

Archaeological Survey at Dundas

Notes on archaeological features at Dundas - August 2006 -



By

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Nunatta Katersugaasivia Allagaateqarfialu 2006

On August 9, 2006, G. LeMoine, John Darwent and Micah Hale surveyed the area around the old metal dump northeast of Dundas Mountain for archaeological features that might be impacted by planned work to clean up the dump. We walked the area from the existing road to the foot of Dundas Mountain, identifying six archaeological features.

The area immediately around the dump is very disturbed, primarily by the creation of the dump itself. Large areas of gravel have been moved and a road is visible, although no longer marked on maps. (*photos* AU 9 2006 -1 through 5 and dump road.jpg)

Conclusion: No archaeological sites are likely to be impacted by activity to clean up the dump, **assuming** the old road is used to provide access.

A list of the identified features follows.

Features 1 and 2 are on the slope above the dump, to the southwest.

The remaining features are on the plain between the dump and the modern road/parking area.

The caches are associated with rocky outcrops, which have probably prevented vehicular traffic from damaging them.

Eastings, northings, and elevations are from our GPS unit – we have found that the eastings and northings are accurate, but the elevations are approximations only.

TAB1 Tent ring

Easting	Northing	Zone	Elevation□
504013.6869	8497932.88	19	22.716675

Rectangular outline with flat rocks, estimated 4m E/W x 3m N/S

No artefacts despite long search, no bone, very light vegetation.

Unknown time period.

Photos: AU 9 2006 -6 and -7



Figure 1: TAB1, tent ring

TAB2 Tent ring

Easting	Northing	Zone	Elevation□
504022.3421	8497929.803	19	27.282837 □

Rectangular pavement of stones, driven through by truck, estimated 4.5m E/W x 4m N/S, south half paved.

No artefacts, not bone, light vegetation, time period unknown. Some risk of more vehicles. Note that this feature is essentially at the same elevation as no. 1.

Photos AU 9 2006 -8 and -9



Figure 2: TAB2, tent ring

TAB3 Hunter's bed

Easting	Northing	Zone	Elevation□
503891.8837	8497941.864	19	24.158569 □

Hunter's bed, small ring on the south side of a large boulder, 2m E/W x 1m N/S, light vegetation. Slumping downhill.

Artefacts: wooden stake and burnt blubber encrusted stone.

Thule/historic period.

Photos AU 9 2006 -10 and -11



Figure 3: TAB3, hunter's bed



Figure 4: TAB3, hunter's bed

TAB4 Tent ring

Easting	Northing	Zone	Elevation□
504330.9567	8498367.703	19	15.987549 □

Destroyed tent ring. Large equipment tracks through it.

Possible midpassage present, amorphous shape, estimated 3m diameter. Light vegetation, no bone.

No prehistoric artifacts present, but some glass chips.

Photos AU 9 2006 -12 and -13



Figure 5: TAB4; tent ring partly destroyed by cars.

TAB5 Cache and cache complex

Easting	Northing	Zone	Elevation□
504381.0279	8498491.833	19	19.111816 □

Cache, opened. 2m x 1.5 m, long axis NW/SE. 2 sea mammal bones outside, heavy vegetation surrounding it. Well constructed.

No artifacts

Unknown time period.

TAB5b Cache complex. 5 closely associated caches near TAB5, all opened.
 Size range – 1-1.5 m diameters.
 Unknown time period, some seem recent. See diagram for relative positions.
Photos AU 9 2006 -14 through -19



Figure 6: TAB5; cache

TAB6 Cache

Easting	Northing	Zone	Elevation□
504391.7437	8498522.861	19	19.111816

Cache 3x2m oval, NW/SE long axis. Opened
 Unknown time period, no bone present, heavy vegetation.
 No obvious risk.
Photo AU 9 2006 –20



Figure 7: TAB6, cache