Cultural Resources Survey and Evaluation, Fort Wainwright and Training Lands, 2015 & 2016

Colorado State University

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November 2017

Acknowledgements

This work could not have been completed without the tireless effort of our summer field crews

2015

Elizabeth Carroll
Colin Christiansen
Briana Doering
Mallory Fisher
Angela Gore
Caitlin Holloway
Heather Hardy
Josh Lynch
Whitney McLaren
Katherine Mulliken
Allie Pelto
Emily Pendergrass
Heather Smith
Kate Yeske

2016

Pierce Bateman
John Blong
Briana Doering
Angela Gore
Heather Hardy
Brooks Lawler
Josh Lynch
Whitney McLaren
Katherine Mulliken
Allie Pelto
Dougless Skinner
Kate Yeske

The entire document was edited by Glenda Lesondak. We would also like to express our thanks to our coworkers from the Natural Resources Management staff at Fort Wainwright who guided helicopters, shared ATVs, trimmed vegetation, and hiked around the training lands in support of our mission.

List of Acronyms

AHRS – Alaska Heritage Resources Survey
ARPA – Archaeological Resources Protection Act
BAX – Battle Area Complex
BP – Before Present
BRTA – Black Rapids Training Area
CEMML – Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands
cm - centimeters
cmbs – centimeters below surface
CRM – Cultural Resources Manager
CRTC – Cold Regions Test Center
DOE – Determination of Eligibility
DTA – Donnelly Training Area
FAI – Fairbanks
GRTA – Gerstle River Training Area
ICRMP – Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan
JPARC – Joint Pacific Alaska Range Complex
m – meter
masl – meters above sea level
NHPA – National Historic Preservation Act
NLUR– Northern Land Use Research, Inc.
NRHP – National Register of Historic Places
PDZ – Potential Development Zone
SDZ – Surface Danger Zone
SHPO – State Historic Preservation Officer
TFTA – Tanana Flats Training Area
USARAK – US Army Alaska
UTM – Universal Transverse Mercator
XBD – Big Delta
XMH – Mount Hayes
YTA – Yukon Training Area

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Introduction

The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA: 54 U.S.C. § 470 et seq.) states that every federal agency must establish a preservation program for the identification, evaluation, and nomination of sites to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), and for protection of historic properties. Although Army Regulation 200-1 requires full compliance with federal law, most Section 110 inventories and evaluations in Army training lands take place in coordination with Section 106 reviews of project undertakings. In recent years, Fort Wainwright's Cultural Resources Manager (CRM) has begun a consultation process with Range Control at Fort Wainwright and Donnelly Training Area (DTA) to establish potential development zones (PDZ) based upon projected training needs. These PDZs are located in the large tracts of military managed land outside Fort Wainwright's Main Post cantonment area with no immediate undertakings, but regions that the Army plans to develop in the 2-10 year time range. Identification of PDZs has allowed the CRM to focus archaeological survey efforts, in addition to 106 projects, in the areas of Fort Wainwright's 1.6 million acres considered most critical.

This report serves multiple purposes. First, it gives a brief summary of all Army activities that took place in 2015 and 2016 that required Section 106 consultation and had previously been described in detail in individual letters to the SHPO. Second, it summarizes all survey efforts by the Army's cooperative partner, Colorado State University's Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands (CEMML), from 2002 to 2016. Third, it provides information on survey locations and archaeological site discoveries in Fort Wainwright and its training lands during 2015 and 2016 that were not previously seen by the SHPO and the Army's consulting parties. And finally, it provides Determinations of Eligibility (DOE) for many previously discovered sites on Army lands in Alaska.

All archaeological fieldwork was conducted by CEMML employees under the direct supervision of Julie Esdale, Ph.D., an archaeologist meeting the professional standards outlined in the Secretary of the Interior's "Professional Qualifications Standards" as defined in 36 CFR §61 Appendix A. Two crews comprised of three to five archaeologists conducted the fieldwork.

This report is organized into sections by Fort Wainwright Training Areas. Each section includes information on the Section 106 activities, areas surveyed, sites discovered, and DOEs for sites during the 2015 and 2016 field seasons.

Setting and Environment

Fort Wainwright consists of the Main Post cantonment area and associated training lands, which include three main areas: the Yukon Training Area (YTA), the Tanana Flats Training Area (TFTA), and the DTA. These are located in central Alaska, north of the Alaska Range in the Tanana River Valley (Figure 1). The post lies 120 miles south of the Arctic Circle near the cities of Fairbanks and North Pole in the Fairbanks North Star Borough. Fort Wainwright has the northern continental climate of the Alaskan Interior, characterized by short, moderate summers; long, cold winters; and little precipitation or humidity. Average monthly temperatures in Fairbanks range from -11.5° F in January to 61.5° F in July, with an average annual temperature of 26.3° F. The record low temperature is -66° F and the record high is 98° F. Average annual precipitation is 10.4”, most of which falls as rain during summer and early fall. Average annual snowfall is 67”, with a record high of 168” during the winter of 1970-71 (Natural Resources Branch 2002).

Figure 1. Fort Wainwright training lands.

Historic Background

Prehistoric Context

Interior Alaska has been continuously inhabited for the last 14,000 years, and evidence of this continuum of human activity has been preserved within and around Fort Wainwright’s training lands. Interior Alaska’s ice-free status during the last glacial period provided a corridor connecting the Bering Land Bridge and eastern Asia to North America. This allowed small bands of nomadic peoples to colonize Alaska and the rest of the continent and began a period of

habitation in Interior Alaska that has persisted through the entire Holocene, the arrival of European traders in the late 1810s, the Klondike Gold Rush of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, and the military development of the Interior during the middle of the 20th century. Fort Wainwright's cantonment and training lands comprise a vast and still relatively unsurveyed region with areas of high potential for yielding evidence of this activity.

Alaska has long been regarded as the gateway to the Americas and has held archaeological interest as the possible location for the oldest archaeological sites in the New World. This is due to more than Alaska's proximity to Asia and ice-free condition at the end of the Pleistocene. Similarities between archaeological assemblages in Siberia and Alaska and the discovery of lanceolate projectile points in the muck deposits around Fairbanks in the early 1900s (which bore a resemblance to Clovis points of some antiquity in the American Southwest) also sparked interest in Alaska as a source area for all Native Americans.

After initial colonization, archaeologists generally divide Interior Alaska's prehistory into three broad archaeological themes: the Paleoarctic Tradition (12,000-6,000 years ago[1]), the Northern Archaic Tradition (6,000-1,000 years ago), and the Athabaskan Tradition (1,300-800 years ago) (Potter 2008). Archaeological materials from these cultures are generally limited to lithic artifacts such as projectile points, cutting tools, scrapers, waste flakes from tool manufacturing, faunal remains, and hearths.

Reconstructions of paleoecological evidence suggest that the end of the Pleistocene was marked by a warming trend in Interior Alaska that may have contributed to initial colonization of the area (Bigelow and Powers 2001). Several sites in areas surrounding Army lands demonstrate that people began living in Interior Alaska 14,000 years ago. Significant sites in the Tanana Valley dating between 14,000-12,000 years ago include Healy Lake (Cook 1996), Walker Road (Goebel et al. 1996), Swan Point (Holmes et al. 1996), Mead (Holmes 2001), McDonald Creek (Goebel et al. 2014), and Broken Mammoth (Holmes 1996). There are no sites in Alaska, however, that predate the oldest sites in the contiguous United States, nor do Alaska's oldest sites resemble the Clovis culture (Bigelow and Powers 2001). The Younger Dryas cooling event from 13,000-12,000 years ago may have led to a temporary population decline (Potter 2008) in the Interior before permanent colonization.

The Paleoarctic Tradition is a term now generally used by archaeologists to refer to the earliest settled people known from all over Alaska. It was originally defined by Anderson[2] (Anderson

[1] All dates are given in calendar years *before present*.

[2] Anderson called it the "American Palaeoarctic Tradition," but most researchers use the shortened version.

1968, 1970) as the earliest microblade-using tradition in the American Arctic, with a proposed relationship to northeast Asian, late Pleistocene cultures based on similarities in these distinctive artifact types. Archaeological evidence indicates that early settlers camped on terraces, lakeshores, buttes, and bluffs. By using these locations on high ground, they could locate and track prey that included large mammals such as mammoth and bison. Evidence from the Upward Sun River Site, located on the south side of the Tanana River between Army training areas, for example, demonstrates that hunter-gatherers in Interior Alaska were concentrating on bison and wapiti at the end of the Pleistocene (the Upward Sun River Site is also known for one of the earliest burials in the Americas [Potter 2008; Potter et al. 2008; Potter et al. 2011]). The nearby 14,000 year old McDonald Creek site on Army land had artifacts in association with bison, waterfowl, and small game (Esdale et al. 2012c, Gaines et al. 2011, and Goebel et al. 2014). It is likely that the treeless environment and nomadic nature of these peoples had a direct impact on the kinds of tools they fashioned. Stone, bone, antler, and ivory provided the most abundant material for manufacturing weapons and cutting tools. Artifacts typically associated with this culture include small stone microblades, microblade cores, bifacial projectile points, and unifacial scraping tools.

In Interior Alaska, this tradition historically included two cultural divisions called the Nenana and Denali complexes. The Nenana Complex was identified by Powers and Hoffecker from sites in the Nenana Valley (Powers and Hoffecker 1989). This complex began approximately 11,000 years ago with an artifact assemblage that included triangular or teardrop-shaped, bifacially worked projectile points ("Chindadn" points [Cook 1969, 1975; Holmes and Cook 1999]); large unifacial chopper-like tools; and flake tools. The Nenana Complex is defined as lacking microblades, microblade cores, and burins, and was proposed to predate the microblade-rich Denali Complex. Many Nenana Complex archaeological sites are located in the Tanana Valley, adjacent to Fort Wainwright training lands (Broken Mammoth [Holmes 1996; Yesner et al. 1999], Chugwater [Lively 1996], Donnelly Ridge [West 1967, 1996; Donnelly Ridge is located in the DTA], Healy Lake [Cook 1989], Mead [Holmes 2007] and Swan Point [Holmes et al. 1996; Holmes 1998, 2007]).

The Denali Complex, dated roughly to 10,500 to 8,000 years ago, was originally defined by West (West 1967, 1975) and includes distinctive wedge-shaped microblade cores, core tablets and their derivative microblades, large blades, biconvex bifacial knives, certain end-scraper forms, and burins. West later defined the Denali Complex as a regional variant of the American Paleoarctic Tradition (West 1981). Denali sites in the vicinity of Fort Wainwright's training lands include Mount Hayes (West 1996), Swan Point (Holmes et al. 1996; Holmes 1998, 2007), and Gerstle River (Potter 2001). At least one site in TFTA (FAI-02043) has also been dated to this period.

The relationship between the proposed Nenana and Denali complexes is as of yet unresolved. As discussed above, some researchers view the Nenana Complex as a bifacial industry that predates the microblade-based Denali Complex. However, current research at sites such as Swan Point and Broken Mammoth indicates that microblades and burins were used by the earliest known cultures in Interior Alaska, with a later co-occurrence with Chindadn points—the defining artifact type of the Nenana Complex. Although some archaeologists still believe that there is a cultural distinction between the Nenana and Denali complexes (e.g., Dumond 2001), the general understanding from Interior Alaskan archaeologists is that there is a behavioral explanation for the presence or absence of microblades in different assemblages (Holmes 2001; Potter 2008; Yesner and Pearson 2002). Moreover, both Nenana and Denali technology persist in central Alaska throughout the Holocene (Bever 2006).

Site density declined in the areas around Fort Wainwright in the early Holocene, suggesting a slight depopulation during a period of climate change that initiated the widespread establishment of spruce forests (Potter 2008). The boreal forest in Interior Alaska was established by 8,000 years ago (Bigelow and Powers 2001). Sites from this time period are less well publicized than the older sites, but include Houdini Creek (circa 8,600 years old), Hurricane Bluff (c. 9,800 years old), Lucky Strike (c. 8,500 years old), Gerstle River (c. 10,000 years old), and the Campus Site (c. 7,700 years old) (Pearson and Powers 2001; Potter et al. 2007; Potter 2008). Bison, wapiti, and birds were the most important subsistence game during this period (Potter 2007, 2008).

Site density increased again after about 6,000 years ago in Interior Alaska (Potter 2008). This population increase coincides roughly with the Northern Archaic Tradition and the appearance of side-notched projectile points. Anderson originally defined the Northern Archaic Tradition to specifically address notched point-bearing stratigraphic horizons that did not contain microblades at the Onion Portage site in northern Alaska (Anderson 1968). Alaskan notched points were generally similar to Archaic-age dart points in the contiguous United States. Time has shown middle Holocene assemblages in Alaska to be quite diverse, however, and it is questionable whether this trait is related to southern forms or if it is a reliable indicator of cultural affiliation (Clark 1992; Cook and Gillispie 1986). Artifact assemblages associated with this culture can vary but generally contain myriad tools ranging from bifacial knives and microblades to end scrapers and side-notched points. Middle Holocene hunter-gatherers had a subsistence economy focused on seasonally abundant game including caribou, fish, and moose (Potter 2008). Notched point assemblages occur in many sites in Interior Alaska, including over one dozen on Army-managed lands (XBD-00277, XMH-00277, XMH-00283, XMH-00303, XMH-00309, XMH-00874, XMH-00950, XMH-01130, XMH-01168, and XMH-01300.) Several sites (XBD-00270, XMH-00915, XMH-00925), including the excavated Banjo Lake site in DTA (XMH-

00874), have also produced middle Holocene dates from hearth charcoal. The 6,300-6,700 year old dates from Banjo Lake were also associated with a microblade component (Robertson et al. 2008).

Utilization of microblade and burin-based industries appears to continue through the middle and late Holocene in Interior Alaska (Esdale 2008; Potter 2004). By the late Holocene, archaeologists see a shift from seasonal large mammal hunting with a nomadic lifestyle to a focus on seasonally over-abundant resources, use of storage, and more permanent settlements (Potter 2008b). Artifact assemblages do not drastically change until the last millennium of the Holocene when microblades disappear from the archaeological record (Potter 2008).

Linguistic evidence suggests that the Athabascan culture may have appeared in the Tanana Valley as early as 2,500 years ago. Through ethnography, oral history, and a broad array of cultural items, much has been learned about Athabascan culture and history in the region. Artifacts associated with the Athabascan culture are exceptionally diverse and include bone and antler projectile points, fishhooks, beads, buttons, birch bark trays, and bone gaming pieces. In the Upper Tanana region, copper was available and used in addition to the traditional material types to manufacture tools such as knives, projectile points, awls, ornaments, and axes (Clark 1981). A late prehistoric Athabascan occupation is recognized at several sites in and around Fort Wainwright's training lands (Andrews 1975; Andrews 1987; Cook 1989; Mishler 1986; Sheppard et al. 1991; Shinkwin 1979; Yarborough 1978). Of particular interest in this regard is a copper projectile point found in a buried context at DTA (XBD-00272) (Robertson et al. 2009).

The Athabaskan Tradition includes late prehistoric and proto-historic cultures generally believed to be the ancestors of Athabascan tribes who currently inhabit Interior Alaska. Excavated Athabaskan sites are rare, but the limited body of evidence allows for several generalizations. Raw material usage was reorganized in the Athabaskan Tradition, which de-emphasized stone tool-making and increased the emphasis on the manufacture of items from native copper and organic materials (Dixon 1985). Assemblages include ground and pecked stone artifacts and an increased use of expedient tools. There was a broadening and diversifying of the resource base at this time to include small mammal and freshwater marine animals such as fish and mollusks (McFadyen Clark 1981; McFadyen Clark 1996; Ream 1986; Sheppard et al. 1991; Shinkwin 1979). Athabaskan sites tend to occur in resource-rich areas near lakes, streams and rivers and are generally characterized by large house pit and cache pit features. Proto-historic Athabaskan assemblages include Euro-American trade goods such as glass beads and iron implements. Sites of this time period reflect an increased reliance on outside trade and include log cabins co-occurring with traditional house pits, as well as a change in site location to maximize trading opportunities (Andrews 1975; Andrews 1977; Andrews 1987; McFadyen Clark 1981; VanStone and Goddard 1981).

Athabascan settlement patterns depended greatly on the availability of subsistence resources, and Interior bands lived a nomadic lifestyle. They often traversed vast areas to support themselves and spent considerable time engaged in subsistence activities. It was often necessary for bands to divide into smaller groups to find game, and preserved fish were used as a staple of the diet in addition to fresh game (Andrews 1975).

Four Athabascan linguistic and geographic groups have inhabited the Tanana Valley: the Upper Tanana, Tanacross, Tanana, and Koyukon. Each group is further distinguished according to geographic location. Bands of the Tanana and Tanacross groups are historically associated with the geographic area that embodies Forts Wainwright and Greely. Salcha, Chena, Wood River, Goodpaster, and Healy Lake bands have inhabited the region since protohistoric times and possibly even prehistoric times (Andrews 1975). Use of the region varied from one band to the next. The Salcha, Chena, Goodpaster, and Wood River bands of the Tanana Athabascans and the Healy Lake band of the Tanacross Athabascans used certain parts of what are now Fort Wainwright and Fort Greely (McKennan 1981). Several villages have been reported on or near Fort Wainwright. One occupied by the Wood River band is said to have been located in the southern part of Fort Wainwright but has not been found (Dixon 1980; Reynolds 1986). The Blair Lakes Archaeological District (FAI-00335) on Fort Wainwright may relate to the prehistory of the Athabaskan Tradition. Euro-American historic archaeological sites are also present (Gamza 1995; Phillips 1984).

Historic Context

With the beginning of Euro-American contact in Interior Alaska in the early 19th century, trade influences and influxes of new populations began to change life in the region. Land use patterns shifted from traditional indigenous uses to activities based on Euro-American economic and political systems. Fort Wainwright's training lands fall within an area occupied at the time of Euro-American contact by Lower-Middle Tanana Athabascans, including bands described generally as the Salcha, Big Delta-Goodpaster, Wood River, and Chena bands (McKennan 1981; Andrews 1975; Mishler 1986). Historical accounts document traditional settlement patterns that were focused on a widely mobile seasonal round, with the fall caribou hunt playing a pivotal role in subsistence preparations for the winter and summer activities focused at fish camps, berry and root collecting, and in sheep hunting. These activities were frequently communal, with several local bands connected by common interest, geography, and intermarriage. Despite anthropological attempts to define boundaries for the peoples living in the lower Tanana River Valley, natural terrain served as the only definable boundary to settlement patterns (McKennan 1981).

As Euro-American traders, miners, missionaries, and explorers moved into the Tanana River Valley, the traditional life ways of local Athabascan groups were disrupted. Access to trade goods and the development of the fur trade not only affected traditional material culture, but also began to dramatically affect subsistence activities and settlement patterns. Similarly, the arrival of missionaries in the Alaskan interior profoundly influenced traditional social organization. The introduction of mission schools for Native children and the doctrine of new religious beliefs contributed to an erosion of traditional practices (McKennan 1981).

Russian fur traders began settling Interior Alaska starting in the 1810s, establishing a post at Nulato on the Yukon River and one at Taral on the Copper River. British traders established Fort Yukon in 1847. Trade goods from these posts may have passed to Tanana Athabascans and Upper Tanana Athabascans through intra-Native trade networks. Direct contact between Tanana Athabascans and white traders increased after the 1860s. With the U.S. purchase of Alaska in 1867, control of trading stations and the fur trade passed to Americans. Through the 1880s, American traders established several additional posts on the Yukon and Tanana Rivers, including locations at Nuklukayet (modern-day Tanana), Belle Isle (modern-day Eagle), and Fort Yukon.

Trade goods introduced by Euro-American settlers influenced the Native lifestyle. Clothing, staples, tools, and other necessities could be obtained through trade. Guns allowed hunters to obtain game with greater efficiency. Gradually, Athabascan Native groups began to alter their traditional nomadic patterns in favor of more permanent settlements. However, while significant, this contact would not have as dramatic an impact on the region as the discovery of gold in the Interior during the last decades of the 19th century. The towns established by Euro-American settlers at the turn of the 20th century, in response to the Klondike Gold Rush and the eventual military development of the region, would rapidly and permanently change the demography and economy of Interior Alaska.

Gold strikes in the Fortymile River region, Birch Creek area, and the Canadian Klondike began drawing miners and prospectors north in the 1880s and 1890s. In response to this gold rush, E.T. Barnette established a trading post on the Chena River in 1901. The following year, prospector Felix Pedro discovered gold nearby, and a new gold rush soon led to the founding of Fairbanks at the site of Barnette's original trading post. Most mining activities in the region occurred on creeks north of Fairbanks, with the town serving as a supply center. Agricultural and other commercial activities, such as logging, also developed to support mining activities in the Fairbanks area. Homesteads existed on parts of what is today the main post of Fort Wainwright as early as 1904.

In 1898, the discovery of gold in the Tanana uplands began a rush of Euro-American settlement into the Tanana River Valley. As the economic importance of the Tanana Valley increased, the need for reliable transportation routes and communication systems rose in tandem. Existing trails, such as the Bonnifield, Donnelly-Washburn, and Valdez-Fairbanks trails, saw increased use and development in the first decade of the 20th century. This increase in activity also resulted in the establishment of several roadhouses and posts. In 1906, Congressional appropriations led to improvement of the Valdez-Fairbanks Trail, crossing the Alaska Range south of Delta Junction, following the Tanana River to Fairbanks. Completion of the Alaska Railroad in 1923 was followed two decades later by construction of the Alaska Highway in 1942, firmly tying the Alaskan Interior to the outside.

As Fairbanks grew in the first decade of the 20th century, several agricultural homesteads were developed on lands now encompassed by sections of the Fort Wainwright cantonment. These homesteads provided Fairbanks with a variety of agricultural products and wood for fuel, but were subsumed when lands were withdrawn for the creation of Ladd Field, which later became Fort Wainwright (Price 2002).

Riverboats were the primary means of getting people and supplies into the Interior at the turn of the 20th century. The Fairbanks town site was located at the upper limit of navigation for stern-wheeler riverboats on the Chena River. Upriver from that point, residents navigated the river using shallow-draft boats in summer and sleds in winter. As commerce in the area increased, roads and trails were constructed, sometimes following earlier indigenous routes. The major overland route to the coast was the Valdez-Fairbanks Trail, which began as a military trail from Valdez to Eagle in 1899.

Transportation and communication networks, including the Alaska Railroad, were developed to serve new settlements in Interior Alaska. A branch of the railroad route was extended to Fairbanks in 1904. Roadhouses along the route catered to travelers. Some were located on what are now Fort Wainwright training lands. One property was on the Bonnifield Trail in TFTA, and two roadhouses and a seasonal tent operation existed along the Donnelly-Washburn Trail in the current DTA. Secondary routes connected Fairbanks to the surrounding mining districts.

By 1910, most of the easily accessible placer gold deposits were exhausted, and capital-intensive technologies became necessary to extract remaining deposits. These methods were not possible with the existing transportation infrastructure. The completion of the Alaska Railroad in 1923 expanded transportation options for the region, connecting Fairbanks to Seward and making large-scale dredging operations economically feasible. Aviation also became a key component of Interior transportation, beginning in earnest in the 1920s. However, it was not until 1931 that Weeks Field, originally constructed in 1923, was officially

dedicated as an airfield. Industrialized corporate activity became the hallmark of the region's mining in the remaining years before World War II.

Development in the Alaskan interior increased dramatically with the advent of World War II and subsequent military build-up in Alaska. Of particular significance was the development of airfields near Delta Junction (Fort Greely), Fairbanks (Ladd Field, later Fort Wainwright), and North Pole (Eielson Air Force Base). These locations began as Lend-Lease bases and cold weather testing centers, but soon expanded with the increased need for military support during World War II and later during the Cold War.

Full historic contexts of early mining, transportation, and homesteads on Fort Wainwright have been completed. These studies have determined that there are no properties eligible for the NRHP under these contexts. Several village sites associated with the early contact period have been reported near Fort Wainwright. One was reported near Wood River Buttes, two just northwest of the installation's boundary and one near Fairbanks (Reynolds 1986). None have been reported or located on the Main Post.

Ladd Field National Historic Landmark

In 1935, Ladd Field was authorized as a small cold weather testing station that was envisioned by General H. H. Arnold. Construction began in 1939, and, by 1940, Ladd Field was operational.

Cold weather testing at Ladd Field helped to improve the aircraft and equipment used by front-line aircrews. The Cold Weather Test Detachment's experimental tests contributed to the development of aircraft design, ground procedures and personnel equipment with stateside research agencies and manufacturers. After the start of World War II, Ladd Field also served as the transfer point for the Alaska Siberia (ALSIB) Lend-Lease aid to the Soviet Union. From 1942 to the end of the war in 1945, Ladd Field saw 7,926 aircraft and associated cargo change hands. Though it was controversial, the Lend-Lease aid to the Soviet Union played some part in the eventual defeat of Nazi Germany. Ladd Field also served as an air depot for the repair and supply of aircraft under the Air Transport Command, processing thousands of passengers as well as tons of cargo and mail.

In 1984, Ladd Field was listed on the NRHP and designated as a National Historic Landmark. Ladd Field was listed as significant for three main themes: (1) cold weather testing; (2) aircraft repair, supply depot and air transfer hub; and (3) as the transfer point for aircraft and cargo transiting the ALSIB route to the Soviet Union.

In 1947, the Air Force became a separate service, and Ladd Field became known as Ladd Air Force Base (AFB). Missions flown out of Ladd AFB played a significant role in the early years of

the Cold War confrontation with the Soviet Union. Early in the Cold War, military planners decided on a heartland concept for Alaskan defense, concentrating on bases near Anchorage and Fairbanks as the strategic anchor points. Ladd AFB became the Northern Sector Headquarters for the Alaskan Air Command, and its foremost missions during the Cold War were air defense, strategic reconnaissance and arctic research.

Ladd AFB's air defense mission was part of the plan to deter the Soviet Union from taking Alaskan territory and using it as a base from which to threaten the continental United States. Ladd AFB hosted tactical fighter intercept squadrons and combat alert cells. An Air Defense Command Center located on Ladd AFB was responsible for directing air battles in Alaska's northern sector. It also provided support to segments of the Distant Early Warning Line. In the earliest years of the Cold War, Ladd AFB hosted some of the first long-range strategic aerial reconnaissance units.

Ladd AFB was also the scene of significant Cold War arctic research. The cold weather equipment testing, begun during World War II, continued through the Cold War and expanded to include the Arctic Aeromedical Laboratory (AAL). The AAL studied human adaptation to arctic and sub-arctic climates with an eye toward military applications.

In 2001, the Ladd AFB Cold War Historic District was determined eligible for the NRHP. It was determined to be significant for its role in the early Cold War missions of the 46th/72nd Air Reconnaissance unit and for the fighter intercept squadrons stationed here.

Fort Wainwright

In 1960, Ladd AFB was transferred to the Army and was renamed Fort Jonathan Wainwright on 1 January 1961. In Alaska, Cold War missions were predominately under the command of the Air Force, with the Army providing ground force defense and logistical supply. The Army also carried out cold weather training tactics and cold weather equipment testing. The onset of the Vietnam War and its high costs drained the Army's resources; troops at Wainwright were reassigned or deployed, causing a significant decrease in the post's population. In 1986, the mission of the post changed once again with the assignment of the 6th Light Infantry Division to Fort Wainwright. Since 1986, Fort Wainwright's mission has been to support worldwide deployment.

Status of Archaeological Resources

Archaeological research on Fort Wainwright training areas has resulted in numerous technical reports (Bacon 1979; Bacon and Holmes 1979; Carlson et al. 2016; Dixon et al. 1980; Esdale et al. 2016, 2015b, 2015c, 2014, 2013, 2012a, 2012b, and 2012c; Esdale and McLaren 2014, 2013; Esdale and Robertson 2007; Espenshade 2010; Bradley et al. 1973; Gaines 2009; Gaines et al.

2010, 2010; Hedman et al. 2003; Higgs et al. 1999; Holmes 1979; Johnson and Bozarth 2008; Marshal 2007; Potter 2005; Potter et al. 2000; Rabich and Reger 1978; Raymond-Yakoubian 2006; Raymond-Yakoubian and Robertson 2005; Robertson et al. 2013; Robertson 2010; Robertson et al. 2004, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009; Staley 1993) and scientific papers (Esdale et al. 2015a, Holmes and Anderson 1986; West 1967, 1975).

Fort Wainwright and its training lands contain 696 known archaeological sites, one traditional cultural property, and six archaeological districts. Seventy-two sites are eligible for the NRHP, 526 sites have not been evaluated, and 98 additional sites have been determined ineligible for the NRHP. Of the eligible or un-evaluated sites, 10 are historic and 588 are prehistoric sites.

Archaeological surveys of the Fort Wainwright Main Post area began in 1979. Jim Dixon surveyed the north side of the Chena River and Birch Hill area, discovering and relocating several prehistoric archaeological sites (FAI-00040, 00041, 00042, 00043, 00199, and 00200) (Dixon et al. 1980). Surveys of the Main Post building areas continued in the 1980s by Julia Steele (Steele 1992, 1983) and Georgianne Reynolds (Reynolds 1983, 1985). No sites were found in these previously disturbed areas. John Cook surveyed the River Road pond in 1996 and found one site (FAI-50009), which has failed to be relocated in subsequent attempts. In 2001, the Army began partnering cultural resources surveys and evaluations with CEMML. Surveys by several different principal investigators have targeted areas of construction undertakings. Two historic sites (FAI-01603 and 01604) and one additional prehistoric site (FAI-01990) were found in these investigations. In 2011 and 2012, CEMML archaeologists completed survey of the entire cantonment, north and south of the Chena River, discovering three additional historic sites (FAI-02117, FAI-02197, and FAI-02198). Two sites were evaluated for the NRHP in 2013 (FAI-00199 and FAI-00200). Of the 11 archaeological sites known from the Fort Wainwright cantonment, 10 have been determined not eligible and one has been determined eligible (FAI-00040) for the NRHP. This total does not include any historic buildings related to the Ladd Field National Historic Landmark or Ladd AFB Historic District.

