

# Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of 340 Burnhamthorpe Road East and 3437 Trafalgar Road, Part of Lot 12, Concession 1 North of Dundas Street, Geographic Township of Trafalgar, County of Halton, now in the Town of Oakville, Regional Municipality of Halton

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## Original Report

Prepared for:

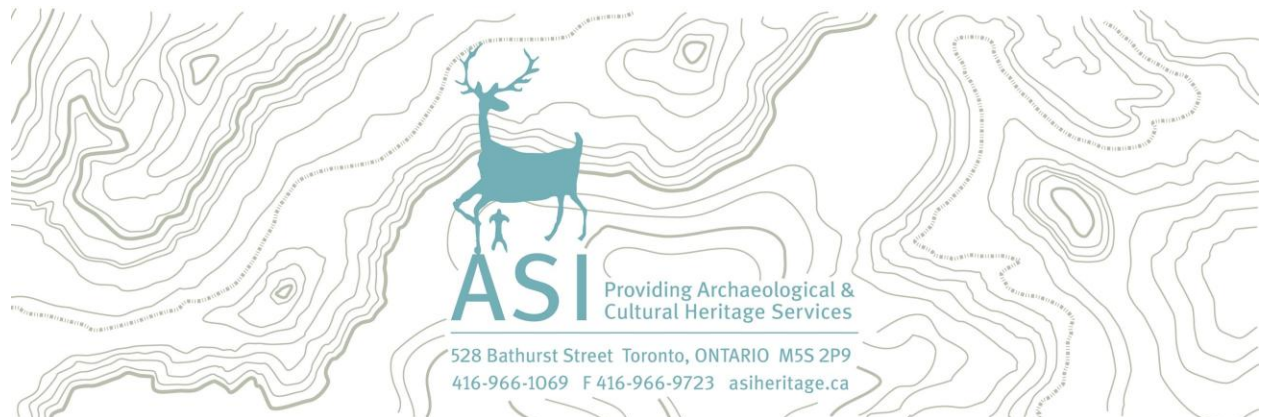
1816986 Ontario Inc

Archaeological Licence: P449 (Bhardwaj)

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19 February 2026



## Executive Summary

Archaeological Services Inc. was contracted by 1816986 Ontario Inc. to undertake a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of 340 Burnhamthorpe Road East and 3437 Trafalgar Road, Part of Lot 12, Concession 1 North of Dundas Street, Geographic Township of Trafalgar, County of Halton, now in the Town of Oakville, Regional Municipality of Halton. The study area is comprised of 2 properties and has a total area of approximately 20.2 hectares.

The Stage 1 background research entailed consideration of the proximity of previously registered archaeological sites and the original environmental setting of the study area, along with nineteenth- and twentieth-century settlement trends. The guidance of *The Master Plan of Archaeological Resources for the Regional Municipality of Halton* (Archaeological Services Inc., 1998, 2009) was also considered. This research suggested that there is potential for the presence of both Indigenous and Euro-Canadian archaeological sites within portions the study area.

The field review confirmed that the extensive land-moving activities from the development of the Vic Hadfield Golf and Learning Centre in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries has resulted in some areas of the study area being disturbed, while other portions were unaffected by its development.

In light of these results, it is recommended that a Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment of all areas retaining archaeological potential within the study area be required, in accordance with the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism's 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*.



## Project Personnel

- **Senior Project Manager:** Jennifer Ley, Honours Bachelor of Arts (R376), Lead Archaeologist, Manager, Planning Assessment
- **Project Manager:** Robb Bhardwaj, Master of Arts (P449), Associate Archaeologist, Project Manager, Planning Assessment
- **Project Director:** Robb Bhardwaj
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- **Field Director:** Robb Bhardwaj
- **Report Preparation:** Dana Millson, Doctor of Philosophy, Archaeologist, Technical Writer, Planning Assessment
- **Graphics:** Andrew Clish, Bachelor of Environmental Science (P046), Senior Archaeologist, Geographic Information System Specialist and Equipment Coordinator
- **Report Reviewers:** Robb Bhardwaj; Jennifer Ley



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## 1.0 Project Context

Archaeological Services Inc. was contracted by 1816986 Ontario Inc. to undertake a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of 340 Burnhamthorpe Road East and 3437 Trafalgar Road, Part of Lot 12, Concession 1 North of Dundas Street, Geographic Township of Trafalgar, County of Halton, now in the Town of Oakville, Regional Municipality of Halton (Figure 1). The study area is comprised of 2 properties and has a total area of approximately 20.2 hectares.

### 1.1 Development Context

This assessment was conducted under the senior project management of Jennifer Ley (R376), and the project management and project direction of Robb Bhardwaj (P449); the work was completed under Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (hereafter referred to as the Ministry) Project Information Form P449-0841-2025.

All activities carried out during this assessment were completed as part of Official Plan and Zoning by-Law amendment applications, as required by the Town of Oakville and the *Planning Act* (Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, 1990). All work was completed in accordance with the *Ontario Heritage Act* (Ministry of Culture, 1990) and the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (hereafter referred to as the *Standards*) (Ministry of Tourism and Culture, 2011 [now the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism]).

The work carried out for this project was also guided by *The Master Plan of Archaeological Resources for the Regional Municipality of Halton* (Archaeological Services Inc., 1998, 2009), which provides further refinement with regard to potential buffers surrounding any noted features or characteristics that affect archaeological potential.

Permission to access the study area and to carry out all activities necessary for the completion of the assessment was granted by the proponent on May 21, 2025.



## 1.2 Historical Context

### 1.2.1 Indigenous Land Use and Settlement

Southern Ontario has been occupied by human populations since at least the retreat of the Laurentide glacier approximately 11,000 years Before Common Era (B.C.E.). Populations at this time would have been highly mobile, inhabiting a boreal parkland similar to the modern sub-arctic. By approximately 8000 B.C.E., the environment had progressively warmed (Edwards and Fritz, 1988) and populations now occupied less extensive territories (Ellis and Deller, 1990).

Between approximately 8000-3500 B.C.E., the Great Lakes basins experienced low-water levels, and many sites that would have been located on those former shorelines are now submerged. This period produces the earliest evidence of heavy woodworking tools, an indication of greater investment of labour in felling trees for fuel, to build shelter, and watercraft production. These activities suggest prolonged seasonal residency at occupation sites. Polished stone and native copper implements were produced by approximately 6000 B.C.E.; the latter was acquired from the north shore of Lake Superior, evidence of extensive exchange networks throughout the Great Lakes region. The earliest evidence for cemeteries dates to approximately 2500-1000 B.C.E. and is indicative of increased social organization, investment of labour into social infrastructure, and the establishment of socially prescribed territories (Ellis *et alia*, 1990; Ellis *et alia*, 2009; Brown, 1995:13).

