

**STAGE 1 AND 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OF
SGGC ACQUISITION, PART OF LOT 17, CONCESSION 2, N.D.S.
FORMERLY IN THE TOWNSHIP OF TRAFALGAR,
NOW IN THE TOWN OF OAKVILLE, REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF HALTON**

FINAL REPORT

Prepared for:

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MTC PIF P141-043-2006, P141-093-2007, PIF P049-281-2008, P049-618-2010
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December 2010



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Archaeological Services Inc. was retained by Mattamy Homes of Oakville, Ontario to undertake a Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment of the SGGC Acquisition, Part of Lot 17, Concession 2, N.D.S. Formerly in the Township of Trafalgar, now in the Town of Oakville Regional Municipality of Halton. The study area encompasses approximately 28.44 hectares and is located north of Burnhamthorpe Road.

The Stage 1 background review of the study area revealed that thirty registered archaeological sites are located within two kilometres of the study area. A general review of the physiography of the region indicated that the study area is located within the Peel Plain. The closest water source, a tributary of Morrison Creek, is located approximately 200 metres north of the property. The proximity of watercourses and the registered archaeological sites give the study area potential for encountering pre-contact archaeological deposits as well as historical archaeological deposits.

The Stage 2 survey was carried out over various years including 2006, 2007 and 2008. The balance of the study area was assessed in 2010. The study area was test pitted and pedestrian surveyed, both at five metre transect intervals. During the course of the survey, two pre-contact sites, AiGw-455 (P1) and AiGw-456 (P2) were found. Both of the sites have been determined to represent isolated and ephemeral components that do not warrant further archaeological consideration.

Therefore, it is recommended that the subject lands be considered clear of any further archaeological concern, with the proviso that the appropriate authorities must be notified should deeply buried archaeological or human remains be encountered during any future work on the property.



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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Archaeological Services Inc. was contracted by Mattamy Homes to conduct a Stage 1 and 2 archaeological assessment of the SGGC lands, located on Part of Lot 17, Concession 2, N.D.S., formerly in the Township of Trafalgar, now in the Town of Oakville, Regional Municipality of Halton (Figure 1). The total subject property comprises approximately of 28.44 hectares. Field assessments have been carried out over various years including 2006, 2007 and 2008. The balance of the study area was assessed in 2010.

The assessment was conducted under the project directions of Dr. Shaun Austin and Ms. Debbie Steiss under professional archaeological licence issued to Dr. Austin (MTC PIF P141-043-2006 and P141-093-2007) and Ms. Steiss (MTC

PIF P049-281-2008 and P049-618-2010) in accordance with the Ontario Heritage Act (R.S.O. 1990, 2005). Stage 2 fieldwork was carried out under the directions of Ms. Cara Howell, Ms. Aleksandra Pradzynski, Mr. Robert Wojtowicz and Mr. John Dunlop. Dr. Ron Williamson and Ms. Bev Garner were the project managers. Permission to access the study area to carry out the activities necessary for the completion of the Stage 2 assessment was granted by Mattamy Homes on May 26, 2005.

The following report provides the study background, methodology, results, conclusions, and recommendations of the assessment.