Archaeological sites were first identified in the TFTA in 1973 by Zorro Bradley and others who conducted a survey in the Blair Lakes area (Bradley et al. 1973). James Dixon continued surveys for archaeological district designations in the regions of Blair Lakes (District FAI-00335), Clear Creek Butte (District FAI-00336), and Wood River Buttes (District FAI-00337) (Dixon et al. 1980). In 1993, proposed work in the Clear Creek Butte area prompted a contract to relocate several archaeological sites (Staley 1993). These three districts have been revisited by CEMML archaeologists a few times over the last decade, and, notably, 92 new sites were found in 2009-2010 during survey of the Wood River Buttes, Salmon Loaf, and north and east of Blair Lakes. The district boundaries were adjusted in 2016 to accommodate the new discoveries (Carlson et

al. 2016). Recent surveys have focused on the Blair Lakes region which has a long history of use dating from late glacial times to the more recent homesteading period and has also been a significant region for military training. This area hosts the second oldest archaeological site in all of Alaska, the McDonald Creek site (FAI-02043), with stone tool debris dating to 13,900 years ago (Esdale et al. 2014). In total, archaeologists have identified 168 archaeological sites in TFTA. Of these sites, 17 have been determined eligible for inclusion in the NRHP, one site is not eligible (FAI-00053) and 150 remain to be evaluated for eligibility.

The road system in the YTA was the first of many areas to be investigated. Charles Holmes discovered eight sites in a 1978 road survey (Holmes 1979). John Cook conducted a Determination of Eligibility (DOE) evaluation on one of these sites in 1979 (Cook 1979). Michael Kunz surveyed the Stuart Creek area in 1992 but discovered no archaeological sites, and Northern Land Use Research's 1999 survey of Stuart Creek and the YTA road system uncovered one historic site (Higgs et al. 1999). CEMML archaeologists have been surveying portions of YTA in conjunction with construction projects on an annual basis since 2001. Currently, North Beaver Creek, Skyline, Johnson, Quarry, Brigadier, and Manchu Roads in YTA are almost entirely surveyed, as is the area east of Skyline Road outside of the Stuart Creek Impact Area, McMahon Trench, the Manchu Range, and the majority of Training Areas 307 and 310, north and south of Manchu and Quarry Roads. Twenty-two archaeological sites have been identified in YTA. Thirteen of the sites have been determined not eligible for listing in the NRHP and nine have not been evaluated. Surveys continue annually in YTA in association with range control development projects and timber sales.

Archaeological investigations in what is now the DTA began in the 1960s, when Frederick West was searching for sites related to the first Americans (West 1967). He excavated the Donnelly Ridge site (XMH-00005) in 1964 and found an assemblage containing microblade core technology similar to early Holocene Denali Complex sites. Several surveys of Fort Greely and adjacent training lands in the late 1970s documented 64 new sites (Rabich and Reger 1977; Bacon 1979; Holmes 1979; Bacon and Holmes 1979). Julia Steele surveyed various locations in DTA from 1980-1983, finding four additional new sites (Steele 1980a, 1980b, 1982a, 1982b, 1983a, 1983b), and Georgianne Reynolds surveyed the Donnelly Dome area in 1988, locating one more site (Reynolds 1988). Investigations in DTA from 1992-2002 were made by D. Staley (Staley 1993), T. Gamza (Gamza 1995), A. Higgs (Higgs et al. 1999), and D. Odess (Odess 2002). Sixteen new sites were found during this decade of fieldwork, and attempts were made to relocate old sites.

Concentrated efforts to expand survey coverage of DTA East began with CEMML archaeologists in 2002. Over 200 new sites were located in the Texas Range, Donnelly Drop Zone, and Eddy Drop Zone in the first half of the decade. In 2007, one site was found in the northernmost

portion of DTA West by Ben Potter and others during survey for the Alaska Railroad Northern Rail Extension Project (Potter et al. 2007). In recent years, CEMML research aimed to evaluate many known archaeological sites in DTA for inclusion in the NRHP in conjunction with use of the BAX and its SDZ. Sites have also been discovered during surveys for road and trail maintenance. Potential expansions into DTA West, west of the Delta River, prompted 2011 and 2012 surveys into new areas such as Molybdenum Ridge, where 21 new sites were discovered in 2011. Because of its remote setting, however, the archaeology of Donnelly West is still poorly understood and represents a gap in the USAG FWA's inventory of cultural properties. The Cold Regions Test Center (CRTC) has also contracted with CEMML and others since the last Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) to survey areas in DTA West, east of the Little Delta River, and many new archaeological sites have been recorded (Espenshade 2010).

To date, 470 archaeological sites have been identified within DTA. Fifty-four sites have been found to be eligible for the NRHP, and 67 were found not eligible. An additional 349 sites remain to be evaluated. Historic archaeology sites are poorly represented in this region, with only three currently known to exist. The Donnelly Ridge Archaeological District (XMH-00388) encompasses Denali Complex sites, identified by Frederick West, south and west of Donnelly Dome. Two new prehistoric districts were identified in 2016, east and west of Jarvis Creek: the Jarvis Creek Archaeological District and the Heart among the Glaciers Archaeological District (Carlson et al. 2016). Future archaeological studies in DTA will concentrate on completing survey of 100% of the land in DTA East, conducting DOEs on archaeological sites in high traffic areas, and exploring parts of DTA West that are opening up for expansion of military training activities.

Despite its incomplete nature, the archaeological record known from DTA represents all of the currently recognized prehistoric cultures of the Alaskan Interior. Of significance is the role played by sites located on DTA in the definition of the Denali Complex of the American Paleoarctic Tradition (Anderson 1970; West 1967, 1981). The oldest dates for human habitation at DTA are roughly 10,100 years at site XBD-00167 (Higgs et al. 1999) and 10,900 radiocarbon years BP at XMH-00297 (Potter et al. 2016); however, undisturbed stratigraphic deposits that are 12,800-12,930 years old indicate the potential for intact archaeological occupations of this age. Sites yielding Northern Archaic side-notched points are common (Robertson et al. 2004, 2005; Raymond-Yakoubian and Robertson 2005). At DTA, site XMH-00874 yielded an AMS date of 5720 ± 50 BP from hearth charcoal associated with a microblade component (Esdale et al. 2015, Robertson et al. 2008). A late prehistoric Athabaskan occupation is recognized at several sites (e.g., Andrews 1975, 1987; Cook 1989; Mishler 1986; Sheppard et al. 1991; Shinkwin 1979; Yarborough 1978). Of particular interest in this regard is a copper projectile point found in a

buried context at DTA at site XBD-00272 (Robertson et al. 2009). Euro-American historic archaeological sites are also present (Gamza 1995; Phillips 1984). The Delta River Overlook Site (XMH-00297), in current excavation by UAF and CEMML archaeologists may prove to be one of the most significant prehistoric sites in the region. The site, overlooking the Delta River from a high bluff, has deeply stratified deposits and contains evidence of at least ten occupations over the time span of 3,000 to 11,000 years before present. People using the site were hunting bison in the river valley and processing the animals on the bluff edge. This site provides important evidence concerning changing subsistence strategies and tool technology over time (Potter et al. 2016).

Survey efforts increased in 2013 in the Black Rapids Training Area (BRTA) in advance of military installation of a high-angle marksmanship range. Ten sites, eight of which were discovered during CEMML surveys in 2013, are known from this rocky landscape. Four sites have been determined ineligible for the NRHP, and all sites are small surface lithic scatters and isolated points as there is very little deposition in most of the mountainous training area. An additional surficial prehistoric site, XMH-01504, was found in the small Whistler Creek Training Area (WCTA) to the south of BRTA in 2015.

The Gerstle River Training Area (GRTA), Tok Fuel Terminal, and Haines Fuel Terminal, also managed by Fort Wainwright, have been infrequently utilized for training activities, and very few surveys or identification of archaeological sites have occurred in these areas. CEMML archaeologists surveyed small portions of GRTA in 2011 through 2013. Three prehistoric sites (XMH-01359, XMH-01494, and XMH-01509) are known from this training area. One site, XMH-01494 was determined ineligible in 2013 (Esdale et al. 2013b). Six sites were discovered at Tok Fuel Terminal by John Cook in the early 1980s. Three of these sites have been found ineligible for the NRHP (TNX-00006, 00007, 00008). These were relocated in 2013 (Esdale et al. 2013b). In 2015 and 2016, surveys of the landform found an additional seven sites. One eligible traditional cultural property is also known from this training area. One ineligible historic site is known from Haines Fuel Terminal (SKG-00043), but no surveys have been completed in this area since 2001.

2015 & 2016 Non-Jurisdictional Properties

Section 106 Activities

The US Army Alaska (USARAK) conducted a winter rescue simulation in the Deadhorse Dropzone, 2 km south of Deadhorse, Alaska in February of 2015 and 2016 (Figure 2). Section 106 correspondence for the 2015 exercise included a finding of "No Historic Properties Affected" which attained SHPO concurrence on 11 February 2015. A similar exercise was devised in 2016. During the 2016 section 106 correspondence, concurrence for a finding of "No Historic Properties Affected" for the duration of USARAK land use permit (#LAS 29998) expiring in 2019 was requested. Concurrence for the undertaking was given by the SHPO on 3 February 2016.

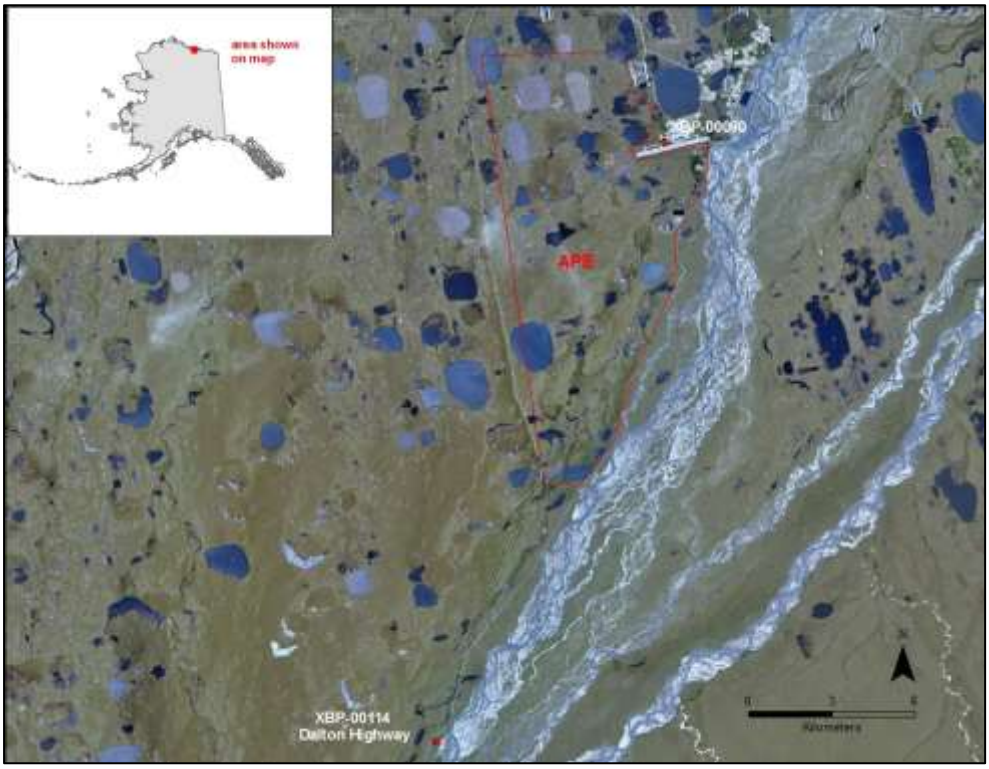


Figure 2. Deadhorse project APE and nearby sites from the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey.

Archaeological Surveys

No archaeological surveys took place outside of Army-managed lands in 2015 or 2016.

Archaeological Sites and Determinations of Eligibility

No new archaeological sites were discovered outside of Army-managed lands in 2015 or 2016.

No sites were evaluated for NRHP status outside of Army-managed lands in 2015 or 2016.

2015 & 2016 Cantonment

Section 106 Activities

During 2015 and 2016, no projects took place in areas that would impact archaeological sites and all activities were covered under Fort Wainwright's Operation and Maintenance Programmatic Agreement with the SHPO (see Thomas 2014).

Archaeological Surveys

A 100% survey of Fort Wainwright's cantonment and adjacent areas was completed in 2012 (Figure 3). No new archaeological surveys took place in the cantonment or in adjacent areas in 2015 or 2016.

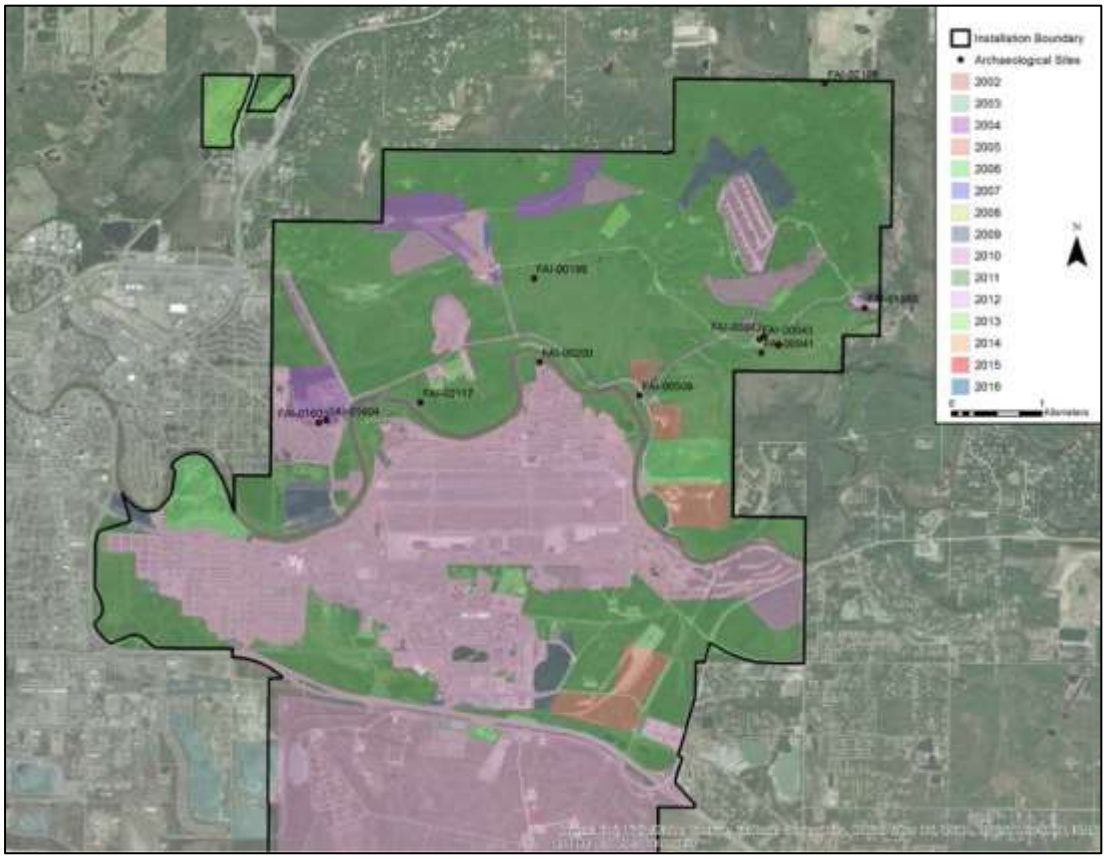


Figure 3. Archaeological surveys by year, Fort Wainwright Cantonment.

Archaeological Sites and Determinations of Eligibility

No new archaeological sites were discovered in the cantonment or in adjacent areas in 2015 or 2016. No sites were evaluated for NRHP status in the cantonment in 2015 or 2016.

2015 & 2016 Tanana Flats Training Area

Section 106 Activities

Only one activity requiring Section 106 consultation took place in 2015 or 2016. Texas A&M University renewed their Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) permit for excavations at the late prehistoric Mc Donald Creek Site, near Blair Lakes. This required updating FW-MOA-1409 to extend the timeframe of excavations to the 2016-2018 field seasons. Kelly Graf (Texas A&M University) and Julie Esdale (Colorado State University) received a National Science Foundation grant to fund the excavations. The document FW-MOA-1409A1 was signed by all parties on 26 May 2016.

Archaeological Surveys

A total of 520 acres of land were surveyed for archaeological sites and historic features in TFTA during 2015 and another 451 acres were surveyed in 2016 (Figure 4). Surveys in 2015 were in support of Joint Pacific Alaska Range Complex (JPARC) road routes into the Blair Lakes Bombing Range from the railroad bridge (328 acres), a tactical assembly area on the west side of the railroad bridge into the TFTA (29.7 acres), and future JPARC-related activities southwest of Blair Lakes (156 acres). Six and a half acres in the northern portion of the training area were also surveyed in the location of a World War II, F-82 plane crash. During the 2016 field season, survey efforts were centered on the Clear Creek Assault Strip area for potential bivouac locations and staging areas (451.4 acres).

Between 2002 and 2016, CEMML archaeologists have conducted systematic archaeological survey on 9,262 acres of land in TFTA (Figure 5). This accounts for approximately 1.6% of available survey areas (not including bombing ranges). The majority of upland locations in the training area have had at least preliminary survey but historic features are also known from lowland areas.

Archaeological Sites and Determinations of Eligibility

Five new sites were added to the AHRS in 2015 (FAI-02368, 02391, 02392, 02393, and 02394). Four of the sites were new prehistoric discoveries located in the hills southwest of Blair Lakes. The fifth site is a F82 crash site one in the flats south of Fairbanks (Figure 6). One prehistoric site was located near the Clear Creek Assault strip in 2016 (FAI-02361).

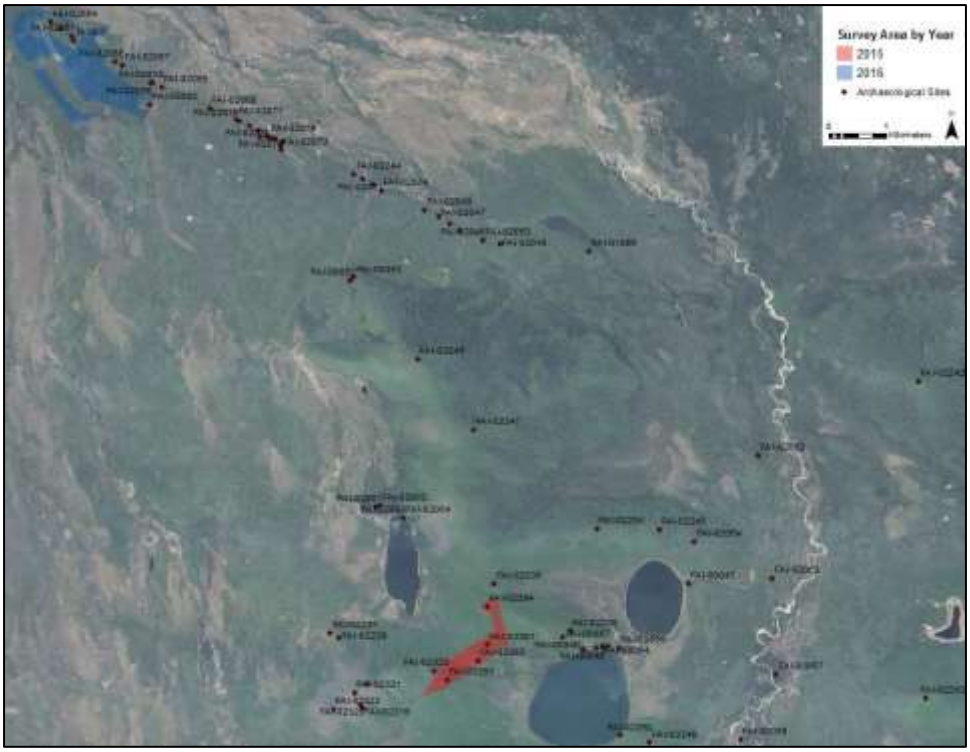


Figure 4. Archaeological surveys in TFTA 2015 (red) and 2016 (blue).

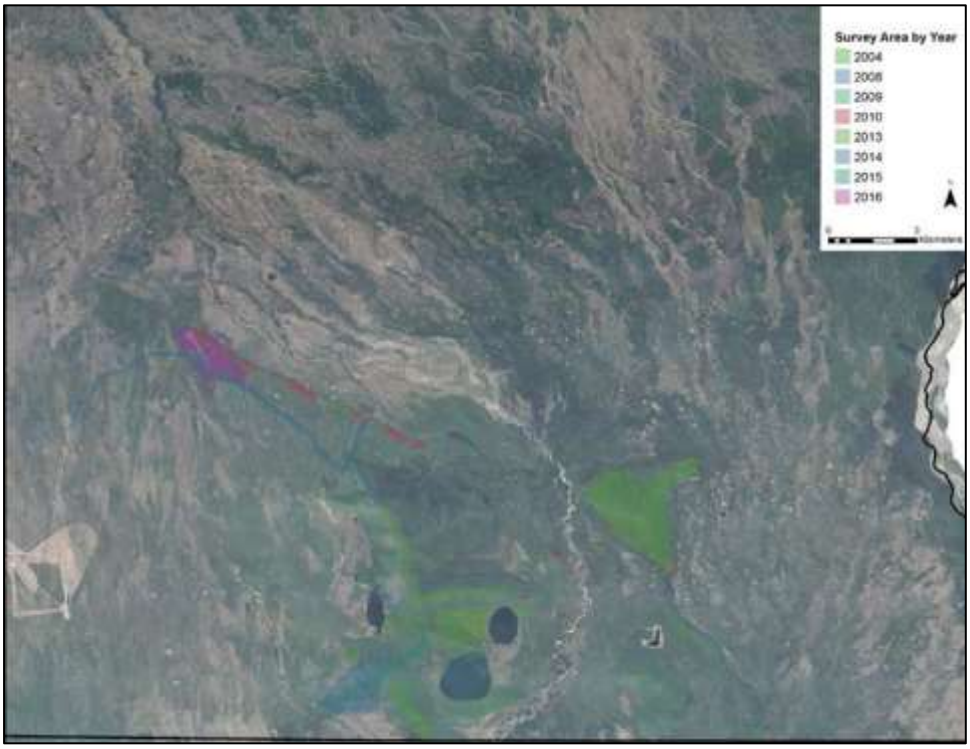


Figure 5. Archaeological surveys by year, TFTA.

Several sites were revisited, and several of which were evaluated for their eligibility on the NRHP. Investigations at FAI-00044 took place in 2015, finishing up work done in 2013 and 2014 when the site boundaries and significance were under consideration. In the description below, USAG FWA proposes to combine sites FAI-00044, 00045, 00048 and 00049 on the north shore of Blair Lakes south into one site that stretches the entire length of the lake, FAI-00044. In 2015, five sites in TFTA (FAI-02238, 02323, 02391, 02392, and 02394) were evaluated for the NRHP. Nine sites were revisited to determine their southern boundaries (FAI-02054 through 02062) and two sites were evaluated for the NRHP during the 2016 field season (FAI-02246 and 02247). Site information is provided below in order by AHRS number (Figure 7).

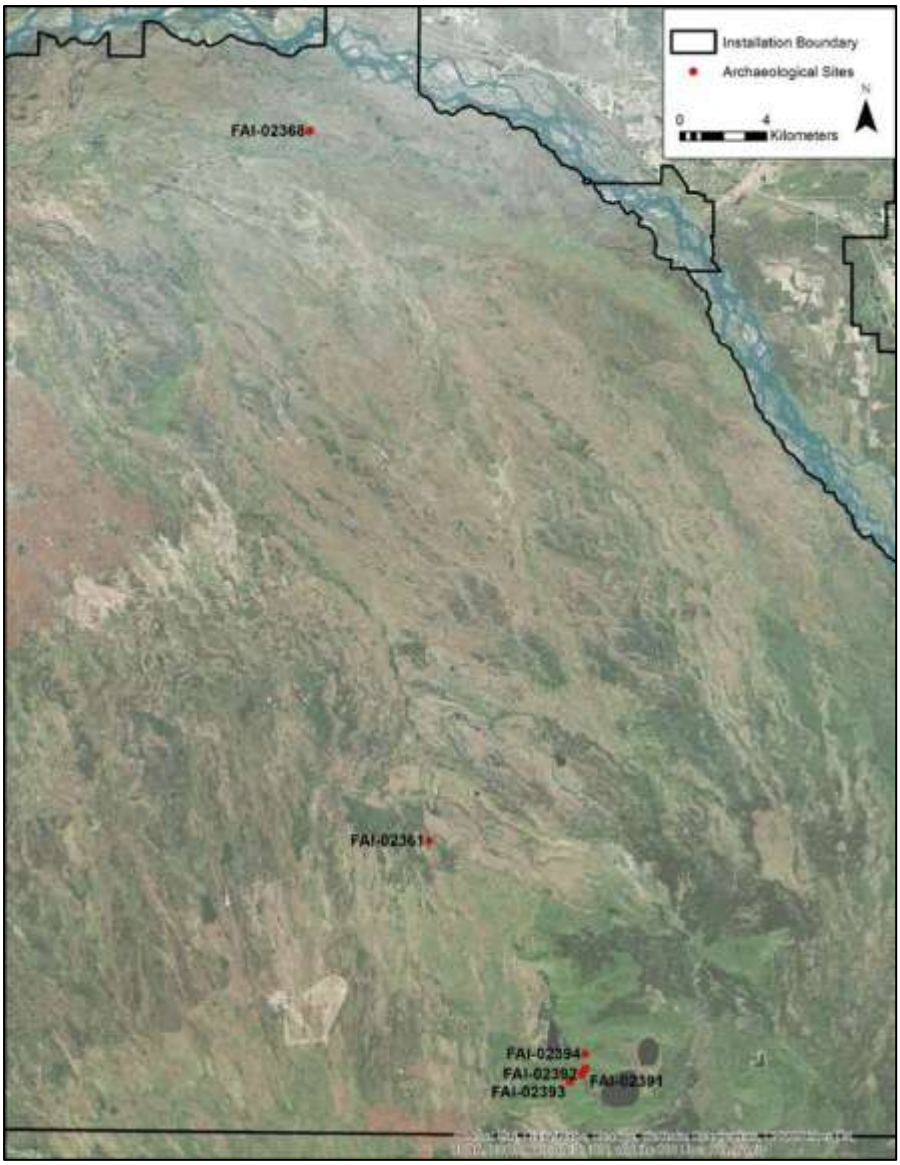


Figure 6. TFTA sites added to the AHRS in 2015 and 2016.

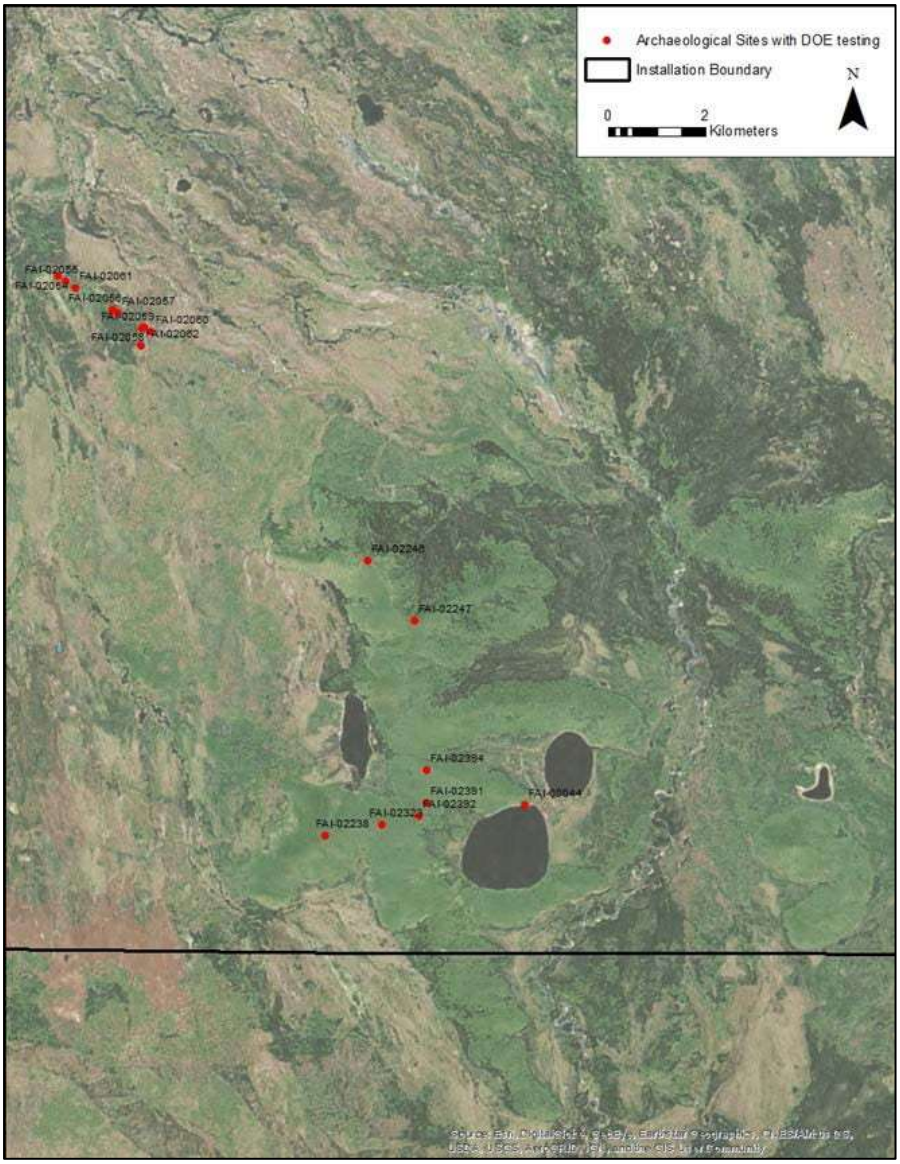


Figure 7. TFTA sites with DOEs or boundary testing in 2015 and 2016.

In 2015, CEMML archaeologists also returned to the north shore of Blair Lakes (FAI-00044) to continue exploring the boundaries of the site and defining site formation processes and cultural components at the excavation locality. The crew reopened the 2x2m block excavation and a 2x1m block south of the main excavations, both begun in 2014 (Figure 8). The lowest five stratigraphic units were excavated in all units and yielded artifacts consistent with the oldest three cultural components encountered in the surrounding excavations. Excavations in the 2015 excavation block (N96 E99, N96 E100, N95 E99, N95 E100) continued through the last of the lower Ab_2 horizon left in the block units at the end of the 2014 field season, and the A/B

contact in the southern 2x1 excavation, and ended 10 cm into the cultural sterile basal sands that have been documented along the entire length of the tested lake shore.

