



## 1.0 PROJECT REPORT COVER PAGE

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### PROJECT INFORMATION:

Corporate Project Number:

2021-569

MHSTCI Project Number:

P038-1141-2021

Investigation Type:

Stage 1-2 Archaeological Property Assessment

Project Name:

125 Simcoe Road

Project Location:

125 Simcoe Road, Part of Lot 16, Concession 6  
(Geographic Township of West Gwillimbury), Town of  
Bradford, County of Simcoe

Project Designation Number:

Not Currently Available

### MHSTCI FILING INFORMATION:

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**ORIGINAL**

## **2.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report describes the results of the 2021 Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment of 125 Simcoe Road, Part of Lot 16, Concession 6 (Geographic Township of West Gwillimbury), Town of Bradford, County of Simcoe, conducted by AMICK Consultants Limited. This study was conducted under Professional Archaeologist License # P038 issued to Marilyn Cornies by the Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries for the Province of Ontario. This assessment was undertaken as a requirement under the Planning Act (RSO 1990) and the Provincial Policy Statement (2020) in order to support a Site Plan and companion Zoning By-law Amendment application as part of the pre-submission process. Within the land use planning and development context, Ontario Regulation 544/06 under the Planning Act (1990b) requires an evaluation of archaeological potential and, where applicable, an archaeological assessment report completed by an archaeologist licensed by the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI). Policy 2.6 of the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS 2020) addresses archaeological resources. All work was conducted in conformity with Ontario Ministry of Tourism and Culture (MTC) Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (MTC 2011), the Ontario Heritage Act (RSO 1990a).

AMICK Consultants Limited was engaged by the proponent to undertake a Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment of lands potentially affected by the proposed undertaking and was granted permission to carry out archaeological fieldwork. The entirety of the study area was subject to property inspection and photographic documentation concurrently with the Stage 2 Property Assessment by test pit survey at a ten metre interval to confirm disturbance on 26 October 2021. All records, documentation, field notes, photographs and artifacts (as applicable) related to the conduct and findings of these investigations are held at the Lakelands District corporate offices of AMICK Consultants Limited until such time that they can be transferred to an agency or institution approved by the Ontario Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI) on behalf of the government and citizens of Ontario.

### **STAGE 2 RECOMMENDATIONS:**

As a result of the Stage 2 Property Assessment of the study area, no archaeological resources were encountered. Consequently, the following recommendations are made:

- 1. No further archaeological assessment of the study area is warranted;*
- 2. The Provincial interest in archaeological resources with respect to the proposed undertaking has been addressed;*
- 3. The proposed undertaking is clear of any archaeological concern.*

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## **5.0 PROJECT CONTEXT**

### **5.1 DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT**

This report describes the results of the 2021 Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment of 125 Simcoe Road, Part of Lot 16, Concession 6 (Geographic Township of West Gwillimbury), Town of Bradford, County of Simcoe, conducted by AMICK Consultants Limited. This study was conducted under Professional Archaeologist License # P038 issued to Marilyn Cornies by the Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries for the Province of Ontario. This assessment was undertaken as a requirement under the Planning Act (RSO 1990) and the Provincial Policy Statement (2020) in order to support a Site Plan and companion Zoning By-law Amendment application as part of the pre-submission process. Within the land use planning and development context, Ontario Regulation 544/06 under the Planning Act (1990b) requires an evaluation of archaeological potential and, where applicable, an archaeological assessment report completed by an archaeologist licensed by the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI). Policy 2.6 of the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS 2020) addresses archaeological resources. All work was conducted in conformity with Ontario Ministry of Tourism and Culture (MTC) Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (MTC 2011), the Ontario Heritage Act (RSO 1990a).

AMICK Consultants Limited was engaged by the proponent to undertake a Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment of lands potentially affected by the proposed undertaking and was granted permission to carry out archaeological fieldwork. The entirety of the study area was subject to property inspection and photographic documentation concurrently with the Stage 2 Property Assessment by test pit survey at a ten metre interval to confirm disturbance on 26 October 2021. All records, documentation, field notes, photographs and artifacts (as applicable) related to the conduct and findings of these investigations are held at the Lakelands District corporate offices of AMICK Consultants Limited until such time that they can be transferred to an agency or institution approved by the Ontario Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI) on behalf of the government and citizens of Ontario.