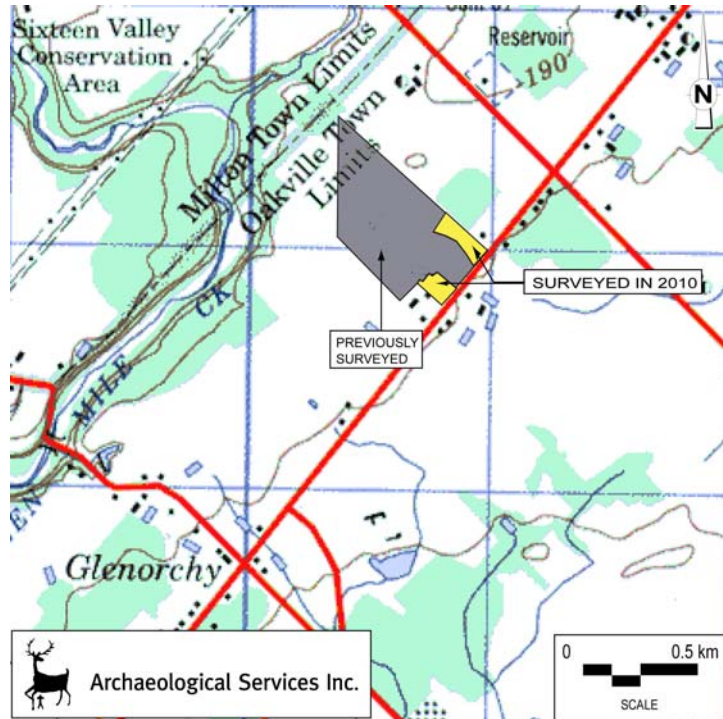


Figure 1: Location of the Subject Property; NTS 30 M/5, Edition 10



2.0 STAGE 1 BACKGROUND RESEARCH

Stage 1 background research was conducted in order to identify any archaeological sites previously registered in the study area prior to field examination, and to assess its archaeological potential based on its physiographic setting, proximity to registered archaeological sites and a summary review of nineteenth-century maps.

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 Tourism and Culture; published and unpublished documentary sources; and the files of Archaeological Services Inc.

In Ontario, information concerning archaeological sites is stored in the Ontario Archaeological Sites Database (OASD) which is maintained by the Ministry of Tourism and 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. Each Borden block measures approximately 13 km east-west by 18.5 km north-south, and sites within each block are numbered sequentially as they are found. The study area under review is located within the AiGw Borden block.

While no archaeological sites have been registered within the study area, thirty sites have been previously registered within a two kilometre radius of the subject property in the Borden blocks AiGw and AjGw. No sites are located adjacent to the subject lands. These include both pre-contact and historical Euro-Canadian sites. A summary of these sites is provided in Table 1. Regional sites can be expected to relate to the cultural/temporal categories outlined in Table 2.

Table 1: Registered Archaeological Sites Within Two Kilometre Radius of the Study Area

Borden #	Site Name	Cultural Affiliation	Site Type	Researcher and Date
AiGw-132	80-403-12	Early Archaic	Lithic Scatter	*MIA, 1982
AiGw-165	81-403-36	Early Archaic	Findspot	MIA, 1982
AiGw-166	81-403-38	Unknown Pre-contact Aboriginal	Findspot	MIA, 1982
AiGw-167	81-403-167	Unknown Pre-contact Aboriginal	Findspot	MIA, 1982
AiGw-168	81-403-40	Unknown Pre-contact Aboriginal	Lithic Scatter	MIA, 1982
AiGw-169	81-403-41	Unknown Pre-contact Aboriginal	Findspot	MIA, 1982
AiGw-170	81-403-42	Unknown Pre-contact Aboriginal	Findspot	MIA, 1982
AiGw-171	81-403-43	Unknown Pre-contact Aboriginal	Findspot	MIA, 1982
AiGw-172	81-403-45	Unknown Pre-contact Aboriginal	Findspot	MIA, 1982
AiGw-179	Unnamed	Unknown Pre-contact Aboriginal	Findspot	MIA, 1982
AiGw-306	Samos	Unknown Pre-contact Aboriginal	Lithic Scatter	J. Fisher, 1998
AiGw-307	Shagbark	Unknown Pre-contact Aboriginal	Lithic Scatter	**MTO, 1980
AjGw-227	Lernan	Historic Euro-Canadian	Homestead	***ASI, 1992
AiGw-27	80-403-13	Early Woodland	Lithic Scatter	MIA, 1980
AjGw-28	80-403-14	Unknown Pre-contact Aboriginal	Findspot	MIA, 1982
AjGw-30	81-403-46	Unknown Pre-contact Aboriginal	Findspot	MIA, 1982
AjGw-31	81-403-48	Unknown Pre-contact Aboriginal	Findspot	MIA, 1982
AiGw-162	81-403-34	Unknown Pre-contact Aboriginal	Findspot	MIA, 1981
AiGw-415	Unnamed	Early Woodland	Findspot	ASI, 2006
AiGw-416	Unnamed	Unknown Pre-contact Aboriginal	Findspot	ASI, 2006