In the 2015 excavation, artifacts associated with three cultural components were encountered (cultural component 3 (3280+/- 30 BP), component 2 (7830+/- 30 BP), and component 1 (9040 +/- 40 BP)) (Table 1). Associated with component 3, a number of flakes (produced on chert, rhyolite, and obsidian) were recovered, as well as microblades (produced on chert, obsidian, and rhyolite), a knife produced on chert, and a large, finished lanceolate projectile point produced on obsidian. The 2013 and 2014 excavations demonstrated that the component 2 lithic assemblage was dominated by microblade production, and the artifacts encountered in this context during the 2015 excavations continued to confirm this pattern. In the lower Ab_1 horizon, lithic materials including flakes, flake fragments, and numerous microblades and microblades fragments produced on fine-grained volcanic materials, rhyolites, cherts, and obsidians were recovered. The lowest cultural component at the site, component 1, was encountered at the contact of the lower loess stratigraphic unit and the massive sand layer that represents base of cultural activity around the lake shore. At this stratigraphic contact, a number of flakes and flake fragments dominated by a dark gray/black fine-grained volcanic material that was present in many of the component 1 artifacts during the 2014 excavations was found. A large end scraper *in situ* on the contact of stratigraphic units 2 and 1 in Unit N93 E100 was also identified.

The data gathered during recent investigations is currently being analyzed as part of a PhD dissertation project by Texas A&M student and CEMML archaeologist, Joshua Lynch. The 2015 further testing around ST18 and the excavation units established in 2014 on the northern shore of Blair Lake south greatly enhanced the archaeological understanding of the historic and prehistoric occupations of the lake shore as well as led to a better understanding of the geologic processes that affected the archaeological site formation on the north shore of the southern Blair Lake. Because artifacts are found along the entire shoreline along the lake, because boundaries between the sites are not found to exist, and for easier documentation and data management, the USAG FWA proposes to act on Dixon et al.'s 1980 suggestion and amalgamate all four of the prehistoric sites originally defined for the north shore (FAI-00044, FAI-00045, FAI-00048, and FAI-00049) under the same AHRS number, FAI-00044 (Figure 9). Previously artifacts in the lake were recorded under the archaeological district number (FAI-00335). Instead, all artifacts should be in different localities of the same site (FAI-00044).

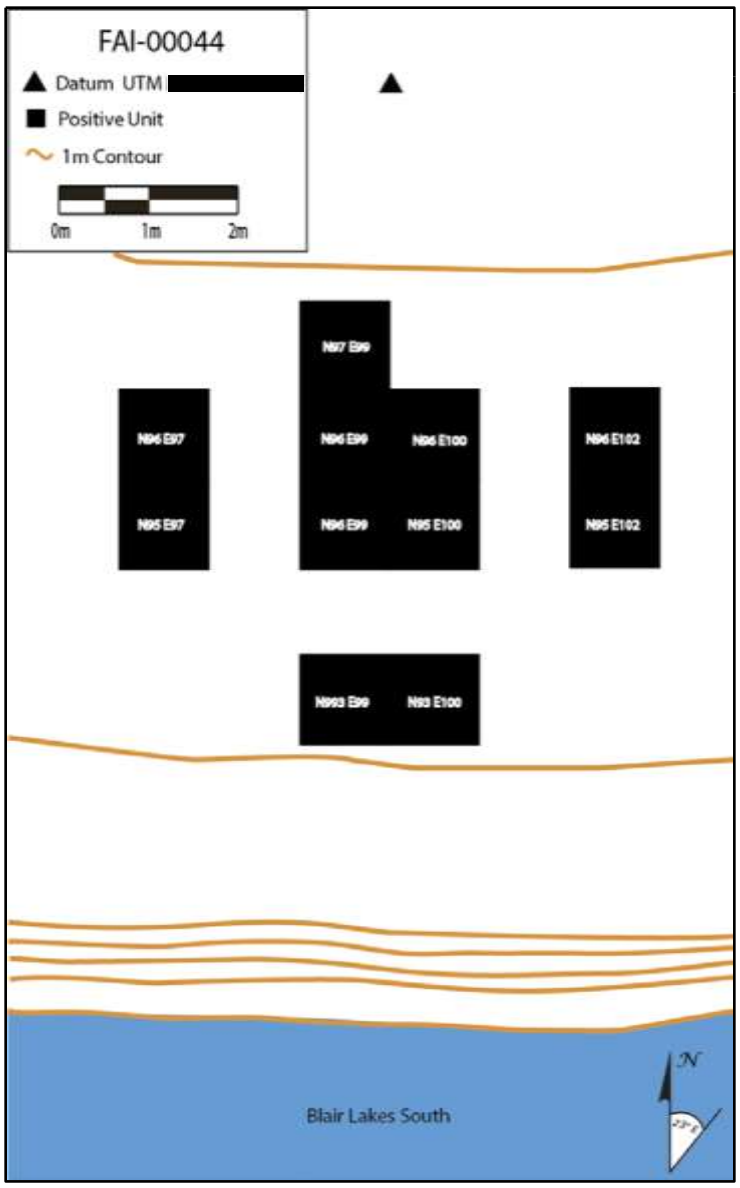


Figure 8. 2015 testing at FAI-00044.

Table 1. 2015 artifact accession list for FAI-00044

Accession #	Square	Northing	Easting	Elevation	Description
UA2015-138-1	N96E100			99.10-99.05	Screen Bag (2)
UA2015-138-2	N96E100	96.484	100.713	99	Flake
UA2015-138-3	N96E100	96.929	100.55	99.018	Flake
UA2015-138-4	N96E100	96.567	100.154	99.061	Flake
UA2015-138-5	N96E100	96.665	100.138	99.049	Flake
UA2015-138-6	N96E100	96.733	100.232	99.044	Flake
UA2015-138-7	N96E100	96.937	100.1	99.052	Flake
UA2015-138-8	N96E100	96.579	100.118	99.055	Flake

UA2015-138-9	N96E100	96.616	100.128	99.05	Flake
UA2015-138-10	N96E100			99.00-99.05	Screen Bag (2)
UA2015-138-11	N96E100	96.348	100.954	98.982	Flake
UA2015-138-12	N96E100			99.00-99.05	Screen Bag (12)
UA2015-138-13	N96E100			99.03-99.01	Screen, Floor Cleanup (2)
UA2015-138-14	N96E100			99.05-99.00	Screen Flakes (3)
UA2015-138-15	N96E100	96.262	100.65	98.98	Flake
UA2015-138-16	N96E100	96.581	100.839	98.998	Flake
UA2015-138-17	N96E100	96.695	100.949	99.994	Flake
UA2015-138-18	N96E100			99.00-98.95	Screen Flake
UA2015-138-19	N96E100			99.05-99.00	Screen Flakes (4)
UA2015-138-20	N95E100			98.93-98.90	Screen - Floor Cleanup
UA2015-138-21	N95E100			99.00-98.95	Screen - Sand (3)
UA2015-138-22	N95E100	95.802	100.664	98.96	Flake on silt lens
UA2015-138-23	N95E100	95.853	100.746		Flake on silt lens
UA2015-138-24	N95E100	95.908	100.737	98.951	Flake on silt lens
UA2015-138-25	N95E100	95.88	100.272	98.947	Flake on silt lens
UA2015-138-26	N95E100			99.00-98.95	Screen - silt
UA2015-138-27	N95E100	95.317	100.806	98.928	Flake on silt
UA2015-138-28	N95E100	95.496	100.899	98.918	Flake on silt
UA2015-138-29	N95E100	95.004	100.655	98.934	Charcoal
UA2015-138-30	N95E100	95.429	100.734	98.92	Flake on silt lens
UA2015-138-31	N95E100	95.51	100.704	98.909	Flake on silt
UA2015-138-32	N95E100	95.419	100.01	98.847	Flake on silt lens
UA2015-138-33	N95E100	95.465	100.477	98.889	Flake on silt lens
UA2015-138-34	N95E100			98.95-98.90	Screen
UA2015-138-35	N95E100			98.90-98.85	Screen
UA2015-138-36	N95E100	95.341	100.155	98.844	Flake in silt
UA2015-138-37	N95E100	95.068	100.821	98.89	Flake in silt
UA2015-138-38	N95E100	95.055	100.587	98.884	Flake in silt
UA2015-138-39	N95E100	95.156	100.669	98.884	Flake in silt
UA2015-138-40	N95E100	95.459	100.503	98.879	Flake on silt
UA2015-138-41	N95E100	95.109	100.503	98.879	Flake on silt
UA2015-138-42	N95E100			98.90-98.87	Screen Bag
UA2015-138-43	N95E100	95.427	100.008	98.875	Flake in silt
UA2015-138-44	N95E100	95.355	100.146	98.871	Flake in silt
UA2015-138-45	N95E100	95.312	100.177	98.857	Flake in silt
UA2015-138-46	N95E100	95.221	100.193	98.851	Utilized flake in silt
UA2015-138-47	N95E100			98.87-98.85	Screen Bag
UA2015-138-48	N95E100	95.366	100.371	98.801	Flake in silt
UA2015-138-49	N95E100	95.145	100.414	98.8	End Scraper in silt
UA2015-138-50	Test Pit 18				Floor Cleanup
UA2015-138-51	N93E100	93.76	100.84	99.046	Flake Fragment
UA2015-138-52	N93E100			99.07-99.05	Screen Bag
UA2015-138-53	N93E100			99.05	Microblade Flake
UA2015-138-54	N93E100	93.314	100.421	99.006	Microblade Flake
UA2015-138-55	N93E100	93.624	100.074	99.005	Obsidian Flake
UA2015-138-56	N93E100	93.968	100.173	99.033	Flake
UA2015-138-57	N93E100	93.594	100.489	99.023	Charcoal

UA2015-138-58	N93E100	93.781	100.045	98.98	Flake
UA2015-138-59	N93E100	93.583	100.109	99	Microblade Flake
UA2015-138-60	N93E100			99.00-99.05	Screen Bag
UA2015-138-61	N93E100	93.954	100.714	99.014	Flake
UA2015-138-62	N93E100	93.461	100.217	98.962	Charcoal
UA2015-138-63	N93E100			99.00-99.05	Screen Bag
UA2015-138-64	N93E100	93.068	100.023	98.969	Flake
UA2015-138-65	N93E100			98.95-99.00	Screen Bag
UA2015-138-66	N93E100	93.886	100.507	98.979	Microblade Flake
UA2015-138-67	N93E100	93.929	100.324	98.971	Flake
UA2015-138-68	N93E100	93.617	100.373	98.955	Obsidian Flake
UA2015-138-69	N93E100			98.95-99.00	Screen Bag - Microblade
UA2015-138-70	N93E100			98.95-99.00	Screen Bag - Microblade
UA2015-138-71	N93E100			98.95-99.00	Screen Bag (6)
UA2015-138-72	N93E100	93.9	100.406	98.949	Flake
UA2015-138-73	N93E100			99	Screen Bag - Microblade
UA2015-138-74	N93E100	93.069	100.511	98.964	Knife
UA2015-138-75	N93E100	93.89	100.496	98.985	Microblade Frag.
UA2015-138-76	N93E100	93.179	100.554	98.958	Flake - Obsidian
UA2015-138-77	N93E100	93.803	100.634	98.977	Flake
UA2015-138-78	N93E100	93.103	100.584	98.925	Obsidian Biface
UA2015-138-79	N93E100	93.64	100.491	98.952	Flake - Obsidian
UA2015-138-80	N93E100			99.00-98.95	Screen Bag
UA2015-138-81	N93E100	93.148	100.171	98.902	Obsidian Microblade
UA2015-138-82	N93E100	93.055	100.145	98.897	Flake - Chert
UA2015-138-83	N93E100			98.95-98.90	Screen Bag
UA2015-138-84	N93E100	93.623	100.384	98.917	Flake
UA2015-138-85	N93E100	93.65	100.085	98.927	Charcoal
UA2015-138-86	N93E100	93.707	100.25	98.908	Flake
UA2015-138-87	N93E100			98.95-98.90	Screen Bag
UA2015-138-88	N93E100			99.85-99.85	Screen Bag
UA2015-138-89	N93E100			98.90-98.95	Screen Bag
UA2015-138-90	N93E100	93.647	100.084	98.836	Flake - broken into two
UA2015-138-91	N93E100	93.591	100.344	98.845	Obsidian Microblade
UA2015-138-92	N93E100			98.90-98.85	Screen Bag
UA2015-138-93	N93E100	93.16	100.249	98.801	Obsidian Flake
UA2015-138-94	N93E100	93.868	100.245	98.806	Flake
UA2015-138-95	N93E100	93.868	100.793	98.888	Microblade Frag.
UA2015-138-96	N93E100	93.751	100.519	98.864	Flake
UA2015-138-97	N93E100			98.90-98.85	Screen Bag (5)
UA2015-138-98	N93E100	93.599	100.034	98.906	Flake - Obsidian
UA2015-138-99	N93E100			98.85-98.80	Screen Bag (2)
UA2015-138-100	N93E100			98.8098.75	Screen Bag
UA2015-138-101	N93E100				Wall Clean-up
UA2015-138-102	N93E99	93.362	99.783	99.004	Flake - gray chert
UA2015-138-103	N93E99			30-35	Flake
UA2015-138-104	N93E99	93.69	99.674	98.982	Charcoal
UA2015-138-105	N93E99	93.834	99.315	99.015	Flake - gray chert
UA2015-138-106	N93E99			30-35	Flake - chert

UA2015-138-107	N93E99	93-954	99.797	98.992	Flake - chert
UA2015-138-108	N93E99			30-35	Screen Bag (3)
UA2015-138-109	N93E99			35-40	Obsidian Flake
UA2015-138-110	N93E99	93.921	99.227	98.993	Flake - gray chert
UA2015-138-111	N93E99			35-40	Screen Bag
UA2015-138-112	N93E99	93.686	99.049	99.009	Obsidian Flake
UA2015-138-113	N93E99	93.439	99.397	98.974	Obsidian Flake
UA2015-138-114	N93E99	93.606	99.263	98.946	Flake - Chert
UA2015-138-115	N93E99			42-43	Screen Bag chert
UA2015-138-116	N93E99			42-43	Obsidian Microblade
UA2015-138-117	N93E99			43-44	Screen Bag (3)
UA2015-138-118	N93E99			40-41	Screen Bag
UA2015-138-119	N93E99	93.451	99.384	98.922	Flake
UA2015-138-120	N93E99			41-45	Screen Bag
UA2015-138-121	N93E99			43-45	Screen Bag
UA2015-138-122	N93E99	93.694	99.534	98.941	Rhyolite microblade
UA2015-138-123	N93E99	93.281	99.707	98.915	Rhyolite microblade
UA2015-138-124	N93E99			45-46	Screen Bag
UA2015-138-125	N93E99	93.28	99.925	98.9	Obsidian Flake
UA2015-138-126	N93E99	93.155	99.661	98.91	Rhyolite flake
UA2015-138-127	N93E99	93.163	99.772	98.906	Rhyolite microblade
UA2015-138-128	N93E99	93.499	99.907	98.899	Obsidian Flake
UA2015-138-129	N93E99	93.202	99.792	98.897	Obsidian Flake
UA2015-138-130	N93E99	93.146	99.96	98.906	Obsidian Flake
UA2015-138-131	N93E99			42-43	Obsidian Flake
UA2015-138-132	N93E99	93.659	99.804	98.906	Obsidian Flake
UA2015-138-133	N93E99	93.663	99.204	98.903	Obsidian Flake
UA2015-138-134	N93E99	93.212	99.805	98.87	Obsidian Flake
UA2015-138-135	N93E99	93.659	99.204	98.906	Obsidian Flake
UA2015-138-136	N93E99			45-47	Screen Bag
UA2015-138-137	N93E99	93.171	99.572	98.867	Obsidian Flake
UA2015-138-138	N93E99	93.137	99.736	98.866	Obsidian Flake
UA2015-138-139	N93E99	93.083	99.876	98.867	Obsidian Flake
UA2015-138-140	N93E99			45-47	Screen Bag (2)
UA2015-138-141	N93E99			46-47	Screen Bag
UA2015-138-142	N93E99			48-50	Screen Bag (6)
UA2015-138-143	N93E99			56-58	Scraper
UA2015-138-144	N93E99			50-52	Screen Bag
UA2015-138-145	N95E99			99.01	Screen Bag
UA2015-138-146	N95E99	95.683	99.251	98.952	Flake
UA2015-138-147	N95E99	95.668	99.263	98.939	Flake
UA2015-138-148	N95E99				Screen Bag (4)
UA2015-138-149	N95E99	95.653	99.215	98.924	Flake
UA2015-138-150	N95E99	95.619	99.376	98.933	Flake
UA2015-138-151	N95E99	95.602	99.486	98.92	Flake
UA2015-138-152	N95E99	95.614	99.415	98.906	Flake
UA2015-138-153	N95E99	95.175	99.154	98.944	Microblade (broken)
UA2015-138-154	N95E99	95.133	99.448	98.966	Flake
UA2015-138-155	N95E99	95.1	99.31	98.949	Flake

UA2015-138-156	N95E99	95.267	99.447	98.963	Flake
UA2015-138-157	N95E99			98.96-98.91	Screen Bag (12)
UA2015-138-158	N95E99				Charcoal
UA2015-138-159	N95E99	95.403	99.41	98.872	Flake
UA2015-138-160	N95E99	95.305	99.43	98.89	Flake
UA2015-138-161	N95E99	95.066	99.455	98.888	Flake
UA2015-138-162	N95E99	95.268	99.414	98.888	Flake
UA2015-138-163	N95E99	95.357	99.39	98.876	Flake
UA2015-138-164	N95E99	95.417	99.326	98.892	Flake
UA2015-138-165	N95E99	95.456	99.41	98.875	Flake
UA2015-138-166	N95E99	95.473	99.456	98.866	Flake
UA2015-138-167	N95E99	95.587	99.752	98.963	Flake
UA2015-138-168	N95E99			99.01-98.96	Screen Bag (8)
UA2015-138-169	N95E99	95.156	99.598	98.965	Flake
UA2015-138-170	N95E99	95.092	99.598	98.968	Flake
UA2015-138-171	N95E99	95.239	99.573	98.971	Microblade
UA2015-138-172	N95E99	95.779	99.642	98.939	Flake
UA2015-138-173	N95E99	95.657	99.869	98.933	Flake
UA2015-138-174	N95E99	95.721	99.654	98.953	Flake
UA2015-138-175	N95E99	95.144	99.72	98.94	Flake
UA2015-138-176	N95E99	95.149	99.786	98.941	Flake
UA2015-138-177	N95E99	95.743	99.945	98.941	Flake
UA2015-138-178	N95E99	95.698	99.959	98.935	Flake
UA2015-138-179	N95E99			99-98.95	Screen Bag
UA2015-138-180	N95E99	95.956	99.512	98.97	Microblade
UA2015-138-181	N95E99			98.95-98.90	Screen Bag (10)
UA2015-138-182	N95E99	95.68	99.837	98.903	Flake
UA2015-138-183	N95E99	95.734	99.635	98.946	Flake
UA2015-138-184	N95E99	95.787	99.574	98.953	Flake
UA2015-138-185	N95E99	95.297	99.865	98.927	Flake
UA2015-138-186	N95E99	95.379	99.089	98.926	Flake
UA2015-138-187	N95E99	95.087	99.621	98.934	Microblade
UA2015-138-188	N95E99	95.655	99.723	98.912	Flake
UA2015-138-189	N95E99	95.715	99.912	98.921	Flake
UA2015-138-190	N95E99	95.697	99.838	98.914	Flake
UA2015-138-191	N95E99	95.648	99.722	98.914	Flake
UA2015-138-192	N95E99	95.678	99.674	98.93	Flake
UA2015-138-193	N95E99	95.707	99.937	98.92	Flake
UA2015-138-194	N95E99	95.691	99.876	98.916	Flake
UA2015-138-195	N95E99	95.606	99.713	98.91	Flake
UA2015-138-196	N95E99	95.705	99.767	98.911	Flake
UA2015-138-197	N95E99	95.607	99.685	98.911	Flake
UA2015-138-198	N95E99	95.435	99.775	98.911	Flake
UA2015-138-199	N95E99	95.728	99.851	98.907	Flake
UA2015-138-200	N95E99	95.675	99.737	98.91	Flake
UA2015-138-201	N95E99	95.689	99.807	98.897	Flake
UA2015-138-202	N95E99	95.625	99.665	98.915	Flake (Broken)
UA2015-138-203	N95E99	95.601	99.915	98.91	Flake
UA2015-138-204	N95E99	95.745	99.737	98.919	Flake

UA2015-138-205	N95E99	95.714	99.762	98.911	Flake (Broken)
UA2015-138-206	N95E99	95.66	99.695	98.901	Flake
UA2015-138-207	N95E99	95.727	99.733	98.907	Flake
UA2015-138-208	N95E99	95.577	99.844	98.897	Flake
UA2015-138-209	N95E99	95.688	99.677	98.897	Flake
UA2015-138-210	N95E99	95.695	99.726	98.898	Flake
UA2015-138-211	N95E99	95.767	99.744	98.907	Flake
UA2015-138-212	N95E99	95.309	99.861	98.909	Flake
UA2015-138-213	N95E99	95.51	99.784	98.907	Flake
UA2015-138-214	N95E99	95.451	99.616	98.907	Flake
UA2015-138-215	N95E99	95.667	99.771	98.903	Flake (Broken)
UA2015-138-216	N95E99	95.893	99.687	98.94	Flake
UA2015-138-217	N95E99	95.8	99.746	98.922	Flake
UA2015-138-218	N95E99	95.711	99.684	98.922	Flake (Broken)
UA2015-138-219	N95E99			98.95-98.90	Screen Bag
UA2015-138-220	N95E99	95.483	99.942	98.887	Flake (Broken)
UA2015-138-221	N95E99			98.90-98.85	Screen Bag (3)
UA2015-138-222	N95E99	95.886	99.947	98.917	Flake
UA2015-138-223	N95E99	95.813	99.777	98.914	Flake
UA2015-138-224	N95E99	95.646	99.837	98.9	Flake
UA2015-138-225	N95E99	95.113	99.662	98.912	Flake
UA2015-138-226	N95E99	95.261	100.01	98.886	Flake
UA2015-138-227	N95E99	95.581	100.004	98.896	Flake (Broken)
UA2015-138-228	N95E99	95.531	99.718	98.883	Flake
UA2015-138-229	N95E99	95.649	99.99	98.895	Flake
UA2015-138-230	N95E99	95.498	99.958	98.857	Flake
UA2015-138-231	N95E99	95.459	99.955	98.856	Flake
UA2015-138-232	N95E99	95.789	99.312	98.931	Flake
UA2015-138-233	N95E99	95.732	99.258	98.943	Flake
UA2015-138-234	N95E99	95.734	99.283	98.945	Flake
UA2015-138-235	N95E99				Screen Bag
UA2015-138-236	N95E99	95.203	99.927	98.841	Flake
UA2015-138-237	N95E99	95.25	99.747	98.85	Flake
UA2015-138-238	N95E99	95.348	99.635	98.869	Flake
UA2015-138-239	N95E99	95.344	98.846	98.84	Flake
UA2015-138-240	N95E99	95.41	99.798	98.851	Flake
UA2015-138-241	N95E99	95.109	99.838	98.815	Flake
UA2015-138-242	N95E99	95.112	99.75	98.815	Flake
UA2015-138-243	N95E99	95.101	99.62	98.824	Flake
UA2015-138-244	N95E99	95.078	99.594	98.82	Flake
UA2015-138-245	N95E99	95.135	98.794	98.794	Flake
UA2015-138-246	N95E99	95.449	99.663	98.826	Flake
UA2015-138-247	N95E99	95.449	99.612	98.222	Flake
UA2015-138-248	N95E99	95.5	99.776	98.682	Flake
UA2015-138-249	N95E99	95.675	99.7	98.675	Flake
UA2015-138-250	N95E99	96.805	99.242	98.637	Flake
UA2015-138-251	N95E99	95.878	99.421	98.631	Flake
UA2015-138-252	N95E99			85-90	Flake
UA2015-138-253	N95E99	95.811	99.336	98.569	Flake

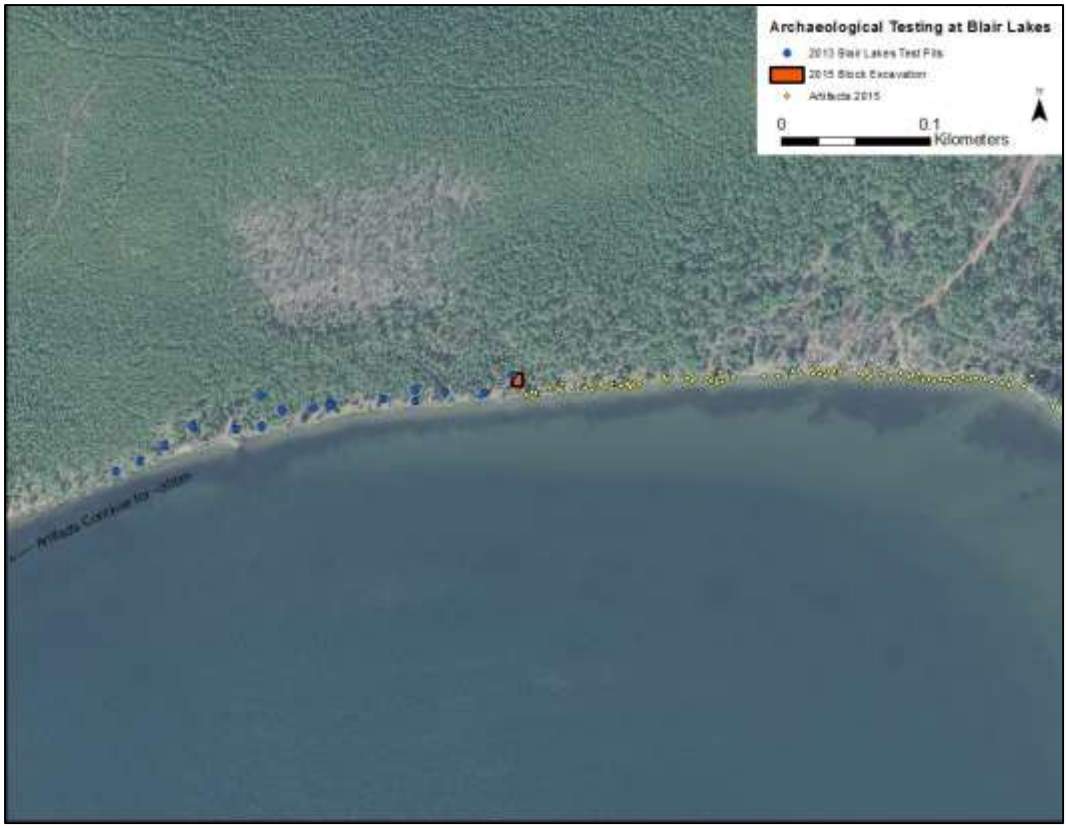


Figure 9. FAI-00044 distribution of cultural material.

FAI-00044
Latitude: [redacted]
Longitude: [redacted]
UTM: [redacted]
Determination of Eligibility: Eligible (07/25/1984)

FAI-00044 is a multicomponent prehistoric archaeological site located on the north shore of the southern-most Blair Lake in Fort Wainwright's TFTA, 54 km south of Fairbanks (Figure 7). The site is large and encompasses approximately 6 acres of land 500 m along the shoreline and up to 50 m north of the shore. The southern edge of the site where it meets the lake is slowly eroding due to wave action and artifacts from multiple components (Figure 9). The landform on which the site is located is slopes gently (<5°) towards the lake where there is a 2 m high escarpment edge. The Blair Lakes hills rise to the north and west. A military landing strip is located to the east. The viewshed is entirely to the lake in the south as the whole surrounding area is heavily forested. There is no surface visibility where undisturbed deposits occur. Artifacts are found in buried context and on the lake bottom surface at the edge of the lake.

The ecosystem is characterized as mixed needleleaf-broadleaf forest with an understory of young birch, some alder, shrubs and forbs (Figure 10).

This site was originally discovered during a 1979 survey by Dixon et al. (1980) and revisited for a condition assessment by CEMML in 2008. Testing to determine site boundaries and delineate cultural strata took place in 2013-2015 by CEMML and Texas A&M University. Four original sites have now been renamed as localities of FAI-00044 (Locality A: FAI-00045; Locality B: FAI-00048; Locality C: FAI-00044; and Locality D: FAI-00049).

Four buried prehistoric cultural components have been identified at the site and documented most completely at Locality B (Figure 11). Component 1 is the earliest component dating to approximately 10,000 calendar years BP (C14 9040+/-40). This assemblage is buried approximately 75 cmbs is not found in all areas across the site. Component 1 contains a unifacial knife and bifacial flaking debris.

Component 2 is found buried at 50-60 cmbs and is found in many locations across the entire site area. The component is bracket between about 8800 and 9800 calendar years BP (C14 7840+/-30 and 8720+/-30). A hearth was found in at least one locality and the assemblage in component 2 is dominated by microblade production debitage.

Component 3, found within the modern B horizon, contains the Northern Archaic assemblage at the site. A notched projectile point, scrapers, and bifacial debitage was found at this level. An upper date for the component is 3500 calendar years BP (C14 3280+/-30).

The uppermost component, component 4, is a typical Athabaskan assemblage with large cobble spall scrapers, bifacial debitage, and fire cracked rock. At least one microblade was also found in this component. An age of 900 years ago from hearth charcoal gives a late prehistoric age to the assemblage (C14 855 +/-15).

Figure 10. FAI-00044 site overview.

