APPENDIX E
TMHC Inc. draft Stage I Archaeological Assessment and Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport Criteria for Evaluating Archaeological Potential

Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment
Schedule B Municipal Class EA
East Morrison Creek Erosion Mitigation Study
Town of Oakville
Part of Lots 11 and 12, Concession 1 South of Dundas Steet and Lots 11 and 12, Concession 2 South of Dundas Street
Former Geographic Township of Trafalgar, Halton County
Now Regional Municipality of Halton, Ontario

Revised Report

Submitted to:
Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism

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PIF No:	P1189-0037-2023
Project No:	2023-220
Draft Dated:	March 2, 2026

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A Stage 1 archaeological assessment was conducted as part of a Schedule B Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study for the East Morrison Creek Erosion Mitigation Study between Postridge Drive and the Morrison Wedgewood Diversion Channel in Oakville, Ontario. The project area is roughly 40.9 ha (101.1 ac) in size and consists of a segment of the East Morrison Creek, steeply sloped creek banks and forested area. The project area falls within Lots 11 and 12, Concession 1 and 2 South of Dundas Street (SDS) in the former Geographic Township of Trafalgar, Halton County, now Regional Municipality of Halton, Ontario. In 2023 TMHC Inc. (TMHC) was contracted by Matrix Solution Inc. to conduct the assessment, which was conducted in accordance with the provisions of the *Environmental Assessment Act* and the Regional Municipality of Halton's *Master Plan of Archaeological Resources* (ASI 1998; 2009). The purpose of the assessment was to determine whether there was potential for archaeological resources to be present within the project area.

The Stage 1 background study included a review of current land use, historic and modern maps, registered archaeological sites and previous archaeological studies, past settlement history for the area, and a consideration of topographic and physiographic features, soils and drainage. According to the map-based review and background research, potential for the discovery of archaeological sites is indicated by the presence of or proximity (within 300 m) to:

- a watercourse (Morrison Creek);
- registered archaeological sites (AiGw-261, AiGw-243, AiGw-242, AiGw-241, AiGw-240, AiGw-239, AiGw-238, AiGw-237, AiGw-236 and AIGw-235);
- mapped 19th century structures; and
- 19th century travel routes (Dundas Street East, Trafalgar Road, Upper Middle Road East and 8th Line).

A Stage 1 property inspection visually confirmed that portions of the project area contain areas of previous disturbance, consisting of paved roads, sidewalks, and bridges as well as gravel and paved trails, park amenities, landscaped/graded residential properties, and a channelized ditch (4.5 ha; 10.9%). It also determined that large portions were steeply sloped (13.7 ha; 33.5%) and low and wet (3.2 ha; 7.9%). These areas have low or no archaeological potential and do not require further archaeological assessment. However, portions of the project area that are grassed and treed are not obviously disturbed and retain archaeological potential (19.5 ha; 47.7%) and would require Stage 2 assessment in the form of a test pit survey at 5 m interval.

It is also noted that a previously registered site (AiGw-239) may be located within the project area. Identified in 1993 by Mayer, the site is a small lithic scatter that was located on the eastern edge of an agricultural field and extended partially into the gully along Morrison Creek. It is unclear from the report whether the Stage 3 assessment of AiGw-239 extended into the gully along Morrison Creek. As a result, there is potential to encounter this site during future Stage 2 test pit survey. If artifacts are encountered in the vicinity of the purported location of AiGw-239 they should be evaluated while taking Mayer's findings into consideration.

Our recommendations are subject to the conditions laid out in Section 7.0 of this report and to the MCM's review and acceptance of this report into the provincial register.

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PROJECT PERSONNEL

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	Amanda Parks, MA (P450)
Project Administrators	Victoria Scott, MA, MLis
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	Matthew Beaudoin, PhD (P324)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Roger Phillips, PhD, P. Geo, FGS	*Senior Geomorphologist*
	Matrix Solutions Inc.

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The project area is located on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek (Ah-nish-in-a-bek) and Haudenosaunee (Ho-den-no-show-nee), peoples, on lands connected with the Head of the Lake Purchase (Treaty #14) of 1806. This land continues to be home to diverse Indigenous peoples (e.g., First Nations, Métis and Inuit) whom we recognize as contemporary stewards of the land and vital contributors of our society.

ABOUT TMHC

Established in 2003 with a head office in London, Ontario, TMHC Inc. (TMHC) provides a broad range of archaeological assessment, heritage planning and interpretation, cemetery, and community consultation services throughout the Province of Ontario. We specialize in providing heritage solutions that suit the past and present for a range of clients and intended audiences, while meeting the demands of the regulatory environment. Over the past two decades, TMHC has grown to become one of the largest privately-owned heritage consulting firms in Ontario and is today the largest predominately woman-owned Cultural Resource Management (CRM) business in Canada.

Since 2004, TMHC has held retainers with Infrastructure Ontario, Hydro One, the Ministry of Transportation, Metrolinx, the City of Hamilton, and Niagara Parks Commission. In 2013, TMHC earned the Ontario Archaeological Society's award for Excellence in CRM. Our seasoned expertise and practical approach have allowed us to manage a wide variety of large, complex, and highly sensitive projects to successful completion. Through this work, we have gained corporate experience in helping our clients work through difficult issues to achieve resolution.

TMHC is skilled at meeting established deadlines and budgets, maintaining a healthy and safe work environment, and carrying out quality heritage activities to ensure that all projects are completed diligently and safely. Additionally, we have developed long-standing relationships of trust with Indigenous and descendent communities across Ontario and a good understanding of community interests and concerns in heritage matters, which assists in successful project completion.

TMHC is a Living Wage certified employer with the Ontario Living Wage Network and a member of the Canadian Federation for Independent Business.

KEY STAFF BIOS

Matthew Beaudoin, PhD, Principal/Manager – Archaeological Assessments

Matthew Beaudoin received a PhD in Anthropology from Western University in 2013 and became a Principal at TMHC in 2019. During his archaeological career, Matthew has conducted extensive field research and artifact analysis on Indigenous and Settler sites from Labrador and Ontario. In addition, Matthew has also conducted ethnographic projects in Labrador. Since joining TMHC in 2008, Matthew has been involved with several notable projects, such as the Imperial Oil's Waterdown to Finch Project, the Camp Ipperwash Project, and the Scugog Island Natural Gas Pipeline Project.

Matthew is an active member of the Canadian Archaeological Association, the Ontario Archaeological Association, the Ontario Historical Society, the World Archaeology Congress, the Council for Northeastern Historical Archaeology, the Society for American Archaeology, and the Society for Historical Archaeology.

Amanda Parks, MA – Manager – Environmental Assessments Project Division

Amanda began her career in archaeology in 2004 and has dedicated her work to the conservation of cultural heritage resources in Ontario. Amanda has worked on numerous Stage 1-4 archaeological assessments in a multitude of roles: project manager, field director, report writer, artifact analyst, and engagement specialist. Regarding the latter, Amanda has worked regularly with Indigenous communities throughout Ontario, engaging communities for archaeological projects, environmental assessments, and property management plans. She has established good working relationships with communities by focusing on a collaborative approach to the protection and documentation of archaeological sites.

Amanda earned a BA in Archaeological Science from the University of Toronto in 2012 and completed her MA in Applied Archaeology at Western in 2018. Her masters research focused on the sweat baths at the Redeemer site, a Middle Ontario Iroquoian site located in the City of Hamilton.

Kelly Gostick, MA, Archaeological Project Lead

Kelly received her Master's Degree in Anthropology from Western University in 2017, studying Late Woodland period settlement patterns. With ten years' experience in consulting archaeology, Kelly has performed numerous roles including field director, report writer, artifact analysis and lab manager. Since joining TMHC in 2016, Kelly has performed all aspects of archaeological work including lab work, archaeological field work and report writing. Kelly is a member of the Ontario Archaeological Society and the Canadian Archaeological Association.

STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS AND LIMITATIONS

The attached Report (the "Report") has been prepared by TMHC Inc. (TMHC) for the benefit of the Client (the "Client") in accordance with the agreement between TMHC and the Client, including the scope of work detailed therein (the "Agreement").

The information, data, recommendations and conclusions contained in the Report (collectively, the "Information"):

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- represents TMHC's professional judgment in light of the Limitation and industry standards for the preparation of similar reports;
- may be based on information provided to TMHC which has not been independently verified;
- has not been updated since the date of issuance of the Report and its accuracy is limited to the time period and circumstances in which it was collected, processed, made or issued;
- must be read as a whole and section thereof should not be read out of such context;
- was prepared for the specific purposes described in the Report and the Agreement

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This Statement of Qualifications and Limitations is attached to and forms part of the Report and any use of the Report is subject to the terms hereof.

QUALITY INFORMATION

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Kelly Gostick, MA (P1189)

Municipal Class EA Unit Manager

Report reviewed by:

Matthew Beaudoin, PhD (P324)

Principal/Manager of Archaeological Assessment

1 PROJECT CONTEXT

1.1 Development Context

1.1.1 Introduction

A Stage 1 archaeological assessment was conducted as part of a Schedule B Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study for the East Morrison Creek Erosion Mitigation Study between Postridge Drive and the Morrison Wedgewood Diversion Channel in Oakville, Ontario. The project area is roughly 40.9 ha (101.1 ac) in size and consists of a segment of the East Morrison Creek, steeply sloped creek banks and forested area. The project area falls within Lots 11 and 12, Concession 1 and 2 South of Dundas Street (SDS) in the former Geographic Township of Trafalgar, Halton County, now Regional Municipality of Halton, Ontario. In 2023 TMHC Inc. (TMHC) was contracted by Matrix Solution Inc. to conduct the assessment, which was conducted in accordance with the provisions of the *Environmental Assessment Act* and the Regional Municipality of Halton's *Master Plan of Archaeological Resources* (ASI 1998; 2009). The purpose of the assessment was to determine whether there was potential for archaeological resources to be present within the project area.

All archaeological assessment activities were performed under the professional archaeological license of Kelly Gostick, MA (P1189) and in accordance with the 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (MTC 2011). Permission to commence the study was given by Matrix Solution Inc.

1.1.2 Purpose and Legislative Context

The *Ontario Heritage Act* (R.S.O. 1990) (OHA) provides legislative oversight for the conservation, protection, and preservation of heritage resources in the Province of Ontario, including archaeological resources. The *OHA* assigns responsibility for doing so to a provincial ministry, now the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM). The MCM regulates how archaeological sites are dealt with by:

- Establishing a system to license individuals permitted to identify and investigate archaeological sites;
- Creating technical standards and guidelines for archaeological fieldwork and reporting;
- Maintaining a list of registered archaeological sites; and
- Overseeing transfers of archaeological collections.

The *OHA* does not speak to the need for undertaking archaeological assessments prior to land development. Instead, it regulates how such work must be undertaken and how archaeological sites are dealt with when the need for an archaeological assessment is prompted by other pieces of legislation.

The *Environmental Assessment Act* (R.S.O. 1990)(EAA) was developed to provide for the protection, conservation and wise management of the environment in Ontario. It applies to projects carried out by a provincial ministry, municipality or designated public body, and which can be made to apply to private sector proponents through a designation regulation. Section 1 of the *EAA* has broadly defined "environment" to cover "cultural heritage" resources. As per policy guidelines, the *EAA* provides for two types of environmental assessment planning and approval processes for undertakings subject to the act: environmental assessments (EAs) and class environmental assessments (Class EAs).

The current project follows an approved Class EA developed by the Municipal Engineers Association on behalf of Ontario municipalities, as documented in *Municipal Class Environmental Assessments* (Municipal Engineers Association 2023). The document enables the planning and implementation of municipal infrastructure (including the road, water, wastewater, and transit undertakings set out in Appendix 1 of the document) to be undertaken in accordance with an approved procedure designed to protect the environment (Municipal Engineers Association 2023). Since the undertakings carried out by municipalities can vary in their potential environmental impact, undertakings have been classified as exempt, eligible for exemption, B, and C with each classification having different requirements. Projects that are eligible for exemption must still be subject to an archaeological screening process to determine whether the project is exempt from the requirements of the EAA.

The Regional Municipality of Halton's *Master Plan of Archaeological Resources* is a planning tool developed to assist in the protection is a planning tool developed to implement these requirements by identifying areas where there is potential for archaeological sites to exist (ASI 1998; 2009). If properties are deemed to have potential for archaeological sites, a Stage 1 and 2 archaeological assessment is required.

2 STAGE 1 BACKGROUND REVIEW

2.1 Research Methods and Sources

A Stage 1 overview and background study was conducted to gather information about known and potential cultural heritage resources within the project area. According to the *Standards and Guidelines*, a Stage 1 background study must include a review of:

- An up-to-date listing of sites from the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM) PastPortal for 1 km around the project area;
- reports of previous archaeological fieldwork within a radius of 50 m around the property;
- topographic maps at 1:10,000 (recent and historical) or the most detailed scale available;
- historical settlement maps (e.g., historical atlas, survey);
- archaeological management plans or other archaeological potential mapping when available; and,
- commemorative plaques or monuments on or near the property.

For this project, the following activities were carried out to satisfy or exceed the above requirements:

- a database search was completed through MCM's PastPortal system that compiled a list of registered archaeological sites within 1 km of the subject property (completed September 18, 2023);
- a review of known prior archaeological reports for the property and adjacent lands;
- Ontario Base Mapping (1:10,000) was reviewed through ArcGIS and mapping layers under the Open Government Licence – Canada and the Open Government Licence- Ontario;
- detailed mapping provided by the client was also reviewed;
- a series of historic maps and photographs was reviewed related to the post-1800 land settlement; and,
- a review of the Regional Municipality of Halton's *Master Plan of Archaeological Resources*.

Additional sources of information were also consulted, including modern aerial photographs, local history accounts, soils data provided by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), physiographic data provided by the Ontario Ministry of Northern Development and Mines, and detailed topographic data provided by Land Information Ontario.

When compiled, background information was used to create a summary of the characteristics of the Project area, in an effort to evaluate its archaeological potential. The Province of Ontario (MTC 2011; Section 1.3.1) has defined the criteria that identify archaeological potential as:

- previously identified archaeological sites;
- water sources;
    - primary water sources (e.g., lakes, rivers, streams, creeks);
    - secondary water sources (e.g., intermittent streams and creeks, springs, marshes, swamps);
    - features indicating past water sources (e.g., glacial lake shorelines, relic river or stream channels, shorelines of drained lakes or marshes, cobble beaches);
    - accessible or inaccessible shorelines (e.g., high bluffs, sandbars stretching into a marsh);
- elevated topography (e.g., eskers, drumlins, large knolls, plateau);
- pockets of well-drained sandy soils;

- distinctive land formations that might have been special or spiritual places (e.g., waterfalls, rock outcrops, caverns, mounds, promontories and their bases);
- resource areas, including:
    - food or medicinal plants (e.g., migratory routes, spawning areas, prairies);
    - scarce raw materials (e.g., quartz, copper, ochre, or chert outcrops);
    - early Settler industry (e.g., fur trade, logging, prospecting, mining);
- areas of early 19th-century settlement, including:
    - early military locations;
    - pioneer settlement (e.g., homesteads, isolated cabins, farmstead complexes);
    - wharf or dock complexes;
    - pioneer churches;
    - early cemeteries;
- early transportation routes (e.g., trails, passes, roads, railways, portage routes);
- a property listed on a municipal register, designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act*, or that is a federal, provincial, or municipal historic landmark or site; and,
- a property that local histories or informants have identified with possible archaeological sites, historical event, activities, or occupations.

