



Stage 3 Site Specific Assessment of AiGw-1028 - Part Lot 31, Concession 2, Trafalgar Township, Halton County, now Town of Oakville, Region of Halton

Project number: 2020-30

Report Type: Original

Report Date: 12 May 2021

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PIF Number: P1153-0016-2021

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1. Executive Summary

Parslow Heritage Consultancy Inc. (PHC Inc.) completed a Stage 3 archaeological assessment of AiGw-1028, a small multi-component archaeological site located at Part Lot 31, Concession 2, Township of Trafalgar, Halton County, now Town of Oakville, Region of Halton, Ontario. AiGw-1028 is located in a previous agricultural field that has been converted into a manicured lawn, and was first identified during a Stage 2 archaeological assessment performed by Parslow Heritage Consultancy (PHC) in the autumn of 2020. A total of six non-diagnostic lithic artifacts, and nine Euro-Canadian glass and ceramic artifacts were recovered during Stage 2 test pit survey. The Indigenous artifact assemblage consisted of 3 flake fragments, 1 core fragment, 1 shatter fragment, and 1 edge retouch flake, all made of locally sourced Onondaga chert. As the site is located east of the Niagara Escarpment the assemblage was deemed to have Cultural Heritage Value or Interest (CHVI) and met the requirements for Stage 3 site-specific assessment as outlined in Section 2.2.1 Standard 1a.i.2 of the MHSTCI *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (2011), as well as the *Ontario Heritage Act* (RSO, 1990). This archaeological assessment is required by Argo Development Corporation as part of a development application under the *Planning Act* (MHSTCI Section 7.5.6 Standard 1).

The objectives of the Stage 3 archaeological assessment are to determine the size, nature, and significance of archaeological sites identified during earlier archaeological stages, and to determine whether or not the site will need to undergo further mitigative work. Methods to achieve these objectives include:

- ▶ Controlled excavation of 1m square units to determine artifact distribution and identify any potential features.

The Stage 3 site specific assessment was conducted on April 23, 2021 and consisted of the placement of a 5 metre grid over the study area, followed by hand excavation of 7 additional 1x1 metre test units placed strategically on said grid around the original Stage 2 test unit. The Stage 3 excavation resulted in the recovery of an additional 11 Indigenous non-diagnostic lithic artifacts, and 30 Euro-Canadian artifacts. As the unit yields across the site are quite low, and no diagnostic artifacts or archaeological features were identified during the Stage 3 Site Specific Assessment, AiGw-1028 is considered to have been sufficiently assessed under *Section 3.4.1, Standard 1a* of the MHSTCI *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (2011) and does not retain any further Cultural Heritage Value or Interest. As such, further work (Stage 4) is not recommended.

The proponent, as well as PHC Inc. has been actively engaging with Indigenous communities who have expressed interest in the archaeological work being undertaken, and a complete account of First Nations engagement can be found in the supplementary documentation.

2. Personnel and Acknowledgements

Project/ Licenced Archaeologist	Adam Long, MSc. (P1153)
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Report Review:	Dr. Carla Parslow (P243)

Acknowledgements:

Scott Bland and Julian Pompeo, Argo Developments

Victor Enns, Property Owner

3. Project Context

This section of the report provides the context for the archaeological assessment and covers three areas: development context, historical context and archaeological context.

3.1 Development Context

Parslow Heritage Consultancy Inc. (PHC Inc.) completed a Stage 3 archaeological assessment of AiGw-1028, a small multi-component archaeological site located at Part Lot 31, Concession 2, Township of Trafalgar, Halton County, now Town of Oakville, Region of Halton, Ontario. AiGw-1028 is located in a previous agricultural field that has been converted into a manicured lawn, and was first identified during a Stage 2 archaeological assessment performed by Parslow Heritage Consultancy (PHC) in the autumn of 2020. A total of six non-diagnostic lithic artifacts, and nine Euro-Canadian glass and ceramic artifacts were recovered during Stage 2 test pit survey. The Indigenous artifact assemblage consisted of 3 flake fragments, 1 core fragment, 1 shatter fragment, and 1 edge retouch flake, all made of locally sourced Onondaga chert. As the site is located east of the Niagara Escarpment the assemblage was deemed to have Cultural Heritage Value or Interest (CHVI) and met the requirements for Stage 3 site-specific assessment as outlined in *Section 2.2.1 Standard 1a.i.2* of the *MHSTCI Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (2011), as well as the *Ontario Heritage Act* (RSO, 1990). This archaeological assessment is required by Argo Development Corporation as part of a development application under the *Planning Act* (MHSTCI Section 7.5.6 Standard 1).

The objectives of the Stage 3 archaeological assessment are to determine the size, nature, and significance of archaeological sites identified during earlier archaeological stages, and to determine whether or not the site will need to undergo further mitigative work. Methods to achieve these objectives include:

- ▶ Controlled excavation of 1m square units to determine artifact distribution and identify any potential features

Permission to access the study area was provided by Victor Enns, and Scott Bland (MHSTCI Section 7.5.6 Standard 3).

All archaeological work documented in this report was completed under the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism, and Culture Industries (MHSTCI) *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*.

3.2 Historical Context

This section describes the past and present land use and the settlement history, and any other relevant historical information gathered through the background research (MHSTCI *Section 7.5.7 Standard 1*).

3.2.1 Indigenous History

Indigenous peoples of southern Ontario have left behind archaeologically significant resources throughout the province which show continuity with past peoples, even if they were not recorded

in historic Euro-Canadian documents. Table 1 illustrates this continuity demonstrating over 11,000 years of Indigenous occupation of southern Ontario (Ellis and Ferris 1990).

Table 1: Overview of the cultural chronology for southern Ontario.

Period	Characteristics	Time	Comments
Early Paleo	Fluted Points	9,000 – 8,400 BC	Caribou hunters
Late Paleo	Hi-Lo Points	8,400 – 8,000 BC	Smaller but more numerous sites
Early Archaic	Kirk, Nettling and Bifurcate Base Points	8,000-6,000 BC	Slow population growth
Middle Archaic I	Stanley/Neville, Stemmed Points	6,000-4,000 BC	Environment similar to present
Middle Archaic II	Thebes, Otter Creek Points	4,000- 3,000 BC	
Middle Archaic III	Brewerton Side and Corner Notched Points	3,000 – 2,000 BC	
Late Archaic I	Narrow Point (Lamoka, Normanskill)	2,000-1,800 BC	Increasing site size
	Broad Point (Genesee, Adder Orchard)	1,800-1,500 BC	Large chipped lithic tools
	Small Point (Crawford Knoll, Innes, Ace-of-Spades)	1,500-1,100 BC	Introduction of bow hunting
Terminal Archaic	Hind Points	1,100-950 BC	Emergence of true cemeteries
Early Woodland	Meadowood Points	950-400 BC	introduction of pottery
Middle Woodland	Dentate/Pseudo-Scallop Pottery	400 BC-AD 500	increased sedentism
	Princess Point	AD 550-900	Introduction of Corn
Late Woodland	Early	AD 900-1,300	Emergence of agricultural villages
	Middle	AD 1,300-1,400	Large longhouses (100m +)
	Late	AD 1,400-1,650	Tribal warfare and displacement
Contact Period	Various Algonkian and Iroquois Populations	AD 1,700-1,875	early written records and treaties

The post-contact Indigenous occupation of Southern Ontario was heavily influenced by the dispersal of various Iroquoian-speaking peoples, such as the Huron, and the subsequent arrival of Algonkian-speaking groups from northern Ontario at the end of the 17th century and beginning of the 18th century (Schmalz 1991).