Table 1: Registered Archaeological Sites Within Two Kilometre Radius of the Study Area				
Borden #	Site Name	Cultural Affiliation	Site Type	Researcher and Date
AiGw-427	Landing	Archaic	Lithic Scatter	K. Slocki, 2004
AiGw-429	Unnamed	Unknown Pre-contact Aboriginal	Findspot	K. Slocki, 2004
AiGw-430	Unnamed	Unknown Pre-contact Aboriginal	Findspot	K. Slocki, 2004
AiGw-433	Unnamed	Unknown Pre-contact Aboriginal	Findspot	K. Slocki, 2004
AiGw-454	Unnamed	Unknown Pre-contact Aboriginal	Lithic Scatter	ASI, 2006
AiGw-462	P1	Unknown Pre-contact Aboriginal	Lithic Scatter	ASI, 2007
AiGw-463	Curry	Historic Euro-Canadian	Homestead	ASI, 2007
AiGw-464	Bell	Historic Euro-Canadian	Homestead	ASI, 2007
AiGw-163	81-403-34	Unknown Pre-contact Aboriginal	Findspot	MIA, 1981
AiGw-164	81-403-35	Unknown Pre-contact Aboriginal	Findspot	MIA, 1981

*MIA= London Museum of Indian Archaeology, **MTO=Ministry of Transportation, ***ASI = Archaeological Services Inc.

Table 2: Outline of Southern Ontario Prehistory			
Period	Archaeological Culture	Date Range	Attributes
PALEO-INDIAN			
Early	Gainey, Barnes, Crowfield	9000 - 8500 BC	Big game hunters
Late	Holcombe, Hi-Lo, lanceolate	8500 - 7500 BC	Small nomadic groups
ARCHAIC			
Early	Nettling, Bifurcate-base	7800 - 6000 BC	Nomadic hunters and gatherers
Middle	Kirk, Stanly, Brewerton, Laurentian	6000 - 2000 BC	Transition to territorial settlements
Late	Lamoka, Genesee, Crawford Knoll, Innes	2500 - 500 BC	Polished/ground stone tools (small stemmed)
WOODLAND			
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
HISTORIC			
Early	Huron, Neutral, Petun, Odawa, Ojibwa	AD 1600 - 1650	Tribal displacements
Late	Six Nations Iroquois, Ojibwa	AD 1650 - 1800's	
	Euro/Canadian	AD 1800 - present	European settlement

2.2 Physiography and Assessment of Pre-Contact Archaeological Potential

The study area is located within the Peel Plain physiographic region of southern Ontario (Chapman and Putnam 1984). This physiographic region covers a large area across the central portions of the Regional Municipalities of Peel, York, 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. While the clay soils of the plain may be imperfectly drained in inter-stream areas, the region is without large swamps or bogs.

The subject lands are situated on undulating terrain approximately 200 metres north of a tributary of Morrison Creek and approximately 350 metres southeast of Sixteen Mile Creek. Potable water is the single most important resource necessary for any extended human occupation or settlement. Since water sources have remained relatively stable in south central Ontario after the Pleistocene era, proximity to water can be regarded as a useful index for the evaluation of archaeological site potential. Indeed, distance from water has been one of the most commonly used variables for predictive modelling of site location.



The MTC's *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (2010:4-5) stipulates that primary water sources (lakes, rivers, streams, creeks, etc.), secondary water sources (intermittent streams and creeks, springs, marshes, swamps, etc.), ancient water sources (glacial lake shorelines indicated by the presence of raised sand or gravel beach ridges, relic river or stream channels indicated by clear dip or swale in the topography, shorelines of drained lakes or marshes, cobble beaches, etc.), as well as accessible or inaccessible shorelines (high bluffs, swamp or marsh fields by the edge of a lake, sandbars stretching into marsh, etc.) are characteristics that indicate archaeological potential.

Other geographic characteristics that can indicate archaeological potential include: elevated topography (eskers, drumlins, large knolls, plateaux), pockets of well-drained sandy soil, especially near areas of heavy soil or rocky ground, distinctive land formations that might have been special or spiritual places, such as waterfalls, rock outcrops, caverns, mounds, and promontories and their bases. Resource areas are also considered to be characteristics that indicate archaeological potential (MTC 2010:5).

The research prepared for the *Master Plan of Archaeological Resources of the Regional Municipality of Halton*, determined that a buffer zone extending 200 metres from any water source constitutes an acceptable characterization of pre-contact archaeological site potential within Halton Region, whether above or below the escarpment (ASI 1998). Based on the general proximity of a tributary of Morrison Creek, and the location of twenty-seven registered pre-contact archaeological sites within two kilometres of the study area (Section 2.1), the property has potential for the identification of pre-contact archaeological remains.