In Southern Ontario (south of the Canadian Shield), any lands within 300 m of any of the features listed above are considered to have potential for the discovery of archaeological resources.

Typically, a Stage 1 assessment will determine potential for Indigenous and 19th-century period sites independently. This is due to the fact that lifeways varied considerably during these eras, so the criteria used to evaluate potential for each type of site also varies.

It should be noted that some factors can also negate the potential for discovery of intact archaeological deposits. The *Standards and Guidelines* (MTC 2011; Section 1.3.2) indicates that archaeological potential can be removed in instances where land has been subject to extensive and deep land alterations that have severely damaged the integrity of any archaeological resources. Major disturbances indicating removal of archaeological potential include, but are not limited to:

- quarrying;
- major landscaping involving grading below topsoil;
- building footprints; and,
- sewage and infrastructure development.

Some activities (agricultural cultivation, surface landscaping, installation of gravel trails, etc.) may result in minor alterations to the surface topsoil but do not necessarily affect or remove archaeological potential. It is not uncommon for archaeological sites, including structural foundations, subsurface features and burials, to be found intact beneath major surface features like roadways and parking lots. Archaeological potential is, therefore, not removed in cases where there is a chance of deeply buried deposits, as in a developed or urban context or floodplain where modern features or alluvial soils can effectively cap and preserve archaeological resources.

2.2 Project Context: Archaeological Context

2.2.1 Project Area: Overview and Physical Setting

The project area is roughly 40.9 ha (101.1 ac) in size and consists of East Morrison Creek, steeply sloped creek banks, recreation trails and forested area (Maps 1 and 2). The project area falls within Lots 11 and 12, Concession 1 and 2 South of Dundas Street (SDS) in the former Geographic Township of Trafalgar, Halton County, now Regional Municipality of Halton, Ontario. The project area is bound to the north and south by property boundaries, to the west by Postridge Drive and to the east by the Morrison Wedgewood Diversion Channel. The surrounding area is residential and commercial in nature.

The project area is located within the Iroquois Plain and South Slope physiographic regions (Map 3), as defined by Chapman and Putnam (1984). The Iroquois Plain is an extensive, flat to undulating lowland plain stretching along the western part of Lake Ontario for a distance of 306 km from the Niagara River to the Trent River. The plain follows the current Lake Ontario shore and extends inland to the former shoreline of glacial Lake Iroquois, which separates the region from the drumlinized till plain of the South Slope to the north. The South Slope essentially parallels the Iroquois Plain and the current Lake Ontario shoreline. The slope fades from a gently rolling till plain in the east near the Trent River to a ground moraine with irregular knolls and hollows in the west where it meets the Niagara Escarpment (Chapman and Putnam 1984:172). Specifically, the project area is located within a glacial beach in the Iroquois Plain and a shorecliff and shore bluff or scarp forms the southeastern end of the project area. Within the South Slope the project area is located in a till plain.

Soils within this area range from well-drained to poorly drained (Gillespie et al. 1971) and are summarized in Table 1 (Map 4).

Table 1: Soil Types within the Project Area

Soil Type	Classification	Drainage
Chinguacousy Clay Loam	Gleyed gray-brown luvisol	Imperfectly Drained
Jeddo Clay Loam	Orthic humic gleysol	Poorly Drained
Oneida Clay Loam	Brunisolic gray-brown luvisol	Moderately well-drained

East Morrison Creek runs through the center of the project area (Map 1). East Morrison Creek drains into Lake Ontario.

2.2.2 Summary of Registered or Known Archaeological Sites

According to PastPortal (accessed September 18, 2023) there are 33 registered archaeological sites within 1 km of the project area (Table 2). Upon further investigation, only 12 of these sites are within 1 km, with one site being reported within the project area (AiGw-239), and an additional ten sites within 300 m of the project area. It should be noted that the site location data provided by the MCM for AiGw-239 appears to be incorrect when compared to the site mapping provided in the consultant report (SD Map 5). Further details are discussed below, in Section 2.2.3.

Table 2: Registered Archaeological Sites within 1 km of the Project Area

Borden Number	Site Name	Time Period	Affinity	Site Type	Status	Distance
AiGw-177	81-TCPL-3	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	findspot		>300m
AiGw-187	Iroquois Shoreline					>1km
AiGw-202	Silwell					>300m
AiGw-235	PenEquity 2	Archaic, Middle	Aboriginal	findspot		<300m
AiGw-236	PenEquity 3	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	Unknown		<300m
AiGw-237	PenEquity 4	Woodland, Middle	Aboriginal	findspot		<300m
AiGw-238	PenEquity 5	Archaic, Middle	Aboriginal	findspot		<300m
AiGw-239	PenEquity 6	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	Unknown		within
AiGw-240	PenEquity 8	Woodland, Early	Aboriginal	findspot		<300m
AiGw-241	PenEquity 9	Archaic, Late	Aboriginal	findspot		<300m
AiGw-242	PenEquity 10	Archaic, Middle	Aboriginal	findspot		<300m
AiGw-243	PenEquity 11	Archaic, Early	Aboriginal	findspot		<300m
AiGw-261	Macoakville	Woodland, Late	Aboriginal	findspot		<300m
AjGw-305	Phoenix	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	Otherbuilding, homestead		>1km
AjGw-306	Albertson II	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead		>1km
AjGw-307	Albertson I	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead		>1km
AjGw-308	Raptor	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	Othercamp/campsite		>1km
AiGw-334	Iroquois Ridge #1	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	findspot		>1km
AiGw-335	Iroquois Ridge #2	Archaic, Middle	Aboriginal	findspot		>1km

Borden Number	Site Name	Time Period	Affinity	Site Type	Status	Distance
AiGw-336	Iroquois Ridge #3	Archaic, Middle	Aboriginal	findspot		>1km
AiGw-337	Iroquois Ridge #4	Archaic, Early	Aboriginal	findspot		>1km
AiGw-376	Lane	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead, midden		>1km
AiGw-413	-	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	findspot		>1km
AjGw-483	P7	Archaic, Late	Aboriginal	findspot		>1km
AjGw-484	P8	Archaic, Late	Aboriginal	findspot		>1km
AiGw-1003	Redoak H1	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead	No Further CHVI	>1km
AiGw-1031		Pre-Contact		scatter	Further CHVI	>1km
AiGw-1032		Pre-Contact		scatter	No Further CHVI	>1km
AiGw-1033		Pre-Contact		scatter	Further CHVI	>1km
AiGw-1034		Pre-Contact		scatter	No Further CHVI	>1km
AiGw-1035		Archaic		scatter	Further CHVI	>1km
AiGw-1036		Pre-Contact		scatter	Further CHVI	>1km
AiGw-1037	The Mulholland Site	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead	Further CHVI	>1km

2.2.3 Summary of Past Archaeological Investigations within 50 m

During the course of this study, records were found for one archaeological investigation within the project area, and one within 50 m of the project area, both related to the proposed Uptown Core/Iroquois Ridge Development Plan subdivision. A third report is cited within Mayer (1993) as being related to subdivision 24T-94001, located within 50 m of the project area; however, there is no record of this report on PastPortal. Additionally, it should be noted that the MCM currently does not provide an inventory of archaeological assessments to assist in this determination.

2.2.3.1 Stage 1-4 Archaeological Assessment – Uptown Core/Iroquois Ridge (Mayer 1992; 1993) (SD Maps 1-4)

In 1992, Mayer Heritage was contracted to conduct a Stage 1-2 assessment for the proposed development known as the Uptown Core lands in Oakville (SD Map 1). Stage 1 background research and Stage 2 survey was conducted in 1992 for a subject property to the north of the current project area limits. Six archaeological locations were found during the assessment, and Stage 3 assessments were conducted for four locations, and Stage 4 excavations for three sites in 1993 and 1994. None of these sites are within or immediately adjacent to the current project area. The results of this assessment are presented in a report entitled *Archaeological Assessment (Stages 1-4) Uptown Core Lands, Draft Plan of Subdivision 24T-92005, Town of Oakville, R. M. of Halton, Ontario* (Mayer 1992; Licensee, Robert Mayer, CIF 93-013).

In 1993, Mayer Heritage was contracted to conduct a Stage 1-2 assessment for the proposed Uptown Core/Iroquois Ridge Development Plan subdivision in Oakville, and the project overlaps with the current project area (SD Maps 2-3). The Stage 1 background research determined that the property retained archaeological potential and Stage 2 assessment was recommended. The Stage 2 survey consisted of pedestrian survey at 5 m intervals of ploughed fields. The report notes that test pit survey only occurred in one location, where artifacts were encountered extending into the edge of a field. This indicates that a test pit survey along Morrison Creek was not completed as part of this project. A total of 12 Indigenous sites were identified during the Stage 2 assessment. One of these sites (Location 6 - AiGw-239) is located within the current project area, but due to unclear mapping, its exact location is unclear. AiGw-239 was identified as a scatter of 29 pieces of chipping detritus over a 27 m by 20 m area located on the edge of an agricultural field and the Morrison Creek gully. Seven test pits were excavated at a 5 m interval along the gully to determine the limits of the site, and a Stage 3 assessment was recommended.

The Stage 3 assessment at AiGw-239 was conducted in 1994 (SD Map 4). A total of eight test units were excavated across the site, and an additional 34 pieces of chipping detritus were collected. Unit counts ranged from zero to eight artifacts, and no further assessment was recommended for AiGw-239. It is unclear where the site and Stage 3 assessment took place due to poor mapping and the Stage 3 assessment does not meet current Standard and Guidelines. The results of this assessment are presented in a report entitled *Archaeological Assessment (Stages 1-3) Uptown Core/Iroquois Ridge, Development Plan (24T-93009), Town of Oakville, R. M. of Halton, Ontario* (Mayer 1993; Licensee, Robert Mayer, CIF 93-011).

2.2.4 Dates of Archaeological Fieldwork

The Stage 1 site inspection was conducted on September 22, 2023, in sunny and warm weather conditions. The field inspection was conducted by Lara Wood, MA (P1078).

2.3 Project Context: Historical Context

2.3.1 Indigenous Settlement in Halton County

The Halton Region attracted considerable Indigenous settlement in the past. Despite an improved understanding of past Indigenous land use and settlement patterns through various cultural resource management surveys and archaeological research projects, our knowledge remains incomplete. This is partially due to a lack of archaeological investigation in many areas prior to urban development. However, using existing data and regional syntheses, it is possible to propose a generalized model of Indigenous settlement in the Halton Region. The general themes, time periods and cultural traditions of Indigenous settlement, based on archaeological evidence, are provided below and in Table 3.

Table 3: Chronology of Indigenous Settlement in Halton County

Period	Time Range	Diagnostic Features	Archaeological Complexes
Early Paleo	9000-8400 BCE	fluted projectile points	Gainey, Barnes, Crowfield
Late Paleo	8400-8000 BCE	non-fluted and lanceolate points	Holcombe, Hi-Lo, Lanceolate
Early Archaic	8000-6000 BCE	serrated, notched, bifurcate base points	Nettling, Bifurcate Base Horizon
Middle Archaic	6000-2500 BCE	stemmed, side & corner notched points	Brewerton, Otter Creek, Stanley/Neville
Late Archaic	2000-1800 BCE	narrow points	Lamoka
Late Archaic	1800-1500 BCE	broad points	Genesee, Adder Orchard, Perkiomen
Late Archaic	1500-1100 BCE	small points	Crawford Knoll
Terminal Archaic	1100-950 BCE	first true cemeteries	Hind
Early Woodland	950-400 BCE	expanding stemmed points, Vinette pottery	Meadowood
Middle Woodland	400 BCE-500 CE	dentate, pseudo-scallop pottery	Saugeen
Transitional Woodland	500-900 CE	first corn, cord-wrapped stick pottery	Princess Point
Late Woodland	900-1300 CE	first villages, corn horticulture, longhouses	
Late Woodland	1300-1400 CE	large villages and houses	
Late Woodland	1400-1650 CE	tribal emergence, territoriality	
Contact Period - Indigenous	1650 CE-present	treaties, mixture of Indigenous & European items	
Contact Period - Settler	1796 CE-present	industrial goods, homesteads	

2.3.1.1 Paleo Period

The earliest archaeological evidence of human populations inhabiting the region show that they arrived between 12,000 and 10,000 years ago, coincident with the end of the last period of glaciation. Climate and environmental conditions were significantly different then they are today; local environs would not have been welcoming to anything but short-term settlement. During the Paleo Period Indigenous peoples would have crossed the landscape in small groups (i.e., bands or family units) searching for food, particularly migratory game species. In this area, caribou may have provided the staple of the Paleo Period diet, supplemented by wild plants, small game, birds and fish.

Given the low density of populations on the landscape at this time and their mobile nature, Paleo Period sites are small and ephemeral. They are sometimes identified by the presence of fluted projectile points manufactured on a highly distinctive whitish-grey chert named "Fossil Hill" (after the formation) or "Collingwood." This material was acquired from sources near the edge of the escarpment on Blue Mountain. Sites dating to the Paleo Period have commonly been found in association with relic glacial lakeshores throughout Ontario.

2.3.1.2 Archaic Period

The subsequent Archaic Period (ca. 8,000 to 950 BCE) is poorly represented in this region, but there remains the potential for such sites to exist, particularly in the dry, elevated areas adjacent to watercourses and wetlands. In other parts of the province, settlement and subsistence patterns changed significantly during the Archaic period as both the landscape and ecosystem adjusted to the retreat of the glaciers. Building on earlier patterns, populations during the Early Archaic Period continued the mobile lifestyle of their predecessors. Through time and with the development of more resource rich local environments, these groups gradually reduced the size of the territories they exploited on a regular basis. A seasonal pattern of warm season riverine or lakeshore settlements and interior cold weather occupations has been documented in the archaeological record.

Since the large cold weather mammal species that formed the basis of the subsistence pattern during the Paleo Period became extinct or moved northward with the onset of warmer climate conditions, populations during the Archaic Period had a more varied diet, exploiting a range of plant, bird, mammal and fish species. Reliance on specific food resources like fish, deer and nuts becomes more pronounced through time and the presence of more hospitable environments and resource abundance led to the expansion of band and family sizes. In the archaeological record, this is evident in the presence of larger sites and aggregation camps, where several families or bands would come together in times of plenty. The change to more preferable environmental circumstances led to a rise in population density. As a result, sites from the Archaic Period are generally more plentiful than those from the earlier Paleo Period. Artifacts typical of these occupations include a variety of stemmed and notched projectile points, chipped stone scrapers, ground stone tools (e.g., celts, adzes) and ornaments (e.g., bannerstones, gorgets), bifaces or tool blanks, animal bone (where and when preserved) and waste flakes, a by-product of the tool making process.

