

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY

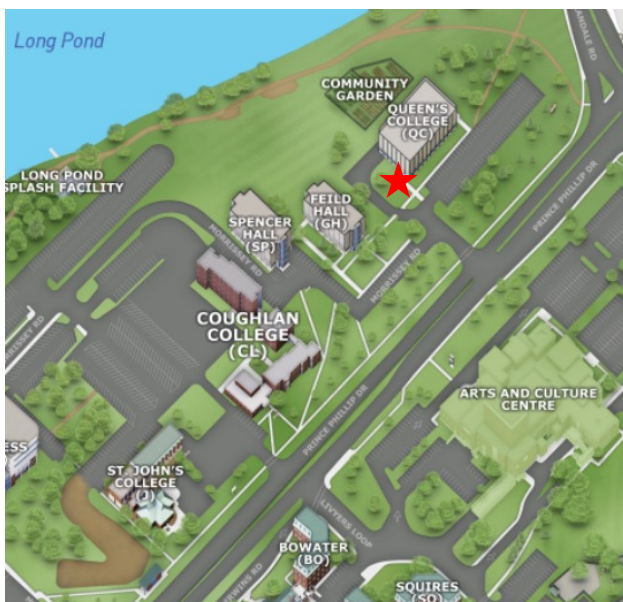
MARITIME ARCHAEOLOGY JOB SEARCH

# ‘Marking presence’: rock art, historical graffiti and contested maritime cultural landscapes in Atlantic Canada

TIME: 4:00 pm

DATE: 2 April, 2024

ROOM: QC-2013 (Queen’s College)



[www.mun.ca/archaeology](http://www.mun.ca/archaeology)



**Bryn Tapper**  
Department of Archaeology,  
Memorial University

**Abstract:**

Introducing my past research on maritime cultural landscapes in the UK and Newfoundland, and drawing on recent research on Indigenous rock art in the Canadian Maritimes, I discuss some of the ways in which postcontact rock art reflects the maritime and riverine adapted lifeways of the Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik. I highlight some of the GIS-based approaches I have employed during my career, as well as the non-invasive digital technologies employed to capture, analyse and interpret imagery; technologies that I have also applied in collaborative research on historic settler inscriptions and graffiti from across Atlantic Canada. In both the Indigenous and settler maritime adapted cultures of this region, rock art and historical graffiti reflect peoples' sense of identity, place, and belonging – such 'marking' practices, which often overlap, reflect cultural attachments to and conceptions of maritime and riverine cultural landscapes. Recognition of these important relationships opens a space for developing further research relating to the archaeology and history of postcontact Indigenous and settler contested maritime cultural landscapes in Atlantic Canada.