The Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump Archaeological Project

2021 Field School

Archaeological Field School Information Session

- Excavation Overview
- Excavation Schedule
- Application Procedure
- Course Requirements
- Risks, Safety, and Responsibility
- Costs
- Website: http://people.uleth.ca/~bubest

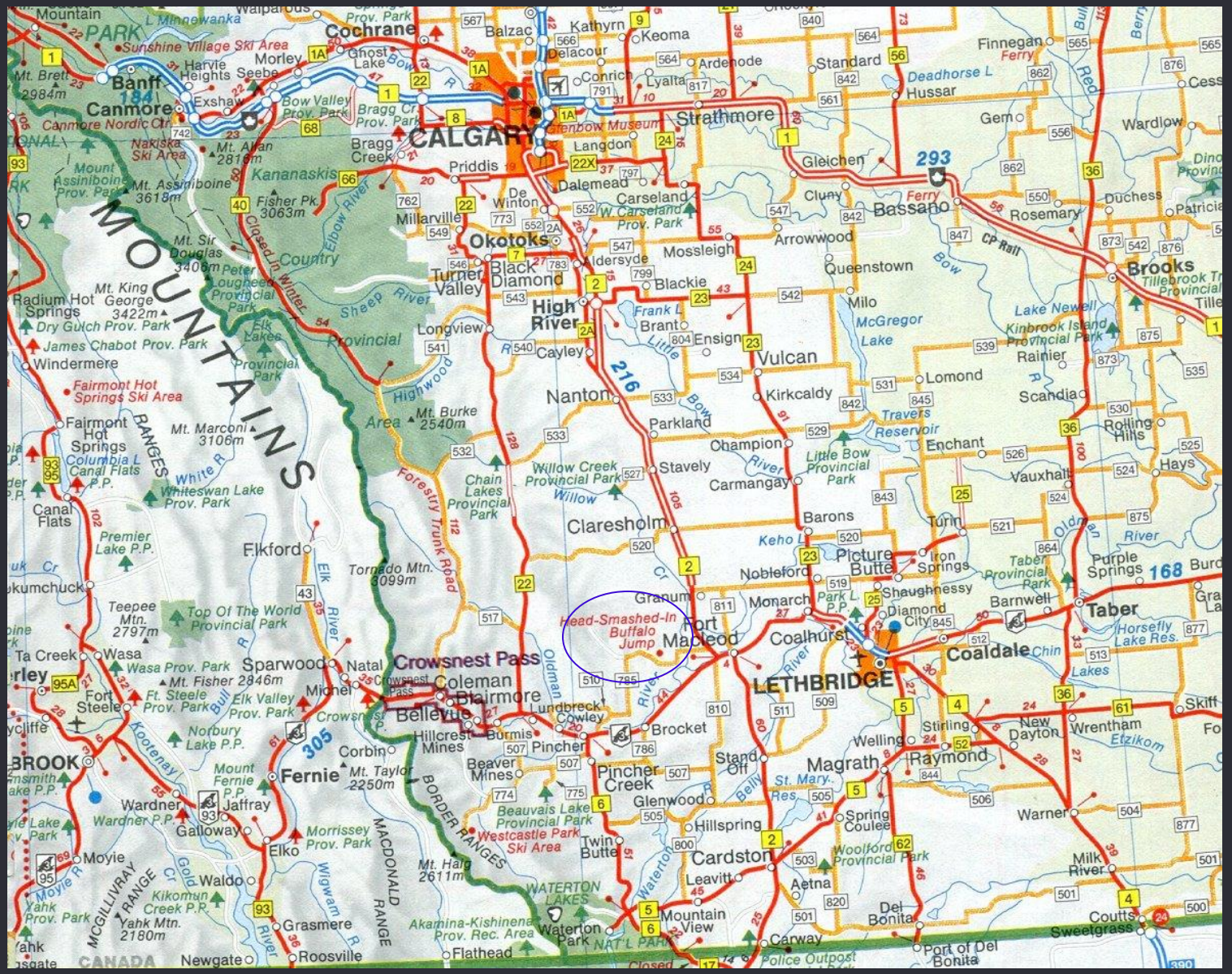
Field School Instructors

Shawn Bubel

Kevin McGeough

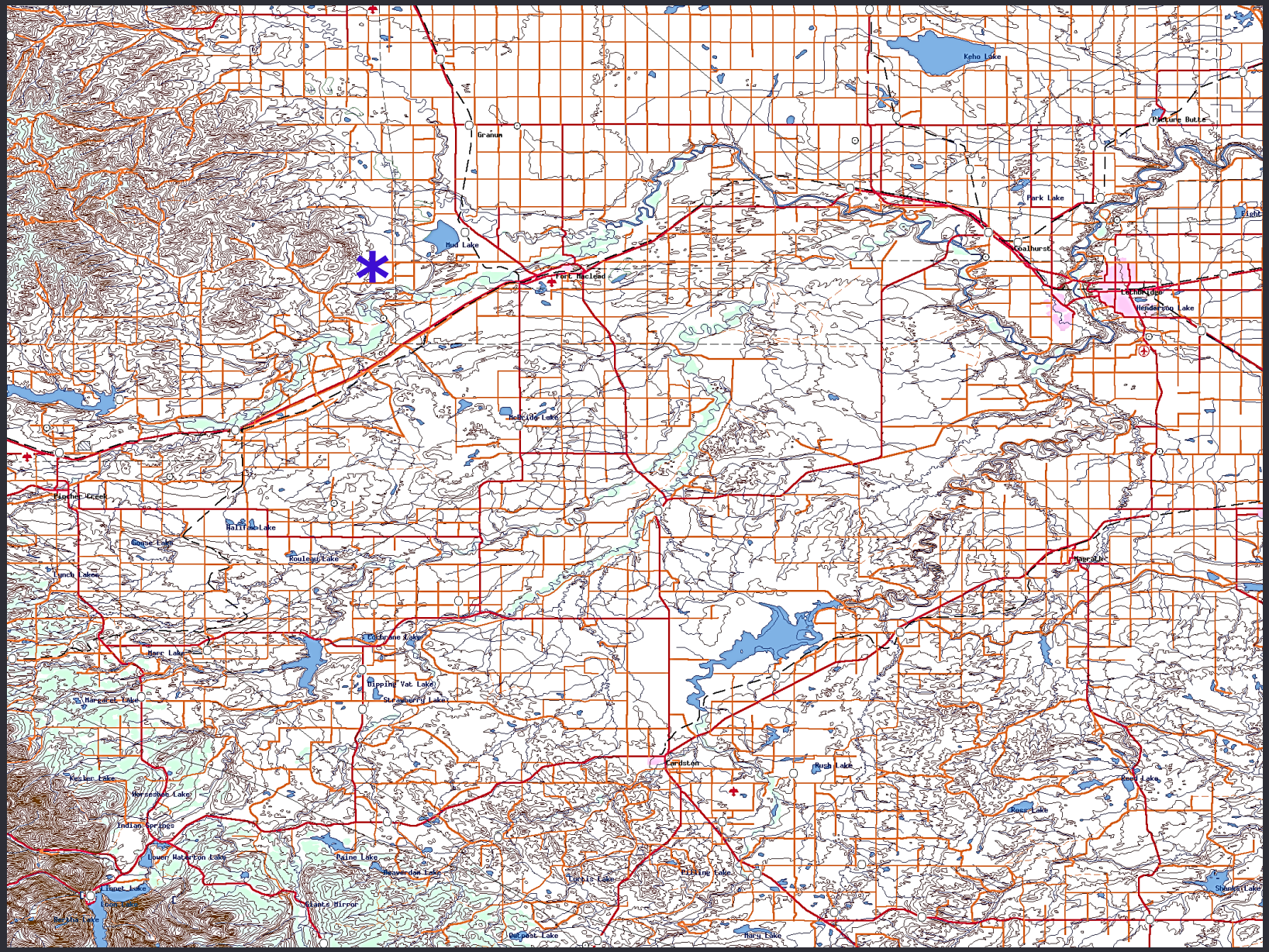
Bob Dawe

Site Location



Location of Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump

Site Location



Location of Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump

Site Landscape and Environment

Cliff edge of Head-Smashed-In. View N.

Site Landscape and Environment

Cliff face of Head-Smashed-In. Calderwood in the distance. View N.

