m wide perimeter berm of stacked limestone rocks, which was raised about 5-20cm above the central depression. Given its narrow width, this berm might have acted as a perimeter sitting platform similar to that identified

in dwelling Feature 55 (Renouf 1993b:24). If these calculations of width are correct, then the exterior dimensions of House 20 would be about 5.4m north-south by 6.75m east-west ( $29.2\text{m}^2$ ). The location of the dwelling's entranceway is unclear, but an inward curve in the south perimeter and a 60cm drop-off just outside this perimeter suggests a possible south-facing entrance (Figure 4.23:A). This deep drop-off could otherwise be a large post-hole or pit rather than the outer edge of the south perimeter. The central depression was a subrectangular area, measuring 3m north-south by 4.5m east-west ( $13.5\text{m}^2$ ).

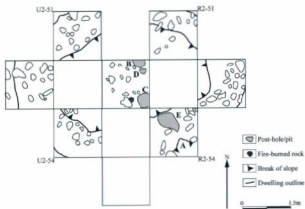


Figure 4.23. Plan of House 20 at Phillip's Garden, adapted from Harp's (1963) notes and sketches.

A portion of what is thought to be the dwelling's axial feature was excavated. It consisted of at least two large and one small pit, aligned roughly northwest to southeast.



The northernmost pit (Figure 4.23:B) was 45.7cm by  $\geq 30.5$ cm and 50.8cm deep; the other large pit (Figure 4.23:C) was 53.3cm in diameter and 35.7cm deep. The centre-to-centre distance between these pits was 1.4m. According to Harp (1963) both pits were filled with bone. The other pit (Figure 4.23:D) was located just south of the north pit. It was narrow, at 15.2cm diameter, and deep, at 55.9cm. A small amount of bone and artefacts was found within this pit. A single piece of fire-cracked rock and a 15cm<sup>2</sup> flat rock were found near the pits, and were likely associated with the axial hearth. Just south of the axial pit arrangement, in the south perimeter berm, was a large and deep pit (Figure 4.23:E), measuring 60.9cm by 76.2cm and 35.6–53.3cm deep. A number of rocks outlined the pit, but none were found inside; the walls of the pit were slanted at a roughly 40° angle. This was either a storage pit or a depression associated with the presumed entranceway to the south – perhaps creating a sort of cold trap entrance passage. The seasonality of House 20 is unclear, but if the pit was a cold trap entrance passage, then the dwelling was likely a cold-weather occupation.

#### 4.4.13 Summary

The Phillip's Garden dwellings examined in this analysis are summarized in Table 4.2. Dwelling architecture and construction at this site are remarkably consistent over the span of its nearly 800-year occupation. The two early phase dwellings examined are large (51.5–74.7m<sup>2</sup>), oval dwellings with a lesser-defined perimeter consisting of raised and stacked limestone rocks. Each dwelling has multiple platforms, which are reasonably well defined. Axial features in each dwelling consist of a line of central pits; the axial feature

in Feature 14 is perpendicular to the shoreline, while the one in Feature 1 is parallel with it. Both dwellings have a number of hearth and/or cooking-related features located within them. There is little evidence for superstructure, apart from the central post-holes, which were set at a similar distance (1.6-1.8m) apart. However, these dwellings were not dismantled, so there is the possibility that superstructure was more substantial.

The middle phase dwellings examined display an even greater degree of consistency in architecture and construction, and are exceptionally large. Excluding House 5, these dwellings range from 84.3 to 105m<sup>2</sup>, are subrectangular – and in the case of House 17, trilobate – and are defined by a perimeter of raised and stacked limestone rock. Despite the differing exterior dimensions of each dwelling, their central depressions are all remarkably similar in shape and size (18.1-26.8m<sup>2</sup>). All dwellings have multiple well-defined platforms; rear platforms are generally located to the south. In all middle phase dwellings in this sample except House 17 the lateral platforms are of unequal width/depth. Axial features tend to consist of two large and deep central post-holes associated with stone pavements and/or troughs, and which are of similar dimensions (length: 1.9-2.6m; width: 60-94cm) between the dwellings. Most entranceways face the shoreline. The middle phase axial features are all oriented perpendicular to the shoreline. The single example of an external axial feature – outside House 17 – is parallel with the shoreline. Aside from this example, cooking features in this sample are located within dwellings. There is a good deal of evidence for superstructure, with multiple possible post-holes within and outside each middle phase dwelling except House 5; the distance between central post-holes (1.4-1.8m) is also remarkably similar between dwellings.

Table 4.2. Summary of attributes for dwellings sampled from Phillip's Garden.

	Feature 14	Feature 1	House 17	House 2
Dwelling dimensions <sup>1</sup>	12m x 7.5m (74.7m <sup>2</sup> )	9.2m by 7m (51.5m <sup>2</sup> )	13m x 9.3m (88.2m <sup>2</sup> )	≥10.5m x 9m (≥94.5m <sup>2</sup> )
Dwelling shape	oval	oval	trioblate	subrectangular
Central d. dimensions	5m x 4.5m (22.5m <sup>2</sup> )	4.2m x 4.2m (17.6m <sup>2</sup> )	5.1m by ≥5m (≥25.5m <sup>2</sup> )	4.9m x 5.3m (25.9m <sup>2</sup> )
Central d. shape	subrectangular	subrectangular	subrectangular	subrectangular
Periphery marker	perimeter of raised and stacked limestone rocks	perimeter of raised and stacked limestone rocks	outer edge of 4 platforms	perimeter of stacked limestone rocks
Platform	north rear: 2.5m x 4m; south: 1m x 7.5m; cobble and slab	north: 4.4m x 1.9m; south: 4.6m x 1m; west rear: 4m x 2.6m; cobble and slab	south rear: 3.9m x 5.3m; east: 3.5m by 2.1m; west: 4.6m x 2.9m rubble and slab	south rear: 4.5m x 3m; east bench: 1.3 wide; west: 4.2m wide
Entrance	3.4m x 2m entrance passage S; other to N	primary: N; secondary: S	4.4m x 1.6m break to N	N
Axial feature	internal: line of pits + 2m x .90m stone-lined trough; PS	internal: 3.3m x 2.1m arrangement of 2 stone- lined pits; PLS	internal: 1.9m x .92m stone arrangement + 2 central post-holes; PS; external: ≥90cm x 60cm pea gravel + post support; PLS	internal: 2.6m x .94m paved trough + 2 central post-holes + storage pit; PS
Hearth	internal: informal hearth; 24cm x 22cm	n/a	n/a	n/a
Heating platform	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lamp/pot support	internal: 75cm x 35cm central post-holes, 1.8m apart; 3 possible	internal: 59cm x 55cm central post-holes, 1.6m apart; 5 possible	internal: 38cm x 25cm central post-holes, 1.4m apart; >7 perimeter post-holes	central post-holes, 1.6m apart; 4 possible perimeter post-holes; large whale bone slab
Superstructure	perimeter post-holes; 4 whale bone slabs	perimeter post-holes; 5 whale bone slabs		

	House 10	House 6	House 4	House 11
Dwelling dimensions	12.5m x 8.4m ( $\geq 105m^2$ )	$\geq 9.3m \times 9.1m$ ( $\geq 84.6m^2$ )	8.6m x 9.8m ( $84.3m^2$ )	10.1m x 8.6m ( $\geq 87.4m^2$ )
Dwelling shape	subrectangular	subrectangular	subrectangular	subrectangular
Central d. dimensions	5.3m x 5m ( $26.5m^2$ )	4.3m x 4.2m ( $18.1m^2$ )	5.1m x 4.9m ( $24.7m^2$ )	5.1m x 5.3m ( $26.8m^2$ )
Central d. shape	subrectangular	subrectangular	subrectangular	subrectangular
Periphery marker	perimeter of stacked limestone rocks	perimeter of raised and stacked limestone rocks	perimeter of stacked limestone rocks	perimeter of raised and stacked limestone rocks
Platform	south rear: 4.9m x 3.4m; east: 3.3m wide; west bench: 1.3m wide	south rear: 4.4m x 2.6m; east bench: 1.5-1.8m wide; west: $\geq 3.2m$ wide	south rear: 2.6m wide; east: 3.2m wide; west bench: 1.3m wide	north; east: 3.4m wide; west bench: 1.7m
Entrance	1.5m break to N	narrow break to N	N	no info.
Axial feature	2.5m x 1m pavement + 2 central post-holes; PS	2.6m x 1.1m stone arrangement + 2 central post-holes; PS	2.6m x .75m paved trough + 2 central post- holes; PS	2.6m x .93m pavement + 2 central post-holes; PS
Hearth	n/a	internal: informal hearth; 20cm x 10cm	n/a	n/a
Heating platform	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lamp/pot support	internal	internal	n/a	n/a
Superstructure	central post-holes, 1.5m apart: $>8$ perimeter post- holes; 53-172cm whale bone slabs on perimeter	central post-holes, 1.8m apart; $>5$ perimeter post- holes; whale bone slab on edge of rear platform	central post-holes, 1.4m apart; large whale bone slabs on west bench and in axial feature	central post-holes, 1.4m apart; $\geq 6$ perimeter post- holes; large whale rib on west bench

	House 5	Feature 42	Feature 55	House 20
Dwelling dimensions	5.9m x 3.3m (16.6m <sup>2</sup> )	4.5m x 4.4m (15.5m <sup>2</sup> )	6.3m x 6m (29.5m <sup>2</sup> )	5.4m x 6.75m (29.2m <sup>2</sup> )
Dwelling shape	circular	circular	circular	oval
Central d. dimensions	n/a	n/a	3.8m x 3.4m (9.9m <sup>2</sup> )	3m x 4.5m (13.5m <sup>2</sup> )
Central d. shape	n/a	n/a	oval	subrectangular
Periphery marker	shallow depression	perimeter of post-holes	perimeter of raised and stacked limestone rocks; perimeter of post-holes	perimeter of raised and stacked limestone rocks
Platform	n/a	n/a	1-2m wide perimeter bench	75cm-1.3m wide perimeter bench
Entrance	N?	no info.	primary: N; secondary: S	S?
Axial feature	n/a	2.3m x 1.3m slab hearth on bed of sea gravel; PLS	6m x 1m pavement; PLS	line of pits; PS
Hearth	2 external(?); one 94cm x 75cm; 2 internal(?)	n/a	n/a	n/a
Heating platform	n/a	n/a	external	n/a
Lamp/post support	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Superstructure	no central or perimeter post-holes	perimeter post-holes	No central post-holes; perimeter post-holes; whale bone slab on south perimeter	central post-holes, 1.4m apart

<sup>1</sup>Area calculation based on shape: oval =  $ar^2$  based on radius of averaged diameter; circular =  $ar^2$ ; subrectangular = length times width; trilobate = sum of the area of three lobes. d. = depression; PLS = parallel with shoreline; PS = perpendicular to shoreline; n/a = unknown or non-existent.

House 5 and Feature 42 are exceptionally small ( $15.5\text{-}16.6\text{m}^2$ ) dwelling structures. Both are circular and defined by a shallow depression and a ring of post-holes, respectively. There are no platforms in either dwelling. One dwelling, Feature 42, has an internal axial slab hearth, which is parallel with the shoreline. House 5 has two possible external informal hearths. There are also two circular small deposits of ashy soil within the dwelling, which may have been informal hearths, but no axial feature.

The two late phase dwellings, Feature 55 and House 20, are small circular and oval structures. The exterior dimensions of both dwellings are remarkably similar at  $29.5\text{m}^2$  and  $29.2\text{m}^2$ , respectively. Both have narrow ( $75\text{cm}\text{-}2\text{m}$ ), raised perimeter benches comprised of limestone rocks. The axial hearth area of Feature 55 comprises a long but narrow pavement which is parallel with the shoreline, while House 20 has an axial feature comprised of a line of pits, oriented perpendicular to the shoreline. There is a single cooking-related feature outside Feature 55. Feature 55 may have been framed with whale bone ribs. There is not much evidence for the superstructure of House 20, but little of it was excavated.

The majority of Phillip's Garden dwellings are interpreted as cold-weather occupations. The exceptions are House 5 and Feature 42, which were likely occupied in the summer; the occupation of Feature 55 may also have extended into the summer.

#### **4.5 Comparisons**

In this chapter the available information on Dorset dwelling architecture at Point Riche and Phillip's Garden is summarized based on a sample of dwellings from both sites.

At Phillip's Garden, excluding House 5, there is a distinct increase in dwelling size during the middle phase (84-105m<sup>2</sup>); the early phase (52-75m<sup>2</sup>) dwellings are smaller and the late phase (29-31m<sup>2</sup>) dwellings are much smaller (Figure 4.24). Despite differences in dwelling size, the size of the central depression (17-27m<sup>2</sup>) is fairly consistent throughout the early and middle phases.

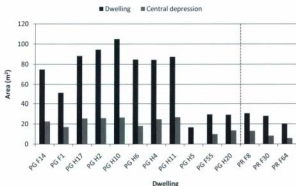


Figure 4.24. Dwelling and central depression area of dwellings examined from Point Riche and Phillip's Garden. The dwellings in each sample are ordered from oldest to youngest. Feature 42 is omitted as it is undated.

With respect to shape, early and late phase Phillip's Garden dwellings are oval and circular, while those from the middle phase tend to be subrectangular, and in one case, trilobate. Perimeter and platform areas of dwellings at Phillip's Garden are substantial throughout the site's occupation, but especially during the middle phase; they were

generally comprised of raised and stacked limestone rocks. In nearly all of the dwellings at Phillip's Garden, entranceways faced the shoreline to the north.

Apart from the axial features from the early phase dwelling Feature 1 and late phase dwelling Feature 55, axial features from Phillip's Garden are remarkably consistent in length and width (Figure 4.25). The length of Phillip's Garden axial features ranges from 2-3.3m, and the width from 0.9-2.1m. The length-to-width ratios for the dimensions of axial features are also consistent at the site.

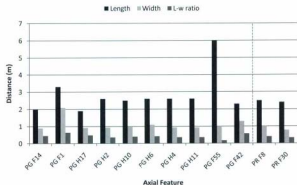


Figure 4.25. Length and width of axial features from Point Riche and Phillip's Garden. Feature 247 outside House 17 is omitted due to an incomplete length measurement.

As shown in Table 4.3 the location and orientation of axial features relative to their associated dwelling also varies. Eight of the Phillip's Garden axial features are oriented



perpendicular to the shoreline to the north, while four are parallel to it. The majority of axial features are located inside dwellings. The centre-to-centre distance between the central post-holes or pits associated with most of the axial features from Phillip's Garden ranges from 1.4-1.8m (Figure 4.26).

Table 4.3. Orientation of axial features to respective shorelines and their location relative to dwelling perimeter.

	Parallel	Perpendicular	Interior	Exterior
<i>Phillip's Garden</i>				
F14		X	X	
F1	X		X	
H17		X	X	
H17	X			X
H2		X	X	
H10		X	X	
H6		X	X	
H4		X	X	
H11		X	X	
H20		X	X	
F55	X		X	
F42	X		X	
<i>Point Riche</i>				
F8	X			X
F30	X		X	

Also shown in Figure 4.26, the depth of central post-holes is – with the exception of those of House 10, which have unknown depths – greater in the middle phase Phillip's Garden dwellings. At Phillip's Garden cooking-related features such as hearths, heating/cooking platforms and lamp/pot supports, where found, tend to be located within the perimeter of dwellings.

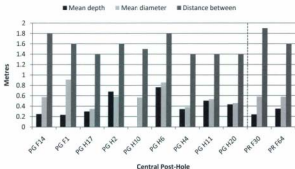


Figure 4.26. Attributes of central post-holes of dwellings from Point Riche and Phillip's Garden. The depth of the central post-holes of House 10 is unknown.

The evidence for superstructure at Phillip's Garden is clear, where post-holes are well-defined and appear to be, in most cases, cultural. In some cases, central post-holes were reused and/or modified sequentially over time, indicating multiple temporally distinct occupations. In a number of instances, based on the shape, orientation and depth of post-holes, whale bone ribs are thought to have been used as perimeter supports. In addition, in House 4, House 11 and House 17 (cf. Renouf 2007:6) pits/post-holes on the inside edge of the central depression are very evenly spaced, about 3m apart, suggesting architectural conformity.

Based on their large size, generally substantial construction and associated faunal remains, the majority of dwellings examined from Phillip's Garden have been identified as cold-weather occupations. The only exceptions are House 5 and Feature 42, which

were suggested to have been warm-weather occupations based on the insubstantial nature of their architecture and a lack of artefacts. In addition, based on faunal data, the winter-early spring occupation of late phase dwelling Feature 55 might have extended into the warmer summer months.

With regard to the dwellings at Point Riche, footprint ( $20.4\text{-}30.7\text{m}^2$ ) and central depression area ( $5.9\text{-}13.1\text{m}^2$ ) are substantially smaller than Phillip's Garden (Figure 4.24). However, they are in this regard comparable to the late phase Phillip's Garden dwellings. All of the dwellings from Point Riche are oval. The platform and perimeter berm areas of the Point Riche dwellings, where present, were made from less substantial materials like earth and gravel; only in the case of Feature 30 was there a small built-up bench of limestone rocks. The dimensions of the two Point Riche axial features from Feature 8 and Feature 30,  $2.5 \times 1\text{m}$  and  $2.4 \times .78\text{m}$ , respectively, are remarkably similar to those at Phillip's Garden (Figure 4.25). These axial features are parallel with the visible and dominant shoreline to the northwest; one is located in the exterior and the other is in the interior (Table 4.3). Other cooking- and/or heating-related features such as hearths, heating/cooking platforms and lamp/pot supports, only occur outside the perimeter of dwellings at Point Riche.

In contrast to the situation at Phillip's Garden, the evidence for superstructure at Point Riche is somewhat more difficult to interpret. Given the ubiquitous natural undulations and pits in the limestone gravel substrate at Point Riche, and the sterile nature of their fill, it is difficult to determine whether such features are cultural or natural. It is thus reasonable to infer that in most cases the Dorset at Point Riche made use of existing

natural depressions for supporting superstructural elements. Post size is consistent over time (Figure 4.26), and there is no evidence for modification or reuse of post-holes. The presence of large whale bone slabs at two of the dwellings may have been elements of the dwellings' superstructure. Given their insubstantial nature, the three Point Riche dwellings were interpreted as short-term occupations, likely in the warmer months.

In sum, the data described in this chapter indicate major differences in dwelling architecture between Point Riche and Phillip's Garden. Nevertheless there are significant parallels as well. The re-examination of three heretofore unpublished middle phase dwellings, House 4, House 6 and House 11, indicates that the number of exceptionally large dwellings associated with this phase is greater than previously thought (Cogswell 2006; Renouf 2006, 2009b, 2011b). The implications of these results are explored in Chapters 6 and 7. The next chapter presents the results of an analysis of qualitative and quantitative attributes of lithic artefacts from Point Riche and Phillip's Garden.

## CHAPTER 5

### Lithic Tool Assemblages at Point Riche and Phillip's Garden

#### 5.1 Introduction

This chapter examines quantitative and qualitative attributes of Dorset lithic artefacts from Point Riche and Phillip's Garden.<sup>1</sup> Specifically these include metric, non-metric and functional attributes. Given that such attributes have not previously been examined and compared in detail between the two lithic assemblages (but see Kennett 1985), it is thought that if Point Riche and Phillip's Garden were functionally connected and used by the same family/social groups during the period of chronological overlap ( $\geq 540$  years), then we might be able to recognize through an analysis of such attributes similarities and/or differences supportive of this. The following examines these attributes in the lithic assemblages of the Point Riche dwellings and a sample of those from Phillip's Garden. The results show that the attributes are similar between the two assemblages.

#### 5.2 Methodology

In this chapter functional, non-metric and metric attributes are considered as a basis of comparison between the lithic assemblages from Point Riche and Phillip's Garden. All lithic tool classes are divided into six functional categories (Table 5.1), which include: 1) hunting, 2) butchering, 3) cooking, heating and light, 4) lithic tool making, 5) organic tool making/carving, and 6) skin processing (Cogswell 2006:83-85; see also

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<sup>1</sup> For related information on the organic artefact assemblages from Point Riche and Phillip's Garden, see Anstey et al. (2010:13) and Wells (2006) and Renoif (2009b), respectively.

LeBlanc 1996:51; Stiwich 2011:122). Although these categories generalize the function of tools, which in most cases likely had multiple functions, they assume the 'primary' function of such tools – that is, what these tools were used for most of the time (Andrefsky 2005:224; Hayden 1977; Kooyman 2000:93; Odell 1981:324; Walker 1978). Harpoon endblades, bifacial knives, endscrapers and burin-like tools (Figures 5.1-5.4) are the lithic tool classes selected for a comparative analysis of qualitative and quantitative attributes.