The proposed development of the study area includes a 50-unit 4 storey apartment building and 94 parking spaces with associated services and landscape modifications. A preliminary plan of the proposed development has been submitted together with this report to MHSTCI for review and reproduced within this report as Map 4.

### **5.2 HISTORICAL CONTEXT**

#### **5.2.1 PRE-CONTACT LAND-USE OUTLINE**

What follows is an outline of Aboriginal occupation in the area during the Pre-Contact Era from the earliest known period, about 9000 B.C. up to approximately 1650 AD.

### **5.2.1.1 PALAEO-INDIAN PERIOD (APPROXIMATELY 9000-7500 B.C.)**

North of Lake Ontario, evidence suggests that early occupation began around 9000 B.C. People probably began to move into this area as the glaciers retreated and glacial lake levels began to recede. The early occupation of the area probably occurred in conjunction with environmental conditions that would be comparable to modern Sub-Arctic conditions. Due to the great antiquity of these sites, and the relatively small populations likely involved, evidence of these early inhabitants is sparse and generally limited to tools produced from stone or to by-products of the manufacture of these implements.

### **5.2.1.2 ARCHAIC PERIOD (APPROXIMATELY 8000-1000 B.C.)**

By about 8000 B.C. the gradual transition from a post glacial tundra-like environment to an essentially modern environment was largely complete. Prior to European clearance of the landscape for timber and cultivation, the area was characterized by forest. The Archaic Period is the longest and the most apparently stable of the cultural periods identified through archaeology. The Archaic Period is divided into the Early, Middle and Late Sub-Periods, each represented by specific styles in projectile point manufacture. Many more sites of this period are found throughout Ontario, than of the Palaeo-Indian Period. This is probably a reflection of two factors: the longer period of time reflected in these sites, and a greater population density. The greater population was likely the result of a more diversified subsistence strategy carried out in an environment offering a greater variety of abundant resources. (Smith 2002:58-59)

Current interpretations suggest that the Archaic Period populations followed a seasonal cycle of resource exploitation. Although similar in concept to the practices speculated for the big game hunters of the Palaeo-Indian Period, the Archaic populations utilized a much broader range of resources, particularly with respect to plants. It is suggested that in the spring and early summer, bands would gather at the mouths of rivers and at rapids to take advantage of fish spawning runs. Later in the summer and into the fall season, smaller groups would move to areas of wetlands to harvest nuts and wild rice. During the winter, they would break into yet smaller groups probably based on the nuclear family and perhaps some additional relatives to move into the interior for hunting. The result of such practices would be to create a distribution of sites across much of the landscape. (Smith 2002: 59-60).

The material culture of this period is much more extensive than that of the Palaeo-Indians. Stylistic changes between Sub-Periods and cultural groups are apparent, although the overall quality in production of chipped lithic tools seems to decline. This period sees the introduction of ground stone technology in the form of celts (axes and adzes), manos and metates for grinding nuts and fibres, and decorative items like gorgets, pendants, birdstones, and bannerstones. Bone tools are also evident from this time period. Their presence may be a result of better preservation from these more recent sites rather than a lack of such items in earlier occupations. In addition, copper and exotic chert types appear during the period and are indicative of extensive trading (Smith 2002: 58-59).

