Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Part of Lot 16, Concession 1 North of Dundas Street, Block 114, Registered Plan 20M-1114, Geographic Township of Trafalgar, County of Halton, Now in the Town of Oakville, Regional Municipality of Halton

Original Report

Prepared for:

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Executive Summary

Archaeological Services Inc. was contracted by Daniels City Builders Corporation to undertake a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Part of Lot 16, Concession 1 North of Dundas Street, Block 114, Registered Plan 20M-1114, in the Geographic Township of Trafalgar, County of Halton, now in the Town of Oakville, Regional Municipality of Halton. The subject property encompasses approximately 1.77 hectares.

The Stage 1 assessment entailed consideration of the proximity of previously registered archaeological sites and the original environmental setting of the property, along with nineteenth- and twentieth-century settlement trends and a review of available aerial imagery. The evaluation of archaeological potential also took into consideration the criteria established in the *Master Plan of Archaeological Resources of the Regional Municipality of Halton* (Archaeological Services Inc., 1998; 2008). This research has indicated there is potential for encountering both Indigenous and Euro-Canadian archaeological resources within approximately 23% the subject property. The remaining 77% of the subject property was deemed to have no further archaeological potential due to being previously assessed and subsequently disturbed or being low and wet.

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



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1.0 Project Context

Archaeological Services Inc. was contracted by Daniels City Builders Corporation to undertake a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Part of Lot 16, Concession 1 North of Dundas Street, Block 114, Registered Plan 20M-1114, in the Geographic Township of Trafalgar, County of Halton, now in the Town of Oakville, Regional Municipality of Halton (Figure 1). The subject property encompasses approximately 1.77 hectares.

1.1 Development Context

This assessment was conducted under the senior project management of Jennifer Ley (R376), and the project management and direction of Robb Bhardwaj (P449) under Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism Project Information Form P449-0762-2024. All activities carried out during this assessment were completed as part of a Zoning By-Law Amendment, 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).

All work was also guided by the *Master Plan of Archaeological Resources of the Regional Municipality of Halton* (Archaeological Services Inc., 1998, 2008) which provides further refinement with regard to potential buffers surrounding any noted features or characteristics which affect archaeological potential.

Permission to access the subject property and to carry out all activities necessary for the completion of the assessment was granted by the proponent on January 10, 2024.

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 being 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 approximately 50 B.C.E., evidence exists for macro-band camps, focusing on the seasonal harvesting of resources (Spence *et alia*, 1990:155, 164). By 450 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, phytolithic evidence for maize in central New York State by 350 B.C.E. suggests 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). It is probable that these bands, most likely Algonquian-speakers, retreated to interior camps during the winter.

From the beginning of the Late Woodland period at approximately 950 C.E., lifeways became more similar to that described in early historical documents.



Between approximately 1000-1300 C.E., the communal site is 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 practice (Williamson, 1990:317), however by 1300-1450 C.E., this episodic dispersal waned and populations now occupied sites throughout the year (Dodd et alia, 1990:343). Within the Toronto area, these communities represent the ancestors of the Huron-Wendat. From 1450-1649 C.E. this process continued with the coalescence of these small villages into larger communities (Birch and Williamson, 2013). The ancestral Huron-Wendat on the north shore of Lake Ontario gradually began to move northward during this period. 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 Wendat were the northernmost of the Iroquoians, inhabiting the area between Lake Simcoe and Georgian Bay known historically as Wendake and forming a confederation of individual nations.

At the time of contact with Europeans, the Niagara Peninsula was peopled by the "Neutral Nation" (*Gens Neutral*), a term coined by the French, in reference to the fact that this group took no part in the long-term conflicts between the people of the Wendat and the Haudenosaunee in New York. The Wendat referred to the Neutral as *Attiwandaronk*, meaning "peoples of a slightly different language." Conversely, the Neutral used the same term to refer to the Wendat. Unfortunately, none of the contemporary documents mention the term that the Neutral used to refer to themselves collectively. There is no known word comparable to the term Wendat that would indicate that the Neutral recognized themselves as a confederation of individual tribes. The term "Neutral" is an artifact of the European explorers, a name that poorly describes their position vis a vis surrounding Iroquoian and Algonquian peoples. Moreover, it implies a level of political unity equivalent to the Wendat or Haudenosaunee confederacies, which may be inaccurate.

In the 1640s, the traditional enmity between the Haudenosaunee and the Huron-Wendat (and their Algonquian allies such as the Nippissing and Odawa) led to the dispersal of the Huron-Wendat and then the Neutral. Shortly afterwards, the Haudenosaunee established a series of settlements at strategic locations along



the trade routes inland from the north shore of Lake Ontario. By the 1690s however, the Algonquian-speaking Anishinaabeg groups, such as the Mississaugas, were the only communities with a permanent presence in southern Ontario. From the beginning of the eighteenth century to the assertion of British sovereignty in 1763, there was no interruption to Anishinaabeg control and use of southern Ontario.

1.2.2 Post-Contact Settlement

Treaty 13a/14 Head of the Lake Purchase

The subject property is within 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 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).

Geographic 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). D'Arcy Boulton in 1805 (Boulton, 1805) noted that "the tract between the Tobicoake and the head of the lake is frequented only by wandering tribes of Missassagues." The concessions lying on either side 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 aboriginal 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 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 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 musquetoes 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 which 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 (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 saw mills. 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 saw mills (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.