The area that is now within the town limits of Oakville was part the traditional lands of the Mississaugas, a sub-tribe of the Anishinaabe First Nations people. They were a nomadic people of hunters and fishers, who also minimally farmed the lowlands at the mouth of the rivers and creeks feeding Lake Ontario.

At the end of the American Revolutionary War in 1783 soldiers and civilians loyal to the British Crown (United Empire Loyalists) left the United States to resettle in Canada. They were entitled to land grants, but this large influx of refugees put increasing pressure on the government of Upper Canada (southern Ontario) to purchase additional lands along Lake Ontario. In 1805-6 the Mississauga sold their lands to the Crown, from Toronto to present-day Hamilton, retaining lands at the mouth of the three major waterways emptying into the lake - the Credit River, the Sixteen Mile Creek, and the Twelve Mile Creek (The Twelve) for fishing rights (MCFN 2017, Town of Oakville 2011).

According to Euro-Canadian documentation, the study area first enters the historic record when the Mississaugas First Nations entered into Treaty No. 13A with Williams Claus, Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs on August 2nd, 1805 on behalf of His Majesty King George III:

Commencing at the eastern bank of the mouth of the River Etobicoke, being in the limit of the western boundary line of the Toronto Purchase, in the year 1787; then north twenty-two degrees west, six miles; thence south 38 degrees west, twenty-six miles more or less, until it intersects a line on the course north 45 degrees west, produced from the outlet of Burlington Bay; then along the said produced line, one mile more or less to the lands granted to Captain Brant; then north 45 degrees east, one mile and a half; then south 45 degrees east, three miles and a half more or less to Lake Ontario; then north easterly along the waters edge of Lake Ontario to the eastern bank of the River Etobicoke being the place of the beginning."

Reserving to Ourselves and Mississague Nation the sole right of the Fisheries in the Twelve Mile Creek, the Sixteen Mile Creek, the Etobicoke River, together with the flats or low grounds on said creeks and rivere which we have heretofore, cultivated and where have our camps and also the sole right of the Fishery in the River Credit with one mile on each side of said river.

This treaty comprises the fronts of the Townships of Toronto, Trafalgar and Nelson, except the 3,450 acres granted to Chief Brant in 1797.

(Morris 1943: 22)

In 1806 Samuel Wilmot surveyed this new territory into lots dividing the land by Lines and Concessions running roughly east to west. From east to west, Wilmot created three townships, initially named Toronto, Alexander and Grant. However, after the news of Horatio Nelson's victory at the Battle of Trafalgar reached the colony, Alexander and Grant Townships became Trafalgar and Nelson (Oakville Historical Society 2019).

The end of the War of 1812 saw the demand for land in southern Ontario increase again and lots were sold or leased to a new influx of settlers. In 1814, Philip Sovereign bought a lot on the west

side of the Twelve Mile Creek (Bronte) and John Belyea leased land from the Mississaugas on the east side of the creek.

In 1820, the Mississauga Chiefs sold their reserve land at the mouth of the Credit River, Sixteen Mile Creek, and Twelve Mile Creek. A town site at the mouth of the Twelve Mile Creek was surveyed in 1834 and became known as Bronte Village. The village was named for Lord Nelson who received the Duchy of Bronte from King Ferdinand of Naples and Sicily in 1799 (Town of Oakville 2011).

3.2.2 Euro-Canadian Settler History

Historically, the study area is on Part of Lot 31, Concession 2 in the Geographic Township of Trafalgar, in Halton County. The study area is located approximately 2.7 kilometres (km) south of the former village of Palermo, 1.5 km north of the former village of Merton, and 4 km north of the former village of Bronte.

Following the Toronto Purchase, the Province of Quebec (which then included Ontario) was divided into four political districts: Lunenburg, Mechlenburg, Nassau, and Hesse. When the Province of Upper Canada was formed in 1791, the names of the four districts were changed to Eastern, Midland, Home, and Western, respectively. The study area, which is located within the former County of Halton, fell within the Home District and formed part of the West Riding of York.

In 1816 the Gore District was formed from the amalgamation of parts of the Niagara and Home Districts with Hamilton as the centre of legal and legislative activity. The old Districts of Upper Canada were abolished in 1849, however the area that would become the County of Halton remained as part of the United Counties of Wentworth and Hamilton until 1853, when it became its own independent county.

Halton County

During the 1780's much of the land in the "Golden Horseshoe" around the western end of Lake Ontario were acquired by the British government for the settlement of United Empire Loyalist refugees, however Halton County remained in the hands of the Mississaugas until August 1805, when the lands were acquired as part of the Mississauga Purchase (Armstrong 1985).

Halton County was named in 1816 for Major William Mathew Halton, secretary to Francis Gore who served as Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada. Halton was awarded the position of Provincial Agent in England and sought compensation for the loyal citizens of Upper Canada that had served to defend the province against American forces during the War of 1812. Initially, the county was sparsely populated despite its rather large geographical size, and it was not until 1822 that the first settlers came to Milton. Still, in 1824 the town of Oakville consisted only of a single log cabin (Weaver 1913). During this time it was said "roads were rather imaginary than real", and although the county lacked the larger towns, several small villages and many farms were scattered throughout its borders.

Trafalgar Township

Following the Mississauga Purchase, Trafalgar was first surveyed in 1806 by Samuel S. Wilmot. Dundas Street was the baseline survey road, and the concessions on each side of Dundas were known as Old Survey. Following the purchase of additional lands from the Mississaugas in 1818 the borders of Trafalgar Township increased, and those portions became known as the New

Survey. This survey had wider 200-acre lots compared to those of the Old Survey, and the current study area is located within the New Survey area. Dundas Street had first been surveyed in 1793 as a military road that connected Lake Ontario, Lake Erie, Lake St. Clair, and Lake Huron, and was an important route for Loyalists settling the area.

Trafalgar Township was known as Township Number 2 in its infancy, and later renamed Alexander Township after Alexander Grant, who was the President and Administrator of the Province of Upper Canada. Following the victory of Lord Nelson in a battle at sea off the coast of Spain at Cape Trafalgar the names of two townships in the County of Halton were changed to Nelson and Trafalgar (Weaver 1913).

Settlement within Trafalgar Township began around 1807. During these early years land in the township was selling for seven shillings and sixteen pence per acre, and there was a relatively modest population of 548 in 1817 (Smith 1846). The township contained numerous farms and orchards and was well fed by Twelve Mile Creek and Sixteen Mile Creek. The development of the township received a boost in the 1830's as it became a stagecoach stop on the route from Hamilton to York (Toronto) (Trafalgar Township Historical Society). By the middle of the 19th century the population of the township reached 4,513 and contained seven grist mills and twenty-three sawmills. The landscape was described as generally rolling with a mixture of a variety of hardwood and pine (Smith 1849).

3.2.3 Halton County and Trafalgar Township

Halton County (including Trafalgar Township) remained relatively unsettled by Euro-Canadian settlers until the “Mississauga Purchase” of August 1805 (Armstrong 1985). Dundas Street was used as the baseline survey road in Trafalgar Township was originally surveyed in 1793, however the concessions on either side were not formally surveyed until 1806 – these lands were known as the Old Survey. Expansion of Trafalgar Township occurred following the purchase of other lands from the Mississaugas in 1818; these new lands within the township became known as the New Survey.

Trafalgar Township began as a system of trails and trade routes created and used by the Indigenous People. The Haudenosaunee, Anishinaabe and other Indigenous Nations travelled the Red Hill trail, which ran along the original Lake Ontario edge across Trafalgar Township. The trail connected to the 16- and 12-mile creeks, culminating at Indigenous settlements in the area. The trail still exists today running alongside Leighland Avenue. Small hamlets formed along concession lines laid out one mile and a quarter square. As the Pioneers built log homes using wood gathered from their new properties, the Indigenous People were required to obtain permits to gather wood from the same land (Trafalgar Township Historical Society, 2020).