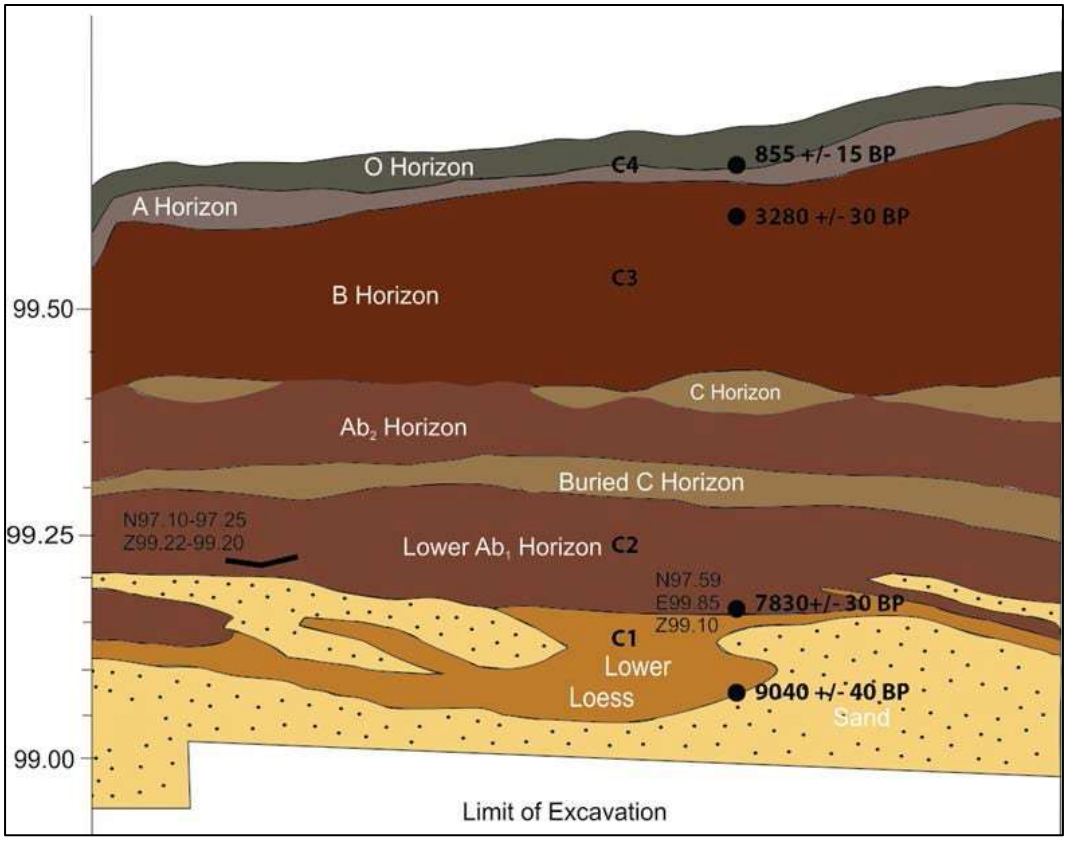


Figure 11. FAI-00044 stratigraphic profile, N97E99.

FAI-02054 (boundary test 2016)
Latitude: [redacted]
Longitude: [redacted]
UTM: [redacted]
Determination of Eligibility: Not Evaluated

This buried site was discovered in 2010 along the edge of the east-west trending terrace east of Clear Creek Assault Strip in TFTA, 40 km south of Fort Wainwright (Figure 7). The location provides a viewshed of the drainage northeast of the site. Dry Creek, 3 km to the northeast, is the nearest water source, and several unnamed, seasonal creeks cut through the outwash bench at closer locations.

Figure 12. FAI-02054 site overview.

The ecosystem is characterized as upland moist mixed needleleaf/broadleaf forest (Figure 12). Site vegetation includes spruce, birch, aspen, alder, willow, low scrub, mosses, and lichen. Surface exposure is minimal, except in discrete areas where military foxholes and related activity areas have disturbed the site.

Site FAI-02054 was identified through subsurface testing. In 2010, cultural material was recovered from one of two test pits, which yielded a single rhyolite flake fragment at 0-10 cm BS. In 2016, a grid was placed over the site to test the southern limit. One additional positive

test pit was found 5 m east of the datum. Another rhyolite flake was found 8-19 cm BS (Table 2). The site appears to cover an area approximately 5 x 10 m, within 20 m of the terrace edge (Figure 13).

Site stratigraphy consists of aeolian silt 85 cm thick overlying silty sands and poorly sorted gravel extending beyond the reach of a shovel test (Figure 14, Figure 15).

Table 2. FAI-02054 accession log.

Accession #	Provenience	Quantity	Artifact Type	Raw Material
UA2016-146-0001	0N5E, 0-25 cmbs	1	Flake fragment	Rhyolite

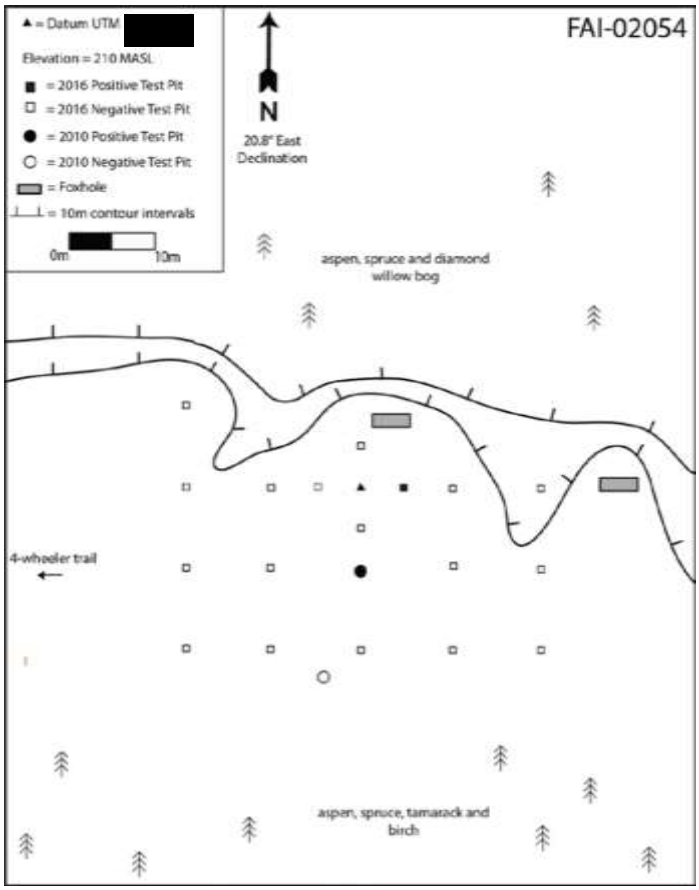


Figure 13. FAI-02054 site map.

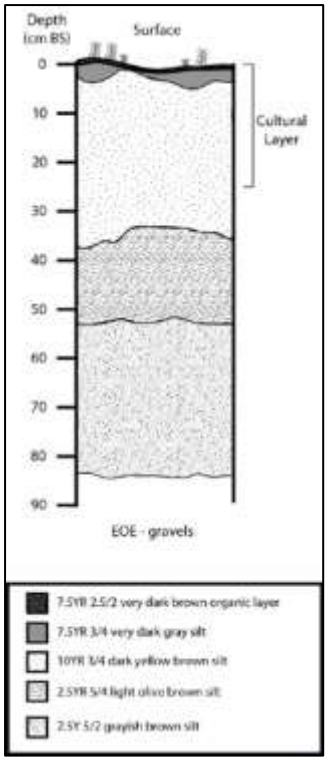


Figure 14. FAI-02054 profile.

Figure 15. FAI-02054 test pit.

FAI-02055 (boundary test 2016)
Latitude: [redacted]
Longitude: [redacted]
UTM: [redacted]
Determination of Eligibility: Not Evaluated

Site FAI-02055 was identified in 2010 through subsurface testing along the edge of the east-west trending terrace east of Clear Creek Assault Strip in TFTA, 40 km south of Fort Wainwright (Figure 7). The site is situated on an elevated rounded point extending roughly 10-20m in diameter. The sides of the knoll slope down to a small drainage 50 m north and east of the site. The location of the site provides a viewshed of a nearby drainage to the east and limited views of the Dry Creek drainage, the nearest water source, to the northeast.

The ecosystem surrounding the site is characterized as upland moist mixed broadleaf/needleleaf forest. Site vegetation includes spruce, birch, aspen, willow, alder, and low shrubs. Ground cover at the site is minimal, but some areas have up to 30 percent surface exposure (Figure 16).

Figure 16. FAI-02055 site overview.

In 2010, a gray chert flake was recovered from one of the two test pits excavated. A shovel test grid was placed over the site in 2016 to determine boundaries. Three additional test pits

contained five flakes between the surface and 25 cm BS (Table 3). The site spans approximately 15 m east to west and 5 m north to south (Figure 17).

Seventy-five cm of silt overly gravels in this location. Soil development is restricted to the modern soil (Figure 18, Figure 19). Multiple cultural components may be represented by the artifacts buried at the site.

Table 3. FAI-02055 accession log.

Accession #	Provenience	Quantity	Artifact Type	Raw Material
UA2016-147-0001	0N5E, 0-10 cmbs	1	Bifacial pressure flake	Black chert
UA2016-147-0002	0N5E, 10-15 cmbs	2	Flake fragments	Black chert
UA2016-147-0003	0N5E, 20-25 cmbs	1	Bifacial pressure flake	Black chert
UA2016-147-0004	0N5E, 10-30 cmbs	1	Bifacial pressure flake	Gray chert
UA2016-147-0005	0N5E, 10-25 cmbs	1	Flake fragment	Rhyolite

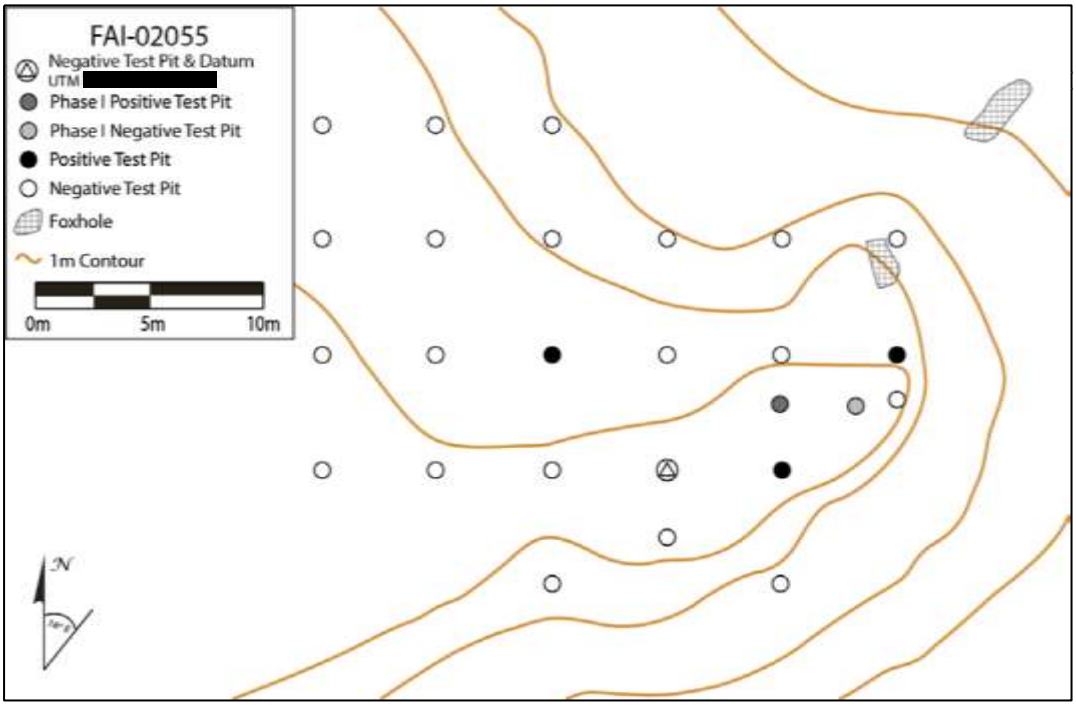


Figure 17. FAI-02055 site map.

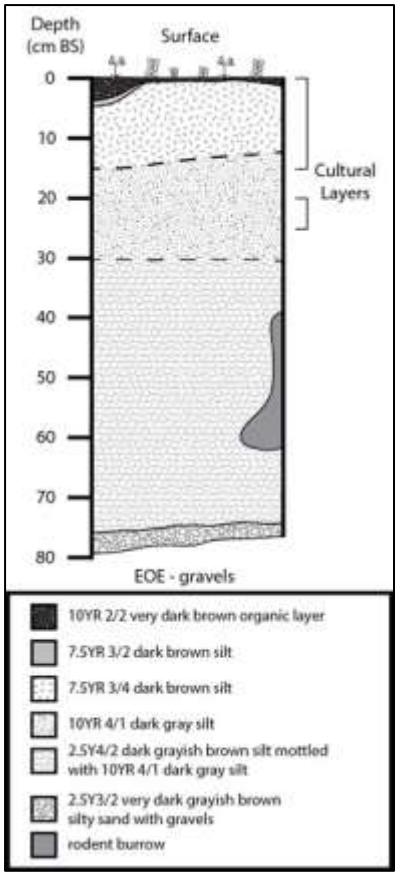


Figure 18. FAI-02055 stratigraphic profile.

Figure 19. FAI-02055 test pit.

FAI-02056 (boundary test 2016)
Latitude: [redacted]
Longitude: [redacted]
UTM: [redacted]
Determination of Eligibility: Not Evaluated

Site FAI-02056 was identified in 2010 through subsurface testing along the edge of the east-west trending terrace east of Clear Creek Assault Strip in TFTA, 40 km south of Fort Wainwright (Figure 7). Dry Creek is the nearest water source, and several unnamed, seasonal creeks cut through the outwash bench at closer locations. The site is covered with vegetation and there is no visibility in any direction.

The ecosystem surrounding the site is characterized as upland moist mixed broadleaf/ needleleaf forest. Site vegetation includes spruce, birch, aspen, willow, alder, and low shrubs. There is minimal surface exposure in the site area (Figure 20). The site appears to be undisturbed, although there are a number of military foxholes in the vicinity.

Figure 20. FAI-02056 site overview.

In 2010, a red chert flake was found in the exposed roots of a treefall. Nineteen bone fragments were recovered from soil beneath the base of the tree. A shovel test grid was placed over the

site in 2016 to determine boundaries (Figure 21). One test pit located 5 m west of the original discoveries and site datum produced a rhyolite projectile point base shallowly buried in the root mat, 0-10 cm BS (Figure 22) (Table 4). The site spans a 4 by 4 m area near the edge of the terrace.

Forty-five cm of aeolian silt overly outwash gravels in this location. Soil development is restricted to the modern soil (Figure 23, Figure 24).

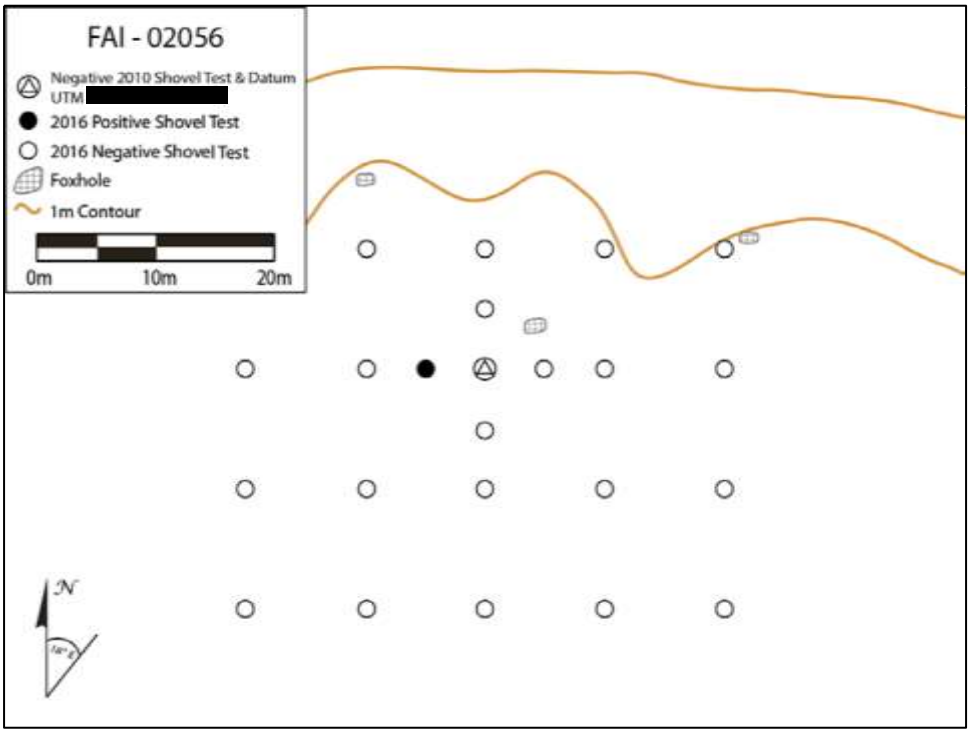


Figure 21. FAI-02056 site map.

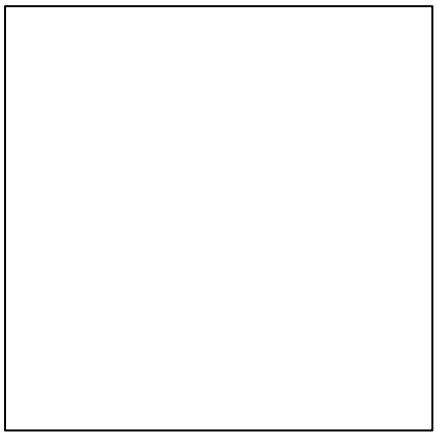


Figure 22. Projectile point base from test pit.

Table 4. FAI-02056 accession log.

Accession #	Provenience	Quantity	Artifact Type	Raw Material
UA2016-148-0001	0N5W, 0-10 cmbs	1	Side-notched point base	Rhyolite

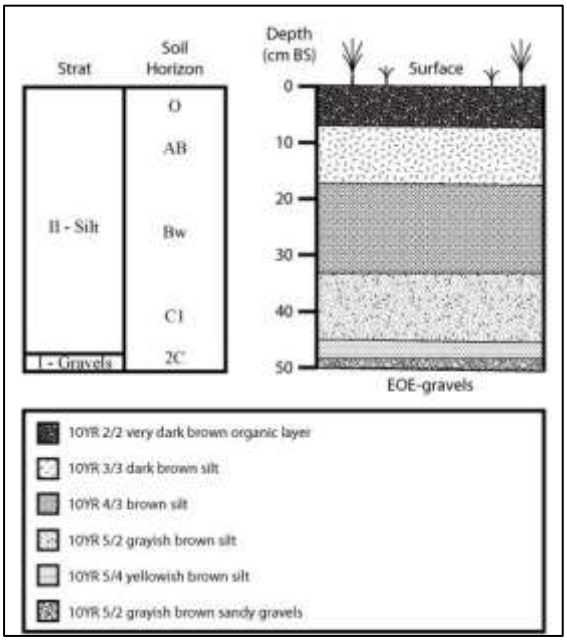


Figure 23. FAI-02056 stratigraphic profile.

Figure 24. FAI-02056 test pit.

FAI-02057 (boundary test 2016)
Latitude: [redacted]
Longitude: [redacted]
UTM: [redacted]
Determination of Eligibility: Not Evaluated

Site FAI-02057 was identified in 2010 through subsurface testing along the edge of the east-west trending terrace east of Clear Creek Assault Strip in TFTA, 40 km south of Fort Wainwright (Figure 7). The site overlooks a large dry drainage running east to west, 30-40 m north of the site. Dry Creek is the nearest water source, and several unnamed, seasonal creeks cut through the outwash bench at closer locations. The site is covered with vegetation and there is no visibility in any direction.

The ecosystem surrounding the site is characterized as upland moist mixed broadleaf/ needleleaf forest. Site vegetation includes spruce, birch, aspen, willow, alder, and low shrubs. Surface exposure ranges from 0-30 percent (Figure 25). The site area is disturbed by two military foxholes and is littered by a can scatter and other military-related debris.

Figure 25. FAI-02057 site overview.

In 2010, a gray chert flake was found in one of four test pits. A shovel test grid was placed over the site in 2016 to determine boundaries (Figure 26). One test pit located 5 m to the northeast

of the original discovery and site contained four red rhyolite flakes that appeared to be thermally altered, 10-45 cm BS (Table 5). The site spans a 5 by 5 m area near the edge of the terrace.

Over 100 cm of aeolian silt overly outwash gravels in this location. Shovel tests did not reach the glacial-related deposits. Soil development is restricted to the modern soil (Figure 27, Figure 28).

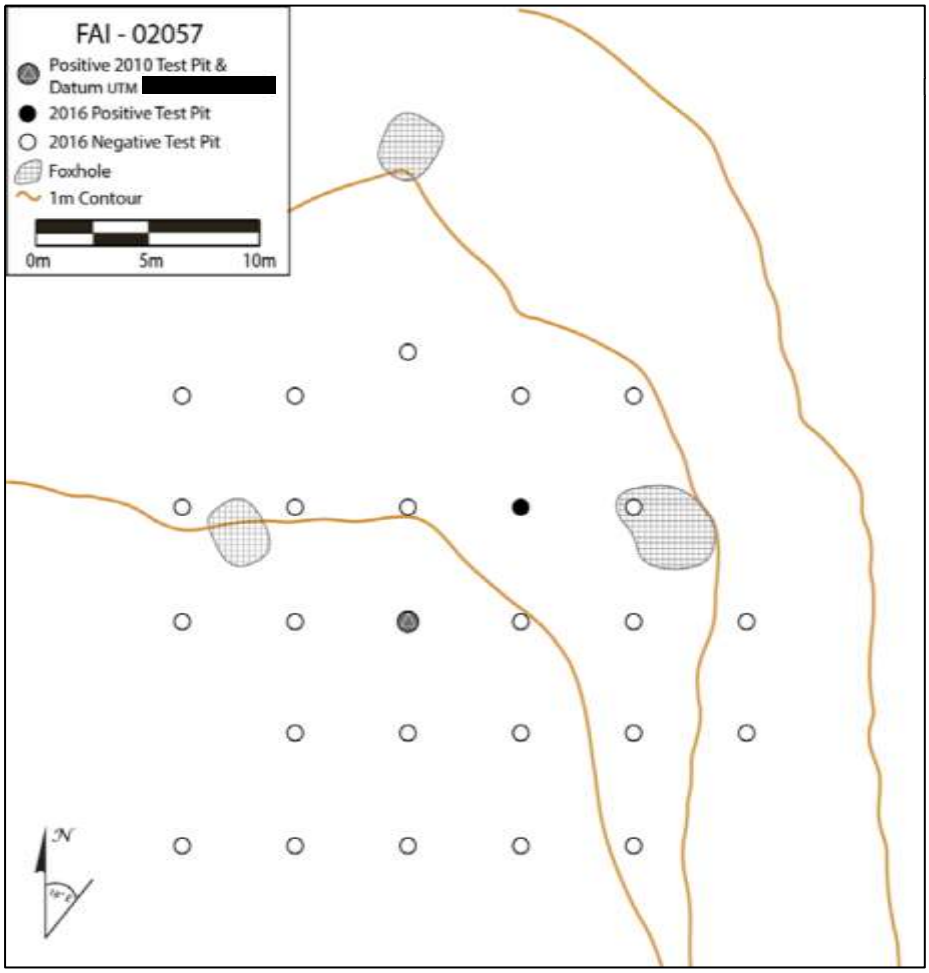


Figure 26. FAI-02057 site map.

Table 5. FAI-02057 accession log.

Accession #	Provenience	Quantity	Artifact Type	Raw Material
UA2016-149-0001	5N5E, 5-15 cmbs	1	Flake fragment	Rhyolite
UA2016-149-0002	5N5E, 20-25 cmbs	3	Flake fragments	Rhyolite
UA2016-149-0003	5N5E, 25-45 cmbs	1	Bifacial pressure flake	Rhyolite

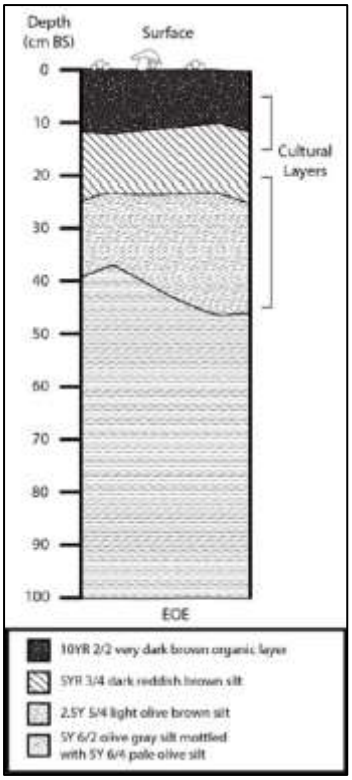


Figure 27. FAI-02057 stratigraphic profile.

Figure 28. FAI-02057 test pit.

FAI-02058 (boundary test 2016)
Latitude: [redacted]
Longitude: [redacted]
UTM: [redacted]
Determination of Eligibility: Not Evaluated

Site FAI-02058 was identified in 2010 through subsurface testing along the edge of the east-west trending terrace east of Clear Creek Assault Strip in TFTA, 40 km south of Fort Wainwright (Figure 7). The site is located on a middle terrace overlooking a large dry drainage 30-40 m east of the site. Dry Creek is the nearest water source, and several unnamed, seasonal creeks cut through the outwash bench at closer locations. The site is covered with vegetation and there is no visibility in any direction.

The ecosystem is characterized as upland moist mixed needleleaf. The terrace is thickly wooded with small spruce trees except on the terrace edge, where the ground surface is bare dirt and gravel, void of any ground cover and prone to erosion. Site vegetation is primarily low thick spruce trees with a sparse understory of alder, willow, mosses, and lichen (Figure 29).

Figure 29. FAI-02058 site overview.

In 2010, a rhyolite flake was found on the surface and a microblade fragment, bone fragments, and charcoal were discovered in the root mat of a single test pit. A shovel test grid was placed

over the site in 2016 to determine boundaries (Figure 30). Four additional flakes (two chert and two rhyolite) were found in the top 10 cm of two test pits adjacent to the site datum (Table 6). The site spans a 5 by 5 m area near the edge of the terrace.

Over 55 cm of aeolian silt overly outwash gravels in this location. Shovel tests did not reach the glacial-related deposits. Soil development is restricted to the modern soil (Figure 31, Figure 32).

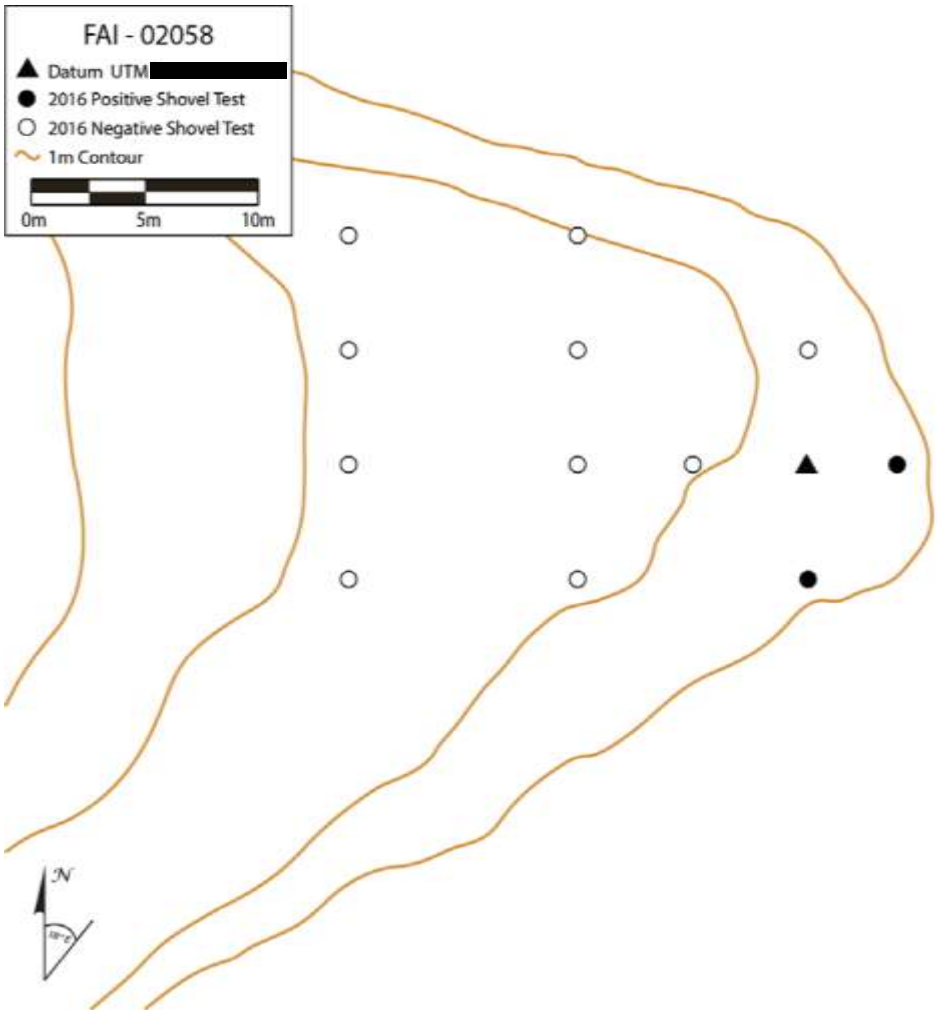


Figure 30. FAI-02058 site map.

Table 6. FAI-02058 accession log.

Accession #	Provenience	Quantity	Artifact Type	Raw Material
UA2016-150-0001	5N5E, 5-15 cmbs	2	Bifacial pressure, fragment	Rhyolite, black chert
UA2016-150-0002	5N5E, 20-25 cmbs	2	Edge preparation flakes	Rhyolite, gray chert

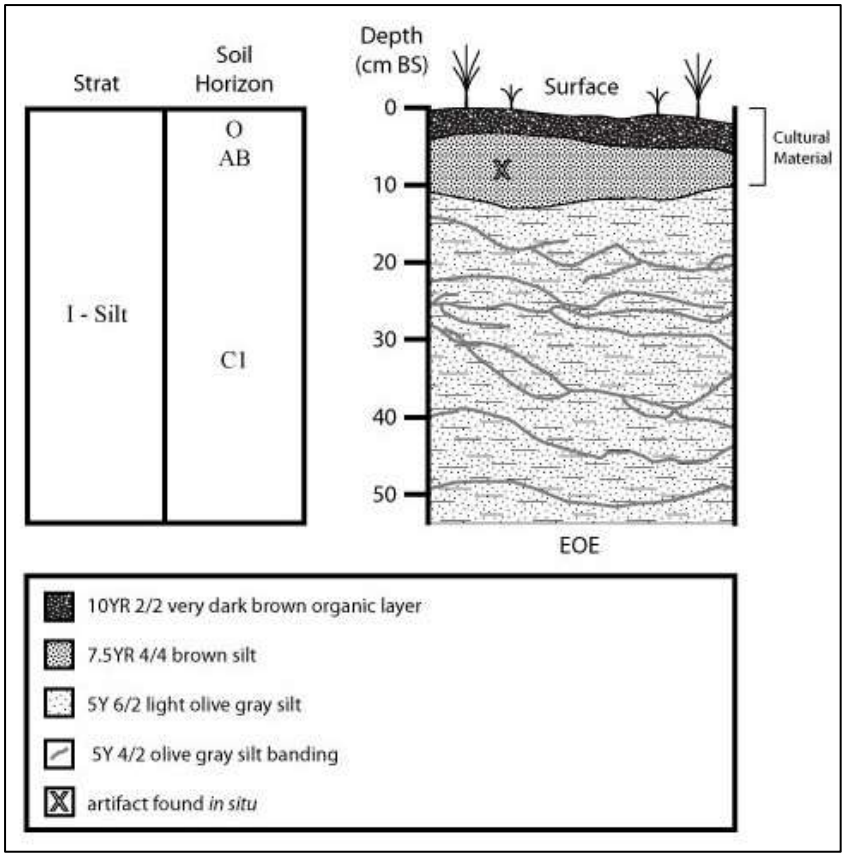


Figure 31. FAI-02058 site stratigraphy.

