

**Stage 1&2 Archaeological Assessment for Part of Lot 16, Concession 1,  
North of Dundas Street (Geographic Township of Trafalgar) Town of  
Oakville, Regional Municipality of Halton, Ontario**

Submitted to  
**Melrose Investments Inc.**  
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Prepared by

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Archaeological Consulting Licence # P120  
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## PROJECT PERSONNEL

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Field Archaeologists	Mr. T. Keith Powers Ms. Karen Powers Mr. Etienne Jacobson Mr. Barclay Powers Mr. George Clark
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## Stage 1&2 Archaeological Assessment for Part of Lot 16, Concession 1, North of Dundas Street (Geographic Township of Trafalgar) Town of Oakville, Regional Municipality of Halton, Ontario

### 1 INTRODUCTION

The Archaeologists Inc. was contracted by **Melrose Investments Inc.**, of Oakville, Ontario, to conduct a Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment for Part of Lot 16, Concession 1, North of Dundas Street (Geographic Township of Trafalgar) Town of Oakville, Regional Municipality of Halton, Ontario (Figure 1). The subject property, which comprised approximately 59.31 acres, is located on the southwest corner of Burnhamthorpe Road W., and 6<sup>th</sup> line.



**Figure 1:** The location of the study area as depicted on 1:50,000 NTS maps 30 M/12 1983 Edition 7 & 30M/5 1983 Edition 10

The Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment was conducted under the project direction of Mr. George Clark. Fieldwork was performed in accordance with the Ontario Heritage Act (1990) under an archaeological consulting license (P120-084-2008) issued to Mr. Clark of *The Archaeologists Inc.* Permission to access the study area, and undertake all activities required to complete this archaeological assessment, was granted to *The Archaeologists Inc.* by Melrose Investments Inc. Mr. Clark conducted fieldwork of the subject property November 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

### 2 BACKGROUND RESEARCH

#### 2.1 Previous Archaeological Research

In order that an inventory of archaeological resources could be compiled for the study area, three sources of information were consulted: the site record forms for registered sites housed at the Ministry of Culture; published and unpublished documentary sources; and the files of *The Archaeologists Inc.*

In Ontario, information concerning archaeological sites is stored in the Ontario Archaeological Sites Database (O.A.S.D.), a database maintained by the Ministry of Culture. This database contains archaeological sites registered within the Borden system.

The Borden system was first proposed by Dr. Charles E. Borden, and is based on a block of latitude and longitude. A Borden block is approximately 13 kilometers east west by 18.5 kilometers north south. Sites within each block are numbered sequentially as they are found. The study area under review is located within borden block AjGw.

Information on the known archaeological sites in the vicinity of the study area was obtained from the Ministry of Culture sites database (Table 1). Regional sites can be expected to relate to the cultural/temporal categories outlined in Table 2. While no previously registered archaeological sites were listed within the study area limits, 16 archaeological sites were registered within a 2- kilometre radius of the subject property.

**TABLE 1: Registered Archaeological Sites Within 2 kilometres of the Study Area**

Borden #	Site Name	Cultural Affiliation	Site Type	Researcher(s)
AjGw-179		Undetermined Precontact	Findspot	Pearce, 1984
AjGw-180		Undetermined Precontact	Findspot	Pearce, 1984
AjGw-181		Undetermined Precontact	Findspot	Pearce, 1984
AjGw-182		Undetermined Precontact	Findspot	Pearce, 1984
AjGw-42		Undetermined Precontact	Findspot	Pearce, 1984
AjGw-415		Early Woodland	Findspot	ASI, 2006
AjGw-416		Undetermined Precontact	Findspot	ASI, 2006
AjGw-386		Euro-Canadian	Homestead	ASI, 2006
AjGw-387		Undetermined Precontact	Findspot	ASI, 2006
AjGw-388		Undetermined Precontact	Findspot	ASI, 2006
AjGw-428		Undetermined Precontact	Findspot	ASI, 2006
AjGw-227	Lernan	Euro-Canadian	Homestead	ASI, 1992
AjGw-427	Landing	Archaic	Campsite	Slocki, 2004
AjGw-433		Undetermined Precontact	Findspot	Slocki, 2004
AjGw-434		Undetermined Precontact	Findspot	Slocki, 2004
AjGw-28		Undetermined Precontact	Findspot	Phil; 1980