2.3 Summary Review of Historical Maps and Historical Archaeological Potential

The subject property is located on Part of Lot 17, Concession 2, N.D.S., formerly in the Township of Trafalgar, now in the Town of Oakville, Regional Municipality of Halton (Figure 2). According to the *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Halton*, the study area was part of the Johnathan Featherston Estate in 1877. One structure, presumably the main farmhouse, is illustrated very near the southwestern limits of the subject lands, adjacent to former orchards. However, it should be noted that this may not be the extent of heritage structures on the property as not all features of interest were mapped systematically on the Ontario series of historical maps and atlases, given that they were financed by subscription, and subscribers were given preference with regard to the level of detail provided on the maps.

The MTC's *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (2010:5) stipulates that areas of early Euro-Canadian settlement (pioneer homesteads, isolated cabins, farmstead complexes), early wharf or dock complexes, pioneer churches and early cemeteries, are considered to have

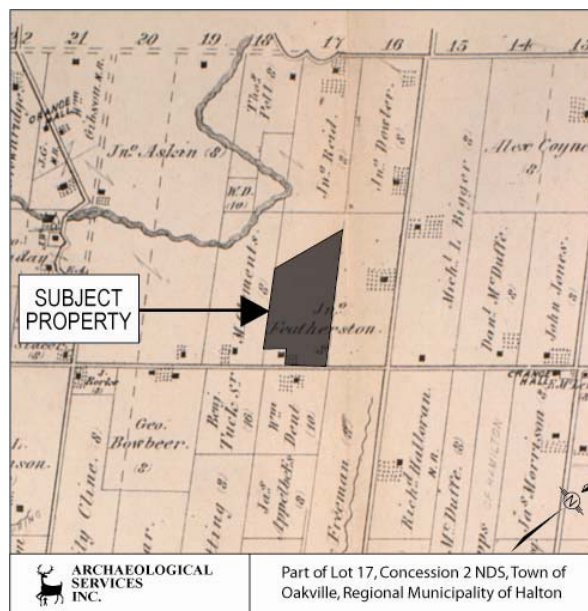


Figure 2: The Subject Property superimposed on the 1877 *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Halton*.

archaeological potential. There may be commemorative markers of their history, such as local, provincial, or federal monuments or heritage parks. Early historical transportation routes (trails, passes, roads, railways, portage routes), properties listed on a municipal register or designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act* or a federal, provincial, or municipal historic landmark or site, and properties that local histories or informants have identified with possible archaeological sites, historical events, activities, or occupations are also considered to have archaeological potential.

The Master Plan of Archaeological Resources of the Regional Municipalities of Halton, Planning Report (ASI:1998, 2008) was consulted for further information on the historical archaeological potential of the study area. One historical homestead is mapped within the study area in the Master Plan of Archaeological Resources of the Regional Municipality of Halton (Figure 3).

For the Euro-Canadian period, the majority of early nineteenth century farmsteads (i.e., those which are arguably the most potentially significant resources and whose locations are rarely recorded on nineteenth-century maps) are likely to be captured by the basic proximity to water model outlined above, since these occupations were subject to similar environmental constraints.

As described previously, a tributary of Morrison Creek is within approximately 200 metres of the subject property, as well as the location of the historic farmstead being illustrated close to the southwestern corner of the property the study area has potential for the identification of historical archaeological remains depending on the degree of more recent disturbances.

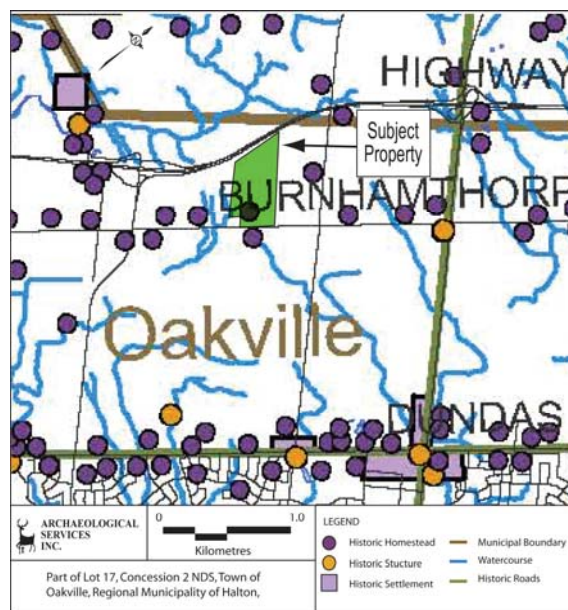


Figure 3: Subject property superimposed on the *Master Plan of Archaeological Resources of the Regional Municipalities of Halton, Planning Report* (ASI 1998, 2008)