3.2.4 Past and Current Land Uses of Lot 31, Concession 2

Lot 31, Concession 2 enters the historic record in 1825 when William Balis received the Crown patent for a 200-acre parcel (OnLand 2020). Following the initial land grant, it is not possible to state with any confidence who owned the portion of Lot 31 that is the location of the Stage 3 study area. What is known is that from 1849 through to 1877, Lot 31 is owned by James White (Tremaine 1858; Pope 1877). James White's interests in the property transfer to David Waston Campbell, the husband of John White's eldest daughter Louise (OnLand 2020).

Examination of the 1858 *Tremaine Map of Halton County* (**Map 2**) shows Lot 31, Concession 2 as belonging to James White, however there is no indication of any built structures present on the map (G.C. Tremaine, 1858). According to the Township Map included in the *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Halton* (Pope 1877), Lot 31 is still shown to belong to James White (**Map 3**). The 1877 map depicts one orchard and two houses are located in the southeast portion of Lot 31. The Census Records for the Township of Trafalgar South from 1866 at the Ontario Archives indicate that James White grew a variety of crop on Lot 30 and 31, including: fall wheat, spring wheat, barley, rye, peas, oats, potatoes, corn, and carrots. James White is also on the census records as owning livestock, including cows and sheep. The Census Records for the Township of Trafalgar South from 1866 note that in total James White owned 447 acres across Lot 30, 31, and 32.

Interestingly, James White was mentioned on a provincial historic plaque, which was situated beside an office on the grounds of the former Saw Whet Golf Course at the location of a former farm complex (AMICK, 2013). The plaque is titled *Winner of the First Queen's Plate* and reads,

"Bred at this farm, the horse 'Don Juan' was foaled out of 'Yellow Rose' by 'Sir Tatton Sykes' in 1855. The Queen's Plate was run for the first time on June 27, 1860 at the village of Carlton, now part of Toronto. Queen Victoria had given Royal Assent to the race in 1859 and a traditional winner's purse of 50 guineas. The race then consisted of three heats, each run over a one-mile course. It was restricted to those horses bred in Canada West that had not yet won a race. 'Don Juan' owned by James White of Bronte and ridden by Nelson Littlefield won the last two heats of the race in a total time of four minutes, three seconds." - (AMICK, 2013).

The *Trafalgar Township Historical Society's Winter Newsletter* in 2014 noted that James White acted as a bylaw officer in both 1857 and 1858 for various by-law votes. Further according to the Trafalgar Township Historical Society, James White built a house in 1864 for his use, however, the records do not detail the exact lot on which the house was constructed, as James White owned Lot 30, 31, and 32 at the time. The property was called the "Woodlands" and James White is noted as being a major developer of timber resources in the Twelve Mile Creek valley (now Bronte Creek). As mentioned above, James White was active in horse racing and established a farm with stables breeding and foaling barns, as well as a racetrack.

In May 1877 150 acres of Lot 31 were transferred to David Watson Campbell. Following the Campbell's, a 37.5-acre portion of Lot 31 was deeded to Herbert Inglehart in October 1898. From the land use records, it appears that Lot 31 was largely used historically for agricultural activities and raising livestock.

Today, however, the area has become a highly developed commercial/residential area, particularly to the northwest (Palermo West) and southeast (Bronte Village). In the early 20th century the area was home to fruit farms, where strawberries and fruit trees were plentiful, as well as livestock farms. In the 1930s a large portion of Lot 31, Concession 2 SDS was owned by The Woodlands Orchards Ltd. (ONLand 2020).

Currently, the study area falls within a disused agricultural field behind several residential structures. Based on discussion with the current property occupant it was most recently used as horse pasture (Pers. Comm).

3.3 Archaeological Context

3.3.1 The Natural Environment

The study area is situated within the “South Slope” physiographic region (Chapman & Putnam: 1984, 172-174).

The South Slope is the southern slope of the Oak Ridges Moraine but it includes the strip south of the Peel plain. ...it rises 300 to 400 feet in an average width of 6 or 7 miles. Extending from the Niagara Escarpment to the Trent River it covers approximately 940 square miles. The central portion is drumlinized...The streams flow directly down the slope; being rapid they have cut sharp valleys in the till...Bare grey slopes, where soil is actively eroding are common in this area.

Chapman & Putnam, 1984: 172-174

The prevalent soil type found at AiGw-1028 is Grimsby; a medium to fine sandy loam soil classified as a Brunisolic Gray-Brown Luvisol that provides good drainage. Other soil types in close vicinity to the study area include Bottom Land and Oneida soils (Gillespie, Wicklund and Miller 1971).

The closest water source is Bronte Creek, approximately 230 metres from the study area.

3.3.2 Archaeological Sites

For an inventory of archaeological resources to be compiled, the registered archaeological site records kept by the MHSTCI were consulted. In Ontario, information concerning archaeological sites is stored in the Ontario Archaeological Sites Database maintained by the MHSTCI. This database contains archaeological sites registered according to the Borden system. Under the Borden system, Canada is divided into grid blocks based on latitude and longitude. A Borden block is approximately 13 km east to west and approximately 18.5 km north to south. Each Borden block is referenced by a four-letter designator and sites within a block are numbered sequentially as they are found. The subject property is located within Borden block *AjGw*.

In accordance with *Section 7.5.8, Standard 1* of the Standards and Guidelines, all registered or known archaeological sites within a minimum one-kilometre distance from the study area are to be listed. Our search found that there are 50 registered archaeological sites (including AiGw-1028) within one kilometre of the study area. These sites are listed below in **Table 2**. Of these 50 sites, two are within 300 metres of AiGw-1028, these will be discussed in greater detail in the following section.

Table 2: Registered archaeological sites within one kilometre of the study area.

Borden Number	Site Name	Time Period	Affinity	Site Type	Current Development Review Status
AiGw-993	Utter	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	farmstead	Further CHVI
AiGw-992	Hurley	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	farmstead	Further CHVI
AiGw-74	North End of Field				

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AiGw-73	Farm Lane	Archaic, Late	Aboriginal	Unknown	
AiGw-63	Demonstration Farm	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	findspot	
AiGw-62	West of Fence				
AiGw-56	Three Clusters	Archaic	Aboriginal	Othercamp/campsite, findspot	
AiGw-55	Broughton				
AiGw-54	Perry	Archaic	Aboriginal	Unknown	
AiGw-48	Flake Tool				
AiGw-47	Office	Woodland	Aboriginal	village	
AiGw-45	The Playing Field				
AiGw-43	Core Development	Archaic	Aboriginal	findspot	
AiGw-4	Tyrell				
AiGw-38	Harmer	Archaic	Aboriginal	Othercamp/campsite	
AiGw-37	Stream Bed	Archaic, Early	Aboriginal	Othercamp/campsite	No Further CHVI
AiGw-36	Riverside	Post-Contact	Aboriginal	camp / campsite	No Further CHVI
AiGw-358		Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	findspot	
AiGw-357		Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	findspot	
AiGw-356		Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	findspot	
AiGw-355		Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	findspot	
AiGw-354		Other		Otherfindspot_	
AiGw-353		Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	findspot	
AiGw-352		Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	scatter	
AiGw-351		Archaic, Middle	Aboriginal	findspot	
AiGw-350		Archaic, Middle	Aboriginal	findspot	
AiGw-349	Bear	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	Other tool manufacturing, scatter	
AiGw-348		Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	cabin	
AiGw-347	Casey	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	Other tool manufacturing	
AiGw-346	Ludy	Archaic, Early	Aboriginal	scatter	
AiGw-343	SF1				No Further CHVI
AiGw-34	Field 3	Woodland, Early	Aboriginal	findspot	
AiGw-33	Riverside	Archaic, Woodland		Othercamp/campsite	No Further CHVI
AiGw-28	Bronte Road North				
AiGw-26	Ontario Sports	Woodland	Aboriginal	Othercamp/campsite	
AiGw-21	Burloak Drive 2	Archaic	Aboriginal	Unknown	