Table 5.1. Lithic artefact functional categories.

Activities	Indicators
Hunting	endblade; dart; slate point
Butchering	biface; microblade
Cooking, heat and light	soapstone; schist
Lithic tool making	hammerstone; core; preform; abrader
Organic tool making	burin-like tool
Skin processing	slate tool; endscraper

Raw material type and colour are considered for each tool class. Raw material type was visually identified on the basis of colour, texture, lustre and opacity, and by also referring to previously described characteristics of each raw material type (see Coniglio 1987; Fitzhugh 1972:41; Lavers 2010; Lazenby 1980:635ff; LeBlanc 2008:192ff; Loring 2002; Nagle 1984, 1985, 1986; Simpson 1986). Colour was identified using Munsell Color Charts (Munsell Color 2000), which provide a standardized method of identifying different varieties of colour (Odell 2003:28). The Munsell notation for colour consists of notations for hue, value, and chroma, which are combined in that order to form a colour designation (Munsell Color 2000:2).



Figure 5.1. Endblades from Point Riche (top) and Phillip's Garden (bottom). Photo: R. Amstey.



Figure 5.2. Bifaces from Point Riche (top) and Phillip's Garden (bottom). Photo: R. Amstey.



Figure 5.3. Endscrapers from Point Riche (top) and Phillip's Garden (bottom). Photo: R. Anstey.



Figure 5.4. Burin-like tools from Point Riche (top) and Phillip's Garden (bottom). Photo: R. Anstey.



Table 5.2. Raw material colour categories used in this analysis and Munsell designations identified for lithic artefacts from Point Riche and Phillip's Garden.

Colour Category	Munsell Designation	
1 - Black	black GLEY 1 2.5/0	dark bluish gray GLEY 2 4/1
2 - Greens	greenish black GLEY 2 2.5/1	gray 5Y 5/1
	dark greenish gray GLEY 1 4/1	dark gray 7.5YR 4/1
	dark greenish gray GLEY 2 4/1	dark gray 2.5YR 4/1
	very dark greenish gray GLEY 2 3/1	dark gray 10YR 4/1
	greenish gray GLEY 1 5/1	dark gray 2.5Y 4/1
	greenish gray GLEY 1 6/1	very dark grayish brown 2.5Y 3/2
	dark gray 5Y 4/1	light brownish gray 10YR 6/2
	olive gray 5Y 5/2	brown 10YR 5/3
	very dark gray GLEY 1 3/0	olive brown 2.5Y 4/3
	gray GLEY 1 6/0	light brown 7.5YR
3 - Greys	gray 2.5Y 5/1	very dark gray 2.5Y 3/1
	light gray 5Y 7/1	very dark gray 7.5YR 3/1
	gray 2.5Y 6/1	very dark gray 10YR 3/1
	gray 10YR 5/1	light gray 2.5Y 7/2
	gray 5Y 6/1	yellowish brown 10YR 5/4
	dark gray GLEY 1 4/0	very dusky red 2.5YR 2.5/2
4 - Blues	grayish brown 2.5Y 5/2	reddish brown 5YR 4/3
	bluish gray GLEY 2 6/1	white GLEY 1 8/0

For instance, a colour designation of *yellowish-red* has a Munsell notation of “5YR (hue) 5/6 (value/chroma).” In an effort to make description and analysis as straightforward and comprehensible as possible, specific Munsell colour designations were generalized to form eight inclusive colour categories (Table 5.2).

A number of other qualitative characteristics are considered. For the endblades the presence or absence of tip-fluting, a particular form of sharpening technique diagnostic of Dorset (see Plumet and Lebel 1997), is identified. The angle between the base or proximal edge and the lateral edge of endblades is also recorded (cf. Ellis 2004:210) (for example, see Figure 5.5).



Figure 5.5. Base-edge angle. Not to scale.

The number of side notches is recorded for bifaces. The endscrapers are broken into two types based on outline morphology: thumbnail and triangular (LeBlanc 2008:80).

The amount of retouch on the dorsal and ventral surfaces of endscrapers is identified as full, edge or none. For the burin-like tools the type – pointed or rectangular – and the number of side notches are recorded (Jordan 1980:618; Odess 1998:426). The raw data for the qualitative attributes is displayed in percentages using histograms or bar graphs, which allows for a straightforward comparison of proportions.

As in the qualitative analysis, the quantitative attributes examined vary according to tool class. The quantitative attributes include: length, width, thickness, and length-width and width-thickness ratios; only thickness is compared for burin-like tools as this tool class was largely comprised of fragments (Andrefsky 2005:187; Callahan 1979; LeBlanc 2008:192ff; Odell 2003:103; cf. Renouf 2005:68). The depth of basal concavities is recorded for endblades. The height and depth of biface side notches is recorded, in addition to the distance between notches and the proximal edge of those tools. These data are displayed using box-and-whisker plots, which indicate the complete spread of each data batch in terms of midspread range (Drennan 2009:28-29). The midspread or central tendency is the central 50% of the dataset and is represented by an outlined box. Long boxes indicate widespread data, while shorter boxes reflect the fact that the data are confined to a smaller range. The midspread is the most representative sample of the dataset; the upper and lower quartiles reflect either outliers or anomalies (Drennan 2009:29). This particular form of descriptive statistic provides an appropriate graphical means for comparing similarities and differences in the quantitative attributes of lithic artefacts from the two sites examined.

### 5.3 Point Riche lithic tool assemblage

A total of 2,897 lithic artefacts has been recovered from Point Riche (Table 5.3). This number represents the combined totals of lithic assemblages from six individual contexts – three middens (Feature 1, 14 and 75) and three dwelling structures (Feature 8, 30 and 64) – and comprises a number of different tool classes. Midden Feature 14 and Feature 75 are associated with dwelling Feature 8 and Feature 64, respectively. The size of each lithic assemblage differs, with midden Feature 1 and dwelling Feature 8 together comprising 56.1% of the total sample; the Feature 30 assemblage is unusually small. Though varying to a certain degree, each lithic assemblage has high proportions of preforms (9.8–28.6%), cores (12.1–33.5%) and microblades (19.1–43.8%). The proportion of abraders (28.9%) in the Feature 30 assemblage is unusually high compared with the other dwelling assemblages.

Table 5.3. Lithic artefacts from Point Riche.

Artefact <sup>1</sup>	F1	F8	F14	F30	F64	F75	Total
Abrader	7 (0.8)	11 (1.4)	3 (0.8)	41 (28.9)	10 (2.7)	5 (1.4)	77 (2.7)
Biface	19 (2.3)	30 (3.8)	12 (3.1)	0 (0.0)	6 (1.6)	16 (4.4)	83 (2.9)
BLT	3 (0.4)	5 (0.6)	4 (1.0)	0 (0.0)	6 (1.6)	5 (1.4)	23 (0.8)
Core	100 (12.1)	267 (33.5)	68 (17.3)	26 (18.3)	60 (15.9)	58 (16.0)	579(20.0)
Dart/effigy	1 (0.1)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	2 (0.5)	5 (1.4)	8 (0.3)
Endblade	54 (6.5)	24 (3.0)	21 (5.4)	23 (16.2)	23 (6.1)	27 (7.5)	172 (5.9)
H-stone	1 (0.1)	1 (0.1)	1 (0.3)	0 (0.0)	7 (1.9)	3 (0.8)	13 (0.4)
Microblade	363 (43.8)	210 (26.3)	169(43.1)	29 (20.4)	72 (19.1)	86 (23.8)	929(32.1)
Preform	91 (11.1)	78 (9.8)	56 (14.3)	15 (10.6)	108(28.6)	97 (26.8)	445(15.4)
Scraper	82 (9.9)	74 (9.3)	33 (8.4)	5 (3.5)	35 (9.3)	36 (9.9)	265 (9.1)
Slate tool	49 (5.9)	47 (5.9)	17 (4.3)	1 (0.7)	26 (6.9)	10 (2.8)	150 (5.2)
Schist	2 (0.2)	30 (3.8)	2 (0.5)	2 (1.4)	1 (0.3)	6 (1.7)	43 (1.5)
Soapstone	56 (6.8)	20 (2.5)	6 (1.5)	0 (0.0)	21 (5.6)	7 (1.9)	110 (3.8)
<b>Total</b>	<b>828</b>	<b>797</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>2897</b>

<sup>1</sup> Artefacts attributed to the Groswater occupation of the site are excluded. Numbers in brackets are percentages. BLT = burin-like tool; H-stone = hammerstone.

### 5.3.1 Qualitative characteristics

#### *5.3.1.1 Lithic tool function*

In an earlier analysis of tool type frequencies at Point Riche, Eastaugh (2002:117ff) noted clear differences between dwellings Feature 8 and Feature 30. Through hierarchical cluster analysis, he compared tool type frequencies of these dwellings to those of other Dorset dwellings on the island. The results indicated that the tool type frequencies in the Feature 8 lithic assemblage corresponded to other west coast Dorset assemblages, while Feature 30 resembled more closely assemblages from dwellings on the east coast (Eastaugh 2002:136-137); however, these differences were suggested to have resulted from differences in season of occupation and function.

Taking Eastaugh's (2002) analysis a step further, the subdivision of tool types into six functional categories (Figure 5.6) allows for a clear and simple overview of the sorts of activities that took place at the site. Although the individual proportions of tool types differs amongst the three dwelling assemblages, the rank of each category per dwelling is very similar. The importance of hunting-related activities is generally low in Feature 8 (3.3%) and Feature 64 (6.6%), but is greater in Feature 30 at 16.2%. Feature 8 has the highest proportion (30.1%) of lithic artefacts related to butchering activity; Feature 30 and Feature 64 have lower proportions and are together very similar at 20.4% and 20.7%, respectively. The proportion of lithic artefacts related to cooking, heat and light is consistently low (1.4-6.3%) across the three assemblages. The proportion of artefacts related to lithic tool making is consistently high, ranging from 44.8 to 57.7%. In addition, the majority of preforms are endblade preforms and exhibit, albeit from a cursory examination, technical flaws suggestive of novice toolmakers (see Milne 2005). There is

an overall low proportion (0-1.6%) of lithic artefacts related to the manufacture of organic tools. The proportion of artefacts related to skin processing is comparable between Feature 8 (14.9%) and Feature 64 (16.2%), but is lower for Feature 30 (4.2%).

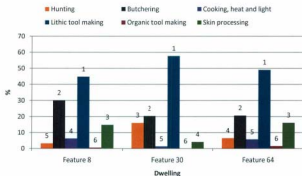


Figure 5.6. Comparison of lithic artefact functional categories for each dwelling assemblage at Point Riche. Numbers above each bar refer to rank order.

### 5.3.1.2 Raw material

The lithic raw material of endblades, bifaces and endscrapers varies between each dwelling assemblage. Burin-like tools do not vary in raw material type as they are all made from nephrite. As shown in Figure 5.7 the endblades from each dwelling are largely made of Cow Head chert, ranging from 73.3 to 87.5%. A small proportion of endblades from Feature 30 (12.5%) and Feature 64 (3.8%) are made from brown translucent chert. Feature 8 and Feature 64 have a small quantity of endblades made from Ramah chert, chalcedony and unknown lithic materials.

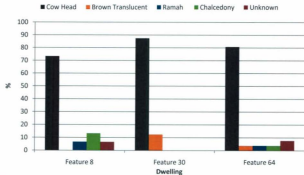


Figure 5.7. Raw material proportions for endblades from Point Riche.

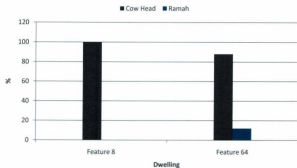


Figure 5.8. Raw material proportions for bifaces from Point Riche.

The bifaces from the Point Riche dwelling assemblages are made almost exclusively from Cow Head chert (Figure 5.8). There are no bifaces in the Feature 30 lithic assemblage. All of the bifaces from Feature 8 are made of Cow Head chert. About 88% of those from Feature 64 are made from Cow Head chert; 12% are of Ramah chert.

The endscrapers from each dwelling assemblage are consistent in raw material (Figure 5.9). Cow Head chert accounts for the raw material of 66.7-70.4% of the endscrapers. The proportion of endscrapers made from brown translucent chert ranges between 25 and 33.3%. Feature 8 and Feature 64 have comparable proportions of endscrapers made from quartz crystal, at 5% and 3.7%, respectively; Feature 30 does not have any quartz endscrapers.

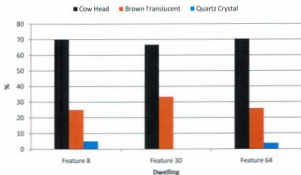


Figure 5.9. Raw material proportions for endscrapers from Point Riche.



The colour range of lithic raw material for endblades, bifaces and endscrapers is generally different for each dwelling assemblage. As shown in Figure 5.10 the majority (11.5-50%) of endblades in each dwelling assemblage is comprised of Black and Green category lithic raw material. The representation of other colour categories is more variable between dwellings. About 20% of the endblades from Feature 8 are made from Grey category material; 13.4% are made from Blue category material. There is a smaller range of colour variation in the Feature 30 endblades; apart from the majority of Black and Green, 12.5% of the endblades are comprised of Brown colour category lithic material. The endblades from Feature 64 have the greatest range of colours. In addition to reasonably high proportions of Blue (15.4%) and Brown (11.4%), there are lower proportions (3.8%) of Grey, Yellow and Red colour category lithic raw material.

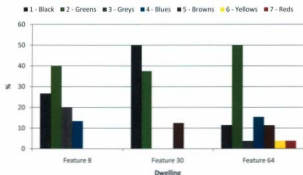


Figure 5.10. Comparison of endblade lithic raw material colour between the Point Riche dwellings.

There is a lesser degree of variation in raw material colour of bifaces (Figure 5.11). For both Feature 8 and Feature 64, Black (50-87.5%) and Green (12.5-37.5%) colour category material comprises the majority of biface lithic raw material. About 12.5% of the bifaces from Feature 64 are made from Grey category lithic raw material.

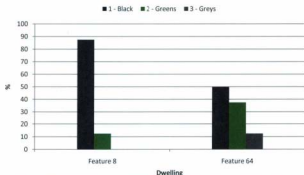


Figure 5.11. Comparison of biface lithic raw material colour between the Point Riche dwellings.

The endscrapers from the three dwelling assemblages display considerable variation in colour (Figure 5.12). However each dwelling has comparable proportions (25-33.3%) of endscrapers made from Brown category lithic raw material. The proportion of Green category material also is very similar between Feature 8 (50%) and Feature 64 (48.1%). Feature 30 has a much higher proportion (66.7%) of endscrapers made from Black category material than Feature 8 and Feature 64, which have 10% and 22%, respectively. Feature 8 and Feature 64 have  $\leq 5\%$  of Blue, Red and White endscrapers.

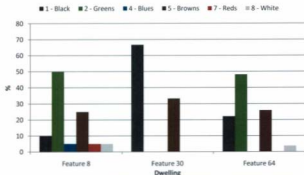


Figure 5.12. Comparison of endscraper lithic raw material colour between the Point Riche dwellings.

#### 5.3.1.3 Other qualitative attributes: Endblade

Two other qualitative attributes of endblades, presence of tip-fluting and base-edge angle, display differences amongst the three dwelling assemblages. As shown in Figure 5.13, Feature 8 (53.3%) and Feature 64 (66.7%) have similarly high proportions of tip-fluted endblades. Feature 30 has a higher proportion of unifacial (non tip-fluted) endblades, with only 12.5% tip-fluted.

The angle between the base and lateral edge of endblades varies between dwellings (Figure 5.14). Feature 8 (75%) and Feature 64 (72.2%) have similar proportions of endblades with base-edge angles ranging between 96 and 100°; Feature 30 has a much lower proportion at 25%. Compared to Feature 8 (25%) and Feature 64 (5.6%), Feature 30 has a much higher proportion (75%) of endblades with a base-edge

angle ranging between 90 and 95°. About 22.2% of the Feature 64 endblades have a base-edge angle of between 101 and 105°.

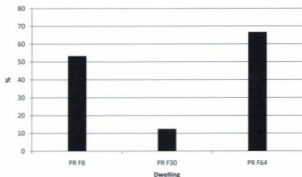


Figure 5.13. Presence of tip-fluting on endblades from the Point Riche dwellings.

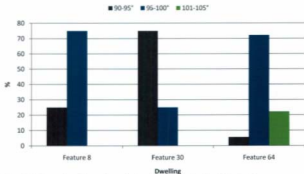


Figure 5.14. Comparison of base-edge angle for endblades from the Point Riche dwellings.

#### 5.3.1.4 Other qualitative attributes: Biface

The number of side notches on bifaces from Feature 8 and Feature 64 is compared in Figure 5.15. As indicated in this figure, the proportion of bifaces with 1-2 side notches in the Feature 8 assemblage (75%) is comparable to that of Feature 64, which had a proportion of 66.7%. Also similar is the proportion of bifaces with 3-4 side notches; Feature 8 had 25% and Feature 64 had 33.3%.

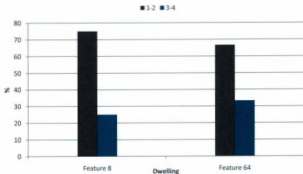


Figure 5.15. Comparison of the number of side notches on bifaces from the Point Riche dwellings.

#### 5.3.1.5 Other qualitative attributes: Endscraper

The proportion of triangular and thumbnail endscrapers and the proportion of those with dorsal and/or ventral retouch varies between each dwelling assemblage. The proportions of triangular and thumbnail type endscrapers in the Feature 8 and Feature 64

assemblages are comparable, with 61.1% and 38.9% in Feature 8 and 52% and 48% in Feature 64, respectively (Figure 5.16). All of the endscrapers in the Feature 30 assemblage are triangular.

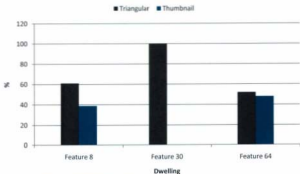


Figure 5.16. Endscraper types from the Point Riche dwellings.

As shown in Figure 5.17, the degree of retouch on endscrapers is similar amongst the dwelling assemblages. The proportion of endscrapers with dorsal edge retouch ranges from 48.1 to 70%; full dorsal retouch from 25 to 48.1%; and 3.7 to 5% for endscrapers with no dorsal retouch. About 20-33% of the endscrapers have ventral edge retouch. A high proportion (66.7-80%) of endscrapers have no ventral retouch.

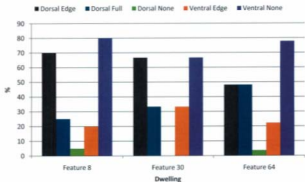


Figure 5.17. Retouch attributes of endscrapers from the Point Riche dwellings.

#### 5.3.1.6 Other qualitative attributes: Burin-like tool

Although the overall collection of burin-like tools is relatively small, the frequency of each burin like-tool type – pointed and rectangular – is clearly different between Feature 8 and Feature 64 (Figure 5.18). There are two examples of each type of burin-like tool in the Feature 8 assemblage. Feature 54 has six pointed and two rectangular burin-like tools in its lithic assemblage. As shown in Figure 5.19, the number of notches on burin-like tools from Feature 8 and Feature 64 is different. Three burin-like tools from Feature 8 have no notches; a single example has one notch. Six of the burin-like tools from Feature 64 do not have notches, while two examples have 1-2 notches.

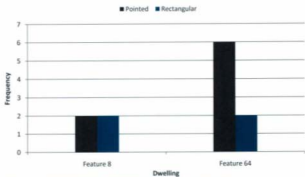


Figure 5.18. Comparison of burin-like tool types from the Point Riche dwellings.

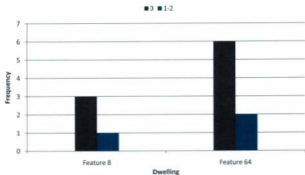


Figure 5.19. Number of notches on burin-like tools from the Point Riche dwellings.



### 5.3.2 Quantitative characteristics

#### 5.3.2.1 Endblade

The endblades from the Point Riche dwellings display similarities in metric attributes. Figure 5.20 compares the ratio of length-width in a small sample of endblades from each Point Riche dwelling. Length-width ratios for endblades from the three assemblages are remarkably consistent. The midspread data range for the Feature 8 endblades is 1.85-1.70, and is 1.82-1.60 and 1.93-1.57 for the endblade samples from Feature 30 and Feature 64, respectively. The ratio of width to thickness in endblades is consistent across the three assemblages (Figure 5.21).

