



Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Passamaquoddy Tribe

Traditional Birch Bark Canoe Building grant

The Passamaquoddy Tribal Historic Preservation Office will utilize the funding from the National Park Service to help preserve the ancient cultural practice of birch bark canoe building by integrating hands on experience of canoe building with masters and apprentices. During the project, the process of canoe building will be videotaped and interviews will be conducted in the Passamaquoddy language and translated in English to allow the apprentices and master canoe builders to learn the terminology of the process as they work together. The THPO will also provide updates on the progress of the canoe building process to

the Passamaquoddy tribe. Many sessions of instructions will be conducted before a number of our members become proficient in the construction of traditional canoes. An ocean canoe, similar to Tomah Joseph's porpoise-hunting canoe, will be constructed for this project.

Ocean Canoe

The 1898 Passamaquoddy Decorated Ocean Canoe comes from page 82, Figure 74 of Edwin Adney and Howard Chapelle's The Bark Canoes and Skin Boats of North America. The text notes that this is the last known canoe of this style built. Tomah Joseph of Princeton, Maine built the canoe

based on a cedar and canvas porpoise-hunting canoe. It has similar pinched ends and rounded tumble-home as the Modern Malecite St. John River Canoe.

For more information on the instructors turn to page 2.



*David Moses Bridges and his canoe.
Photo by Donald Soctomah*

ANA Language grant

In a highly competitive field of grants, the Passamaquoddy Tribe was awarded a \$385,674 grant with \$115,000 in-kind contribution for the Passamaquoddy Language Revitalization Implementation Program. The goal

of the grant is to create sound files to complement the newly published dictionary that will be accessible on CD ROM and/or the web. The Passamaquoddy language has less than 400 fluent speakers and is one of the last na-

tive languages left on the east coast with this many speakers. The grant will be administered through the Tribal Historic Preservation Department. Donald Soctomah is the director of the Tribal Historic Preservation Office and

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Stephanie Francis is his assistant. Funding came from Administration for Native Americans.

The objective of this project is to create Curriculum Sound Files: By the end of the 24th month, the Passamaquoddy Tribe will have completed sound files for all online dictionary entries and will have linked them to the entries (online or in a CD-ROM edition) so that users may hear the words and sentences as they are spoken. There are more than 18,000 entries in the dictionary. Approximately half of these entries include plural and other forms of the entry word. A similar number of entries include one or more example sentences. For each entry, the word itself,



*Robert Leavitt and David Francis
Language Keepers Photograph*

its forms, and the Passamaquoddy example sentences would be recorded. Ideally, the recordings will capture the voices of male and female, older and younger speakers from various Passamaquoddy communities. The intention of the present project is to record

the language found in the dictionary verbatim. This kind of recording facilitates practice for users and encourages them to focus on the pitch-stress patterns of the language. The new audio-dictionary will be launched and demonstrated to community members at a community event in Year 1 to be scheduled by the project director in conjunction with related school and community cultural activities. In Year 2 this event will be used to demonstrate the completed audio-dictionary.

Canoe Building Instructors

David Moses Bridges is a Passamaquoddy birch-bark artist specializing in the construction of traditional Wabanaki birch-bark canoes and containers using traditional construction techniques. David is highly regarded in his field, has won numerous awards, consults with museums and research institutions, lectures, teaches, conducts workshops and creates works on commission.

To read more about David check out his website:

<http://www.davidmosesbridges.com/main.html>

Canoe building photo slide show at:

<http://www.medowinart.com/BirchBarkCanoeWeb/index.html>

Steve Cayard has collaborated with David on numerous projects and will be working with him on the NPS canoe building project.

To read more about Steve check out his website:

www.stevecayard.com

Machias Bay Archaeology

A Park Service Grant enabled the Tribe to work with a qualified archaeologist, Dr. Brian Robinson of the University of Maine in Orono to direct an Archaeological Phase 1 Survey of Site 62.1. The survey was needed to complete requirements for nominating "Picture Rock" Site to the National Register of Historic Places. The Phase 1 survey in July, 2008, set up a grid system that

enabled an experimental form of sub-surface radar to locate anomalies in frequency responses that could represent rocks and other evidence of cultural activity buried in the plowed fields and other landscape features above the 62.1 petroglyph ledges. The elec-



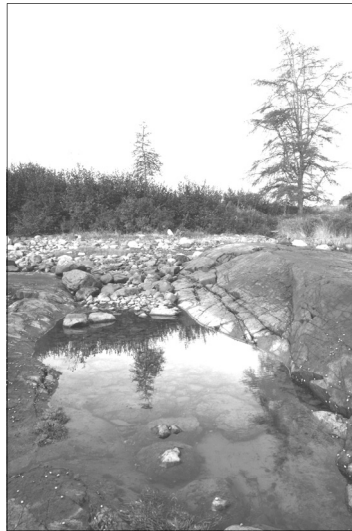
*MAPI Field School in
Machias Bay
UMO photograph*

tronic survey combined with a surveyed grid system allowed concentration of hand digging to a few areas with greater potential for cultural activity. The 2008 Phase 1 survey also relocated the precise placement of excavations by an earlier UMO Field School at the site. Archaeological col-

Archaeology continued from page 2

lections made then (1973) had been stored for later analysis at the UM Archaeological Lab has also been included in the processing of Phase 1 collections. The Grant enabled petroglyph consultant Mark Hedden to update and complete work begun more than 30 years earlier on the analysis of the "Picture Rock" petroglyphs. Work at the Machias Bay site is ongoing and will continue it's collaboration with the Universities and archaeology students, instructors, Passamaquoddy students, and the Tribal Historic Preservation Office.

