

# Petroglyphs, Ancestors, and Indigenous Methodologies in Anthropology

**Date added:** 3 September 2025

**Last modified:** 10 November 2025

**Project type:** Publication

**Project visibility:** Public

**Local Contexts Project ID:** 724d5f9f-3246-47a8-89f8-3219ef9155db

**Project page URL:** <https://localcontextshub.org/projects/724d5f9f-3246-47a8-89f8-3219ef9155db>

**Added by:** Lisa Neuman | | Researcher

**Project Contact:** Lisa Neuman | [lisa.neuman@maine.edu](mailto:lisa.neuman@maine.edu)

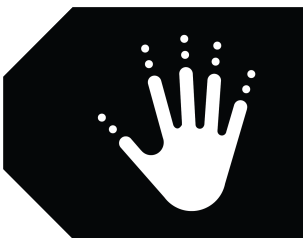
## Contributors:

- Passamaquoddy Tribe | Community
- Darren Ranco | Role: Additional Contact
- Lisa Neuman | Researcher | Role: Additional Contact

## Project Description:

Our paper centers Indigenous scholarship in archaeology and cultural anthropology, focusing on our work with the Machias Bay (Maine) petroglyphs, the largest concentration of petroglyphs on the East Coast. As a Passamaquoddy/Penobscot graduate student and a non-Wabanaki scholar, we work collaboratively with the Passamaquoddy Tribe (whose ancestors created the petroglyphs) to help preserve them, understand them, and teach K-12 students about them. We see the petroglyphs—in this case, not carvings but images pecked into coastal rock—to have enduring agency and personhood that connect past to present for the Passamaquoddy. Our approach attempts to decenter, decolonize, and reframe anthropological assumptions and practices by using Indigenous methodologies that expand notions of personhood, agency, multispecies entanglements, and time.

## Project Labels



### TK Outreach (TK O) - Ekehkimkewey | Educational (Passamaquoddy Tribe)

Certain material has been identified by Passamaquoddy tribal members and can be used and shared for educational purposes. Ekehkimkewey means 'educational'. The Passamaquoddy Tribe is a present day community that retains cultural authority over its heritage. This Label is being used to teach and share cultural knowledge and histories, and to raise greater awareness and respect for Passamaquoddy culture and worldviews.



## **TK Non-Commercial (TK NC) - Ma yut monuwasiw | This is not sold (Passamaquoddy Tribe)**

This Label indicates that this material should not be used in any commercial ways, including ways that derive profit from sale or production for non-Passamaquoddy people. The name of this Label Ma yut monuwasiw means 'this is not to be sold/purchased'. If you are unsure if your use is non-commercial, please contact: Donald Soctomah ([passamaquoddypeople@gmail.com](mailto:passamaquoddypeople@gmail.com))

---