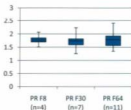


Figure 5.20. Length-width ratios for endblades from the Point Riche dwellings.

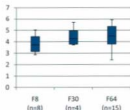


Figure 5.21. Width-thickness ratios for endblades from the Point Riche dwellings.

The midspread range for the Feature 8 endblade width-thickness ratios is 3.15-4.46; Feature 30 is 3.78-4.97 and Feature 64 is 3.79-5.33. The Feature 8 ratios are lower than those for Feature 30 and Feature 64, indicating that these particular endblades are relatively thicker. The depths of endblade basal concavities, as shown in Figure 5.22, are

similar between Feature 8 and Feature 64, which have midspread ranges of .83-3.55mm and 1.5-2.90mm, respectively; the endblades from Feature 30 have relatively deeper basal concavities with a midspread range of 2.7-3.98mm.

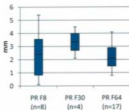


Figure 5.22. Depth of basal concavities for endblades from the Point Riche dwellings.

### 5.3.2.2 Biface

As shown in Figures 5.23-5.26 a number of metric attributes on a small sample of bifaces from dwelling Feature 8 and Feature 64 are similar. Biface base (proximal) width is very similar between those in Feature 8 and Feature 64 (Figure 5.23). The midspread range of base width for the Feature 8 bifaces is 27.7-31.6mm, and is 26.6-33.3mm for those from Feature 64. However the base height, or the distance between the biface's proximal end and the bottom of the notches, is different between Feature 8 and Feature 64 (Figure 5.24). The midspread range for this attribute in the Feature 8 bifaces is 4.75-5.95mm and 6.03-6.83mm for those from Feature 64. The depth of biface side notches is also different between both samples (Figure 5.25).

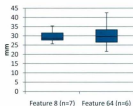


Figure 5.23. Base width of bifaces from the Point Riche dwellings.

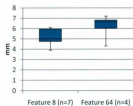


Figure 5.24. Base height of bifaces from the Point Riche dwellings.

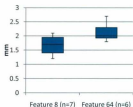


Figure 5.25. Notch depth for bifaces from the Point Riche dwellings.

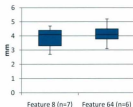


Figure 5.26. Notch height for bifaces from the Point Riche dwellings.

Side notch depth for bifaces from Feature 8 has a midspread range of 1.4-1.95mm, while the midspread range for those in the Feature 64 sample is 1.93-2.3mm. The height of biface side notches is similar between both samples (Figure 5.26); the midspread range for the height of biface side notches from Feature 8 is 3.3-4.4mm and for Feature 64 is 3.78-4.5mm.

### 5.3.2.3 Endscraper

The endscrapers from Point Riche dwellings Feature 8 and Feature 64 are comparable in the ratio of length-width and in thickness. As shown in Figure 5.27 the length-width ratios for endscrapers from Feature 8 have a midspread range of 1.19-1.56. The length-width ratios for endscrapers from Feature 64 overlap with those from Feature 8 with a midspread range of 1.05-1.44 (Figure 5.27). The midspread range of endscraper thickness is 4.5-6.6mm for Feature 8; it is 4.9-6.2mm for Feature 64.

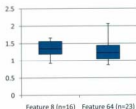


Figure 5.27. Length-width ratios for endscrapers from Point Riche.

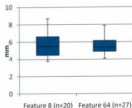


Figure 5.28. Thickness of endscrapers from Point Riche.

### 5.3.2.4 Burin-like tool

The small sample of burin-like tools from dwelling Feature 8 and Feature 64 are very similar in thickness (Figure 5.29). The midspread range for the thickness of Feature 8 burin-like tools is 2.1-2.5mm. It is 2.2-2.5mm for those from Feature 64.

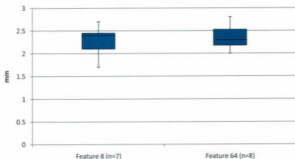


Figure 5.29. Thickness of burin-like tools from the Point Riche dwellings.

### 5.3.3 Summary

On an intra-site scale, the four lithic tool classes examined from Point Riche display remarkable similarities. In terms of artefact function, Feature 8 and Feature 64 have similar proportions of functional tool types, while Feature 30 is somewhat different with a higher proportion of tools related to hunting. Across the three dwelling assemblages there is a relatively high proportion of tools related to lithic tool making, butchering and skin processing. There are overall low proportions of tools related to hunting, cooking, heat and light and to organic tool making.

The proportion of different lithic raw material types varies across the three dwelling assemblages. While the endblades of Feature 8 and Feature 64 are comprised of similar proportions of Cow Head, brown translucent, Ramah, chalcedony and unknown material types, those from Feature 30 are made almost exclusively from Cow Head chert.

The bifaces from Feature 8 and Feature 64 also are made almost exclusively from Cow Head chert. The proportion of lithic materials, Cow Head, brown translucent and quartz, used for endscrapers is generally similar across the three dwelling assemblages; however, there are no quartz endscrapers from Feature 30.

Lithic raw material colour was examined for three of the four tool classes. The lithic material for endblades from Feature 8 and Feature 64 is comprised of similar proportions of colour types, while those from Feature 30 are different. There is a high proportion of Green and Black colour category material in all dwelling assemblages, with lower proportions of Grey, Blue, Brown, Yellow and Red in Feature 30. The bifaces from Feature 8 and Feature 64 are comprised almost exclusively of Black colour category material. The endscrapers from Feature 8 and Feature 64 are similar in terms of colour variety; those from Feature 30 are not. Feature 30 has a relatively higher proportion of Black and Brown colour endscrapers; Feature 8 and Feature 64 have similar proportions of Black, Green, Brown, White, Blue and Red colour endscrapers.

The other qualitative attributes examined display similarities and differences. The proportion of endblades with tip-fluting is comparable between Feature 8 and Feature 64; Feature 30 has a higher proportion of unifacial endblades. The base-edge angles of endblades from Feature 8 and Feature 64 are similar; those from Feature 30 have wider angles. Overall, however, there is a high proportion of endblades with base-edge angles between 96-100°. The number of side notches on bifaces is similar between those from Feature 8 and Feature 64. The Feature 8 and Feature 64 assemblages have similar proportions of triangular and thumbnail type endscrapers; the endscrapers from Feature 30

are all of the triangular type. The degree of retouch on dorsal and ventral surfaces of endscrapers is similar across the three dwelling assemblages. The burin-like tools from Feature 8 and Feature 64 are comprised of different frequencies of rectangular and pointed types; the number of side notches on burin-like tools also differs.

The quantitative data on the four tool classes from the three dwellings also indicate that a shared characteristic amongst the three dwellings is the ratio of length-width in endblades. The quantitative data on the Feature 8 and Feature 64 assemblages is similar and their shared characteristics include: endblade basal concavity depth; biface basal width and height of side notches; endscraper length-width ratio and thickness; and thickness of burin-like tools. The general differences include: Feature 8 endblades are thicker than those from Feature 30 and Feature 64; endblades from Feature 30 have relatively deeper basal concavities; biface basal height and the depth of side notches is different between the two samples of bifaces.

#### **5.4 Phillip's Garden lithic tool assemblage**

A total of 15,654 lithic artefacts is considered in the Phillip's Garden component of this analysis (Table 5.4). This number represents the combined lithic assemblage totals from nine dwelling contexts spanning the three occupational phases of the site: early (Features 14 and 1); middle (Houses 2, 6, 10, 11 and 17); and late (Feature 55 and House 20). The size of each lithic assemblage varies according to occupational phase; the early and late phase assemblages are relatively small compared to the much larger middle phase assemblages which together comprise 86.1% of the total sample.

Table 5.4. Lithic artefacts from dwellings examined from Phillip's Garden.

Artefact <sup>1</sup>	F14	F1	H2	H6	H10	H11	H17	F55	H20	Total
Abrader	11 (1.6)	18 (2.6)	40 (1.1)	6 (0.4)	18 (1.0)	31 (1.3)	161 (4.0)	0 (0.0)	9 (4.0)	294 (1.9)
Biface	42 (6.3)	23 (3.3)	253 (7.1)	85 (5.0)	153 (8.2)	77 (3.3)	148 (3.7)	36 (6.2)	8 (3.5)	825 (5.3)
BLT	13 (1.9)	15 (2.1)	50 (1.4)	37 (2.2)	20 (1.1)	37 (1.6)	31 (0.8)	8 (1.4)	3 (1.3)	214 (1.4)
Core	172 (25.6)	111 (15.9)	428 (12.1)	128 (7.5)	186 (10.0)	260 (11.1)	537 (13.4)	95 (16.4)	35 (15.4)	1952 (12.5)
Dart/effigy	3 (0.4)	2 (0.3)	1 (0.0)	12 (0.7)	1 (0.0)	8 (0.3)	8 (0.2)	4 (0.7)	2 (0.9)	41 (0.3)
Endblade	79 (11.8)	81 (11.6)	398 (11.2)	227 (13.3)	204 (10.9)	301 (12.8)	368 (9.2)	47 (8.1)	20 (8.8)	1725 (11.0)
H-stone	4 (0.6)	2 (0.3)	17 (0.5)	1 (0.1)	1 (0.1)	3 (0.1)	17 (0.4)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	45 (0.3)
Microblade	89 (13.2)	211 (30.2)	782 (22.1)	588 (34.6)	548 (29.4)	585 (24.9)	791 (19.7)	164 (28.3)	49 (21.6)	3807 (24.3)
Preform	60 (8.9)	71 (10.2)	422 (11.9)	156 (9.2)	180 (9.7)	237 (10.1)	566 (14.1)	78 (13.4)	45 (19.8)	1815 (11.6)
Scraper	63 (9.4)	77 (11.0)	597 (16.8)	203 (11.9)	295 (15.8)	362 (15.4)	579 (14.4)	23 (4.0)	42 (18.5)	2241 (14.3)
Slane tool	22 (3.3)	39 (5.6)	65 (1.8)	47 (2.8)	100 (5.4)	90 (3.8)	252 (6.3)	15 (2.6)	11 (4.8)	641 (4.1)
Schist	8 (1.2)	5 (0.7)	69 (1.9)	22 (1.3)	9 (0.5)	28 (1.2)	62 (1.5)	3 (0.5)	3 (1.3)	209 (1.3)
Scoopstone	106 (15.8)	43 (6.2)	424 (12.0)	189 (11.1)	150 (8.0)	331 (14.1)	495 (12.3)	107 (18.4)	0 (0.0)	1845 (11.8)
<b>Total</b>	<b>672</b>	<b>698</b>	<b>3546</b>	<b>1701</b>	<b>1865</b>	<b>2350</b>	<b>4015</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>15654</b>

<sup>1</sup> Artefacts attributed to the Groswater occupation of the site are excluded. Numbers in brackets are percentages. BLT = burin-like tool; H-stone = hammerstone.



The exceptionally small size of the House 20 lithic assemblage is likely due to the small area (c. 18m<sup>2</sup>) excavated. The proportions of different lithic tool classes vary between each assemblage. There is, however, a generally high proportion of microblades (13.2-34.6%), endscrapers (4-18.5%) and cores (7.5-25.6%), which together comprise 51.1% of the total sample. Also notable is the relatively high proportion across the majority of assemblages of preforms (8.9-19.8%), endblades (8.1-13.3%) and soapstone (0-18.4%). In the figures, assemblages are arranged in chronological order with older to younger from left to right.

#### 5.4.1 Qualitative characteristics

##### *5.4.1.1 Lithic tool function*

As shown in Figure 5.30 the proportions of artefacts comprising the six functional categories varies across the nine dwelling assemblages examined in the present analysis. For the early phase dwellings, Feature 14 and Feature 1, the proportion of hunting-related artefacts is 12.2% and 11.9%, respectively. There is a higher proportion of butchering-related artefacts in Feature 1 (33.5%) compared to Feature 14 (19.5%). The proportion of artefacts related to cooking, heat and light is greater for Feature 14 (17%) than Feature 1 (6.9%). Both Feature 14 and Feature 1 have high proportions of artefacts related to the manufacture of stone tools at 36.8% and 28.9%, respectively. There is a low proportion (1.9-2.1%) in both dwelling assemblages of artefacts related to organic tool making. The proportion of artefacts related to skin processing in the Feature 14 and Feature 1 lithic assemblages is 12.6% and 16.6%, respectively.

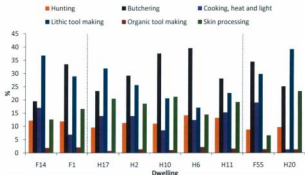


Figure 5.30. Comparison of lithic artefact functional categories for each dwelling assemblage at Phillip's Garden. Phases are divided by vertical dashed line.

The middle phase dwelling lithic assemblages in this analysis, House 17, House 2, House 10, House 6 and House 11, display similarities and differences when compared with the early phase dwellings. The proportion of hunting-related artefacts is similar and ranges from 9.6 to 14.2%. The proportion of butchering-related artefacts increases and ranges from 23.4 to 39.6%. There are comparable proportions of artefacts related to cooking, heat and light; the proportions range from 8.5 to 15.3%. There is a general decrease (20.6-31.6%) in the proportion of artefacts related to the manufacture of stone tools. The proportion of artefacts related to organic tool making (0.8-2.2%) is generally low. There is an increase (14.5-20.5%) in the proportion of skin processing artefacts.

The proportions of functional tool types in the two late phase dwellings, Feature 55 and House 20, are comparable with the early phase dwelling assemblages. However,

the proportion of hunting-related artefacts for Feature 55 and House 20 is slightly lower compared with the early and middle phase at 8.8% and 9.7%, respectively. Feature 55 has a higher proportion of artefacts related to butchering (34.5%) compared to House 20 which has 25.1%. Feature 55 also has a higher proportion of artefacts related to cooking, heat and light (19%) compared to House 20 (1.3%). Both dwellings have high proportions of artefacts related to the manufacture of stone tools (29.8-39.2%); these proportions are comparable to those for the early phase dwellings. There is a low proportion of artefacts related to the manufacture of organic tools (1.3-1.4%). There are unequal proportions between Feature 55 (6.6%) and House 20 (23.3%) of artefacts related to skin processing.

#### *5.4.1.2 Raw material*

The lithic raw material of endblades, bifaces and endscrapers from Phillip's Garden varies between each dwelling assemblage. As in the earlier Point Riche section of this chapter, given that burin-like tools do not vary significantly in raw material type – as they are all nephrite – they are excluded from the following analysis of raw material. Figure 5.31 compares across the nine assemblages lithic raw material used for endblades. It is clear from Figure 5.31 that Cow Head chert is the predominant lithic material of endblades, with proportions ranging from 52-73.5% in the early phase; 80.8-86.7% in the middle phase; and 72.2-82.6% in the late phase.

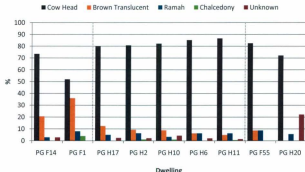


Figure 5.31. Raw material proportions for endblades from Phillip's Garden. Phases are divided by vertical dashed line.

A high proportion (20.6-46%) of endblades from the early phase dwellings Feature 14 and Feature 1 are made of brown translucent chert. The frequency of this material's use for making endblades decreases through the middle (4.9-12.5%) and late phases (0-8.7%). There are generally similar proportions of Ramah chert endblades in the early (2.9-8%) and middle (3.3-6.4%) phase lithic assemblages; the proportion of Ramah chert endblades increases in the late phase (5.6-8.7%). The proportion of chalcedony and unknown material types is consistently low across all assemblages, apart from House 20 which has a high proportion (22.2%) of endblades made from unknown lithic material; this material is visually identical to lithic material from a source near the Maritime Archaic Indian Big Brook-2 site (EjBa-2) (Beaton 2004:77-78) about 130km north of Port au Choix.

There is very little variation in lithic raw material of bifaces from Phillip's Garden (Figure 5.32); Cow Head chert comprises 70-100%. The other materials represented are in generally low proportions. Brown translucent chert ranges from 0-10%. The proportion of Ramah chert bifaces is considerably higher in early phase dwelling Feature 14 (16.7%) and late phase dwelling Feature 55 (20%). A small proportion of bifaces from middle phase dwellings House 17 and House 2 was made from an unidentified material type.

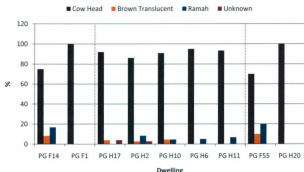


Figure 5.32. Raw material proportions for bifaces from Phillip's Garden. Phases are divided by vertical dashed line.

The endscrapers from Phillip's Garden are comprised predominantly of Cow Head and brown translucent cherts (Figure 5.33). The proportion of endscrapers made of Cow Head chert ranges from 40.7 to 48.4% in the early phase. The proportion of Cow Head chert endscrapers is greater (69.1-78%) in the middle phase assemblages. A lower

proportion (55.6-62.5%) of endscrapers from the late phase dwellings are made from Cow Head chert. There is an inverse pattern in the use of brown translucent chert for endscrapers.

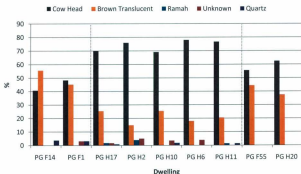


Figure 5.33. Raw material proportions for endscrapers from Phillip's Garden. Phases are divided by vertical dashed line.

The proportion of endscrapers made from brown translucent chert for the early phase dwellings Feature 14 and Feature 1 is high at 55.6% and 45.2%, respectively. There is a decreased use (15-25.5%) of this material throughout the middle phase dwellings. A high proportion of endscrapers from the late phase dwellings, Feature 55 (44.4%) and House 20 (37.5%), are made from brown translucent chert. There are generally low proportions of endscrapers made from Ramah chert (0-4%), quartz (0-3.7%) and unknown (0-3.2%) lithic materials.

The colour range of lithic raw material for endblades, bifaces and endscrapers varies between each Phillip's Garden dwelling assemblage examined (Figures 5.34-5.36). A high proportion of endblades across all Phillip's Garden assemblages are made from Black (12-35%) and Green (28-47.7%) colour category lithic material; there is lesser use of Black materials in the early and late phases (Figure 5.33).

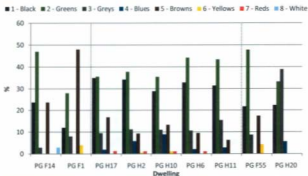


Figure 5.34. Comparison of endblade lithic raw material colour between the Phillip's Garden dwellings. Phases are divided by vertical dashed line.

The proportion of Grey lithic material is low (2.9-8%) in the early phase. There is a greater proportion (9.5-15.4%) of endblades made from Grey lithic material in the middle phase. The proportion of endblades made from Grey lithic material is high in the late phase, especially for House 20 which has 38.9%. The proportion of Blue lithic material (0-8.9%) is consistently low. With regard to endblades made from Brown colour category

lithic material, there are high proportions in the early (23.5-48%) and, to a lesser degree, late phase (0-17.4%) dwelling assemblages; those from the middle phase are lower (6.3-16.8%). There are consistently low proportions of endblades made from Yellow (0-4.3%), Red (0-1.3%), and in the single case where White colour category lithic material is present (Feature 14; 2.9%).

There is a wide range of raw material colour for bifaces from Phillip's Garden (Figure 5.35). However, bifaces from Phillip's Garden are almost exclusively made from Black (40-75%) colour category lithic material. There are high proportions in the middle phase assemblages of bifaces made from Green (18.2-40%) lithic material. The proportions of other colours are variable with 4-20% Grey; 25% Blue in late phase House 20; 6.7-25% Brown; 8.3% and 10% Yellow in the early phase dwelling Feature 14 and late phase dwelling Feature 55, respectively; and 2.8% Red in House 2.

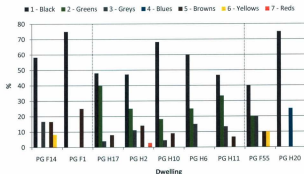


Figure 5.35. Comparison of biface lithic raw material colour between the Phillip's Garden dwellings. Phases are divided by vertical dashed line.



The endscrapers from Phillip's Garden are predominantly made from Brown, Green and Black colour lithic materials, with smaller proportions of other colours (Figure 5.36). The inverse bell curve pattern in the spread of Brown colour material corresponds to the similar pattern in the spread of brown translucent chert – the proportions of Brown range from 45.2-70.4% in the early; 16-32.7% in the middle; and 45.8-50% in the late phase.