Munn's Corners

Munn's Corners was an early hamlet located on the crossroads of Sixth Line and Dundas Street – named after Daniel Munn. Daniel Munn, an immigrant from Connecticut and early settler of Trafalgar Township, secured a crown grant for land at the Sixth Line and Dundas Street crossroads in 1808 (Parks Canada, 2010). Munn, primarily a farmer, and his wife, Milicent Post, cleared their land and established a farmstead, as well as a church and school, and a tavern and stagehouse (Trafalgar Township Historical Society, 2023). A log cabin was constructed in 1809 on the east side of the crossroads and used primarily as a school, and as a church at weekends – remaining in use until 1852 (Halton District



School Board, no date). In 1820, Daniel sold a portion of land, on the east side of the crossroads to be used as cemetery, which remains to the present day and is known as Munn's Pioneer Cemetery¹ (Parks Canada, 2010). Many of the Munn family members are buried there, including Daniel.

By 1844, a brick methodist church – Munn's United Church, was constructed on the north corner of the crossroads and remains to the present-day, albeit set back from its original position during road widening work in the mid-1970s (Munn's United Church, no date), followed by a new brick schoolhouse constructed adjacent to the church, in 1852 (Halton District School Board, no date). The school was subsequently relocated to a new building further south on Sixth Line, in 1955.

Historical records show that skilled workmen had settled at this crossroads by the late nineteenth century. On the north side of Dundas Street, was a blacksmith named Hiram Cline as well as a shoemaker named George Elliott. On the east side of Sixth Line Road, was a labourer named Henry Pope and a butcher named William Long. On the south side of Dundas Street, John Wray was enumerated as an innkeeper, and John Appelbe the Township Clerk (Archives of Ontario, 1871:4-6).

1.2.3 Review of Maps

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 subject property. 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,

¹ Munn's Pioneer Cemetery is a designated heritage property, located at 2 Dundas Street East, Oakville (Parks Canada, 2010).



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.

On the 1858 Tremaine Map of the County of Halton (Tremaine, 1858)(Figure 2) and the 1877 Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Halton (Pope, 1877)(Figure 4), the subject property overlays part of Lot 16, Concession 1 North of Dundas Street under the ownership of Isaac Freeman. The subject property is within a hamlet named Munn's Corners. On the 1858 map, the small hamlet includes a schoolhouse and church on the north corner of the hamlet, and an inn on the south corner, both approximately 50 metres to the northeast and southeast, respectively. No structures are depicted within the subject property at this time. By 1877, a house is depicted within the subject property on the corner of the Dundas Street and Sixth Line, surrounded on both sides by an orchard. By this time Munn's Corners has expanded, with additional buildings depicted on the east side of Sixth Line and a cemetery (present-day Munn's Pioneer Cemetery) now depicted opposite the methodist church, located on the east corner of the hamlet. A watercourse, representing present-day West Morrison Creek, is located approximately 100 metres to the northeast on both maps.

Twentieth century topographic mapping was reviewed for the presence of potential historical features (Figure 4). 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 map (Survey Division, Department of Militia and Defence, 1909), the subject property is illustrated as within a rural agricultural area, with scattered



woodlots. A house remains in the east corner of the subject property fronting Sixth Line, correlating with the location of a house depicted on 1877 mapping. A treed area is shown to the north of the house, representing the location of an orchard. A bridge is now illustrated approximately 100 metres to the north of the subject property on Sixth Line, accommodating the course of a creek. By 1938, topographic mapping shows the earlier building in the east corner is no longer present, and two additional buildings are now illustrated within the subject property, both fronting Sixth Line, as well as two additional buildings adjacent to the north limits, set back from both Sixth Line and Dundas Street West (Department of National Defence, 1938). Contour lines within the property indicate an elevation of 550 to 575 feet (167 to 175 metres) above sea level.

1.2.4 Review of Aerial and Satellite Imagery

In order to further understand the previous land use on the subject property, available aerial and satellite imagery was reviewed (Hunting Survey Corporation Limited, 1954, Town of Oakville, n.d., Google Earth Pro, 2024).

On 1954 aerial imagery, the subject property is located within a rural agricultural landscape on the west corner of the intersection of Dundas Street West and Sixth Line (Figure 5). Two houses with driveways are visible within the subject property, correlating with the location of two buildings on the 1938 topographic map.

Imagery from 2004, shows there has been little change on the north side of Dundas Street West, which largely remains agricultural land (Figure 6). The east half of the subject property comprises of two house lots with garages and outbuildings, and paved driveways with surrounding treed lawns. The west half of the subject property remained within agricultural use at this time.

By 2012 and 2014, the subject property has undergone significant land altering activities for development (Figures 7-8). The entire eastern portion of the subject property had been subject to ground disturbance and was utilized as a construction compound. Additionally, a stretch of land fronting Dundas Street West has also undergone significant ground disturbance prior to road widening. A large stormwater management pond has also been constructed immediately adjacent to the subject property.



1.3 Archaeological Context

This section provides background research pertaining to previous archaeological fieldwork conducted within and in the vicinity of the subject property, its environment characteristics (including drainage, soils, surficial geology, topography, etc.), 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 subject property, 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 subject property is in the AiGw Borden block.

A total of 27 archaeological sites have been registered within an approximate one-kilometre radius of the subject property (Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, 2024). The closest registered site is Munn's Corners (AiGw-1030), a Euro-Canadian domestic artifact refuse deposit, which is located approximately 50 metres to the east. A summary of nearby sites is available in Appendix A.

1.3.2 Previous Assessments

During the course of the background research, 10 previous archaeological assessments were identified within 50 metres of the subject property, four of which occurred within or overlapping the subject property (Figure 9).