Figure 32. FAI-02058 test pit.

FAI-02059 (boundary test 2016)
Latitude: [redacted]
Longitude: [redacted]
UTM: [redacted]
Determination of Eligibility: Not Evaluated

Site FAI-02059 was identified in 2010 through subsurface testing along the edge of the east-west trending terrace east of Clear Creek Assault Strip in TFTA, 40 km south of Fort Wainwright (Figure 7). The site is located on an upper terrace overlooking a large dry drainage 50-60 m east of the site. Dry Creek is the nearest water source, and several unnamed, seasonal creeks cut through the outwash bench at closer locations. The site is covered with vegetation and there is no visibility in any direction.

The ecosystem is characterized as upland moist mixed needleleaf forest. The terrace is thickly wooded with small spruce trees except on the terrace edge, where the ground surface is bare dirt and gravel, void of any ground cover and prone to erosion. Site vegetation is primarily low thick spruce trees with a sparse understory of alder, willow, mosses, and lichen (Figure 33).

In 2010, 45 artifacts including 39 flakes, 2 biface fragments, an end scraper and a flaked cobble were found in one test pit, 0-45 cm BS. A shovel test grid was placed over the site in 2016 to determine boundaries (Figure 34). Twenty-four flakes were found in 8 additional test pits, buried 0-60 cm BS (Table 7). The site spans a 20 by 60 m area and is bounded by the landform on the north, east, and southern edges.

Figure 33. FAI-02058 site overview.

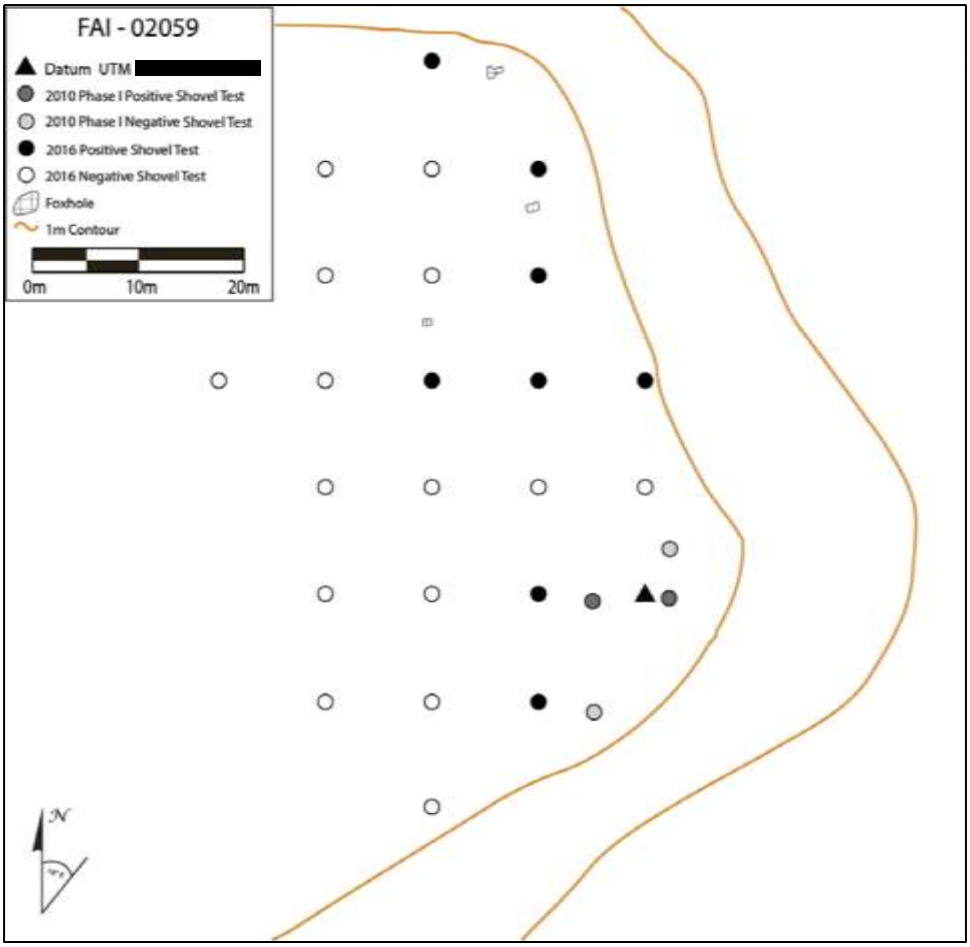


Figure 34. FAI-02059 site map.

Table 7. FAI-02059 accession log.

Accession #	Provenience	Quantity	Artifact Type	Raw Material
UA2016-151-0001	10S10W, 0-5 cmbs	1	Flake fragment	Rhyolite
UA2016-151-0002	20N10W, 50-60 cmbs	2	Flake fragments	Gray chert
UA2016-151-0003	10N0E, 20-25 cmbs	1	Flake fragment	Rhyolite
UA2016-151-0004	0N10W, 30-40 cmbs	1	Bifacial pressure flake	Rhyolite
UA2016-151-0005	20N20W, 39-49 cmbs	1	Flake fragment	Rhyolite
UA2016-151-0006	20N20W, 50-60 cmbs	5	Bifacial pressure flake	Rhyolite
UA2016-151-0007	30N10W, 5-15 cmbs	2	Flake fragments	Gray chert
UA2016-151-0008	30N10W, 15-20 cmbs	2	Flake fragments	Gray chert
UA2016-151-0009	30N10W, 20-25 cmbs	2	Flake fragments	Rhyolite, black chert
UA2016-151-0010	30N10W, 35-40 cmbs	1	Flake fragment	Rhyolite
UA2016-151-0011	40N10W, 20-25 cmbs	1	Flake fragment	Rhyolite
UA2016-151-0012	40N10W, 35-43 cmbs	1	Bifacial pressure flake	Rhyolite
UA2016-151-0013	50N20W, 5-15 cmbs	1	Flake fragment	Rhyolite
UA2016-151-0014	50N20W, 30-35 cmbs	1	Retouched flake	Rhyolite
UA2016-151-0015	50N20W, 30-35 cmbs	2	Flake fragments	Rhyolite

Approximately 100 cm of aeolian silt overly outwash gravels in this location. Shovel tests did not reach the glacial-related deposits. At least one paleosol containing cultural material was identified below the modern soil, 55 cm BS (Figure 35, Figure 36).

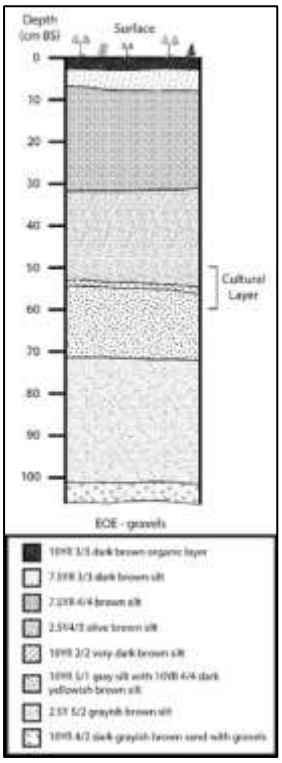


Figure 35. FAI-02059 site stratigraphy.

Figure 36. FAI-02059 test pit.

FAI-02060 (boundary test 2016)
Latitude: [redacted]
Longitude: [redacted]
UTM: [redacted]
Determination of Eligibility: Not Evaluated

Site FAI-02060 was identified in 2010 through subsurface testing along the edge of the east-west trending terrace east of Clear Creek Assault Strip in TFTA, 40 km south of Fort Wainwright (Figure 7). The site is located on an upper terrace overlooking and overlooks the flats to the north. Dry Creek is the nearest water source, and several unnamed, seasonal creeks cut through the outwash bench at closer locations. The site has a good view to the north.

The ecosystem is characterized as upland moist needleleaf forest. Site vegetation consists of dense low spruce thickets, mature aspen, and mixed-aged birch. The understory is alder, willow, wild rose, and low scrub, with a dense moss and lichen ground cover. There is no surface exposure (Figure 37).

Figure 37. FAI-02060 site overview.

In 2010, a retouched flake was found on the surface and 34 flakes were found in four separate test pits, 0-37 cm BS. Two different cultural components appear to be present and charcoal associated with cultural material at 29cm BS produced a date of 8130 ± 40 (Beta-283429). A

shovel test grid was placed over the site in 2016 to determine boundaries (Figure 38). Two flakes were found in a single test pit 20 m east of the datum and original discoveries, 21-37 cm BS (Table 8). The site spans a 25 by 15 m area and is bounded by the landform on the north, east, and western edges.

Approximately 48 cm of aeolian silt overly outwash gravels in this location. At least one paleosol containing cultural material was identified below the modern soil, 25 cm BS (Figure 39, Figure 40). Two cultural components may be identified by the artifacts found at the site.

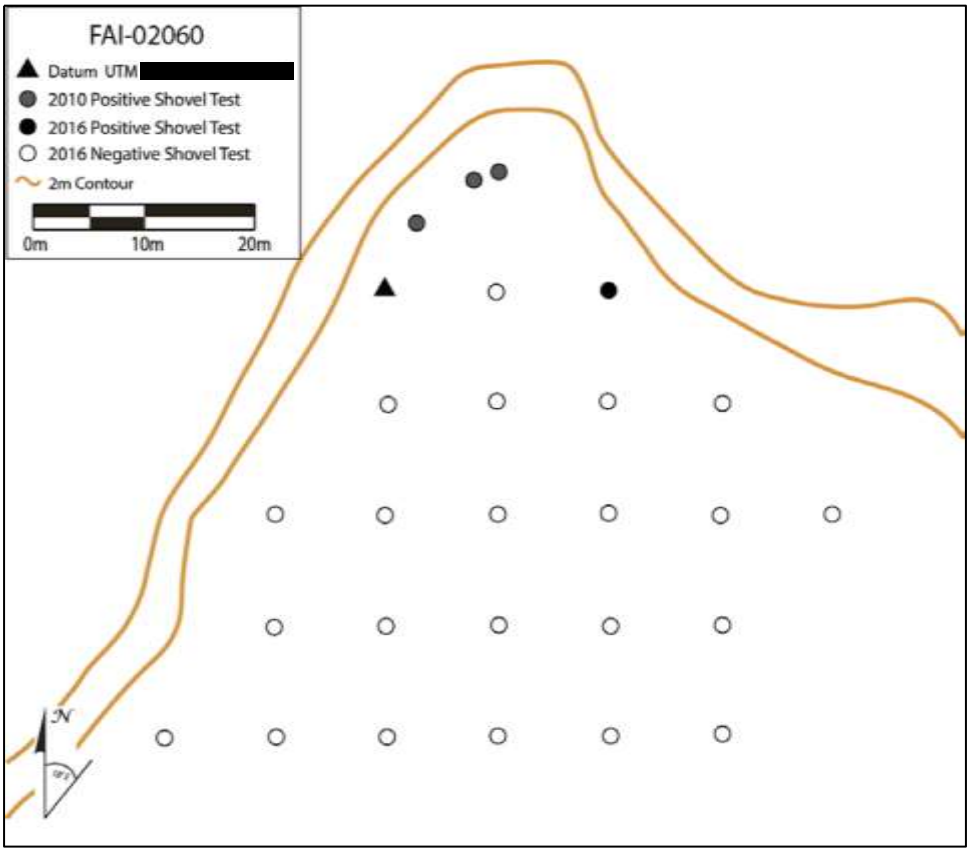


Figure 38. FAI-02060 site map.

Table 8. FAI-02060 accession log.

Accession #	Provenience	Quantity	Artifact Type	Raw Material
UA2016-152-0001	0S20E, 20-30 cmbs	2	Flake fragment, bifacial pressure flake	Gray chert

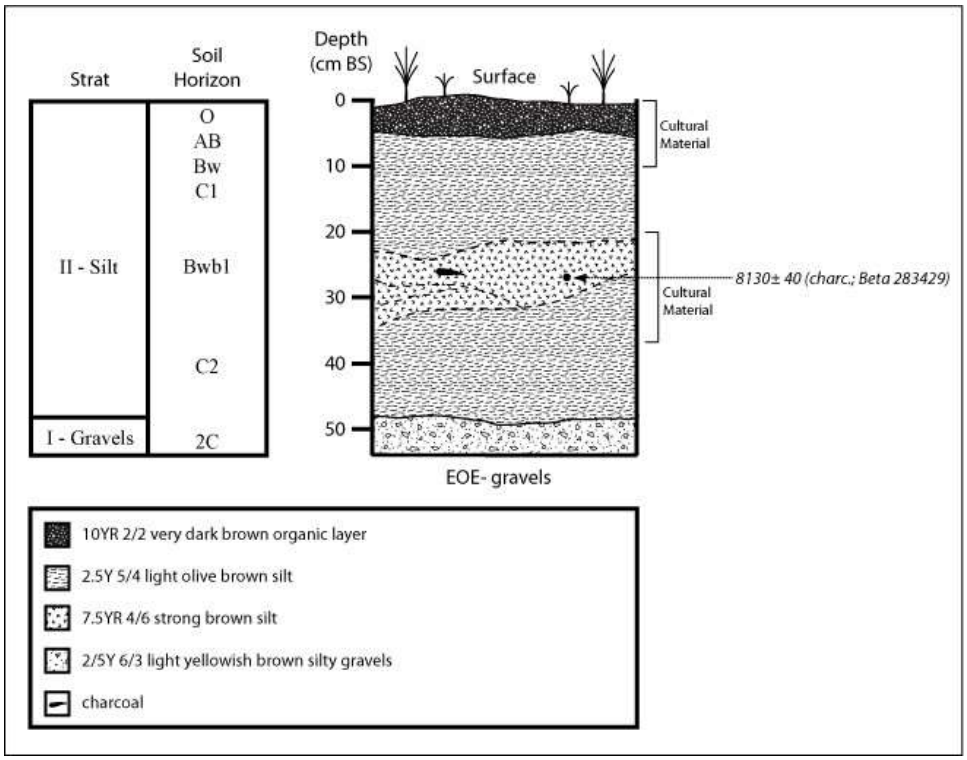


Figure 39. FAI-02060 site stratigraphy.

Figure 40. FAI-02060 test pit.

FAI-02061 (boundary test 2016)
Latitude: [redacted]
Longitude: [redacted]
UTM: [redacted]
Determination of Eligibility: Not Evaluated

Site FAI-02061 was identified in 2010 through subsurface testing along the edge of the east-west trending terrace east of Clear Creek Assault Strip in TFTA, 40 km south of Fort Wainwright (Figure 7). The site is located on a north facing terrace edge approximately 1 km east of Clear Creek, the closest water source. The site's viewshed is limited by the surrounding forest.

The ecosystem is characterized as upland moist needleleaf forest. Site vegetation includes spruce, birch, aspen, low shrubs, and a dense moss/lichen groundcover. Surface exposure is minimal, except on the disturbed surface of a military foxhole north of the datum (Figure 41).

Figure 41. FAI-02061 site overview.

In 2010, two rhyolite flakes were recovered from a test pit, 25-30 cm BS. A shovel test grid was placed over the site in 2016 to determine boundaries (Figure 42). Two rhyolite and four basalt flakes were found along with four microblade fragments in three test pits located within 20 m of the datum (Table 9). Artifacts were buried 0-45 cm BS. The site spans a 20 by 40 m area and is bounded by the landform on the north and eastern edges.

Seventy-eight cm of aeolian silt overly outwash gravels in this location. Two cultural components may be identified by the artifacts found at the site. Artifacts cluster from 0-30 and 35-45 cm BS (Figure 43, Figure 44).

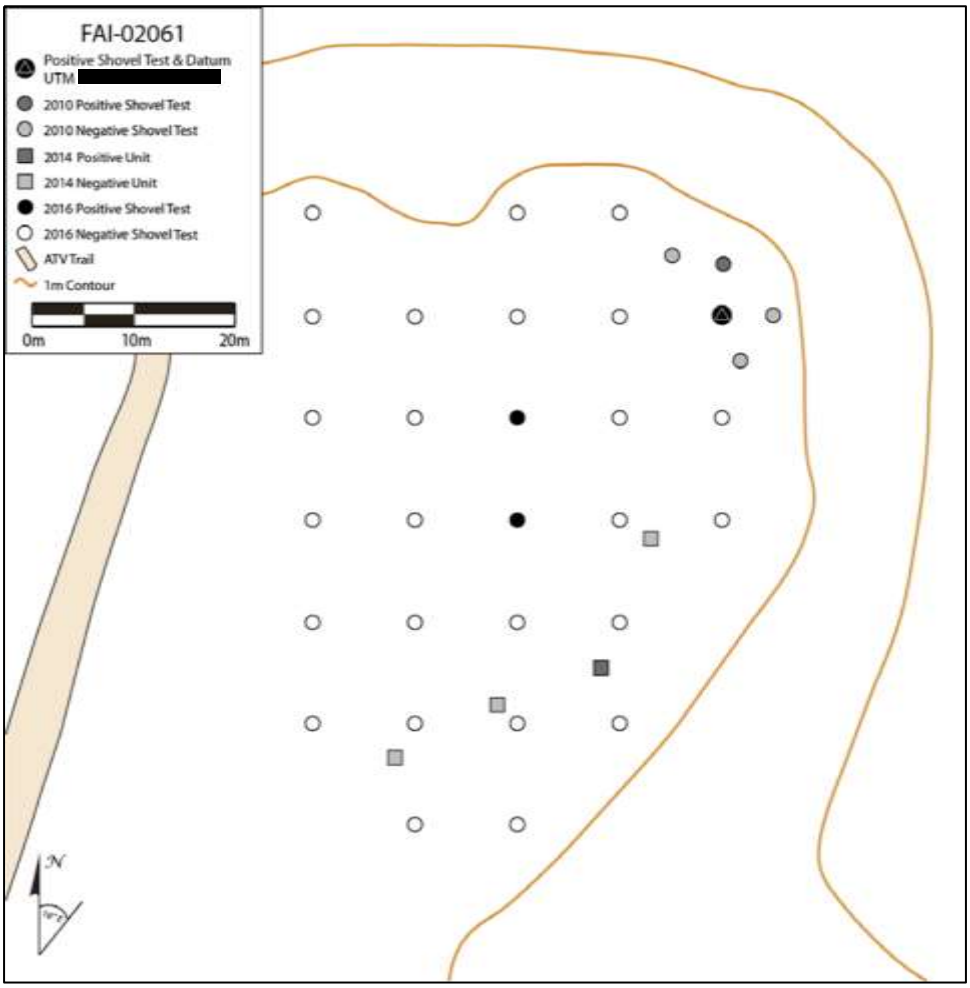


Figure 42. FAI-02061 site map.

Table 9. FAI-02061 accession log.

Accession #	Provenience	Quantity	Artifact Type	Raw Material
UA2016-153-0001	20S20W, 0-10 cmbs	1	Flake fragment	Rhyolite
UA2016-153-0002	20S20W, 25-35 cmbs	1	Bifacial pressure flake	Rhyolite
UA2016-153-0003	10S20W, 25-35 cmbs	3	Bifacial pressure flake	Basalt
UA2016-153-0004	10S20W, 25-35 cmbs	1	Bifacial pressure flake	Basalt
UA2016-153-0005	0N0E, 5-25 cmbs	2	Medial microblade, linear flake	Rhyolite
UA2016-153-0006	0N0E, 5-25 cmbs	0	Discarded metal piece	
UA2016-153-0007	0N0E, 25-35 cmbs	1	Proximal microblade	Rhyolite
UA2016-153-0008	0N0E, 35-45 cmbs	2	Proximal and medial microblade	Rhyolite

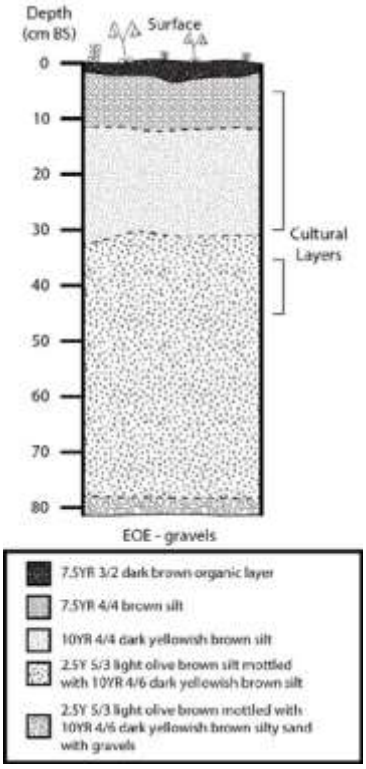


Figure 43. FAI-02061 site stratigraphy.

Figure 44. FAI-02061 test pit.

FAI-02062 (boundary test 2016)
Latitude: [redacted]
Longitude: [redacted]
UTM: [redacted]
Determination of Eligibility: Not Evaluated

Site FAI-02062 was identified in 2010 through subsurface testing along the edge of the east-west trending terrace east of Clear Creek Assault Strip in TFTA, 40 km south of Fort Wainwright (Figure 7). The site is located on small knoll adjacent to a north-south running drainage to the east. Partial views are to the Tanana Flats (north) and Alaska Range (south). The nearest source of water is a bog below the site.

The ecosystem is characterized as upland moist needleleaf forest. Surrounding vegetation consists of spruce, birch, aspen, willow, alder, and low shrubs, while the site itself is mostly bare ground with a few low shrubs (Figure 45).

In 2010, two chert flakes were recovered from a test pit, 0-10 cm BS. A shovel test grid was placed over the site in 2016 to determine boundaries (Figure 46). Nineteen chert and chalcedony flakes were discovered in four test pits. Artifacts were buried 5-50 cm BS (Table 10). The site spans a 25 by 10 m area and is bounded by the landform on the eastern edge. Thirty-eight cm of aeolian silt overly outwash gravels in this location (Figure 47, Figure 48).

Figure 45. FAI-02062 site overview.

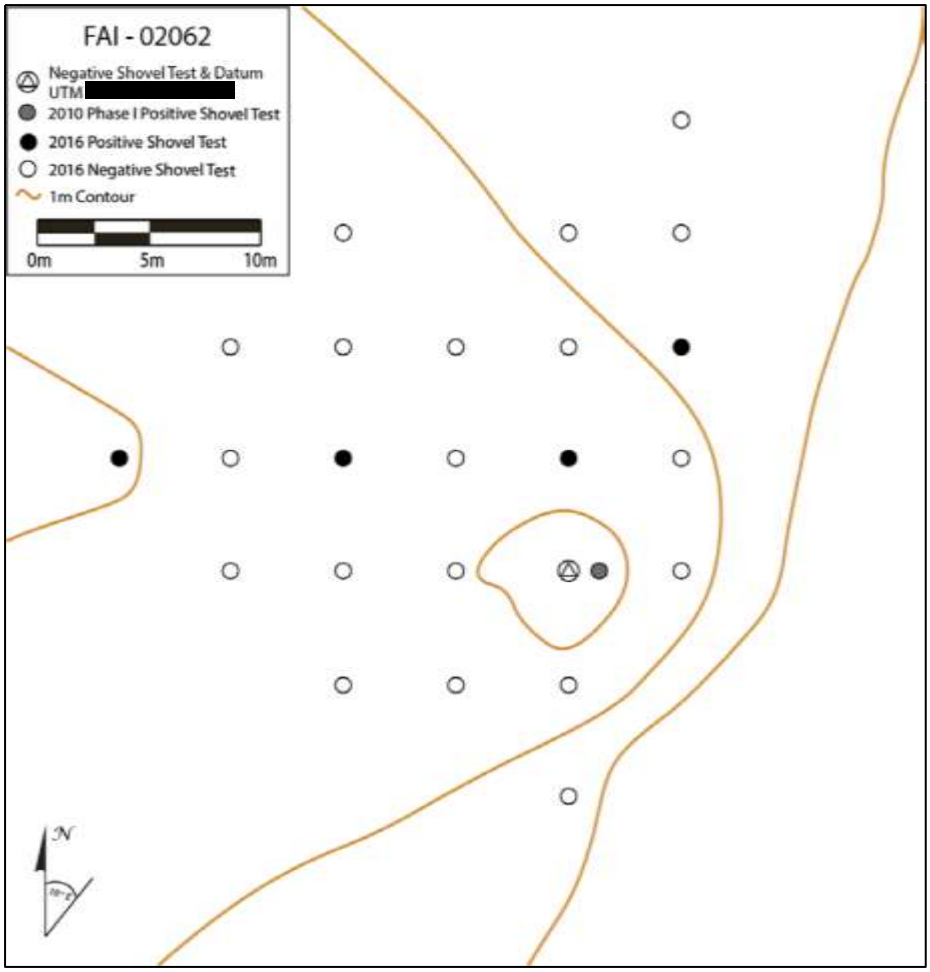


Figure 46. FAI-02062 site map.

Table 10. FAI-02062 accession log.

Accession #	Provenience	Quantity	Artifact Type	Raw Material
UA2016-154-0001	5N0E, 5-10 cmbs	1	Flake fragment	Gray chert
UA2016-154-0002	5N0E, 10-20 cmbs	1	Flake fragment	Black chert
UA2016-154-0003	10N5E, 3-13 cmbs	1	Bifacial pressure flake	Black chert
UA2016-154-0004	5N10W, 7-14 cmbs	1	Flake fragment	Chalcedony
UA2016-154-0005	5N20W, 30-40 cmbs	6	Fragment, bifacial pressure flakes	Gray, black chert
UA2016-154-0006	5N20W, 40-45 cmbs	7	Fragment, bifacial pressure flakes	Gray, black chert
UA2016-154-0007	5N20W, 45-50 cmbs	2	Fragment, bifacial pressure flakes	Black chert

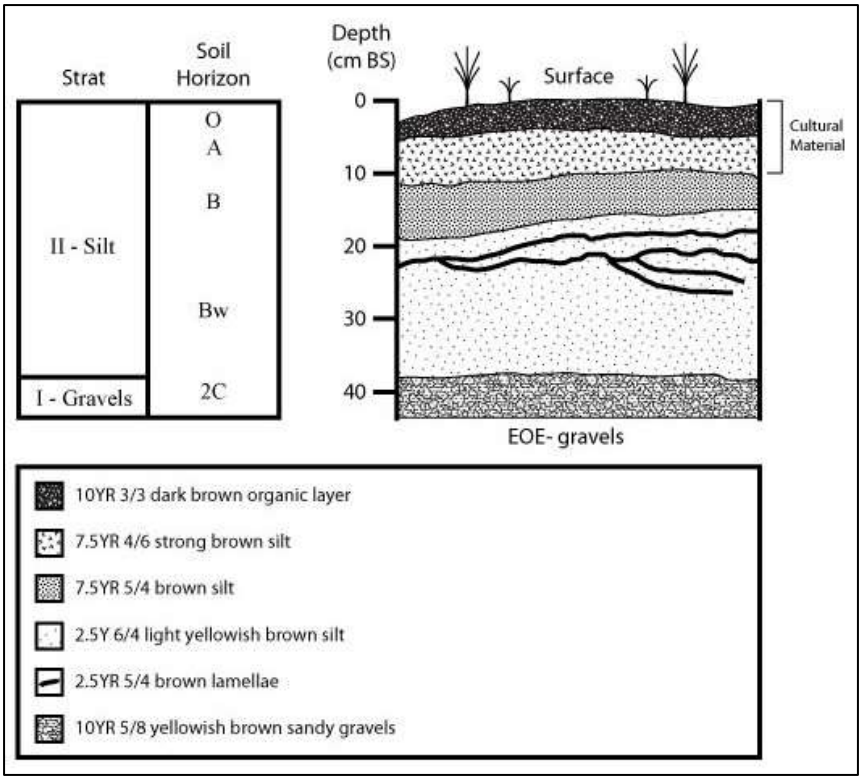


Figure 47. FAI-02062 site stratigraphy.

Figure 48. FAI-02062 test pit.

FAI-02238 (DOE 2015)
Latitude: [redacted]
Longitude: [redacted]
UTM: [redacted]
Determination of Eligibility: Not eligible, non-contributing to FAI-00335

Site FAI-02238 was identified in 2013 through subsurface testing on the southwest peak of the Blair Lakes ridgeline in TFTA, 50 km south of Fort Wainwright (Figure 7). Anne Lake is 1.5 km to the northeast.

The ecosystem is characterized as upland moist needleleaf forest. Surrounding vegetation consists of spruce, birch, aspen, willow, alder, and low shrubs. Due to thick aspen, fireweed, moss, decomposing leaves, lichen, and other various low scrub, there is very little surface visibility or surrounding view (Figure 49). Fire damage from the 1980s is evident in deadfall and within the root mat.

Figure 49. FAI-02238 site overview.

Two shovel test pits were excavated in this area in 2013. One test pit was positive and yielded a single rhyolite flake from 0-10 cmbs (UA2013-060-1). A shovel test grid was placed over the site in 2016 to determine boundaries and evaluate the site's significance (Figure 50). Two rhyolite microblade fragments (one distal and one proximal) were found buried shallowly (5-15 cm BS) in one of thirty-one test pits (Table 11). An excavation unit was placed around this test pit. One

additional flake fragment was found 40-50 cm BS. The site appears to be composed of a very low density of artifacts over a 20 m area.