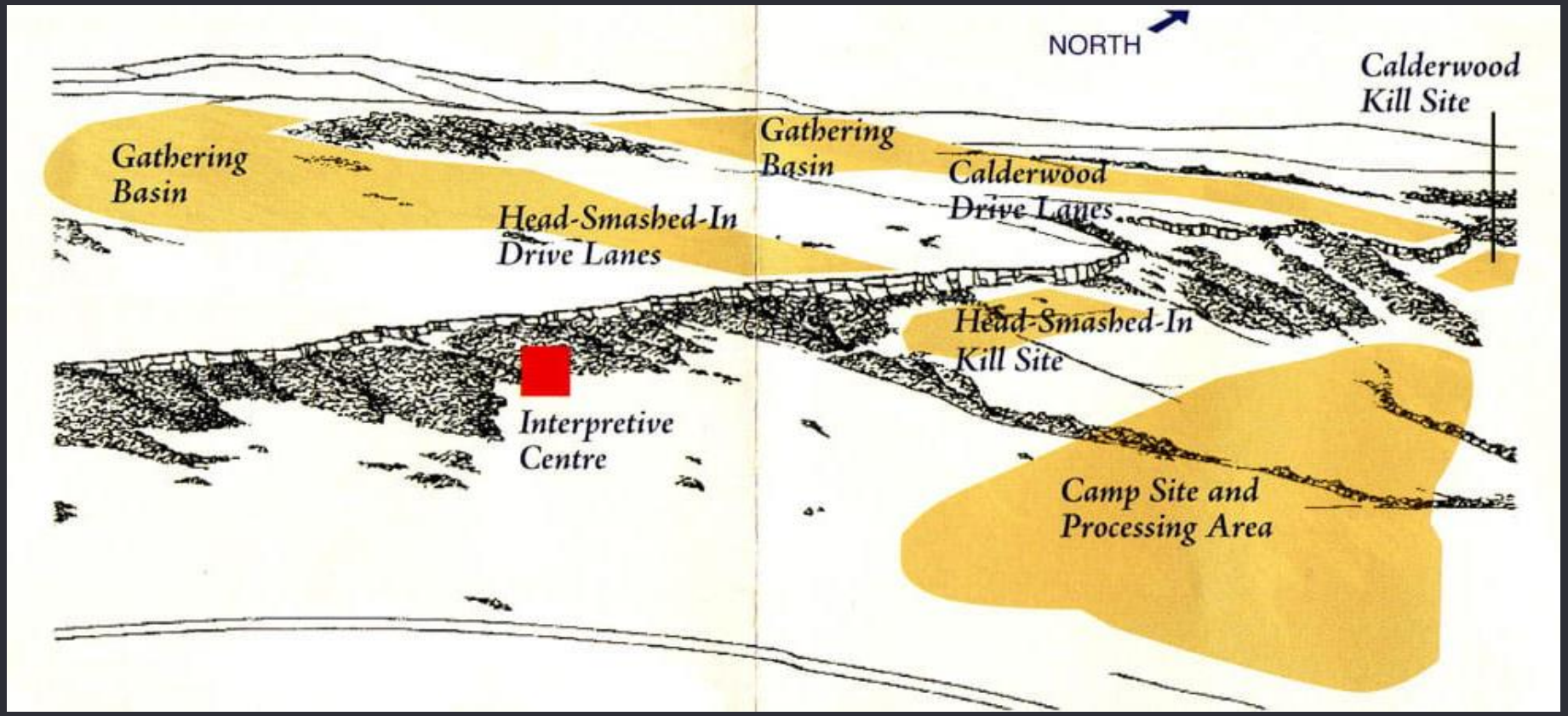
Site Landscape and Environment

Cliff edge of Head-Smashed-In. View N.

Site Landscape and Environment

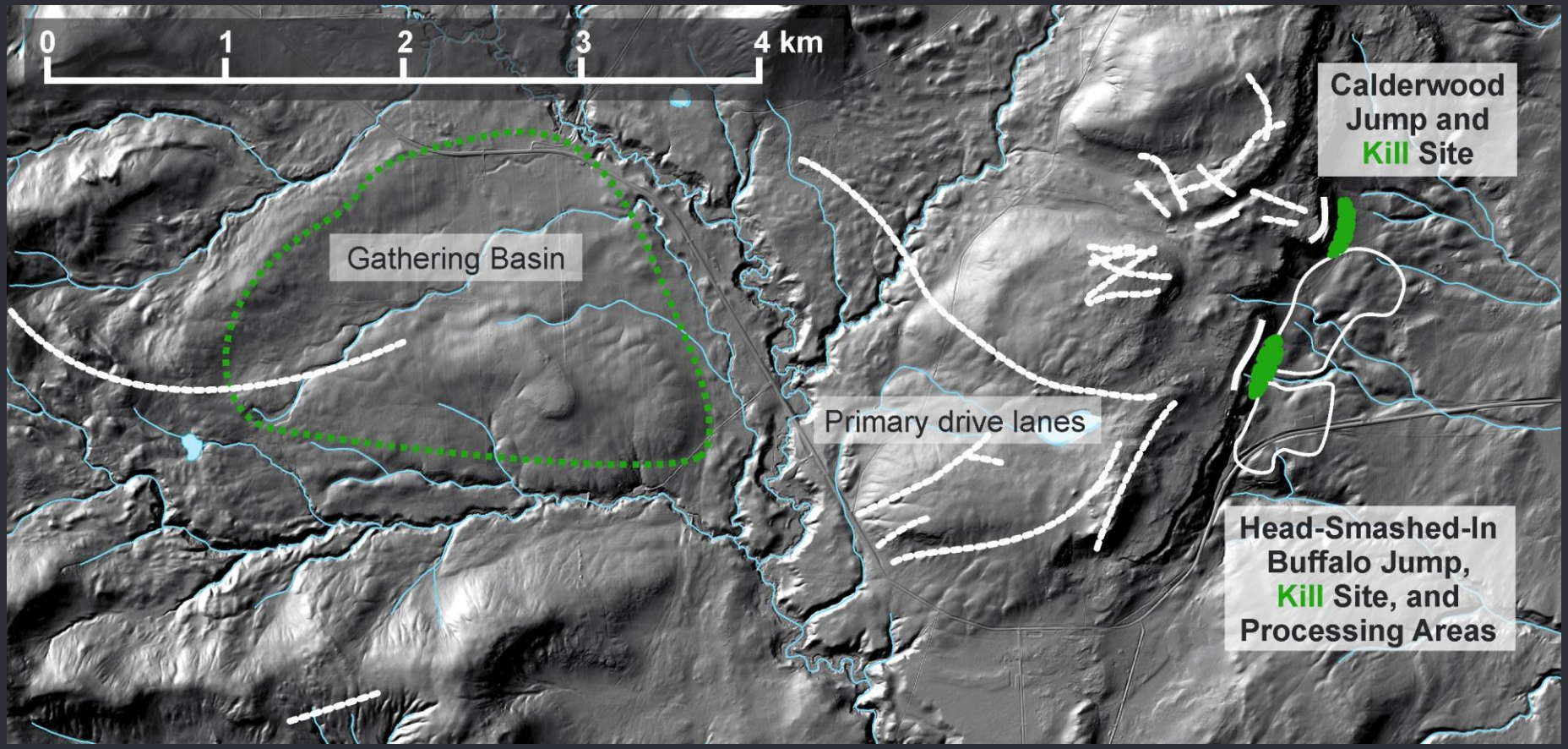
View from the top of the cliff towards the horizon. View E.

Site Areas



Major areas of Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump.