Within the Subject Property

In 2008, D.R Poulton and Associates Inc. completed a Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment in advance of residential development on the west corner of the intersection of Dundas Street West and Sixth Line, under Project Information Form: P053-157-2007 (D.R. Poulton & Associates Inc., 2008). The Stage 1 background research determined that part of the study area retained potential for encountering Indigenous and Euro-Canadian archaeological resources. The potential for encountering Euro-Canadian resources was considered higher, given the presence of houses within and immediately adjacent to the study area on nineteenth century historical mapping. The study area was split into two assessment areas - 'Timsin' to the north and 'Arrassa' to the south - comprising 15.4 hectares in total. The majority of the study area, accounting for the 'Timsin' area, was assessed by means of a pedestrian survey, whilst the south portion, the 'Arrassa' area, was assessed by means of a test-pit survey. The south portion of the study area (Arrassa) incorporated a portion of the current subject property. The Stage 2 pedestrian survey within the 'Timsin' portion of the study area, adjacent to the current subject property, identified four isolated Indigenous lithic findspots (Timsin 1, Timsin 2, Timsin 3 and Timsin 4). None of which met the requirements to be registered on the Ontario Archaeological Sites Database. The closest of the four findspots to the current subject property was Timsin 2, an Indigenous large lithic flake of Onondaga chert, possibly a core, located approximately 100 metres to the northwest. During the Stage 2 test pit survey within the 'Arrassa' portion of the study area, a small scatter of nineteenth and twentieth century domestic debris was observed but not deemed significant. As such, the report concluded that the entire study area was considered free of further archaeological concern.

Following this 2008 report, in 2010, D.R Poulton and Associates Inc. completed an additional Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment for the same residential development, after three additional lots fronting Sixth Line had been acquired by the client (3030, 3042 and 3094 Sixth Line), under Project Information Form: P316-051-2010 (D.R. Poulton & Associates Inc., 2010). At the time of the assessment, all three addresses had been cleared of buildings. Two of the former house lots are located within (3030 Sixth Line), or immediately adjacent (3042).



Sixth Line) to the current subject property. The Stage 1 background research indicated that the study area retained Indigenous and Euro-Canadian archaeological potential. A Stage 2 test pit survey initially identified five positive test pits, followed by an additional two positive intensified test pits, all located at 3030 Sixth Line, and within the current subject property. All 11 artifacts were identified as Euro-Canadian, dating to between the mid-nineteenth to late twentieth century. The report concluded that the small scatter represented casual domestic artifact refuse disposal representative of residential use of the area since the nineteenth century. Given the small spread of similar Euro-Canadian artifacts noted during the earlier, 2008 survey, immediately adjacent, it was concluded that it was possible that both artifact spreads related to a homestead depicted within this area on nineteenth century historical mapping. However, these artifact spreads were deemed not representative of a significant archaeological resource. As such, the study area was considered free of archaeological concern.

In 2011, Archaeological Services Inc., completed a Stage 1 Archaeological Background Study as part of the Dundas Street Bus Rapid Transit Planning Study (Archaeological Services Inc., 2011) under Project Information Form: P094-032-2011. The study area comprised a road corridor from Brant Street to Trafalgar, incorporating a portion of the current subject property, along the Dundas Street West right-of-way. The Stage 1 background research indicated that whilst portions of the road right-of-way retained archaeological potential, the area overlapping the current subject property did not retain potential and was cleared of further archaeological concern.

In 2012, A.M Archaeological Associates completed a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment as part of the Spencer Creek Bridge replacement, culvert rehabilitation and widening, under Project Information Form: P035-177-2012 (A.M. Archaeological Associates, 2012). The 3.2-kilometre study corridor comprised Sixth Line (including existing right-of-way) from Dundas Street to Highway 407 and incorporated a portion of the current subject property on the east side. The report concluded that the majority of the study corridor had been subject to ground disturbance and grading due to construction of the road (82%). The remaining 18%, incorporating lands adjacent to the right-of-way, retained the



potential for Indigenous and Euro-Canadian remains. Of the portion incorporating the current subject property, the majority was found not to retain archaeological potential due to being previously assessed in 2007 by D.R Poulton and Associates (P053-157-2007). The house lot at 3030 Sixth Line, as well as a portion of the woodlot in the centre of the current subject property, was found to retain archaeological potential and was recommended for Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment.

Within 50 metres of the Subject Property

In 2007, Archaeological Services Inc., completed a Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment of the Lower Fourth Lands (Archaeological Services Inc., 2007) under Project Information Form Numbers: P117-090, P141-018-2006 and P141-088-2007. The study area comprised 82 hectares and was immediately adjacent to the west side of the current subject property, fronting Dundas Street West. The Stage 2 field survey component of the assessment was conducted in phases over a three-year period (2005-2007). The test pit survey (2005) revealed no archaeological resources, however, both phases of subsequent pedestrian survey (2006-2007) identified Indigenous and Euro-Canadian archaeological resources. Of the Indigenous archaeological resources, four were registered in the Ontario Archaeological Sites Database as AiGw-414, AiGw-420, AiGw-421 and AiGw-488, and three represented isolated lithic findspots (P3, P4 and P5). Sites AiGw-414, AiGw-420, and AiGw-421 were lithic scatters, whilst site AiGw-488 was a Late Archaic/Early Woodland isolated findspot. Of the Indigenous archaeological resources encountered, isolated Findspot P3 was the closest to the current subject property, located 245 metres to the southwest. Three Euro-Canadian sites were also recorded and registered (AiGw-489, AiGw-490 and AiGw-491). Site AiGw-489, The Phillips Site, comprised a Euro-Canadian homestead and both sites AiGw-490 and AiGw-491 comprised domestic artifacts related to The Phillips Site. A Stage 3 Archaeological Assessment was recommended for Indigenous sites AiGw-414, AiGw-420 and AiGw-421 as well as all three Euro-Canadian sites AiGw-489, AiGw-490 and AiGw-491. Site AiGw-488 was considered free of further archaeological concern.