AiGw-194	Donaldson	Other		Otherfindspot_	
AiGw-193	Shoemaker	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead	
AiGw-192	Dorland	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead	
AiGw-16	Ozimandias				
AiGw-15					
AiGw-14	Stuart	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	Othercamp/campsite	
AiGw-13*	Sneddon House	Archaic	Aboriginal	Othercamp/campsite	
AiGw-118	Skeet Field				
AiGw-117	Lynn Timbers	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	findspot	
AiGw-114*	Old Atkins Farm				
AiGw-113	George Atkins	Archaic	Aboriginal	Unknown	
AiGw-112	Atkins				
AiGw-1028**		Post-Contact, Pre-Contact	Aboriginal, Euro-Canadian	farmstead, findspot	Further CHVI
AiGw-10	Snedden	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	findspot	

* within 300 m of the study area

** Site under Stage 3 assessment

3.3.3 Registered Archaeological Sites Within 300 Metres of AiGw-1028

As mentioned above, there are two registered archaeological sites within 300 metres of AiGw-1028. The following information is from their respective OASD entries.

AiGw-13 – Snedden House

This site is described in the OASD as being an Archaic campsite, encompassing a surface scatter of 25 artifacts over an area approximately 100 m x 200 m in size. Further investigation of the site was not conducted as the establishment of the Bronte Creek Provincial Park in the mid-1970s protected it.

AiGw-114 – Old Atkins Farm

The OASD entry for this site states that it appears to be part of AiGw-56, the Three Clusters Site (described below). The entry appears to be discarded, and no further work has been recommended.

AiGw-56 – Three Clusters

Originally located by Terry Hutchinson during the same 1975 Bronte Creek survey, this site is described as a series of clusters to the south of a tributary of 14 Mile Creek. The original surface survey resulted in the identification of 262 artifacts. Subsequent surface collections of the site in 1976 resulted in the following:

Cluster A: Two main concentrations were identified within this cluster, including 1071 chert artifacts, 2 ground stone artifacts, 36 pieces of fire cracked rock. The prevalent chert types were Delaware and Ancaster, and a Middle Archaic projectile point was recovered.

Cluster B: This was comprised of 236 chert artifacts, 4 ground stone artifacts, 31 pieces of fire cracked rock, as well as 8 projectile points and fragments. The presence of Brewerton Side Notched and Vosberg type points led to the interpretation that this may represent an occupational period by a Laurentian group, as these point types are more typically found further north. Analysis also determined that there were a high percentage of thermally altered chert tools, perhaps indicative of a hunting camp.

Cluster C: Likely AiGw-14, The Stuart Site; a Pre-Contact campsite consisting of 29 chert artifacts originally located in July 1972.

3.3.4 Archaeological Assessments Adjacent to and/or within 50 metres of AiGw-1028

To our knowledge the only registered assessments adjacent to and/or within 50 metres of the current study area are:

Stage 1:

Stage 1 Archaeological Background Study of Merton Tertiary Plan, 1401 Bronte Road, Part of Lots 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 & 31, Concession 2 South of Dundas Street, (Geographic Township of Trafalgar South, County of Halton), Town of Oakville, Regional Municipality of Halton (P058-914-2013).

This Stage 1 assessment by AMICK determined areas within the larger Merton Tertiary Plan study area that retained archaeological potential and should be subject to Stage 2 archaeological assessment.

Stage 2:

Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment – Enns Property (1300, 1316, 1326, 1342 Bronte Road), Part Lot 31, Concession 2, Trafalgar Township, Halton County, now Town of Oakville, Region of Halton, Ontario. (P1153-0006-2020).

This Stage 2 property assessment was completed in the autumn of 2020 under P1153 issued to Adam Long of Parslow Heritage Consultancy and resulted in the identification of P1/H4 (now known as AiGw-1028), along with three Euro-Canadian findspots located throughout the property. Intensification of the other 3 findspots did not result in any additional artifacts, however the combined test pit and unit excavation at P1/H4 resulted in the recovery of 6 Onondaga lithic artifacts, as well as 9 Euro-Canadian glass and ceramic artifacts. P1/H4 was registered as a multi-component site in the OASD and issued the Borden number AiGw-1028.

4. Field Methods

The Stage 3 Site Specific Assessment of AiGw-1028 was conducted by PHC Inc. under the archaeological consulting license P1153 issued to Mr. Adam Long by the MHSTCI (P1153-0016-2021). Field director duties were delegated to PHC archaeologist Ms. Tina Kagi (R1173). The field director delegated the responsibility of undertaking the archaeological fieldwork at the study area as per Section 12 of the MHSTCI 2013 Terms and Conditions for Archaeological Licences, issued in accordance with clause 48(4)(d) of the Ontario Heritage Act.

During the Stage 3 fieldwork, the weather was mostly clear with sunny skies and temperatures in the mid-teens. Assessment conditions were good and at no time were the field, weather, or lighting conditions detrimental to the recovery of archaeological material. The table below illustrates the weather conditions and ground visibility during fieldwork at AiGw-1028. **Images 1-7** photo document the field conditions and Stage 3 excavation techniques used across AiGw-1028.

Table 3: Daily weather conditions during Stage 3 Fieldwork

Date	Weather Conditions	Ground Visibility	Field Method
April 23, 2021	Sunny, 16°C	>80%	Test Unit Excavation

Fieldwork began with relocation of the Stage 2 test unit and placement of a 5-metre grid across the site established off of the unit's southwest corner using a theodolite and tapes. Due to the orientation of the Stage 2 unit, the grid was placed at an angle of 319° North.

A total of 7 1-m² grid units were excavated across an area approximately 20 metres east west, and 10 metres north south (**see Maps 4 and 5**). A total of 4 grid units were placed at five metre intervals radiating out in cardinal directions from the original Stage 2 test unit; upon completion of the grid units 3 additional infill units were placed strategically around grid units with higher artifact concentrations. Each unit was excavated down to subsoil, troweled to expose any potential cultural features, and then the first 5 cm of subsoil in each unit was also excavated. All soils were screened through 6mm mesh to facilitate artifact recovery. No features were observed in any of the test units, and accordingly all test units were backfilled upon completion. Stratigraphy across the site remained uniform: topsoil consisted of dark brown sandy loam ranging in depth from 20cm to 30cm in depth, while subsoil was light yellowish brown silty clay. **Images 8-10** photo document the stratigraphic profiles observed across the site showing slight variations in the depth of the completed units.

Map 5 illustrates the placement of the Stage 3 test units with their respective artifact counts, as well as the location and direction of the photos included within this report.

5. Record of Finds

The purpose of this section is to document all finds according to the standards (MHSTCI Section 7.8.2). An inventory of the documentary record generated by the property inspection is provided in Table 4 (MHSTCI Section 7.8.2 Standard 2).

Table 2: Record of Documentation.

Document Type	Location of Document	Additional Comments	Quantity
Field Notes	PHC Office	1 lined sheet stored in project file; 1 photo log	2 pages typed
Maps Provided by Client	PHC Office	In project file (Site Map)	5 maps in project file.
Digital Photographs	PHC Office	Stored digitally in project file	51

The 2021 PHC Stage 3 excavation of AiGw-1028 produced 41 artifacts: 30 historical Euro-Canadian artifacts and 11 pre-Contact Indigenous artifacts. Table 5 provides an overview of the total artifact assemblage.