Site Areas

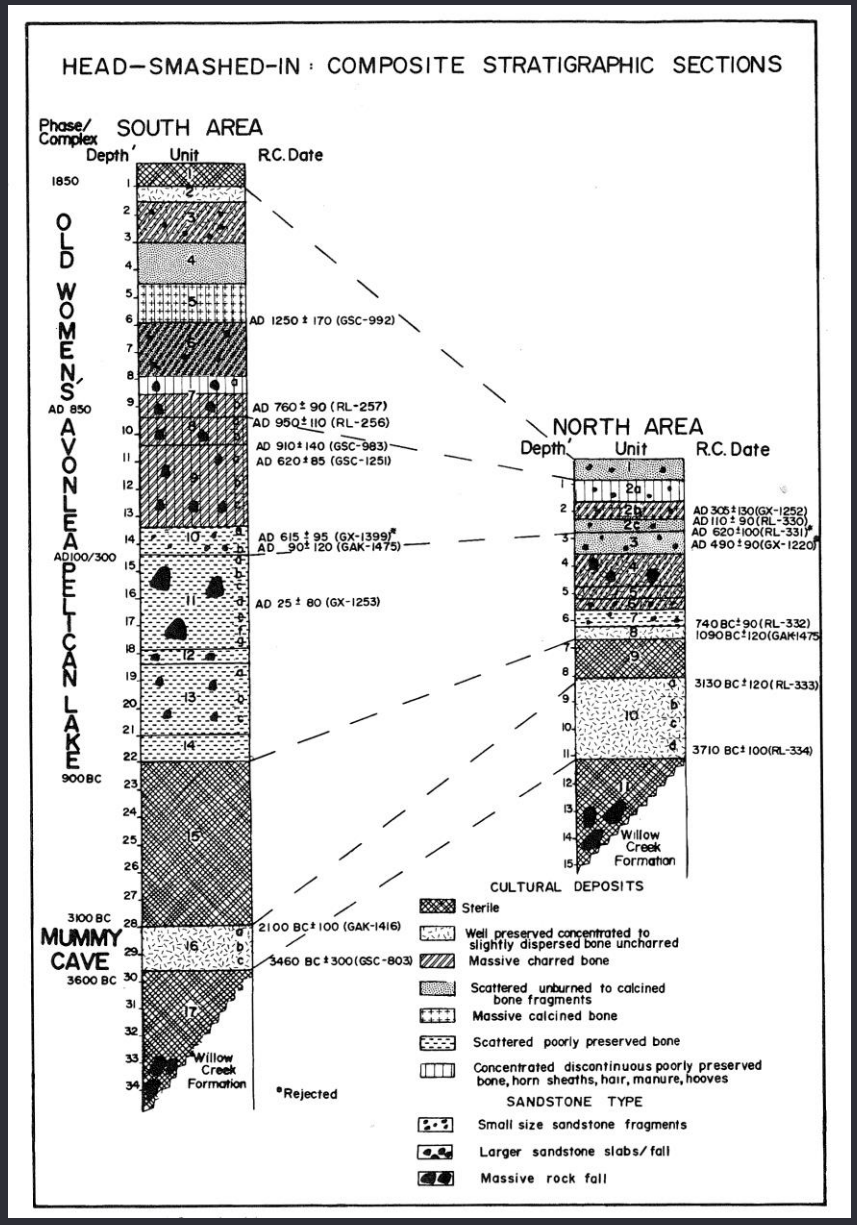


Major areas of Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump.

Site Areas

Barney Reeves' excavations at the kill site.

Previous Excavations



Site stratigraphy at the kill site. Reeves 1983.

Site Areas

View of the cliff face from the campsite and processing area. View W.

Site Areas

Campsite and processing area. View N.

Interpretive Centre

Entrance of the Interpretive Centre. View W.

Site Areas

Campsite and processing area. View N.