In 2013, D.R Poulton and Associates Inc. completed a Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment in advance of a proposed residential development on the east side of Sixth Line, and north corner of the intersection of Dundas Street West and Sixth Line, under Project Information Form: P316-111-2011 (D.R. Poulton & Associates Inc., 2013). The study area comprised 37.5 hectares, approximately 50 metres northeast of the current subject property, on the opposite (east) side of Sixth Line. The Stage 1 background research indicated that the majority of the study area retained potential for encountering Indigenous and Euro-Canadian archaeological resources. The Stage 2 survey was conducted by means of pedestrian and test pit survey, which identified two isolated Indigenous lithics (Location 1, Location 2) and a single Euro-Canadian ceramic sherd (Location 3). Both Location 1 and Location 2 were subject to the placement of a one-metre test unit, which did not identify any further Indigenous artifacts, but did identify Euro-Canadian domestic artifacts. The Euro-Canadian component of Location 1 was identified as relating primarily to a twentieth century occupation, and the Euro-Canadian component of Location 2 was primarily related to an early-midnineteenth century occupation. In conclusion, the report recommended that Locations 1 and 3 be cleared of further archaeological concern. Location 2, subsequently registered on the Ontario Archaeological Sites Database as AiGw-568, the Jordan Munn site, retained further Cultural Heritage Value and Interest, and as such was recommended for a Stage 3 Archaeological Assessment.

Following this 2013 report, in 2014 AMICK Consultants Limited completed a Stage 3 Site-Specific Assessment of the Jordan Munn site (AiGw-568), under Project Information Form: P038-0822-2014 (AMICK Consultants Limited, 2014a), followed by a Stage 4 Mitigation under Project Information Form: P384-0195-2014 (AMICK Consultants Limited, 2014b). The Stage 3 field assessment comprised the excavation of 20 test units, which revealed that the Jordan Munn site (AiGw-568) site comprised a small Euro-Canadian pioneer surface midden predominantly dating to the mid-nineteenth century. The report concluded that the site could relate to an early school and church at the crossroads at Munn's Corners, depicted on historical mapping, or John Munn's house. Due to the presence of early nineteenth-century artifacts, a Stage 4 mitigation excavation was recommended. In addition to the Jordan Munn site (AiGw-568), the Stage 3 assessment also identified an Indigenous isolated lithic findspot, which did not



meet the criteria for registration on the Ontario Archaeological Sites Database. The subsequent Stage 4 mitigation comprised the excavation of 47 test units. The artifacts encountered during this phase of fieldwork was consistent with the findings from the Stage 2 and Stage 3 fieldwork. The report concluded that the site had been completely excavated, and the study area could be cleared of further archaeological concern.

In 2022, Wood Environment and Infrastructure Solutions completed a Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment of the study corridor from Sixth Line to Highway 407, under Project Information Form: P354-059-2020 (Wood Environment and Infrastructure Solutions, 2022). This report re-examined portions of the previous assessment completed by A.M. Archaeological Associates in 2012 (P035-177-2012), which had determined portions of the right-of-way along Sixth Line retained archaeological potential. As a result of the re-assessment by means of a visual inspection, it was determined that additional areas were found to be disturbed, including the areas nearest to the current subject property. As a result, the report concluded that all lands identified as retaining archaeological potential should be subject to Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment.

In 2022, Irvin Heritage Inc., completed a Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment, and Stage 3 Site Excavation of AiGw-1030, Munn's Corners, at 3043 Sixth Line, as part of a development application, under Project Information Forms: P379-0347-2020 and P379-0371-2021 (Irvin Heritage Inc., 2022). The study area was 0.29 hectares in size, and approximately 27 metres northeast of the current subject property. The Stage 3 Site-Specific investigation resulted in the recovery of 62 Euro-Canadian artifacts. The report concluded that the site was a "highly disturbed, low yielding and ephemeral" nineteenth-twentieth century deposit, likely resulting from the demolition of nineteenth century buildings and subsequent twentieth century occupation. Given the nature of the site, it was not determined to have any further Cultural Heritage Value or Interest, and the study area was cleared of further archaeological concern.

1.3.3 Physiography

The subject property is located on drumlinized till plains within 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.

Soils within the subject property comprise clay to silt-textured till derived from glaciolacustrine deposits or shale (Ontario Geological Survey, 2018).

The subject property is located within the Morrison-Wedgewood Diversion subwatershed of the Sixteen Mile Creek watershed. Approximately 360 square kilometres in size, the Sixteen Mile Creek watershed drains parts of Halton Hills, Milton, Mississauga and Oakville into Lake Ontario (Conservation Halton, n.d.). Sixteen Mile Creek lies in the Great Lakes Basin and flows from the Niagara Escarpment through the towns of Oakville and Milton before draining into Lake Ontario. The creek was first named by the Mississaugas as *Ne-sauga y-onk* or *niizhozaagiwan*, meaning "having two outlets" in Anishnaabemowin. The French later named the creek *Rivière de Gravais*, or "gravelly river". Eventually the creek came to be known as Sixteen Mile Creek, referring to the distance from the mouth of the river to the western end of Lake Ontario (Greenbelt Foundation, No Date).