2.3.1.3 Early, Middle and Transitional Woodland Periods

Significant changes in cultural and environmental patterns are witnessed in the Woodland Period (c. 950 BCE-1700 CE). By this time, the coniferous forests of earlier times were replaced by stands of mixed and deciduous species. Occupations became increasingly more substantial in this period, culminating in major semi-permanent villages by 1,000 years ago. Archaeologically, the most significant technological innovations apparent by the Woodland Period are the appearance of artifacts manufactured from modeled clay and the construction of house structures. Consequently, the Woodland Period is often defined by the occurrence of pottery, storage facilities and residential areas. The earliest pottery was made by the coiling method and early house structures were simple oval enclosures. Both the Early and Middle Woodland sub-periods are characterized by an elaborate burial complex that in some areas in Ontario involved the construction of large burial mounds. Trade in exotic items, including rare stone and shell objects, became common at this time, reflecting interconnections between Ontario populations and those in the Ohio and Mississippi River valleys to the south.

2.3.1.4 Late Woodland Period

Beginning around ca. 1000 CE the archaeological record documents the emergence of more substantial, semi-permanent settlements and the adoption of corn horticulture. These developments are most often associated with Iroquoian-speaking populations, the ancestors of the Wendat (Huron), Tionontati (Petun) and Attawandaron (Neutral) nations who were known to have resided in the province at the time of the arrival of the first European explorers and missionaries. Iroquoian villages incorporated a number of longhouses, multi-family dwellings that contained several families related through the female line. Iroquoian sites dating to the Late Woodland Period may be identified by a predominance of well-made pottery decorated with various simple and geometric motifs, triangular projectile points, clay pipes and ground stone artifacts. Sites post-dating European contact are recognized through the appearance of various items of European manufacture. The latter include materials acquired by trade (e.g., glass beads, copper/brass kettles, iron axes, knives and other metal implements) in addition to the personal items of European visitors and Jesuit missionaries (e.g., finger rings, stoneware, rosaries, and glassware).

By the end of the 17th century, the Algonquin-speaking Mississaugas began moving southward into the area. It was the Mississaugas who had settled the area by the time the British arrived in the late 18th century and from whom the Crown secured land for settlement.

2.3.2 Indigenous Landscapes

Since time immemorial, Indigenous peoples use and management of land differed greatly from the much more recent era of colonial development. Instead of roads and highways cut through the landscape, Indigenous travel, especially in this region, focused on waterways and the portages between them. In addition to fish and other animals, Indigenous communities harvested wild rice, and actively managed and maintained nut and berry resources for food (Migizi 2018). They maintained fields of corn, beans, and squash. Far from the pristine wilderness often characterized in popular culture, Indigenous landscapes included actively managed meadows (*Mishkodeh*) and forests (such as Black Oak Savannas) shaped and maintained by controlled burns and other interventions (MCIK n.d.). This system of land management is often framed in terms of kinship between people and landscape, a mutual responsibility for each to promote and maintain the health of the other.

Indigenous responsibility to and kinship with the land contrasted strongly with subsequent colonial treatment of these landscapes. Early colonial development typically looked to impose, rather than embed, itself on the landscape. As a result, colonial activities often displaced, interrupted, or destroyed Indigenous land management and subsistence activities. Waterways were dammed for mills or canalized with locks, blocking Indigenous highways and interrupting trade routes and fisheries. Meadows and fields maintained by Indigenous communities for generations were occupied by colonial settlements and farms. When these spaces were no longer sufficient or convenient, forests were cleared. The systems and relationships between Indigenous people and landscapes that had been refined over thousands of years were increasingly being broken during the height colonization, often within a single generation. Treaties isolated Indigenous communities to relatively small reserves and colonial land development including the privatization of property increasingly limited the accessibility of lands outside of these reserves for subsistence activities. Residential schools further damaged these traditional lifeways by systematically preventing the transfer of Indigenous knowledge from one generation to the next. Despite all these challenges, contemporary Indigenous communities are increasing undertaking to revitalize their traditional histories and systems of land management including their relationships and responsibility to the landscape (MCIK n.d.).

2.3.3 Indigenous Community – Shared Histories

There is no single, monolithic version of Indigenous or Ontario history. In the past, the histories of Indigenous communities, of Ontario, and of Canada, have been presented through a single colonial perspective with inherent biases. Although its focus is reconstructing the past through material remains, archaeology has inherited many of the cultural prejudices and perspectives of the colonial histories that have shaped current understanding of the origins, movements, and activities of contemporary Indigenous communities. The archaeological chronology and summary presented earlier in this report presents only one version of the past.

Indigenous communities have long contested elements of both colonial and archaeological histories. As a means to combat these colonial versions of their past, Indigenous communities have been sharing their own histories shaped by oral history, community memory, culturally-informed readings of historical events and documents, language, and tradition. These histories survive in traditional knowledge, stories, and the remembrances of elders; they persist despite the long-term effects of residential schools and government programs aimed to erase Indigenous culture. In the spirit of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action, community-based histories are included here as a way for Indigenous groups to share their own versions of the past.

Each Indigenous community maintains its own histories. These may represent not only the historical narratives of particular interest to a community (such as reserve histories and treaty negotiations), but also their unique perspectives on shared stories, events, places, and people (such as conflicts and migration stories). As such, different Indigenous community histories may approach the same subject in different, and sometimes contradicting, ways. Individual communities may not agree on the same series of events, the use of territories, or on various impetus for change, for example. Some draw on archaeological knowledge and some do not. These differences do not diminish the value of these histories. Instead, they emphasize the distinct languages, experiences, and priorities of different Indigenous communities and nations. Together, they offer a multitude of perspectives on Ontario's past and offer important counterpoints to colonial narratives.

The following section includes project-relevant community histories from the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation.

2.3.4 Community History of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation

The Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) are members of the Algonquian linguistic group and are a sub-group of the larger Ojibway Nation. In their own language, the Mississaugas refer to themselves as Anishinaabe meaning "human beings or people".

The oral tradition of the Anishinaabe tells of their migration from the East Coast of North America, down the St. Lawrence River valley, and eventually into the lands of the Great Lakes Region. In a journey thought to span some 500 years, the founding peoples of the Three Fires Confederacy- the Ojibway, the Pottawatomie, and the Odawa Nations, stopped for extended periods near Montreal, Niagara Falls, the Detroit River, Manitoulin Island, and Spirit Island (Duluth, MN) before ending their journey at Madeline Island in Lake Superior. Ancestors of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation broke from the main body of the migratory group and settled along the north shore of Lake Huron and Georgian Bay where they were first encountered by the French in 1634.

The people, who came to be known as the Mississaugas, lived lightly on the land as they harvested its gifts. During the spring, the Mississaugas converged on the flats of rivers and creeks where they erected their wigwams and engaged in fishing. Berries, mushrooms, and other wild foods were gathered throughout the summer months with the harvest of wild rice occurring in the early autumn. After the harvest of rice, the people then again gathered at their fishing grounds to catch and preserve the fish they would consume over the winter months. Breaking into smaller family groups, the people would then move into winter camps where they would engage in trapping and await the yearly cycle of seasonal migration to begin anew. The arrival of the French into the lands of the people was welcomed as pelts could be exchanged for European trade goods that made life easier. Iron axes, copper kettles, cloth, and even fish hooks proved beneficial as the Mississaugas no longer had to craft comparable objects solely from the resources of the land. Unfortunately, participation in the trans-Atlantic fur trade meant the Mississaugas would be caught up in the conflicts of the 17th century known as the Beaver Wars.

The Beaver Wars were a period of intermittent warfare that engulfed much of the St. Lawrence and the Great Lakes Regions, and saw the occupancy of Southwestern Ontario change hands three times. The Haudenosaunee from south of Lake Ontario, in their efforts to monopolize the fur trade with the Europeans, invaded Southwestern Ontario dispersing the Neutrals, Petun and the Wendat Nations, and making the region their beaver hunting grounds. By the end of the 17th century, the combined efforts of Algonquian nations, including the Mississaugas, and French forces succeeded in driving the Haudenosaunee back into their homelands south of Lake Ontario. A treaty, brokered by the French in 1701, restored peace in the region and found the Anishinaabe in control of Southwestern Ontario. Mississaugas of the Credit ancestors, who had driven the Haudenosaunee from the head of Lake Ontario, now occupied approximately four million acres of lands, water, and resources in Southern Ontario.

The territory of the Mississaugas extended from the Rouge River Valley westward across to the headwaters of the Thames River, down to Long Point on Lake Erie and then followed along the shoreline of Lake Erie, the Niagara River, and Lake Ontario until arriving at the Rouge River Valley. One creek in particular, the Missinnihe, was a favourite of the people who used it and the surrounding area for hunting, fishing, gathering, healing and spiritual purposes. A trading post established in the vicinity by the French circa 1720, enabled MCFN ancestors to trade the pelts they had gathered over the winter for European trade goods. The Missinnihe was later named the Credit River due to the traders' practice of extending credit to MCFN ancestors and then being repaid the following spring with the winter's catch of furs. The people became known to the Europeans as the Mississaugas of the Credit.

The outbreak of the American Revolution (1775-1783) and its aftermath placed pressure on the British Crown to acquire lands for the settlement of Loyalists. Recognizing that Mississaugas of the Credit ancestors had lands desirable for that purpose, the Crown actively pursued the acquisition of their territory. Between 1781 and 1820, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation ancestors negotiated eight treaties with the British Crown that saw their territory of approximately four million acres reduced to 200 acres on the Credit River. These pre-confederation treaties include:

- The Mississauga Treaty at Niagara, No. 381 (1781)
- The Between the Lakes Treaty, No. 3 (1792)
- The Brant Tract Treaty, No. 8 (1797)

- The Toronto Purchase, No. 13 (1805)
- The Head of the Lake Treaty, No. 14 (1806)
- The Ajetance Treaty, No. 19 (1818)
- Treaty 22 (1820)
- Treaty 23 (1820)

Entering into the early treaties, neither the Crown nor the Mississaugas fully understood what the agreements meant to the other. For the British, treaty making meant that they were outright purchasing the land- they were the sole proprietors and they could use the entirety of the land as they saw fit. The Mississaugas entered the early treaties with the understanding they would be sharing the lands with the settlers- the settlers would establish their farms and villages while the Mississaugas would carry out their hunting, fishing and gathering activities as they had always done. To their dismay, the Mississauga belatedly realized that the settlers were not sharing the land but regarded it as their own. Endeavoring to move about their lands as they had always done, the Mississaugas found their paths blocked by fences, the fish and game depleted, the forests cleared, and themselves driven away from their camping spots by angry farmers. Strangers in their own lands, the Mississaugas' traditional economy collapsed and their population plummeted as the settlers brought diseases for which the Mississaugas had no cure. In 1787, the Credit Mississaugas had over five hundred members; in 1798, there were approximately three hundred members; in 1811, there were two hundred and eight members; and in 1820, there existed slightly less than two hundred members. It seemed to appear that the Mississaugas of the Credit would inevitably disappear as a first nation.

Averting extinction was accomplished by transitioning from their traditional ways to an agrarian lifestyle. Converting to Methodism during the mid-1820s, the Mississaugas established a Christian mission village at the Credit River in 1826. During their time at the village, the Mississaugas were able to build successful farms and a village that included a school, hospital, chapel, mechanics' shops, and forty settler style homes. Learning about business as well, the Mississaugas were the major shareholders of the Credit River Harbour Company and the owners of their own schooner. Despite their successful adoption of a new world and life view, continued encroachment by settlers, diminishing resources, and the inability to gain title to their lands, eventually caused the Mississaugas to relocate their settlement.

Leaving their mission village in 1847, the Mississaugas of the Credit moved to their present location on 6000 acres of land in Brant and Haldimand Counties. Today the Mississaugas of the Credit population has a population of 2600 with two-thirds of the membership living off reserve.

2.3.5 Treaty History

The project area is encompassed by the Head of the Lake Purchase (Treaty #14). The Mississaugas of the Credit reached a provisional agreement with the Crown on August 2, 1805, to cede 70,784 acres of land bounded to the north by a boundary that ran six miles back from the shoreline of Lake Ontario to the east by the lands within Toronto Purchase of 1787, and to the west by the Brant Tract (MCFN 2020). The Mississaugas were to receive £1000 of trade goods, the sole right of fisheries at the 12 Mile and 16 Mile Creeks, along with the ownership of each creek's flats, the sole right of fishing at the Credit River, and a 1-mile strip of land on either side of the river. Treaty 14 was signed September 5, 1806, which includes the modern cities of Oakville, Mississauga, and parts of Burlington.

2.3.6 Nineteenth-Century and Municipal Settlement

The project area falls within Lots 11 and 12, Concession 1 and 2 South of Dundas Street (SDS) in the former Geographic Township of Trafalgar, Halton County. Some historical context is provided below, in an effort to identify features that signal archaeological potential.

2.3.6.1 Halton County

Halton County was named after Major William Mathew Halton, a British Army officer, who was appointed in 1805 as Secretary to Lieutenant-Governor Sir Francis Gore. Settlers started to arrive in the county in the early 1780s. The south portion of the county was first settled by United Empire Loyalists, while the north part mainly by immigrants from the British Isles. Along with Wentworth County, Halton County was created in 1816 as part of the Gore District consisting of the townships of Trafalgar, Nelson, Flamborough and Beverly, among other lands and was further expanded in 1821. When the Gore District was abolished in 1850, some townships were withdrawn from its boundaries with only the townships of Esquesing, Trafalgar, Nassageweya and Nelson remaining. As settlement progressed, several towns and villages developed mainly within the southern portion of the county (Pope 1877).

2.3.6.2 Trafalgar Township

The first settlers arrived in the Township of Trafalgar around 1807. Faced with the continual inflow of settlers to the lands north of Lake Ontario and the accelerating erosion of their traditional economy and resource base, Chief Ajetance, on behalf of the Mississauga, agreed to cede additional lands to the Crown through the Ajetance Treaty, No. 19 (1818) (MCFN 2020). The portion of the land purchased was incorporated into an expanded Trafalgar Township, and this land was known as the "new survey" and forms what is sometimes referred to as Trafalgar North. Like the County of Halton in general, the township was settled by immigrants who came directly from the British Isles or by United Empire Loyalist families who journeyed here from Niagara (Clarke 1955:11). Early settlement focused on Sixteen Mile Creek which provided a source of power for grist and saw mills. The earliest settlers concentrated in the then tiny communities like Milton and Oakville. By 1817, the township boasted 548 occupants. The mills soon attracted both industrial and residential growth. Smaller communities including Palermo, Postville (later Trafalgar), Sheridan, Proudfoot Hollow, Merton, Bronte Station, Glenorchy, Ash, Snider, Omaha, Auburn, Drumquin and the Boyne soon appeared throughout the township. By mid-century, the population of the township had grown to over 4,000 (Pope 1877:59).