3.0 STAGE 2 FIELDWORK

Archaeological survey of the study area was conducted under the direction of Ms. Cara Howell on June 13, 2006, under the direction of Ms. Aleksandra Pradzynski on September 22, 2006 and May 2, 2007, under the direction of Mr. Robert Wojtowicz on May 9, 2008, and under the direction of Mr. John Dunlop on November 24, 2010 and December 2, 2010. Weather conditions were partly cloudy and warm on all occasions except for 2010, when the weather conditions were cloudy and cold on both days.

The majority of the subject property consisted of generally level agricultural lands with reddish clay topsoil. These fields were ploughed and allowed to weather through several substantial rainfalls. Since surface visibility and field conditions were excellent, over 80%, the assessment was accomplished by means of a pedestrian survey at five metre intervals (Figure 4; Plates 1 and 2). The survey of all of the ploughed lands was conducted on June 13, 2006, September 22, 2006 and November 24, 2010.

A barn complex exists in the southwestern corner of the property. This area contained a large extant barn and several smaller outbuildings with associated parking areas and storage grounds for farm machinery. The majority of this area was deemed to be disturbed due to previous agricultural activities, dumping of soil, as well as the recent removal of a structure (Figure 4; Plates 3-5). Portions of this area had piles of organic material, some locations contained building debris likely from elsewhere within the subject property, while other portions of the barn complex had soil stockpiled. These locations were deemed to be disturbed and therefore did not have archaeological potential. A laneway which connects the barn complex to Burnhamthorpe Road West was also considered to be disturbed and exempted from further assessment.

Two areas south and east of the barn complex were subject to test pit survey at five metre intervals (Figure 4; Plates 6-7). The test pits were excavated into subsoil. All of the topsoil was screened through ¼ inch screen to facilitate artifact recovery. Upon completion, all of the test pits were backfilled.

The area east of the barn was test pitted in 2008 and deemed undisturbed. Soil profiles consisted of reddish clay loam. The test pits varied in depths, ranging from 20 to 25 cm. The subsoil consisted of light brown clay loam. The area south of the barn is a fallow overgrown pasture and was test pitted in 2010. This area was deemed disturbed with soil profiles consisting of mottled reddish clay loam with gravel and yellow inclusions (Plate 8). Due to contact with the water table, a test pit depth was unable to be established. A section of the pasture fronting Burnamthorpe Drive, approximately 10 m wide was found to consist of undisturbed top soils. Test pits in this area were reddish brown clay loam approximately 20 cm deep and light brown subsoil (Plate 9).

Around the barn complex are three locations of wetlands. An area located in the northeast quadrant of the barn complex includes a man made pond (Plate 10). This approximate location appears on the 1:50,000 topographic map as a farm pond. Another smaller low wet area is situated in the southwest corner of the barn complex adjacent to some outbuildings (Plate 11). The third low and wet area is located south of the barn in the fallow overgrown pasture. This area slopes down to a seasonal water course that cuts the centre of the pasture (Plates 12 and 13). All of the wet areas lacked archaeological potential and were therefore not subject to further survey.

A historic house remains extant to the west, outside of the limits of the subject lands. This house is accessed by a laneway from Burnamthorpe Road West (Figure 4).