Between 1000-500 B.C.E., populations continued to practice residential mobility and to harvest seasonally available resources, including spawning fish. The Woodland period began around 500 B.C.E. and exchange and interaction networks broadened at this time (Spence *et alia*, 1990:136, 138). By end of the first millennium B.C.E., evidence exists for macro-band camps, focusing on the seasonal harvesting of resources (Spence *et alia*, 1990:155, 164). By the year 500 in the Common Era (C.E.), there is macro botanical evidence for maize in southern Ontario. Although it is thought that maize only supplemented people's diet, there is phytolith evidence for maize in central New York State by 300 B.C.E., indicating that similar analyses conducted on Ontario ceramic vessels of the same period could result in the same evidence here (Birch and Williamson, 2013:13-15).



As is evident in detailed Anishinaabek ethnographies, winter was a period during which some families would depart from the larger group as it was easier to sustain smaller populations (Rogers, 1962). It is generally understood that these populations were Algonquian speakers during these millennia of settlement and land use.

From the beginning of the Late Woodland period at approximately 1000 C.E., lifeways became more similar to those described in early historical documents. Between approximately 1000-1300 C.E., the communal site was replaced by the village focused on horticulture. Seasonal dispersal of the community for the exploitation of a wider territory and more varied resource base was still the norm (Williamson, 1990:317). By 1300-1450 C.E., this episodic dispersal waned, and populations began to occupy sites throughout the year (Dodd *et alia*, 1990:343). By the mid-sixteenth century, these small villages had coalesced into larger communities (Birch *et alia*, 2021), and through this process, the socio-political organization of the First Nations, as described historically by the French and English explorers who first visited southern Ontario, was developed.

By 1600 C.E., the Confederation of Nations were encountered by the first European explorers and missionaries in Simcoe County. Samuel de Champlain in 1615 reported that a group of Iroquoian-speaking people situated between the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat were at peace and remained “la nation neutre”. Like the Wendat, Petun, and Haudenosaunee, the Neutral or Attawandaron people were settled village agriculturalists.

By the 1640s, devastating epidemics and the traditional enmity between the Haudenosaunee<sup>1</sup> and the Attawandaron and the Wendat (and their Algonquian allies such as the Nipissing and Odawa) led to their dispersal from southern

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<sup>1</sup> The Haudenosaunee are also known as the New York Iroquois or Five Nations Iroquois and after 1722 Six Nations Iroquois. They were a confederation of five distinct but related Iroquoian-speaking nations - the Seneca, Onondaga, Cayuga, Oneida, and Mohawk. Each lived in individual territories in what is now known as the Finger Lakes district of Upper New York. In 1722 the Tuscarora joined the confederacy.



Ontario. Shortly afterwards, the Haudenosaunee established a series of settlements at strategic locations along the trade routes inland from the north shore of Lake Ontario. Peace was achieved between the Haudenosaunee and the Anishinaabe Nations in August of 1701 when representatives of more than twenty Anishinaabe Nations assembled in Montreal to participate in peace negotiations. Peace was confirmed again at council held at Lake Superior when the Haudenosaunee delivered a wampum belt to the Anishinaabe Nations. This agreement between the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe nations is referred to as the Dish with One Spoon.

In 1763, following the fall of Quebec, New France was transferred to British control at the Treaty of Paris. The British government began to pursue major land purchases to the north of Lake Ontario in the early nineteenth century. The Crown acknowledged the Mississaugas of the Credit as the owners of the lands between Georgian Bay and Lake Simcoe and entered into negotiations for additional tracts of land as the need arose to facilitate European settlement.

## **1.2.2 Post-Contact Settlement**

### **Head of the Lake Purchase**

Treaty 13a was signed on August 2, 1805, between the Mississaugas and the British Crown in Port Credit at the Government Inn. A provisional agreement was reached in which the Mississaugas ceded 70,784 acres (28,645 hectares) of land bounded by the Toronto Purchase of 1787 in the east, the Brant Tract in the west, and a northern boundary that ran six miles back from the shoreline of Lake Ontario. The Mississaugas also reserved the sole right of fishing at the Credit River and were to retain a one-mile strip of land on each of its banks, which became the Credit Indian Reserve.

On September 5, 1806, the signing of Treaty 14 confirmed the Head of the Lake Purchase between the Mississaugas of the Credit and the Crown for lands along the north shore of Lake Ontario southwest of the Toronto Purchase to what is now Oakville (Mississauga of the New Credit First Nation, 2001; Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, 2017).



## Township of Trafalgar

While other lands in the “Golden Horseshoe” at the western end of Lake Ontario were acquired by the British government for settlement by the United Empire Loyalist refugees during the 1780’s, Halton County (including Trafalgar Township) remained in the hands of the Mississauga Nation until August 1805, when the lands were acquired under the terms of the Mississauga Purchase (Armstrong, 1985). The concessions lying on both sides of Dundas Street were formally surveyed in 1806 and are known as the Old Survey. Additional lands were purchased from the Mississauga Nation in 1818 extended the boundaries of Trafalgar Township, and this portion of the Township became known as the New Survey.

Dundas Street, the baseline survey road in Trafalgar Township had been surveyed in 1793, as a military road connecting Lake Ontario, Lake Erie, Lake St. Clair and Lake Huron, as well as a road to aid Loyalist settlement and deter expansionist claims in Upper Canada. After the two concessions south of Dundas Street were opened up, two new east-west concession line access roads, the Upper Middle Road and the Lower Middle Road, were surveyed. These early east-west roads were later complemented in 1832, by the Lakeshore Road, which was constructed nearby and parallel to an Indigenous pathway skirting Lake Ontario. The concession roads of the 1806 survey, and the line roads running perpendicular, blocked out the township in areas a mile and quarter square with five 200-acre (80 hectare) lots to a square. Between every five lots ran a line road (Mathews, 1953).

Trafalgar was simply known as Township Number 2 when it was first surveyed by Samuel S. Wilmot, and it was subsequently renamed Alexander Township in honour of Alexander Grant, who was President and Administrator of the Province of Upper Canada (Mathews, 1953). Shortly thereafter, when news reached Upper Canada of Lord Nelson’s victorious sea battle off the coast of Spain, the names of two townships in the county were changed to Nelson and Trafalgar.

The New Survey of Trafalgar was undertaken by Richard Bristol between April and June 1819. His Survey Diaries and Notes are still extant on microfilm, and we learn from it that the survey of the township proceeded westward from Concession 11



along the Peel County line towards Milton. The crew encountered wet snow “nearly an inch deep” on May 17, and by May 22 Bristol noted “the musquetoos beginning their hostilities against us.” On June 6, while in the vicinity of Concessions 1 and 2, the crew was inundated by a thunderstorm: “we necessiated [sic] to grin and bear it...no sleep this night for us,” and a few days later “mosquitoes rather too many for us.” The survey of Concession 2 was completed between June 5-7, 1819, and Bristol dismissed his men on June 10, 1819. Bristol noted that the timber was primarily elm, beech, maple, white oak, “black ash” and pine.