2.3.6.3 Oakville

The subsequent development of Oakville was based on the foresight of its founder, William Chisolm, who saw the commercial possibilities of a harbour at the mouth of the creek and its use as a potential power source for manufacturing (Mathews 1953:4). Chisholm shipped White Oak staves and timber down Sixteen Mile Creek for shipment mainly to Quebec (Pope 1877:59). In 1827, he purchased 960 acres of Crown Reserve and immediately began construction of Oakville's harbour which began admitting vessels by 1830 (Pope 1877:59). Surveying in a grid system occurred after March 1831, when the Crown received Chisholm's final payment (Peacock and Peacock 1979:10). Lots were first sold two years later and, to ensure an orderly appearance, sales stipulated that half the purchase price was owed up front with the other half owed within 12 months and that "…a structure, no less than twenty-four feet by eighteen feet, be erected on the lot within eighteen months of the day of sale, and that this structure be of stone, brick, or frame construction" (Peacock and Peacock 1979:10).

Early settlers included those born in Upper Canada, French Canadians, and an immigrant population composed mainly of English, Scottish, and Irish immigrants, United Empire Loyalists, in addition to freed persons and freedom-seekers of African descent (Peacock and Peacock 1979:10). By the 1840s, the population had grown, and the village expanded. In the 1850s, the settlement experienced a building boom owing in part to the growth of the port (Peacock and Peacock 1979:13). Oakville became a town by Act of Parliament in July 1857 (Pope 1877:59).

2.3.7 Nineteenth Century Land Use History and Map Review

The project area falls within Lots 11 and 12, Concession 1 and 2 South of Dundas Street (SDS) in the former Geographic Township of Trafalgar, Halton County. A review of 19th-century mapping was completed to provide insight into historic land use and settlement patterns as well as identify features of archaeological potential. A summary of the individuals and features depicted in the vicinity of the project area is provided in Table 4.

According to the 1858 *Tremaine's Map of the County of Halton, Canada West*, the project area appears to be primarily rural in nature and centers on Morrison Creek (Map 5). Lot 12, Concession 2 SDS has been divided into approximately 12 smaller lots at this time. Dundas Street East, Trafalgar Road, Upper Middle Road East and 8th Line are shown as open. A steam saw mill is depicted roughly 300 m northwest of the project area. The hamlet of Trafalgar lies approximately 500 m northwest of the project area.

The 1877 *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Halton* depicts numerous farmsteads in the vicinity of the project area (Map 6). Lot 12, Concession 2 SDS has been divided into approximately 11 smaller lots at this time, with most lots having structures fronting Trafalgar Road or Upper Middle Road East. Dundas Street East, Trafalgar Road, Upper Middle Road East and 8th Line are still shown as open. A spring is depicted on Lot 12, Concession 1 SDS, within roughly 300 m of the project area. The hamlet of Trafalgar is still shown to the northwest of the project area.

Table 4: Landowners and Structures Depicted on Historical Mapping

Map Year	Lot	Concession	Township	Name	Portion of Lot	Features Depicted in the Vicinity (< 300 m) of the Project Area
1858	12	1 South	Trafalgar	John McLean	N 1/2	Steam Saw Mill
1858	11	1 South	Trafalgar	James Williamson	N 1/2	None
1858	12	1 South	Trafalgar	J.L Bigger	S 1/2	None
1858	11	1 South	Trafalgar	J.L Bigger	S 1/4	None
1858	11	1 South	Trafalgar	John Gray	S 1/4	None
1858	11	2 South	Trafalgar	Robert Freeman	N 1/2	None
1858	11	2 South	Trafalgar	James Robertson	S 1/2	None
1858	12	2 South	Trafalgar	R. Scott	N Parcel	None
1858	12	2 South	Trafalgar	A.C. Vermer	N Parcel	None
1858	12	2 South	Trafalgar	C.M.	N Parcel	None
1858	12	2 South	Trafalgar	S.D.	N Parcel	None
1858	12	2 South	Trafalgar	I. Mulholland	S 1/2	Farmstead
1877	12	1 South	Trafalgar	John McLean	N 1/2	None
1877	11	1 South	Trafalgar	Henry C Rogers	N 1/2	None
1877	11	1 South	Trafalgar	John H. Swan	S 1/2	None
1877	12	1 South	Trafalgar	R. L. Bigger	S 1/2	Farmstead
1877	11	2 South	Trafalgar	Robert Freeman	N 1/2	Farmstead
1877	11	2 South	Trafalgar	Mrs. Jason Robertson	S 1/2	Farmstead
1877	12	2 South	Trafalgar	John Cross Jr.	S 1/2	None
1877	12	2 South	Trafalgar	Tobin, J.	N Parcel	Structure
1877	12	2 South	Trafalgar	J.R.	N Parcel	Structure
1877	12	2 South	Trafalgar	McK	N Parcel	Structure
1877	12	2 South	Trafalgar	Mrs. J.	N Parcel	Structure
1877	12	2 South	Trafalgar	W. Boyd	N Parcel	Structure
1877	12	2 South	Trafalgar	Scott	N Parcel	Structure
1877	12	2 South	Trafalgar	F.B. Hingston	N Parcel	None
1877	12	2 South	Trafalgar	M.C	N Parcel	Structure
1877	12	2 South	Trafalgar	H.R.	N Parcel	None
1877	12	2 South	Trafalgar	M.R.	N Parcel	Structure
1877	12	2 South	Trafalgar	R.C.M	N Parcel	Structure

2.3.8 Twentieth Century Land Use and Review of Historical Aerial Photographs

Aerial photographs (Energy, Mines & Resources 1960, 1969; Town of Oakville Orthophotography 1995, 2008) are available for the area from the 20th century and were reviewed to provide insights into more recent changes to the project area. A 1960 aerial photograph (Map 7, upper left) shows that Morrison Creek closely follows its modern alignment. The general area surrounding the creek is characterized as rural, with only the beginning of construction for a residential subdivision to the northeast. Only Upper Middle Road has been constructed at this time.

By 1969, the general area has largely remained rural (Map 7, upper right). The residential subdivision to the northeast of the project area has been constructed, as well as a subdivision that extends up the eastern edge of the creek valley at the southern end of the project area. On the western side of the creek valley, the beginning of a residential subdivision can be seen, as well as two residential towers and a development within the vicinity of what is now the Oakville Town Hall. The canal at the southern end of the project area has also been constructed.

The next available mapping from 1995 shows that, within the span of 25 years, considerable development had taken place, and the general area is now characterized as urban-residential (Map 7, lower left). Residential and park development extends up to the edge of the creek valley on both sides of the creek up to Glenaston Drive, which has been constructed by this time. Postridge Drive has not yet been constructed, and no residential subdivisions are present in this northern area, although construction is underway and can be seen extending to the edge of the East Morrison Creek valley. By 2008, Postridge Drive and the residential developments between Postridge Drive and Glenaston Drive are now visible (Map 7, lower right).

2.3.9 Built Heritage Environment

There is one heritage property located within 300 m of the project area based on a review of the Town of Oakville Heritage Property Register: 484 Falgarwood Drive is a designated property located approximately 160 m north of the project area. It was built c. 1857 and is a Victorian style with Gothic Revival elements.

3 STAGE 1 PROPERTY INSPECTION

As the project area was in proximity to features signaling archaeological potential, a Stage 1 property inspection was conducted to observe the current conditions of the project area and further confirm and evaluate its integrity. The property inspection was conducted on September 22, 2023, in sunny and warm weather. The weather conditions allowed for good visibility for the inspection of the surface features. The project area boundaries were determined in the field based on proponent mapping, aerial images, and landscape features.

The field review began in the north end of the project area and continued in a southerly direction. The project area is roughly 40.9 ha (101.1 ac) in size and includes the East Morrison Creek, steeply sloped creek banks, the Morrison Valley Trail and forested areas, as well as Postridge Drive, Glenashton Drive, and Upper Middle Road East. East Morrison Creek is a meandering watercourse that runs northwest-southeast through the centre of the project area.

3.1 Postridge Drive to Glenashton Drive

Starting at Postridge Drive, disturbance from the road construction was observed extending outwards from the right-of-way (ROW) into the river valley. Postridge Drive is a four-lane paved roadway with paved sidewalks on both sides of the street (Image 1). At Postridge Drive, the road has been built up above the valley and East Morrison Creek has been channelized beneath it. Large bridge abutments have been constructed on both sides of the roadway to support the road as it crosses over the creek valley.

On both sides of the creek, the Morrison Valley Trail is a gravel pathway with trees and scrublands on either side. Along the trail, the lands slope steeply down to the creek bed (Images 2-4). Erosion into the river valley was also observed from these pathways. Paved pathways were observed at several points along the trail, including areas of access from residential neighborhoods and to the east of a retention pond (Images 5-6).

Amongst the steeply sloped banks of the creek were flat areas of trees and brush, which retain archaeological potential (Images 7-8).

Additional areas of confirmed disturbance were observed where access pathways were cut into steep slopes and stones placed to support the slopes (Images 9-10), and where adjacent residential property construction and maintenance activities were evident. This includes areas that were ditched for drainage to ensure that water flows away from the residential backyards and down the valley into the creek, as well as buried drainage/culverts dug under the paths (Image 11).

3.2 Glenashton Drive to Upper Middle Road East

At Glenashton Drive, the road has been built up above the valley and East Morrison Creek has been channelized beneath it, with large bridge abutments constructed to support the road as it crosses over the river valley (Image 12). Glenashton Drive is a four-lane paved roadway with paved sidewalks on both sides of the street (Image 13).

Laurelwood Park comprises a large portion of the project area within this segment. The park consists of manicured grass and lightly treed lawns, paved and gravel pathways, a baseball diamond, paved area and playground (Images 14-17). Evidence of disturbance was evident throughout the park, including the gravel baseball diamond infield, playground and paved pathways.

Once again, on both sides of the creek, the Morrison Valley Trail is a gravel pathway with dense tree cover or heavy brush on either side. The trail is situated between fenced residential properties and steep slopes down to the creek bed (Images 18-20). On the west side of the creek, only a narrow strip of trees separates the trail from the fence line and top of slope, while on the east side of the creek, a wider flat area was observed (Image 21). In other stretches, the pathway falls within slope on both sides of the trail (Images 22-23).

At the base of the slope, the meandering creek is framed by flat, lightly treed lands. Drainage pipes running beneath the trail (Image 24) and erosion into the river valley was also observed along the creek (Image 25).

3.3 Upper Middle Road East to Channel Bank Trail

Upper Middle Road East is a four-lane paved roadway with paved sidewalks on both sides of the street (Image 26). Once again, the road has been built up above the valley and East Morrison Creek has been channelized beneath it, and as result the street is flanked by steep slopes on both sides.

The Morrison Valley Trail again continues as a gravel pathway with dense tree cover or heavy brush on either side. The trail is again situated between fenced residential properties and steep slopes down to the creek bed (Image 27). On the east side of the creek just south of Upper Middle Road East, a fence line is present on side both sides of the trail (Images 28-29). At the base of the slope, the creek bed is surrounded by flat, treed lands (Images 30-32).

Within the centre of this segment the creek branches off and runs northeasterly to Kathleen Crescent. At Kathleen Crescent the edge of the river valley has been filled in and impacted during the construction of the surrounding residential properties (Image 33). Disturbance was observed in this area, as well, associated with the construction of the walking trails and channelized portions of the creek, including a large culvert (Image 34).

Between the two branches of the creek, the lands are flat and wooded, and retain archaeological potential (Image 35). The lands continue to be steeply sloped down to the creek on either side (Image 36).

A second park is included within the project area for this segment: Algrove Park, a rectangular parcel of manicured grass and trees with a playground and gravel trails (Image 37).

South of the split of the two branches of the creek, the trail is only present on the west side of the creek, running roughly parallel to the watercourse at the base of the steep slope, then crossing over the creek and falling along the east side at the southern end. Areas of active erosion were observed throughout this portion of the river valley (Image 38), with some of these areas having seen previous attempts at erosion control, as evidenced by stacked gabion baskets or large boulders placed on eroding river bend areas (Images 39-41). The remainder of the lands, outside of the steep slopes and creek bed, are largely flat and treed, and retain archaeological potential (Images 42-45).

At the southern end of the project area, the creek is directed into a channelized ditch, which flows eastwards. The channel is lined with concrete, and a paved pathway (the Canal Bank Trail) and ditch lies south of the channel (Image 47). The lands at the southern end of the project area, just north of the channel, are treed and only moderately sloped and retain archaeological potential (Image 48).

All files are currently being stored at the TMHC corporate office located at 1108 Dundas Street East, London, ON, N5W 3A7 (Table 5).

Table 5: Documentary Records

Date	Field Notes	Field Maps	Digital Images
September 22, 2023	Digital and hard copies	Digital and hard copies	636 Images

4 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS

As noted in Section 2.1, the Province of Ontario has identified numerous factors that signal the potential of a property to contain archaeological resources. The Stage 1 background study included a review of current land use, historic and modern maps, registered archaeological sites and previous archaeological studies, past settlement history for the area and a consideration of topographic and physiographic features, soils and drainage. According to the map-based review and background research, potential for the discovery of archaeological sites is indicated by the presence of or proximity (within 300 m) to:

- a watercourse (Morrison Creek);
- registered archaeological sites (AiGw-261, AiGw-243, AiGw-242, AiGw-241, AiGw-240, AiGw-239, AiGw-238, AiGw-237, AiGw-236 and AlGw-235);
- mapped 19th century structures; and
- 19th century travel routes (Dundas Street East, Trafalgar Road, Upper Middle Road East and 8th Line).

A Stage 1 property inspection visually confirmed that portions of the project area contain areas of previous disturbance, consisting of paved roads, sidewalks, and bridges as well as gravel and paved trails, park amenities, landscaped/graded residential properties, and a channelized ditch (4.5 ha; 10.9%). It also determined that large portions were steeply sloped (13.7 ha; 33.5%) and low and wet (3.2 ha; 7.9%). These areas have low or no archaeological potential and do not require further archaeological assessment. However, portions of the project area that are grassed and treed are not obviously disturbed and retain archaeological potential (19.5 ha; 47.7%) and would require Stage 2 assessment in the form of a test pit survey at 5 m interval.

It is noted that a portion of the project area is covered by a previous assessment (Mayer 1993); however, the report specifies that the fieldwork was limited to pedestrian survey, with the exception of one small area that was subject to a test pit survey around AiGw-239. This indicates that a test pit survey along the majority of Morrison Creek was not completed as part of this project, and thus is still required. Furthermore, it is unclear whether the Stage 3 assessment of AiGw-239 completed by Mayer (1993) extended into the gully along Morrison Creek. As a result, there is potential to encounter this site during future Stage 2 test pit survey (Map 8). If artifacts are encountered in the vicinity of the purported location of AiGw-239 they should be evaluated while taking Mayer's findings into consideration.