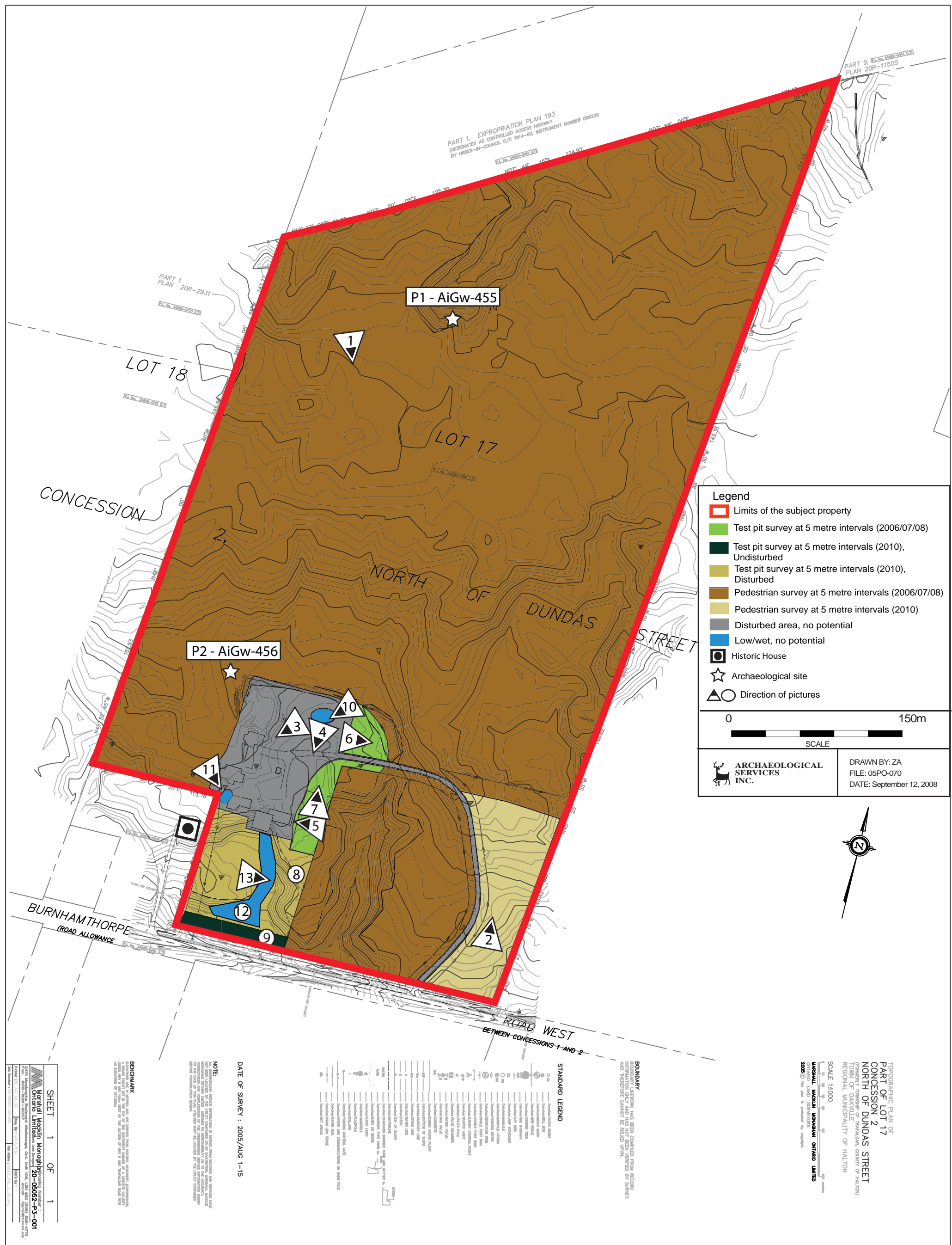


Figure 4: Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment of SGGC Acquisition

3.2 Results of the Field Survey

Two pre-contact sites have been documented as a result of the field assessment. A site is distinguished from a findspot by either the quantity of material encountered (>3 artifacts) or by the presence of a diagnostic artifact, e.g. a hide scraper or a projectile point. The locational data for the sites and findspots are summarized in Table 3. These two sites were discovered during the pedestrian survey conducted in June 2006.

Table 3: Results of the Stage 2 Assessment of the SGGC Property

Site	Borden Number	Location
P1	AiGw-455	NAD 27 17T 0600371, 4816052
P2	AiGw-456	NAD 27 17T 0600543, 4797835

Site AiGw-455 (P1) (NAD 27 17T 0600371, 4816052, 192 m asl)

Site AiGw-455 consists of a biface fragment of Onondaga chert, located on gently rolling ploughed terrain in the north-central portion of the property (Figure 3; Plate 11). The biface is 5 mm thick and 23.77 mm wide. A radius of 30 metres around this find was re-surveyed at one metre intervals and no further cultural material was encountered.

Table 4: Stage 2 Artifact Inventory of Site AiGw-455 (P1)

Layer	Cat #	Qty	Type	Material	Width	Thickness	Comments
Surface	L1	1	Biface fragment	Onondaga	23.77 mm	5 mm	

Site AiGw-456 (P2) (NAD 27 17T 0600543, 4815718, 187 m asl)

Site AiGw-456 (P2), consisting of a projectile point tip and a shatter fragment, both of Onondaga chert, is located approximately 300 metres north of site AiGw-455 (Figure 3; Plate 12). These two artifacts were found roughly five metres apart within ploughed terrain in the south half of the property. The projectile point tip is 17.36 mm wide and 5.2 mm thick. A radius of 30 metres around these two finds was re-surveyed at one metre intervals and no further cultural material was encountered.

