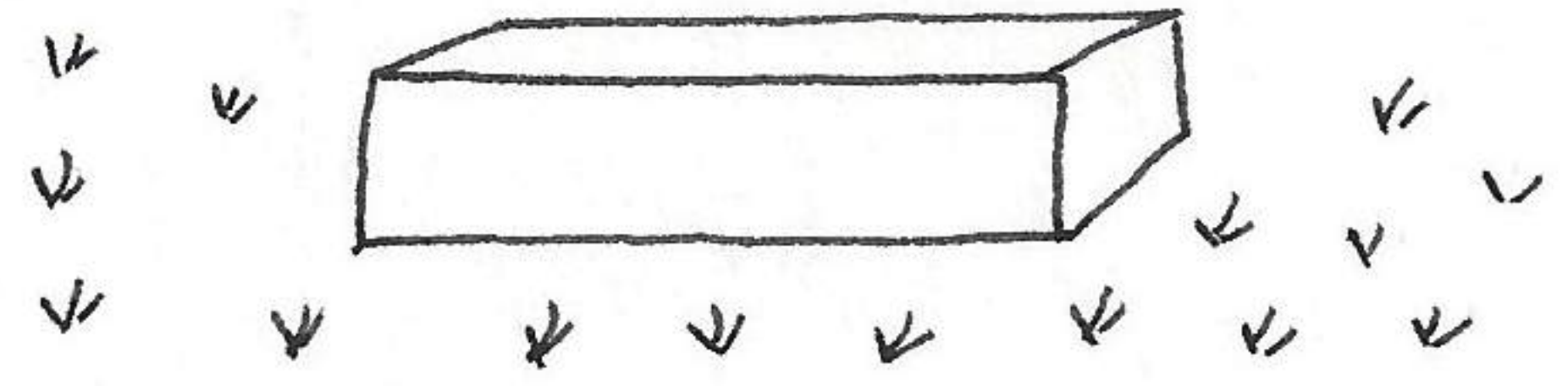


Found an Eskimo artifact 520615-1 from mound no. 2. Used for taking off blubber from whales. It fit on end of handle and used like a hoe. The two main grasses in lemming grazing area are *Arctophila fulva* and *Stipa fisheri*. Examined Eskimo coffin just south of Birnie mounds which held a skeleton without a skull. Box placed on top of ground and had been opened. Other old mounds might indicate old burial places. One box about 2/3 meter square no doubt held a small child. Returned to the Arctic Research Laboratory (ARL) and started to prepare material. It was quite a surprise at the lab. to see a bucket full of lemming that were, up to this moment were considered a rare animal in the Point Barrow area.



Arctic Research Laboratory, Point Barrow, Alaska
June 16, 1952

A *Clethrionomys rutilus*, taken last year by Daniel Thompson is recorded as from $150^{\circ}35'36''$, $71^{\circ}18'15''$. Returned to Birnie mounds this A.M. to check snow recession and possible lemming trapped. The snow is now critical as it is exposing the greater part of the main runways at the base of the lake bank. There were no lemming here as most of them or all of them were trapped or had left the area. The former explanation is probably the logical one. On June 15 lemming were running back and forth along the entire east shoreline. Collected 3 lemming from the mounds by hand and probably represents all of the mammals on these mounds except those that might have nests and runways under the snow beyond the exposed portion of the mound. It will be interesting to check again this fall to see if lemming have returned to the mounds. The three lemming were taken from the following mounds.

no. 520616-1	mound no. 2	They were first observed standing in full view and when approached ran to holes.
" 520616-2	mound no. 9	
" 520616-3	mound no. 10.	

no. 520616-1 used the cavity (meckel's cartilage) of the lower ramus of a balaen whale, *Balaena mysticetus*. This cavity supported a floor of fecal pellets of *Lemmus* and was used rather extensively. All of the ramus was exposed above ground.