The nearest watercourse, located approximately 90 metres to the northeast of the subject property, is West Morrison Creek, which feeds into the Morrison-Wedgewood Diversion (a channel 4.2 kilometres in length that diverts water from the northwest portion of the Town of Oakville to Sixteen Mile Creek).

1.3.4 Existing Conditions

A Stage 1 field review was completed on September 19, 2024, in order to review the physical features of the subject property. The subject property is approximately 1.7 hectares and is located within a mixed semi-rural and residential area on the north limits of the Town of Oakville (Figure 10). The subject property is bound to the north by Sixth Line, to the east by Dundas Street West (Highway 5), to the south by residential developments, and to the west by a trail and a stormwater management pond. A small portion of the sidewalk for



Dundas Street West is within the subject property limits. The subject property comprises a vacant lot with scrubland and trees.

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 potential for Indigenous archaeological sites.

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 of the Regional Municipality of Halton* (Archaeological



Services Inc, 1998; 2008). 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. In addition, all lands beyond 200 metres of water but within 200 metres of the top of bank of all two-line rivers, including the Credit River and Bronte Creek, are considered characteristics that indicate pre-contact archaeological potential.

The Halton Master Plan also defines potential site buffers in the vicinity of registered archaeological 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 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. Also considered to have archaeological potential are 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.

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 the 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 Master Plan of Archaeological Resources of the Regional Municipality of Halton Plan considers a similar suite of criteria or indicators (Archaeological Services Inc., 1998; 2008). Under the refined criteria, there is potential for historical sites within 100 metres of registered or designated historical sites, cemeteries, and features illustrated on historical maps. There is also potential within 200 metres of settlement roads and 50 metres of early railways.

Given the property's location within a historic hamlet at the crossroads of two early roads, a house and orchard identified on historical mapping, as well as the proximity to a watercourse, the subject property has the potential for Indigenous and Euro-Canadian archaeological resources, depending on the degree of subsequent development impacts.

2.0 Field Methods

A Stage 1 field review was completed in order to assess the geography, topography, and current conditions of the subject property, as well as to evaluate and map archaeological potential prior to development. The field review was conducted by Robb Bhardwaj (P449). The weather conditions and lighting were appropriate for the completion of the fieldwork and permitted 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 select photo locations and field observations have been compiled on project mapping (Images 1-12; Figure 11).

2.1 Findings

In accordance with the Standards, the Stage 1 field review was conducted by means of visual inspection across all accessible portions of the subject property. The subject property currently comprises a vacant, overgrown lot.

Approximately 73% of the subject property within the east portion and a stretch of land fronting Dundas Street East, was previously assessed by D.R. Poulton and Associates Inc. and Archaeological Services Inc., and now comprises disturbed ground resulting from extensive and deep land alteration. This disturbance was clearly visible on modern aerial and satellite imagery and confirmed with visual



inspection (Images 1-8). As such, and in accordance with the Standards, Section 1.3.2, this area retains no archaeological potential.

Approximately 4% of the subject property is low and wet (Image 9). This area corresponds to a pond shown in imagery from 2004 (Figure 6). In accordance with the Standards, Section 2.1, Standard 2a.i., this permanently wet area is considered to have no archaeological potential.

The balance, approximately 23% of the subject property, comprising scrubland, overgrown vegetation and a woodlot appears to remain intact, and as such retains archaeological potential (Images 10-12).

3.0 Analysis and Conclusions

Archaeological Services Inc. was contracted by Daniels City Builders Corporation to undertake a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of a proposed development at Dundas Street West and Sixth Line, Part of Lot 16, Concession 1 North of Dundas Street, Block 114, Registered Plan 20M-1114, Geographic Township of Trafalgar, County of Halton, now in the Town of Oakville, Regional Municipality of Halton. The subject property encompasses approximately 1.77 hectares.

The Stage 1 assessment entailed consideration of the proximity of previously registered archaeological sites and the original environmental setting of the property, along with nineteenth- and twentieth-century settlement trends and a review of available aerial imagery. The evaluation of archaeological potential also took into consideration the criteria established in the *Master Plan of Archaeological Resources of the Regional Municipality of Halton* (Archaeological Services Inc., 1998, 2009). This research indicated there was potential for encountering both Indigenous and Euro-Canadian archaeological resources within approximately 23% the subject property.

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



4.0 Recommendations

In light of these results, the following recommendation is made:

- 1. Prior to any land-disturbing activities within the subject property, a Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment must be undertaken in accordance with the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism's 2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists.
 - a) All undisturbed lands must be assessed 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 millimetres mesh to facilitate artifact recovery. All test pits must be at least 30 centimetres in diameter and backfilled upon completion. Test pits should be excavated at five-metre transect intervals, but intervals may be adjusted in light of considerations of disturbance, topography, and drainage as outlined in the Standards, Section 2.1.2.

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 Cultural Programs 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, RSO 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, preservation, and protection 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 regards 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 field work 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, requires that any person discovering or having knowledge of a burial site shall immediately notify the police or coroner. It is recommended that the Registrar, Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, Ministry of Public and Business Services Delivery is also immediately notified.
- Archaeological sites recommended for further archaeological field work or protection remain subject to Section 48(1) of the Ontario Heritage Act and



may not be altered, nor may artifacts be removed from them, except by a person holding an archaeological license.

