LOCATION AND LAND STATUS

Nearly three-quarters of the tribal members of the Aroostook Band of Micmacs live in northern Maine, from Houlton on the south to Van Buren on the north, a distance of approximately 79 miles. Presque Isle serves as the center of the community’s activities.

In 1991, the tribe persuaded the federal government to pass the Aroostook Band of Micmacs Settlement Act. Signed into law by President George Bush, the act provides not only acknowledgment of Micmac tribal status, entitling members to certain federal services and benefits, but also established a $900,000 land acquisition fund to purchase 5,000 acres (trust lands), as well as a $50,000 property
tax fund. As a result, the band now has the same status as other Maine tribes, and its lands are accorded federal recognition under the terms of the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act of 1980. The tribe is currently negotiating the purchase of land on the Loring Air Force Base.

CULTURE AND HISTORY
The Micmac Nation is composed of the Aroostook Band of Micmac Indians and 28 other bands based in Canada. The Aroostook Band have free border-crossing rights guaranteed under the Jay Treaty. Traditionally the Micmac people have lived along the 400-mile-long St. John River which runs along the Canadian border in northern Maine. Archeological evidence suggests that native gatherers inhabited this region as early as 12,000 years ago. In addition, oral history and place names suggest that the Micmac and the Maliseet peoples jointly inhabited this area. A migratory people, the Micmac customarily subsisted on hunting and fishing. Until recently, without federal recognition or reservation status, the Micmac formed a landless and scattered community.

As early as 1607 the Micmac people participated in the fur trade with French traders who depended upon the native people’s hunting skills. The Micmac served as the first middlemen to the interior native population for the European fur trade. Competition stemming from the fur trade served to intensify existing rivalries between the Micmac and the neighboring Abenaki people. The introduction of guns by the French resulted in a level of fatalities between the groups which had rarely occurred previously. While the colonial governments eventually attempted to limit the gun trade, the already-established pattern of trading furs for guns to better compete in the fur trade resulted in a deadly cycle for the area’s native people.

Between 1678 and 1752 the Micmac signed numerous treaties with the newly founded Colony of Massachusetts. In July of 1776, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, which at the time included what is now the State of Maine, formed a specific treaty on behalf of the United Colonies of America with the Micmac and Maliseet tribes wherein the tribes agreed to support the American revolutionary forces against the British.

Throughout the 20th century, the Micmac have supported themselves through seasonal labor and by selling crafts, particularly splint basketry. Micmac people have participated in the logging industries, river-driving, blueberry-raking, and potato picking, often crossing into Canada to seek employment. By the early 1900s, many of the migratory Micmac had settled in more or less permanent residences in various Indian reserves, off-reservation towns, and rural hamlets.

In 1970, with other off-reservation natives, the tribe formed the Association of Aroostook Indians (AAI) to combat poverty and discrimination. Lobbying for their native rights, they gained state recognition of their tribal status in 1973, becoming eligible for Maine’s Department of Indian Affairs services, Indian scholarships, and free hunting and fishing licenses. Due to inadequate resources, documentation of Micmac history in Maine was not available when the state’s other tribes participated in the 1980 settlement of the Maine Indian land claims. After dissolving the AAI, the band incorporated the Aroostook Micmac Council in 1982, headquartered in Presque Isle.

Without reservation status, the tribe has had to learn to both retain its Native American heritage while at the same time assimilating into the general population of Maine. The Micmac continue to speak their native language, which is part of the Algonquian linguistic group, and have sponsored a documentary film about their community.

GOVERNMENT
The Aroostook Band of Micmac is governed by a biennially-elected president and an eight-member board of directors.

ECONOMY
CONSTRUCTION
Hammer for Hire, a construction company, is owned by a Micmac tribal member.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS
The Micmac Tribal Council is currently planning the Micmac Development Corporation to oversee tribal economic development. The tribe is pursuing the ownership of a power station, Griphon Hydrotech, on the Penobscot River. In addition, the tribe is exploring the feasibility of owning a casino/resort business with a hotel and class III gaming.

FISHERIES
The tribe is currently negotiating a joint fish ways project with the Department of Fish and Wildlife which would be located at Madawaska Dam in Limestone, Maine.
ECONOMY

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK
Agricultural lease payments are the main source of revenue for the tribe. Their land is fertile; peas and potatoes are the primary crops.

GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER
The tribal government is the biggest employer of the Maliseet. The government has more than twelve departments and employs thirty-five persons, adding as many as ten during the summer months.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES
Fifty HUD homes were built on the reservation just east of the river in the early 1990s. Coinciding with the housing development was the construction of a bridge. The bridge was vehemently opposed by non-Indian town residents, but its upon completion, traffic increased in the area. Electric services are provided by two small electric companies, and homes are linked to a central septic system. Water is provided by the Houlton Water Company.

INFRASTRUCTURE
Airline and bus services are available in Houlton. Houlton is south of U.S. Interstate 95, off Highway 1.

Location and Land Status
The Penobscot Nation owns approximately 148,525 acres of land in Maine. Of this acreage, 4,841 acres span 146 islands on the Penobscot River. These islands, which include the tribe’s activity center on Indian Island, represent a portion of the Penobscot Nation’s traditional pre-colonial territory. The remaining lands were purchased through the tribe’s Land Acquisition Fund which was established through a federal appropriations bill signed by President Carter in 1980. Of this land, 55,139 acres are held in federal trust while the remaining 88,545 acres are simple fee.

Culture and History
The members of the Penobscot Indian Nation, indigenous to eastern
Maine, speak a dialect of the Eastern Algonquian language. This language was shared by residents of all but one of the coastal river drainages from North Carolina to Nova Scotia. Culturally, the Penobscot are one of the four tribes of the original Eastern Abenaki group. The ancestral home of the Penobscot Nation covered the entire Penobscot River Watershed. The rich resources of the area amply supplied the early Penobscot people with fish, game, and native plants.

Beginning in 1615, European diseases ravaged the population of the Eastern Abenaki and other New England tribes. Alternating epidemics of smallpox, measles, and the plague reduced the Eastern Abenaki population by three-fourths. Whole villages were abandoned and family units shattered.

The Penobscot actively supported the rebel colonists during the Revolutionary War, partly on the basis of assurances from the fledgling Provincial Congress of Massachusetts that their territorial rights to the upper Penobscot River drainage would be preserved. The Penobscot fought alongside the colonists in several local engagements, and joined the Passamaquoddy, Maliseet, and Micmac in securing the town of Machias, Maine against British attack in 1777. This victory represented America’s first naval success, and secured the northern boundary of the colonies for the rest of the Revolutionary War.

Predictably, these alliances were soon forgotten at the end of the war. Early agreements with the Penobscot Nation were never ratified by Congress, and repeated petitions for federal aid were rejected. Massachusetts used a misinterpretation of earlier pledges to wrest most of the middle of the Penobscot River drainage away from the tribe. The limits of this cession were defined in 1786 and clarified in 1796. These treaties left the Penobscot with only the islands in the river from their main village at Old Town for thirty miles, two small islands in Penobscot Bay, and the hunting grounds in the uppermost portion of the river drainage. By 1850, the majority of Penobscot aboriginal territory was sold. The proceeds from these sales and from timber revenues were controlled and dispersed by the State of Maine.

The Penobscot did not receive federal recognition until late into the 20th century. The U.S. District Court ruled that the Nonintercourse Act was applicable to Maine’s two tribes, in spite of their previous lack of federal recognition. This ruling established a trust relationship with the United States and in effect ordered the federal government to litigate a Nonintercourse Act claim against the State of Maine for damages arising from the illegal taking of Indian lands. The decision also made the Maine tribes eligible for federal benefits such as housing, education, health care, and other social services.

In April of 1980, the Maine legislature adopted the Maine Implementing Act, settling the outstanding land claims. Six months later, the U.S. Congress approved the corresponding federal legislation. President Carter signed the measure on October 10, 1980, thereby establishing an appropriations bill setting aside $81,500,000 for the two tribes. As a result of this complex settlement, the Penobscot nation can operate in three distinct legal capacities: (a) as a sovereign, federally-recognized Indian tribe; (b) as a municipality under state law; and (c) as a business entity.

GOVERNMENT
The Penobscot Nation is led by a governor, lieutenant governor, and a 12-member council elected biennially by the tribe. The tribe’s OEDP Committee is composed of eight members.

FORESTRY
The majority of the Penobscot land base is covered with a combination of hardwood and softwood timber. Totalling over 100,000 acres, this forest land offers just over 2.5 million cords of standing timber. Overall, the timber lands are of good to excellent quality, averaging about 18.7 cords per acre. Between 1983 and 1987, the Penobscot Nation generated a gross annual income of around $635,000 from timber harvesting. More recently, annual timber revenues (stumpage) have averaged around $450,000.

