Cape Espenberg 2011

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Pittagmiut yearly cycle (Burch 1998: 297–301)
formation of beach ridges after ~3,500 years ago
sand dune complexes accumulated on some of the beach ridges
Ridge E-5 complex

2011 trench

cottonwood tree

shell fragments

marine sand
coring localities and stratigraphic profiles
Cape Espenberg: beach ridges, dune complexes, and swales
sampled and recorded driftwood logs 2009–2011
Iñupiat settlement: Ridges 6 – 2
KTZ-087, Cape Espenberg, Alaska

Datum at 4.23 m above sea level
Contours at 0.25 m intervals

- Artifact scatter
- Cache pit - recorded 2007
- Cache pit - previously recorded
- Large whale element
- Whale-skull marker
- House depression - recorded 2007
- House depression - previously recorded
- Cultural depression - non-specified
- Cultural depression - non-specified, previously recorded
- Rebar datum placed by Schaaf
Ridge E-6: Feature 12 harpoon heads

similar to Tuquok with single side-blade

close-socketed with end blade
Okvik and Uelen affinities
cast bronze artifacts recovered from Feature 12 in 2011

AD 540 – 620 (Beta-305282)
Student Mentorship Program 2011
The problem of whaling at Cape Espenberg

mandible in Feature 33 (Ridge E-4)

representation of skeletal parts
• crania
• mandibles
• vertebrae
• scapulae
Ceramic Study: Sourcing and Tech Analysis

- Connections - Espenberg and NW AK?
- Differential source access w/in sites?
- Unique Espenberg/S.P. sources and types

Rim treatment most common on Kobuk River

Textile impressions, Most abundant on S.P.
Feature 68: 2010 excavations
The problem of complex surface features: large multi-room house vs. composite feature (i.e., two or more small houses)?
Feature 68: 2011 excavations
Cape Espenberg 2011: Acknowledgments

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