**TABLE 2: Outline of Southern Ontario Prehistory**

Period	Archaeological Culture	Date Range	Attributes
<b>PALEO-INDIAN</b>			
Early	Gainey, Barnes, Crowfield	9000-8500 BC	Big game hunters
Late	Holcombe, Hi-Lo, Lanceolate	8500-7500 BC	Small nomadic groups
<b>ARCHAIC</b>			
Early	Nettling, Bifurcate-base	7800-6000 BC	Nomadic hunters and gatherers
Middle	Kirk, Stanly, Brewerton, Laurentian	6000-2000 BC	Transitional to territorial settlements
Late	Lamoka, Genesee, Crawford Knoll, Innes	2500-500 BC	Polished/ground stone tools (small stemmed points)
<b>WOODLAND</b>			
Early	Meadowood	800-400 BC	Introduction of pottery
Middle	Point Peninsula, Saugeen	400 BC- AD 800	Incipient horticulture
Late	Algonkian, Iroquoian	AD 800-1300	Transition to village life and agriculture
	Algonkian, Iroquoian	AD 1300-1400	Establishment of large palisaded villages
	Algonkian, Iroquoian	AD 1400-1600	Tribal differentiation and warfare
<b>HISTORIC</b>			
Early	Huron, Neutral, Petun, Odawa,	AD 1600-1650	Tribal displacements

Late	Ojibwa Six Nations Iroquois, Ojibwa Euro/Canadian	AD 1650-1800's AD 1800-present	European settlement
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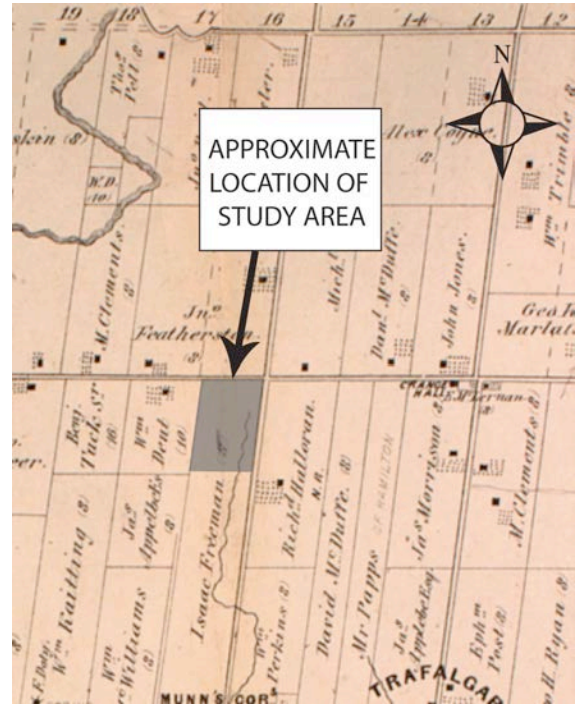
## 2.2 Historical Land Use Summary

The 1877 *Historical Atlas of the County of Halton* was reviewed to determine the potential for finding historical archaeological remains within the study area (Figure 2).

The *Atlas* indicates that the study area, which is located in part of Lot 16, Concession 1 North of Dundas Street, was owned by a Mr. Isaac Freeman. The *Atlas* does not depict any structures within the limits of the study area.

It must be noted that not all features of interest today would have been considered within the scope of the *Atlas* at the time of publication. Nevertheless, the *Atlas* is considered one source for the assessment of archaeological potential. It can therefore be concluded that the study area has potential for the identification of historic archaeological remains.

**Figure 2:** The subject property as depicted in the 1877 Illustrated Historical Atlas of Halton County.



## 2.3 Physiography

The study area is situated in the South Slope physiographic region in close proximity to the Peel Plain physiographic region, (located south of the study area). The South Slope physiographic region is characterized by gently rolling till plains at a height of approximately 245 metres above sea level, descending southward toward Lake Ontario and ending, in some areas, at elevations below 150 metres above sea level. Numerous rivers and streams descend the Slope, having cut deep valleys in the till (Chapman and Putnam 1984:175).