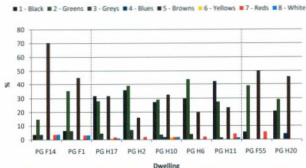


Figure 5.36. Comparison of endscraper lithic raw material colour between the Phillip's Garden dwellings. Phases are divided by vertical dashed line.

The proportion of endscrapers made from Green lithic material ranges from 14.8-44%. Also corresponding to the pattern in the lithic raw material (Cow Head chert) of endscrapers is the rough bell curve pattern in the spread of Black material, with higher proportions in the middle phase (27.3-42.5%) flanked with lower proportions in the early (3.7-6.5%) and late (5.6-20.8%). The proportion of other colours, Grey (1.4-7%), Blue

(1.8-4.2%), Yellow (0.9-1.8%), Red (1.8-5.6%) and White (0.9-3.7%), is consistently low across all assemblages.

#### 5.4.1.3 Other qualitative attributes: Endblade

The presence of tip-fluting on and the base-edge angle of endblades display differences between the nine Phillip's Garden dwelling assemblages (Figures 5.37, 5.38). As shown in Figure 5.37, the majority (40-63.5%) of endblades in the Phillip's Garden sample are tip-fluted. A higher proportion of endblades in the House 2 (55%), House 6 (59.6%) and Feature 55 (60%) assemblages are not tip-fluted.

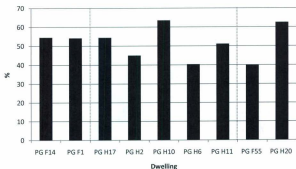


Figure 5.37. Presence of tip-fluting on endblades from the Phillip's Garden dwellings. Phases are divided by vertical dashed line.

The base-edge angles on endblades are variable across the dwelling assemblages (Figure 5.38). However, like Point Riche dwellings Feature 8 and Feature 64, there is a

higher proportion (20-72.7%) of endblades with base-edge angles ranging between 96 and 100°. The majority (80%) of the endblades from Feature 1 have base-edge angles ranging between 90 and 95°. Between 14 and 41.5% of the endblades from the other dwelling assemblages have similar base-edge angles (90-95°). There is generally a low proportion of endblades with base-edge angles ranging between 101 and 105°; the exceptions are House 6 and House 20, which have 18% and 10%, respectively.

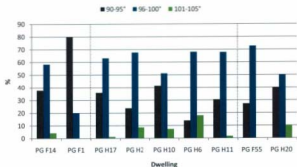


Figure 5.38. Comparison of base-edge angle for endblades from the Phillip's Garden dwellings. Phases are divided by vertical dashed line.

#### 5.4.1.4 Other qualitative attributes: Biface

The number of side notches on bifaces from Phillip's Garden is generally consistent (Figure 5.39). Nearly all (82.4-100%) of the bifaces from the nine assemblages have 1-2 side notches. The only exceptions are the bifaces from Feature 14, 16.7% of which have 5-6 notches, and those from House 17 of which 17.6% have 3-4 notches.

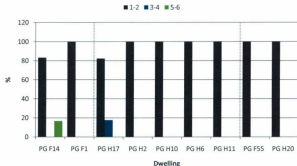


Figure 5.39. Comparison of the number of side-notches for bifaces from the Phillip's Garden dwellings. Phases are divided by vertical dashed line.

#### 5.4.1.5 Other qualitative attributes: Endscraper

The proportion of triangular and thumbnail endscrapers and the proportion of those with dorsal and/or ventral retouch are fairly consistent across dwelling assemblages (Figures 5.40, 5.41). As indicated in Figure 5.40 the proportions of triangular and thumbnail endscrapers for the early phase dwellings Feature 14 and Feature 1 are 44.9% and 41.9%, respectively; there are higher proportions (55.6-58.1%) of thumbnail endscrapers. In the middle phase assemblages, the proportion of triangular endscrapers is greater (49-67.1%) than thumbnail (32.9-51%) types. The late phase dwellings Feature 55 and House 20 have similar proportions of endscraper types, with 55.6% and 50% triangular and 44.4% and 50% thumbnail, respectively.

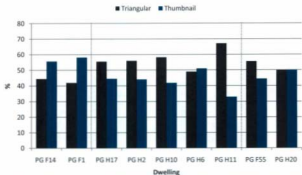


Figure 5.40. Endscraper types from the Phillip's Garden dwellings. Phases are divided by vertical dashed line.

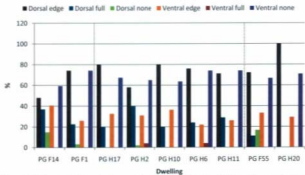


Figure 5.41. Retouch attributes of endscrappers from the Phillip's Garden dwellings. Phases are divided by vertical dashed line.

As indicated in Figure 5.41 the degree of retouch on endscrapers is, for the most part, similar between the Phillip's Garden dwelling assemblages. The proportion of endscrapers with dorsal edge retouch ranges from 48.1-100%. For all dwellings except House 20, there is a high proportion (11.1-40%) of endscrapers with full dorsal retouch. Compared with the middle phase assemblages ( $\leq 2\%$ ), the early (3.2-14.9%) and late (0-16.7%) phase assemblages have higher proportions of endscrapers without dorsal retouch. There is a high proportion (22-40.7%) across all assemblages of endscrapers exhibiting ventral edge retouch. There are only two cases, House 2 and House 6, where some endscrapers had full ventral retouch; however, the proportions for this occurrence were low at 4% for both assemblages. There also is a consistently high (59.3-74.2%) proportion of endscrapers without ventral retouch.

#### *5.4.1.6 Other qualitative attributes: Burin-like tool*

The collection of burin-like tools from the nine Phillip's Garden assemblages is relatively small; thus, frequencies (n) rather than proportions (%) are used as a basis of comparison (Figures 5.42, 5.43). As shown in Figure 5.42, the frequency of the two types of burin-like tool, pointed and rectangular, varies across the assemblages. For the most part, however, there are greater numbers ( $n=1-12$ ) of rectangular type burin-like tools. There are relatively few ( $n=0-8$ ) pointed burin-like tools. With regard to the number of notches on burin-like tools from the Phillip's Garden sample, those with 1-2 notches are the most frequent ( $n=1-13$ ). There are 2-8 burin-like tools without side notches. There are only two instances, House 17 and House 6, where a burin-like tool has 3-4 notches.

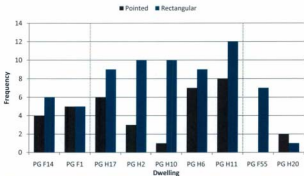


Figure 5.42. Comparison of burin-like tool types from the Phillip's Garden dwellings. Phases are divided by vertical dashed line.

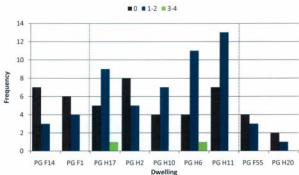


Figure 5.43. Number of notches on burin-like tools from the Phillip's Garden dwellings. Phases are divided by vertical dashed line.

## 5.4.2 Quantitative characteristics

### 5.4.2.1 Endblade

The endblades from the Phillip's Garden dwelling assemblages display similarities in metric attributes. As shown in Figure 5.44, endblade length-width ratios (1.57-2.18) are consistent across all assemblages; the only exception is the sample of endblades from Feature 14, which have relatively lower length-width ratios with a midspread range of 1.61-1.81, indicating that these endblades are proportionally wider than they are long.

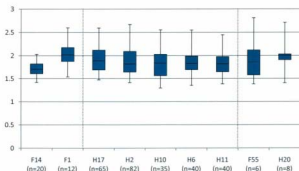


Figure 5.44. Length-width ratios for endblades from the Phillip's Garden dwellings. Phases are divided by vertical dashed line.

The width-thickness ratios for the Phillip's Garden endblades are generally consistent across the nine dwelling assemblages (Figure 5.45). The midspread range for width-thickness ratios for endblades from the early phase dwellings Feature 14 and



Feature 1 are 3.70-4.32 and 3.47-4.02, respectively. The width-thickness ratios for endblades from the middle phase have a general range of 3.26 (lowest value) to 4.96 (highest value). The endblades from Feature 55 have a comparable midspread range (3.58-4.54), while those from House 20 have a lower range at 3.02-3.36, indicating that endblades from this particular sample are relatively narrower and thicker.

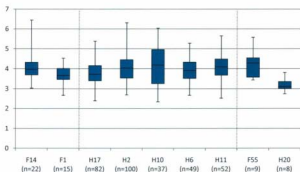


Figure 5.45. Width-thickness ratios for endblades from the Phillip's Garden dwellings. Phases are divided by vertical dashed line.

The depth of basal concavities on endblades is generally consistent across the assemblages (Figure 5.46). Basal concavity depths on endblades from the early phase dwellings Feature 14 and Feature 1 have a midspread range of 1.30-3.48mm and 1.25-2.65mm, respectively. The general midspread range for this attribute on endblades from

the middle phase is 1.18 to 3.43mm. The midspread range for endblades from late phase dwelling Feature 55 is 1.8-3.4mm; it is .83-2.75mm for House 20.

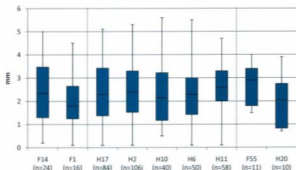


Figure 5.46. Depth of basal concavities for endblades from the Phillip's Garden dwellings. Phases are divided by vertical dashed line.

#### 5.4.2.2 Biface

The quantitative attributes pertaining to the Phillip's Garden bifaces are generally more variable compared to those of the endblades (Figures 5.47-5.50). With regard to basal width of bifaces (Figure 5.47), those from early phase dwelling Feature 14 are generally much more narrow (midspread range: 20.1-20.6mm) than those in the other dwelling samples; the midspread range for basal width of the Feature 1 bifaces is 27.8-34.0mm. The general midspread range for basal width of middle phase bifaces is 25.8 to 34.5mm. The bifaces from Feature 55 have somewhat more narrow bases, with a

midsread range of 22.8-26.3mm; those from House 20 (midsread range: 25.0-32.5mm) are comparable in basal width to the middle phase bifaces.

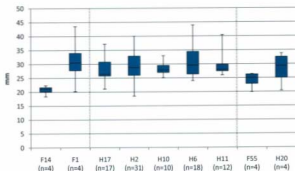


Figure 5.47. Basal width of bifaces from the Phillip's Garden dwellings. Phases are divided by vertical dashed line.

The distance between the base and notches on bifaces from Phillip's Garden is comparable amongst the nine assemblages (Figure 5.48). The bifaces from early phase Feature 14 and Feature 1 have midsread ranges of 3.93-5.23mm and 4.48-5.20mm, respectively. Those from middle phase House 17 have a somewhat lower midsread range at 3.5-4.2mm. The bifaces from the other middle phase assemblages have similar midsread ranges of basal height, which together range from 3.85 to 6.90mm. The late phase dwellings Feature 55 and House 20 have midsread ranges of 3.33-5.38mm and 3.63-5.68mm, respectively.

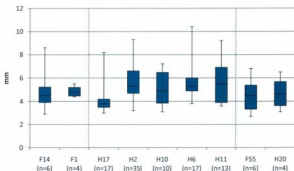


Figure 5.48. Base height of bifaces from the Phillip's Garden dwellings. Phases are divided by vertical dashed line.

The height and depth of side notches on bifaces from the nine assemblages are, for the most part, consistent (Figures 5.49, 5.50). The general midspread range for side notch height of bifaces in the early phase assemblages is 3.10 to 4.85mm. This range is similar for the five middle phase assemblages, with a general range of 3.1 to 4.9mm. The side notch heights on bifaces from late phase dwelling Feature 55 are similar with a midspread range of 3.1-4.1mm. The side notches on the sample of bifaces from House 20 are unusually high (or wide), with a midspread range of 5.48-5.95mm. Figure 5.50 shows the depth of side notches on bifaces from the nine assemblages. These depths in the bifaces from the early and middle phase assemblages are consistent; those in the late phase assemblages are not.

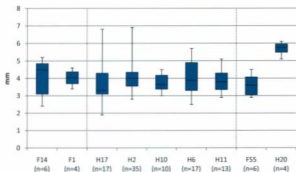


Figure 5.49. Notch height for bifaces from the Phillip's Garden dwellings. Phases are divided by vertical dashed line.

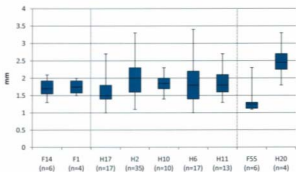


Figure 5.50. Notch depth of bifaces from the Phillip's Garden dwellings. Phases are divided by vertical dashed line.

The midspread ranges for this attribute in the early phase assemblages are very close: 1.55-1.93mm for Feature 14 and 1.58-1.93mm for Feature 1. The general midspread range for the attribute in the middle phase dwellings is 1.4 to 2.3mm. The side notch depths on bifaces from the late phase dwellings, Feature 55 and House 20, have very different midspread ranges at 1.13-1.3mm (shallow notches) and 2.25-2.7mm (deep notches), respectively.

#### *5.4.2.3 Endscraper*

The endscrapers from the Phillip's Garden assemblages are consistent in the ratio of length to width (Figure 5.51). The midspread range of length-width for endscrapers from Feature 14 and Feature 1 is 1.13-1.50 and 1.07-1.46, respectively. For the middle phase endscrapers, the general midspread range is very similar at 1.12 to 1.53. The two late phase endscraper samples, Feature 55 and House 20, also have similar midspread ranges of length-width at 1.13-1.46 and 1.12-1.32, respectively.

The thickness of endscrapers is consistent across the nine assemblages; however, the endscrapers from the middle phase assemblages appear to be somewhat thicker than those from the early and late phase (Figure 5.52). The midspread ranges of this attribute for the early phase dwellings, Feature 14 and Feature 14, are 4.5-5.7mm and 4.4-6.1mm, respectively. The general midspread range for endscraper thickness in the middle phase is 5.3 to 7mm. The late phase dwellings, Feature 55 and House 20, have midspread ranges of 4.6-6.1mm and 4.8-6.4mm, respectively.

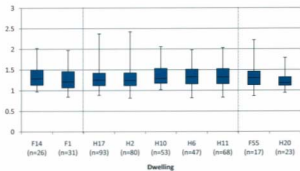


Figure 5.51. Length-width ratios for endscrapers from the Phillip's Garden dwellings. Phases are divided by vertical dashed line.

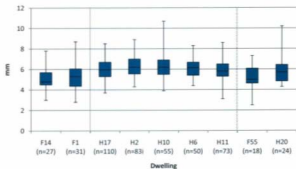


Figure 5.52. Thickness of endscrapers from the Phillip's Garden dwellings. Phases are divided by vertical dashed line.

#### 5.4.2.4 Burin-like tool

The thickness of burin-like tools is somewhat consistent across the nine Phillip's Garden dwelling assemblages (Figure 5.53). The midspread ranges of burin-like tool thickness for Feature 14 and Feature 14 are 2.1-2.5mm and 1.9-2.1mm, respectively. The general midspread range for this attribute in the middle phase assemblages is 2 to 2.8mm. The midspread ranges for the two late phase dwellings, Feature 55 and House 20, are lower (1.7-2.4mm) and higher (2.7-3.2mm), respectively.

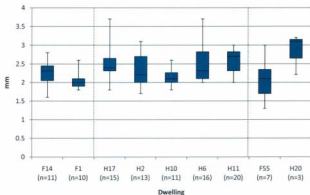


Figure 5.53. Thickness of burin-like tools from the Phillip's Garden dwellings. Phases are divided by vertical dashed line.

#### 5.4.3 Summary

The nine lithic assemblages examined from Phillip's Garden display significant similarities. With regard to artefact function, there are variable proportions of different



functional tool types; however, there are across all assemblages high proportions of artefacts related to butchering, lithic tool making and skin processing. There are also significant proportions of artefacts related to hunting and cooking, heat and light. There is an overall low proportion of lithic artefacts related to the manufacture of organic tools.

In terms of lithic raw material, Cow Head chert is the near exclusive material used for making endblades, bifaces and endscrapers. However there is a relatively high proportion of endblades in the early phase made from brown translucent chert. There also is a high proportion of endscrapers made from this material in the early and late phase assemblages; there is a lower proportion of endscrapers made of brown translucent chert in the middle phase. The proportion of endblades made from Ramah chert is highest in the late phase; the early and late phase assemblages have a relatively high proportion of Ramah chert bifaces. The proportions of other lithic material types – chalcedony, quartz and unknown materials – is consistently low; however the House 20 assemblage has a high proportion of endblades made from an unknown lithic type that is visually similar to material from a source 130km north of Port au Choix.

The colour of lithic raw material for three (endblades, bifaces and endscrapers) of the four tool classes varies. The predominant colour of lithic material used for endblades is Green, with significant proportions of Black, Brown and Grey as well. There are low proportions of Blue, Yellow, Red and White colour lithic material. The majority of bifaces from Phillip's Garden are comprised of Black, Green, Grey and Brown colour lithic material; a small proportion is made from Blue, Yellow and Red. The endscrapers

from the nine assemblages are made predominantly from Brown, Green and Black lithic material; there are lower proportions of Grey, Blue, Yellow, Red and White.

The other qualitative attributes examined for the four lithic tool classes display similarities. The proportion of endblades with tip-fluting is consistently high across the nine assemblages. Most endblades have base-edge angles of between 96 and 100°.

Most of the bifaces from Phillip's Garden have one or two side notches. With regard to endscrapers, the majority are triangular; the presence of dorsal and ventral retouch on endscrapers is consistent across the assemblages. As for the burin-like tools, there is a relatively higher proportion of rectangular compared to pointed types.

The quantitative data on the four tool classes from the nine dwellings indicate similarities and differences. The endblades from the nine Phillip's Garden assemblages, excluding those from Feature 14, have consistent length-width ratios. The width-thickness ratios for endblades are generally similar across the assemblages, apart from those from House 20 which are relatively lower. The depth of endblade basal concavities is consistent. The bifaces from Phillip's Garden vary in basal width; those from the middle phase are consistent in basal width, while bifaces from the early and late phase assemblages are not. The base height of bifaces is comparable across the nine assemblages. Biface notch height and depth is generally consistent through the early and middle phase assemblages; these attributes are variable in the sample of bifaces from the two late phase assemblages. With regard to endscrapers, the length-width ratios are remarkably consistent across all Phillip's Garden dwelling assemblages. Endscrapers from the middle phase are slightly thicker than those from the early and late phase

samples. The thickness of burin-like tools is fairly consistent in the early and middle phase samples; however, burin-like tools from late phase Feature 55 and House 20 are relatively thinner and thicker, respectively.

## 5.5 Comparisons

This chapter summarizes the results of a qualitative and quantitative analysis of lithic artefacts from Point Riche and Phillip's Garden. Four lithic tool classes – endblade, biface, endscraper and burin-like tool – were selected for comparison between these two sites. Despite the broad temporal span of co-occupation ( $\geq 540$  years) – and thus many generations of individual Dorset families – the results of this analysis established that there are remarkable similarities between the two sites' lithic tool assemblages.

The nine lithic assemblages from Phillip's Garden, which span the site's three occupational phases, are generally similar. The comparison of artefact functional categories indicates that the proportions of different functional tool types varies, but with consistently high proportions of artefacts related to: 1) butchering, 2) lithic tool making, and 3) skin processing. There are also significant proportions of artefacts related to hunting and cooking, heat and light. The near exclusive raw material used for endblades is Green colour category Cow Head chert, for bifaces Black colour category Cow Head chert, and for endscrapers Brown colour category Cow Head and brown translucent chert. The lithic material of burin-like tools does not vary. The proportion of Ramah chert artefacts is greatest in the early and late phases. The majority of Phillip's Garden endblades are tip-fluted and have base-edge angles of between 96-100°. Most of the

bifaces have between 1-2 side notches. Endscrapers are predominantly triangular; the presence of dorsal and ventral retouch is consistent across all assemblages. Burin-like tools are predominantly rectangular rather than pointed. The metric data on endblades, bifaces, endscrapers and burin-like tools are, for the most part, consistent.