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7.0 Images



Image 1: View of overgrown vegetation within the previously assessed and disturbed east portion of the subject property.



Image 2: View of overgrown vegetation within the previously assessed and disturbed east portion of the subject property.





Image 3: View of ground disturbance with overgrown vegetation in the previously assessed and disturbed east portion of the subject property, fronting Dundas Street West.



Image 4: Close-up of ground disturbance in the east portion of the subject property fronting Dundas Street West.





Image 5: View of scrubland and overgrown vegetation within the previously assessed and disturbed east portion of the subject property. Note the presence of a concrete well in the foreground.



Image 6: View along Dundas Street West of the previously assessed and disturbed area.





Image 7: Close-up view of ground disturbance within a stretch of scrubland and overgrown vegetation fronting Dundas Street West.



Image 8: Utilities within a stretch of ground disturbance fronting Dundas Street West.





Image 9: View of low and wet area with marsh vegetation in the west portion of the subject property.



Image 10: View of woodlot within the west portion of the subject property.





Image 11: View of woodlot within the west portion of the subject property.



Image 12: General view of the scrubland and overgrown vegetation facing the woodlot within the west portion.



8.0 Maps

See following pages for detailed assessment mapping and figures



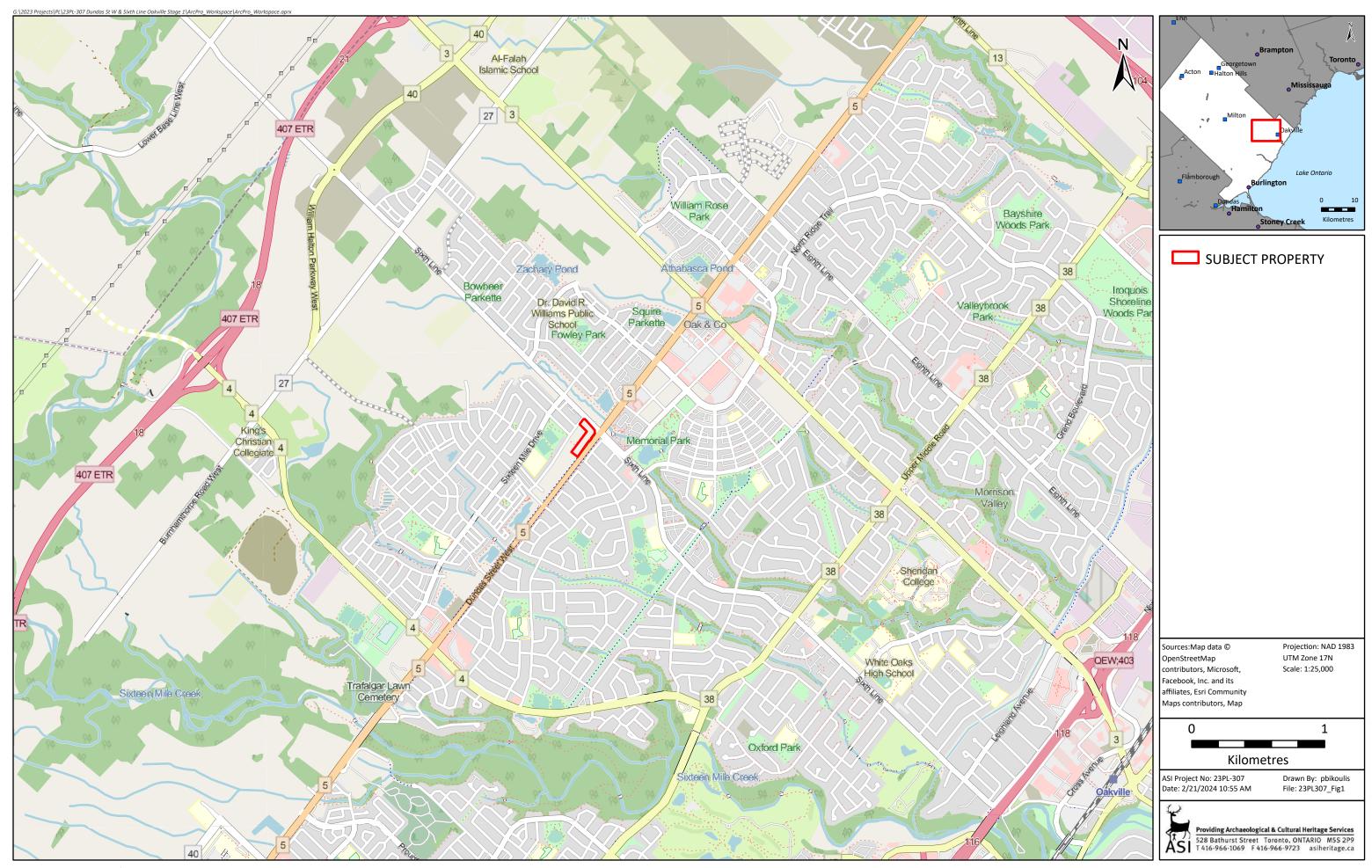


Figure 1: Location of the Subject Property

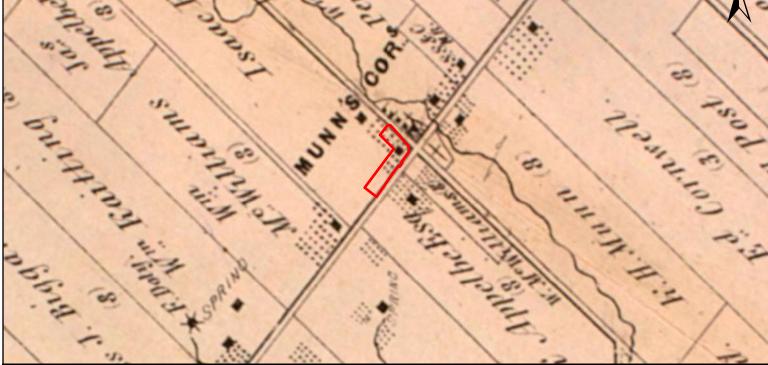


Figure 3: Subject Property located on the 1877 Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Halton