The Peel Plain consists of a fairly level clay plain spread across the central portions of the Regional Municipalities of York, Peel, and Halton. The surface of the plain is characterized by level to gently rolling topography, with a consistent, gradual slope toward Lake Ontario. The plain is made up of deep deposits of dense, limestone and shale imbued till, often covered by a shallow layer of clay sediment.

The terrain in the vicinity of the study area is undulating sloping gently to the south. A tributary of Morrison Creek is located on this property.

The Ministry of Culture (former Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation) Primer on Archaeology, Land Use Planning and Development in Ontario (1997: 12-13) stipulates that undisturbed land within 300 metres of a primary water source (lakeshore, river, large creek, etc.), and undisturbed land within 200 metres of a secondary water source (stream, spring, marsh, swamp, etc.), as well as undisturbed land within 300 metres of an ancient water source, are considered to have archaeological potential.

### **3 STAGE 2 FIELD ASSESSMENT**

The Stage 2 archaeological field assessment of Part of Lot 16, Concession 1. North of Dundas Street (Geographic Township of Trafalgar) Town of Oakville, Regional Municipality of Halton, Ontario, was completed under the field direction of Mr. George Clark on November 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Weather conditions were overcast with sunny periods on both days with 11°C on the 8<sup>th</sup> and a high of 7°C on the 9<sup>th</sup>. The subject property, which comprised approximately 59.31 acres, is located on the southwest corner of Burnhamthorpe Road W., and 6<sup>th</sup> line.

A large section of the subject property (figure 3) was ploughed and allowed to weather with several rains. Visibility of the subject property was excellent. The Archaeological Assessment of the subject lands was conducted by a pedestrian survey at a transect interval of 5 metres over approximately 50% of the subject lands (Plate 1). This area is depicted in grey in figure 3. Approximately 50% of the subject lands were not able to be ploughed due to tree cover, these areas, depicted in green in figure 3, were assessed by means of a shovel test pit survey at a 5 metre interval (Plate 2). Test pits were excavated approximately 30 centimetres in diameter to a depth of subsoil (i.e., B-Horizon where soil colour changes from a dark brown or black organic to a light yellowish color). Soils were screened through six- millimetre mesh to facilitate artefact recovery. All test pits were backfilled to near original condition. Despite careful scrutiny no archaeological resources were encountered during the survey.

### **4 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

During the course of the Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Part of Lot 16, Concession 1. North of Dundas Street (Geographic Township of Trafalgar) Town of Oakville, Regional Municipality of Halton, Ontario, (Figure 1), it was determined that the physiographic setting of the property demonstrates a high potential for the recovery of cultural resources. Background research revealed that while no archaeological sites had been registered previously within the study area however, 16 sites were located within a two-kilometre radius of the study area. No structures were depicted on the illustrated Historical Atlas of the area. Given this information, a Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment was conducted.

The Stage 2 field assessment of the subject property was conducted at a 5 metre interval. The property was assessed by both a pedestrian survey over ploughed lands and a test pit survey over lands that could not be ploughed. Despite careful scrutiny no archaeological resources were encountered during the survey.

In light of these results, it is recommended that:

1. The study area as depicted in Figure 3 should be considered free of any further archaeological concern.
2. Should deeply buried archaeological remains be found on the property during construction activities, the Heritage Operations Unit of the Ministry of Culture (MoC) should be notified immediately.
3. In the event that human remains are encountered during construction, the proponent should immediately contact both Ministry of Culture, and the Registrar or Deputy Registrar of the Cemeteries Regulation Unit of the Ministry of Consumer and Business Services (416) 326-8404.

The documentation related to the Archaeological Assessment of the subject property shall be curated by *The Archaeologists Inc.* until such a time that arrangements for their ultimate transfer to Her Majesty the Queen in right of Ontario, or other public institution, can be made to the satisfaction of the landowner, the Ministry of Culture, and any other legitimate interest groups.

## **5 REFERENCES CITED**

Chapman, L.J. and F. Putnam

1984 *The Physiography of Southern Ontario, Ontario Geological Survey Special Volume 2*, Toronto: Government of Ontario, Ministry of Natural Resources.