In comparison, the three lithic assemblages examined from Point Riche are generally similar to those from Phillip's Garden. In terms of artefact function, like Phillip's Garden there are consistently high proportions of artefacts related to: 1) lithic tool making, 2) butchering, and 3) skin processing. Compared to Phillip's Garden, there are lower proportions at Point Riche of artefacts related to hunting and cooking, heat and light. Like Phillip's Garden, the nearly exclusive material used for endblades at Point Riche is Green Cow Head chert, for bifaces Black Cow Head chert, and for endscrapers Brown Cow Head and brown translucent chert. The lithic material of burin-like tools does not vary. The proportion of Ramah chert artefacts at Point Riche is comparable to that from the middle phase Phillip's Garden dwelling assemblages. Compared to Phillip's Garden, endblades from Point Riche are likewise predominantly tip-fluted and have base-edge angles of between 96 and 100°. The majority of bifaces from Feature 8 and Feature 64 have between 1-2 side notches. Like Phillip's Garden, endscrapers at Point Riche tend to be triangular and exhibit consistent proportions of dorsal and ventral retouch. In contrast to Phillip's Garden, there is a higher proportion of pointed rather than rectangular burin-like tools. In general, the metric data on the four lithic tool classes from Point Riche are similar to those from Phillip's Garden.

The results of the qualitative and quantitative analyses are summarized and compared in Tables 5.5 and 5.6, respectively. The means for each qualitative attribute examined are summarized between the two sites in Table 5.5 using a simple chi-square ( $\chi^2$ ) statistical test, while a Student's *t*-test is used to summarize the means of each quantitative attribute (Table 5.6). For each attribute, these statistical tests compare the means of each sample and produce a significance (*p*) value that indicates the probability that the sample means could have been derived from populations with identical means (Drennan 2009:153, 182-183). Each table presents the significance values for each respective statistical test; the closer these values are to 1.000 the more likely the sample means are similar and could have come from populations with similar means. Significance values <.100 indicate dissimilar means. Comparison of Point Riche Feature 30 and Phillip's Garden assemblage attributes yielded the lowest significance values, suggesting that Feature 30 is somewhat different. However, the results of these statistical tests indicate that, for the most part, the differences observed between the mean values for each attribute examined between the two sites are not statistically significant.

In sum, the qualitative and quantitative data on the lithic tool assemblages of Point Riche and Phillip's Garden indicate that these two assemblages are similar. The results of this comparative study support therefore the idea that these two sites were used by generations of the same family/social groups and thus were likely to have been directly connected. In addition, this study represents the first comprehensive attempt to quantify the metric attributes of lithic artefacts from these two sites. The implications of the results are explored further in the following chapters.

Table 5.5. Summary of two-tailed significance ( $p$ ) of chi-square ( $\chi^2$ ) values for qualitative attributes examined.

	Point Riche/Phillip's Garden				Point Riche/Phillip's Garden				Point Riche/Phillip's Garden			
	Early				Middle				Late			
	PR	F30/PGc	F64/PGc	PR	PR	F8/PGm	F30/PGm	F64/PGm	PR	F8/PGl	F30/PGl	F64/PGl
Endblade raw material	0.528 <sup>1</sup>	0.761	0.363	0.218	0.360			0.921	0.890	0.999		0.979
Endblade raw material colour	0.406	0.708	0.611	0.480	0.230			0.550	0.993	0.811		0.654
Endblade tip-fluting	0.840	0.081	0.569	0.956	0.086			0.213	0.874	0.168		0.440
Endblade base-edge angle	0.516	0.637	0.022	0.972	0.363			0.138	0.962	0.628		0.344
Biface raw material	0.908	n/a	0.820	0.493	n/a			0.852	0.932	n/a		0.779
Biface raw material colour	0.982	n/a	0.663	0.958	n/a			0.950	0.984	n/a		0.976
Biface no. of notches	0.058	n/a	0.779	0.767	n/a			0.261	0.906	n/a		0.520
Endscraper raw material	0.448	0.254	0.339	0.964	0.006			0.985	0.797	0.706		0.762
Endscraper raw material colour	0.702	0.108	0.305	0.713	0.066			0.921	0.846	0.348		0.921
Endscraper type	0.371	0.410	0.711	0.964	0.626			0.827	0.823	0.581		0.787
Endscraper retouch	0.966	0.927	0.821	0.965	0.030			0.528	0.688	0.908		0.061
Burin-like tool type	0.668	n/a	0.414	0.975	n/a			0.142	0.813	n/a		0.173
Burin-like tool no. of notches	0.836	n/a	0.975	0.495	n/a			0.245	0.813	n/a		0.964

<sup>1</sup> Significance ( $p$ ) values incorporate Yates' (1934) correction for continuity. PR = Point Riche; PGc = Phillip's Garden Early; PGm = Phillip's Garden Middle; PGI = Phillip's Garden Late; n/a = information not available. Black cells:  $\chi^2$  values > 500 indicating very similar means; grey cells:  $\chi^2$  values > 100 indicating comparable means; white cells:  $\chi^2$  values < 100 indicating dissimilar means.

Table 5.6. Summary of two-tailed significance ( $p$ ) of  $t$ -test values for quantitative attributes examined.

	Point Riche/Phillip's Garden			Point Riche/Phillip's Garden			Point Riche/Phillip's Garden		
	Early			Middle			Late		
	PR F8/PGe	PR F30/PGe	PR F64/PGe	PR F8/PGm	PR F30/PGm	PR F64/PGm	PR F8/PGl	PR F30/PGl	PR F64/PGl
Endblade length-width	0.634	0.298	0.420	0.592	0.220	0.326	0.360	0.140	0.202
Endblade width-thickness	0.723	0.167	0.041	0.623	0.179	0.014	0.818	0.130	0.039
Endblade basal concavity	0.723	0.106	0.977	0.967	0.148	0.460	0.957	0.137	0.619
Biface basal width	0.287	n/a	0.308	0.797	n/a	0.553	0.119	n/a	0.193
Biface base height	0.664	n/a	0.163	0.756	n/a	0.350	0.345	n/a	0.081
Biface notch depth	0.841	n/a	0.02	0.362	n/a	0.196	0.679	n/a	0.281
Biface notch height	0.666	n/a	0.827	0.762	n/a	0.592	0.264	n/a	0.579
Endscraper length-width	0.432	n/a	0.671	0.774	n/a	0.240	0.296	n/a	0.883
Endscraper thickness	0.119	n/a	0.175	0.137	n/a	0.011	0.714	n/a	0.920
Burnt-like tool thickness	0.405	n/a	0.131	0.325	n/a	0.574	0.913	n/a	0.841

PR = Point Riche; PGe = Phillip's Garden Early; PGm = Phillip's Garden Middle; PGL = Phillip's Garden Late; n/a = information not available. Black cells:  $t$  values > 500 indicating very similar means; grey cells:  $t$  values > 100 indicating comparable means; white cells:  $t$  values < 100 indicating dissimilar means.

## Chapter 6

### Comparisons

#### 6.1 Introduction

In this chapter, the qualitative and quantitative data on dwelling architecture and lithic artefacts from Point Riche and Phillip's Garden are first summarized and then compared briefly with available data from a number of other Dorset Palaeoeskimo sites in Newfoundland and Labrador. The key points drawn from these data are summarized in brief at the end of the chapter. These conclusions provide a basis for addressing the research objectives of this study in the following chapter.

#### 6.2 Comparison of dwelling architecture

##### 6.2.1 *Phillip's Garden and Point Riche*

The size and shape of the cold- and warm-weather Phillip's Garden dwellings varies for each occupation phase. The cold-weather middle phase dwellings are all large (84-105m<sup>2</sup>), subrectangular, and in the case of House 17 trilobate, structures, with substantial perimeter walls and platforms comprised of raised and stacked limestone, and with large and deep central and multiple perimeter post-holes, some of which likely held whale bone structural elements. Central post-holes are consistently spaced. This contrasts markedly with the early (52-75m<sup>2</sup>) and late phase (c. 30m<sup>2</sup>) cold-weather dwellings as well as the two warm-weather (<20m<sup>2</sup>) dwellings that are much smaller and which are oval and/or circular. The early and late phase dwellings have less well-defined perimeters



of raised and stacked limestone, and whale bone structural elements may have been used. Central post-holes are also consistently spaced. The perimeters of the two warm-weather dwellings were defined by the edge of a shallow depression in the case of House 5 and a ring of post-holes in the case of Feature 42.

As indicated by the location of primary entranceways, Phillip's Garden dwellings generally face the shoreline to the north. There also seems to be a pattern in the dimensions, location and orientation of axial hearth features relative to the shoreline. In all cold-weather dwelling axial features, except early phase Feature 1 and late phase Feature 55 which are larger and parallel to the shoreline, axial features are of consistent dimensions, are located within the central depression and are perpendicular to the shoreline. The two presumably warm-weather axial hearths are of similar dimensions but are parallel to the shoreline. Informal hearths, cooking platforms and lamp supports are generally located inside dwellings. With regard to the use of red ochre, one rear platform pit in the middle phase House 11 and three perimeter post-holes in the late phase Feature 55 had small concentrations or smears of this substance on the bottom of them.

The three Point Riche dwellings are oval structures ranging from 20 to 30m<sup>2</sup>, defined by insubstantial, low gravel or earthen/buried sod berms; sitting/sleeping platforms are insubstantial. In most cases, natural sinkholes in the limestone substratum appear to have been used for supporting structural elements. The spacing of pits identified as central post-holes is consistent with that at Phillip's Garden; whale bone structural elements may also have been used. There is little evidence for the presence of perimeter post-holes. All dwellings face the dominant shoreline to the northwest. The two

confirmed examples of axial hearths are consistent in dimensions with those from Phillip's Garden, are located inside in the case of Feature 30 and outside in the case of Feature 8 and are parallel to the shoreline. Informal hearths, cooking platforms and lamp supports are located outside dwellings. Similar to the small number of instances at Phillip's Garden where red ochre was deposited in pits, this substance was found in a possible perimeter pit in Feature 64 as well as in a possible central post-hole in Feature 30.

These data clearly indicate major differences but also significant parallels in dwelling architecture between Point Riche and Phillip's Garden. That the middle phase Phillip's Garden dwellings (Houses 2, 4, 6, 10 and 17) are all large subrectangular or lobate structures with substantial platforms and walls indicates that much time and effort was put into their construction, which in turn indicates that these particular dwellings were meant to be used on a regular basis over the long term. In contrast the early phase dwelling Feature 1, the two late phase dwellings, Feature 55 and House 20, the two warm-weather dwellings (House 5 and Feature 42) and the three Point Riche dwellings (Features 8, 30 and 64) are all relatively small, oval or circular structures with less substantial or formalized walls and/or platforms. These particular dwellings were thus perhaps meant to be used on a short-term basis over a more restricted period of time. Connecting shape and size of dwellings to hunter-gatherer mobility, McGuire and Schiffer (1983) and Binford (1990) argue that mobile hunter-gathers use easily constructed oval or circular dwellings and less mobile hunter-gatherers use more substantial dwellings that are often square or rectangular (see also Diehl 1997; Renouf 2003:402; Smith 2003). The basic premise is that oval/circular dwellings were quick and easy to build and were more appropriate for

highly mobile hunter-gatherers, while rectangular structures required much more time and effort to build and thus were more suited to less mobile groups (Binford 1990:120; McGuire and Schiffer 1983:285-286ff; see also Kelly et al. 2005; Renouf 2003:402; Steadman 1996:56). In this regard, the substantial middle phase Phillip's Garden dwellings clearly required much more time and effort to construct compared to the much less substantial late phase, warm-weather and Point Riche dwellings.

The nature of dwelling construction can provide clues to their season of use. Based on ethnographic descriptions of dwellings of arctic and subarctic hunter-gatherers (e.g., Birket-Smith 1929:80-87; Boas 1888:539-540; Hawkes 1916:58-63; cf. Holtved 1967; Ingstad 1954:158-160; cf. Lee and Reinhardt 2003:160ff; Mathiassen 1928:131-135; Murdoch 1892:72-86; Nelson 1899:241-263; Spencer 1959:46-48ff; Turner 1894:226-228), insubstantial, low cost dwellings correspond to warm-weather occupations and substantial, high cost dwellings correspond to cold-weather occupations. Echoing this, Jewett and Lightfoot (1986:33) and Binford (1990:146ff) argue that in most cases warm-weather occupations necessarily involve the construction of insubstantial dwelling architecture due to a lesser need for shelter from the cold and an increase in residential mobility. Accordingly, the majority of Phillip's Garden dwellings, with their substantial architecture, correspond to cold-weather dwellings while those from Point Riche, with their insubstantial architecture, are most like warm-weather dwellings.

The location of axial hearth features at the two sites can also be used as a basis for understanding their respective season(s) of occupation. The interior location of axial

hearth features – which were the central focus of each individual household in and around which most cooking, heating and other social activities occurred – in most of the Phillip's Garden dwellings indicates that they were occupied in the cooler months of the year (Diehl 1997:182-183; Lee and Reinhardt 2003:160). This makes sense given the site's primary function as a March-April harp seal hunting site (Renouf 2011b). Yet Feature 42, which was interpreted as a warm-weather occupation based on its insubstantial and ephemeral nature, had an interior axial feature; interior axial features are thus not restricted to cold-weather dwellings (cf. Hartery and Rast 2003:480-481; LeMoine et al. 2003:277). Their location inside and outside in the case of Point Riche dwellings Feature 30 and Feature 8, respectively, might indicate seasonal differences between these two dwellings; however given that they are both relatively small, insubstantial structures, it is reasonable to guess that they both were occupied in the warmer months.

Informal hearths, cooking platforms and lamp supports, where found, tend to occur inside the perimeter of dwellings at Phillip's Garden, supporting the interpretation of these dwellings as cold-weather occupations (cf. Lee and Reinhardt 2003:160). The exceptions include two possible informal hearths outside and two others inside middle phase House 5, an axial feature outside middle phase House 17 and a single cooking platform outside late phase Feature 55; House 5 was suggested to be a warm-weather occupation while House 17 and Feature 55 were likely cold-weather occupations. At Point Riche, these features, where found, occur only on the outside of dwellings, suggesting a warm-weather use. This is consistent with Lee and Reinhardt (2003:160, Table 1) who link the relative location of such features to season of occupation (i.e., summer = outside the house; winter

= inside the house) (see also Stefansson 1922:142). Despite some seasonal diversification, the nature of dwelling architecture and associated features at Phillip's Garden and Point Riche suggests respectively a *primarily* cold-weather and warm-weather occupation.

Through an examination of circumpolar dwelling architecture Mauss and Beuchat (1979:37) argue that the changing social morphology (organization) of Inuit families is reflected in the structure (layout) of many traditional Inuit house forms (Dawson 2006:117). Summer dwellings are small, insubstantial tent structures, lacking interior partitions (Mauss and Beuchat 1979:44). Winter dwellings, however, are relatively larger and sometimes jointly owned and occupied by several families, which formed the resident household (Mauss and Beuchat 1979:44; see also Dawson 2006:117; Kaplan 1997:181). While based on Inuit dwelling forms, their basic idea can be by extension applied to Dorset Palaeoeskimo dwellings.

The size and interior layout of dwellings at Phillip's Garden and Point Riche indicates differences in the social organization of households. Renouf (2011b:149) argues that the large size of the middle phase Phillip's Garden dwellings, including early phase Feature 14, indicates that these were multi-family structures, with at least 2-6 families occupying each (Lee and Reinhardt 2003:173-182). In addition, the presence of multiple large sleeping platforms and sitting benches positioned around a single central cooking and eating area (axial feature) suggests communal household organization (Renouf 2011b:150). In contrast, early phase Feature 1, late phase Feature 55 and House 20 as well as the three Point Riche dwellings would have supported a much smaller household,

likely no more than two families (Renouf 2006:128). Although similar in size to Feature 1, Feature 55 and House 20, the internal layout of the Point Riche dwellings is different. All three Point Riche dwellings have a single sitting/sleeping platform located at the rear, which suggests a single family occupation and which is consistent with warm-weather dwelling forms of circumpolar hunter-gatherers (Lee and Reinhardt 2003:160). The two unusually small warm-weather dwellings at Phillip's Garden, House 5 and Feature 42, lack any form of sitting or sleeping platform and, if they were indeed domestic structures, would have supported no more than a single nuclear family group.

There is a small number of idiosyncratic aspects pertaining to dwelling architecture at Phillip's Garden and Point Riche that suggests that similar family/social groups occupied these two sites. Notwithstanding the broad period of chronological overlap, the remarkably similar dimensions of axial hearth features and the distance between central post-holes between the two sites may suggest the same family/social groups – people with shared ideas, conceptions or mental templates of how to construct certain architectural features (Rapoport 1980:284-285; Ryan 2009:35ff). The small amount of evidence for deposition of red ochre in interior pits and/or post-holes of dwellings at Phillip's Garden (House 11 and Feature 55) and Point Riche (Feature 30 and Feature 64) might also suggest similar significance, perhaps ideological or ritual (e.g., Wreschner 1980). There is generally little mention of red ochre in descriptions of other Palaeoeskimo habitation sites in the Arctic; however red ochre deposits have been identified in general association with dwellings at a small number of Late Dorset sites in the Ungava region (Plumet 1985:229, 371), Axel Heiberg Island in the High Arctic

(Sutherland 2003:198), and at the Middle Dorset site of Peat Garden North (EgBf-18) (Hartery 2010:99) on the Northern Peninsula of Newfoundland.

That red ochre was found in a discrete location – pits/post-holes – suggests that these pits were imbued with meaning. What that meaning was exactly is difficult to interpret. However, Lee and Reinhardt (2003:154) make note of rituals associated with the abandonment of dwellings among the Alutiiq of southwest Alaska, where in one case a dwelling was abandoned due to the death of a child; before abandoning the dwelling the child's body was buried in the centre of it. This brings to mind the case of Phillip's Garden House 12, where the skeletal remains of a child, an adult mandible and a number of grave offerings were found buried within a central post-hole (Brown 2011:232; Harp and Hughes 1963:17). Given that red ochre is among hunter-gatherer peoples commonly associated with blood, and in some cases regarded as the metamorphosed blood of ancestral beings – which acts symbolically as a curative, protective and strengthening agent (Horton 1994:820; Taçon 2004:38-39ff; Wreschner 1980:631) – we might by extension view the placing of red ochre in dwelling pits as an acknowledgement of the particular dwellings' past occupants. However, with such a small amount of evidence any such conclusions are speculative at best. Nevertheless, there appears to be some similarity in the use of this material at Phillip's Garden and Point Riche.

#### *6.2.2 Other Dorset Palaeoeskimo sites*

A cursory examination of dwelling architecture from a small number of other Middle Dorset sites in Newfoundland and Labrador (Figure 6.1) indicates some parallels

with those at Phillip's Garden and Point Riche. Compared to Phillip's Garden and Point Riche, a relatively smaller number of Dorset dwellings has been excavated in the Province. The particular dwellings examined here were selected based on geographical extent (i.e., different regions), and because they represent structures interpreted as both warm- and cold-weather dwellings. These include six sites from Newfoundland (Figure 6.1): Peat Garden North on the Northern Peninsula (Hartery 2010; Hartery and Rast 2003); Cape Ray (CjBt-1) on the southwest coast (Fogt 1996; Linnamae 1975); Stock Cove (CkAl-3) in Trinity Bay (Robbins 1985); Dildo Island (CjAj-2), also in Trinity Bay (LeBlanc 1997, 2003); Rattling Brook (DgAt-1) in Notre Dame Bay (Barnable 2008); and Cow Cove-3 (EaBa-16) on the Baie Verte Peninsula (Erwin 2005b). The Labrador sites (Figure 6.1) include: Snack Cove West-1 (FkBe-5) in Sandwich Bay (Wolff 2003); Kolikhtalik-1 (HdCg-2) near Nain (Fitzhugh 1976); and Iglusuaktialuk-4 West (HhCj-5) near Okak (Cox 2003). As in Chapter 4, all information on these dwellings was gathered from unpublished reports and articles (e.g., Renouf 2003); original field notes or plan maps were not available for examination.

The architectural attributes for each comparative dwelling vary. Overall, the size (c. 20-34m<sup>2</sup>) of the largest dwellings (Cape Ray, Dildo Island House 2 and Kolikhtalik-1) in the comparative sample is comparable with that at Point Riche and the late phase at Phillip's Garden (Figure 6.2). The smaller dwellings (c. 10-20m<sup>2</sup>), including those at Peat Garden North, Stock Cove, Rattling Brook, Cow Cove-3, Snack Cove West-1 and Iglusuaktialuk-4 West, are comparable in size to the warm-weather Phillip's Garden dwellings, House 5 and Feature 42.





