



Smithsonian

National Museum of the American Indian

Eel River Bar First Nation birchbark
canoe photograph and media collection

2024

National Museum of the American Indian
4220 Silver Hill Rd
Suitland, Maryland 20746-2863
Business Number: Phone: 301.238.1400
Fax Number: Fax: 301.238.3038
nmaiarchives@si.edu
<http://nmai.si.edu/explore/collections/archive/>

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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Museum of the American Indian
Title:	Eel River Bar First Nation birchbark canoe photograph and media collection
Date:	1995
Identifier:	NMAI.AC.347
Creator:	Eel River Bar First Nation
Source:	Martin, Everett, Chief (Donor)
Extent:	56 Photographs
Language:	No linguistic content; Not applicable .
Summary:	This collection contains photographs and a VHS tape documenting the traditions and process of building birchbark canoes by the Mi'kmaq community of Eel River Bar First Nation in New Brunswick, Canada, 1995.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Gift of Chief Everett Martin and the Eel River Bar First Nation, 1997.

Separated Materials

This collection also contains the birch bark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) depicted in the photographs.

Processing Information

Collection processed by Emily Moazami, Head Archivist, 2024.

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Eel River Bar First Nation birchbark canoe photograph and media collection, image/media #, NMAI.AC.347; National Museum of the American Indian Archives Center, Smithsonian Institution.

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Biographical / Historical

The following historical note was copied from the Eel River First Nation website in 2024:

Settling on the lush properties about the Benjamin and Eel Rivers, the Micmac families of Eel River Bar (Ugpi'ganjig) would complete their annual migration from the sheltered in-land areas of the territory after winter. Approximately 5 families of unknown numbers would have made this annual journey and settled at their location of choice for a summer encampment; the Benjamin River area with rich properties for farming, and the Eel River area which offered a wide variety of fish in great abundance.

The Benjamin River location was also important for other reasons; the lush property, which was high above the sea level, was prime for growing annual crops and it provided straight access to Heron Island where it is thought traditional burials took place. These burials have never been substantiated by archeological evidence nor has the specific place of settlement about the Benjamin been verified but in the oral testimony of the elders here, they know of no other truth.

The settling patterns above would have been true until 1807 when, by Provincial-Order-In-Council, the Eel River Bar Indian reserve was established on the shores of the Eel River and the Bay of Chaleur. As far as elders can recall, this choice of reserve location was not theirs but that of the Provincial Government in power.

After 1807, the Micmac people were encouraged to use the "reserved lands" at Eel River and discouraged from migrating annually to the Benjamin. Some continued to migrate there until approximate year of 1900 when migration to that area finally ceased but with great prejudice for what had been done.

The Provincial-Order-In-Council was unanimously passed on February 24, 1807 without the registered consent of the people who were subject to live at what is now known as the Eel River Bar Indian Reserve. That order allowed 220 acres of territorial land to the Micmac families that used to reside on the lush properties.

During the year of confederation, 1867, approximately 148 acres was allotted to the reserve to give a total land in area was 368 acres.

When the Micmac people reluctantly accepted the land grant at the Eel River, they knew that they would have to make the best of their situation. Although the land was quite poor, the resources available from the river would have alleviated some of their concern about the land. The Eel River had a lot to offer. Elders today state that there was a total of eight months of resource harvesting from the Eel River. The clam flats were thought to be the most productive in all of New Brunswick, smelts were harvested twice per year, salmon and trout were harvested in season, eels were abundant in the eel grass, and waterfowl frequented the islands and upper waters of the river.

Socially, this river was a gathering place for the people. The clams attracted all of the community members and established a unique social setting for the Eel River Micmacs. Economically, this river was the life-blood of the community for it provided most of their food throughout the year with the exception of winter when animals were harvested for the same. Clams were often sold to tourists in summer and other resources were bartered and sold forming most of the economic activity at Eel River Bar.

This was all true before 1962 when water flowed freely up and down Eel River with the changing of the tides. Sand was pushed up the river with the rising tide and was flushed out with the falling tide.