Table 5: Total Artifact Assemblage

Total Assemblage		
Artifact Type	Frequency	%
Historic Euro-Canadian Artifacts	30	73.17
Pre-Contact Indigenous Artifacts	11	26.83
Total	41	100.00

5.1 Pre-Contact Indigenous Artifacts

The excavation of AiGw-1028 resulted in the recovery of Pre-Contact Indigenous lithic artifacts. Lithic chert types identified in the assemblage include:

- ▶ Onondaga chert: a high-quality raw material that outcrops along the north shore of Lake Erie near the embouchure of the Grand River. This material can also be recovered from secondary glacial deposits across much of southwestern Ontario, east of Chatham (Eley and von Bitter 1989; Fox 2009).
- ▶ Flint Ridge: a high quality raw material occurring in the Vanport Limestone Member of the Allegheny Group of the Pennsylvanian System that outcrops in central to central-eastern Ohio. This material ranges in colour and is frequently banded or mottled with red, white, blue and/or grey. Flint Ridge is often referred to as ‘chalcedony’ and is a homogeneous, glossy and glass-like chert. It is often translucent and has been called “vitreous, smooth, and porcelaneous” (DeRegnaucourt and Georgiady 1998:53).

All chert type identifications were accomplished visually using reference materials located in PHC’s Toronto office and published source material referenced in this regard includes: DeRegnaucourt

and Georgiady 1998; Eley and von Bitter 1989; and Fox 2009. Also, the complete flake assemblage was subject to morphological analysis following the classification scheme described by Lennox et al. (1986) and expanded upon by Fisher (1997).

5.1.1 Lithic Artifacts

The Stage 3 excavation of site AiGw-1028 produced a total of 10 pieces of chipping detritus and one informal lithic tool, which comprises a total of 26% of the artifact assemblage from the site. The majority of the lithic artifacts were composed of Onondaga chert with a single example of Flint Ridge Chalcedony. Chipping detritus is the waste product from the production of lithic tools and is the most commonly recovered artifact on pre-Contact Indigenous archaeological sites in southern Ontario. Biface thinning flakes were the most common type of chipping detritus, comprising approximately 36% (n=4) of the lithic assemblage. Shatter (n=3) and flake fragments (n=3) were the second most common type, making up 27% of the assemblage respectively. One of the flake fragments showed signs of thermal alteration.

Additionally, one graver was recovered from site AiGw-1028, this is an informal lithic tool manufactured from a flake fragment and tools of this nature cannot be associated with a time period. None of the pieces of chipping detritus recovered from site AiGw-1082 showed examples of retouch or utilization. Table 6 provides a breakdown of chipping detritus by morphology, tool types, and material types. A sample of the chipping detritus found at AiGw-1082 can be viewed in **Image 11**.

Table 6: Flake Morphology, Tools, and Chert Type

Artifact Type	Onondaga		Flint Ridge Chalcedony		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Biface Thinning Flake	4	36.36	0	0	4	36.36
Shatter	2	18.18	1	9.09	3	27.27
Flake Fragment	3	27.27	0	0	3	27.27
Graver	1	9.09	0	0	1	9.09
Total	10	90.09	1	9.09	11	100

5.2 Historic Euro-Canadian Artifacts

5.2.1 Ceramics

Approximately 73% of the recovered items from the Stage 3 excavation of AiGw-1028 were historic Euro-Canadian artifacts. As a group, ceramics comprised a total of 23% of the Euro-Canadian artifacts recovered with 7 pieces in total. All ceramics recovered were categorized as refined ceramic artifacts, which were represented by refined white earthenware (RWE) and Ironstone. These terms are in reference to the ceramic's fabric composition (i.e., the clay, firing and porosity). See Table 7 for a complete overview of the refined ceramic types recovered at AiGw-1028

Table 7: Refined Ceramics

Ware Type and Decorative Style	Frequency	%
Refined White Earthenware	6	85.71
Plain White Earthenware	3	50.00
Transfer Printed RWE	2	33.33
Exfoliated RWE	1	16.67
Ironstone	1	14.83
Plain Ironstone	1	100.00
Total	7	100

5.2.2 Refined Ceramics

Refined white earthenware represents the majority of all refined ceramics at AiGw-1028, with 6 of 7 total pieces recovered. Refined white earthenware (RWE) is a lead-glazed, slightly porous, white-pasted earthenware that became the dominant ceramic type after 1830. Decorative features such as painted or transfer printed designs were applied before the application of the lead glaze. Of the 6 refined white earthenware finds collected, the most prominent was the plain white earthenware (50%), with transfer printed as the second highest count of RWE (33%).

Ironstone was the other type of refined ceramics recovered from AiGw-1028, with one piece collected. Ironstone is a hard, vitrified variety of whiteware introduced in the 1840s that became extremely popular in Upper Canada by the 1860s (Kenyon 1985). It is usually much thicker than other whitewares and is often decorated with raised moulded designs of wheat or fruit, although hand painted, transfer printed, sponged, stamped and edged ironstone wares were also produced in limited quantities. The only sample of ironstone collected was plain.

5.2.3 Household

Glass

A total of 11 glass fragments were recovered from AiGw-1028, the majority of which was window glass. Window glass is easily identifiable as it is much thicker than the bottle glass. The thickness of window glass increased throughout the 19th century as larger windows were preferred in house construction. Window glass accounted for 64% (n=7) of the total amount of glass recovered from the site. The highest count of window glass found on site was the thick type.

The second largest category of glass at AiGw-1028 was bottle glass. A total of four pieces of bottle glass was found, accounting for 36% of the entire glass assemblage. Of the bottle glass recovered, two were clear, one was aqua, and one was green. Please see Table 8 for a full breakdown of the entire glass assemblage, and Table 9 for a breakdown of the coloured bottle glass found at AiGw-1028.

Table 8: Glass Artifacts

Glass Assemblage		
Artifact Type	Frequency	%
Window glass	7	63.63
Bottle glass	4	36.36
Total	11	100.00

Table 9: Bottle Glass Typology

Bottle Glass Colour		
Artifact Type	Frequency	%
Clear	2	50.00
Aqua	1	25.00
Green	1	25.00
Total	4	100.00

5.2.4 Construction

Metal

A total of eight nails were found at AiGw-1028, all of which were wire drawn. Wire drawn nails are round in cross-section with a round head (most often). Wire drawn nails are usually made of ferrous metal or galvanized metal (especially roofing nails) and post-date 1900. Cut, or machine-cut nails, are rectangular in cross-section, most often with a flat head, and commonly date between 1830-1890 (Adams et al. 1994: 94).

Image 12 provides a sample of the Euro-Canadian artifact assemblage.

6. Analysis and Conclusion

6.1 Analysis

The first evidence of human settlement in south-central Ontario can be traced back approximately 11,000 years ago, immediately following the end of the Wisconsin Glacial Period. Known to archaeologists as the Paleo period (Ellis and Deller, 1990) this initial era of human occupation is characterized by small bands of hunter gatherers, consisting of probably no more than 25-35 individuals, following a pattern of seasonal mobility extending across wide-ranging territories that was shaped extensively by the ebb and flow of glaciers and movement of wildlife.

The Paleo period was a time of rapid environmental change. As the glaciers retreated sparse tundra and evergreen forests gave way to extensive deciduous forests and water levels in the Great Lakes rose dramatically (Ellis, Kenyon and Spence 1990:68-69). By the end of this period (8000 BC), many of the large game species that Paleo hunters had relied upon either moved further north, or as in the case of the mastodons and mammoths, become extinct. Thus, the end of the Late Paleo Period was heralded by numerous technological and cultural innovations, likely as responses to the dynamic nature of the post-glacial environment and region-wide population increases. These innovations continue to be found in sites belonging to the direct descendants of the Paleo, groups of people known by archaeologists as “Archaic.”