GAMING
The Penobscot established a high-stakes bingo venue in 1987. Currently, the tribe is in the process of restructuring this effort under the leadership of an OEDP task force. The task force is currently focusing on strengthening the enterprise’s marketing efforts. The Penobscot Nation has recently expanded the bingo venue into the Sockalexis Arena, formerly an ice skating rink.

GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER
Through the administration of several social service programs, the tribal government functions as an important employment source for tribal members.

MANUFACTURING
The Nation’s Olamon Industries currently manufactures audio cassette tapes on Indian Island. The company would like to develop new product lines with a higher profit margin. The company has
suffered some financial instability, beginning with the bankruptcy of its former partner Shape, Inc. In spite of these problems, the company has managed to persevere since its inception in 1984.

SERVICES
The Nation’s OEDP committee has provided technical support and vocational training to a number of Native American-owned small businesses.

TOURISM AND RECREATION
The Penobscot Nation is currently considering the feasibility of developing a four-seasons recreational complex on tribal lands at Mattagamon. This site, virtually adjacent to Baxter State Park (one of the most significant tourist attractions in the region), offers the potential for a project that is both environmentally sensitive and economically sound.

INFRASTRUCTURE
Interstate 95 serves as a major north-south artery throughout the Penobscot lands. U.S. Highway 2 (east-west) also crosses the reservation. Commercial air, bus, and truck lines are available in Bangor, located 12 miles from the reservation. The nearest available train service is in Boston, Massachusetts, 275 miles from the reservation.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES
There are a number of community facilities within the Penobscot lands, most of which are located in Old Town, including a small museum, a community center, and a parish hall. The Nation has successfully built a vocational education training program. Courses and career counseling are available at the Penobscot Learning Center.

The Bangor Hydroelectric Company provides electricity to the area. Health care clinics are located in Old Town and Bangor through the State Department of Indian Affairs. Hospital services are also available in Bangor.

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<td><strong>Tribal enrollment</strong></td>
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LOCATION AND LAND STATUS
The Passamaquoddy Tribe is geographically divided into two groups living on separate reservations. Sipayik, the main village since 1770, is located at the Pleasant Point Reservation, a promontory in Passamaquoddy Bay leading to the island community of Eastport. The Pleasant Point Reservation consists of its original 100 acres plus 112 acres of annexed land authorized by the State of Maine Legislature. Other property, about 197 acres, may be annexed within the area south of Route 1 and east of Route 190 along the peninsula.

Indian Township is situated fifty miles inland from Pleasant Point. This reservation spans 23,000 acres of thick forest on the Schoodic Lakes chain. Founded in 1852 by a conservative faction of the tribe, Indian Township consists of two neighborhoods separated by a seven-mile paved road. Peter Dana Point is located at Big Lake; the Princeton “Strip” overlooks Lewey Lake.

The two reservations are 50 miles apart by road, with Calais, Maine, a midpoint economic and service center for the area. In addition, the tribe owns eight widely-scattered parcels of land throughout the state resulting from the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act, which total 108,900 acres.

CULTURE AND HISTORY
The Passamaquoddy (meaning “Pollock-Spearing Place”) are one of the several tribes of the Abenaki group who speak an Algonquian dialect. Uniquely, the Passamaquoddy are a federally recognized tribe residing on the two separate reservations of Indian Township and Pleasant Point, each reservation having its own tribal government and jurisdiction. Yet at the same time, the tribe shares responsibility for joint investments and territories.

During the colonial period, traditional Passamaquoddy land and resources became a point of dispute as both the French and the English attempted to gain control of the area. This competition, primarily between the French and English, finally escalated into the “French and Indian Wars.” The native peoples of Maine generally sided with the French, from whom they received better treatment.

Dislike and distrust of the English also propelled the Passamaquoddy to aid the Americans in the Revolutionary War. Under the leadership of their chief Francis Joseph Neptune, the Passamaquoddy helped turn back British attacks in eastern Maine. Moreover, the Passamaquoddy supported the colonists by fending off a British naval attack at Machias, Maine in 1777. After the American victory, George Washington sent the Passamaquoddy a pledge of friendship in response to their courageous participation.