Trafalgar Township originally formed part of the West Riding of York in the Home District and following 1816, it became part of the Gore District, with Hamilton as the administrative District seat. Although the old Districts of Upper Canada were abolished by legislation in May 1849, the area that was to subsequently become Halton remained as part of the United Counties of Wentworth and Hamilton until it was finally separated and elevated to independent County status by an act of legislature in June 1853.

Smith (1850) noted that the settlement of Trafalgar commenced about 1807, and the price for wild land at the time was valued at 7/6- per acre. By 1817, the population had increased to 548, and the township contained one grist mill and four sawmills. The value of land had increased to 22 shillings per acre. In 1846, the township was described as “well settled... containing numerous well cleared and cultivated farms, most which have good orchards” (Smith, 1846). By 1850, the population had increased to 4,513, and the township contained three grist and nineteen sawmills (Smith, 1850). The timber cover in the township was described as “principally hardwood with a little pine intermixed” (Smith, 1850).

The earliest families to settle within the township included those of Sovereign, Proudfoot, Katting, Freeman, Post, Biggar, Mulholland, Kenney, Chalmer, Albertson, Chisholms, Sproat, Brown and Hagar.

### **Hamlet of Postville (Trafalgar)**

The nearest settlement to the study area was the Hamlet of Postville (Trafalgar), located at the south end of Lot 12 at the crossroads of Trafalgar Road and Dundas



Street. Following the development of Dundas Street (Highway 5) by General John Graves Simcoe in the late eighteenth century, several hamlets and villages sprang up along its route (Trafalgar Township Historical Society, 2023). An important stage stop along Dundas Street at the intersection with Trafalgar Road was Postville, which developed as a hamlet from as early as 1814. The settlement was first called Post's Corners since the southwest corner was owned by Ephraim Post and the northeast corner by Jordan Post Senior. In the mid-nineteenth century, the village was officially renamed Postville when the post office was established with Squire James Appelbe, an Irish-born settler, as postmaster. Appelbe would go on to be a Recording Secretary of Nelson Circuit and one of the first directors at the Bank of Toronto (Town of Oakville, Heritage Update, 2019). By the 1850s, Postville included a general store, a school, an inn, a steam-powered sawmill, and a drill shed. On the *Illustrated Atlas*, the name of the settlement is listed as Trafalgar, indicating that the settlement was renamed in the later part of the nineteenth century, commemorating the victory of Lord Nelson (Pope, 1877). After the community became part of the Town of Oakville in 1962, most of the early buildings in Trafalgar were removed for the construction of a service station and more modern shops (Trafalgar Township Historical Society, 2023).

### **340 Burnhamthorpe Road East and 3437 Trafalgar Road**

The Town of Oakville Heritage Register lists two historical houses within the study area. The house at 340 Burnhamthorpe Road East has been listed due to its potential cultural heritage value or interest for its frame farmhouse once part of a larger farm complex (Town of Oakville, 2024). During the field assessment, Robb Bhardwaj spoke to Jeff Hadfield, Site Manager. Mr. Hadfield stated that during the 1960s, the frame house, once located fronting the road at 340 Burnhamthorpe Road East was moved to the centre of the study area (Image 1; Personal Communication, 2025).

The extant house at 3437 Trafalgar Road is an 1848 stucco farmhouse associated with the Clements family who were the owners of the lot in the late nineteenth century (Image 2). It is also listed due to its potential cultural heritage value or interest since it is part of an historic farmstead (Town of Oakville, 2024).



### 1.2.3 Review of Historical Mapping

A review of nineteenth- and early twentieth-century mapping was completed to determine if these sources depict any nineteenth-century Euro-Canadian settlement features that may represent potential historical archaeological sites within or adjacent to the study area. Historical map sources are used to reconstruct/predict the location of former features within the modern landscape by cross-referencing points between the various sources and then georeferencing them in order to provide the most accurate determination of the location of any property from historical mapping sources. The results can be imprecise (or even contradictory) because sources of error, such as the vagaries of map production, differences in scale or resolution, and distortions caused by the reproduction of the sources, introduce error into the process. The impacts of this error are dependent on the size of the feature in question, the constancy of reference points on mapping, the distances between them, and the consistency with which both are depicted on historical mapping.

In addition, not all settlement features were depicted systematically in the compilation of these historical map sources, given that they were financed by subscription, and subscribers were given preference with regards to the level of detail provided. Thus, not every feature of interest from the perspective of archaeological resource management would have been within the scope of these sources.

The 1858 *Tremaine Map of the County of Halton* (Tremaine, 1858) (Figure 2) and the 1877 *Illustrated Atlas of the County of Halton* (Pope, 1877)(Figure 3), display the study area in the north part of Lot 12, which was owned by Matthew Clement(s). On both maps, present-day Trafalgar Road aligns the southwest limit and present-day Burnhamthorpe Road East abuts the northwest boundary. On the *Tremaine map*, Trafalgar Road is illustrated as a plank road. Whilst no structural features are included in the *Tremaine Map*, the *Illustrated Atlas* illustrates two houses surrounded by orchards in the southwest corner of the study area and the current location of 3437 Trafalgar Road. A cluster of structures, including a blacksmith shop, an Orange Hall, and farmhouses are located in the vicinity of the study area.



Early topographic mapping was also reviewed for the presence of potential historical features. Land features such as waterways, wetlands, woodlots, and elevation are clearly illustrated on this series of mapping, along with roads and structure locations. On the 1909 Brampton and Hamilton topographic maps (Figure 4), and the 1942 Brampton and 1938 Hamilton topographic maps (Figure 5), the study area is between the 600-foot (183-metre) and 615-foot (187-metre) elevation contours (Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, 1938; Department of Militia and Defence, 1909a, 1909b; Department of National Defence, 1942). On the 1909 topographic maps, the entire study area is cleared of trees, and a tributary of Joshua's Creek flows diagonally through the central-south part of the property. The house at 340 Burnhamthorpe Road East is illustrated as a frame structure, whilst the house at 3437 Trafalgar Road is indicated as a brick house. On the 1942 and 1938 maps, a barn is illustrated to the rear of the house at 3437 Trafalgar Road and there is a woodlot adjacent in the south corner of the study area.

#### **1.2.4 Review of Aerial Imagery**

Aerial imagery from 1934 to present was also reviewed to understand the previous use of the study area. Figure 5 displays the study area on orthographic images from 1934, 1954, 2002, and 2014 (City of Burlington, 2025; Google Earth Pro, 2024; Hunting Survey Corporation Limited, 1954). In the 1934 image, the study area comprises five cultivated fields within a rural landscape. The house and barn at 3437 Trafalgar Road are visible within an area of trees in the south corner and the house at 340 Burnhamthorpe Road can be seen in the western-most corner, with a small area of lawn. Joshua's Creek flow through the study area, a portion of which appears channelized in the north. In the 1954 image, several new outbuildings can be seen in the farm complex in the south corner of the study area. There is also a pond connected to Joshua's Creek visible.