The dwellings at Peat Garden North (Hartery 2010:157ff; Hartery and Rast 2003:487), Rattling Brook (Barnable 2008:110-111) and Cow Cove-3 (Erwin 2005b:11) were interpreted as warm-weather occupations; the others were interpreted as cold-weather dwellings (Table 6.1). The large dwellings are all rectangular in outline, while the smaller

ones tend to be oval (Table 6.1), a pattern noted earlier by Renouf (2003:402) and which is consistent with the situation at Phillip's Garden and Point Riche.

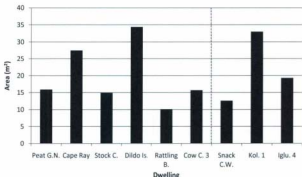


Figure 6.2. Size of dwellings in comparative sample. Dashed line separates Newfoundland (left) from Labrador (right) dwellings. G.N. = Garden North; C. = Cove; Is. = Island; B. = Brook; C.W. = Cove West; Kol. = Kolikalik; Iglu. = Iglusaktialuk.

The sorts of peripheral markers vary, with most dwellings defined by perimeters of rock. The information on sleeping platforms is too scarce to make any observations. Like the dwellings at Point Riche and Phillip's Garden, all entranceways point toward the respective shorelines.

As shown in Table 6.1 axial features and cooking and/or heating related features tend to be located within dwellings, regardless of season of occupation. The exception is the dwelling at Rattling Brook, which has both interior and exterior hearth features.

Table 6.1. Summary of attributes for comparative dwellings.

	Peat Garden N.		Cape Ray		Stock Cove	Dildo Island H2	
Interpreted season	warm		cold		cold	cold	
Dwelling dimensions	5 x 4m (15.9m <sup>2</sup> )		5 x 5.5m (27.5m <sup>2</sup> )		6 x 2.5m (15m <sup>2</sup> )	8.6 x 4m (34.4m <sup>2</sup> )	
Dwelling shape	oval		rectangular		rectangular	rectangular	
Periphery marker	stacked rocks		area of cleared rocks		flagstones and cleared area	edge of paved area	
Platform	n/a		1.2 x 4m rear slab		n/a	slab platform	
Entrance	E? towards shore		SW towards shore; possible cold-trap entrance		n/a	N towards shore	
Axial feature	interior: unknown dimensions, cobbles and slabs; PLS		interior: primary = 4.3 x 1m PS; secondary = 4.3 x .75; PLS		interior: 6 x 1m slabs; PLS	interior: 1.9 x 1.6m slabs; PLS	
Hearth	exterior pit hearth		centre of axial feature		two interior cobble and slab	n/a	
Heating platform	n/a		n/a		n/a	within axial feature	
Lamp/pot support	n/a		n/a		n/a	3 interior slab lamp supports	
Superstructure	n/a		possible hold-down rocks		n/a	n/a	

	Rattling Brook	Cow Cove-3	Snack Cove Is.	Koliktalik-1	Iglu. -4
Interpreted season	warm	warm	cold	cold	cold
Dwelling dimensions	3.1 x 4.1m (10.1m <sup>2</sup> )	4 x 5m (15.7m <sup>2</sup> )	4 x 4m (12.6m <sup>2</sup> )	6 x 5.5m (33m <sup>2</sup> )	5.5 x 3.5m (19.3m <sup>2</sup> )
Dwelling shape	oval	oval	oval	rectangular	rectangular
Periphery marker	perimeter of large rocks/ tent ring	perimeter of large slabs	rock walls	edge of depression	sand perimeter and soil changes
Platform	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Entrance	E? towards shore	n/a	N entrance passage, towards shore	NE entrance passage towards shore	SW entrance passage away from shore
Axial feature	n/a	interior: 1 x 1m slab hearth + lamp support; PLS? within axial feature	interior: cobbles, dimensions unknown; PLS? interior: possible box hearth	interior: 4.5 x .75m slabs and line of pits; PLS? n/a	interior: 2 x 1m paved area with central hearth; PLS within axial feature
Hearth	exterior: .60m dia. stone-lined cooking pit hearth; interior: possible .73m dia. cobble	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Heating platform	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lamp/pot support	n/a	interior: .5 x .25m lamp support	n/a	n/a	possible one within axial feature
Superstructure	hold-down rocks	n/a	n/a	two central post-holes 1m apart; several whale bone slabs	whale bone slabs

1 Area calculation based on shape: oval =  $\pi r^2$  based on radius of averaged diameter; rectangular = length times width; PLS = parallel with shoreline; n/a = unknown or non-existent; H2 = House 2.

The dimensions of axial features, where reported, tend to be variable where some are quite large (e.g., Stock Cove, 6 x 1m) and others are smaller (e.g., Cow Cove-3, 1 x 1m). All axial features, except for the primary axial feature in the Cape Ray dwelling, are parallel to the respective shorelines.

There is a dearth of information on superstructure, including post-holes. Of note, however, are Koliktalik-1 and Iglusuaktialuk-4 West, in which there were several whale bone slabs, which may suggest that these were structural elements; Koliktalik-1 also had two central pits (and one near the entrance), which were roughly 1m apart.

With regard to the use of red ochre, the only case where this substance was recorded was at Peat Garden North (Hartery and Rast 2003:477). According to Hartery (2010:99), four small pieces of red ochre were found in the southwest portion of one of the dwellings there.

A number of inferences can be drawn from these comparative data. The anomalously small early phase Feature 1, late phase Feature 55 and House 20 at Phillip's Garden, as well as the three Point Riche dwellings are, relative to the comparative sample, the 'typical' size of a large Dorset dwelling. The two warm-weather dwellings at Phillip's Garden are consistent in size with other warm-weather dwellings in Newfoundland and Labrador. Compared to early phase Feature 14 and the middle phases dwellings, however, these dwellings are quite small. Like Point Riche and Phillip's Garden dwellings Feature 1 and Feature 55, the majority of axial features in the comparative sample are parallel to the respective shorelines. Axial features, lamp supports and most

hearths occur within both warm and cold-weather dwellings, indicating that these features were likely important in both warm and cold weather, in summer and winter.

### **6.3 Comparison of lithic tool assemblages**

#### *6.3.1 Phillip's Garden and Point Riche*

The examination of the nine lithic artefact assemblages, which together span the three occupational phases of Phillip's Garden, indicated various similarities and differences between them. A number of patterns pertaining to the data on tool function, raw material and other qualitative and quantitative attributes can be inferred between the early, middle and late phase Phillip's Garden and Point Riche assemblages.

The results of an analysis and ranking of artefact functional types is consistent with functional interpretations of the site (Cogswell 2006:79ff; Erwin 1995:107ff, 2011; Murray 1992, 2011; Renouf 2011b), which highlight its role as a social aggregation site connected to the March-April harp seal hunt. Compared to the early and late phase, the middle phase assemblages had relatively higher proportions of tools pertaining to skin/hide processing and butchering; on the other hand, the early and late phase assemblages had relatively higher proportions of artefacts related to the manufacture of lithic tools. It seems therefore that during the early and late phase stone tool production increased, which might in turn indicate an increase in mobility – as people moved to and from various lithic raw material sources (e.g., Cow Head) and Phillip's Garden, lithic raw material would become more accessible. This is consistent with other studies of raw material abundance and residential mobility (e.g., Andrefsky 1994, 2005:236; Meltzer

1984; Parry and Kelly 1987), which make the connection between increased mobility and greater raw material abundance. These data also reflect the intensification during the middle phase of activities pertaining to the harp seal hunt. The proportion of tools related to cooking, heat and light (e.g., soapstone vessels) is generally high; however the proportions are relatively lower for warm-weather dwellings House 5 (9%) and Feature 42 (8.8%), suggesting that such items were not as important.

Based on the results of an analysis of Ramah chert – an exogenous raw material – use at Phillip's Garden, Anstey and Renouf (2011:203) argue that the early and late phase corresponded to periods of increased mobility and social networking. The data on lithic raw material support these interpretations. Over the course of its occupation, endblades, bifaces and endscrapers were more often made from Green Cow Head chert, Black Cow Head chert and Brown Cow Head and brown translucent chert, respectively. In general, however, there is greater use of Ramah chert and brown translucent chert in the early and late phase; there is also greater use in late phase House 20 of a chert visually similar to that from Big Brook. The source of Ramah chert is located in northern Labrador, about 800km north of Port au Choix. As suggested by LeBlanc (2008:44), the most accessible source of brown translucent or Carbonate Sequence chert, was most likely located in the St. George or Port au Port area, about 300km south of Port au Choix. As previously suggested, the lithic material visually identical to chert from Big Brook might have been procured from that locale, which is about 130km north of Port au Choix. In general, then, the data on raw material use suggest greater mobility in the early and late phases at Phillip's Garden.

Other qualitative and quantitative data suggest similarities amongst the lithic artefact assemblages. For the most part, the proportion of endblades with tip-fluting is higher than for endblades without tip-fluting; there is also a general high proportion of endblades with base-edge angles of 96-100°. Virtually all of the bifaces in the nine samples from Phillip's Garden have 1-2 side notches. The majority of endscrapers are triangular, and have consistent proportions of dorsal and ventral retouch. Across the nine assemblages, there is a higher proportion of rectangular type burin-like tools, and which have a consistent number of side notches. In general, the recorded metric attributes of endblades, bifaces, endscrapers and burin-like tools is consistent over time. Overall, these data suggest remarkable consistency in lithic tool form over the course of Phillip's Garden's nearly 800-year occupation.

Additional data not described in the previous chapters, but which pertain to the nine artefact assemblages from Phillip's Garden, also suggest a number of patterns amongst the dwellings. Supporting the previous interpretations of mobility, Patricia Wells (personal communication, 2011) notes a higher proportion of bone sled shoes in the early and late phase organic tool assemblages, suggesting that the Dorset were using sleds more often during these periods, which in turn suggests greater mobility.

Harp (1963) recorded multiple large, but discrete, flake concentrations within middle phase House 2, House 6, House 10 and House 11; Renouf (1993b:43) also noted a number of flake concentrations inside late phase Feature 55. In most cases, these concentrations were associated with axial features; in others, they were associated with sitting platforms. That the concentrations were associated with these interior features may



suggest that stone tool manufacture and/or refurbishing was done in cooler weather, where the warmth of the dwellings' interior was preferred to the cold exterior. However, this suggestion needs to be substantiated by further excavation of exterior areas.

Comparing the Point Riche lithic assemblages with the Phillip's Garden data indicated a number of differences as well as parallels. The analysis and ranking of artefact functional types indicated that while Feature 8 and Feature 64 had similarly low proportions of hunting-related artefacts, the proportion of those tools in Feature 30 was relatively high – more comparable with the Phillip's Garden assemblages. In addition the proportion of skin processing artefacts was much lower in Feature 30 than Feature 8 and Feature 64. Overall there are similarly high proportions of artefacts related to butchering and lithic tool manufacture, which are similar to the early and late phase Phillip's Garden assemblages, and similarly low proportions of artefacts related to cooking, heat and light (e.g., soapstone), which are comparable to the two warm-weather dwellings at Phillip's Garden. This comparison suggests that while Feature 30 had a perhaps slightly higher functional emphasis on hunting activities than Feature 8 and Feature 64, all three of these dwellings had general functional, and perhaps seasonal, consistency with low proportions of soapstone which indicate warm-weather occupation. The high proportion of butchering (e.g., microblade) and skin processing (e.g., endscraper, slate tool) artefacts may indicate warm-weather activities; the freshwater streambed next to the site may have been well-suited to the depilation and subsequent scraping of seal skins, generally a warm-weather activity (Renouf and Bell 2008:38). As suggested previously for the early and late phase

Phillip's Garden assemblages, the abundance of artefacts pertaining to the manufacture of stone tools may suggest a high degree of mobility.

Lithic raw material use at Point Riche is generally consistent with that at Phillip's Garden. Like Phillip's Garden, the predominant lithic materials used for endblades, bifaces and endscrapers are Green Cow Head chert, Black Cow Head chert and Brown Cow Head and brown translucent chert, respectively (see Chapter 5:111-116, 132-138). Overall, the proportion of Ramah chert and brown translucent chert tools amongst the three dwelling assemblages ( $\bar{X}$  = 4.8%; 16.8%, respectively) is comparable with the early ( $\bar{X}$  = 4.6%; 27.6%, respectively) and late ( $\bar{X}$  = 5.72%; 16.8%, respectively) phase assemblages; the middle phase Phillip's Garden assemblages ( $\bar{X}$  = 3.9%; 10.5%, respectively) have relatively lower proportions. These data are consistent with the previous interpretations where greater mobility would be conducive to increased use of such materials. Despite the varying intensity in the use of Ramah and brown translucent chert over time, raw material use at Point Riche is generally consistent with that at Phillip's Garden, suggesting that similar family/social groups used the two sites.

Other qualitative and quantitative attributes of endblades, bifaces, endscrapers and burin-like tools from Point Riche indicate consistency in tool form with Phillip's Garden. Like Phillip's Garden, there is a higher proportion at Point Riche of tip-fluted endblades with base-edge angles of 96-100°; bifaces with 1-2 side notches; and triangular endscrapers with consistent proportions of dorsal and ventral retouch (see Chapter 5:116-121, 138-144). The only significant difference was a relatively higher proportion of pointed burin-like tools at Point Riche compared to Phillip's Garden. Statistical analysis

indicated that with regard to their qualitative and quantitative attributes the Point Riche lithic tool assemblages were comparable to those at Phillip's Garden (see Table 5.6, Chapter 5). This further suggests that similar family/social groups, with shared mental templates of how to make such tools, were using the two sites.

Additional data not described in the previous chapters also suggest a number of patterns amongst the tool assemblages at Point Riche. There is a very low number of bone sled shoes in the organic tool assemblages of the three Point Riche dwellings (Anstey et al. 2010:13). Given that Rasmussen (1927:102) noted that Inuit groups of Baffin Island regarded sledging in the warm season as impossible (see also Hawkes 1916:65 for related observations on the Labrador Inuit), we might view the low proportion of sled shoes at Point Riche as reflecting a similar seasonal restriction.

Compared to Phillip's Garden, Point Riche has a similar proportion of 'darts' (Figure 6.3), a curious class of lithic artefacts which have an unknown function. However given their anthropomorphic and/or zoomorphic shape they may have had some sort of ideological or ritual significance, perhaps in addition to a practical function. Penney (2011) notes that these artefacts occur only as isolated finds in other Palaeoeskimo site assemblages on the island (e.g., Hartery and Rast 2003:477; Krol 1986:288; Wintenberg 1939:13) and elsewhere in the Dorset range (e.g., Mary-Rouselière 2002:125; cf. Murdoch 1892:389, 435; Plumet 1994:130; Taylor 1972:101), suggesting that these particular items may have been of greater importance to the Dorset at Port au Choix (cf. Harp 1969/70:109). By extension, the similar proportions of darts at the two sites may suggest similar family/social groups.



Figure 6.3. 'Darts' from Point Riche. Photo: R. Anstey.

With regard to flake concentrations, they tend to occur outside dwellings at Point Riche. Flake and core concentrations were found outside Feature 8 (Renouf 1992:56, 60). Eastaugh (2002:100) notes the occurrence of multiple flake concentrations outside Feature 30, one of which was associated with an external hearth. In addition, one large concentration of retouch and resharpening flakes was found outside the perimeter of Feature 64, and was associated with a large, flat limestone rock (see Chapter 3), which was likely a good sitting rock. That these flake concentrations were outside the dwellings suggests that stone tool manufacture and/or refurbishing was done in warm weather conditions (cf. LeMoine et al. 2003:266-267; Milne 2005:342).

### 6.3.2 Other Dorset Palaeoeskimo sites

There is not a great deal of information available on qualitative and quantitative attributes of lithic artefacts from other Dorset sites on the island. Therefore only four sites are used for comparing relative frequency of functional categories of lithic tools: Chest Head (EfAx-2), Peat Garden North, Cape Ray and Dildo Island House 2 (for locations, see Figure 6.1). Lithic raw material and metric data are compared for endblades and endscrapers from Chest Head, Cape Ray and Dildo Island. These data were gathered from LeBlanc (2008:48ff) for Cape Ray and Dildo Island; from the Port au Choix Archaeology Project database for Chest Head; and Hartery and Rast (2003:477) for data on functional tool types at Peat Garden North. These comparisons are relevant inasmuch as they provide a basis for an examination of the general similarities and differences between the Point Riche and Phillip's Garden lithic tool assemblages and those from other Dorset sites in Newfoundland, and also for assessing the position of Point Riche and Phillip's Garden in LeBlanc's (2008, 2010) model of regional variation of lithic tool forms.

The comparison and ranking of functional lithic tool types in the four comparative assemblages indicates both differences and parallels with the assemblages from Point Riche and Phillip's Garden (Figure 6.4). These sites are discussed in turn.

Based on its location, extent and the richness of its deposits, Chest Head was suggested to be a major harp seal hunting site (Penney and Renouf 2006). With regard to proportions of functional tool types, the Chest Head lithic assemblage is most comparable to the early phase Phillip's Garden assemblages with dominant proportions of artefacts related to lithic tool making (30.7%), butchering (24.5%) and skin processing (19.3%).

The proportion of artefacts related to hunting (13.4%), cooking, heat and light (11.6%) and organic tool making (0.5%) is comparable to that at Phillip's Garden.

Cape Ray was interpreted as a major harp seal hunting location (Fogt 1996; Linnamae 1975). The site's lithic assemblage has generally similar proportions of tool types compared to the middle phase Phillip's Garden. However, it has a much lower proportion of artefacts related to cooking, heat and light (4.7%), which is curious given its function as a cold-weather harp seal hunting site.

Peat Garden North was interpreted as a warm-weather site connected to the late spring harp seal hunt and the subsequent hunting of bird and caribou in the summer (Hartery 2010:160; Hartery and Rast 2003:487). Although it has a higher proportion of butchering (50.2%) artefacts, and fewer artefacts related to lithic tool making (15.1%), the lithic assemblage at Peat Garden North is comparable to those at Point Riche given there are similarly low proportions of artefacts related to cooking, heat and light (4.6%), hunting (6.8%) and organic tool making (0.7%); the proportion of skin processing (22.6%) artefacts is also similar.

Dildo Island House 2 was suggested by LeBlanc (1999:2) to be a cold-weather dwelling; the site's specific function is unknown. While the proportions of artefacts related to lithic tool manufacture (33.5%) and butchering (22.7%) are comparable to the early and late phase Phillip's Garden dwellings, the proportions of other functional tool types at Dildo Island House 2 are generally different than those in the other comparative samples and Phillip's Garden and Point Riche.

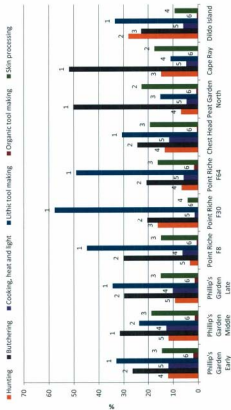


Figure 6.4. Comparison of lithic artefact functional categories for dwelling assemblages from Phillip's Garden, Point Riche and comparative sites. Numbers above each bar refer to rank order. The proportions of functional categories for each of the Phillip's Garden Early, Middle and Late phase dwelling assemblages are combined to form a mean proportion for each respective phase.

This dwelling has a much higher proportion of hunting (28.1%) artefacts, and lower proportions of artefacts related to skin processing (9.4%) and cooking, heat and light (5.9%).

Raw material use in the sample of endblades from three of the comparative sites is variable (Figure 6.5). Compared to Point Riche and Phillip's Garden in general, Chest Head (54%) and Cape Ray (98.5%) have respectively lower and higher proportions of Cow Head chert; both of these sites have much lower proportions of Ramah chert and Chest Head has a higher proportion of chalcedony (36.8%) and Big Brook chert (7.4%). The endblades from Dildo Island are made almost exclusively (99.7%) from a locally available chert (LeBlanc 2008:62), classified here as Unknown/Other.

The mean length, width and thickness of endblades from the three comparative sites are generally consistent (Figure 6.6). The endblades from Chest Head and Cape Ray have comparable metric attributes to those from Point Riche and Phillip's Garden. However, those from Dildo Island tend to be longer.

The raw material of endscrapers from the comparative sites also varies (Figure 6.7). Compared to Point Riche and Phillip's Garden, Chest Head (80.3%) and Cape Ray (83.1%) have a higher proportion of endscrapers made from Cow Head chert, but lower proportions of brown translucent (<3.6%) and an absence of Ramah chert; the proportion of quartz crystal endscrapers at Chest Head and Cape Ray is comparable to that at Point Riche and Phillip's Garden. The majority (88.4%) of endscrapers from Dildo Island are made from quartz crystal.



