There are two primary goals of the Snook’s Cove Archaeology Project. The first objective is to develop a typology of sod-house architecture relating to the cultural identity of the European, Inuit, and Métis inhabitants. The second objective is to better understand indigenous cultural developments and the nature of relations between European settlers and indigenous people in Central Labrador.

Hitherto unexamined ethnohistoric accounts of Snook’s Cove allows for identifying concretely European and Inuit-occupied dwellings there and characteristics of these structures will be compared to structures from other contact-period sites. Excavated material data will complement architectural-spatial data by providing additional means of measuring, or recognizing, the cultural associations of the inhabitants of dwellings. The Inuit and European architectural and material signatures identified and developed through this research will be integrated with the Métis signatures identified through the North West River Project, undertaken by Dr. Rankin (MUN).

By developing a means for quickly identifying the occupants of structures and sites this research will help future archaeologists save time, effort, and money in their endeavors. Investigating the recent contact-history between indigenous people and European settlers also has intrinsic social value as this period provides the immediate context in which Labrador Métis culture and identity formed and the social dynamics between Labrador Métis and Inuit and Euro-Canadians evolved. Thus, this research will also benefit current relations between Labradorians and industries with vested interests in Labrador (e.g. Forestry, Mining, Oil and Gas) and governmental policy regarding indigenous people and resource development in Labrador.