The effect on the offshore sand bars and channels was virtually nil and this remained fairly stable of hundreds of years. Then something took place in 1962 and 1963, which would change the community's social and economic structure; the Eel River was dammed.

After the Eel River dam was completed in 1963 and for the 30 years that followed, changes to the environment surrounding Eel River Bar nearly devastated the community. No longer did the falling tide remove the sand that was deposited with the incoming tide and by 1972, only nine years later, and the clam beds at Eel River were completely

shut down. A combination of two things, which directly resulted from the dam construction, caused the closing of the calm beds.

Because the falling tide's force was less powerful than before, the sand deposits over the clam beds grew thicker. This in combination with the settling pollutants in the water contaminated the clam beds.

In addition to the contamination of the clam beds, 15 acres of beach- front property were lost. Many sand bars disappeared and cause the tides to have a tremendous erosion effect on the shoreline. Presently, infrastructure of streets and homes are threatened by extreme events of storms and high tides.

Besides the effects of the dam described above, more than 60 acres of land was lost due to flooding, a higher water table was made more of the community's land unusable, fisheries at Eel River were heavily affected and channels were partially filled with sand deposits. A fish ladder was installed as part of the Eel River Dam but it proved, over time, to be inadequate and sub-standard. This caused the further degeneration of the river's resources.

In addition, two municipalities which settled up- river received permission from the Provincial Department of the Environment to pump their "treated" sewage effluent from their treatment stations directly into the Eel River which eventually flowed down-river where it was stopped at the dam and came to the rest of the community. Over time, the Eel River and head-pond, which was created with the dam, became a cesspool for the Micmac people at Eel River Bar.

After a long 47 years, the dam was finally removed in 2011. Many from the community believe the removal is the first step to re-establishing their local river.

Scope and Contents

P26041-P26076

This collection of 56 photographs (2 photograph albums and oversize prints) documents the tradition and process of building a birchbark canoe by the Mi'kmaq community of Eel River Bar First Nation in New Brunswick, Canada in 1995. The photographs include images of instructors and trainees building the canoe step by step. The 16 foot canoe depicted in the photographs was donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997 (NMAI object [25/4573](#)). The collection also contains a 1995 VHS tape produced by the Eel River Bar First Nation documenting birchbark canoe construction as well.

Arrangement

Arranged by catalog number.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Mi'kmaq [Eel River Bar First Nation, New Brunswick]

Cultures:

Mi'kmaq [Eel River Bar First Nation, New Brunswick]

Names:

Martin, Everett, Chief

Container Listing

- Box 1 P26041: [Splitting cedar logs, 1995](#)
1 Photographic print
Notes: Photograph depicting three men in a forest splitting a felled tree to collect cedar materials for building a birchbark canoe. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997. Other natural materials collected include Black Spruce root, Birch bark, Spruce pitch, and bear grease.
- Box 1 P26042: [Splitting cedar logs, 1995](#)
1 Photographic print
Notes: Photograph depicting men in a forest splitting a felled tree to collect cedar materials for building a birchbark canoe. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997. Other natural materials collected include Black Spruce root, Birch bark, Spruce pitch, and bear grease.
- Box 1 P26043: [Rene Martin looking for birch tree, 1995](#)
1 Photographic print
Notes: Photograph depicting instructor, Rene Martin of Listuguj, Quebec, Canada looking for a quality birch tree in a forest. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.
- Box 1 P26044: [Danny Caplin preparing cedar and ash, 1995](#)
1 Photographic print
Notes: Photograph depicting trainee Danny Caplin sitting at a workbench preparing cedar and ash for canoe's components. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.
- Box 1 P26045: [Harvested birch bark, 1995](#)
1 Photographic print
Notes: Photograph depicting instructor Robert Pictou (left) and another man spreading harvested birchbark out on grass in yard. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.
- Box 1 P26046: [Robert Pictou preparing soil for canoe construction, 1995](#)
1 Photographic print
Notes: Photograph depicting trainee Robert Pictou in a yard under canopy with canoe components and prepared soil. A caption for the photograph reads, "Soil is prepared to receive the Birchbark and its

patten." This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.