A treaty with Massachusetts in 1794, never ratified by the United States Congress, relinquished aboriginal title to tribal lands in exchange for several islands, a 23,000-acre township, and some small tracts, including 10 acres on Pleasant Point, which were increased to 99 acres in 1801. In 1820, three years after Maine gained statehood, the tribe gained non-voting representation in the Maine legislature. During WWII, the United States Government took part of Indian Township to serve as a German POW camp, later selling it off to non-Indians.

In 1856, using proceeds from the sale of timber and other resources from tribal lands, the state established a Passamaquoddy Trust Fund to finance emergency aid for the needy. Need for this aid was particularly urgent, as both reservations existed as deprived enclaves despite the introduction of railway connections during the 19th century. For subsistence, residents on both reservations engaged in migrant labor (raking blueberries and picking potatoes), and making
Maine

items such as sweetgrass and splint baskets, rustic furniture, canoe paddles, axe handles, snowshoes, moccasins, and Christmas wreaths. Sipayik, on Pleasant Point, traditionally depended on the sea (weir-fishing, lobsterring, clamming, and seal and porpoise hunting) and later specialized in commercial scale basketry for the nearby sardine fisheries. Motahkokmikuk, on Indian Township, relied more on hunting and trapping, succeeded by some farming, logging, and sports guiding. By the 1960s many people began to abandon the reservations to escape growing economic and cultural poverty, leaving some 300 residents at Sipayik and 200 at Motahkokmikuk.

The realization that the state had sold or leased 6,000 acres at Indian Township eventually led to a major native-rights struggle during the 1960s. This tribe eventually filed suit against the United States Department of Interior. Native American Rights Fund attorney Thomas N. Tureen argued that the 1790 Trade and Intercourse Act also applied to the Passamaquody and Penobscot, entitling them to a federal trust relationship. The federal district court ruled in the tribes’ favor, affirming that they might have a valid claim to about two-thirds of Maine. While the Justice Department was forced to sue the state for 300,350,000 acres, complex out-of-court negotiations led to the 1980 Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act in which each tribe dropped its claims in exchange for $13.5 million in funds and $26.5 million to purchase 150,000 acres of trust land. Through this effort, the Passamaquody gained the unique status of being both a federally recognized tribe and a municipality.

Today, in addition to their reservation lands, the Passamaquody have purchased about 134,000 acres of trust land, including 1,000 acres adjacent to Pleasant Point, 6,000 acres of blueberry barrens, and forested land northwest of Indian Township, in western Maine along the Quebec border. Once eligible for federal funding and services (housing, education, health care, social services etc.), the Passamaquoddy’s annual budget mushroomed from a few thousand dollars to about $4 million. With new offices, a health center, primary school, and modern homes, tribal government has become by far the area’s largest and best-paying employer. New housing and free health care have drawn many members back to the reservations, and new work opportunities have decreased unemployment from about 80 to 30 percent. In addition, their considerable success with capital investments, small businesses, and their high-stakes bingo operation has radically transformed their economic outlook in the past 10 years. Based on trust fund interest and investment dividends, tribal members receive quarterly per capita payments of about $250, with occasional bonuses.

GOVERNMENT

Each reservation has a biennially elected Tribal Council consisting of a governor, lieutenant governor, and six council members. The tribal governments have jurisdiction over lands the tribe owns both inside and outside the reservation boundaries. The Joint Tribal Council, composed of the governing bodies of both reservations, manages joint tribal properties and assets. A tribal representative to the Maine State Legislature is chosen alternately between the two reservations.

ECONOMY

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

The tribe owns the third largest blueberry farm in the world on its land in Washington County. This farm, the Northeast Blueberry Corp., employs between five and 160 seasonal employees annually. In addition, there are 300 acres of alfalfa grown on tribal land; this crop supplies feed for cattle and horses on the reservation.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Currently the tribe is exploring a number of economic development projects, including opening a casino and resort complex in the town of Calais, Maine; developing a cranberry plantation and processing facility; expanding its agricultural base and renovating existing agricultural infrastructure; and starting a value-added salmon products business.

FORESTRY

There are approximately 135,000 forested acres within the Passamaquoddy tribal lands. Most of this land produces harvestable timber composed of a variety of hardwoods and softwoods. Both the Tribal Warden Service and the Passamaquoddy Forestry Service, funded through the Bureau of Indian Affairs, help to manage this forested expanse.