The 2002 photo shows the development of the Vic Hadfield Golf and Learning Centre within the north part of the study area. Portions of the property along both roadways have been graded, along with the creation of a rounded berm incapsulating the lawn associated with the driving range, where it is partially laid out. The south part of the study area remains as a farm complex surrounded by cultivated fields. The area of trees in the south has expanded into the centre of



the study area. To the southwest of the study area, Trafalgar Road has been widened quite considerably compared to the images from 1934 and 1954. The photo from 2014 shows that the completed golf centre in the north has extended south to Joshua's Creek and the pond location, although it appears to have preserved trees that can be seen on the 2002 image. The existing parking lots and driveways are visible near the modern house at 340 Burnhamthorpe Road East in the west corner and the remaining portions of the golf centre consist of maintained lawn. In the south of the study area, the barn and outbuildings have been removed from the farm complex at 3437 Trafalgar Road and the area taken over by vegetation.

## 1.3 Archaeological Context

This section provides background research pertaining to previous archaeological fieldwork conducted within and in the vicinity of the study area, its environment characteristics (including drainage, soils, surficial geology, and topography), and current land use and field conditions.

### 1.3.1 Registered Archaeological Sites

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, 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, which is maintained by the Ministry. This database contains archaeological sites registered within the Borden system. The Borden system was first proposed by Doctor Charles E. Borden and is based on a block of latitude and longitude. Each Borden block measures approximately 13 kilometres east-west by 18.5 kilometres north-south and is referenced by a four-letter designator. Sites within a block are numbered sequentially as they are found. The majority of the study area is in the south part of the AjGw Borden block, whilst the south corner of the study area is within AiGw Borden block.



A total of 24 archaeological sites have been registered within an approximate one-kilometre radius of the study area (Ministry, 2025). A detailed summary of the sites is available in Appendix A. The nearest of which is the Lernan site (AjGw-227), a Euro-Canadian homestead which was identified within the right-of-way of Trafalgar Road at Burnhamthorpe Road East and is probably associated with the original frame house that was formerly at 340 Burnhamthorpe Road East.

### **1.3.2 Previous Assessments**

During the course of the background research, it was determined that no previous archaeological assessments have been conducted within the study area. Six previous assessments have been completed within 50 metres of the study area.

In 1992, Archaeological Services Inc. conducted a Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment of the right-of-way of Trafalgar Road from Dundas Street to Highway 403, abutting the current study area along the southwest limit (Archaeological Services Inc., 1992; #92-010). The Stage 2 assessment resulted in the identification of one historical Euro-Canadian site, Lernan (AjGw-227), located on the east corner of the crossroads of Trafalgar Road and Burnhamthorpe Road East. The site consisted of 12 pieces of Refined White Earthenware found within a disturbed context attributed to the construction of a hydro corridor within the right-of-way. It is probable that this may site extend into the current study area in the general area of the house indicated on nineteenth-century mapping. It was recommended that further investigation should be undertaken to determine the limits of the site, should development occur beyond the right-of-way of the corridor. However, it appears this was never completed.

In 2007, D.R. Poulton and Associates Inc. carried out a Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment of the Tribaden Investments Lands, located within Lots 11 and 12, Concession 1 North of Dundas Street, immediately southeast of the current study area (D.R. Poulton and Associates Inc., 2013; P116-114-2006/P053-106-2007). Of the 34.6 hectares the parcel encompassed, approximately 72% was subject to Stage 2 survey during which no archaeological resources were encountered. In 2014, D.R. Poulton and Associates Inc. conducted the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment of the remaining lands in the Tribaden Investments Inc. property (D. R. Poulton and Associates Inc., 2014; P316-0274-



2013). Test pit survey was carried out in all areas retaining archaeological potential, during which no archaeological resources were encountered.

In 2014, Archaeological Assessments Limited conducted a Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment of the River Thames Building Group Corporation Lands, located in the north of Lot 13, Concession 1 North of Dundas Street, fronting Trafalgar Road (Archaeological Assessments Limited, 2014; P013-1103-2015). The present study area is located on the opposite side of Trafalgar Road from these lands, approximately 40 metres distant. The 4.2-hectare parcel was subject to pedestrian survey at five-metre intervals, during which no archaeological resources were identified. As such, the property was cleared of further archaeological concern.

In 2017, The Archaeologists Inc. completed a Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment of 3444 Trafalgar Road, a parcel in the north of Lot 13, Concession 1 North of Dundas Street on the opposite side of the road from the study area (The Archaeologists Inc., 2017; P052-0696-2016). A combined test pit and pedestrian survey was carried out in all parts of the parcel retaining archaeological potential, however no archaeological resources were encountered. It was, therefore, recommended that no further archaeological assessment was required.

In 2024, Parslow Heritage Consultancy Inc. completed a Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment of the ARGO Trafalgar I and II Lands, located in Lot 12, Concession 2 North of Dundas Street (Parslow Heritage Consultancy Inc., 2024). The current study area is on the opposite side of Burnhamthorpe Road East, approximately 25 metres distant. The Stage 2 survey consisted of a combined test pit and pedestrian survey, which resulted in the identification of three findspots comprising a total of 11 artifacts. Due to the low density of the findspots they did not meet the criteria for cultural heritage value or interest warranting Stage 3 assessment and were cleared of archaeological concern.

### **1.3.3 Physiography**

The study area is within the till moraines of the South Slope physiographic region. The South Slope physiographic region (Chapman and Putnam, 1984:172–174) is the southern slope of the Oak Ridges Moraine. The South Slope meets the



Moraine at heights of approximately 300 metres above sea level, and descends southward toward Lake Ontario, ending, in some areas, at elevations below 150 metres above sea level. Numerous streams descend the South Slope, having cut deep valleys in the till.

The surficial geology of the study area consists of clay to silt-textured till derived from glaciolacustrine deposits or shale (Ontario Geological Survey, 2025).

Mapping indicates that Joshua's Creek flows through the centre of the study area and portions of which appear to have been channelized (Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, 2020). The existing course of the tributary more or less appears to correspond with aerial images.

### **1.3.4 Existing Conditions**

The Stage 1 field review was conducted on August 26, 2025. The study area comprises an existing driving range, mini golf course, and golf learning centre in the north, which encompasses approximately half of the study area (Figure 7). Parking lots and driveways surround the mini golf course near the extant modern house at 340 Burnhamthorpe Road East in the west corner. There is a parking lot and gravel driveways in the north and along the northwest limit. The southern portion of the study area includes an extant historical house at 3437 Trafalgar Road surrounded by a woodlot, while the house that is reported to formerly be located fronting the road at 340 Burnhamthorpe Road East is located near the north corner of this woodlot. The balance of the south half comprises agricultural fields and the course of Joshua's Creek with a small pond adjacent, which essentially divides the developed and rural portions of the study area. The study area is bounded by Trafalgar Road to the southwest, Burnhamthorpe Road East to the northwest, cultivated fields to the northeast and southeast, and a woodlot to the east.