Box 1 P26047: [Cutting birch bark, 1995](#)
1 Photographic print
Notes: Photograph depicting Danny Caplin (on left) and Robert LaBillois (right) working in a yard under canopy cutting Birchbark to length. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.

Box 1 P26048: [Robert LaBillois shaping the canoe, 1995](#)
1 Photographic print
Notes: Photograph depicting trainee Robert LaBillois working with bark, frames and weights in yard under canopy. The caption reads, "Patten to shape canoe is placed over Birchbark and weighed down." This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.

Box 1 P26049: [Shaping canoe, 1995](#)
1 Photographic print
Notes: Photograph depicting Danny Caplin (on left) and an unidentified man driving stakes into the soil to form the Birchbark pattern. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.

Box 1 P26050A: [Steaming the spruce roots in boiling water, 1995](#)
1 Photographic print
Notes: Photograph depicting an outdoor bathtub filled with boiling water for steaming the spruce roots. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.

Oversize B32 P26050B: [Steaming the spruce roots in boiling water, 1995](#)
1 Photographic print
Notes: Photograph depicting an outdoor bathtub filled with boiling water for steaming the spruce roots. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.

Box 1 P26051: [Raymond McBain splitting roots, 1995](#)
1 Photographic print
Notes: Photograph depicting trainee, Raymond McBain splitting roots again and again to make 'threads' for sewing. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.

Box 1 P26052A: [Hank Caplin splitting spruce roots, 1995](#)

	1 Photographic print Notes: Photograph depicting trainee Hank Caplin making the final split before spruce roots are small enough to use. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object 25/4573) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.
Oversize B32	P26052B: Hank Caplin splitting spruce roots, 1995 1 Photographic print Notes: Photograph depicting trainee Hank Caplin making the final split before spruce roots are small enough to use. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object 25/4573) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.
Box 1	P26053: Robert LaBillois sewing the birchbark, 1995 1 Photographic print Notes: Photograph depicting trainee Robert LaBillois leaning over side of canoe to sew the bark together. The caption reads "With top birchbark secured, pieces of birchbark are sewn together." This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object 25/4573) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.
Box 1	P26054: Closeup of spruce root, 1995 1 Photographic print Notes: Photograph depicting a closeup of spruce root dewing bark. The caption reads, "Pushing spruce roots through holes punched in birchbark." This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object 25/4573) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.
Box 1	P26055A: Sewing birchbark sheets together, 1995 1 Photographic print Notes: Photograph depicting a man crouching next to canoe while sewing birchbark sheets together bark. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object 25/4573) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.
Oversize B32	P26055B: Sewing birchbark sheets together, 1995 1 Photographic print Notes: Photograph depicting a man crouching next to canoe while sewing birchbark sheets together bark. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object 25/4573) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.
Box 1	P26056: Danny Caplin tying stakes, 1995 1 Photographic print Notes: Photograph depicting Danny Caplin working on a canoe in yard under canopy. The caption reads, "Stakes are tied for reinforcement before top frame is sewn on." This photograph shot in 1995 documents the

building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.

Box 1

P26057: [Gunwales tied to stakes, 1995](#)

1 Photographic print

Notes: Photograph depicting a canoe under construction in yard under a canopy. The caption reads, "Piece of top frame (gunwales) is loosely tied to stakes before it is sewn." This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.

Box 1

P26058: [Norman Menard sewing, 1995](#)

1 Photographic print

Notes: Photograph depicting trainee Norman Menard sewing gunwales and thwarts to birchbark. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.

Box 1

P26059: [Sewing the canoe, 1995](#)

1 Photographic print

Notes: Photograph depicting a closeup view of construction of birchbark canoe. The caption reads, "With the gunwales in place the overlapping birchbark is sewn by wrapping the spruce root around and through the walls of the canoe." This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.