*Illustrated Historical Atlas of Halton County, Ontario.*

1877 Toronto: Miles & Co.

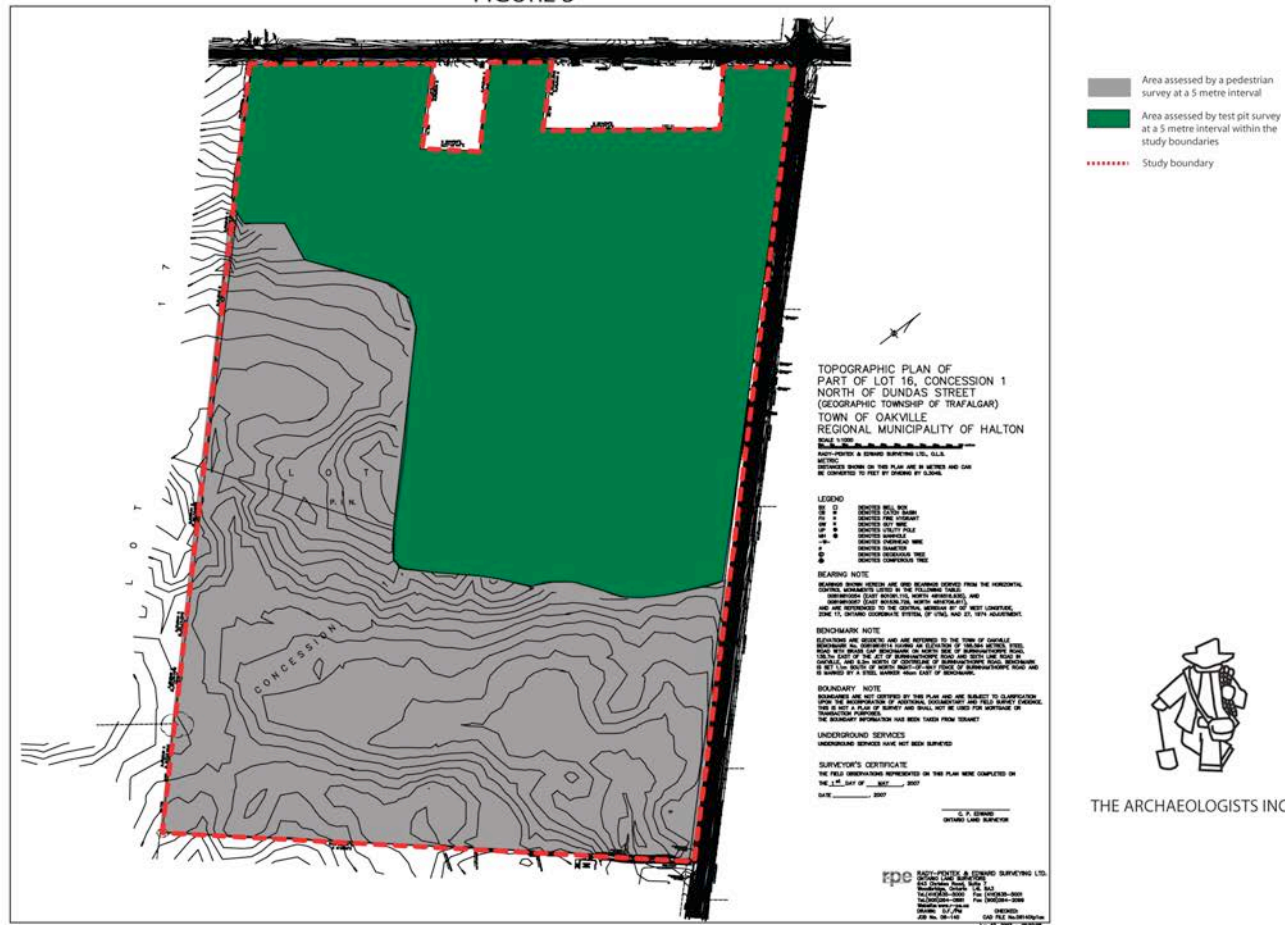
Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation

1997 *Conserving A Future For Our Past: Archaeology, Land Use Planning & Development in Ontario*. Cultural Programs Branch, Archaeology & Heritage Planning Unit. Toronto.



*Stage 1&2 Archaeological Assessment of Part of Lot 16, Concession 1 North of Dundas Street, Town of Oakville, Regional Municipality of Halton, Ontario*

FIGURE 3



## PLATES



Plate 1; The subject property being subject to pedestrian survey



Plate 2; test pitting areas of the subject property covered by tree growth