The term “Archaic” designates pre-agricultural sites lacking in pottery and other specific artefact forms (Ellis, Kenyon and Spence 1990; 65) and are primarily distinguished from Paleo sites by a significantly greater degree of artefact diversity and regional variety. Archaic people began to make stone tools out of coarser raw material by laboriously grinding the rock into the desired shape. The introduction of ground stone tools such as celts and axes, suggests the beginnings of a simple woodworking industry and an increased use of localized stone sources indicates that Archaic populations may have been less nomadic than their Paleo ancestors (Munson and Jamieson 2013; 41). It is likely that gradual infilling of the landscape resulting from rising water levels and population growth necessitated the development of strategies to support more people from smaller areas of liveable land.

During the Late Archaic Period (2,500-950 BC) the trends towards decreased territory size, a broadening subsistence base, population growth and increasing sedentism continued and it is during this period that the first true cemeteries appeared. During the Late Archaic Period, if an individual died while his or her group happened to be at some distance from their group cemetery, the bones would be kept until they could be placed in the cemetery, suggesting that people returned with greater frequency to the same areas. These first cemeteries may have served as visible reminders of a group’s cultural history and demarcated their rights to an area. Living in a time before farming or pottery, early hunter-gatherers hunted, fished and travelled in a land that was dynamic, ever changing, and far removed from modern or historic ways of life.

While a lack of diagnostic artifacts recovered at AiGw-1028 prevents us from determining an exact age for the Indigenous occupation of the site, the material culture recovered allows us to conclude that AiGw-1028 appears to be a temporary site or stopping ground where hunters halted to either repair or reshape their hunting tools. A majority of the lithics recovered are made from locally sourced Onondaga chert; however, the presence of a single piece of Flint Ridge Chalcedony shatter

indicates that this material was likely traded up to the study area from the Ohio Valley, or perhaps that even some of the inhabitants themselves had made that journey.

When situated within a wider landscape context, we see that the area surrounding the site has a rich archaeological history with registered sites dating from the Early Archaic through to Woodland periods meaning that people have been occupying this portion of Southern Ontario for thousands of years. While AiGw-1028 lacks any signs of the site being a place of long term or permanent use such as: hearths or middens, indigenous ceramics, formal tools, cores or preforms, it is situated amongst a landscape of many other longer term settlements that would have sent hunting parties out to gather food for their inhabitants and AiGw-1028 likely represents one of these hunting parties sharpening up their tools.

The Euro-Canadian component of the assemblage supports the Historical background research showing the area as remaining fairly agricultural in nature during the 19th and 20th century, with the presence of later ceramics and thick window glass indicative of a late 19th century farmstead in close proximity to the site.

6.2 Conclusion

A total of 41 artifacts – 11 Indigenous lithic artifacts, and 30 Euro-Canadian historic artifacts were recovered from the test unit excavation across the 10m by 20m site area at AiGw-1028. The Pre-Contact assemblage is indicative of an ephemeral location of stone tool repair by past hunters. While there is a single piece of exotic chert present within the assemblage, it is just shatter from tool retouch and though indicative of trade of this material into the area from the Ohio Valley, its presence alone is not enough to require Stage 4 assessment of the site. It is concluded that the archaeological resources of this site have been sufficiently assessed and documented through the Stage 3 archaeological assessment. This conclusion is consistent with *Section 2.2, Standard 1.a.i* of the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (MHSTCI 2011).

7. Recommendations

Based on the findings of the Stage 3 Site Specific Assessment of AiGw-1028, it is determined that the site has been sufficiently assessed and that it holds no further Cultural Heritage Value or Interest. As such, it is free of further archaeological concern and no further work (Stage 4) is recommended under S&G *Section 3.4.1, Standard 1a* (MHSTCI 2011).

8. Advice on Compliance with Legislation

Advice on the compliance with legislation is not part of the archaeological record. However, for the benefit of the proponent and approval authority in the land use planning and development process, the report must include the following standard statements:

- ▶ This report is submitted to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport as a condition of licensing in accordance with Part VI of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c O.18. The report is reviewed to ensure that it complies with the standards and guidelines that are issued by the Minister, and that the archaeological fieldwork and report recommendations ensure the conservation, protection and preservation of the cultural heritage of Ontario. When all matters relating to archaeological sites within the project area of a development proposal have been addressed to the satisfaction of the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport, 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 licenced 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 licenced archaeologist has completed archaeological fieldwork on the site, submitted a report to the Minister stating 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 representative of a new archaeological site or sites 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 licenced 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 of Cemeteries at the Ministry of Consumer Services is also immediately notified.

STUDY LIMITATIONS: All information, recommendations and opinions provided in this report are for the sole benefit of the Client. No other party may use or rely on this report or any portion thereof without the Client's or PHC's express written consent. Unless otherwise stated, the suggestions, recommendations and opinions given in this report are intended only for the guidance of the Client in the design of the specific project. Special risks occur whenever archaeological investigations are applied to identify subsurface conditions and even a comprehensive investigation, sampling and testing program may fail to detect all or certain archaeological resources. The sampling strategies incorporated in this study, if any, comply with those identified in the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport's 2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists.

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10. Images



Image 1: View of field crew excavating test units. Facing North-east.



Image 2: Excavation of test unit 499N-195E. Facing West.



Image 3: Excavation of test unit 499N-195E. Facing South.



Image 4: Excavation of test unit 495N-200E. Facing East.



Image 5: Test unit excavation 500N-205E with units on the 200E line in the foreground. Facing Northeast.



Image 6: View of test unit excavation across site. Facing South.



Image 7: Test unit excavation along northern boundary of site. Facing North.



Image 8: Completed test unit 495N-200E with stratigraphic profile visible in south wall. Facing South. Note incorrect unit number on photo board.



Image 9: Completed excavated test unit 499N-195E with south wall profile visible (incorrect unit on photo board). Facing South.



Image 10: Completed test unit at 505N-205E with south wall profile. Facing South.



Image 11: Indigenous chipped stone artifacts. From left to right: graver (Onon.), biface thinning flake (Onon.), biface thinning flake (Onon.), flake fragment (Onon.), flake fragment (Onon.), flake fragment thermally altered (Onon.), shatter (Flint Ridge Calcedony).