Box 1

P26060: [Sewing the canoe, 1995](#)

1 Photographic print

Notes: Photograph depicting three men constructing a birchbark canoe. The caption reads, "With the gunwales in place the overlapping birchbark is sewn by wrapping the spruce root around and through the walls of the canoe." This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.

Box 1

P26061: [Sewn gunwales on canoe, 1995](#)

1 Photographic print

Notes: Photograph depicting a closeup view of sewn gunwales on a canoe. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.

Box 1

P26062: [Ralph Harn cutting ends of birchbark canoe, 1995](#)

1 Photographic print

Notes: Photograph depicting trainee Ralph Harn cutting the ends of the canoe's birchbark. An unidentified woman watches him. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.

- Box 1 P26063: Robert Pictou adding clamps to canoe, 1995
1 Photographic print
Notes: Photograph depicting instructor Robert Pictou clamping the canoe end before sewing. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.
- Box 1 P26064: [Detailed view of canoe gunwale, 1995](#)
1 Photographic print
Notes: Photograph depicting a detailed view of the gunwale of a bark canoe under construction. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.
- Box 1 P26065: [View of clamping the canoe, 1995](#)
1 Photographic print
Notes: Photograph depicting a birchbark canoe under construction with clamps on the batten outwales. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.
- Box 1 P26066: [Sewing the canoe, 1995](#)
1 Photographic print
Notes: Photograph depicting people under canopy constructing canoe and sewing batten outwales to birchbark. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.
- Box 1 P26067A: Rene Martin planing canoe ribs, 1995
1 Photographic print
Notes: Photograph depicting Rene Martin sitting on workbench using planer to prepare the canoe's ribs which will be forced into place last. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.
- Oversize B32 P26067B: [Rene Martin planing canoe ribs, 1995](#)
1 Photographic print
Notes: Photograph depicting Rene Martin sitting on workbench using planer to prepare the canoe's ribs which will be forced into place last. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.
- Box 1 P26068A: Cedar strips quality control check, 1995
1 Photographic print
Notes: Close of person inspecting cedar strip. The caption reads, "Quality control is of utmost importance to craftsmen/women." This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe

(NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.

Oversize B32	<p>P26068B: Cedar strips quality control check, 1995 1 Photographic print Notes: Close of person inspecting cedar strip. The caption reads, "Quality control is of utmost importance to craftsmen/women." Close of person inspecting cedar strip. The caption reads, "Quality control is of utmost importance to craftsmen/women." This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object 25/4573) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.</p>
Box 1	<p>P26069: Robert Pictou constructing canoe, 1995 1 Photographic print Notes: Robert pictou constructing a birchbark canoe. The caption reads, "After steaming ribs are categorized by size & bent into shape." This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object 25/4573) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.</p>
Box 1	<p>P26070: Robert LaBillois installing ribs into a canoe, 1995 1 Photographic print Notes: Photograph depicting trainee Robert LaBillois installing planking below ribs in a birchbark canoe. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object 25/4573) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.</p>
Box 1	<p>P26071: Robert Pictou constructing a canoe, 1995 1 Photographic print Notes: Photograph depicting Robert Pictou constructing a birchbark canoe. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object 25/4573) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.</p>
Box 1	<p>P26072A: Birchbark canoe under construction, 1995 1 Photographic print Notes: Photograph depicting a birchbark canoe under construction resting on saw horses under canopy. The caption reads, "With ribs in place canoe is overturned so it can be sealed." This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object 25/4573) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.</p>
Oversize B32	<p>P26072B: Birchbark canoe under construction, 1995 1 Photographic print Notes: Photograph depicting a birchbark canoe under construction resting on saw horses under canopy. The caption reads, "With ribs in place canoe is overturned so it can be sealed." This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object 25/4573) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.</p>
Box 1	<p>P26073: Birchbark canoe under construction, 1995</p>