The results of the Stage 1 archaeological assessment, as well as the location and orientation of report photographs, are presented on Maps 8-13. As this project remains in the planning stages, a formal development plan has not yet been produced. The Study Area and Erosion Sites Mapping (Map 14) was provided to TMHC and the project area was produced using this map as well as assessment parcel data maintained by the Town of Oakville (Town of Oakville 2023). The project area was later confirmed by the proponent. Consequently, the results of the archaeological assessment are not shown on proponent mapping.

5 RECOMMENDATIONS

A Stage 1 archaeological assessment was conducted as part of a Schedule B Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study for the East Morrison Creek Erosion Mitigation Study between Postridge Drive and the Morrison Wedgewood Diversion Channel in Oakville, Ontario. Based on the Stage 1 background research and property inspection, the following recommendations are made:

- Areas of Low Archaeological Potential:
    - All portions of the project area identified as extensively disturbed do not retain archaeological potential and do not require further assessment (4.5 ha; 10.9%).
    - All portions of the project area identified as steeply sloped do not retain archaeological potential and do not require further assessment (13.7 ha; 33.5%).
    - All portions of the project area identified as low and permanently wet do not retain archaeological potential and do not require further assessment (3.2 ha; 7.9%).
- Stage 2 Methodologies:
    - Once the exact areas of impact are determined, a more detailed review of existing conditions should be undertaken, alongside a comparison to archaeological potential mapping provided in this report (Maps 8 to 13).
    - In keeping with the provincial standards, the non-ploughable areas must be subject to test pit assessment (19.5 ha; 47.7%). A 5 m transect interval is recommended to achieve the provincial standard.
- If artifacts are encountered in the vicinity of the purported location of AiGw-239, they should be evaluated while taking Mayer's 1993 findings into consideration.

Our recommendations are subject to the conditions laid out in Section 7.0 of this report and to the MCM's review and acceptance of this report into the provincial registry.

6 SUMMARY

A Stage 1 archaeological assessment was conducted as part of a Schedule B Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study for the East Morrison Creek Erosion Mitigation Study between Postridge Drive and the Morrison Wedgewood Diversion Channel in Oakville, Ontario. The background research indicated that the project area was in proximity to features signaling archaeological potential and a Stage 1 field inspection was undertaken. The Stage 1 field inspection confirmed that portions of the the project area have witnessed prior disturbance and lack integrity or are steeply sloped or permanently low and wet, and no longer retain archaeological potential, while the grassed and treed areas were not obviously disturbed, retain archaeological potential, and are recommended for Stage 2 assessment. Furthermore, if artifacts are encountered during the test pit survey in the vicinity of the purported location of AiGw-239, they should be evaluated while taking Mayer's 1993 findings into consideration.

7 ADVICE ON COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION

This report is submitted to the MCM 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 it complies with the standards and guidelines that are issued by the Minister, and that the archaeological fieldwork and report recommendations ensure the conservation, protection and preservation of the cultural heritage of Ontario. When all matters relating to archaeological sites within the project area of a development proposal have been addressed to the satisfaction of the MCM, a letter will be issued by the ministry stating that there are no further concerns with regard to alterations to archaeological sites by the proposed development.

It is an offence under Sections 48 and 69 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* for any party other than a licensed archaeologist to make any alteration to a known archaeological site or to remove any artifact or other physical evidence of past human use or activity from the site, until such time as a licensed archaeologist has completed archaeological fieldwork on the site, submitted a report to the Minister stating that the site has no further cultural heritage value or interest, and the report has been filed in the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports referred to in Section 65.1 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

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 Section 48 (1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

The *Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act*, 2002, S.O. 2002, c.33 (when proclaimed in force) require that any person discovering human remains must notify the police or coroner and the Registrar of Cemeteries at the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and Procurement.

Archaeological sites recommended for further archaeological fieldwork or protection remain subject to Section 48(1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act* and may not be altered, or have artifacts removed from them, except by a person holding an archaeological licence.