While not an organized tribal industry, the Passamaquoddy people have traditionally used ash trees for the production of handmade baskets. Probably the oldest continuous economic pursuit of the tribe, these baskets were originally used by the area’s potato pickers, served as a trade commodity, and more recently, have been featured in a number of museums.

GAMING

As is the case on many reservations, gaming represents an important source of tribal revenue for the Passamaquoddy Tribe. Currently the tribe offers high-stakes bingo gaming at community
Maine bingo halls. In addition, the tribe is proposing the construction of a $10 million hotel and casino complex in the town of Calais, Maine. The tribe anticipates that this business will create 200 or more jobs and would lead to extended economic growth in the area. The projected casino would offer blackjack, roulette, and other games.

GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER
Through the management of tribal services including administration, health care, daycare, and housing, the tribe employs approximately 170 people.

MANUFACTURING
While the tribe has experienced phenomenal successes with light manufacturing investments and businesses, the tribe would like to attract more joint ventures, particularly to the Indian Township Reservation. While there are a number of such operations on the reservations (such as a GM Truckliner Surging Plant), two businesses in particular represent the tribe’s successes in the manufacturing field.

Creative Apparel Associates is a garment manufacturing plant which was recently honored by the Connecticut Mutual Blue Chip Company. Originally J & P Apparel, the company formed a joint venture with the tribe when it was faced with a loss of market share. The tribe was able to obtain training grants from the state government and a grant from the federal government to build the factory building. In the last three years the company has realized a 400 percent sales growth and has employed approximately 80 people.

In addition, the tribe recently purchased an under-utilized cement factory from the Martin Marietta firm. The tribe refurbished the plant and sold it at a substantial profit. The tribe retained the patent, however, to a scrubber designed to control the coal emissions that cause acid rain. The Passamaquoddy Technology Recovery Scrubber (PTRS) recycles waste cement kiln dust (CKD) and scrubs sulfur dioxide, paving the way for the widespread usage of industrial and municipal wastes as kiln feed for cement factories. Moreover, this system can recycle 100 percent of the plant’s CKD into kiln feed, potassium fertilizer, and distilled water. The system can also reclaim landfill CKD, making it possible for cement plants to be paid to accept industrial and municipal wastes as substitute kiln feed. Many experts in the cement industry believe that the scrubber technology could be the most significant discovery in the cement industry in 25 years.

SERVICES
The tribe operates a number of service-related businesses, including the DeLocme Mapping Co., Wabanaki Mall (a convenience store and restaurant), and the Sipayik SuperSaver (a grocery store).

TOURISM AND RECREATION
Many visitors enjoy the Wapohnaki Museum at Sipayik and the annual Indian Days celebration. Indian Days have taken place since 1965 and include ceremonial dances, crafts sales, and traditional food. In addition, the tribe is currently considering the feasibility of opening a campground facility on tribal lands.

INFRASTRUCTURE
U.S. Route 1 passes through both reservations. This highway runs east along the southern portion of Maine and then swings north, continuing along the Maine-Canada border.

The Eastport Municipal Airport is located six miles from reservation lands. The nearest commercial airport is located in Bangor, 125 miles from the reservation. West’s Transportation Van, which stops at the Wabanaki Mall, provides bus transportation to the area. UPS and Federal Express provide shipping services to the reservation. The tribal pier and the privately owned Rockland Pier and Eastport Port Authority provide access to water transportation routes. Four points of entry to Canada are located within a few miles of the reservation.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES
There are numerous tribal community facilities located on reservation land, including the Tribal Youth Center, the Nation House, the Tribal Administration Building, a recreation center, a Police/Fire Stations School, and the Forestry Resources Building.

Bangor Hydroelectric Co. provides electric service to tribal members; propane gas is provided by the Deep River Fuel Co. and Ramsdell Fuel. Sewage treatment is provided by the tribally owned municipal sewer system and treatment plant. Water is provided by both the Passamaquoddy Water District and the tribally owned municipal system. There is a 75-bed hospital located in Calais. Clinics are located on both the Pleasant Point and Indian Township Reservations.

The Washington County Vocational Technical Institute, located at Calais, provides six-month to one-year courses. Tuition and fees, including application fees, are waived for qualified and eligible North American Indians residing in Maine. The Beatrice Rafferty School (pre-kindergarten through 8th grade) is located on Pleasant Point. The tribe owns two radio stations and operates a cable television program.