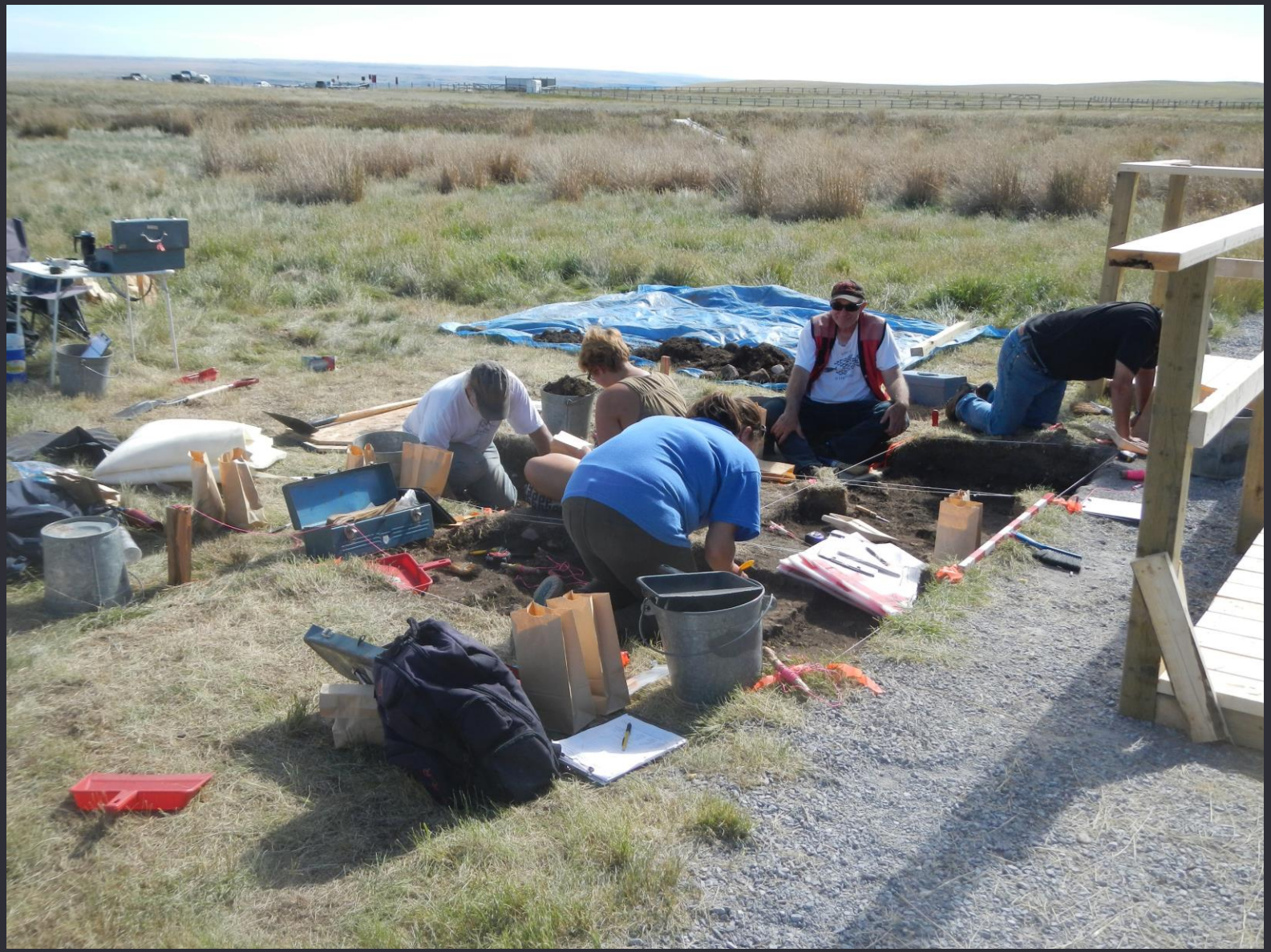
Site Areas

Campsite and processing area. View N.

Site Areas

Campsite and processing area. View NW.

Previous Excavations



Excavations in the processing area to remove the roasting pit.

Previous Excavations

Excavating units around the roasting pit.

Previous Excavations

Exposing the edges of the roasting pit.

Previous Excavations

Exposing the edges of the roasting pit.

Previous Excavations

Casting the roasting pit.