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9 IMAGES

Image 1: Postridge Drive

Looking Southwest

Image 2: Steeply Sloped Lands Down to the East Morrison Creek

Looking Southeast

Image 3: The Morrison Valley Trail and Steeply Sloped Lands

Looking Northwest

Image 4: Steeply Sloped Lands Down to the East Morrison Creek

Looking Southwest

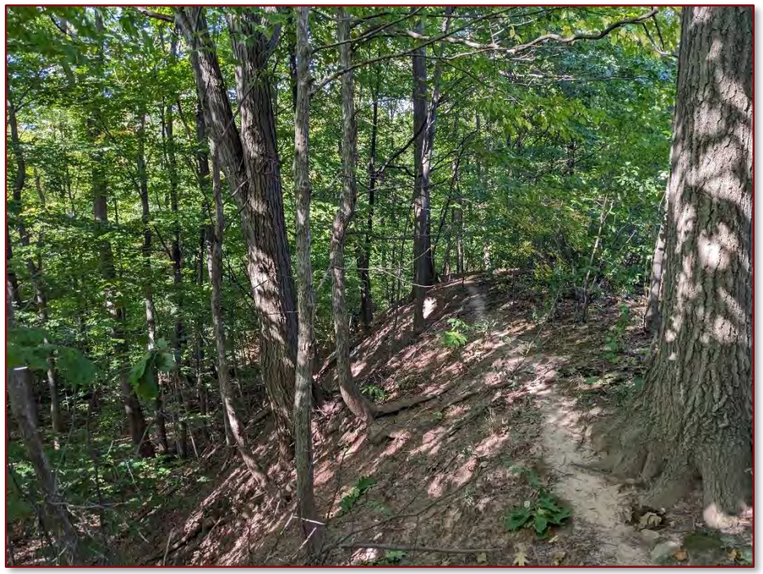


Image 5: Paved Trail Near Ravineview Way Access

Looking Southeast

Image 6: Paved Trail Near Retention Pond

Looking West

Image 7: Flat Area Surrounding Creek; Steeply Sloped Lands

Looking Southeast

Image 8: Paved Trail; Area of Trees and Brush

Looking West

Image 9: Stone Supports Along Gravel Trail

Looking Northeast

Image 10: Paved Trail and Stone Supports

Looking North

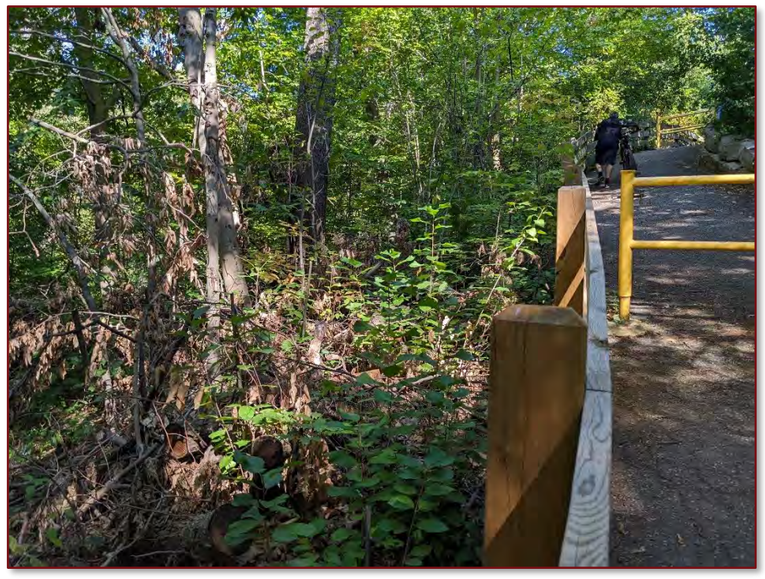


Image 11: Drainage Running Under Trail

Looking North

Image 12: Bridge Abutment along Glenashton Drive

Looking West

Image 13: Glenashton Drive

Looking West

Image 14: Laurelwood Park – Baseball Diamond and Berms

Looking Southeast

Image 15: Laurelwood Park – Graded Area for Baseball Diamond

Looking West

Image 16: Laurelwood Park – Ditching Along Baseball Diamond

Looking North

Image 17: Laurelwood Park – Grassed; Playground and Berm

Looking Northwest

Image 18: Gravel Trail Between Residential Properties and Slope

Looking South

Image 19: Area of Steep Slope

Looking Southeast

Image 20: Gravel Trail Between Residential Properties and Slope

Looking South

Image 21: Flat, Treed Area

Looking Northwest

Image 22: Gravel Trail Along Steeply Sloped Lands

Looking Northwest

Image 23: Gravel Trail Along Steeply Sloped Lands

Looking South

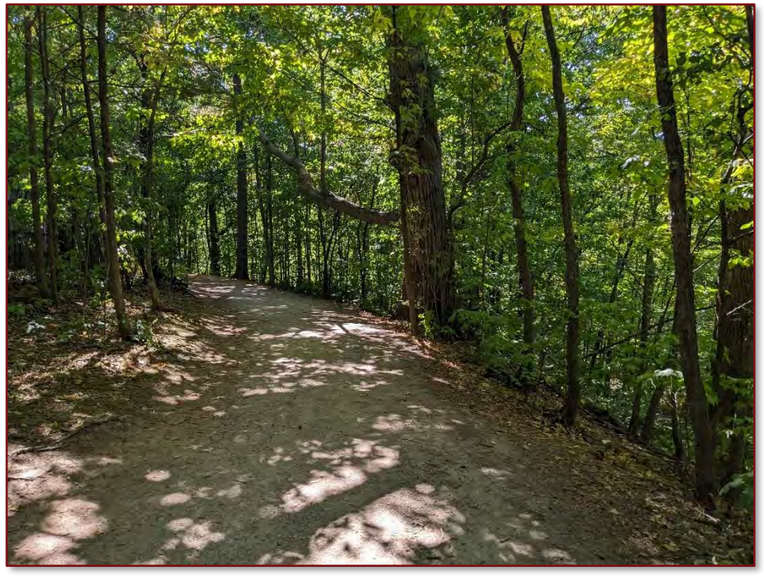


Image 24: Gravel Pathway and Drainage

Looking Southeast

Image 25: Stacked Gabion Baskets at the Base of Steep Slope

Looking Northwest

Image 26: Upper Middle Road East

Looking Northeast

Image 27: Steep Slope Down to Creek

Looking Northeast

Image 28: Gravel Trail

Looking North

Image 29: Gravel Trail

Looking Northwest

Image 30: Flat, Treed Lands Within Creek Valley

Looking Northeast

Image 31: Flat, Treed Lands at the Base of Slope

Looking Northeast

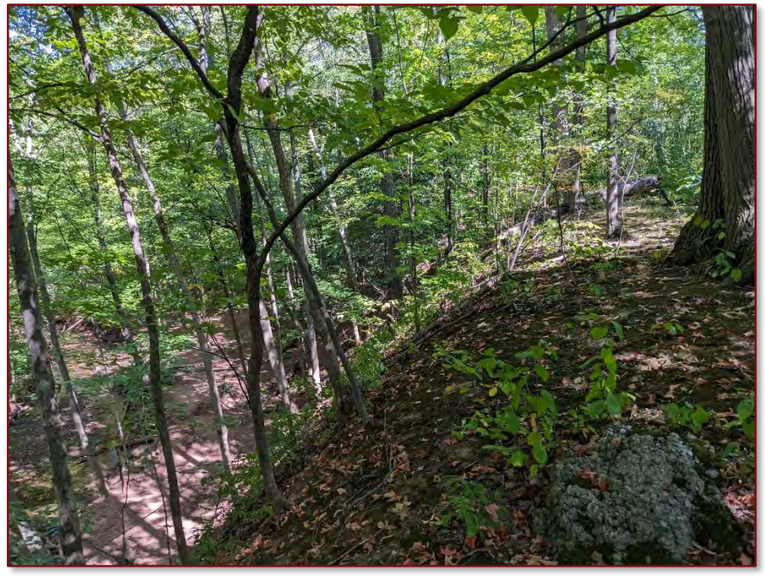


Image 32: Flat, Treed Lands Within Creek Valley

Looking North

Image 33: Kathleen Crescent Access Point

Looking Northeast

Image 34: Large Culvert

Looking North

Image 35: Flat, Treed Lands Between Creek Branches

Looking South

Image 36: Steep Slope Down to Creek Valley

Looking Southwest

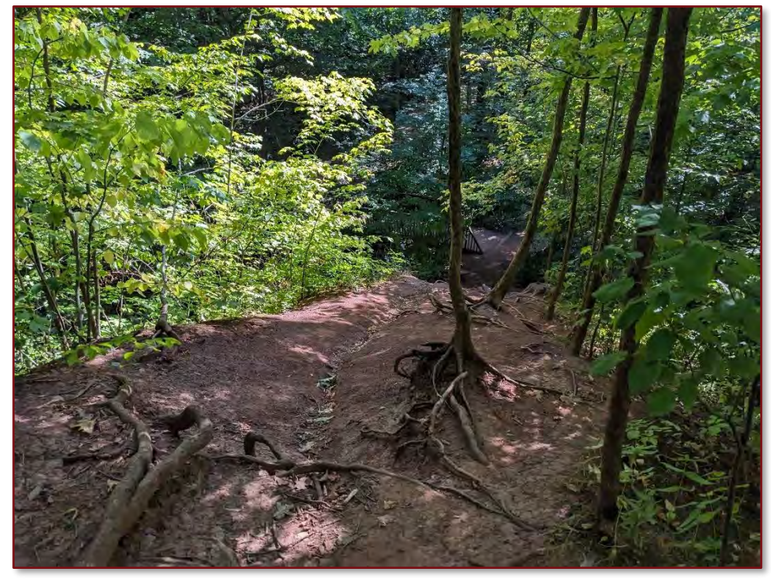


Image 37: Algrove Park – Gravel Path and Treed/Grassed Lands

Looking Southwest

Image 38: Creek Bed and Eroding Banks

Looking Southeast

Image 39: Boulders Along Creek Edge

Looking Southwest

Image 40: Stacked Gabion Baskets at the Base of Steep Slope

Looking Northeast

Image 41: Stacked Gabion Baskets at the Base of Steep Slope

Looking Northeast

Image 42: Flat, Treed Areas within Creek Valley

Looking East

Image 43: Flat, Treed Areas within Creek Valley

Looking Northeast

Image 44: Area of Trees and Brush

Looking Northwest

Image 45: Flat, Treed Areas within Creek Valley

Looking North

Image 46: Flat, Treed Area at Top of Slope

Looking Northwest

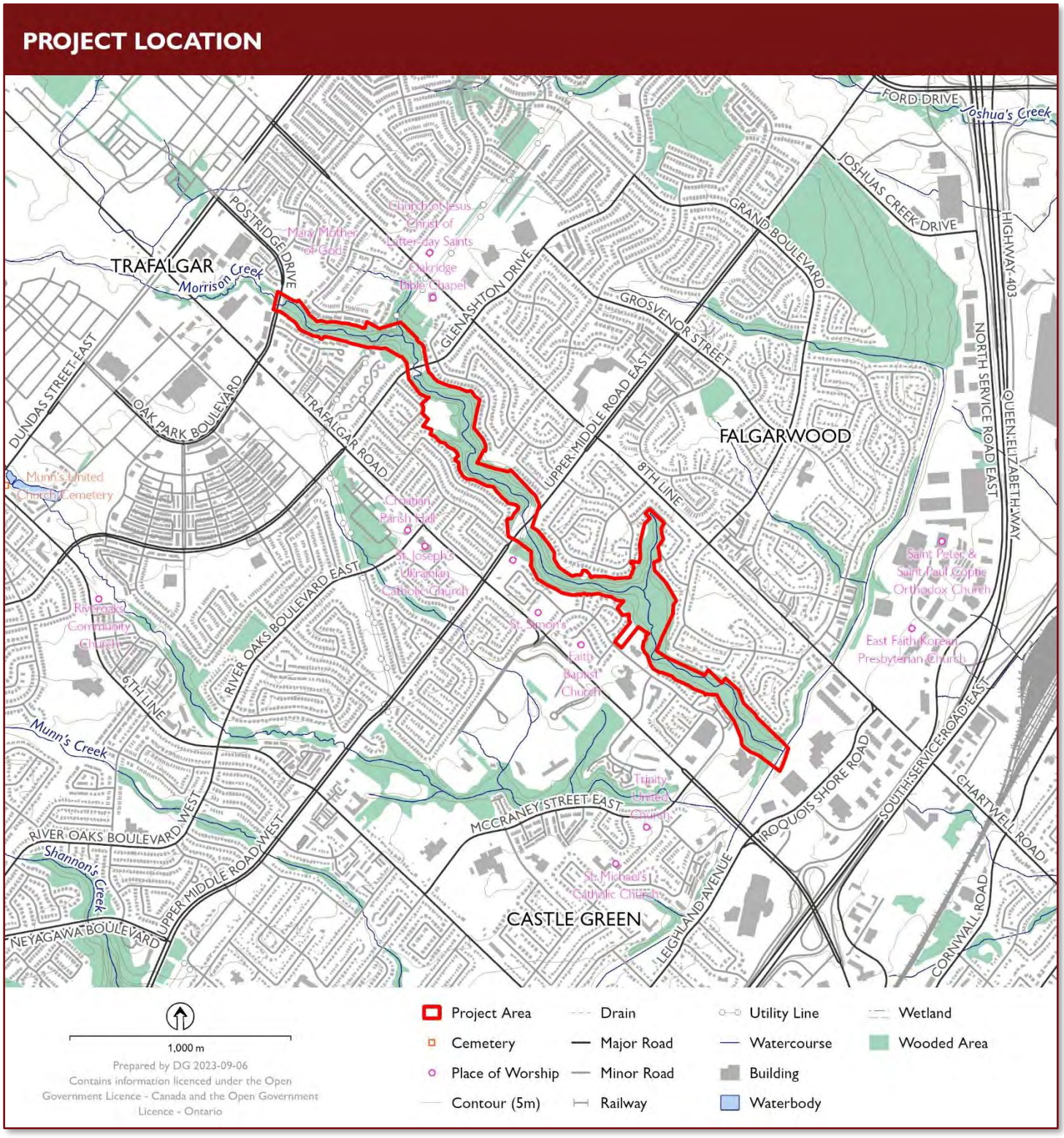
Image 47: Morrison Wedgewood Diversion Channel

Looking Southwest

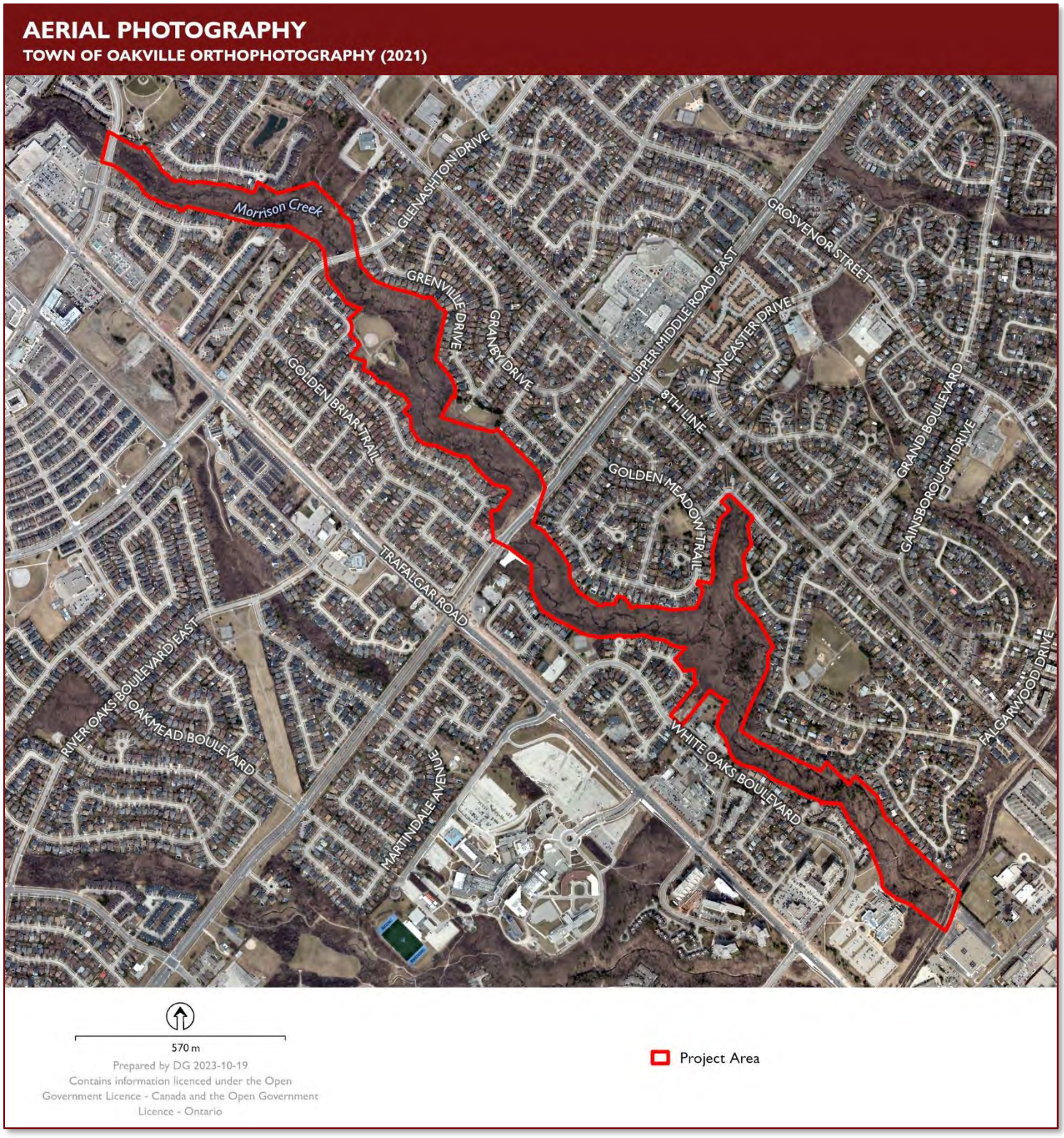
Image 48: Treed Lands North of Channel

Looking Southwest

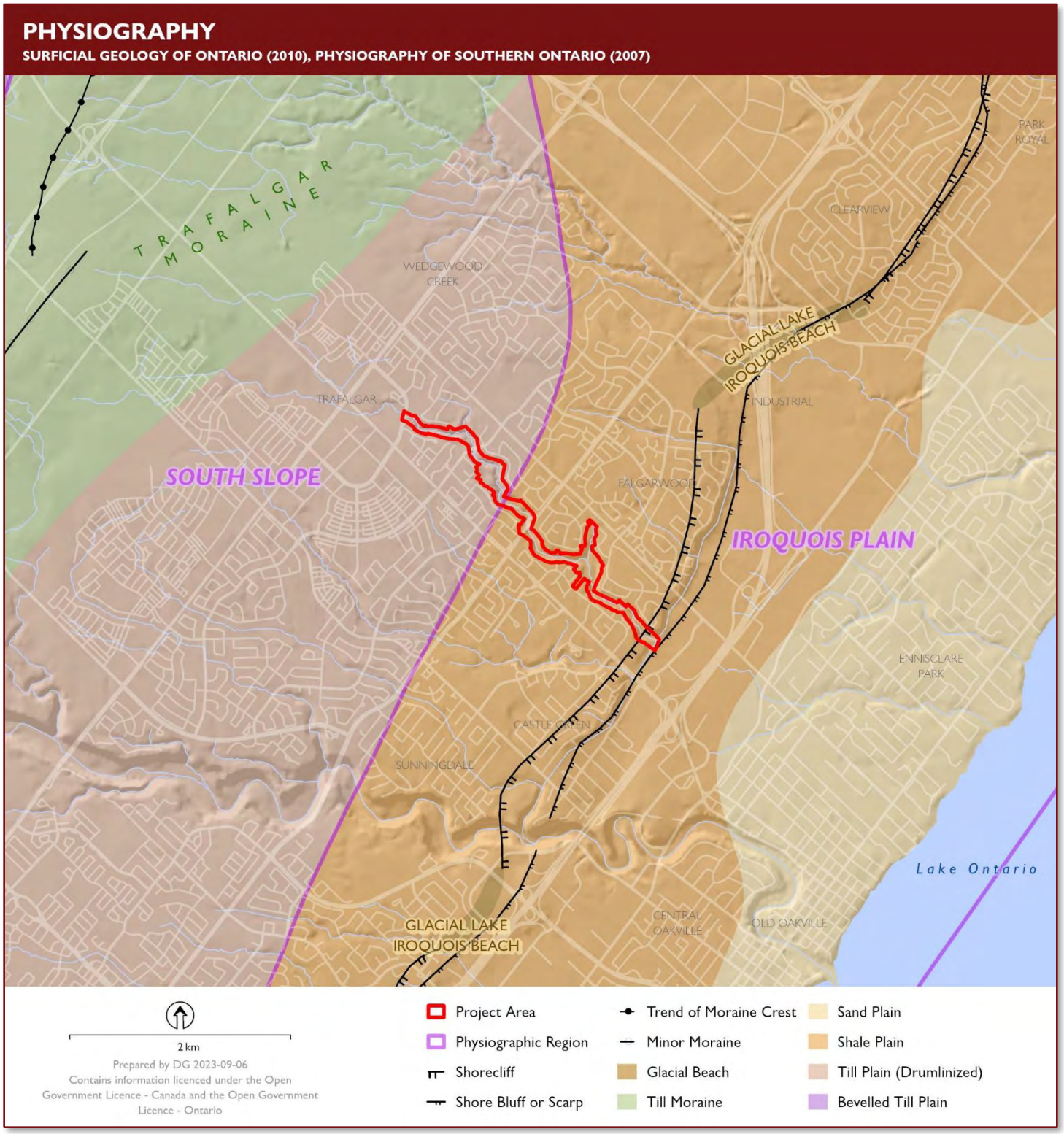
10 MAPS



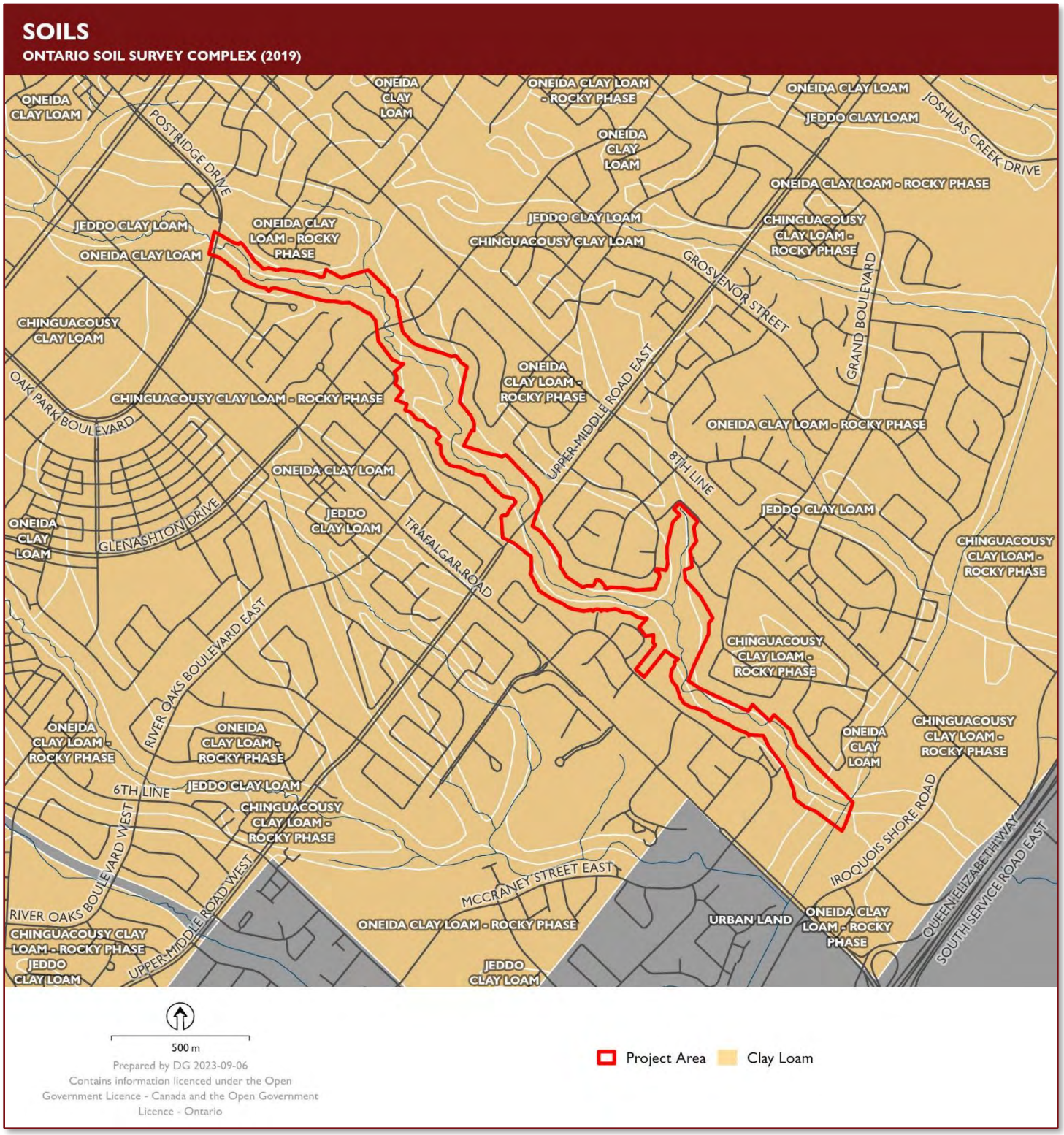
Map 1: Location of the Project Area in Oakville, ON