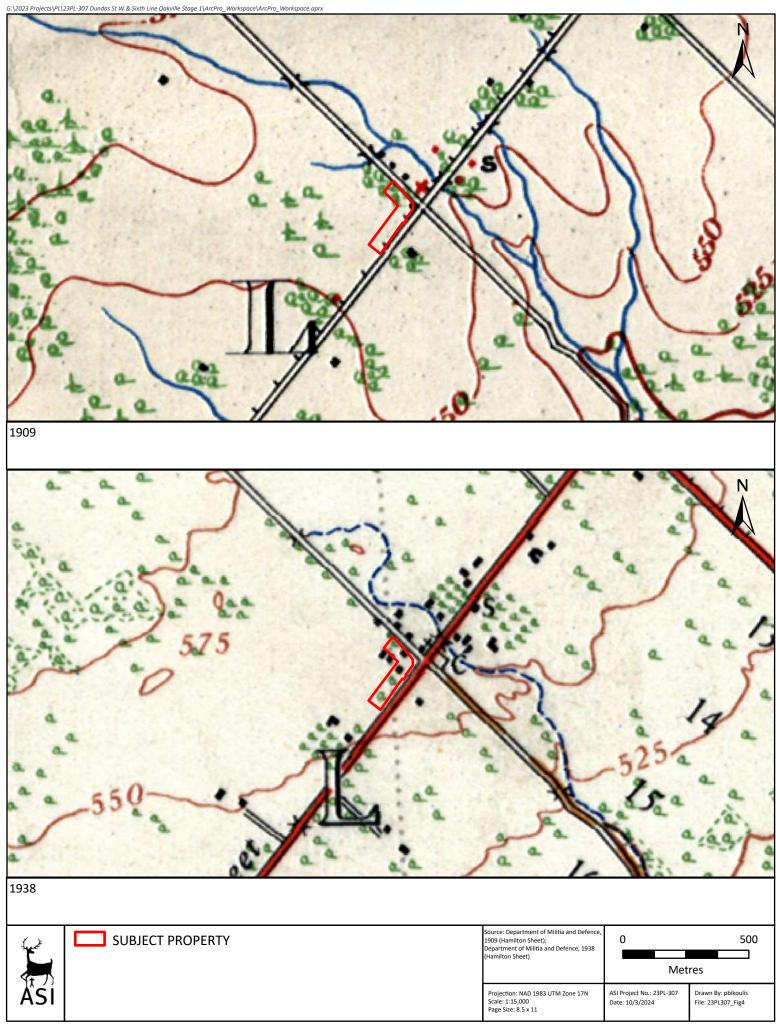


Figure 4: Subject Property located on Twentieth Century Topographic Sheets



Figure 5: Subject Property located on 1954 Aerial Imagery



SUBJECT PROPERTY

Source: Google Earth (2004)