A thin (5 cm) organic horizon overlies approximately 20-40 cm of silt in this locality before bedrock was encountered. Thicknesses of shovel tests varied between 20-50 cm BS (Figure 51, Figure 52).

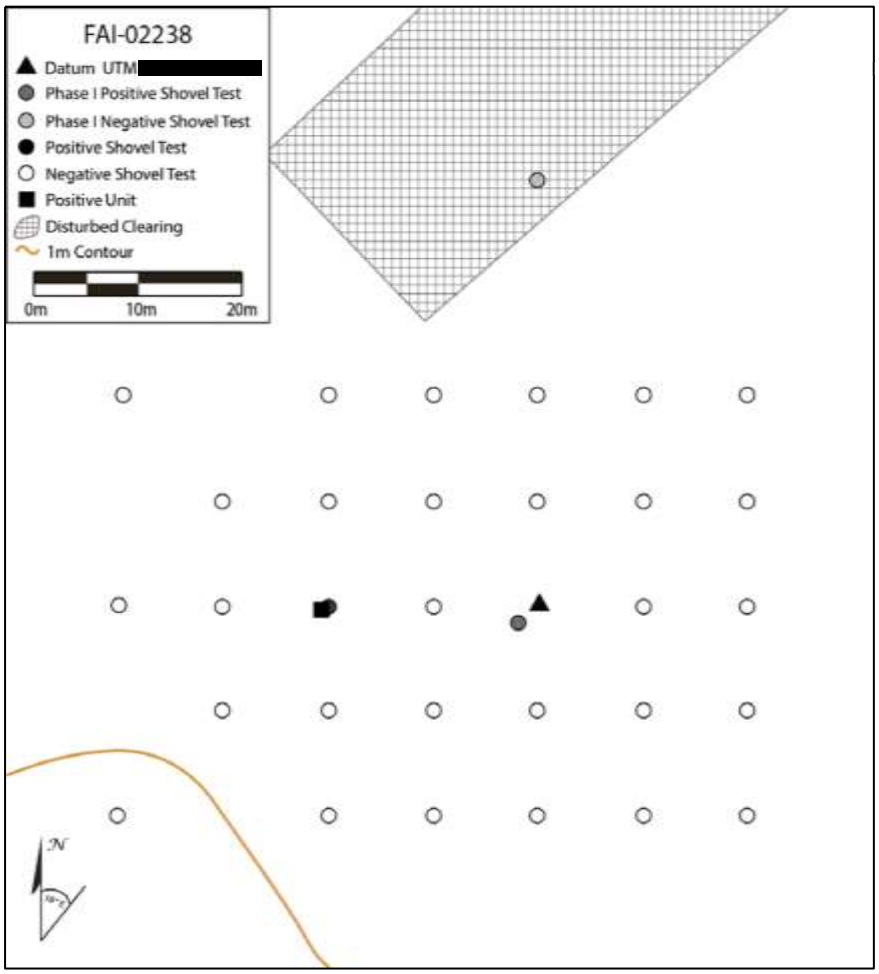


Figure 50. FAI-02238 site map.

Table 11. FAI-02238 accession log.

Accession #	Provenience	Quantity	Artifact Type	Raw Material
UA2016-155-0001	0N20W, 5-15 cmbs	2	Microblade fragments	Rhyolite
UA2016-155-0002	0N20W, 40-50 cmbs	1	Flake fragment	Gray chert

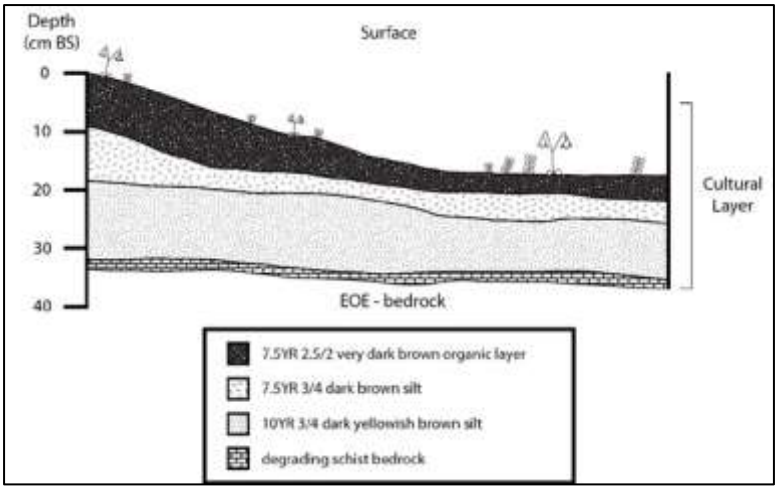


Figure 51. FAI-02238 stratigraphic profile.

Figure 52. FAI-02238 test pit.

Because sediments are shallow in this location, a low number of artifacts were found, no diagnostic artifacts were recovered, raw materials are common to the area, and no faunal or organic materials were found at the site, FAI-02238 does not appear to be individually eligible for the NRHP under any criterion including D, information potential. Although the site is not disturbed, it is unlikely that any more information about the people that deposited the artifacts or the activities they were involved in. FAI-02238 falls within the boundaries of the Blair Lakes Archaeological District (FAI-00335) but is considered a non-contributing element because of the limited number of artifacts, the inability to date the site, the absence of diagnostic artifacts, and the lack of further information potential.

FAI-02246 (DOE 2016)
Latitude: [redacted]
Longitude: [redacted]
UTM: [redacted]
Determination of Eligibility: Not eligible, non-contributing to FAI-00335

Site FAI-02246 was identified in 2013 through subsurface testing on the northernmost peak of the Blair Lakes ridgeline in TFTA, 47 km south of Fort Wainwright (Figure 7). The site is located in an active landing zone. An unnamed lake 1 km to the southwest is the closest water source.

The local ecosystem is an upland moist broadleaf forest represented by birch, alder, aspen, and high bush cranberry. Exposed silts and bedrock create 3% overall surface visibility in the clearing. The landing zone was previously bulldozed, leaving push piles around the clearing perimeter, and recently brush cut. The brush cut vegetation is composed of alder, birch, spruce, willow, fireweed, bunchberry, grasses, lingonberry, and moss (Figure 53).

Four gray chert flakes were found on the surface during the discovery of the site in 2013 (UA2013-070). A shovel test grid was placed over the site in 2016 to determine boundaries and evaluate the site's significance (Figure 54). Two gray chert flakes and a basalt flake were found buried shallowly (5-20 cm BS) in two of thirty-six test pits (Table 11).

Figure 53. FAI-02246 site overview.

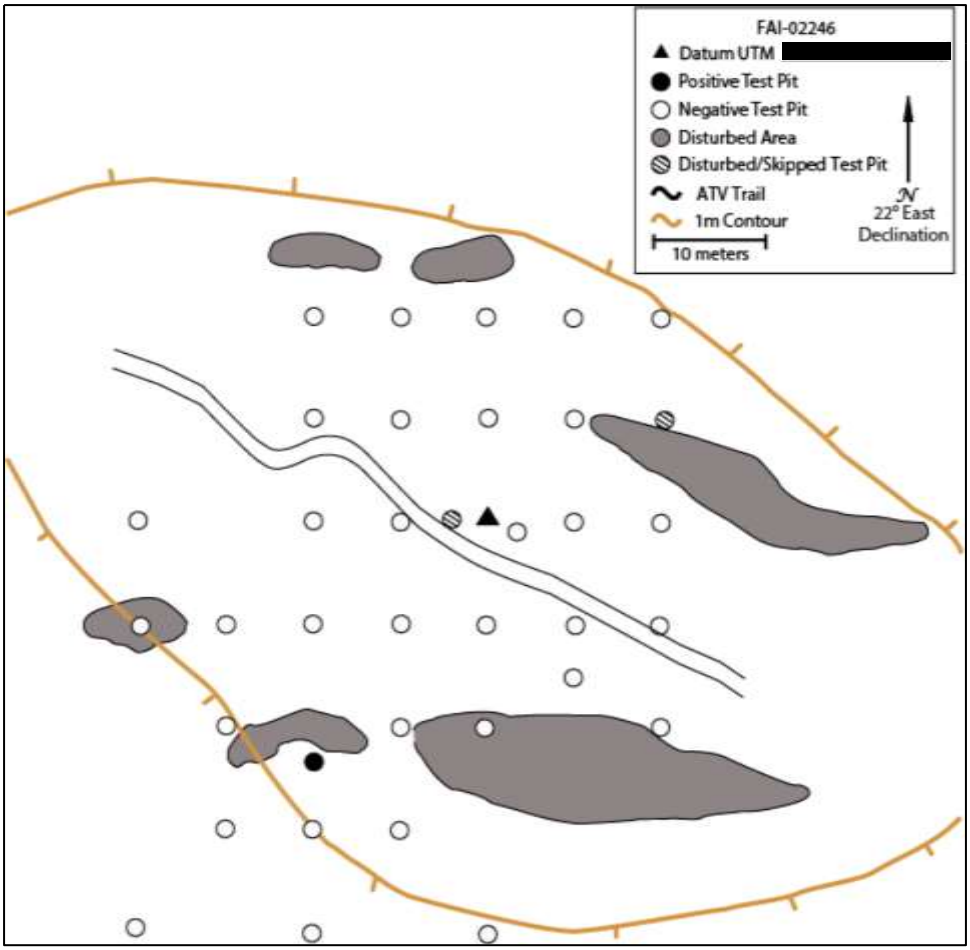


Figure 54. FAI-02246 site map.

Table 12. FAI-02246 accession log.

Accession #	Provenience	Quantity	Artifact Type	Raw Material
UA2016-159-0001	0N0E, 5-10 cmbs	1	Interior flake	Basalt
UA2016-159-0002	20S20W, 10-20 cmbs	2	Pressure flake, flake fragment	Gray chert

A 10 cm organic horizon overlies approximately 20-60 cm of silt in this locality, depending on the amount of disturbance over the particular test pit. Outwash gravels are found at the base of test pits (Figure 55, Figure 56). The organic horizons and silt has been removed from much of the surface of the hill and half of the test pits had modern vegetation regrowth on the surface with no organic or A soil horizon near the surface.

Because of the high degree of surface disturbance, the small number of artifacts found, the absence of diagnostic artifacts, only common raw materials discovered, and no faunal or organic material present at the site, FAI-02246 does not appear to be individually eligible for

the NRHP under any criterion including D, information potential. The site is disturbed and it is unlikely that any more information about the people that deposited the artifacts or the activities they were involved in would be recovered with more investigation. FAI-02256 falls within the boundaries of the Blair Lakes Archaeological District (FAI-00335) but is considered a non-contributing element because of the lack of site integrity, small number of artifacts, inability to date the site, absence of diagnostic artifacts, and lack of further information potential.

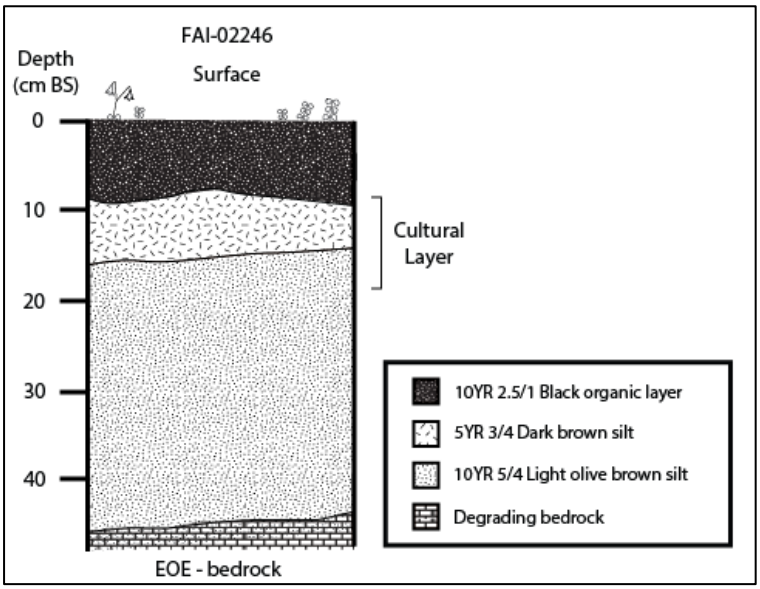


Figure 55. FAI-02246 site stratigraphy.

Figure 56. FAI-02246 test pit.

FAI-02247(DOE 2016)
Latitude: [redacted]
Longitude: [redacted]
UTM: [redacted]
Determination of Eligibility: Not eligible, non-contributing to FAI-00335

Site FAI-02247 was identified in 2013 through subsurface testing on the northernmost peak of the Blair Lakes ridgeline in TFTA, 49 km south of Fort Wainwright (Figure 7). An area approximately 30 m by 40 m along the ridge line was discovered to have been disturbed by previous military use and is now overgrown. An unnamed lake 2 km to the northwest is the closest water source.

The local ecosystem is an upland moist broadleaf forest represented by birch, alder, aspen, and high bush cranberry. There is no surface visibility in the clearing. The brush cut vegetation is composed of alder, birch, spruce, willow, fireweed, bunchberry, grasses, lingonberry, and moss (Figure 57). Approximately a quarter of the top of the landform shows old ground disturbance and recent use of the area was evident in temporary wood structures and gas cans littering the surface.

Figure 57. FAI-02247 site overview.

Three basalt flakes were found in one shovel test when the site was discovered in 2013. (UA2013-071). A shovel test grid was placed over the site in 2016 to determine boundaries and evaluate the site's significance (Figure 58). Twenty six test pits were placed in the undisturbed area on top of the ridge around the positive test pit. No artifacts were discovered in any of the excavations.

A 10 cm organic horizon overlies approximately 20-60 cm of silt in this locality, depending on the amount of disturbance over the particular test pit. Outwash gravels are found at the base of test pits (Figure 59, Figure 60).

Because of the small number of artifacts found, the absence of diagnostic artifacts, only common raw materials discovered, and no faunal or organic material present at the site, FAI-02247 does not appear to be individually eligible for the NRHP under any criterion including D, information potential. The site is partially disturbed, although the disturbance does not appear to have effected any cultural material. This site is extremely small and is unlikely that any more information about the people that deposited the artifacts or the activities they were involved in would be recovered with more investigation. FAI-02247 falls within the boundaries of the Blair Lakes Archaeological District (FAI-00335) but is considered a non-contributing element because of the small number of artifacts, inability to date the site, absence of diagnostic artifacts, and lack of further information potential.

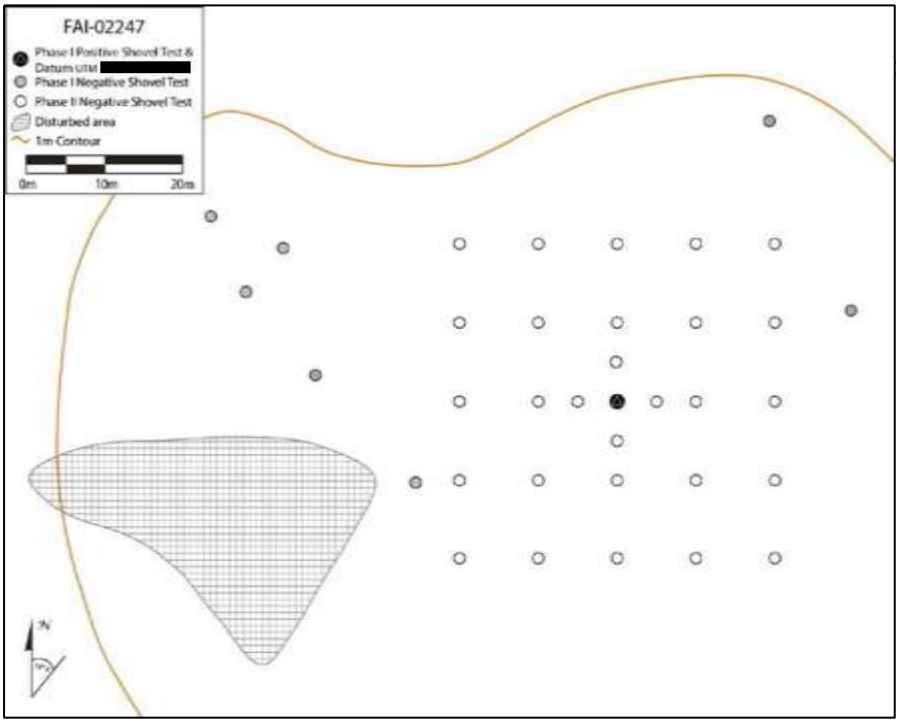


Figure 58. FAI-02247 site map.

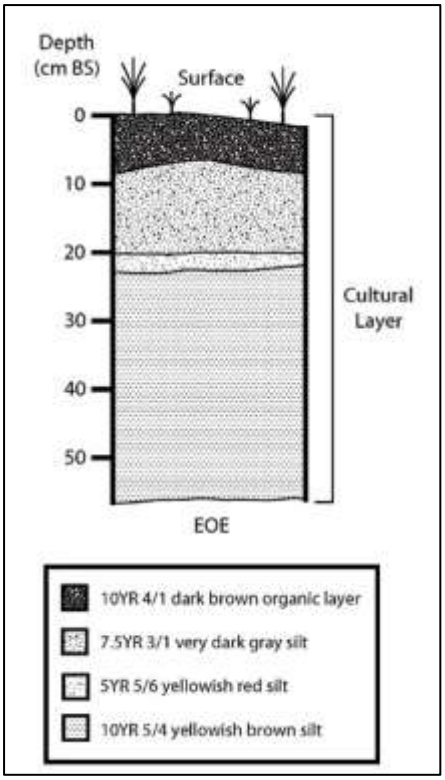


Figure 59. FAI-02247 site stratigraphy.

Figure 60. FAI-02247 test pit.

FAI-02323 (DOE 2015)
Latitude: [redacted]
Longitude: [redacted]
UTM: [redacted]
Determination of Eligibility: Not eligible, contributing to FAI-00335

Site FAI-02323 was identified in 2014 through subsurface testing in the western peak of the Blair Lakes ridge system in TFTA, 53 km south of Fort Wainwright (Figure 7). An artifact was discovered shallowly buried on a small rise that runs 16 m north-south and 11 m east-west approximately 1.5 m above surrounding area, 2 km west of the southern of the Blair Lakes. The nearest water source is Anne Lake, 1 km to the north.

The local ecosystem is an upland moist broadleaf forest represented by birch, alder, aspen, and high bush cranberry. There is no surface visibility or views of the surrounding area due to dense vegetation (Figure 61).

Figure 61. FAI-02323 site overview.

One obsidian scraper was found in a single test pit during the 2014 investigations (UA2014-089) (Figure 62). The source of the obsidian is Batza Tena (Rasic pers. comm. 2015). A shovel test grid was placed over the site in 2016 to determine boundaries and evaluate the site's

significance (Figure 63). Twenty test pits were placed over the top of the ridge around the positive test pit. No additional artifacts were discovered in any of the excavations.

A 5 cm organic horizon overlies approximately 15-20 cm of silt in this locality. A thin layer (up to 15 cm) of outwash gravels are found at the base of test pits over top of degrading bedrock (Figure 64, Figure 65).

Figure 62. FAI-02323 scraper.

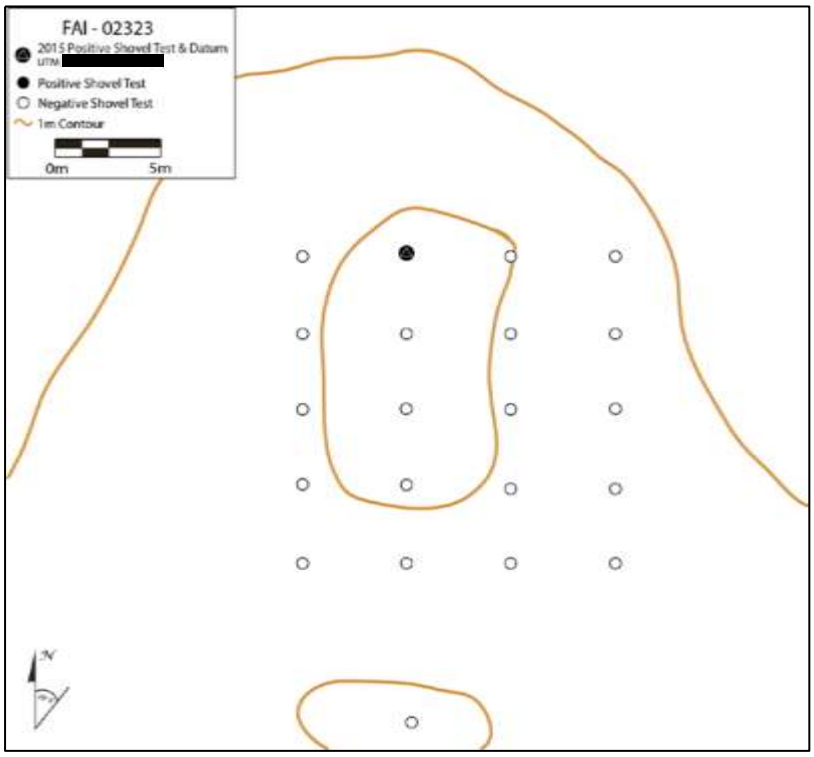


Figure 63. FAI-02323 site map.

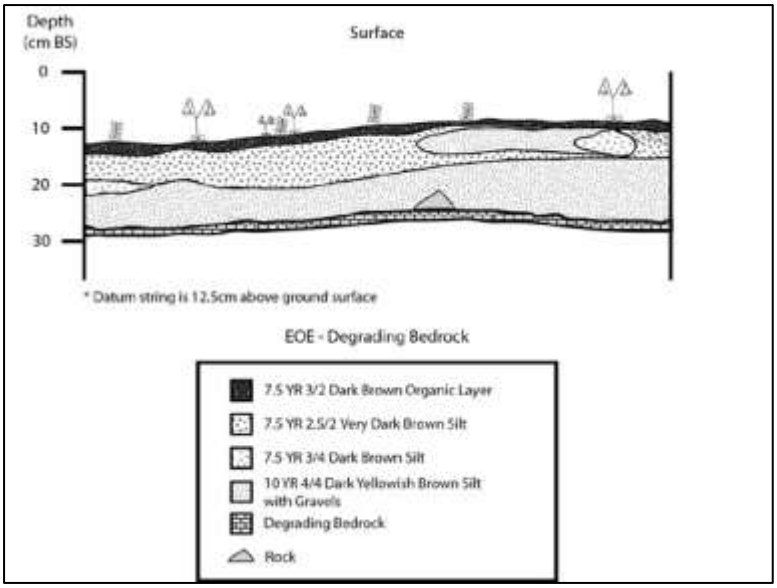


Figure 64. FAI-02323 site stratigraphy.

Figure 65. FAI-02323 test pit.

Only one artifact, a large scraper, was found at this site. It appears as if FAI-02323 represents an isolated find. Because no other artifacts were found, and there is no associated fauna or organic material by which to date this site, FAI-02323 is not individually eligible for the NRHP under any criterion including D, information potential. This site is extremely small and is unlikely that any more information about the people that deposited the artifacts or the activities they were involved in would be recovered with more investigation. FAI-02323 falls within the boundaries of the Blair Lakes Archaeological District (FAI-00335). Although the site is

not individually eligible, it is considered a contributing element to the district because of the nature of the raw material. Obsidian is a rare raw material from a distant location (Batza Tena is located 400 km to the northwest). This site has potential to contribute to problems regarding trade, migration, and long-distance transport.

FAI-02361 (New Site 2016)
Latitude: [redacted]
Longitude: [redacted]
UTM: [redacted]
Determination of Eligibility: Not evaluated

FAI-02361 is located on a level terrace in the Tanana Flats, about 1 km from Clear Creek Assault Strip and 42 km south of Fairbanks (Figure 6). The terrace drops down 40 m to the northwest. The viewshed is blocked in all directions by vegetation, composed of mixed needle and broadleaf trees, tall scrub, moss and low scrub. An ATV trail crossing the site provides the only visible surface area, less than 5% of the total site area. The closest water source is Clear Creek, 1 km to the west (Figure 66, Figure 67).

Figure 66. FAI-02361 site overview.

The site consists of a single black chert interior flake discovered on the exposed surface of the ATV trail and collected (UA2016-143-001). No other artifacts were found on the surface and no subsurface testing was conducted.

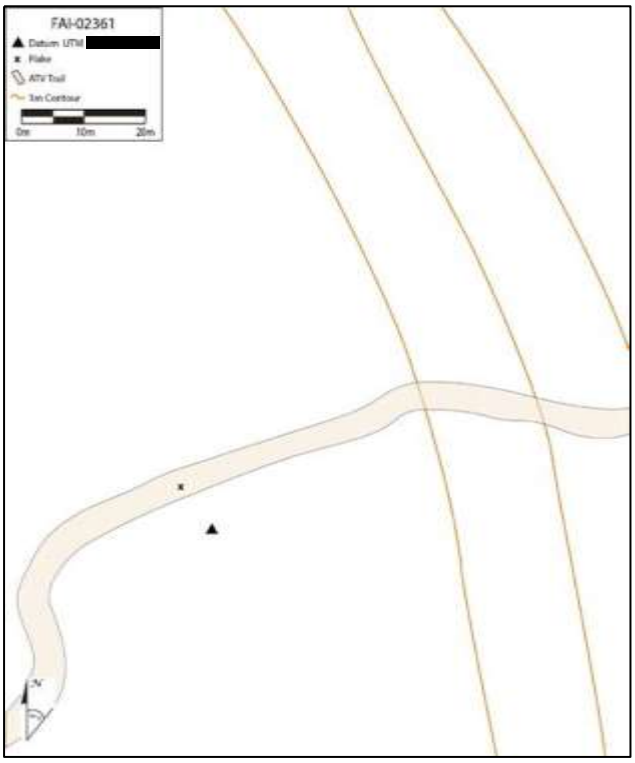


Figure 67. FAI-02361 site map.

FAI-02368 (new site and DOE 2015)
Latitude: [redacted]
Longitude: [redacted]
UTM: [redacted]
Determination of Eligibility: Eligible

The remains of an F-82 Twin Mustang military plane are located in a boreal forest patch of the TFTA, south of the Tanana River, approximately 5.3 km south of Fairbanks (Figure 6). The F-82 left Ladd Field with two other aircraft on January 16, 1950 to practice areal interceptions (Figure 68). One of the planes (46-497) crashed in the TFTA killing both military pilots on board. The wreckage spans nearly 100 m (Figure 69) and still includes large portions of the original aircraft including a propeller, radio panels, the engine, and other metal pieces. Identifiable parts are shown in Figure 70-Figure 86. Although the crashed plane is broken and mangled and pieces of the fuselage were removed in 2008, much of the aircraft remains on the ground surface at the site and many pieces are identifiable.

Figure 68. F-82 during WWII.

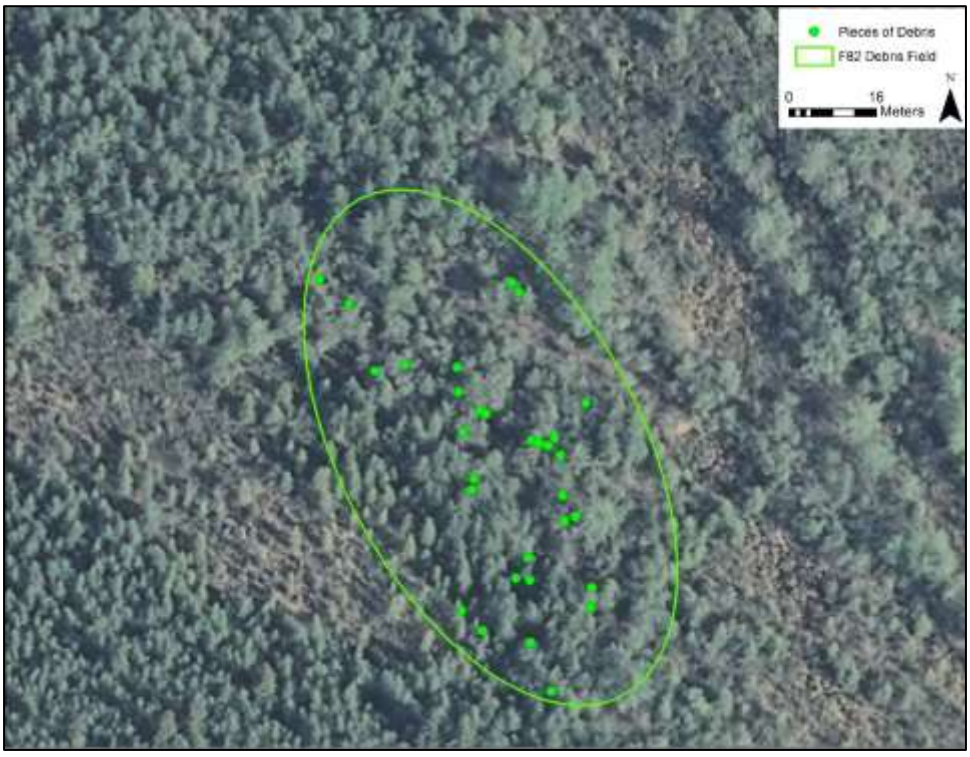


Figure 69. F-82 debris field perimeter.

Figure 70. Fuselage pieces.

Figure 71. “Buzz” Numbering FQ-497 (FQ=North American F-82, 3 Digits= aircraft number).

Figure 72. USAF wing marking (top or underside).