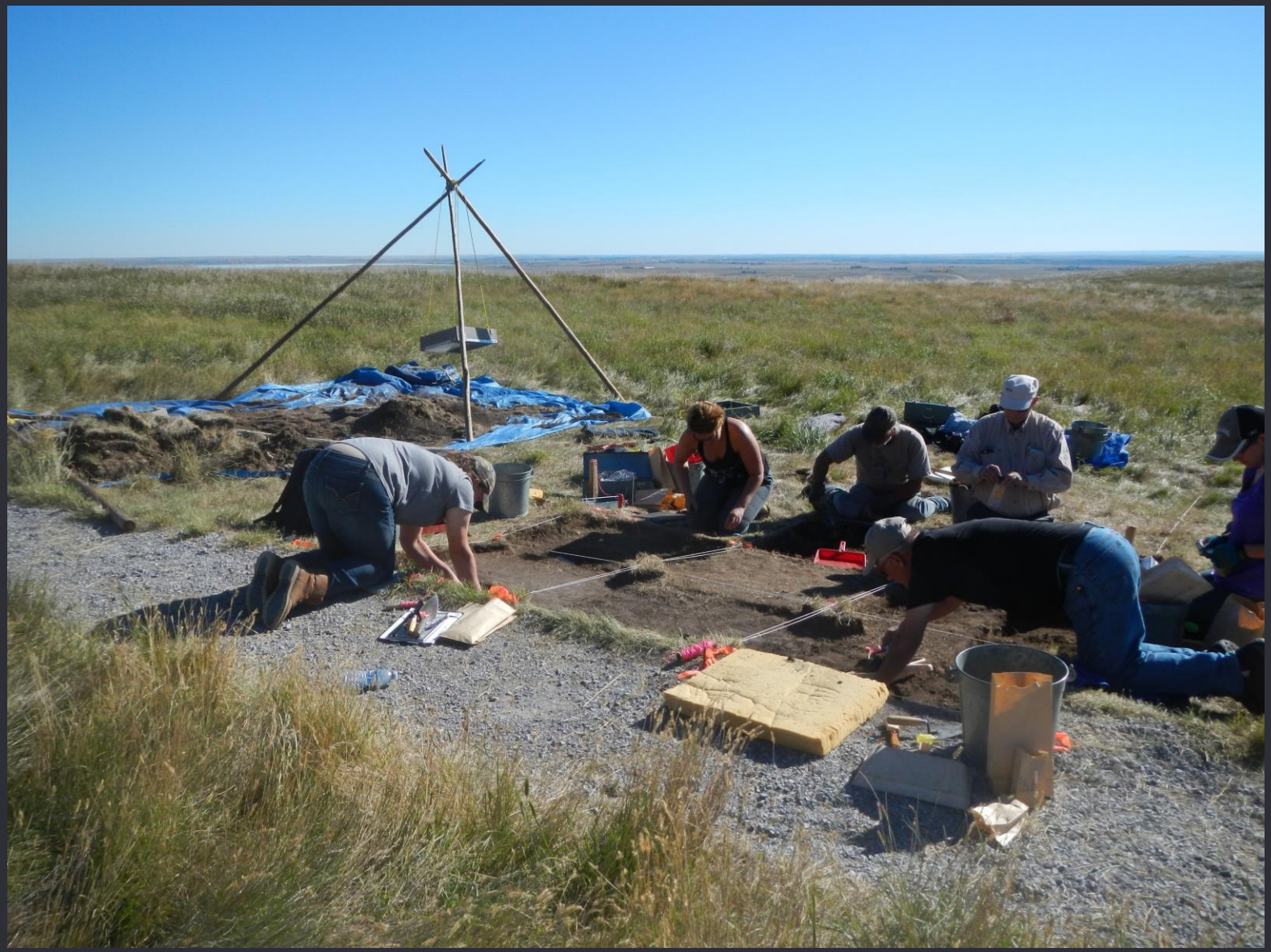
Previous Excavations

Removing the roasting pit.

Excavation Methods

Excavation areas and units.

Excavation Methods



Excavation areas and units.

Excavation Methods

Excavation areas and units.

Excavation Methods

Excavating 1 x 1 meter units in a checkerboard pattern.

Excavation Methods

Excavating 1 x 1 meter units in a checkerboard pattern.

Excavation Methods

Excavating using trowels.

Excavation Methods

Excavating using trowels and brushes.

Excavation Methods

Excavating using trowels and brushes.

Excavation Methods