### **1.3.5 Review of Archaeological Potential**

The *Standards*, Section 1.3.1 stipulates that undisturbed lands within 300 metres of primary water sources (lakes, rivers, streams, creeks), secondary water sources (intermittent streams and creeks, springs, marshes, swamps), 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), and accessible and inaccessible shorelines (bluffs, swamps or marsh fields by the edge of a lake, sandbars stretching into marsh) are considered, at a generic level, to exhibit archaeological potential.

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 common variables used for predictive modelling of site location.

Other geographic characteristics that can indicate pre-contact 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, and distinctive land formations that might have been special or spiritual places for Indigenous populations, such as waterfalls, rock outcrops, caverns, mounds, and promontories and their bases. There may be physical indicators of their use by Indigenous peoples, such as burials, structures, offerings, and rock paintings or carvings. Resource areas, including food or medicinal plants (migratory routes, spawning areas, prairie) and scarce raw materials (quartz, copper, ochre, or outcrops of chert), are also considered characteristics that indicate pre-contact archaeological potential.

This basic potential model has been further refined as part of the *Master Plan of Archaeological Resources for the Regional Municipality of Halton* (Archaeological Services Inc., 1998, 2009). The Halton Master Plan research determined that a buffer zone extending 200 metres from any water source constitutes an acceptable characterization of Indigenous archaeological site potential within Halton Region. The Halton Master Plan also defines potential site buffers in the vicinity of registered Indigenous sites: within 200 metres of Late Woodland villages and within 100 metres of other sites.



For the post-contact period, Section 1.3.1 of the *Standards* stipulates that those areas of early Euro-Canadian settlement, including places of early military or pioneer settlement (pioneer homesteads, isolated cabins, farmstead complexes), early wharf or dock complexes, pioneer churches, and early cemeteries, are considered to have archaeological potential. There may be commemorative markers of their history, such as local, provincial, or federal monuments or heritage plaques. 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 historical 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 majority of early nineteenth-century farmsteads, 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, since these occupations were subject to similar environmental constraints. An added factor, however, is the development of the network of concession roads and railroads through the course of the nineteenth century. These transportation routes frequently influenced the siting of farmsteads and businesses. Accordingly, the *Standards* considers undisturbed lands within 100 metres of early historical transportation routes to have potential for the presence of Euro-Canadian archaeological sites.

The *Halton Master Plan* considers a similar suite of criteria or indicators. Under the refined criteria of the *Halton Master Plan*, there is potential for historical sites within 100 metres of registered or designated historical sites, cemeteries, and features illustrated on historical maps, and within 200 metres of settlement roads and 50 metres of early railways.

The study area is transected by Joshua's Creek and is located on the east corner of the crossroads of Trafalgar Road and Burnhamthorpe Road East, both early settlement corridors. Historical mapping indicates the presence of two houses, ones in the west corner and another in the south corner of the study area. The southern house corresponds to the listed historical structure at 3437 Trafalgar



Road on the Town of Oakville's heritage register. The house illustrated in the west corner at 340 Burnhamthorpe Road East was reported to be moved to the centre of the subject property in the 1960s; this property is also listed. Further, the Lernan site (AjGw-227) was documented in 1992 in the right-of-way of Trafalgar Road at its junction with Burnhamthorpe Road, which correlates to this original homestead location on mapping, and is believed to extend into the west corner of the study area. As such, there remains archaeological potential within the study area, depending on the degree of subsequent land alteration.

## 2.0 Field Methods

The Stage 1 field assessment was conducted to assess the geography, topography, and current conditions of the study area, as well as evaluate and map archaeological potential prior to development. All fieldwork was conducted under the field direction Robb Bhardwaj (P449) and was carried out in accordance with the *Standards*. The weather conditions were appropriate for the completion of fieldwork, permitting good visibility of the land features.

Representative photos documenting the field conditions during the Stage 1 fieldwork are presented in Section 7.0 of this report, and photo locations and field observations have been compiled on project mapping (Images 1-14; Figure 8).

### 2.1 Findings

In accordance with the *Standards*, the Stage 1 field review was conducted by means of a visual inspection across all portions of the study area (Figure 8). The study area comprises a golf training centre in the north, which includes a driving range in the centre that consists of manipulated landscapes including elevated tee-off locations, sandpits, and putting greens. There is a pathway along this area to provide access from the clubhouse, which is situated in the west corner. A mini golf course is located just south of the clubhouse near the corner of Burnhamthorpe Road East and Trafalgar Road, and there is a parking lot to the northeast of the clubhouse. A driveway connects the clubhouse area and parking lot to a second parking lot in the north corner of the study area where there is an entrance connected to Burnhamthorpe Road East. The northeast limit of the



property consists of scrub adjacent to a large berm, which has been built-up around the surrounding farmland to the north.

Joshua's Creek flows through the centre of the study area, entering at the central southwest limit from under Trafalgar Road and exiting near the east corner. There is a pond adjacent to the watercourse in the centre of the study area where it bends around the driving range, suggesting it may have been manipulated here. The south part of the study area consists of the frame house, which was previously located fronting the road at 340 Burnhamthorpe Road East and the 1848 Clements house at 3437 Trafalgar Road, all within an area of woodlot. The remaining lands surrounding the houses in the south of the study area comprise cultivated fields.

Approximately 21% of the study area was found to be disturbed. The areas of disturbance consist of the golf training complex in the north, including the berm perimeter of the driving range, the mini golf course, the clubhouse structure in the west corner (Images 3-13), and the paved parking lots and network of driveways along the northeast and northwest boundaries (see Images 11-12). In accordance with the *Standards*, Section 1.3.2, these disturbances are considered too deep and extensive to warrant further survey.

In addition, approximately 4% of the study area includes the course of Joshua's Creek which pools in one area near the centre (Image 14). In accordance with the *Standards*, Section 2.a.i, this area does not retain archaeological potential on account of its physical characteristics.

The balance of the study area, approximately 75%, is found to retain archaeological potential and will require Stage 2 survey. Aerial imagery indicates that the perimeter of the driving range was disturbed during the development of the golf training centre; however, disturbance of the interior driving range is unclear and will need to be confirmed during Stage 2 assessment.

### 3.0 Analysis and Conclusions

Archaeological Services Inc. was contracted by 1816986 Ontario Inc. to undertake a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of 340 Burnhamthorpe Road East



and 3437 Trafalgar Road, Part of Lot 12, Concession 1 North of Dundas Street, Geographic Township of Trafalgar, County of Halton, now in the Town of Oakville, Regional Municipality of Halton. The study area is approximately 20 hectares.

This Stage 1 background research entailed consideration of the proximity of previously registered archaeological sites and the original environmental setting of the study area, along with nineteenth- and twentieth-century settlement trends. The guidance of *The Master Plan of Archaeological Resources for the Regional Municipality of Halton* (Archaeological Services Inc., 1998, 2009) was also considered. This research suggested that there remains potential for the presence of both Indigenous and Euro-Canadian archaeological sites within the study area.

The Stage 1 field review confirmed that the development activities of the Vic Hadfield Golf and Learning Centre have disturbed some portions of the study area; however, archaeological potential remains within approximately 75% of the property.