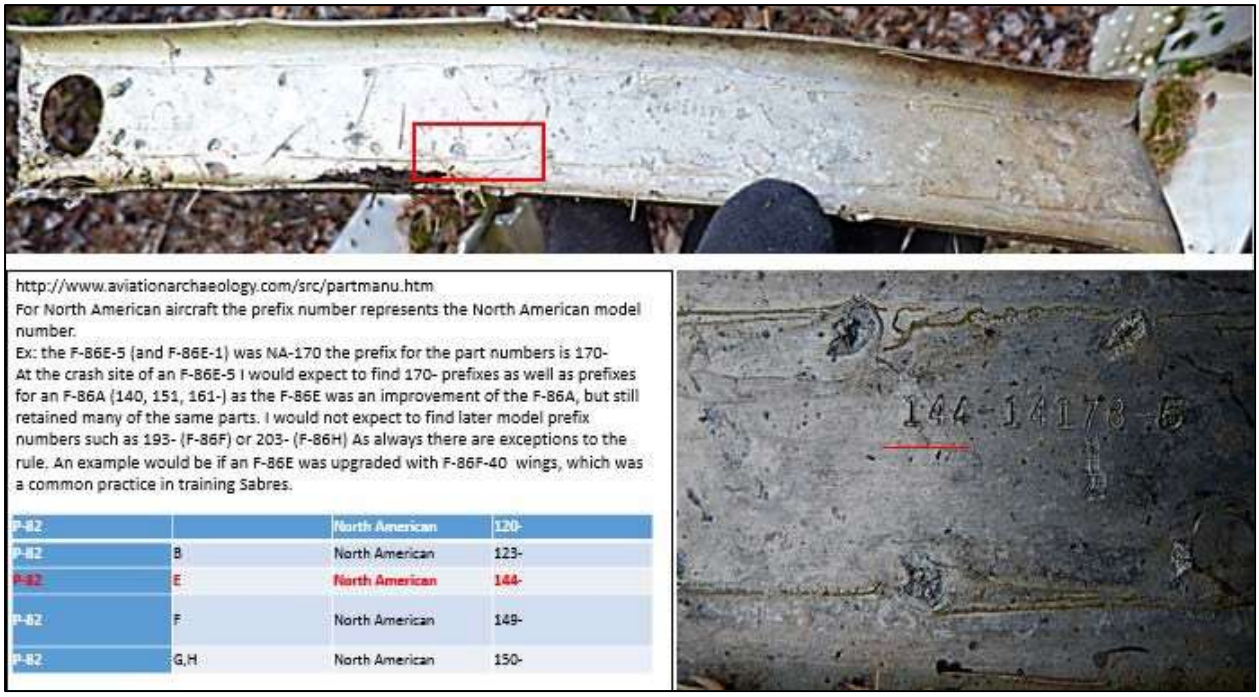
Figure 73. Exterior panel.

Figure 74. Aluminum-alloy sheeting.

Figure 75. Carburetor intakes.

Figure 76. Propellers.

Figure 77. Allison engines.



http://www.aviationarchaeology.com/src/partmanu.htm
For North American aircraft the prefix number represents the North American model number.
Ex: the F-86E-5 (and F-86E-1) was NA-170 the prefix for the part numbers is 170-
At the crash site of an F-86E-5 I would expect to find 170- prefixes as well as prefixes for an F-86A (140, 151, 161-) as the F-86E was an improvement of the F-86A, but still retained many of the same parts. I would not expect to find later model prefix numbers such as 193- (F-86F) or 203- (F-86H) As always there are exceptions to the rule. An example would be if an F-86E was upgraded with F-86F-40 wings, which was a common practice in training Sabres.

F-82		North American	120-
F-82	B	North American	123-
F-82	E	North American	144-
F-82	F	North American	149-
F-82	G,H	North American	150-

Figure 78. Part number linking to F-82 original variant.

Figure 79. Radiators.

Figure 80. RT-34/APS-13 tail warning radar.

Figure 81. Radio receiver.

Figure 82. Western Electric antenna equipment RC-286.

Figure 83. Oil temperature regulator.

Figure 84. Oxygen bottles.

Figure 85. Unknown tank

Figure 86. Instrument panel.

Though heavily damaged and looted, the crash site is eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C as possibly the last remaining example of the H model of the F-82, and as an F-82, which represents *the* transitionary aircraft of the piston-driven to Jet Age, the site is important for significant developments in aircraft technology, and represents a significant doctrinal development, like an organization's response to changing technology and tactics. The site is also eligible under Criterion D for the information it has yielded and potentially could yield about technology and military aviation associated with the Ladd Air Force Base Cold War Historic District.

The crash site contains wreckage of a Cold War era, North American Aviation (NAA) F-82H Twin Mustang, long-range, ground attack, night fighter, tail number 46-497. The F-82 is a twin fuselage, twin cockpit, heavier-than-air, military plane with inward retracting landing gear. The aircraft was powered by two, outward turning, Allison V-1710-145 liquid-cooled, inline piston-driven engines. This particular F-82H variation is a special winterized version of the E variant. The E variant is an escort, all-weather, day fighter, modified and re-designated in 1948.

The design of the F-82 was influenced by the North American P-51 Mustang, and the Northrup P-61 Black Widow. While the aircraft looks like a simple join of two P-51s, in reality the F-82 utilizes less than a quarter of the same parts. Of note, the F-82 has a longer length than the P-51. An additional characteristic of note is the center wing connecting the fuselages which also contains the standard six Browning M2 .50 caliber machine guns. The centrally located machine guns differ from the P-51 which has three guns in each wing (Table 13).

Table 13. Major specifications of the F-82.

Component	Description
Crew	2
Overall Length	42.42’ (12.93m)
Overall Width	51.25’ (15.62m)
Overall Height	13.85 (4.22m)
Weight (empty)	15,997 lbs (7,256kg)
Weight MTOW	25,951 lbs (11,771kg)
Max Speed	461 mph (742 kph, 401 knots)
Max Range	2,239 mi (3,604km)
Service Ceiling	38,898 ft (11,856m, 7.37mi)
Rate-of-Climb	3,770 ft-per-minute (1,149m/min)
Armament	Six .50 cal M2 Browning machine guns in center wing
Optional	Pod of 8 additional .50 cal machine guns, 4,000lbs bombs, 25 x 5” rockets

The crash site of the F-82H Twin Mustang number 46-497 is historically significant and eligible under Criterions C and D. Under Criterion C: The *National Park Service Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Historic Aviation Properties* state that “An aircraft can be eligible if it is a good representative of an important type (military, commercial, civilian), or if it represents a significant development in aircraft technology, or if it represents a significant doctrinal development, like an organization’s response to changing technology or tactics” (NPS 1998). Aircraft 46-497 is an example of the extremely rare North American Aviation F-82 Twin Mustang, and potentially the only remaining example of the H variant. The F-82 was in existence at the critical point in aviation history during the transition from piston-driven aircraft and the beginning of the Jet Age. The F-82 was designed as an extremely long range fighter and the only fighter capable of supporting the long range strategic mission of the Air Force during the beginning of the Cold War. For these reasons, the crash site of 46-497 is eligible for Criterion C under for its national significance.

Criterion D state that the site must have yielded or be likely to yield information important in prehistory or history. The crash site of 46-497 is eligible under Criterion D because of the information it has yielded and could potentially yield about the rare aircraft. The information potential relates to nationally significant military and aviation trends as well as the local connection to the Ladd Air Force Base Cold War Historic District.

The areas of significance for this property are in archaeology, engineering, and military history. The period of significance is the Cold War. The site’s cultural affiliation is military, and it has a moderate level of significance being a rare example of a short lived military airplane.

Although this is a crash site, many elements of the site and plane itself maintain elements of integrity. National Register guidelines state that “An aviation wreck is any aircraft that has been

crashed, ditched, damaged, stranded, or abandoned. The wreck may be intact or scattered, may be on land or in water, may be-in National Register terms- a structure or a site. A *structure* remains relatively intact, while a wreck *site* lacks the structural integrity of an aircraft, although the site may contain the structural elements of an aircraft" (NPS 1998).

The location of the crash retains integrity. The National Register recognizes that aircraft are likely not located in the original construction location and the majority of the wreckage of the aircraft is still located at the crash site. The looting of the aircraft resulted in some pieces being removed from the site and others being piled up close to their original crash location. At this time it is believed that the tail section, some landing gear components, and the central wing were the pieces illegally obtained by the B-25 Group. Despite the loss of these components, many other major components are still at the site and visible from the surface. Table 14 provides an inventory of the known components at the site. A zero does not indicate that the component is not present, simply that it has not yet been accounted for.

Table 14. F-82 components and site presence or absence.

Major Components			
Major Group	**Subgroup**	**Number Total**	**Known Number at Site**
Fuselage	Cockpit	2	1 and parts of 2nd
Fuselage	Tail	2	0-Believed looted
Wings	Center	1	0-Believed looted
Wings	Stabilizers-Vertical	4	2-Tail believed looted
Wings	Stabilizers-Horizontal	2	0-Tail believed looted
Wings	Flaps	8	2-Believed looted
Powerplant	Engine	2	2
Powerplant	Props	2	2
Landing Gear	Front	2	0- At least one believed looted
Landing Gear	Rear	2	0-Tail believed looted
Cockpit	Controls	Various	Yes
Cockpit	Control Panels	2	1
Cockpit	Radio	1	1
Systems	Hydraulic	Various	Yes
Systems	Electric	Various	Yes
Systems	Pneumatic	Various	Yes

The design of the aircraft also maintains its integrity. At the time of the crash, 46-497 was an F-82H, a special winterized version of the F-82. One piece of examined wreckage from the fuselage has the part number prefix for the F-82E model. In 1948, the 449th Squadron of F-82s was modified and re-designated as the H model. The crash site does not lose integrity because the designation of the aircraft changed from E to H because the aircraft itself is still 46-497. "As long as an aircraft retains the majority of its original structural members, it should be considered the authentic aircraft. Spars, stringers, longerons and other structural parts are not

usually changed in an aircraft's existence. Some repair work may be done that replaces ribs or stringer sections but never comprehensively" (NPS 1998).

The setting of crash site of 46-497 maintains setting integrity for two reasons. First, the area around the crash site has changed little, the area is still wooded, with no development in the vicinity. Second, the Tanana Flats is today, as it was at the time of the crash, a training area for the military associated with Ladd Field.

The materials and workmanship of the F-82 also maintain integrity. As this is a crash site and no attempt to repair, replace, or conserve has taken place, no inappropriate practices have taken place. Therefore, the materials at the 46-497 crash site are intact and retain integrity. The crash site of 46-497 demonstrates at least one individually specific piece of workmanship, and many examples of key technological features. Individually, at least one piece of aircraft sheet metal with part of the "Buzz" number is still present at the site. The two Allison engines and props are examples of technological features developed for the end of the piston-driven age of military aircraft. Though the engines and props appear to be the same, they are actually designed to work together by spinning in opposite directions, helping to keep the aircraft stable. This design feature was an adaptation from prototype aircraft that had engines and props that spun in the same direction. The site is littered with many different pieces modeled off of P-51 Mustang components but uniquely designed for the F-82 Twin Mustang.

An aircraft crash site is difficult to convey feeling. Often at first glance, piles of twisted metal littering the ground do not appear to be anything more than scrap. Upon further examination however, many identifiable individual pieces and intact components begin to transform hunks of metal into its former self. In the case of 46-497, the integrity has been damaged for a few reasons. First, the looting of the tail section, a character defining feature of the F-82 is a significant blow to this aircraft. Second, the extreme nature of the crash has rendered simple identification as an F-82 Twin Mustang, very difficult, but not impossible. Two piston-driven engines and props as well as many pieces of aircraft metal clearly demonstrate that the site is of a wrecked aircraft. Therefore, the site retains some integrity in this category.

Finally, the crash site of 46-947 retains a high level of association integrity with the Ladd Air Force Base Cold War Historic District. This aircraft was part of the final USAF piston-driven fighter aircraft. The F-82 flew during an important transitionary time in military aviation history. 46-497 was part of the 449th Squadron, part of the 5001st Composite Wing, based out of Ladd Air Force Base. Though the crash site is not located on the historic district, the fact that the aircraft was based, and took off from Ladd AFB allows the wreck to retain its integrity.

In summary, the crash site of 46-947 is eligible for the NRHP under criterions C and D. It is significant in the areas of archaeology, engineering, and military history. It was a significant Cold War era plane that retains integrity in the areas of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. XMH-02386 is not within the boundaries of any archaeological district in TFTA nor within the boundaries of the Ladd Air Force Base Cold War National Historic District.

FAI-02391 (new site and DOE 2015)
Latitude: [redacted]
Longitude: [redacted]
UTM: [redacted]
Determination of Eligibility: Not eligible, non-contributing to FAI-00335

FAI-02391 is located in the Tanana Flats, 54.5 km south of Fairbanks (Figure 6, Figure 7). The site was found on the toe-slope of a ridge between Anne Lake (1 km to the northwest) and Blair Lake south (1.2 km to the southwest). The site is forested and the viewshed and surface visibility are nearly zero, with the exception of where an ATV trail runs through the site. The vegetation is mixed spruce, birch, and aspen with various low scrub, including Labrador tea, fireweed, and low and high bush cranberry (Figure 87).

During initial investigations in the 2015 field season, a single rhyolite flake was found approximately 13 cmbs, at the bottom of the B soil horizon, in one of three test pits (Figure 88). A shovel test grid was then set up over the site. Twenty-seven additional test pits were excavated. Two black chert and one gray chert flakes were found in two of the test pits (Table 15).

Sediments at this site range from 30-57 cm in thickness and end at bedrock regolith (Figure 89, Figure 90). Five to ten cm of organic debris are found overtop aeolian silts with boreal forest soil development. Cultural material was found throughout the deposits.

Figure 87. FAI-02391 site overview.

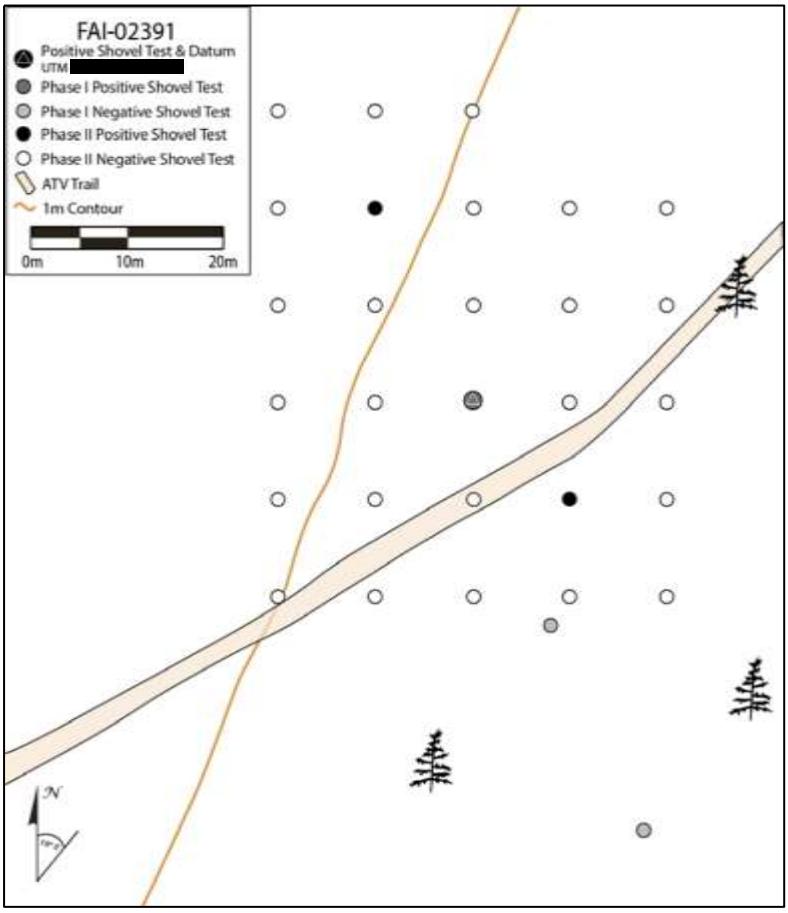


Figure 88. FAI-02391 site map.

Table 15. FAI-02391 accession log.

Accession #	Provenience	Quantity	Artifact Type	Raw Material
UA2015-156-0001	KT4	1	Flake fragment	Rhyolite
UA2015-156-0002	10W20S, 30-42 cmbs	2	Flake fragments	Black chert
UA2015-156-0003	10E10S, 0-7 cmbs	2	Bifacial thinning flake	Gray chert

Because a low number of artifacts were found, no diagnostic artifacts were recovered, raw materials are common to the area, no faunal or organic materials were found at the site, and artifacts were not found in specific stratigraphic layers, FAI-02391 does not appear to be individually eligible for the NRHP under any criterion including D, information potential. Although the site is not disturbed, it is unlikely that any more information about the people that deposited the artifacts or the activities they were involved in. FAI-02391 falls within the boundaries of the Blair Lakes Archaeological District (FAI-00335) but is considered a non-contributing element because of the limited number of artifacts, the inability to date the site, the absence of diagnostic artifacts, and the lack of further information potential.

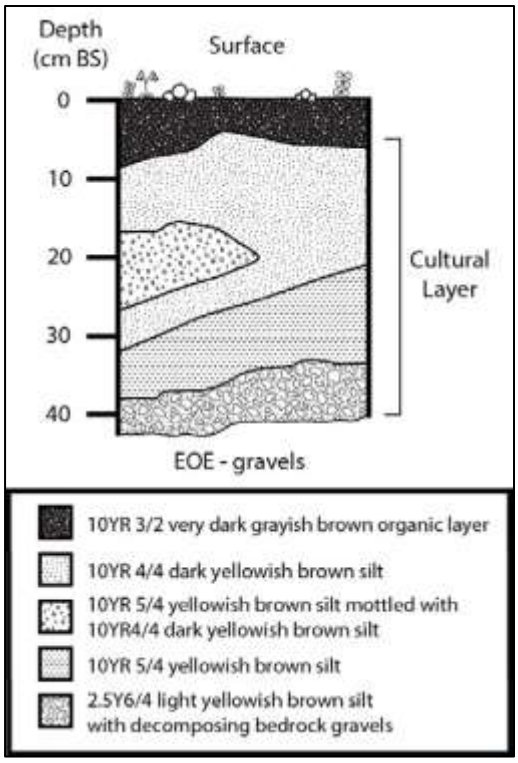


Figure 89. FAI-02391 stratigraphic profile.

Figure 90. FAI-02391 test pit.

FAI-02392 (new site 2015)
Latitude: [redacted]
Longitude: [redacted]
UTM: [redacted]
Determination of Eligibility: Not evaluated

FAI-02392 is located in the Tanana Flats, 55 km south of Fairbanks. The site was found on the knoll between Anne Lake (1.5 km to the northwest) and Blair Lake south (1 km to the southwest) (Figure 6). The site is forested and the viewshed and surface visibility are nearly zero, with the exception of where than ATV trail runs through the site. Vegetation consists of aspen, birch, baby spruce, moss, and low scrub such as fireweed, Labrador tea, high- and low-bush cranberry, and lichen (Figure 91).

One of three shovel tests was positive for cultural material on initial site discovery in 2015. Two rhyolite and three chert flakes were found between 10-25 cmbs (Table 16). A shovel test grid was set up across the knoll and ten additional shovel tests were placed across the knoll where the deepest deposits occurred. Eleven rhyolite and gray chert flakes and flake fragments were found in two additional test pits. The grid and excavation unit were not completed and so a full DOE is not provided at this time.

Figure 91. FAI-02392 site overview.

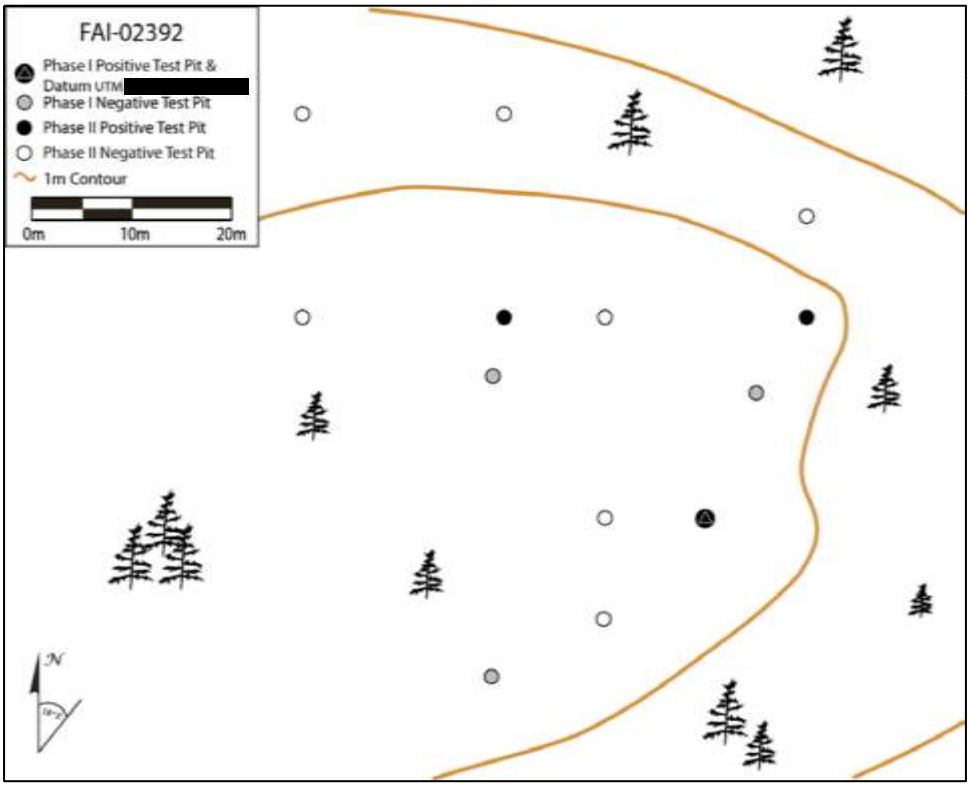


Figure 92. FAI-02392 site map.

Table 16. FAI-02392 accession log.

Accession #	Provenience	Quantity	Artifact Type	Raw Material
UA2015-157-0001	KT8, 10-15 cmbs	2	Bifacial thinning flake, linear flake	Rhyolite
UA2015-157-0002	KT8, 10-15 cmbs	2	Bifacial thinning flake, pressure flake	Gray chert
UA2015-157-0003	KT8, 20-25 cmbs	1	Flake fragment	Gray chert
UA2015-157-0004	10E20N, 10-30 cmbs	8	Bifacial thinning flakes, flake frags	Rhyolite
UA2015-157-0005	10E20N, 22 cmbs	2	Flake fragments	Rhyolite
UA2015-157-0006	20W20N, 10-20 cmbs	1	Flake fragment	Gray chert

A 5-10 cm organic horizon overlies approximately 20-50 cm of silt across the landform before bedrock was encountered. Thicknesses of shovel tests varied between 20-50 cm BS (Figure 93, Figure 94). Cultural material is found from 10 cmbs to the base of the silt.

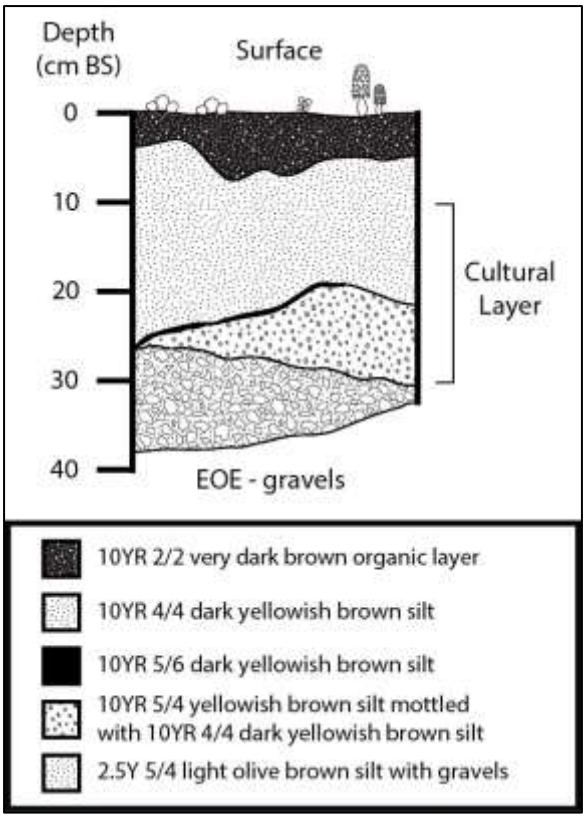


Figure 93. FAI-02392 stratigraphic profile.

Figure 94. FAI-02392 test pit.

FAI-02393 (new site 2015)
Latitude: [redacted]
Longitude: [redacted]
UTM: [redacted]
Determination of Eligibility: Not evaluated

FAI-02393 is located in the Tanana Flats, 55 km south of Fairbanks. The site was found on a rise at the apex of a larger bedrock that runs northwest-southeast. The nearest water bodies are the southern Blair Lake south (1.5 km to the west) and Anne Lake (1.5 km to the northwest) (Figure 6). The landform is flat at the apex and the surrounding area slopes 5-10°. An ATV trail runs through the site and there is a freshly cut landing zone approximately 60 m to the southwest. There is no surface exposure except where the ATV trail runs through the site. The current viewshed is limited due to tree cover. Vegetation includes birch, willow, baby spruce, Labrador tea, low-bush cranberry, moss, and lichen (Figure 95).

Of the four shovel test pits excavated, three were positive (Figure 119). Forty-three chert and rhyolite artifacts were found 0-30 cmbs in the positive test pits (Table 17). Artifacts included 43 flakes, five microblade segments, and a black chert burin spall.

A thin (5 cm) organic horizon overlies 30-50 cm of windblown silt at the site. Test pits ended at bedrock regolith. Cultural material was found from the surface to approximately 30 cmbs.

Figure 95. FAI-02393 site overview.

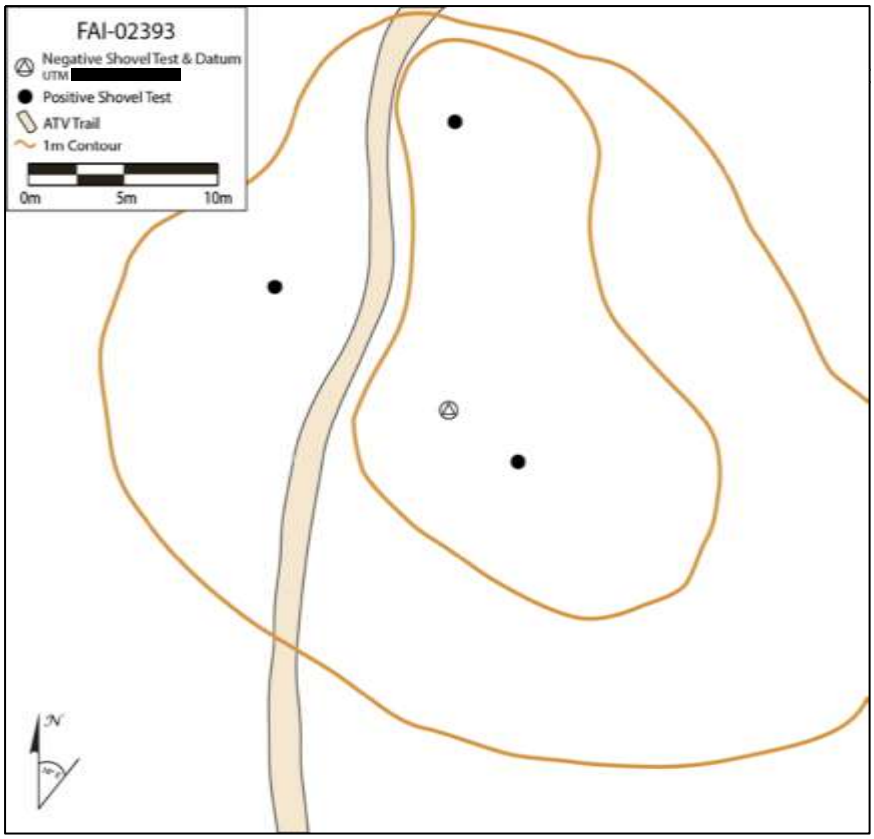


Figure 96. FAI-02393 site map.

Table 17. FAI-02393 accession log.

Accession #	Provenience	Quantity	Artifact Type	Raw Material
UA2015-158-0001	K13, 0-10 cmbs	3	Late bifacial thinning flakes	Brown rhyolite
UA2015-158-0002	K13, 10-15 cmbs	2	**B**ifacial pressure flakes	Brown rhyolite
UA2015-158-0003	K13, 20-25 cmbs	1	Proximal microblade	Gray chert
UA2015-158-0004	K16, 0-10 cmbs	2	Bifacial thinning flakes	Brown rhyolite
UA2015-158-0005	K16, 0-10 cmbs	1	Flake fragment	Brown rhyolite
UA2015-158-0006	K16, 10-20 cmbs	32	Flakes and flake fragments	Black/white chert
UA2015-158-0007	K16, 20-30 cmbs	7	Flakes and flake fragments	Black/white chert
UA2015-158-0008	K16, 17 cmbs	7	Flake fragment	Black/white chert
UA2015-158-0009	K13, 0-10 cmbs	2	Proximal microblades	Chert/rhyolite
UA2015-158-0010	K13, 0-10 cmbs	1	Medial microblade	Red rhyolite
UA2015-158-0011	K13, 0-10 cmbs	1	Burin spall	Black chert
UA2015-158-0012	K13, 10-15 cmbs	1	Proximal microblade	Brown rhyolite

Figure 97. FAI-02393 shovel test pit.

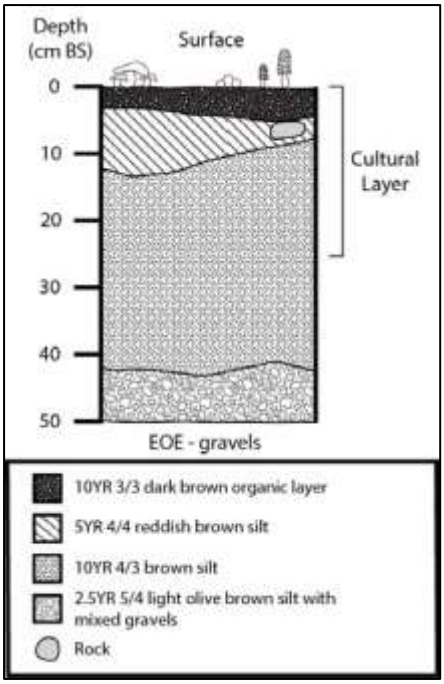


Figure 98. FAI-02393 stratigraphic profile.

FAI-02394 (new site and DOE 2015)
Latitude: [redacted]
Longitude: [redacted]
UTM: [redacted]
Determination of Eligibility: Not eligible, non-contributing to FAI-00335

Site FAI-02394 was identified in 2015 through subsurface testing on a rise on the ridge system west of Blair Lakes, 54 km south of Fort Wainwright (Figure 6, Figure 7). Blair Lakes south is 1.5 km to the south-east of the site and Anne Lake is 1.2 km to the west. The site is accessible by an ATV trail and the base of the landform that the site is on, approximately 100 m to the northeast.

Vegetation includes young birch and aspen, scattered baby spruce, moss, and lichen. A thick layer of leaf litter and deadfall covers the site (Figure 99).