Machias Bay also includes the largest concentration of Petroglyphs on the eastern seaboard.



*A tide pool near Machias Bay
Photo by Stephanie Francis*

The Historic Preservation Office has been working continuously for the past ten years with the protection of these sites which are situated on private property. Unattended visits are prohibited without permission from the Passamaquoddy tribe and the Maluhsihikon Committee. Visitors need instruction on specific protocol by the Maluhsihikon committee and the Historic Preservation Office when approaching these sites. For more information please contact:

Donald Soctomah, THPO

soctomah@ainop.com or Facebook

Annual Passamaquoddy Calendar

Joseph "Cozy" Nicholas was the originator of the Passamaquoddy calendar. Since his passing in 2008, his granddaughter Stephanie Francis and friend Donald Soctomah, Historic Preservation Officer produce the annual calendar in memory of Cozy and all of the Passamaquoddy members featured in the calendar. Each month is a dedication to various families, cultural events,

veterans, craftspeople, our ancestors, community projects, graduates, and leaders of the tribe. Tribal members interested in having a family member featured in the calendar should send photocopies of their loved ones. The calendar has been a collector's item for tribal and non-

"The calendar has been a collector's item for tribal and non-tribal people."

tribal people and will be on sale at the beginning of December.

Send photos to:
soctomah@ainop.com or
Facebook

Annual Canoe Trip

Since 1998, Donald Soctomah has lead a long line of canoeists down the St. Croix River to Passamaquoddy Bay, which opens the ceremonial day celebration in August. Many canoeists participate to honor their loved ones. Last August, the annual canoe trip consisted of the largest number of canoes. The canoeists also represented the four tribes of Maine with Passamaquoddy, Maliseet, Penobscot, and Miqmaq participants. As canoeists

approach split rock, singers and drummers greet the travelers. One canoeist is chosen to carry a wampum belt from the Indian Township chief to the Pleasant Point chief as goodwill for the opening of ceremonial day at Pleasant Point.



*Melissa Dana and Frankie Milliano
Photo by Donald Soctomah*



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What are Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPO)?

Tribal Historic Preservation Officers are officially designated by a federally -recognized Indian tribe to direct a program approved by the National Park Service and the THPO must have assumed some or all of the functions of State Historic Preservation Officers on Tribal lands. Tribal historic preservation has emphasized the importance of the oral tradition, as well as consulting Tribal elders and spiritual leaders with special knowledge of the Tribe's traditions. They also have given emphasis to the importance of protecting "traditional cultural properties," places that are eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places because of their association with cultural practices and beliefs that are rooted in the history of the community and are important in maintaining the continuity of that community's traditional beliefs and practices. Incorporating Tribal cultural values into the historic preservation program has been consistently cited as a priority. Finally, the need for assuming the responsibility for reviewing Federal undertakings that may affect historical properties and the importance of archaeological survey work was consistently mentioned as essential. Tribal Historic Preservation Officers advise Federal agencies on the management of Tribal historic properties and strive to preserve their Tribes' cultural heritage and preservation programs.

Donald Soctomah, THPO

Museum Products and Websites

The Indian Township Museum is located on US Route 1, Indian Township/ Matahkomikuk, Maine about 30 miles north of Calais, Maine.

The museum houses various basket collections, paintings, photographs, jewelry, prints, carvings, etc.

Products for sale include history books dating from 1800 to 1950, music cds such as flute music by Rolfe Richter, The Little Eagles drum group, and the St. Croix songs, DVDs of The Song of The Drum, and N'tolonopemk/Our Relatives Place, books such as Baskets of the Dawland People, the Equinox Petroglyph Project, and prints such as "We Are Still Dancing."

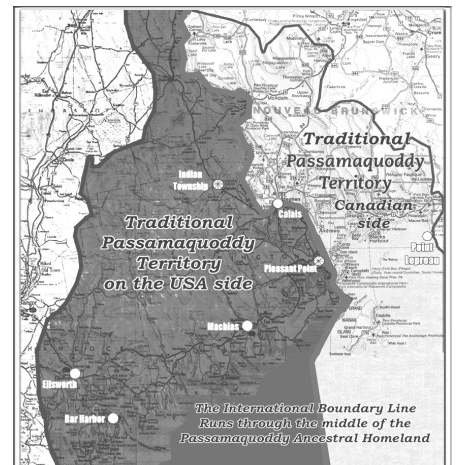
Websites:

wabanaki.com

languagekeepers.org/videos.php

lib.ung.ca/Texts/Maliseet/dictionary/

[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/
Passamaquoddy_people](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Passamaquoddy_people)



*Traditional Passamaquoddy Territory
Map by Pleasant Point Environmental Dept.*