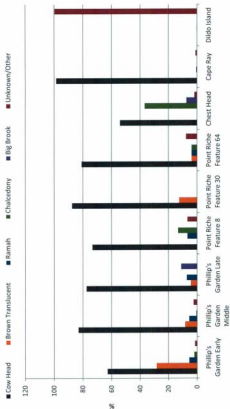
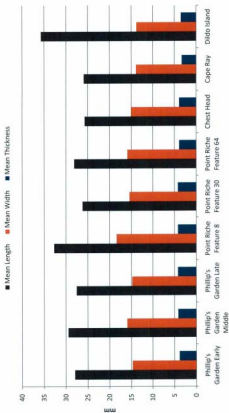


Figure 6.5. Comparison of raw material of enblades for dwelling assemblages from Phillip's Garden, Point Riche and comparative sites. The proportions of enblade raw material for each of the Phillip's Garden Early, Middle and Late phase dwelling assemblages are combined to form a mean proportion for each respective phase.



**Dwelling Assemblage**

Figure 6.6. Comparison of metric attributes of endblades for dwelling assemblages from Phillip's Garden, Point Riche and comparative sites. The length, width and thickness of endblades from each of the Phillip's Garden Early, Middle and Late phase dwelling assemblages are combined to form a mean measurement for each respective phase.

The endscrapers from the three comparative sites are together consistent in size, but are generally smaller than those from Point Riche and Phillip's Garden (Figure 6.8). The mean lengths are all  $\leq 20.2\text{mm}$  and the mean widths and thicknesses are respectively  $\leq 17.3\text{mm}$  and  $\leq 5.3\text{mm}$ .

This cursory examination of lithic artefacts from four Dorset sites on the island provides the basis for some provisional inferences on their comparability to Point Riche and Phillip's Garden. The proportions of functional tool types at the four sites compared are slightly different, but there seems to be a similarly high proportion of hunting-related tools amongst the three cold weather site samples (Chest Head, Cape Ray and Dildo Island); these proportions are comparable with Phillip's Garden. The single warm-weather site (Peat Garden North) had a much lower proportion of these tools, which is comparable to Point Riche. These observations make sense given that during the cold season, there would be greater focus on the March-April harp seal hunt, and therefore greater use of hunting tools (e.g., endblades); in the warm season there presumably would be less emphasis on this particular activity. That lithic raw material use varies between the comparative sites might indicate idiosyncratic raw material preferences, or differences in availability. The fact that Point Riche and Phillip's Garden are so similar in this regard suggests similar family/social groups with shared mental templates of how to make stone tools.

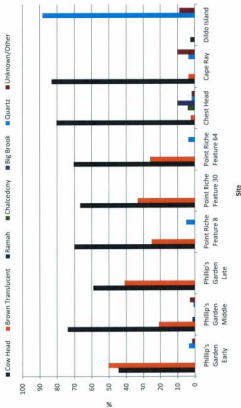


Figure 6.7. Comparison of raw material of endscrapers for dwelling assemblages from Phillip's Garden, Point Riche and comparative sites. The raw material of endscrapers from each of the Phillip's Garden Early, Middle and Late phase dwelling assemblages are combined to form a mean proportion for each respective phase.

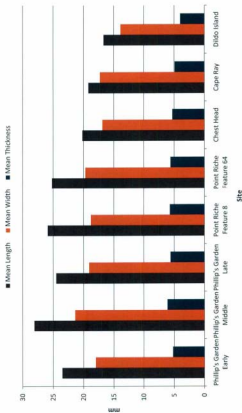


Figure 6.8. Comparison of metric attributes of endscrapers for dwelling assemblages from Phillip's Garden, Point Riche and comparative sites. The length, width and thickness of endscrapers from each of the Phillip's Garden Early, Middle and Late phase dwelling assemblages are combined to form a mean measurement for each respective phase.

Compared to Phillip's Garden and Point Riche, Chest Head and Cape Ray have similarly high proportions of Cow Head chert and comparable forms of endblades and endscrapers, but dissimilar proportions of other raw materials, suggesting, at a broader scale, similar regional technological traditions (*sensu* LeBlanc 2008:152, 159, 2010; see also Erwin 2001; Robbins 1986).

#### **6.4 Summary**

All in all the data on dwelling architecture and lithic artefact assemblages at Phillip's Garden and Point Riche, as well as the comparative material, suggested a variety of differences and parallels. The key points can be summarized as follows:

##### Dwelling architecture

- 1) The Point Riche dwellings are similar in size and shape to the early and late phase Phillip's Garden dwellings, but are less substantial; these data suggest greater mobility.
- 2) The insubstantial nature of the Point Riche dwellings suggests warm-weather occupation and/or high mobility; the majority of Phillip's Garden dwellings, particularly those from the middle phase, are substantial suggesting cold-weather occupation and/or low mobility.
- 3) The presence of exterior hearths and cooking features at Point Riche suggests warm-weather occupation; their presence inside most dwellings at Phillip's Garden suggests cold-weather occupation.

- 4) The small size and layout of the Point Riche dwellings indicates small family groups; the large size and layout of many of those at Phillip's Garden suggests multi-family households.
- 5) The architectural features that suggest similar family/social groups with shared mental templates at Point Riche and Phillip's Garden include: axial feature dimensions, spacing of central pits, orientation of entranceways towards dominant shoreline, use of whale bone in superstructure and red ochre in pits/post-holes.

#### Lithic artefact assemblages

- 1) At Point Riche and the early and late phases at Phillip's Garden, increased lithic tool production seems to correspond to greater mobility.
- 2) High proportions of hunting-related artefacts seem to correspond to cold-weather occupations (most Phillip's Garden dwellings); the opposite is true for warm-weather occupations (Point Riche).
- 3) At Point Riche and Phillip's Garden, low proportions of artefacts pertaining to cooking, heat and light seem to correlate with warm-weather occupations (Point Riche); the opposite is true for cold-weather occupations (most of Phillip's Garden).
- 4) The heightened use of exogenous lithic materials in the early and late phase at Phillip's Garden suggests greater mobility.
- 5) The artefactual data that suggest similar family/social groups with shared mental templates at Point Riche and Phillip's Garden include: similar raw material use,

similar metrics and general tool form, and a similar proportion of darts. These traits are generally different from other Dorset sites, but correspond somewhat to LeBlanc's (2008, 2010) general model of regional variation of lithic tool form.

#### Other data

- 1) Flake concentrations occur predominantly outside at Point Riche, suggesting warm-weather activity; they occur mostly inside at Phillip's Garden, suggesting cold-weather activity.
- 2) The low proportion of sled shoes at Point Riche may suggest warm-weather occupation.

These data have direct implications for addressing the research objectives of this study. In the following chapter, these data are synthesized to form a landscape interpretation of the function and seasonality of Point Riche and its social and functional connection to Phillip's Garden.



## CHAPTER 7

### Discussion: Landscape Implications

#### 7.1 Introduction

This chapter synthesizes the data presented in the previous chapters, with the ultimate goal of addressing the research objectives of this thesis. The overall purpose of this research is to contribute to an understanding of the social and functional relationship between Point Riche and Phillip's Garden. While the research of Renouf (1985, 1986, 1987, 1992) and Eastaugh (2002, 2003) has considerably enhanced our understanding of Point Riche itself, little is known about the specific function of this site and its connection, if any, to Phillip's Garden. These data provide the basis for a landscape interpretation of the function of Point Riche and its social and functional connection to Phillip's Garden; these interpretations also include the greater Port au Choix area, situating these two sites within their wider landscape context.

##### *7.1.1 Landscape*

These research questions are interpreted from a landscape perspective, incorporating discussions of both the physical and cultural dimensions of landscape. Due to the broad nature and application of the concept 'landscape' it is first important to explicate its particular use in this chapter. The perspective of landscape taken here is informed largely by the phenomenological landscape approaches of Tilley (1994, 2004,

2008, 2010) and Ingold (1987, 2000), as well as the contextual approach of Zedeño (2000; Zedeño et al. 1997). Each of these perspectives is outlined in turn below.

The original processual perspective of landscape viewed place and places as objectively quantifiable space; space as merely a container, universally uniform and essentially detached from humanity and society (cf. Binford 1982; David and Thomas 2008:28; Tilley 1994:9; Whitridge 2004:214). Taking issue with this perspective, Tilley (1994:10) argues instead for a humanist perspective of landscape. He regards space as *place*, as socially produced space constituted by intersubjective human experience, attachment and involvement, and which has relational significance created through movement, encounter and interaction between peoples and places (Tilley 1994:10-11, 15; cf. Whitridge 2004:214).

From this viewpoint and drawing upon the philosophical writings of Heidegger (1977, see also 1978:236) and Merleau-Ponty (1962), Tilley (1994:11-12, see also 2004:4-10ff, 2008:272-273) outlines a phenomenological approach to landscape whereby the way in which people experience and understand the world is key. Following the perspective of Giddens (1979:206, 1986:164-165ff), who emphasized the role of locales – settings in which interaction occurs – in processes of social reproduction, Tilley (1994:19) asserts that in the daily conduct of their activities people draw upon and interact with these settings, effectively establishing a fundamental relationship to place. Culturally created locales draw on the physical and visual qualities of landscape to create part of their significance for those who use them, and the perception of the landscape itself may be fundamentally affected by the very “situatedness” of these locales (Tilley 1994:25-26).

Indeed, Tilley (1994:24) argues that rather than simply providing a neutral backdrop for human action the natural landscape is a cognized form beset with place names, associations, stories and memories that serve to enculture landscape, thereby linking together topographical features, vegetation, rocks, bodies of water and animals with patterns of human meaning (see also Whitridge 2004).

Tilley (1994:27) also highlights the key role of *pathways* in linking locales. Locales and their linking pathways, created through movement, are embedded in social relations, memory and narrative. The very act of moving through a path trodden by past others (ancestors) is significant as it establishes and maintains linkages between places and the past. Pathways form an essential medium for the routing of social relations, connecting spatial impressions with temporally inscribed memories (Tilley 1994:31).

Landscape in Tilley's (1994:34) view is therefore a network of named locales, a set of relational places linked by paths, movements and narratives. It is a mode of dwelling and experience, always layered with human significance and meaning; it is story and telling, temporality and remembrance. Furthermore, it is a signifying system through which the social is reproduced and transformed, explored and structured.

Ingold (2000) has a similar perspective of landscape, but focuses on the concept of *taskscape* and the *temporality* of the landscape. Like Tilley (1994), Ingold (2000:195) draws on the hermeneutic phenomenology of Heidegger (1977) and refers to tasks as any practical operation carried out by skilled individuals as part of their daily life – the constitutive acts of dwelling. The taskscape encompasses the entire range of tasks and the spatial, physical, social and experiential context of and relationship between each; all

tasks are interrelated whereby any one task is embedded in the way that other tasks are seen and understood (Ingold 2000:195; Renouf 2011a:282). Ingold (1987:113-114ff, 2000:37, 49, 195, 290) also emphasizes the importance of recognizing that such technical practices are inherently social, whereby any one task is almost always performed relative to another. As the taskscape encompasses the activities of peoples' dwelling, the landscape can therefore be understood as the "embodied form" of taskscape (Ingold 2000:198). Given that these activities are unending, as peoples continue their way of life through the course of time, the taskscape as well as the landscape can be considered to be perpetually in process rather than in a static state – the taskscape and landscape are dynamic (cf. Bourdieu 1977:7; Heidegger 1978:380; Ingold 2000:193, 199). In addition, the performance and experience of tasks necessarily involve some pattern of retention (memory) from the past and projections (foresight) into the future (Ingold 2000:150, 194). In that regard, Ingold (1993, 2000:194) argues that the key feature of the relationship between people and landscape is the temporality of the taskscape.

In sum, Ingold (1993, 2000) describes landscape as the embodied form of taskscape; a taskscape as the spatial, physical, social and experiential context within which practical tasks are carried out (Renouf 2011a:282). The temporality of taskscape refers to the fact that both taskscapes and landscapes are continually evolving and are thus dynamic, and to the unfolding of social life over both time and space.

Zedeño et al. (1997; see also Zedeño 2000; Zedeño and Bowser 2009:5-14) outline a pragmatic landscape approach underscoring the importance of incorporating in our interpretations of landscape both the physical and cultural context of landscape. This

approach focuses on such contextual information as a means to evaluate the importance of a particular place or resource in relation to other places or resources (Zedeño et al. 1997:128). Zedeño et al. (1997:126) introduce the term *landmark*, referring to locational markers that indicate a place where human activities and interactions occur and may include stationary and physically unmodified features of the natural landscape, such as rock formations, tree stands, water bodies, or culturally constructed features such as dwellings, pathways and burials (Zedeño 2000:106; Zedeño and Stoffle 2003). They define *landscape* as the web of interactions between people and landmarks (Zedeño et al. 1997:126); through multiple interactions among people and between people and resources, landmarks become progressively linked to one another, forming a network (Zedeño 2000:107). On an ancillary note, Pope (2009:136) points out that the relationship between landscape and landmark is recursive whereby a landmark at one spatial scale (e.g., a site) is also a landscape at another (e.g., the connections among features within a site) (Renouf 2011a:275). Emphasizing their diachronic nature, Zedeño (2000:106) notes that each landmark and landscape has a unique *life history* that develops from multiple experiences lived at a particular place or places (see also Zedeño and Bowser 2009:9). By extension, then, each landmark and landscape has a life history comprised of layers of meaning pertaining to the particular cultural and physical contexts of each; these life histories also evolve as meanings accumulate over time (Ashmore 2009:15; Renouf 2011a:275; Zedeño and Bowser 2009:9). With regard to the reconstruction of a landmark or landscape's life history, Zedeño (2000:109; Zedeño et al. 1997:126-127) notes that to successfully do so

necessitates the isolation and examination of multiple lines of evidence (e.g., natural, artefactual, ethnographical) for activity or interaction.

Overall Zedeño's (2000) contextual approach to understanding cultural landscapes highlights the importance of contextualizing the physical and cultural dimensions of landscape. She regards landscape as a network of interactions and connections between people and landmarks, which together encompass the life history of landscapes. This approach to landscape is important as it draws together the more abstract concepts (e.g., place, temporality) provided by Ingold (1987, 1993, 2000) and Tilley (1994, 2004, 2008, 2010) into a pragmatic methodology for interpreting the life history of landmarks and, by extension, landscapes.

In an examination of Port au Choix landscapes, Renouf (2011a) applies an approach explicitly based on that of Zedeño (2000; Zedeño and Bowser 2009; Zedeno et al. 1997). Drawing on multiple lines of evidence pertaining to the physical and cultural dimensions of landscape at Port au Choix, she reconstructs the life histories of three Port au Choix landscapes, addressing the evolution of and connectedness between each. The successive occupation of these landscapes by Amerindian and Palaeoeskimo populations cumulatively created layers of meaning that collectively comprised each landscape's life history (Renouf 2011a:294ff). While noting the culturally contingent perceptions and use of the land by these successive cultural populations, Renouf (2011a:291, 294) argues that people acknowledged earlier activities and occupations of different cultural populations thereby linking the layers of life history through time.

### 7.1.2 Summary

To sum up, the key landscape concepts employed in this chapter are place/path, taskscape/temporality and landmark/life history. At the most basic level, the perspective taken here views landscape as the network of connections and relations among paths and places or landmarks; it also underscores the inherent dynamic nature of and interplay between the physical and cultural dimensions of landscape. In the context of this research, this particular landscape perspective allows for a contextual exploration of the *connections* among places and landmarks associated with Point Riche and Phillip's Garden. The following discussion applies this perspective to the research objectives of this study; each objective is addressed in turn.

### 7.2 Point Riche and Phillip's Garden: Landscape and livelihood

Both Point Riche and Phillip's Garden are considered landmarks in the network of connections and relations among paths and other landmarks or places which together encompass the life history of the Port au Choix Dorset cultural landscape (Figure 7.1); as landmarks they are also landscapes at a smaller spatial scale, each with individual life histories. The following discusses the landscape dimensions of Point Riche, addressing the site's function and season of occupation, and subsequently explores its social and functional connection to Phillip's Garden. In so doing, this discussion addresses how and when the Dorset lived on these landscapes, how they may have perceived them, and how they may have ascribed them cultural meaning (Renouf 2011a:271). In addition to the

evidence presented in the previous chapters, the physical context of each site is also considered.

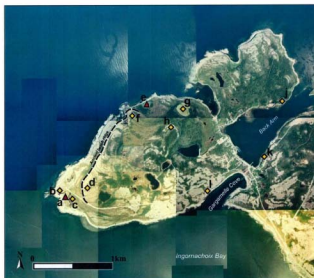


Figure 7.1. Location of places and landmarks mentioned in this chapter. Orange triangles indicate the locations of Point Riche (a) and Phillip's Garden (c); yellow diamonds indicate the locations of other landmarks associated with the two sites. Photo: PACAP.

### 7.2.1 Point Riche: Function and seasonality

Past researchers have developed four hypotheses of site function for Point Riche. These include: 1) primarily a summer occupation that complemented the late winter



occupation of Phillip's Garden; 2) primarily an alternative March-April harp seal hunting location used when the Phillip's Garden shore was jammed with ice; 3) occupied in March-April by different families than those at Phillip's Garden and; 4) a combination of the above (Eastaugh 2002:147; Renouf 1999b:44, 2002:70). Although this work had considerably enhanced our understanding of Point Riche, the site's particular function and seasonality was elusive.

The data presented in this thesis support primarily Hypothesis 1. A *primarily* warm-weather occupation of Point Riche is suggested by: insubstantial architecture, predominant exterior activity, and a low emphasis on seal hunting and greater emphasis on lithic manufacture and skin processing. While the faunal remains from the site (see Anstey et al. 2010:Table 3) are predominantly comprised of Phocidae, suggesting a March-April occupation, seal meat and skeletal elements may have been transported to Point Riche from Phillip's Garden after the seal hunt there (Renouf 2011b).<sup>2</sup> According to Guiry et al. (2010:74) a small concentration of botanical remains from a number of edible species, including two charred cloudberry (*Rubus chamaemorus*) seeds, from midden Feature 75 suggests a mid-late summer or early fall occupation (cf. Andrews 1994:74). It is also argued that based on the similarities in the form and raw material of lithic artefacts, axial feature attributes and the use of whale bone, as well as the use of red ochre in pits, the same family/social groups – with shared mental conceptions of how to make stone tools and how to build dwellings – were using Point Riche and Phillip's Garden.

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<sup>2</sup> The suggestion that seal meat may have been transported to Point Riche from Phillip's Garden after the March-April seal hunt requires substantiation in the form of comprehensive analyses of body part representation, processing styles and through various other zooarchaeological methods (see Reitz and Wing 2008; Wells 2011). Unfortunately, it was not feasible in this research to conduct such an analysis.

The exposed location of Point Riche on the southwest end of the Point Riche headland makes it a particularly windy spot, in both summer and winter. In the summer these strong winds make Point Riche relatively cool and also help to keep any flies at bay. The site faces the southwest, and from the site terrace one can get, on clear days, a panoramic view of Ingornachoix Bay, Hawke's Bay, various other small inlets and also in the distance the snow-capped peaks of the Long Range mountains. An ancient beach ridge is visible about 300m to the east of the site, and continues northward to the area just south of Phillip's Garden. Running along the east side of the site terrace (Figure 7.1a) is a streambed (Figures 7.1c, 7.2), which fills up quite high after a good rainfall and provides a source of fresh water.



Figure 7.2. Streambed at Point Riche looking south. Dwelling Feature 64 is located in the distance where the two people are standing. Photo: PACAP.

To the west of the site is a raised point of land on which there is today a lighthouse (Figure 7.1b); modern marine harvesters favour this area for monitoring the availability of seal herds (Renouf 1999b:44; Dwight Spence, personal communication, 2011). The north shoreline and seascape cannot be seen from the site terrace, but it can from the lighthouse area. Another physical feature of the Point Riche landscape is the dominant southwest shoreline, which would have been slightly higher above sea level during the Dorset occupation (Bell et al. 2005:26) but likely would have provided a source of driftwood. Today the beach and the rocky shoals at Point Riche are often covered in the summer with various seabirds, namely gulls (*Laridae*), and indeed once on the beach one can hear the sounds as well as the smells of the birds. Undoubtedly, at least some of these physical landscape characteristics structured peoples' use of this site.

The Point Riche taskscape encompassed the site terrace, the Lighthouse site and the streambed. Each of these places was likely comprised of multiple layers of meaning. At least a small part of their meaning had to have derived from the respective tasks performed and experienced at each. The places were also likely connected through pathways created through the recurrent movement of people among places. The very act of moving to and from places would have been significant in establishing linkages between the spatial perception of places and temporally inscribed memories.