During the initial site discovery, four test pits were excavated along the rise (Figure 100). One positive test pit contained three rhyolite flakes (Table 18). A shovel test grid was set up over the site with the positive test pit becoming the datum location. An additional 28 test pits were excavated and flakes were found in two of the tests.

Figure 99. FAI-02394 site overview.

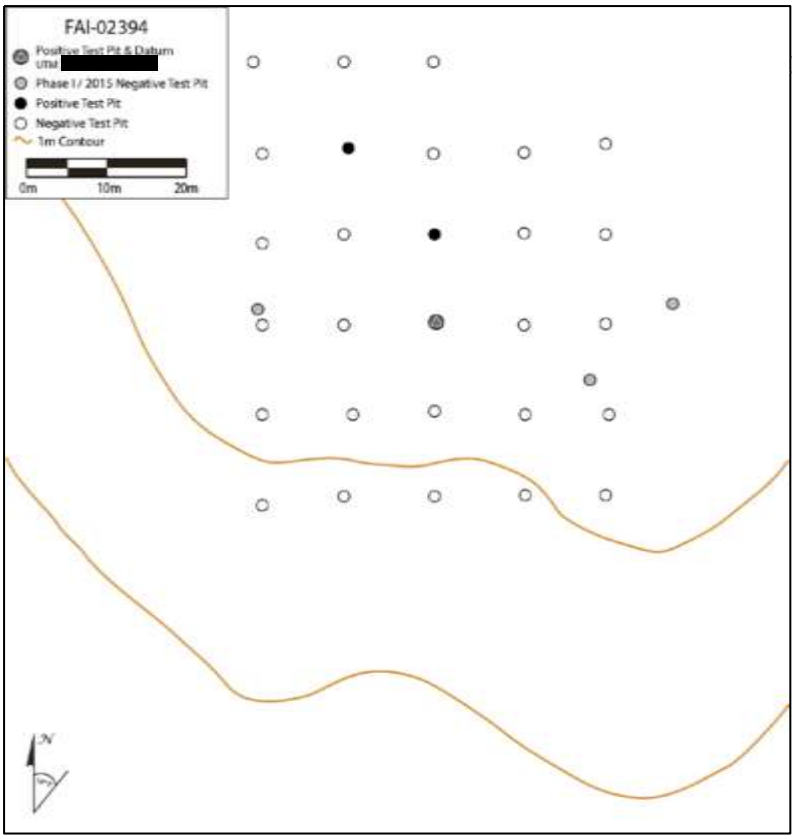


Figure 100. FAI-02394 site map.

Table 18. FAI-02394 accession log.

Accession #	Provenience	Quantity	Artifact Type	Raw Material
UA2015-159-0001	K17, 10-20 cmbs	3	Bifacial pressure flake, flake frags	Rhyolite
UA2015-159-0002	0E10N, 15-30 cmbs	1	Bifacial thinning flake	Gray chert
UA2015-159-0003	10W20N, 15-25 cmbs	2	Bifacial pressure flake, flake frag	Gray chert

An 8 cm thick organic horizon overlies approximately 25-65 cm of silt in this locality before bedrock regolith was encountered. Only the modern forest soil is developed. Cultural material was found between 10 and 30 cmbs (Figure 101, Figure 102).

Because sediments are shallow in this location, a low number of artifacts were found, no diagnostic artifacts were recovered, raw materials are common to the area, and no faunal or organic materials were found at the site, FAI-02394 does not appear to be individually eligible for the NRHP under any criterion including D, information potential. Although the site is not disturbed, it is unlikely that any more information about the people that deposited the artifacts or the activities they were involved in. FAI-02394 falls within the boundaries of the Blair Lakes Archaeological District (FAI-00335) but is considered a non-contributing element because of the limited number of artifacts, the inability to date the site, the absence of diagnostic artifacts, and the lack of further information potential.

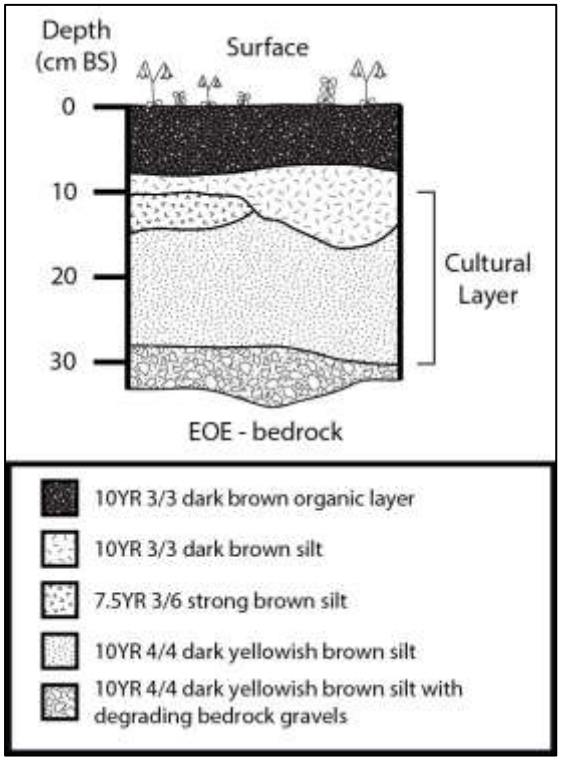


Figure 101. FAI-02394 stratigraphic profile.

Figure 102. FAI-02394 test pit.

2015 & 2016 Yukon Training Area

Section 106 Activities

Several undertakings requiring Section 106 actions took place in YTA during the 2016 field season, but no such activities occurred in this area of Fort Wainwright in 2016. Findings of No Historic Properties Affected were given by the SHPO for five projects: Timber Sales in Training Area 305 (4 March 2015), Johnson Road Timber Sales (22 April 2015, Hunts Creek Timber Sales 26 August 2015), Charley Battery Maintenance and Beaver Creek Timber Sales (22 December 2015), and the construction of a Live-Fire Trench (22 December 2015) (Figure 103). Only one archaeological site (XBD-00414) was discovered during surveys for these projects. This site was not located within 500 m of the Hunt's Creek Timber Sale project footprint.

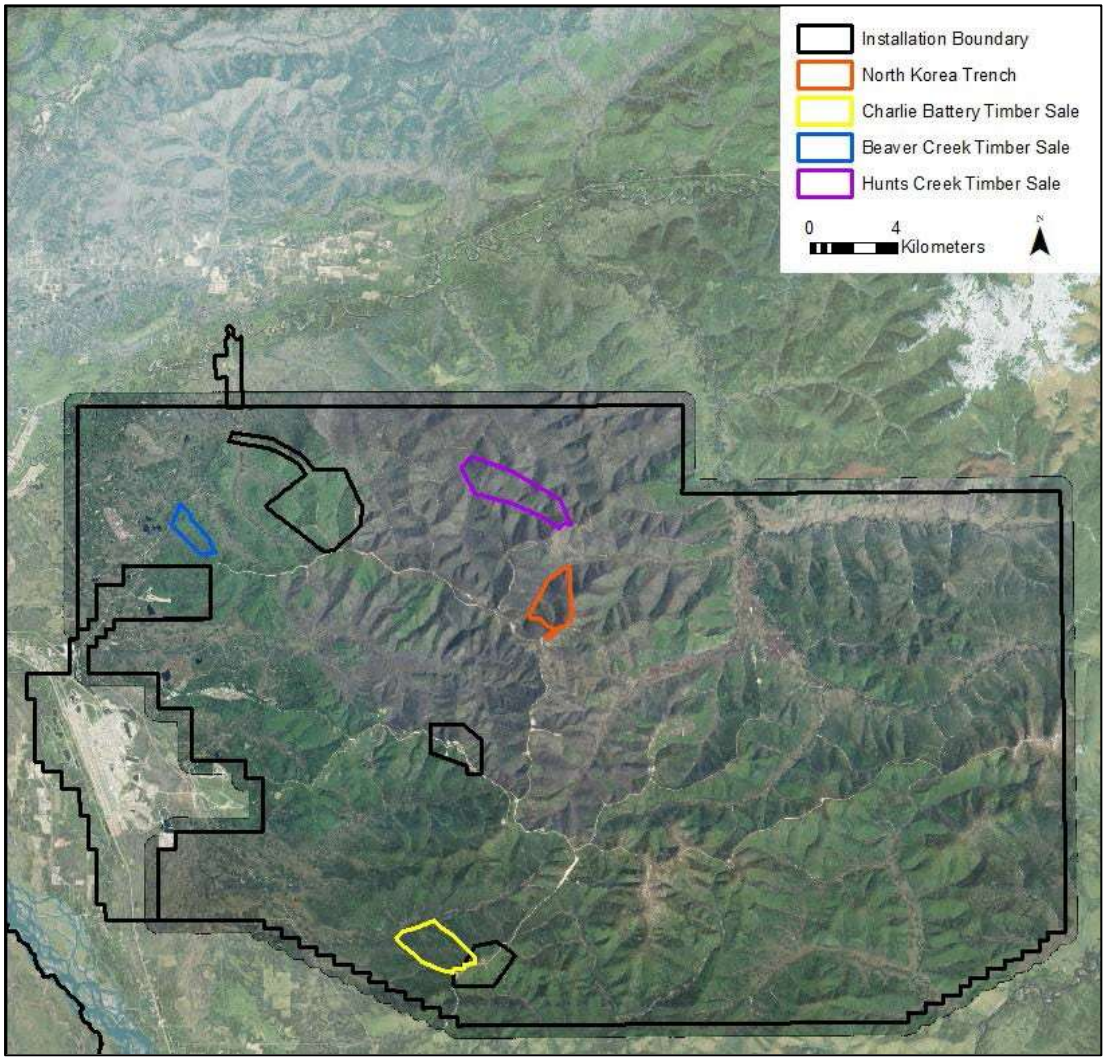


Figure 103. Section 106 projects in YTA, 2015.

Archaeological Surveys

A total of 4309.5 acres of land in YTA during the 2015 field season and 4611.6 acres during the 2016 field season were surveyed for archaeological sites by CEMML crews. All highlighted areas in Figure 104 were covered by pedestrian transects, and shovel testing occurred in upland locations. Surveys covered Beaver Creek Road and timber sales area (3261.6 acres), Charley Battery (1144 acres), Hunts Creek timber sale area (641.1 acres), Firing Point Hippie (864.4 acres), Training Area 301 (1202.5 acres), Manchu Trench (1704 acres) and near the south fork of the Chena River in TA 306 (103.5 acres). No new archaeological sites were discovered during these surveys. XBD-00162 was relocated outside military lands and its coordinates were updated in the AHRS.

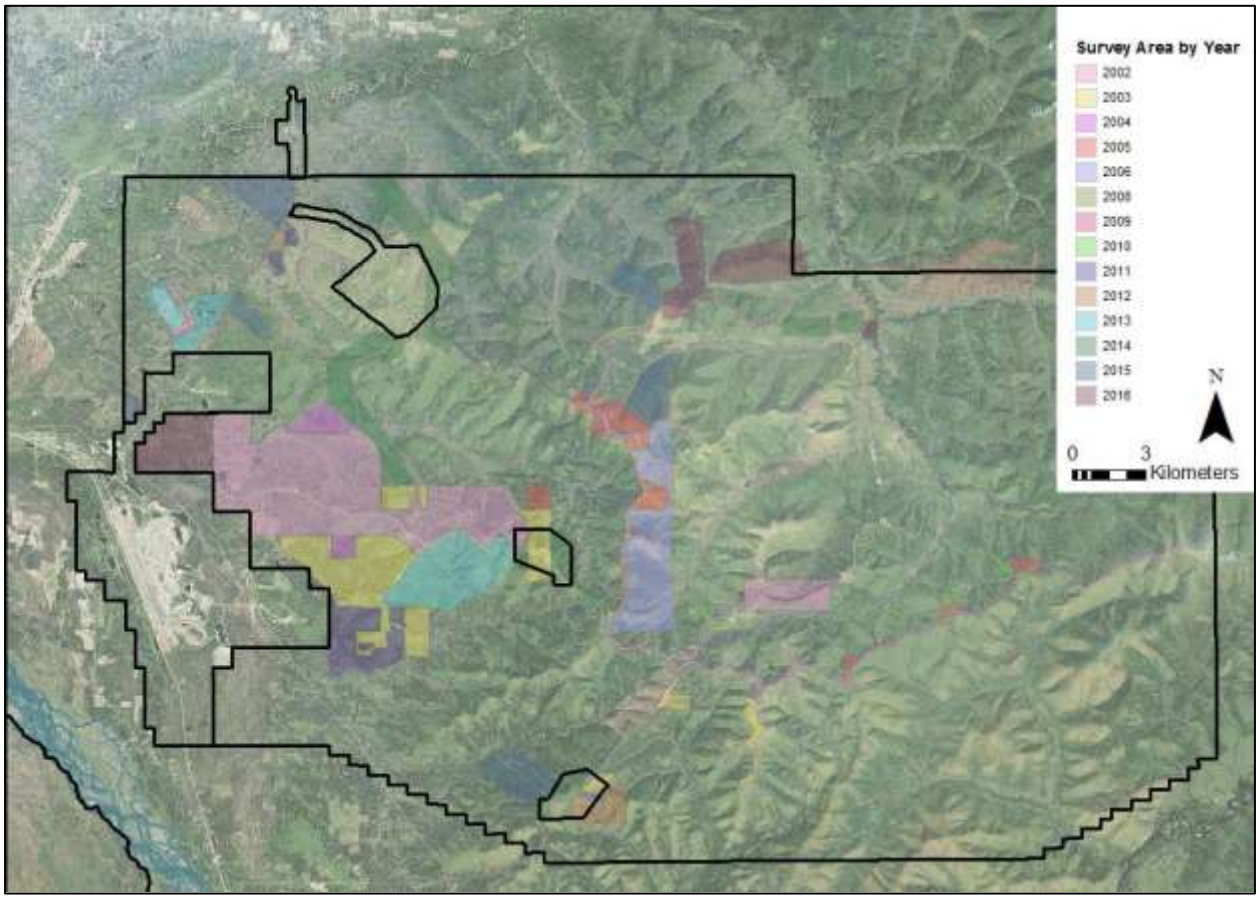


Figure 104. All surveys in YTA by year.

Archaeological Sites and Determinations of Eligibility

One new site, XBD-00414, was added to the AHRS in 2015 and no new sites were discovered in YTA during the 2016 field season. Three sites were revisited for DOEs (XBD-00111, XBD-00162, and XBD-00414) (Figure 105).

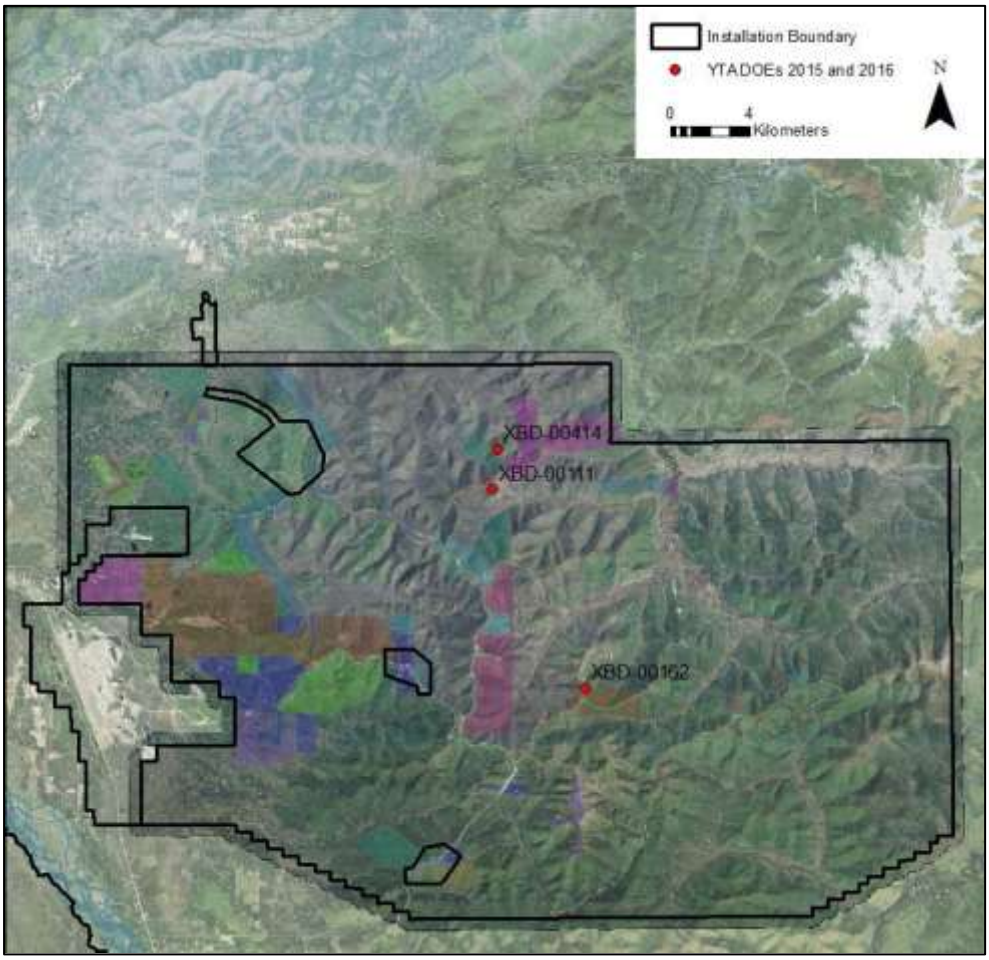


Figure 105. YTA sites and DOEs from 2015 and 2016.

XBD-00111 (DOE 2015)
Latitude: [redacted]
Longitude: [redacted]
UTM: [redacted]
Determination of Eligibility: Not eligible

XBD-00111 is located along a ridgeline in the YTA, 49 km east of Fairbanks (Figure 105). The site was discovered by Chuck Holmes in 1979 during a land withdrawal survey (Holmes 1979a). Three black chert flakes were found on a disturbed surface adjacent to the roadway. A DOE was

submitted for the site in 1984, but it was rejected by the SHPO. DOE documentation no longer exists, so the site was revisited in 2004 and a basalt flake fragment was found on the surface of an old road bed. In 2015, the site was examined for a DOE and its coordinates were updated.

Vegetation in the area has grown back over the years since the initial site discovery. An open spruce forest covers the area and shallow sediments are covered with sphagnum moss and lichen (Figure 106). Birch Creek schist bedrock is exposed to the north of the road. Two or three older test pits were noted on the surface of the hill and four additional pits were excavated (Figure 107). No artifacts were found on the surface in 2015 and no cultural material was found in any of the four test pits.

Figure 106. XBD-00111 site overview.

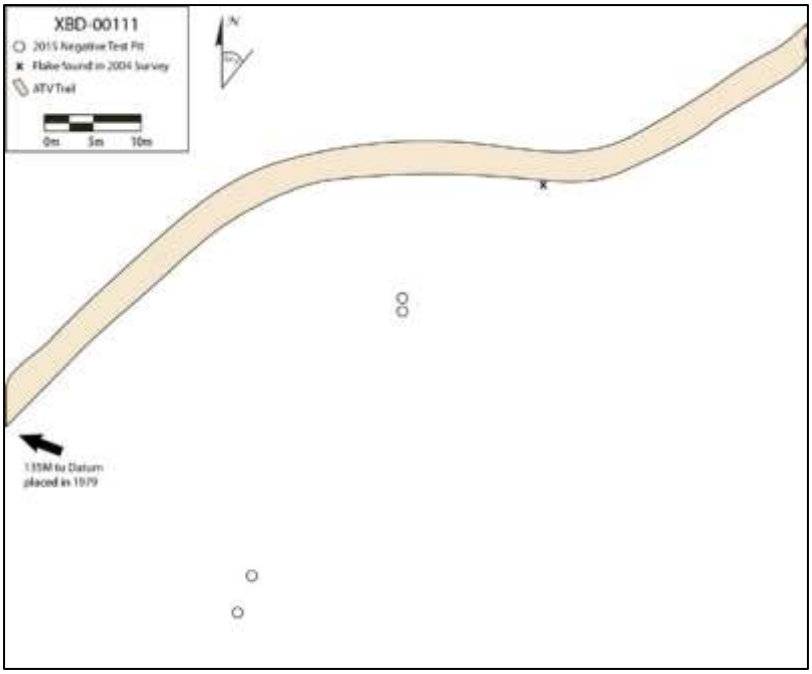


Figure 107. XBD-00111 site map.

Shovel test were extremely shallow (10-29 cm deep) across the landform as it was previously disturbed by road grading. Where sediment still exists, silt covers bedrock regolith to a depth of up to 15 cm with a shallow root mat capping the deposits (Figure 108, Figure 109).

Because of the high degree of site disturbance, the shallow deposits, the lack of artifacts (diagnostic or otherwise) and absence of faunal material, organic remains, or stratigraphy with which to date the site, we find that XBD-00111 is not individually eligible for the NRHP under any criterion including D, information potential. This site is extremely small and is unlikely that any more information about the people that deposited the artifacts or the activities they were involved in would be recovered with more investigation. XBD-00111 does not fall within the boundaries of any archaeological district nor is it likely that one will ever be proposed for the area. Sites in the YTA are infrequent, are often composed of isolated artifacts or just a small number of flakes, are found in shallow deposits, and do not contribute any information about the prehistory of the area beyond a point on a map.

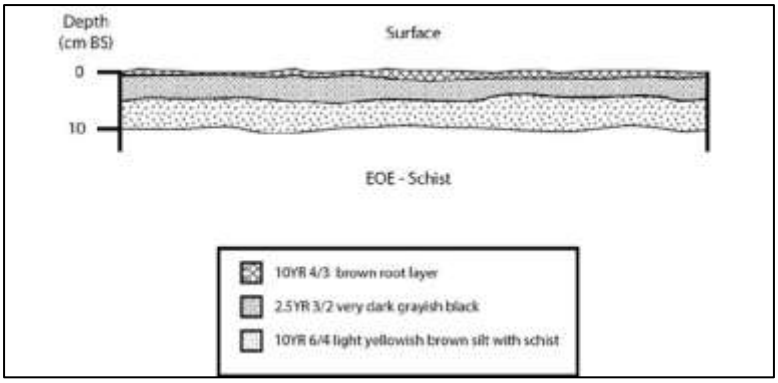


Figure 108. XBD-00111 stratigraphic profile.

Figure 109. XBD-00111 test pit.

XBD-00162 (DOE 2016)
Latitude: [redacted]
Longitude: [redacted]
UTM: [redacted]
Determination of Eligibility: Not eligible

XBD-00162 is located on a hill overlooking the Stuart Creek Valley in the Yukon-Tanana Uplands, 55 km southeast of Fairbanks (Figure 105). The high spot of the ridgeline has excellent views of the Tanana Valley and Fairbanks to the northwest, Denali and the Alaska Range to the southwest and the surrounding Yukon-Tanana Uplands filling the eastern aspect. The closest water source is a seasonal drainage 560 m north, while Stuart Creek 3 km to the west is a more continuous source. The hill is actively used as a firing point by the military, has been shaped

into three large, stepped terraces by adding fill and bulldozing. Vegetation outside the gravel pad consists of spruce, birch, alder, willow and low scrub.

The site was discovered by BLM archaeologists in 1995 when a single chert flake was noted on the surface. The area was already used for live-fire training, with evidence of bulldozer work, and a structure. The site was visited to determine eligibility for the NRHP in 2016. The site location is on the highest point of the landform, near four Conex containers arranged into a semi-permanent structure with a lookout (Figure 110). The gravel terraces cover a 200 x 300 m L-shaped area extending south and west. North of the Conex structure, the gravel pad ends, rising 1-2 m higher than the natural ground level, a bulldozed slope descends to individual firing positions 50 m away. The gravel terraces appear to be man-made, and composed of imported gravels (Figure 111). The apparently untouched eastern slope marks the impact area boundary and was not investigated. The shape of the original hilltop is impossible to determine beneath the gravel pads, and to what extent the ground was disturbed before or after the gravel pad construction.

Figure 110. Conex container in clearing where XBD-00162 was discovered.

Figure 111. Gravel pad at XBD-00162.

XBD-00162 is an isolated find. A single chert flake was found on a disturbed surface. Site integrity has been compromised by active use as a military training site and ground disturbing activities. XBD-00162 lacks the integrity and cultural materials to contribute to our knowledge of prehistory and is ineligible for inclusion in NRHP.

Because the site is badly disturbed, the flake appears to be an isolated find, and there are no diagnostic artifacts or datable materials, XBD-00162 does not appear to be individually eligible for the NRHP under any criterion including D, information potential. The site lacks integrity and it is unlikely that any more information about the people that deposited the artifacts or the activities they were involved in could be uncovered. XBD-00162 does not fall within the boundaries of any archaeological district nor is it likely that one will ever be proposed for the area. Sites in the YTA are infrequent, are often composed of isolated artifacts or just a small number of flakes, are found in shallow deposits, and do not contribute any information about the prehistory of the area beyond a point on a map.

XBD-00414 (new site and DOE 2015)
Latitude: [redacted]
Longitude: [redacted]
UTM: [redacted]
Determination of Eligibility: Not eligible

XBD-00414 is on the high spot of a finger ridge on the east end of Beaver Creek Road in the YTA, 48 km east of Fairbanks (Figure 105). There are excellent 360° views of the Yukon-Tanana Uplands to the north, Granite Tors to the east, Beaver Creek Road ridgeline from the southeast to the west, and Eielson AFB and Fort Knox gold mine to the west. The closest water sources are seasonal drainages 1 km to the southeast and northwest, and Hunts Creek, 4.5 km to the northwest.

The upland moist low and tall disturbed ecosystem vegetation consists of burned spruce deadfall from a 2013 forest fire and new growth of fireweed, grasses, raspberry, bunchberry, moss and willow (Figure 112). Surface visibility is less than 5%. Sparse military trash indicates past activity, though no manmade ground disturbance was observed.

Figure 112. XBD-00414 site overview.

The site was found during a 2015 survey when a complete notched chert projectile point was found in one of two shovel tests excavated on the highest spot on the ridge (UA2015-152-0001)

(Figure 113). The artifact was found 10-20 cmbs. Later in 2015, a shovel test grid was set up over the site to determine eligibility for inclusion in NRHP (Figure 114). Twelve shovel tests were excavated to degrading schist bedrock. All were negative for cultural material.

XBD-00414 stratigraphy consists of aeolian silts unconformably deposited over decaying schist bedrock. Shovel test depths ranged from 11-56 cmbs. A 5-10 cm organic horizon overlies approximately 30 cm thick mottled aeolian silt (Figure 115, Figure 116).

Figure 113. Notched projectile point from XBD-00414.

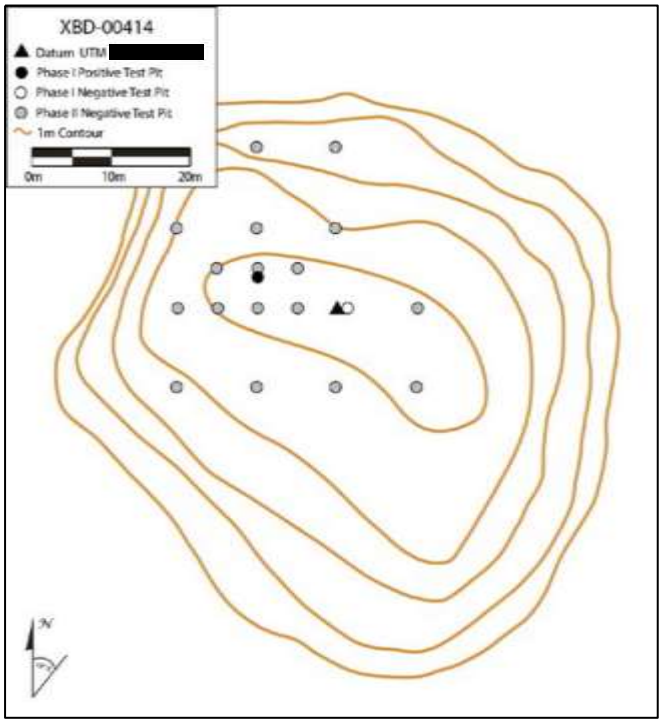


Figure 114. XBD-00414 site map.

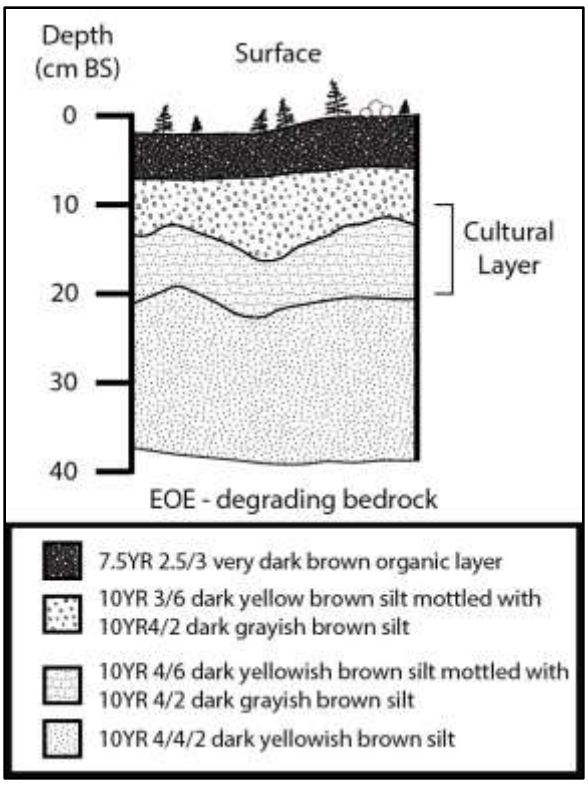


Figure 115. XBD-00414 stratigraphic profile.

Figure 116. XBD-00414 test pit.

Because XBD-00414 is an isolated find of a single projectile point and there are no diagnostic artifacts or datable materials, the site does not appear to be individually eligible for the NRHP

under any criterion including D, information potential. It is unlikely that any more information about the people that deposited the artifact or the activities they were involved in could be uncovered at this site. XBD-00414 does not fall within the boundaries of any archaeological district nor is it likely that one will ever be proposed for the area. Sites in the YTA are infrequent, are often composed of isolated artifacts or just a small number of flakes, are found in shallow deposits, and do not contribute any information about the prehistory of the area beyond a point on a map.