Excavating into lower deposits, below previously excavated levels.

Excavation Methods

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Excavation Methods

Excavated sediment is collected into buckets for screening.

Excavation Methods

Screening all excavated sediment through ¼" screens.

Excavation Methods

Screening all excavated sediment through ¼" screens.

Excavation Methods

Field Recording: Level Sheets, notebooks, graphs, and bags.

Excavation Methods

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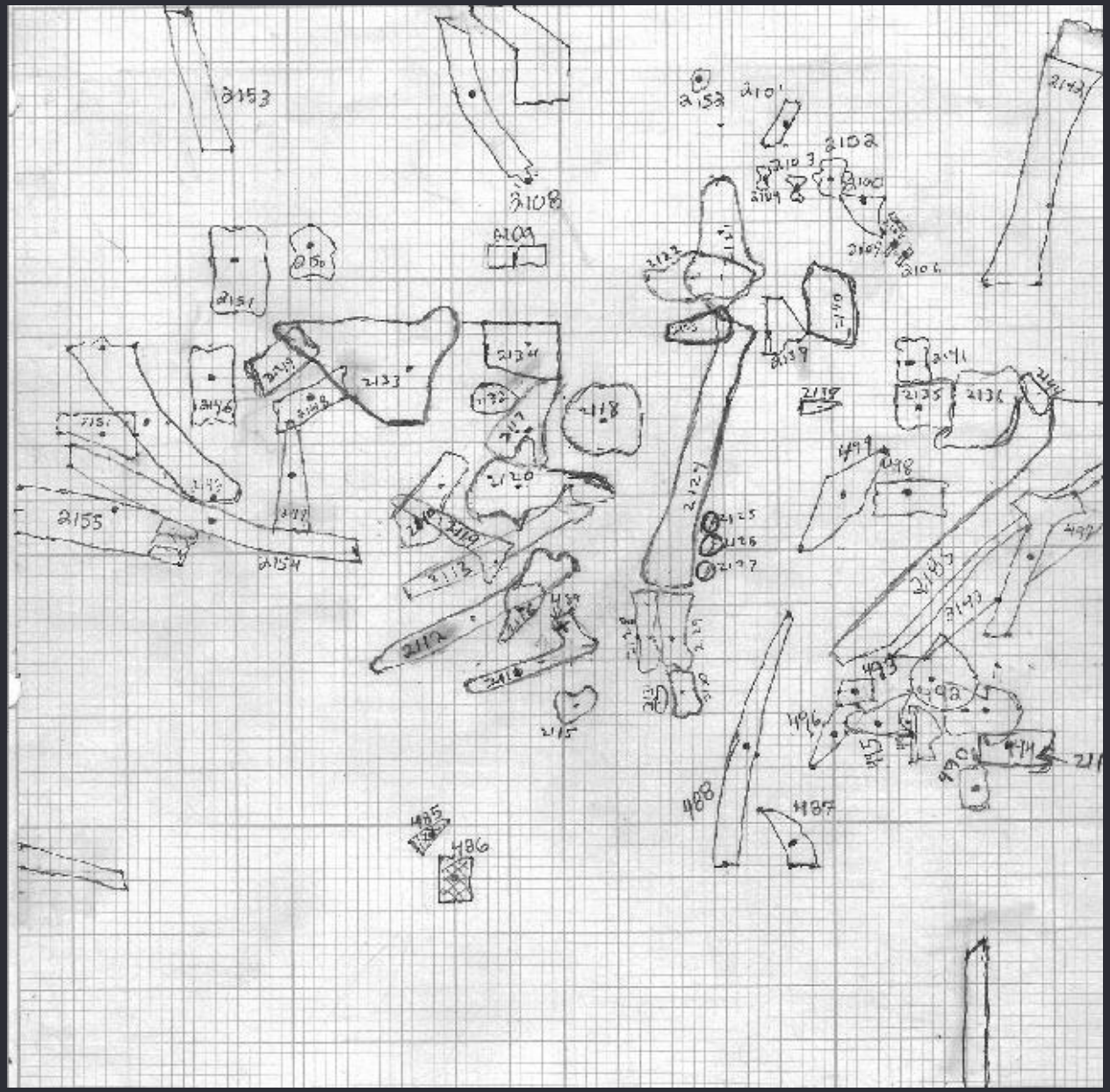
Excavation Methods

Three-dimensional recording of the cultural material.

