

Contents

A dawning interest	7
The weight that keeps the ship afloat	11
Previous research	21
Ancient artefacts in the ballast	27
Perplexing flint	39
Bright sparks and precious metals	43
Streets paved with ballast	51
Rubble crossing the Atlantic	61
Marked stones	69
What's in a name?	77
Stones and beetles in Newfoundland	85
Ballast that took root	95
A wider view	101
* * *	
Acknowledgements	103
Notes	105
References	113