## 4.0 Recommendations

In light of these results, the following recommendation is made in accordance with the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (2011)*:

1. Prior to any land-disturbing activities within the study area, a Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment must be conducted.
  - a) The Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment of all agricultural or open lands within the study area must be carried out by means of a pedestrian survey. The lands must be ploughed in advance of survey and allowed to weather for at least one substantial rainfall. Ploughing must be deep enough to provide total topsoil exposure, but not deeper than previous ploughing. The pedestrian survey must be completed at five-metre transect intervals, as outlined in Section 2.1.1 of the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*.
  - b) The Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment of all remaining portions of the study area where ploughing is not possible or viable must be



carried out by means of a test pit survey. All test pits must be excavated at least five centimetres into sterile subsoil, with all soils being screened through six-millimeter wire mesh to facilitate artifact recovery. All test pits must be at least 30 centimetres in diameter and backfilled upon completion. Test pits must be excavated at five-metre transect intervals, as outlined in Section 2.1.2 of the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*.

**NOTWITHSTANDING** the results and recommendations presented in this study, Archaeological Services Inc. notes that no archaeological assessment, no matter how thorough or carefully completed, can necessarily predict, account for, or identify every form of isolated or deeply buried archaeological deposit. In the event that archaeological remains are found during subsequent construction activities, the consultant archaeologist, approval authority, and the Archaeological Program Unit of the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism must be immediately notified.

The above recommendations are subject to Ministry approval, and it is an offence to alter any archaeological site without Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism concurrence. No grading or other activities that may result in the destruction or disturbance of any archaeological sites are permitted until notice of Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism approval has been received.

## 5.0 Advice on Compliance with Legislation

Archaeological Services Inc. advises compliance with the following legislation:

- This report is submitted to the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism 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 field work 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 Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, 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 Archaeology 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) requires that any person discovering human remains must notify the police or coroner and the Registrar of Cemeteries at the Ministry of Consumer Services.
- 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 license.

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## 7.0 Images



**Image 1: View of house at 340 Burhamthorpe Road, in the centre of the study area.**



**Image 2: View of house at 3437 Trafalgar Road in the south of the study area.**



**Image 3: View of driving range in the north of the study area. Note the change in elevation from the path to the driving range.**



**Image 4: View along access between the driving range and parking lot in the north corner of the study area.**



**Image 5: View of north of the study area within the golf facility. Note the undulating landscape due to the ground-moving activities associated with the construction of the facility.**



**Image 6: View of the golf facility from the gravel driveway in the north of the study area.**



**Image 7: View of the northeast limit of the study area.**



**Image 8: View of the driving range from the southwest limit of the study area.**



**Image 9: View of mini golf course in the west of the study area.**



**Image 10: View of the existing house/clubhouse in the west corner of the study area with adjacent front lawn.**



**Image 11: View of gravel paths and undulating landscape in the west of the study area.**



**Image 12: View of the paved driveway and parking lot in the north of the study area.**



**Image 13: View of the level, gravel parking lot in the north corner of the study area.**

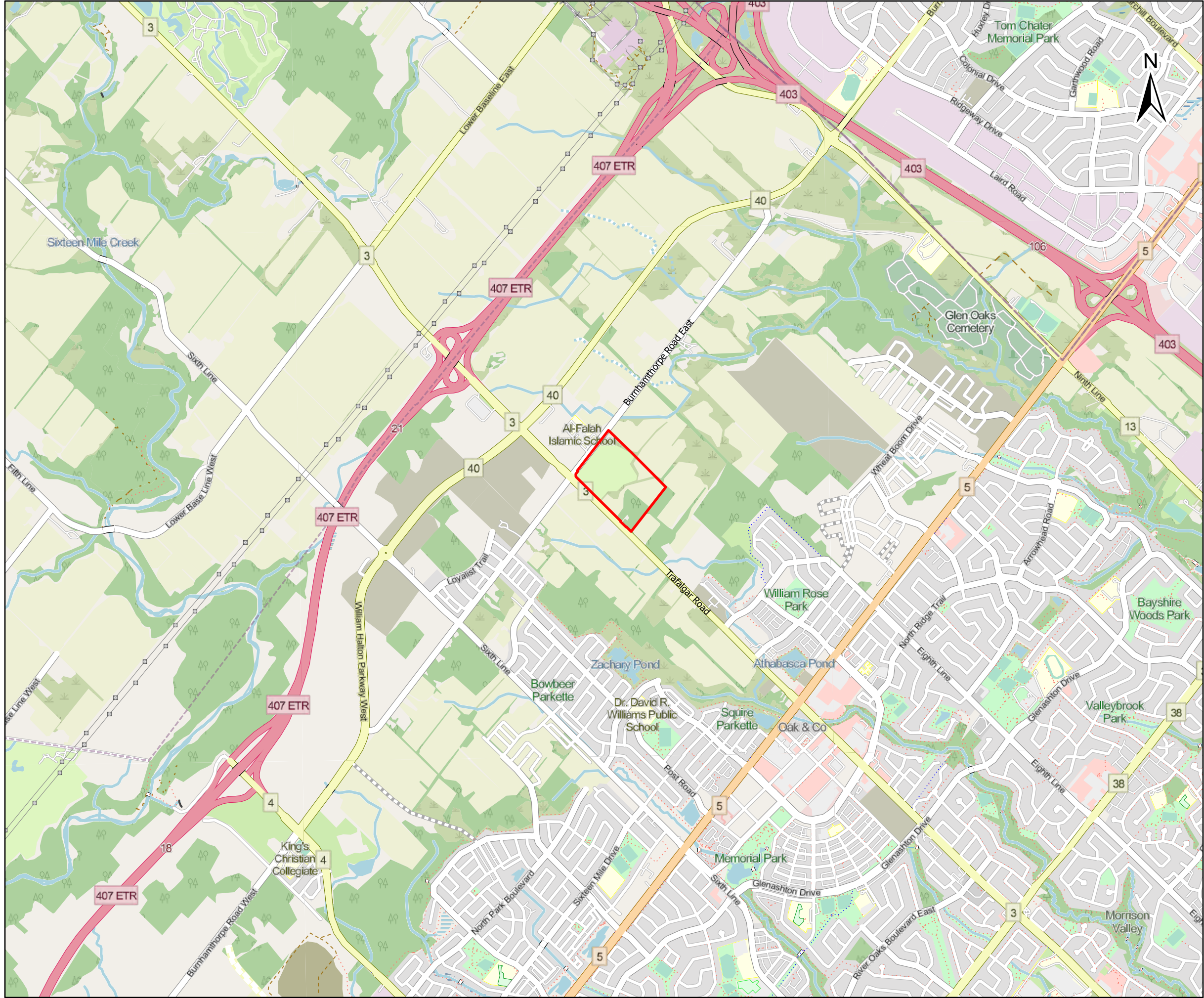


**Image 14: View of Joshua's Creek, which flows through the study area.**

## 8.0 Maps

See following pages for detailed assessment mapping and figures.