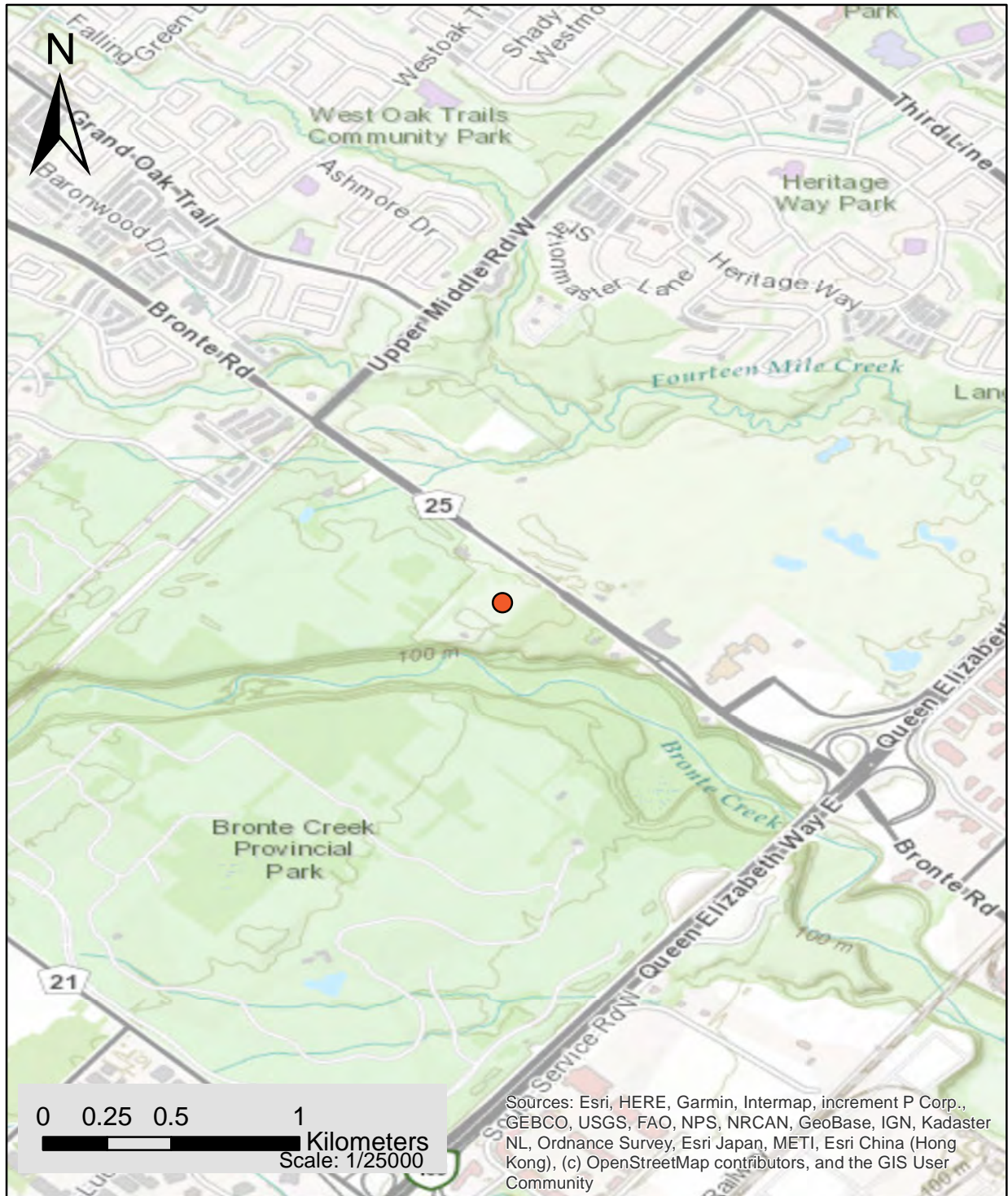


Image 12: Selection of Euro-Canadian artifacts. Row 1 from left to right: RWE blue transfer print, RWE black transfer print, RWE plain. Row 2 from left to right: aqua bottle glass, window glass, green bottle glass, red plastic tail light. Row 3: two wire drawn nails.

11. Maps

ALL MAPS ON FOLLOWING PAGES.

