

Alexandra Castellanos- Smithsonian Intern 2017

This summer I was afforded the amazing opportunity to apply for an internship position with the Arctic Studies department at the Smithsonian Institute. While most would think as an intern I'd spend time in D.C. pushing paper or cataloguing (teeny-tiny micro lithics), instead I spent my



internship living on a boat and cruising about the Arctic looking for sites and excavating them. On this expedition, I helped find a Maritime Archaic burial site, some Dorset tent rings, a bone knife handle, so many flakes and a coin; this list barely scratches the surface of the interesting discovers we made as a team last summer. This experience cannot be described in so few words, but I can express that the memories of seeing puffins flutter above the water, learning how to properly profile, and to how to catalogue and handle artifacts will never leave me. In addition to the amazing people and the chance to work side by side with Bill Fitzhugh, a literately world renowned archeologist, I was also able to develop as a student of anthropology and improve my deduction skills. If you like hiking, boating, laughing, fun, and archeology you should jump at the opportunity, you won't regret it.