 STUDY AREA

Sources: Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community, Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors, Microsoft, Facebook, Google, Esri

Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N  
 Scale: 1:25,000  
 Scale Inset: 1:500,000  
 Page Size: 11 x 17



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Figure 1: Location of Study Area



Figure 2: Study Area located on the 1858 Tremaine Map of the County of Halton

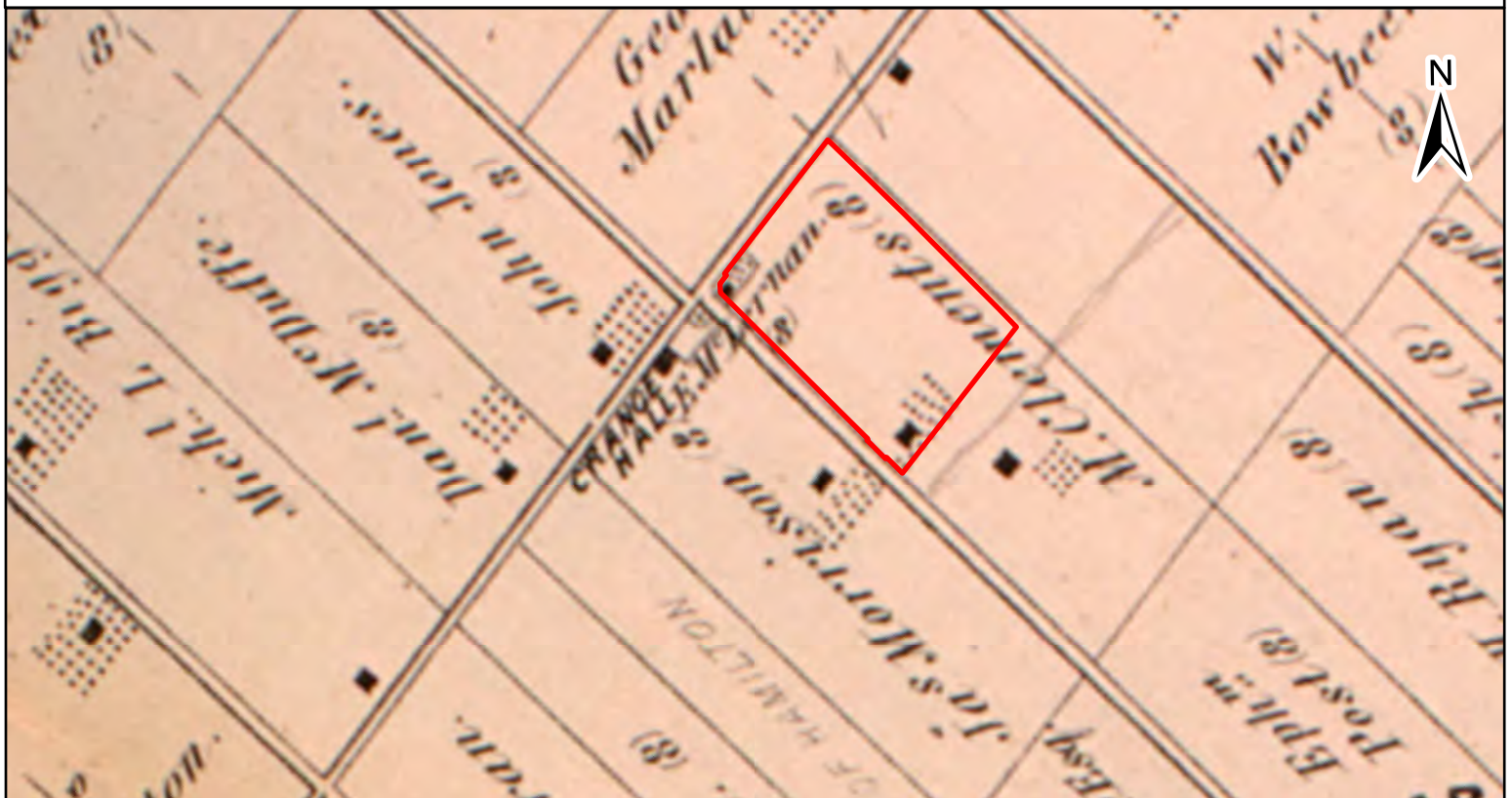


Figure 3: Study Area located on the 1877 Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Halton

	 STUDY AREA	Source: Tremaine's Map of the County of Halton Geo. C. Tremaine, Oakville, 1858 Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Halton Walker & Miles, Toronto, 1877	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>0 500 Metres</p> </div> <div style="font-size: small;"> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N</td> <td>ASI Project No.: 25PL-122</td> <td>Drawn By: aclish</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Scale: 1:15,000</td> <td>Date: 8/20/2025</td> <td>File: 25PL122_Fig2-3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Page Size: 8.5 x 11</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> </div>	Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N	ASI Project No.: 25PL-122	Drawn By: aclish	Scale: 1:15,000	Date: 8/20/2025	File: 25PL122_Fig2-3	Page Size: 8.5 x 11		
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Figure 4: Study Area located on the 1909 Brampton and 1909 Hamilton Topographic Maps