Excavation Methods



Mapping remains at a 1:5 scale.

Excavation Methods

Bagging the excavated cultural material.

Excavation Methods

Photographing excavation levels.

Site Areas

We will also carry out a shovel testing and auguring program in the spring channel (B) and at the toe of the slump block (C) to locate early, *in situ* deposits.

Time permitting, we will relocate Reeves' excavation trench (D) and Wettlaufer's Buffalo Jump (F) and map the cobble features (D).

Excavation Methods

Shovel testing at the site.

Excavation Methods

Auguring at the site.

Excavation Methods

Archaeological surveying.

Excavation Methods

Working in all sorts of weather: -10 C to +30 C; snow, rain, and sun.

Analysis of Cultural Remains

**Initial processing of the excavated cultural remains.
This will take place in the field camp laboratory.**

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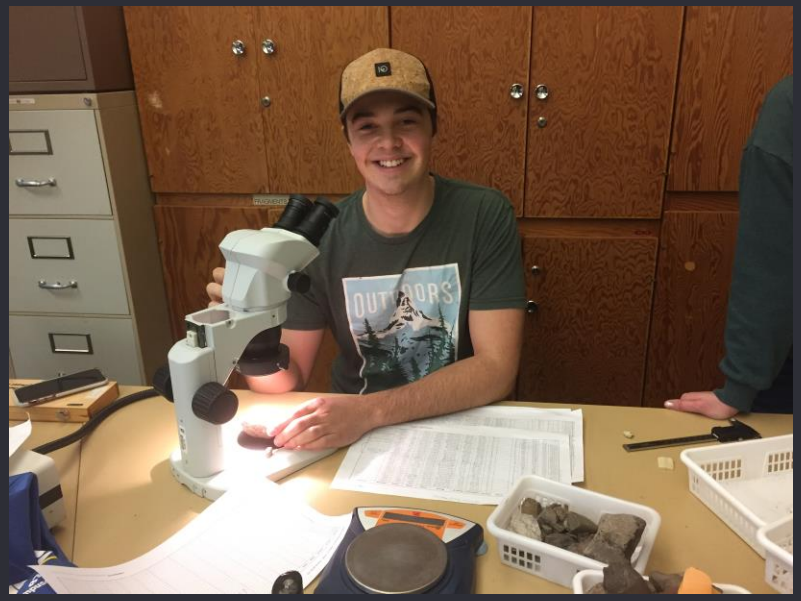
Analysis of Cultural Remains

Students working on the lithic artifacts from the Fincastle site

Analysis of Cultural Remains

Students working on faunal remains excavated from the Fincastle site

Analysis of Cultural Remains



Students working on the fire-broken rock excavated from Head-Smashed-In

Excavation Results: The Archaeological Remains

The Bone bed at the kill site below the cliff.

Excavation Results: The Archaeological Remains

The Bone bed at the Fincastle site. East Area.

Excavation Results: The Archaeological Remains

The Bone bed at the Fincastle site. East Area.

Excavation Results: The Archaeological Remains

The Bone bed at the Fincastle site. East Area.

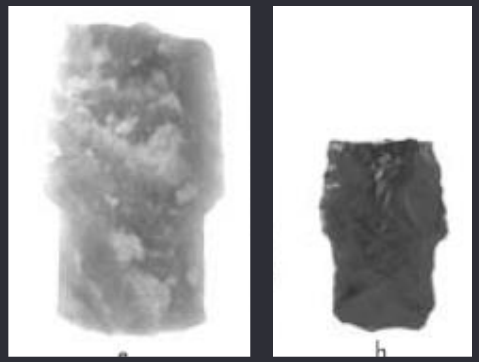
Excavation Results: The Archaeological Remains

Level 3 of the campsite/processing area at Head-Smashed-In.

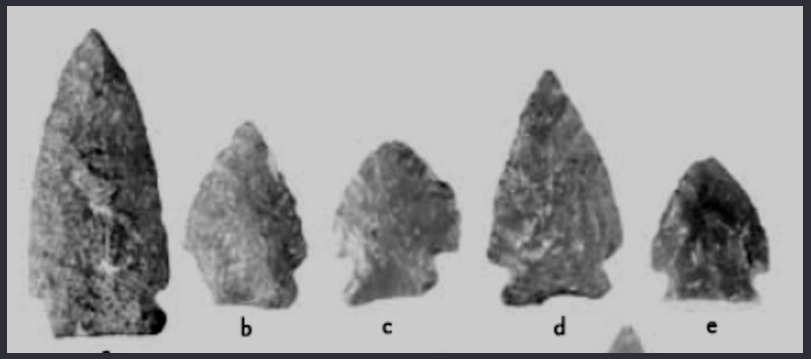
Excavation Results: The Archaeological Remains