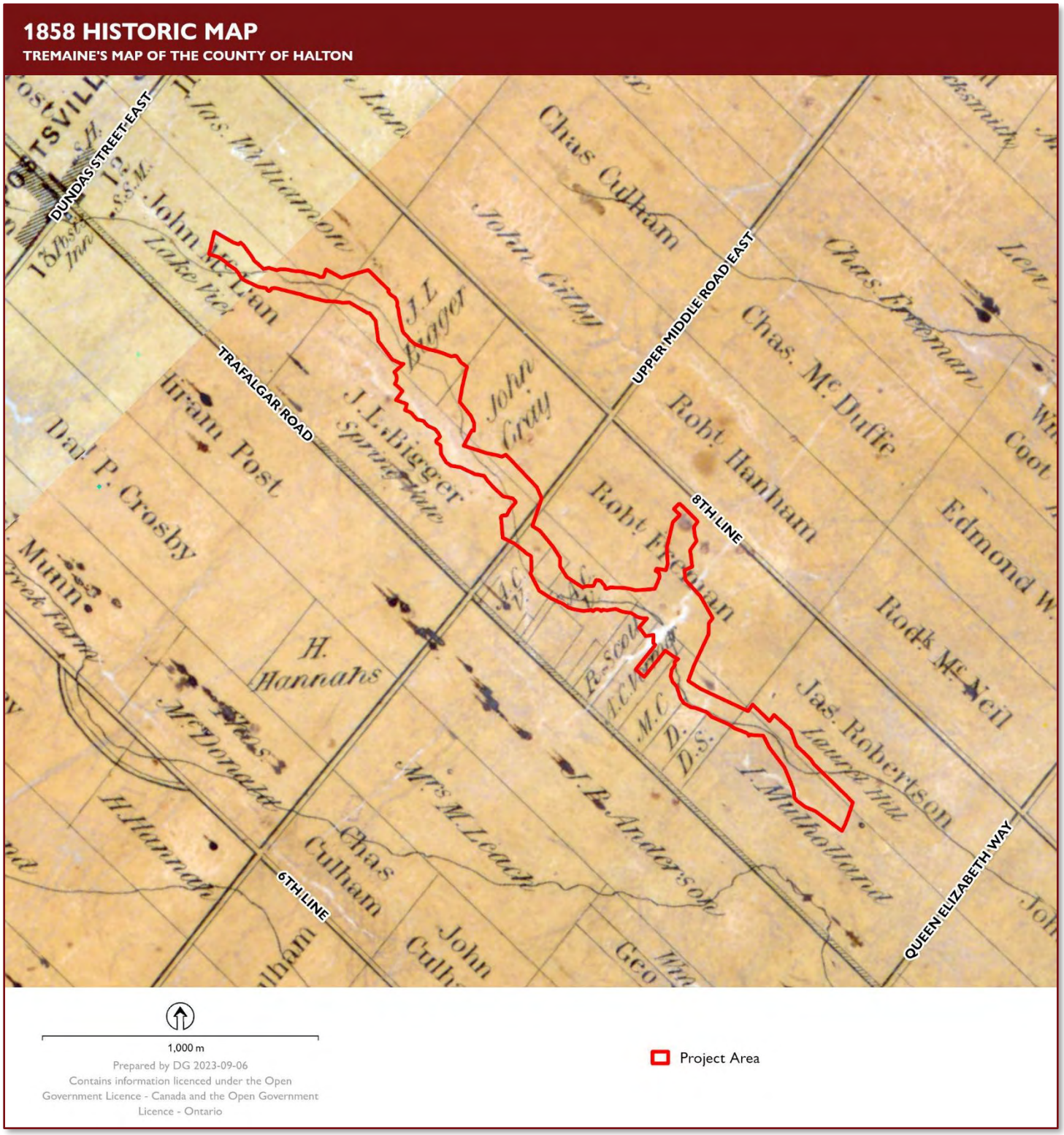
Map 2: Aerial Photograph Showing the Location of the Project Area



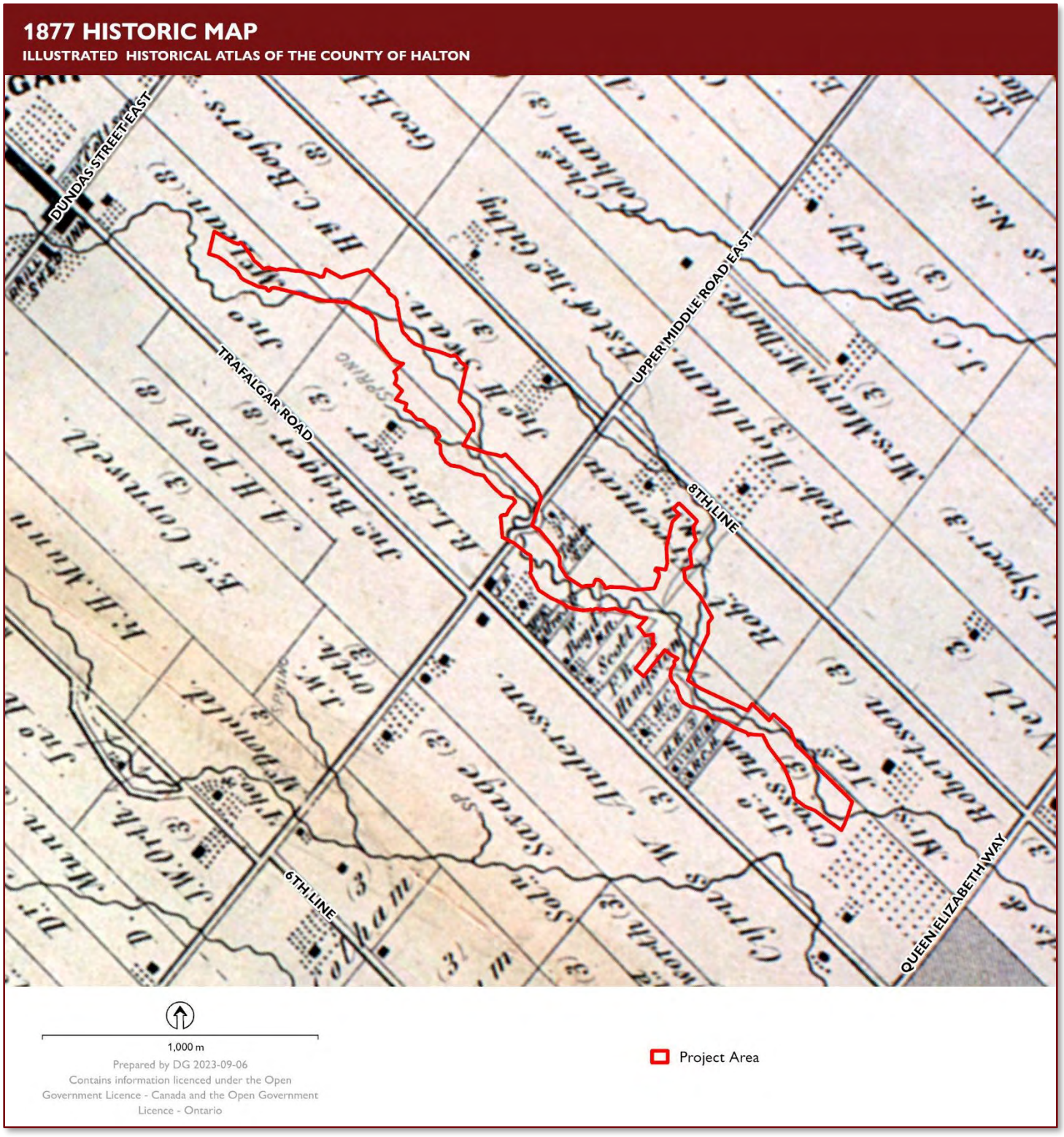
Map 3: Physiography Within the Vicinity of the Project Area



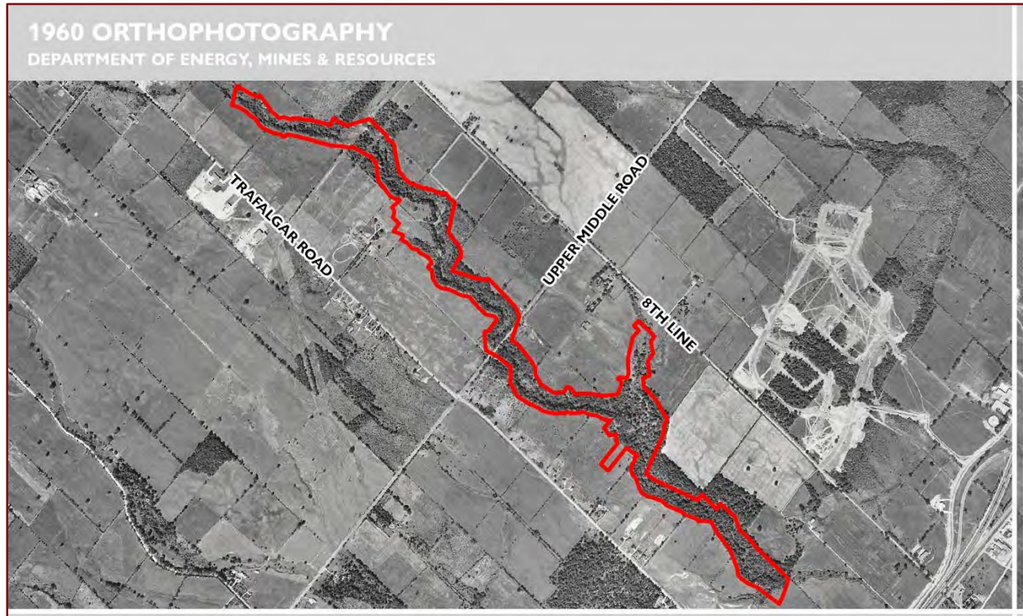
Map 4: Soils Within the Vicinity of the Project Area

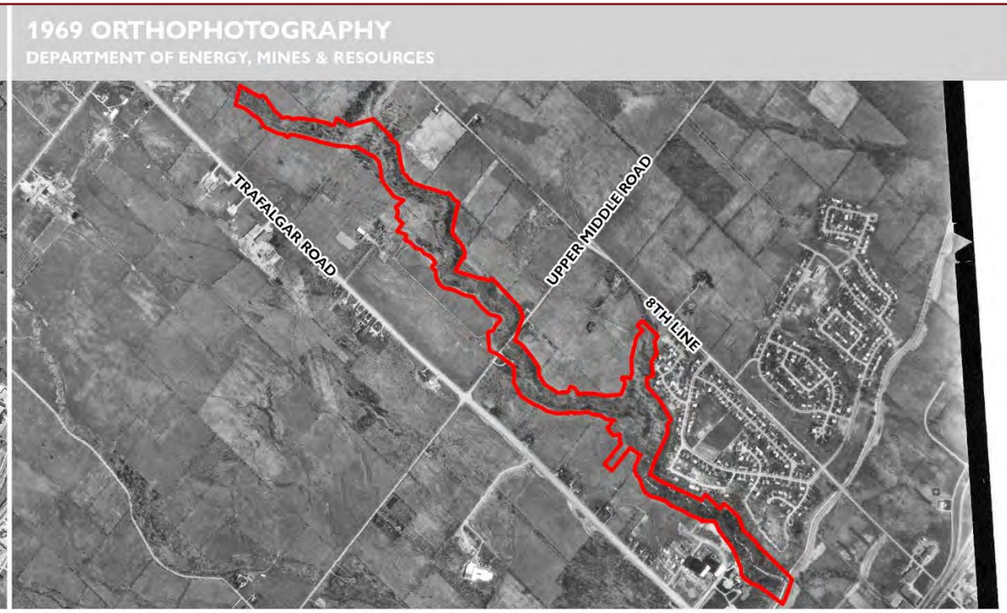


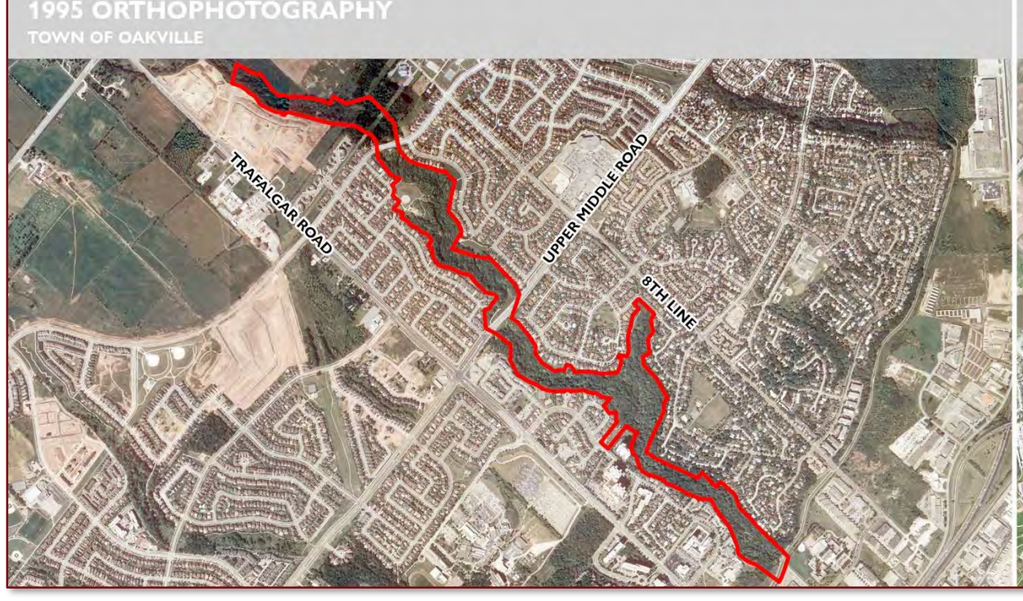
Map 5: Location of the Project Area Shown on the 1858 Tremaine's Map