Table 5: Stage 2 Artifact Inventory of Site AiGw-456 (P2)

Layer	Cat #	Qty	Type	Material	Width	Thickness	Comments
Surface	L1	1	Projectile point	Onondaga	17.36 mm	5.2 mm	Tip
Surface	L2	1	Shatter	Onondaga			



4.0 SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Archaeological Services Inc. was contracted by Mattamy Homes to conduct a Stage 1 and 2 archaeological assessment of the SGGC lands, located on Part of Lot 17, Concession 2, N.D.S., formerly in the Township of Trafalgar, now in the Town of Oakville, Regional Municipality of Halton. The subject property comprises approximately 28.44 hectares. Field assessments have been carried out over various years including 2006, 2007 and 2008. The balance of the study area was assessed in 2010.

Stage 1 assessment determined that while no sites have been registered within the subject property, thirty sites have previously been registered within a two-kilometre radius. Review of the general physiography of the study area and nineteenth century land uses as reflected in contemporary map sources suggested that the study area encompasses areas that would generally be considered to exhibit potential for the presence of pre-contact Aboriginal and historic Euro-Canadian archaeological resources in those locales that have not been disturbed by recent land uses and low/wet areas.

The Stage 2 assessment involved a pedestrian survey of ploughed and weathered fields and a test pit survey of disturbed and undisturbed areas around the barn complex. Both survey methods employed a five-metre transect interval. During the course of the survey, two pre-contact sites, AiGw-455 (P1) and AiGw-456 (P2) were found. Both of the sites have been determined to represent isolated and ephemeral components that do not warrant further archaeological consideration. The location of the historic house illustrated in the 1877 atlas is not within the subject property. A historic house remains extant west of the SGGC lands.

In light of these findings, we offer the following recommendations.

1. The pre-contact sites AiGw-455 (P1) and AiGw-456 (P2) may be considered free of any further archaeological concern.
2. The subject property be considered clear of any further archaeological concern.

The following conditions also apply:

This report is submitted to the Minister of Tourism and Culture as a condition of licensing in accordance with Part VI of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c 0.18. The report is reviewed to ensure that the licensed consultant archaeologist has met the terms and conditions of their archaeological license, and that the archaeological fieldwork and report recommendations ensure the conservation, protection and preservation of the cultural heritage of Ontario.

Should previously undocumented archaeological resources be discovered, they may be a new archaeological site and therefore subject to Section 48 (1) of the Ontario Heritage Act. The proponent or person discovering the archaeological resources must cease alteration of the site immediately and engage a licensed consultant archaeologist to carry out archaeological fieldwork, in compliance with sec. 48 (1) of the Ontario Heritage Act.

The Cemeteries Act requires that any person discovering human remains must notify the police or coroner and the Registrar of Cemeteries, Ministry of Consumer Services.



The documentation related to the archaeological assessment of this project will be curated by Archaeological Services 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 project owner, the Ontario Ministry of Tourism and Culture, and any other legitimate interest groups.



5.0 REFERENCES CITED

Archaeological Services Inc. (ASI)

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Illustrated Historical Atlas of Halton County.

1877 Toronto: Walker & Miles.



6.0 PLATES



Plate 1: Pedestrian survey of ploughed fields



Plate 2: Pedestrian survey of ploughed fields 2010



Plate 3: Imported soil dumped within the barn



Plate 4: Extant structures and surrounding disturbed area



Plate 5: Extant barn.



Plate 6: Test pitting undisturbed area.





Plate 7: Test pitting conditions



Plate 8: Soil profile of test pit in disturbed section of fallow field.



Plate 9: Soil profile of test pit in undisturbed area of fallow field.



Plate 10: Man-made pond



Plate 11: Low/wet area southwest of barn.



Plate 12: Low/wet area south of the barn in fallow overgrown pasture.





Plate 13: Slope to low and wet area in fallow overgrown pasture.



Plate 14: Biface fragment from site AiGw-455 (P1)



Plate 15: Projectile point tip from site AiGw-456 (P2)