	<p>1 Photographic print</p> <p>Notes: Photograph depicting a newly constructed birchbark canoe resting on saw horses. The canoe is 22 feet canoe and is ready to be sealed. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object 25/4573) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.</p>
Box 1	<p>P26074A: Rene Martin surveying completed canoe, 1995</p> <p>1 Photographic print</p> <p>Notes: Photograph depicting instructor Rene Martin inspecting a birchbark canoe newly constructed by students. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object 25/4573) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.</p>
Oversize B32	<p>P26074B: Rene Martin surveying completed canoe, 1995</p> <p>1 Photographic print</p> <p>Notes: Photograph depicting instructor Rene Martin inspecting a birchbark canoe newly constructed by students. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object 25/4573) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.</p>
Box 1	<p>P26075A: View of newly constructed canoe, 1995</p> <p>1 Photographic print</p> <p>Notes: Photograph depicting the interior view of a newly constructed canoe. The caption reads, "Canoe that was delivered to New York takes final shape." This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object 25/4573) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.</p>
Oversize B32	<p>P26075B: View of newly constructed canoe, 1995</p> <p>1 Photographic print</p> <p>Notes: Photograph depicting the interior view of a newly constructed canoe. The caption reads, "Canoe that was delivered to New York takes final shape." This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object 25/4573) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.</p>
Box 1	<p>P26076A: Detailed view of canoe end, 1995</p> <p>1 Photographic print</p> <p>Notes: Photograph depicting a closeup view of the stitching on a newly constructed birchbark canoe. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object 25/4573) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.</p>
Oversize B32	<p>P26076B: Detailed view of canoe end, 1995</p> <p>1 Photographic print</p> <p>Notes: Photograph depicting a closeup view of the stitching on a newly constructed birchbark canoe. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object 25/4573) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.</p>

Oversize B32

P26077: [Sewing canoe with spruce roots, 1995](#)

1 Photographic print

Notes: Photograph depicting Robert LaBillois (on right) and another man sewing a birchbark canoe with spruce roots. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.

Box 2

P26078: [Detailed view of splitting roots, 1995](#)

1 Photographic print

Notes: Photograph depicting a closeup view of a person splitting roots with a knife. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.

Box 2

P26079: [Danny Caplin splitting roots, 1995](#)

1 Photographic print

Notes: Photograph depicting trainee Danny Caplin laughing while splitting roots for a birchbark canoe. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.

Box 2

P26080: [Robert LaBillois splitting wood for a canoe, 1995](#)

1 Photographic print

Notes: Photograph depicting trainee Robert LaBillois splitting wood using his body weight to hold strip against pole while he works on it. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.

Box 2

P26081: [Planing wood for canoe, 1995](#)

1 Photographic print

Notes: Photograph depicting a man sitting on workbench using planer. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.

Box 2

P26082: [Birchbark canoe under construction, 1995](#)

1 Photographic print

Notes: Photograph depicting a birchbark canoe under construction. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.

Box 2

P26083: [Sewing birchbark canoe, 1995](#)

1 Photographic print

Notes: Photograph depicting two men sewing a birchbark canoe. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.

Box 2 P26084: [Sewing birchbark canoe, 1995](#)
1 Photographic print
Notes: Photograph depicting a man sewing birchbark canoe with roots. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.

Box 2 P26085: [Dewing bark canoe, 1995](#)
1 Photographic print
Notes: Photograph depicting a man in process of dewing bark canoe with hot water. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.

Box 2 P26086: [Rene Martin constructing a canoe, 1995](#)
1 Photographic print
Notes: Photograph depicting instructor Rene Martin putting the finishing on a newly constructed canoe resting on saw horses. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.

Box 2 P26087: [Rene Martin posing with finished canoe, 1995](#)
1 Photographic print
Notes: Photograph depicting instructor Rene Martin (of Listuguj Quebec Canada) posing with a newly constructed birchbark canoe. This photograph shot in 1995 documents the building of a birchbark canoe (NMAI object [25/4573](#)) donated by the Eel River Bar First Nation to NMAI in 1997.