In situ **projectile point.**

Excavation Results: The Archaeological Remains

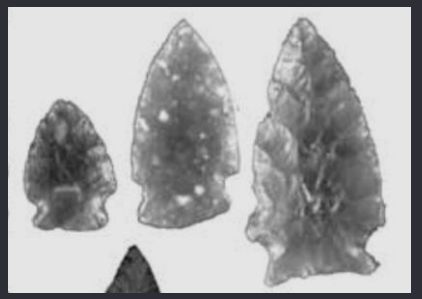


Scottsbluff points (Peck 2011:81)

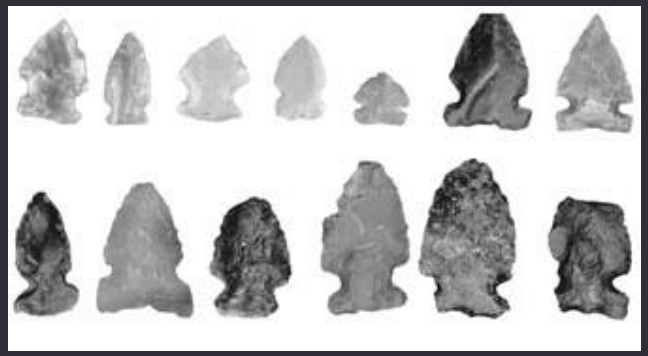


Calderwood points (Peck 2011:155)

Outlook (left) and Sonota (right) (Peck 2011:243; 313)



Avonlea points (Peck 2011:342)



Cayley Series points (Peck 2011:380)

Highwood points (Peck 2011:409)

Selection of Projectile points found at Head-Smashed-In.

Site Areas

Backfilling the 2016 excavations at Head-Smashed-In.

Site Areas

Targeted excavation and survey areas at Head-Smashed-In.

Objective of the Research Components of the Project

1. Renew excavations in the processing area (Area A) to investigate older occupation levels, research prompted by the recently discovered cultural materials below previous excavation levels.
2. Test the spring channel area (Area B), where two Scottsbluff spear points (dating to the Early Prehistoric period) were found on a dam fill spoil pile many years ago and a bonebed of unknown age was exposed when leveling the dam fill, in order to understand their archaeological contexts.
3. Investigate the area next to the toe of the slump block (Area C) to locate the occupation surface prior to 6,000 BP and establish if there is *in situ* material beneath it.
4. Time permitting, locate previous excavation areas in order to create a comprehensive map and guide to previous research at the site.

Schedule for the Field School
June 28 – August 16

- June 28 — 14-day self-quarantine begins
  First day of online instruction
- July 11 — Move to and set up the field camp
- July 12 — Field excavations begin
- August 6 — Last day of excavations
- August 7 — Post excavation field work
  Laboratory analysis at the field camp
- August 16 — Last day of the field school
  Return to Lethbridge/home

Daily Schedule for the Field School

- Typical Excavation Day – Subject to change!
  - 7:00 Rise and shine
  - 7:30 Breakfast and pack lunches
  - 9:00 Travel (carpool) to the site
  - 9:30 Morning excavations
  - 12:30 Lunch on site
  - 1:00 Afternoon excavations
  - 2:30 Afternoon snack
  - 5:30 Return to camp; unload artifacts
  - 6:30 Dinner
  - 7:30 Evening lecture
  - 10:30 Lights out
- Saturdays – field trips and workshops
- Sunday – camp chores and homework

Camp Life

Camp Life

Teamwork

Course Requirements

- Arky 1000 (and preferably a 3000-level Arky course)
- Registration
  - Only those accepted to the field school will be able to register for Arky 3000, 3300, and 3400
- Grade assessments for the courses are based on the quality of your field work, lab work, notebooks, assignments, and examinations.
- Hard work and teamwork!

Risks, Safety, and Responsibility

- Field School risks
  - Weather
  - Plants
  - Animals (deer, bears, and other animals)
  - Spiders, wasps, bees, mosquitos, and more
  - Sharp equipment
  - Dust and dirt
  - Land travel
  - General risks
- Students must complete a risk and safety session and complete liability waivers.
- Students are responsible for their own personal safety
- Students are required to conduct themselves accordingly and to respect their teammates.

Costs and Funding

- Tuition - $1,955.45
  - Three summer session courses (Arky 3000, 3300, and 3400)
- Field School Costs - $TBD
  - Cost for room and board while at the field camp
  - Field Supplies and Equipment
- Not Included in the Field School Costs
  - Textbooks if you want a physical copy
  - Personal snacks and drinks

Student Loans

- Students can apply for student loans to cover the tuition, books, supplies and equipment, and room and board costs.
- Please contact the Student Finance office for help with your application forms.

Application Procedure

- Those interested in the field school must fill out an application and provide the following by April 16, 2021.
  - Application form
  - Medical Form
  - Transcripts
  - Essay
  - Letter of reference
  - Deposit ($200)

- The forms can be downloaded from Dr. Bubel's web site at: http://people.uleth.ca/~bubest

- A maximum of 20 U of L students will be selected to participate in the Head-Smashed-In Field School.

- Field school applicants will be notified by April 30.

Fun and Adventure

- Working on an archaeological project is a lot of work but it is also a lot of fun.
- You will:
  - Learn how to excavate, survey, and process the archaeological remains recovered
  - Discover the past first-hand
  - Work outside and be physically active
  - Experience camping in southern Alberta
  - Work as part of a team
  - Make new friends
  - Challenge yourself

It is a fantastic educational experience!

2019 Field School Team

2021 Field School Team?