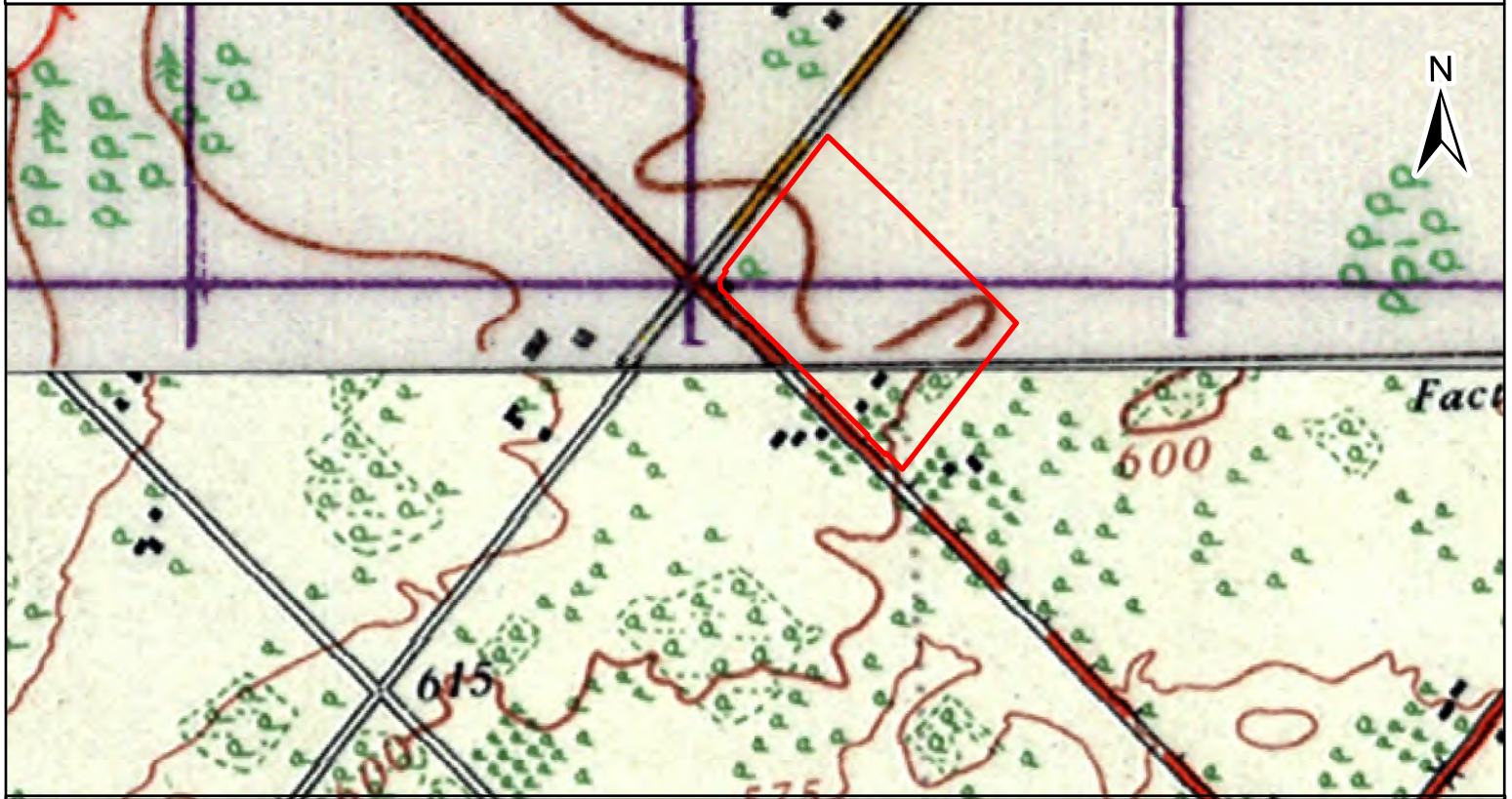


Figure 5: Study Area located on the 1942 Brampton and 1938 Hamilton Topographic Maps

	 STUDY AREA	Source: Department of Militia and Defence. 1909 Department of National Defence 1938 & 1942	0  500 Metres	
		Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N Scale: 1:15,000 Page Size: 8.5 x 11	ASI Project No.: 25PL-122 Date: 8/20/2025	Drawn By: aclish File: 25PL122_Fig4-5



1934



1954



2002





2014

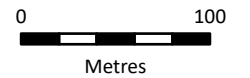
 ASI	 STUDY AREA	Source: ESRI, ARCGIS, and Google Earth	0  250 Metres	
		Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N Scale: 1:10,000 Page Size: 8.5x11	ASI Project No.: 25PL-122 Date: 8/20/2025 2:22 PM	Drawn By: aclich File: 25PL122_Fig6

Figure 6: Study Area located on 1934, 1954, 2002, and 2014 Aerial Imagery



-  STUDY AREA
-  PARCEL BOUNDARY

Source: Google Earth



Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N  
Scale: 1:4,000  
Page Size: 8.5x11

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Date: 9/23/2025

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Figure 7: Existing Conditions of the Study Area











	 STUDY AREA	 STAGE 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT REQUIRED	Source: Google Earth	0  100 Metres
	 PHOTO LOCATION AND DIRECTION	 JUDGMENTAL TEST PIT SURVEY REQUIRED	 DISTURBED - NO POTENTIAL	Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N Scale: 1:3,000 Page Size: 8.5x11
		 LOW AND WET - NO POTENTIAL	Drawn By: aclish File: 25PL122_Fig8	

Figure 8: Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment Results

## 9.0 Appendix A

**Table 1: Registered Sites within a One-Kilometre Radius of the Study Area**

<b>Borden number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Temporal/ Cultural Affiliation</b>	<b>Site Type</b>	<b>Researcher</b>
AiGw-179		Pre-contact	Findspot	Museum of Indian Archaeology (Museum of Ontario Archaeology), 1984
AiGw-180		Pre-contact	Findspot	Museum of Indian Archaeology (Museum of Ontario Archaeology), 1984
AiGw-181		Pre-contact	Findspot	Museum of Indian Archaeology (Museum of Ontario Archaeology), 1984
AiGw-182		Pre-contact	Scatter	Museum of Indian Archaeology (Museum of Ontario Archaeology), 1984
AiGw-415		Pre-contact; Early Woodland	Findspot	Archaeological Services Inc., 2006

<b>Borden number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Temporal/ Cultural Affiliation</b>	<b>Site Type</b>	<b>Researcher</b>
AiGw-427	Landing	Archaic	Campsite	Archeoworks Inc., 2004
AiGw-545	AiGw-545	Euro-Canadian	Homestead; farmstead	The Archaeologists Inc., 2011a, 2011b
AiGw-1000	Location 1	Pre-contact	Findspot	Golder Associates Limited, 2018
AiGw-1001		Euro-Canadian	Farmstead	Golder Associates Limited, 2018, 2019, 2023
AiGw-1002	Location 2	Euro-Canadian	Farmstead	Golder Associates Limited, 2018
AjGw-27	80-403-13	Early Woodland (Meadowood)	Campsite	Archaeological Services Inc., 1980
AjGw-28	80-403-14	Pre-contact	Findspot	Archaeological Services Inc., 1980
AjGw-31	81-403-48	Pre-contact	Findspot	Archaeological Services Inc., 1980
AjGw-227	Lernan	Euro-Canadian	Homestead	Archaeological Services Inc., 1992

<b>Borden number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Temporal/ Cultural Affiliation</b>	<b>Site Type</b>	<b>Researcher</b>
AjGw-462		Paleo; Late Paleo; Archaic	Findspot	Timmins Martelle Heritage Consultancy Inc., 2007
AjGw-463		Early Woodland		Timmins Martelle Heritage Consultancy Inc., 2007
AjGw-464		Pre-contact		Timmins Martelle Heritage Consultancy Inc., 2007
AjGw-465		Pre-contact	Scatter	Timmins Martelle Heritage Consultancy Inc., 2007
AjGw-466		Early Woodland (Meadowood)	Findspot	Timmins Martelle Heritage Consultancy Inc., 2007
AjGw-467		Early Woodland (Meadowood)	Findspot	Timmins Martelle Heritage Consultancy Inc., 2007
AjGw-500	Bigger Site	Post-contact		The Archaeologists Inc., 2012a, 2012b

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<b>Borden number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Temporal/ Cultural Affiliation</b>	<b>Site Type</b>	<b>Researcher</b>
AjGw-501	McDuffe Site	Euro-Canadian	Homestead	The Archaeologists Inc., 2012c, 2012d
AjGw-631	H1	Euro-Canadian	Homestead	Archaeological Services Inc., 2019
*AjGw-692		Pre-contact	Scatter	Parslow Heritage Consultancy Inc., 2025

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***\*Awaiting Ministry Review***