Anthropologist believes he has found BC village that may be 10,000 years old.

By Philip Currie, The Globe and Mail

When Tom Rafferty and his team of archaeologists began digging in an American Indian village site on the Fraser River in British Columbia, the team planned to uncover a site possibly 9,000 years old that could be a major test of a well-known theory about human settlement in North America.

But the team, which is led by archaeologist and anthropologist Fred Mosteller of the University of British Columbia, instead uncovered a site that may be more than 10,000 years old, the team announced in a new study published in the journal Quaternary Science Reviews.

The site, which is located near the village of St. Francis, was found during a 2014 excavation of the site, which was part of a larger project to study the history of human settlement in the Pacific Northwest.

The team's findings suggest that the site, which is located on the Fraser River, was occupied by people more than 10,000 years ago, which is significantly older than previous estimates.

The team's findings also suggest that the site was occupied by people who were more than just hunter-gatherers, but also had a more complex social and economic structure.

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