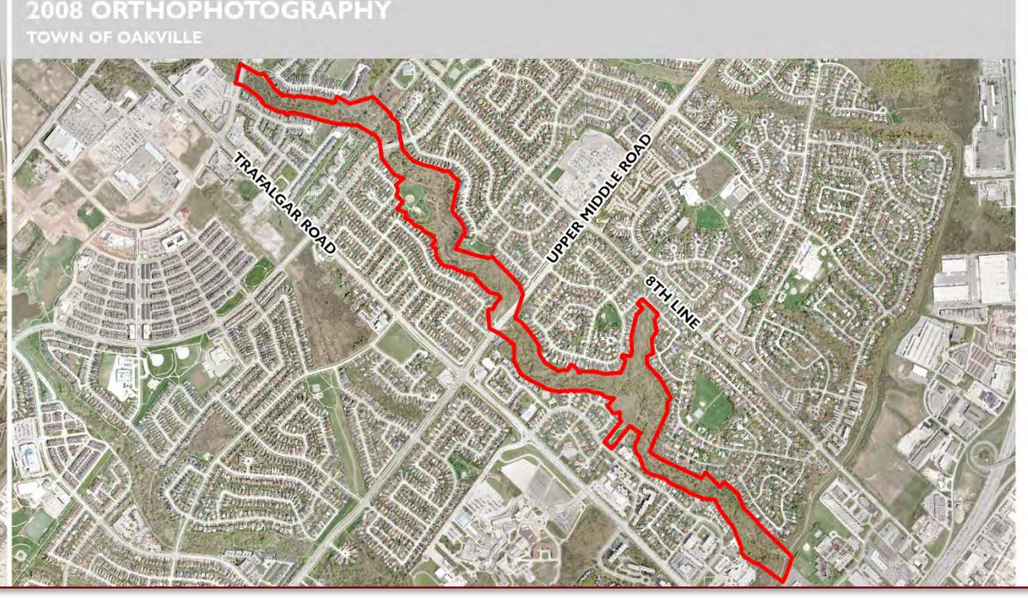


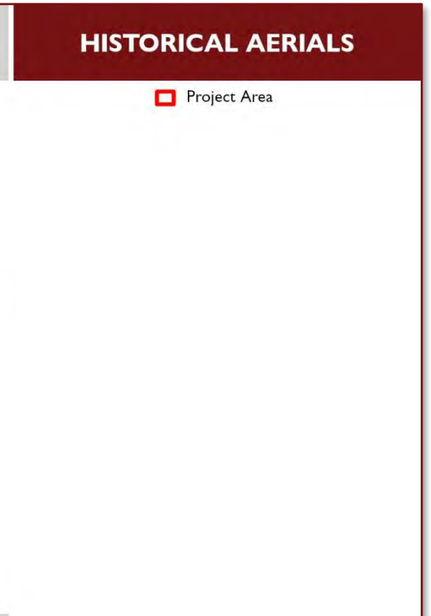
Map 6: Location of the Project Area Shown on the 1877 Historic Atlas Map











Map 7: Location of the Project Area Shown on Historical Aerial Imagery

STAGE 1 RESULTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

- Project Area
- Report Photo
- Contours (1m)
- Previously Assessed (93-011)

STAGE 1 ASSESSMENT RESULTS

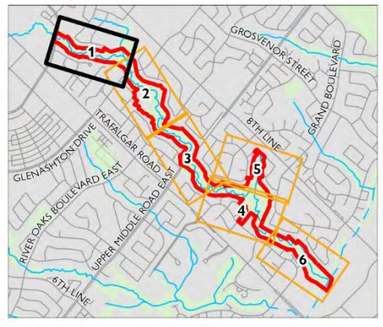
Areas of Archaeological Potential

- Grassed, Treed (Test Pit Survey Required)

Areas of Low Archaeological Potential (No Assessment Required)

- Disturbed (Channelized Drain, Pathways, Roads)
- Steeply Sloped
- Low-Lying/Wet

Page 1 of 6



100 m

Map 8: Stage 1 Assessment Results – Map 1 of 6

STAGE 1 RESULTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

- Project Area
- Report Photo
- Contours (1m)

STAGE 1 ASSESSMENT RESULTS

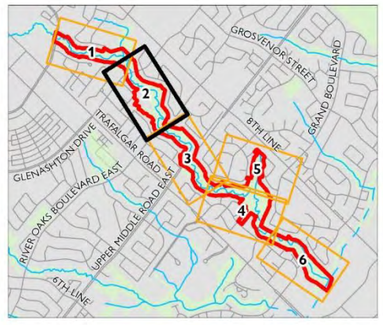
Areas of Archaeological Potential

- Grassed, Treed (Test Pit Survey Required)

Areas of Low Archaeological Potential (No Assessment Required)

- Disturbed (Channelized Drain, Pathways, Roads)
- Steeply Sloped
- Low-Lying/Wet

Page 2 of 6



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Prepared by DG 2026-03-02

Map 9: Stage 1 Assessment Results – Map 2 of 6

STAGE 1 RESULTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

- Project Area
- Report Photo
- Contours (1m)

STAGE 1 ASSESSMENT RESULTS

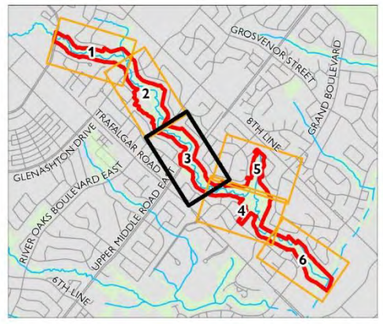
Areas of Archaeological Potential

- Grassed, Treed (Test Pit Survey Required)

Areas of Low Archaeological Potential (No Assessment Required)

- Disturbed (Channelized Drain, Pathways, Roads)
- Steeply Sloped
- Low-Lying/Wet

Page 3 of 6



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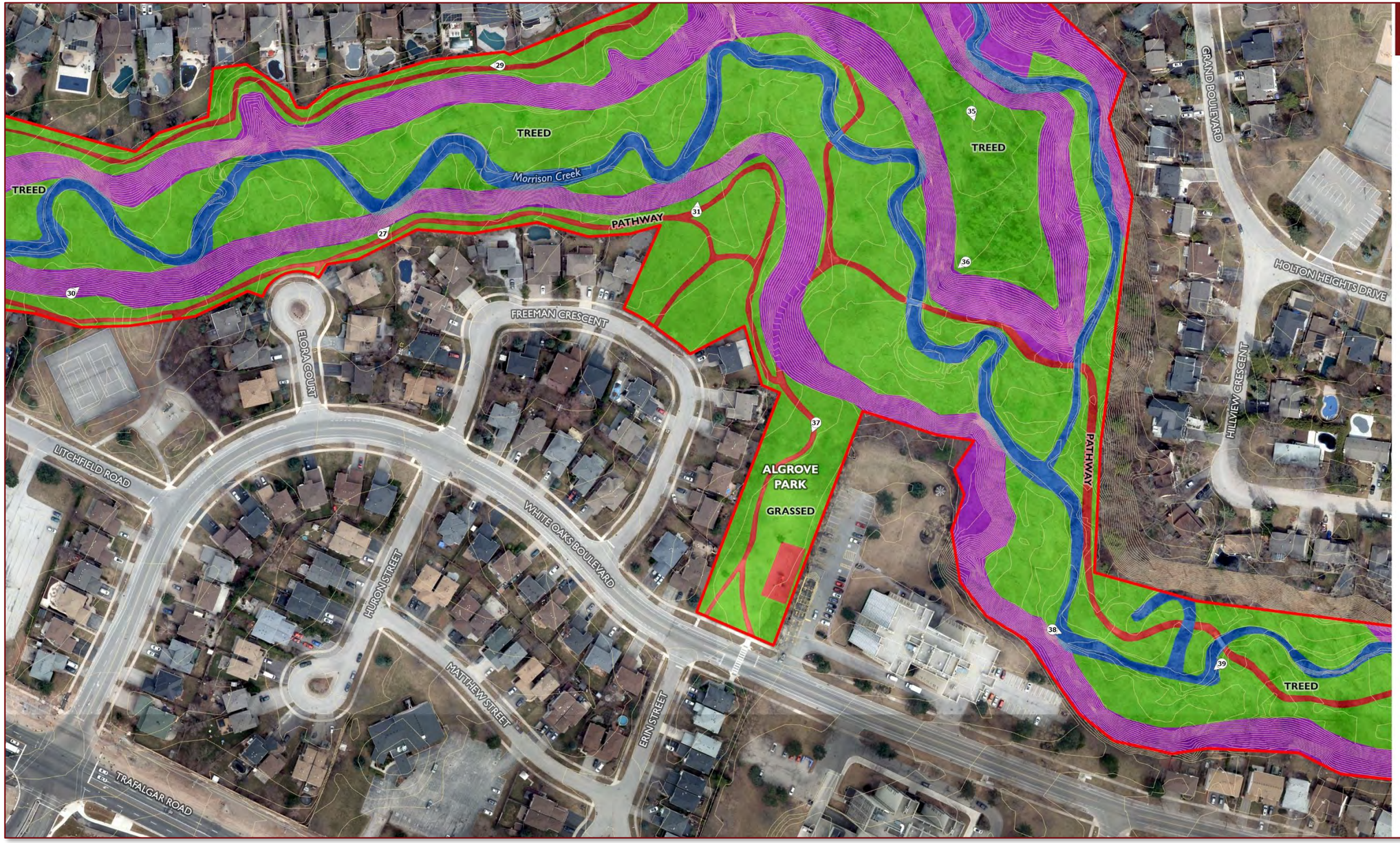
Map 10: Stage 1 Assessment Results – Map 3 of 6



STAGE 1 RESULTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

- Project Area
- Report Photo
- Contours (1m)

STAGE 1 ASSESSMENT RESULTS

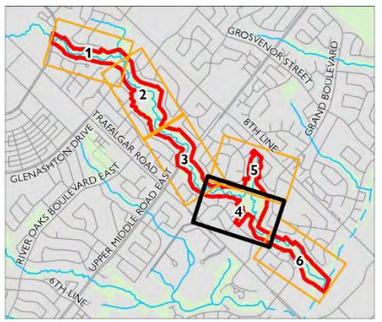
Areas of Archaeological Potential

- Grassed, Treed (Test Pit Survey Required)

Areas of Low Archaeological Potential (No Assessment Required)

- Disturbed (Channelized Drain, Pathways, Roads)
- Steeply Sloped
- Low-Lying/Wet

Page 4 of 6



100 m

Prepared by DG 2023-10-19

Map 11: Stage 1 Assessment Results – Map 4 of 6

STAGE 1 RESULTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

- Project Area
- Report Photo
- Contours (1m)

STAGE 1 ASSESSMENT RESULTS

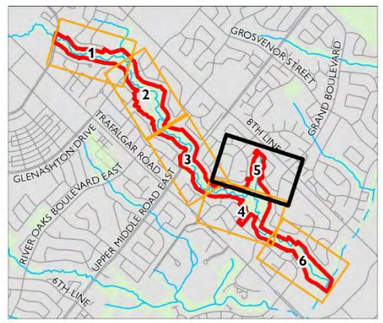
Areas of Archaeological Potential

- Grassed, Treed (Test Pit Survey Required)

Areas of Low Archaeological Potential (No Assessment Required)

- Disturbed (Channelized Drain, Pathways, Roads)
- Steeply Sloped
- Low-Lying/Wet

Page 5 of 6



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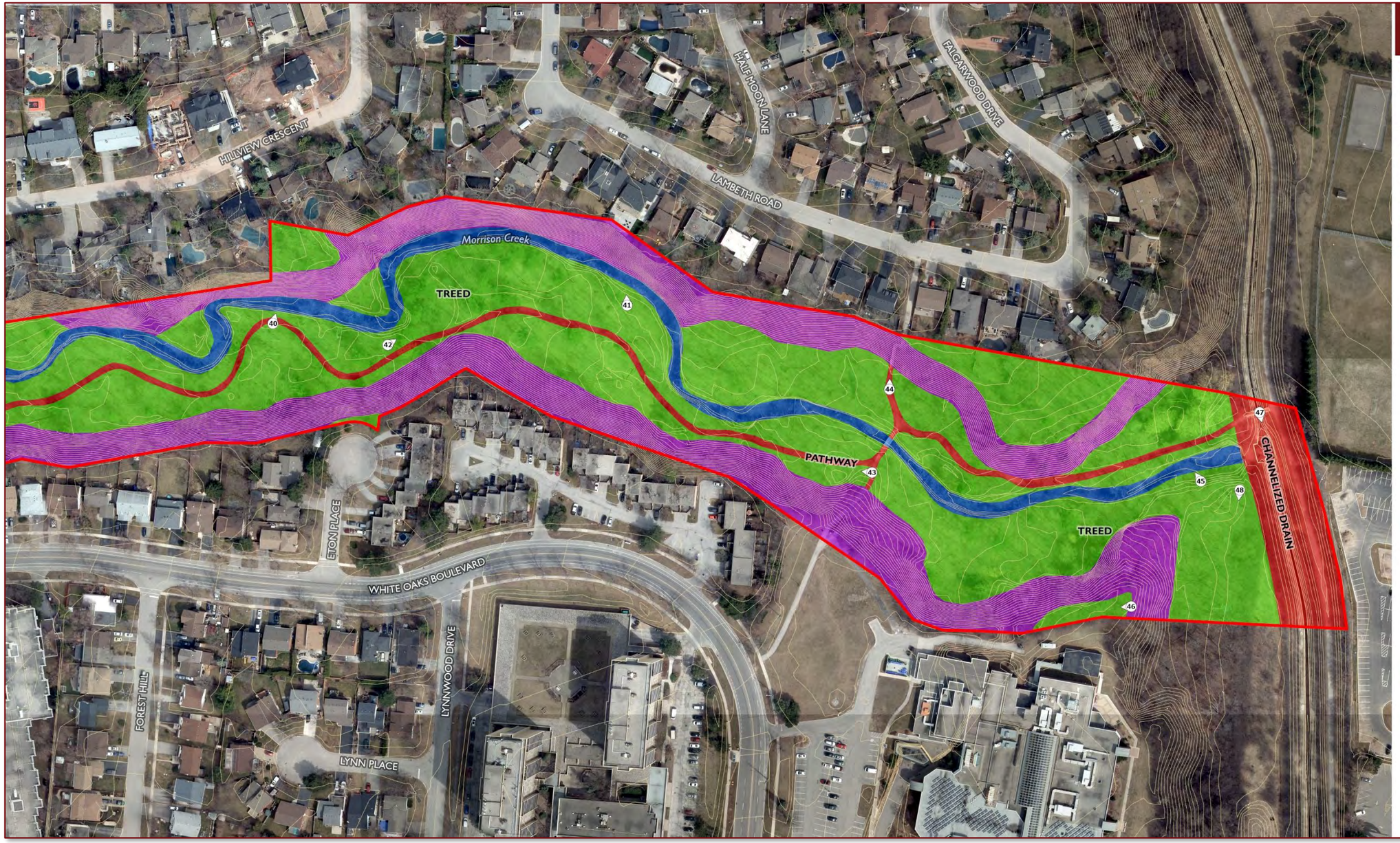
Prepared by DG 2023-10-19

Map 12: Stage 1 Assessment Results – Map 5 of 6



STAGE 1 RESULTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

- Project Area
- Report Photo
- Contours (1m)

STAGE 1 ASSESSMENT RESULTS

Areas of Archaeological Potential

- Grassed, Treed (Test Pit Survey Required)

Areas of Low Archaeological Potential (No Assessment Required)

- Disturbed (Channelized Drain, Pathways, Roads)
- Steeply Sloped
- Low-Lying/Wet

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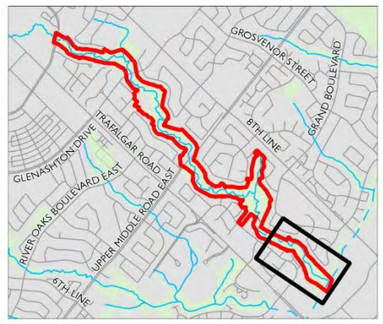

100 m

Prepared by DG 2024-07-19

Map 13: Stage 1 Assessment Results – Map 6 of 6

Map 14: Study Area and Erosion Sites Mapping Provided by the Proponent