Map 1 - Study Area on Topographic Map



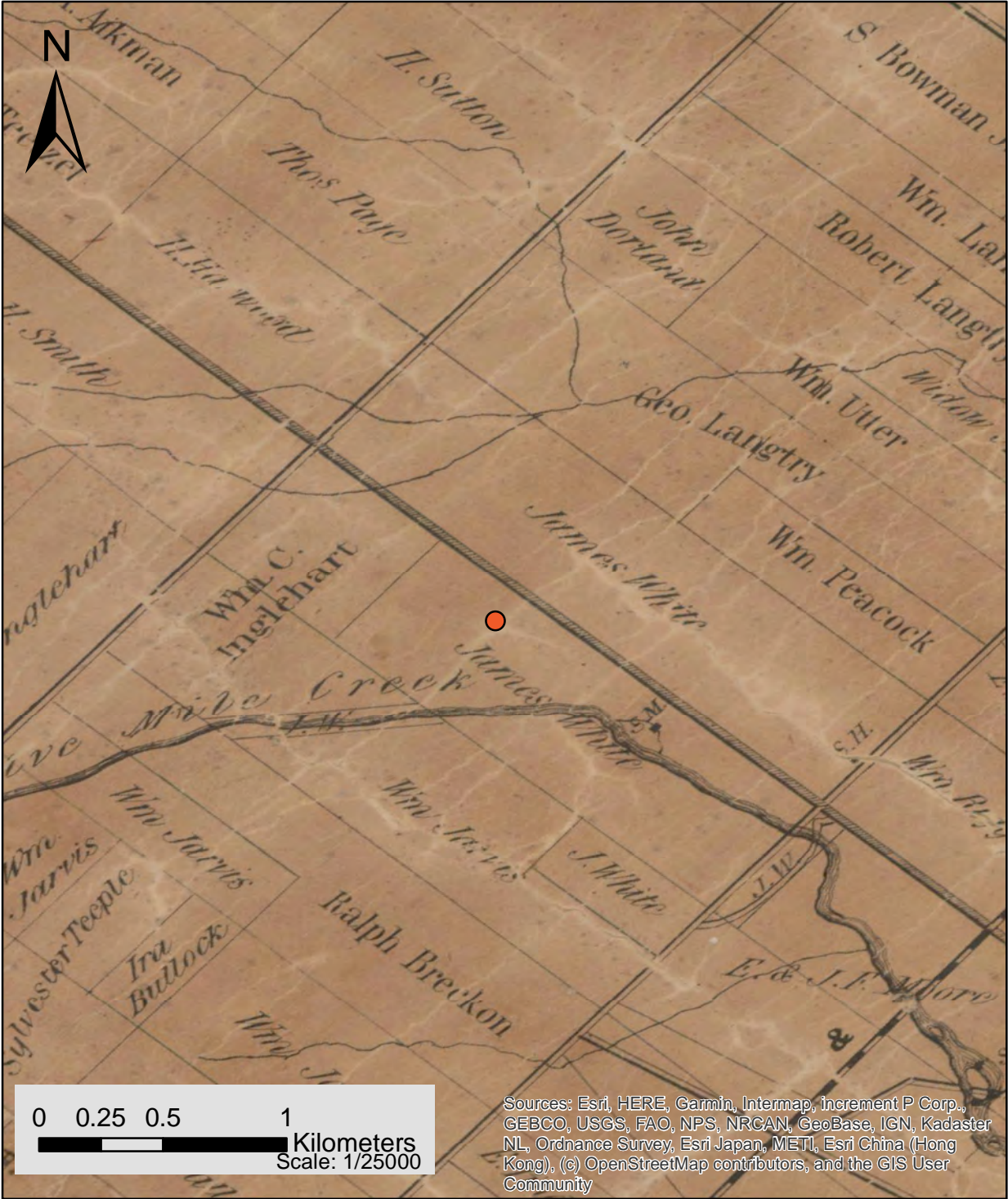
Legend

● Site Location

Stage 3 Site Specific Assessment - AiGw-1028



Map 2 - Study Area on 1858 Tremaine Map



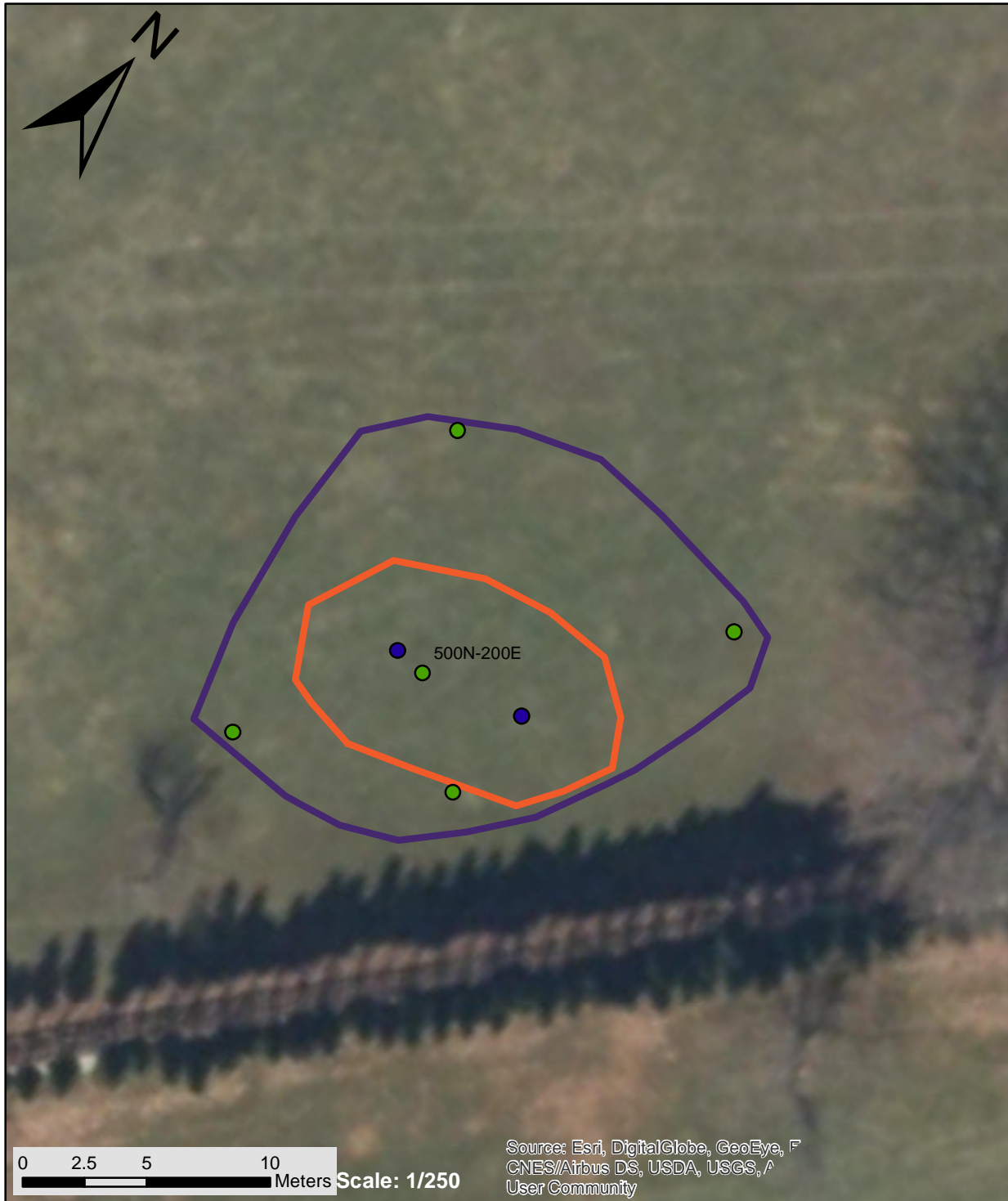
Legend

● Site Location

Stage 3 Site Specific Assessment - AiGw-1028



Map 4 - Stage 2 and Stage 3 Site Boundaries & Datum



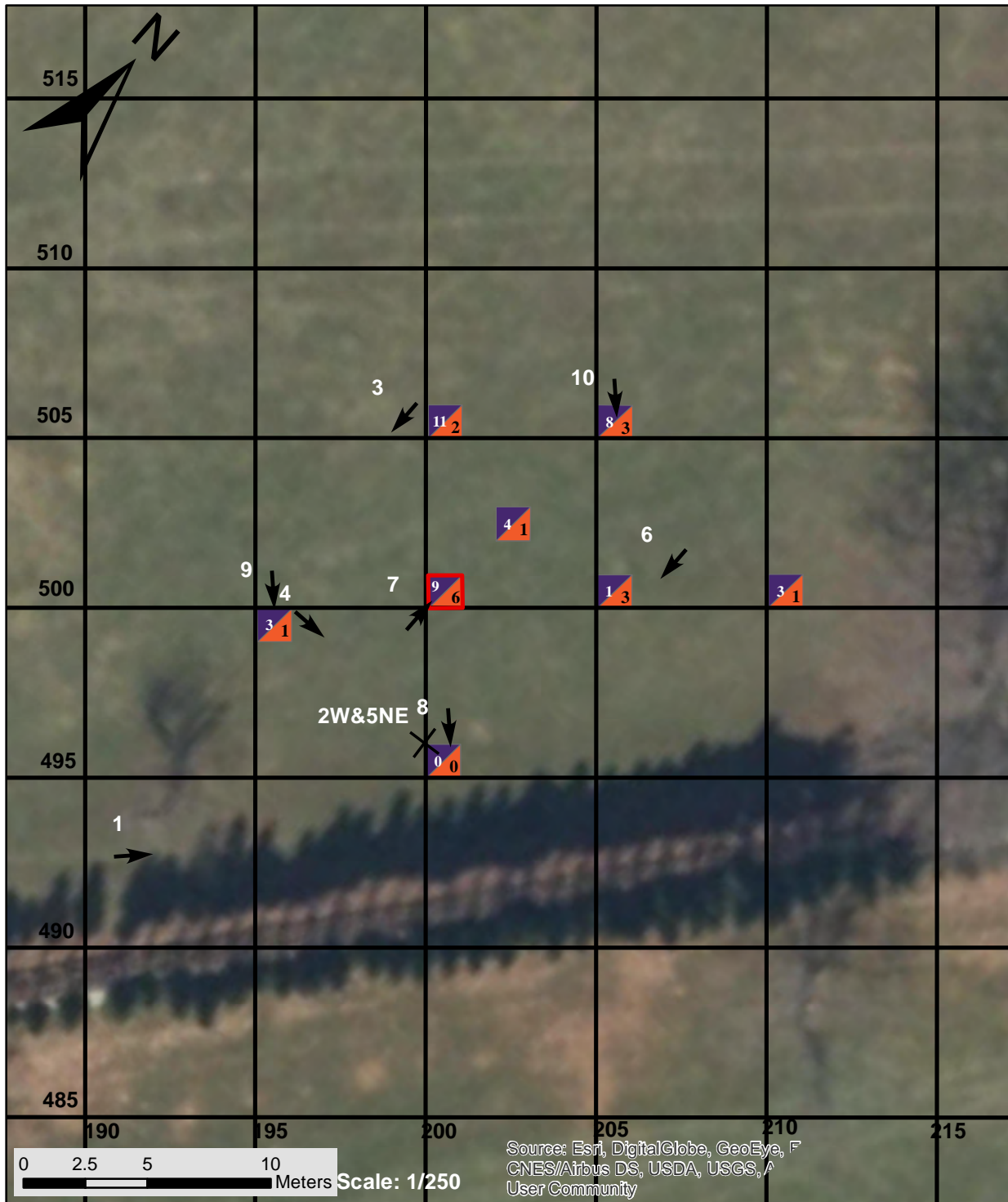
Legend

- Stage 2 Coordinates
- Stage 3 Coordinates
- Stage 2 Boundary
- Stage 3 Boundary






Stage 3 Site Specific Assessment - AiGw-1028



Map 5 - Results of the Stage 3 Assessment



Legend

-  Photo Direction
-  Multi-Direction Location
-  Stage 2 Test Unit
-  Precontact Counts
-  Historic Counts

Stage 3 Site Specific Assessment - AiGw-1028



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