O

Metres

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

ASI Project No.: 23PL-307
Date: 2/23/2024 7:22 PM
File: 23PL307_Fig6



Figure 7: Subject Property located on 2012 Aerial Imagery

Figure 8: Subject Property located on 2014 Satellite Imagery

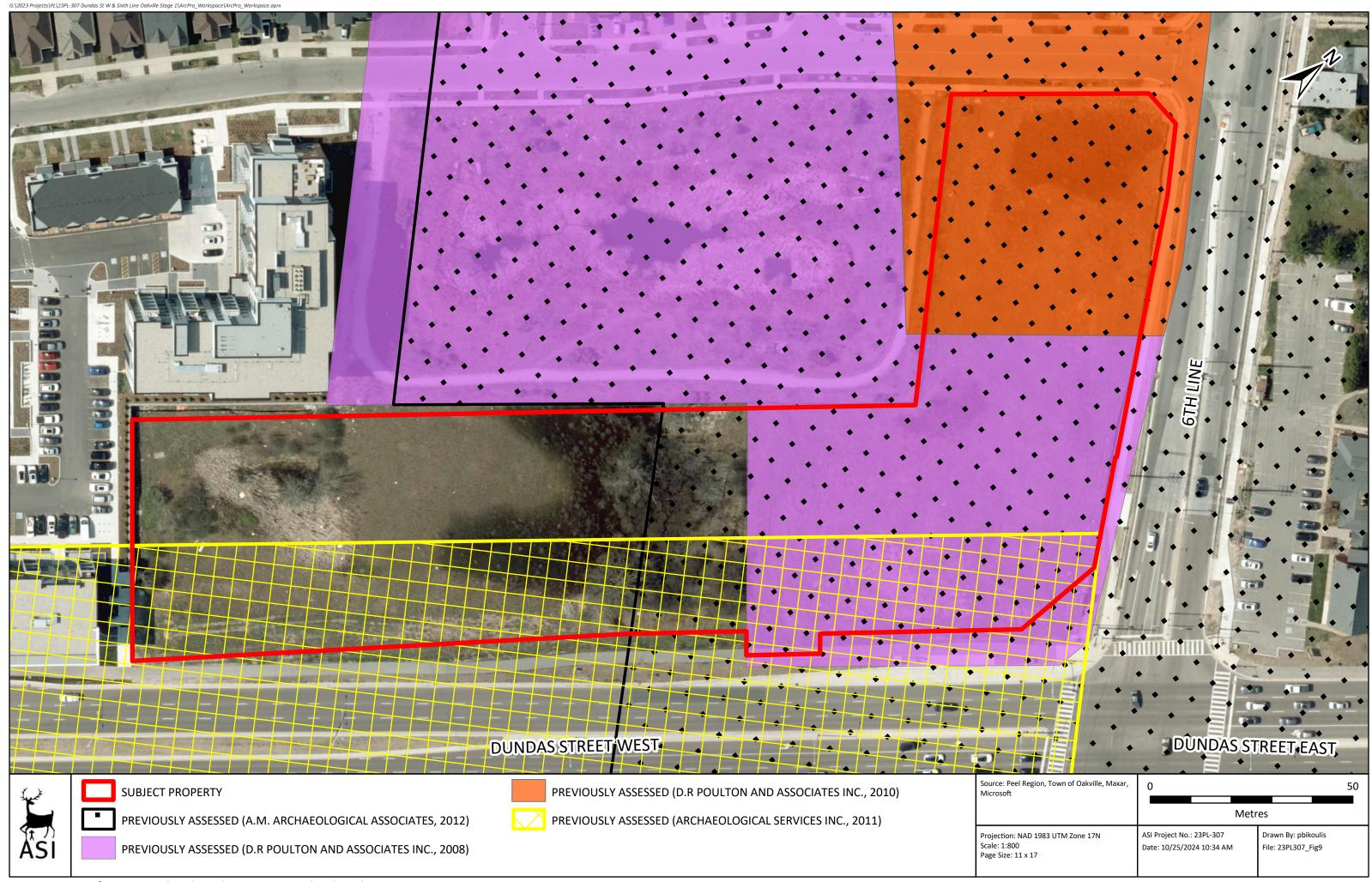


Figure 9: Status of Previous Archaeological Assessments within the Subject Property

Figure 11: Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment Results

Appendix A: Registered Sites Within One Kilometre of the Project Area

Borden	Site Name	Temporal/Cultural Affiliation	Site Type	Researcher
AiGw-211	Bastille	Indigenous	Findspot	Archaeological Services Inc., 1991
AiGw-212	Robespierre	Indigenous	Campsite	Archaeological Services Inc., 1991
AiGw-215	Potemkin	Indigenous	Campsite	Archaeological Services Inc., 1991
AiGw-216	Acorn	Indigenous	Findspot	Archaeological Services Inc., 1991
AiGw-217	Walnut	Indigenous	Findspot	Archaeological Services Inc., 1991

Borden	Site Name	Temporal/Cultural Affiliation	Site Type	Researcher
AiGw-218	Levar-Reid	Euro-Canadian	Homestead	Archaeological Services Inc., 1991
AiGw-219	Oakdene	Indigenous	Campsite	Archaeological Services Inc., 1991
AiGw-227	Abigail Post Homestead	Indigenous; Euro- Canadian	Findspot; Homestead	Mayer Heritage Consultants Inc., 1992
AiGw-229	Uptown Core Lands 3	Euro-Canadian	Midden, School	Mayer Heritage Consultants Inc., 1992
AiGw-230	Daniel Munn Homestead	Indigenous; Euro- Canadian	Findspot; Homestead	Mayer Heritage Consultants Inc., 1992
AiGw-231	Uptown Core Lands 5	Early Woodland	Findspot	Mayer Heritage Consultants Inc., 1992
AiGw-414	N/A	Indigenous	Campsite	Archaeological Services Inc., 2007

Borden	Site Name	Temporal/Cultural Affiliation	Site Type	Researcher
AiGw-416	N/A	Unknown	Findspot	Archaeological Services Inc., 2006
AiGw-420	N/A	Indigenous	Scatter	Archaeological Services Inc., 2007
AiGw-421	N/A	Indigenous	Scatter	Archaeological Services Inc., 2007
AiGw-428	Thompson	Euro-Canadian	Homestead	Archeoworks Inc., 2004
AiGw-429	N/A	Indigenous	Findspot	Archeoworks Inc., 2004
AiGw-430	N/A	Indigenous	Findspot	Archeoworks Inc., 2004
AiGw-431	N/A	Middle Woodland	Findspot	Archeoworks Inc., 2004
AiGw-453	N/A	Early Archaic	Findspot	Archaeological Services Inc., 2006

Borden	Site Name	Temporal/Cultural Affiliation	Site Type	Researcher
AiGw-454	N/A	Indigenous	Scatter	Archaeological Services Inc., 2006, 2008
AiGw-465	Loyalist	Euro-Canadian	House	Archaeological Services Inc., 2007, 2008
AiGw-466	Kaitting	Euro-Canadian	House	Archaeological Services Inc., 2007, 2008
AiGw-471	Trafalgar	Euro-Canadian	House	Archaeological Services Inc., 2007, 2008
AiGw-481	N/A	Indigenous	Findspot	Archaeological Services Inc., 2007
AiGw-488	N/A	Late Archaic	Findspot	Archaeological Services Inc., 2007
AiGw-1030	Munn's Corners	Euro-Canadian	Domestic Artifact Deposit	Irvin Heritage, Inc., 2022

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