

# UA, Pt. Hopers Work on Mounds

Vincent, Herbert Kinneaveauk, Simon Koonook, Ray Koonook, Ted Frankson Jr., Pete Lisbourne, Pete Frankson, Rex Lane, Joe Oktollik, Lizzie Frankson, Marilyn Omnik, Andrew Tooyak, Franklin Sage and Sally Killigiveauk.

**FAIRBANKS**—An archeological crew of six anthropology students from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks and 19 Point Hope villagers, working on the Tigara mounds near Point Hope this past summer, uncovered several houses and numerous artifacts and faunal remains.

The two-week project, sponsored jointly by the National Park Service and North Slope Borough, was directed by Dr. Anne Shinkwin of the Anthropology Department at Fairbanks.

The artifacts recovered were made of such materials as bone, chert (flintlike rock) and wood. Fabric, fishskin, baleen and braided grass were also found. A full range of men's, women's and children's tools and toys were unearthed, including harpoons, meat-cutting implements and wooden sewing baskets.

Anthropologists estimate the

age of the Tigara mounds between 200 and 500 years old, and, they say, reconstruction of the structures and identification of the artifacts will help to fill in gaps about the lifestyles of Point Hope people from about 500 years ago up to the coming of white people.

The mounds, although partially excavated in the late 1930s and early 1940s, have been little described in archeological literature.

Because of erosion by the sea, the Point Hope villagers plan to relocate their community at a new site to the east of its present location, and the joint archeological crew spent a week working at the new site. Finding nothing of archeological significance in that time, they determined there is little likelihood of new construction damaging archeological resources.

Representatives of the Point Hope Heritage Project assisted the archeologists in determining where to excavate. Near summer's end, a board of directors for the project was appointed to work with future archeological crews at Point Hope and, with the assistance of a National Park Service planner, to establish a Heritage Center at Point Hope.

Members of the board are David Stone, Martin Oktollik, Herbert Kinneaveauk, Alice Weber, John Oktollik, Elijah Rock and Ella Kouwanna.

Much of the success of the summer's archeological project (which will continue next year) is attributed by university anthropologists to the Point Hope residents. The local members of the archeological crew provided much information concerning the artifacts unearthed and taped descriptions of them in Eskimo and English.

The tapes will be of assistance in the final interpretation of the archeological materials. They can also be used for educational purposes in the Point Hope School.

University anthropologists are now analyzing the materials recovered during the summer. Once the analysis is completed and a suitable repository established at Point Hope, the artifacts will be returned to that community.

The six university students who went to Point Hope last summer are Ron Kreher, Sue Anderson, Kathleen Leitgeb, Charles Utermohle, Jim Mahan and Sharon Geesin.

The Point Hope members of the crew: Earl Kingik, Emma Nash, Kerm Kingik, Dinah Frankson, Ida Koonuk, Beatrice