Outside each of the three, and presumably other, dwellings at Point Riche there is evidence of intensive stone tool production. Despite the broad temporal span of the dwellings' occupation (1870-1330 cal BP), the dominance of stone tool manufacturing

material, including cores, preforms, hammerstones and flakes concentrations, at all three dwellings suggests that this was consistently one of the predominant tasks at the site.

Many of the endblade preforms and cores from the site are poorly made and exhibit knapping errors characteristic of novices, such as stacked step terminations and battering (cf. Milne 2005:331). It is therefore tempting to interpret these poorly made items as the work of novices or youths, who were likely instructed by more experienced individuals. Learning to make hunting tools such as endblades would have preceded participation in the annual harp seal hunt and so perhaps there was importance afforded to this as a milestone in personal development or rite of passage (cf. Binford 1978:182). No doubt these tasks were associated with the telling of stories about the hunt. The number of 'darts', some of which resemble human and animal figures, may relate to the importance in hunter-gatherer societies of maintaining symbolic connections with the animal world (Ingold 1994:14-15, 2000:61ff), where in the case of Point Riche the particular persons making these items may have perhaps been attempting to make the symbolic connection between human and animal. The preservation of positive relations with animals, who were to be respected as kin, was likely perceived as integral to ensuring success in the hunt, during which the animals would 'offer' themselves to the hunters (Ingold 2000:67; Tanner 1979:173). Given that the majority of evidence for lithic tool production comes from outside dwellings, it is likely that stone tool production was a warm-weather activity. In addition, it is likely that after returning to Point Riche from lithic procurement forays, people would spend the late summer or early fall producing hunting tools in preparation for the upcoming December harp seal hunt at Phillip's Garden.

Given the popularity of the site today to local marine harvesters, the Lighthouse site was likely a good location from which to monitor the availability of seal and other animals; this location provides an excellent view of the north shoreline and seascape. Two endscrapers, three endblade tip-flute spalls and a number of flakes were found at this site (Renouf 1985:17-18). We do not know if the site was directly connected to Point Riche, but given the similarity of the lithic material to that from Point Riche, it is certainly possible. In addition, that the north shoreline and seascape are not directly visible from the terrace at Point Riche suggests that the Dorset occupants at the site may have walked to the Lighthouse site for this purpose. Based on the artefacts recovered, these excursions also may have involved the manufacture of endblades and other items.

The panoramic view to be had at Point Riche must have been important to the Dorset occupation of Port au Choix (cf. Tilley 1994:25-26). Given the importance of seascapes to marine-oriented hunter-gatherers like the Dorset (cf. Cooney 2003; Wells 2009), Renouf (2011a:292) suggests that the placement of three Dorset burial caves was significant in that they collectively survey the seascape around Port au Choix, and in particular at three loci of Dorset occupation: Crow Head Cave (Figure 7.1h) overlooks the northwest area of the Point Riche headland; Eastern Point (Figure 7.1j) overlooks Back Arm; and Gargamelle Rockshelter (Figure 7.1i) overlooks Gargamelle Cove. By extension, it is perhaps reasonable to link at least part of Point Riche's importance to its role in surveying the southwest area of Port au Choix, Ingornachois Bay and beyond. If the flintknapping errors seen in the Point Riche assemblage indicate novice toolmakers, it is likely that as novice hunters were instructed in making stone tools more experienced

elders would point out landmarks in the seascape and in the distant landscape to the southeast –including the various bays, inlets and mountains – and perhaps would tell stories of past experiences connected to these landmarks. We can guess that some of these stories included the procurement of chert at Cow Head.

The streambed also likely played a role in the taskscape of Point Riche. The streambed is divided into two tributaries by a narrow elevated piece of dry land. This piece of land may have been submerged during the Dorset occupation as is suggested by the recovery of a chert core and a number of flakes underneath about 40cm of peat, a depth which is below the current water table. Thus the two streams may have originally been part of a small pond, which likely provided a good source of fresh drinking water, but may have been the focus of other activity as well. Renouf and Bell (2008) argue that the Dorset used Bass Pond (Figure 7.1g) near Phillip's Garden for soaking sealskins as a means of removing their hair. It is perhaps reasonable to suggest that the streambed/pond at Point Riche may also have been suitable for such a purpose. The high proportion of skin processing tools at the site certainly suggests that such activities comprised a major part of the Point Riche taskscape. Late stage skin processing activities like depilation and scraping of skins would likely have taken place in the warmer months of the year (Bell et al. 2005; Renouf and Bell 2008:38), when the water was warm and more accessible than in winter when it was too cold for bacteria to grow and was likely capped in ice.

Each of these places and their respective activities would have comprised the Point Riche taskscape. In terms of lithic manufacture, these practices were not simply the activities and physical actions of artefact production and use, but the unfolding of

sensuous, engaged, meaningful and materially grounded experience (Dobres 2000:5; Ingold 1987:113-114ff, 2000:195, 290; Tilley 1994:19). Following Milne (2005:337), with respect to the high proportion of endblade preforms at Point Riche, the experience of learning to make these hunting tools would have facilitated novice enculturation by exposing them to the accepted cultural norms that structured their technological, social and economic environment.

Based on the previously discussed evidence regarding site seasonality, it is argued that Point Riche was an intermittently occupied late spring-early summer staging (or transition) site where just after or during the last few weeks of the March-April seal hunt at Phillip's Garden, some families (likely nuclear) went there to monitor harp seal herds to the west and any to the south. They probably brought with them stores of seal meat from Phillip's Garden (cf. Park 1999), which accounts for the high proportion of Phocidae remains at the site.

In early summer some of these families probably would have left Point Riche and travelled down the Northern Peninsula on various resource procurement forays. Some of the remaining families at Point Riche would have probably participated in processing sealskins in and around the streambed or pond. In addition, as indicated by the botanical remains from the site, and in particular the concentration near Feature 64, some people would have likely gathered berries on the vast marshlands of the Point Riche headland. Some families would have also remained at Phillip's Garden, as suggested by the two warm-weather dwellings House 5 and Feature 42, and others likely went to the southeast

shore of Back Arm, where a series of Dorset cobble hearths was found at the Hamlyn site (Figure 7.1k) (Renouf 2011a:280), suggesting a warm-weather occupation.

As suggested by the proportion of Cow Head and brown translucent chert, one of the summer tasks for some of the Dorset families at Point Riche and Phillip's Garden likely involved trips to Cow Head, St. Pauls Inlet, and maybe even Port au Port, to gather lithic raw material and knap it down to a manageable weight and size for travel. Other tasks probably also included fishing and trapping at some of the major salmon rivers along the coast (cf. Renouf et al. 2011:256). These trips perhaps also involved encounters with other families as well, Dorset and possibly, as suggested by Renouf et al. (2000), unrelated Amerindian groups.

Sometime in late summer or fall, families would have travelled back up the coast and to Point Riche during which time there would have been intensive stone tool production – working the material gathered from Cow Head – and likely apprenticeship and/or teaching of novice youths in the cultural norms. Endblades were made in preparation for the upcoming December seal hunt, and we can guess that in the social performance of such tasks, stories related to the hunt would be told, connecting the past (memory) with the present and future (Ingold 2000:150, 194). Once the weather turned cold, most families likely would have made their way back to Phillip's Garden, with the finished tools in hand, which accounts for the low proportion of hunting tools at Point Riche. This enculturative atmosphere instilled a sense of identity and connection to Point Riche, effectively establishing a fundamental relationship to place (Tilley 1994:19). Point



Riche became a landmark not only on the land but also more importantly in the memory and identity of the Dorset at Port au Choix.

#### *7.2.2 Point Riche and Phillip's Garden: Social and functional connection*

Through repeated interactions amongst Dorset families and Phillip's Garden, Point Riche and other landmarks in the Port au Choix landscape, these landmarks became progressively linked to one another, forming a network (cf. Tilley 1994:34; Zedeño 2000:107). Thus Point Riche and Phillip's Garden were not exclusive of one another but rather were linked to one another, and other landmarks in the Port au Choix landscape, via pathways. Rather than a barrier to movement, the sea, epitomizing movement, would have acted as a pathway (Anstey 2010:26; Cooney 2003:326; Wells 2009:105), especially to marine specialists like the Dorset who likely possessed the technology suitable for seafaring. Not only was the sea a pathway, but we can guess that the ancient beach ridge that occurs on the north side of the Point Riche headland also acted as a route of movement (Figures 7.1, 7.3). Given its prominence on the land and the simple fact that it literally, and perhaps conveniently, connects the two areas, it is likely that this feature was traversed in peoples' excursions from Phillip's Garden and Point Riche, and vice versa. Paths such as these were effectively paths of remembrance.

Through the multiple and repetitive experiences of moving through them, these pathways became embedded within the collective memory of the Dorset at Port au Choix (cf. Whitridge 2004:220ff). Following Warren (2005:73-74), who studied landscape dynamics of hunter-gatherer sites in Scotland, the learning and understanding of

traditional paths, their names and the names of the features of the landscape visible from these routes were a vital part of hunter-gatherer socialization (see also Rockman 2003:4ff). In addition, the very act of moving through a path trodden by past others, including ancestors, is significant as it established and maintained linkages between places and the past (Tilley 1994:27). Use of such paths between the two sites can also be seen to imply contemporaneity of occupation. Through experience these pathways became landmarks in the Port au Choix Dorset landscape.



Figure 7.3. View of Point Riche looking northeast, with ancient beach ridge indicated by dashed line. Photo: Port au Choix National Historic Site.

Renouf (2011a:285) argues that through its subsistence function as a major harp seal hunting site, Phillip's Garden was a highly enculturated landscape. The many large, substantially constructed multi-family dwellings and vast quantity of artefacts and seal bones indicate that this site was a permanent place on the landscape which was seasonally occupied for about eight centuries (Renouf 2011a:285). Renouf (1994, 2011a:285) also argues that Phillip's Garden was a population aggregation site where groups of related Dorset families engaged in communal ritual and social activities that solidified their cultural identity. The Phillip's Garden taskscape encompassed the site area, the beach and Bass Pond, which Renouf and Bell (2008) argue was important for soaking sealskins for depilation.

The peak at Crow Head and an ancient cairn (Figures 7.1f, 7.4), which overlook the Phillip's Garden area, may have together functioned as navigational beacons directing someone at sea to the Phillip's Garden location (Renouf 2011a:288). As suggested, the ancient beach ridge which connects the Phillip's Garden and Point Riche areas might have acted as a pathway; it is possible that the cairn, located at the northern extent of the ridge, might have served as a locational marker for families travelling from Point Riche to Phillip's Garden. Likewise, a less pronounced hummock at the southern extent of the ridge (Figure 7.1d) may have signalled the location of Point Riche to families coming from Phillip's Garden. In spite of the limitations associated with interpreting the past cultural roles of natural, unmodified features of the landscape (Bradley 2000:42-43), it is perhaps reasonable to suggest that the ancient beach ridge, cairn, Crow Head and the small hummock had some sort of cultural significance to the Dorset.



Figure 7.4. Looking northeast towards a lichen-covered cairn (centre) that overlooks Phillip's Garden (left midground); Crow Head is shown in the right midground. Photo: R. Anstey.

As argued previously, based on parallels in architecture and lithic artefacts, similar family/social groups were likely using Phillip's Garden and Point Riche. The similar dimensions of axial hearths and spacing of central pits at the two sites suggests that the builders followed similar mental templates for constructing those features. That this pattern is observed in multiple dwellings, which collectively span over five centuries in the case of Point Riche and eight in the case of Phillip's Garden, suggests that this template was passed down through the generations. Notwithstanding the small amount of comparative data from other Dorset sites, that this consistency is not seen as clearly in

these sites as at Point Riche and Phillip's Garden may further support the idea of similar family/social groups occupying both sites. In spite of the differing size, shape and relative location of dwellings at Point Riche and Phillip's Garden, entranceways always face the respective dominant shorelines, which makes sense given the Dorset's focus on the sea (cf. Tanner 1979:76, 101ff). The placing of red ochre in dwelling post-holes/pits at both sites suggests similar symbolic or ritual dimensions of dwelling use; these acts placed meaning into the ground. The similar form and raw material of lithic artefacts also suggests a similar mental template of how to make stone tools.

The taskscapes of Point Riche and Phillip's Garden were linked through the seasonal round of the Port au Choix Dorset that included both sites. The location of Point Riche, and its associated activities, comprised an important part of the livelihood of the Port au Choix Dorset. The journey to and from Point Riche each year represented an important experience that formed a vital connection to and instilled a sense of place. In addition, the performance and experience of such tasks there were necessarily social and likely involved storytelling and perhaps novice lithic apprenticeship. Moreover, following Renouf (2011a:292), Point Riche and Phillip's Garden became enculturated landmarks, and by extension landscapes, through repeated occupation and as people experienced them, thereby transforming them into places imbued with knowledge, memory, history, emotion and identity.

### 7.3 Summary

In sum, through its seasonal linkage with Phillip's Garden, Point Riche is argued to have been an important landmark within the Port au Choix Dorset landscape. Based on similarities in lithic artefact form and raw material, as well as in attributes of axial features and various other architectural features, the same family/social groups were likely using these sites. The attributes of dwelling architecture at Point Riche suggest that the dwellings were meant for short-term occupation, likely in the warmer months of the year. This contrasts markedly with most of the Phillip's Garden dwellings which are much more substantial, and thus clearly meant for long-term use, likely in the cooler months of the year. The proportions of functional tool types are consistent with these interpretations, indicating lesser emphasis on cold-weather activities at Point Riche compared to Phillip's Garden. Other data such as botanical remains also support this interpretation. Evidence from other Dorset sites on the island suggests few close parallels with Point Riche and Phillip's Garden. Point Riche is interpreted to have been intermittently occupied over the summer months, with activities like stone tool manufacture and skin processing comprising part of its taskscape; some of these activities were likely done in preparation for the December seal hunt at Phillip's Garden. Its landscape position on the southwest end of the Point Riche headland is argued to have been fundamental for keeping watch over the Ingornachoix Bay seascape and the various topographical features in the distance. Point Riche clearly, then, represented an essential component in the livelihood of the Port au Choix Dorset, and through the multiple experiences of it, Point Riche became ingrained

within the collective memory of the Port au Choix Dorset, transforming it into a persistent place permeated with knowledge, memory, history, emotion and identity.

## **CHAPTER 8**

### **Conclusions**

The overall purpose of this research is to contribute to an understanding of the social and functional relationship between Point Riche and Phillip's Garden. While previous research had considerably enhanced our understanding of Point Riche itself, little was known about the specific function of this site and its potential connection to the larger Phillip's Garden site. Consequently, the first objective of this research was to gain a fuller understanding of the function and seasonality of Point Riche; the results from the excavation of a dwelling there, in conjunction with existing data on dwelling architecture and lithic artefact assemblages, provided a sufficient basis for addressing this objective. To address the social and functional relationship between Point Riche and Phillip's Garden, qualitative and quantitative data on dwelling architecture and lithic artefact assemblages were used as a basis of comparison.

The 2010 excavations at Point Riche yielded the remains of an indistinct dwelling structure (Feature 64) with a variety of associated features, in addition to a large quantity of lithic and organic artefacts. Its small size and indistinct, low-investment architecture indicate an ephemeral occupation, likely in the warmer months of the year. The high proportion of cores, preforms and abundance of lithic debitage indicates a significant lithic tool-making component to this dwelling's occupation. In addition, an extensive but shallow midden was found to cover most of the southwest area, including the western half



of the Feature 64 depression. Given this physical overlap and dissociation of radiocarbon dates, the midden was likely deposited after the occupation of the dwelling.

A thorough examination and comparison of dwelling architecture from Point Riche and Phillip's Garden indicated mostly differences but also a small number of parallels between the two samples. The dwellings from Point Riche are similar in size and shape to the early and late phase Phillip's Garden dwellings, but are less substantial. This suggests greater mobility relative to the middle phase occupation. In addition to this greater mobility, the insubstantial nature of the Point Riche dwellings suggests warm-weather occupation. In contrast, the majority of Phillip's Garden dwellings, particularly those from the middle phase, are substantial suggesting cold-weather occupation. The presence of exterior hearths and other cooking/heating related features at Point Riche supports an interpretation of the site as a warm-weather occupation; their presence inside most dwellings at Phillip's Garden suggests cold-weather occupation. The small size and layout of the Point Riche dwellings indicates small family/social groups, while the large size and layout of many of those at Phillip's Garden suggests multi-family households. A small number of parallels in architectural features, such as dimensions of axial features, spacing of central pits, orientation of entranceways, use of whale bone in superstructure and use of red ochre in pits, was suggested to indicate the presence at both sites of similar family/social groups with shared mental conceptions of architectural construction.

Similar inferences were made based on the results of an analysis of lithic tool assemblages from the two sites. At Point Riche and in the early and late phases at Phillip's Garden, evidence for increased lithic tool production was suggested to

correspond to greater mobility. Most of this evidence, including flake concentrations, occurs predominantly outside dwellings at Point Riche, suggesting warm-weather activity; it occurs mostly inside dwellings at Phillip's Garden, suggesting cold-weather activity. The low proportions of lithic tools related to hunting and cooking, heat and light suggested a warm-weather occupation of Point Riche, while the opposite was observed amongst the majority of Phillip's Garden assemblages, suggesting a cold-weather occupation. The available data from other Dorset sites on the island were consistent with these observations. Notwithstanding the generally similar use of different lithic raw materials between the two sites, an increased use of exogenous lithic materials, such as Ramah, Brown translucent and chert from Big Brook, in the early and late phase at Phillip's Garden may suggest greater mobility. Like the data on dwelling architecture, a number of features pertaining to the lithic assemblages from the two sites, such as similar raw material use and tool morphologies, suggest similar family/social groups with shared mental templates of how to make stone tools. Such characteristics were found to be generally different from other Dorset sites examined, but correspond somewhat to LeBlanc's (2000, 2008, 2010) descriptions of regionalized lithic technological traditions on the island of Newfoundland; Point Riche and Phillip's Garden correlated somewhat to sites in what she refers to as the Northwest Coast region.

These and other data supported Renouf's (2002) hypothesis that Point Riche was a primarily summer occupation that complemented the late winter occupation of Phillip's Garden. While the faunal remains from Point Riche suggested that the primary economic focus of the site was harp seal hunting, and therefore a presumably cold-weather

occupation, it is possible given the overwhelming evidence for a warm-weather occupation (as outlined above) that stores of dried seal meat were brought to the site from Phillip's Garden after the March-April seal hunt there. This suggestion requires further testing through a comprehensive zooarchaeological analysis of the Point Riche faunal assemblage. Interpretation of Point Riche as a warm-weather occupation was also supported by Guiry et al.'s (2010) analysis of botanical remains from one of the dwellings, which suggested a warm-weather occupation.

On the basis of inferences drawn from the analysis of dwelling architecture and lithic artefact assemblages, as well as overlapping radiocarbon dates and geographic closeness, Point Riche was interpreted to have been intermittently occupied over the summer months, as well as directly connected to Phillip's Garden. There was likely emphasis at Point Riche on activities such as stone tool manufacture and skin processing; some of these activities, like the production of hunting tools, were likely done in preparation for the December seal hunt at Phillip's Garden. Through this seasonal linkage, Point Riche was likely a significant landmark within the Port au Choix Dorset landscape. Emphasizing the potential ideological importance of visualscapes, as evidenced by the particular placement of significant Dorset landmarks at Port au Choix, the landscape position of Point Riche on the southwest end of the Point Riche headland was argued to have been important for monitoring the Ingornachoix Bay seascape and the various topographical landmarks in the distance. It was reasonable, then, to make the observation that Point Riche would have represented a vital component in the livelihood of the Port au Choix Dorset, and through recurrent use and experience of it, become

ingrained within the collective memory of the Dorset, effectively transforming it into a persistent place permeated with multiple layers of cultural significance.

To conclude, the objectives of this research were to understand the function and seasonality of Point Riche and its social and functional connection to the larger Phillip's Garden site. This thesis has demonstrated through an analysis of dwelling architecture and lithic artefact assemblages that Point Riche likely functioned as a warm-weather site directly associated with the Phillip's Garden occupation. This study represents the first comprehensive examination of lithic artefacts, and to an extent dwelling architecture, from the two sites. The results are significant inasmuch as they have direct implications for understanding not only the cultural dynamics at Port au Choix, but also the dynamic nature of land-use and hunter-gatherer cultural landscapes in general.

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