### **5.2.1.3 WOODLAND PERIOD (APPROXIMATELY 1000 B.C.-1650 A.D.)**

The primary difference in archaeological assemblages that differentiates the beginning of the Woodland Period from the Archaic Period is the introduction of ceramics to Ontario populations. This division is probably not a reflection of any substantive cultural changes, as the earliest sites of this period seem to be in all other respects a continuation of the Archaic mode of life with ceramics added as a novel technology. The seasonally based system of resource exploitation and associated population mobility persists for at least 1500 years into the Woodland Period. (Smith 2002: 61-62)

The Early Woodland Sub-Period dates from about 1000-400 B.C. Many of the artifacts from this time are similar to the late Archaic and suggest a direct cultural continuity between these two temporal divisions. The introduction of pottery represents an entirely new technology that was probably acquired through contact with more southerly populations from which it likely originates. (Smith 2002:62)

The Middle Woodland Sub-Period dates from about 400 B.C.-800 A.D. Within the region including the study area, a complex emerged at this time termed “Point Peninsula”. Point Peninsula pottery reflects a greater sophistication in pottery manufacture compared with the earlier industry. The paste and temper of the new pottery is finer and new decorative techniques such as dentate and pseudo-scallop stamping appear. There is a noted Hopewellian influence in southern Ontario populations at this time. Hopewell influences from south of the Great Lakes include a widespread trade in exotic materials and the presence of distinct Hopewell style artifacts such as platform pipes, copper or silver panpipe covers and shark’s teeth. The populations of the Middle Woodland participated in a trade network that extended well beyond the Great Lakes Region.

The Late Woodland Sub-Period dates from about 500-1650 A.D. The Late Woodland includes four separate phases: Princess Point, Early Ontario Iroquoian, Middle Ontario Iroquoian and Late Ontario Iroquoian.

The Princess Point phase dates to approximately 500-1000 A.D. Pottery of this phase is distinguished from earlier technology in that it is produced by the paddle method instead of coil and the decoration is characterized by the cord wrapped stick technique. Ceramic smoking pipes appear at this time in noticeable quantities. Princess Point sites cluster along major stream valleys and wetland areas. Maize cultivation is introduced by these people to Ontario. These people were not fully committed to horticulture and seemed to be experimenting with maize production. They generally adhere to the seasonal pattern of occupation practiced by earlier occupations, perhaps staying at certain locales repeatedly and for a larger portion of each year (Smith 2002: 65-66)

The Early Stage dates to approximately 950-1050 A.D. This stage marks the beginning of a cultural development that led to the historically documented Ontario Iroquoian groups that were first contacted by Europeans during the early 1600s (Petun, Neutral, and Huron). At this stage formal semi-sedentary villages emerge. The Early stage of this cultural

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development is divided into two cultural groups in southern Ontario. The areas occupied by each being roughly divided by the Niagara Escarpment. To the west were located the Glen Meyer populations, and to the east were situated the Pickering people (Smith 2002: 67).

The Middle Stage dates to approximately 1300-1400 A.D. This stage is divided into two sub-stages. The first is the Uren sub-stage lasting from approximately 1300-1350 A.D. The second of the two sub-stages is known as the Middleport sub-stage lasting from roughly 1350-1400 A.D. Villages tend to be larger throughout this stage than formerly (Smith 2002: 67).

The Late Stage dates to approximately 1400-1650 A.D. During this time the cultural divisions identified by early European explorers are under development and the geographic distribution of these groups within southern Ontario begins to be defined.

### **5.2.2 GENERAL HISTORICAL OUTLINE**

In the seventeenth century Simcoe County was home to the Huron. With the arrival of French priests and Jesuits, missions were established near Georgian Bay. After the destruction of the missions by the Iroquois and the British, Algonquin speaking peoples occupied the area. After the war of 1812, the government began to invest in the military defences of Upper Canada, through the extension of Simcoe's Yonge Street from Lake Simcoe to Penetanguishene on Georgian Bay. Most early Euro-Canadian settlers came from the British Isles, and some former soldiers were given free land grants, such as the Roman Catholic Irish in Adjala, but the majority were individual settlers. (Garbutt 2010).

Bradford West Gwillimbury was incorporated as a Town in 1991. It is comprised of the former Town of Bradford, most of the lands of the former township of West Gwillimbury and a small portion of land from the Township of Tecumseth. Today it includes the communities of Bradford, Bond Head, Coulson's Hill, Deerhurst, Dunkerron, Green Valley, Newton Robinson and Pinkerton (Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury 2017).

Early settlement of the area began in the late 1700s. In 1819, the area received an influx of Scottish settlers, disillusioned by the conflict under Lord Selkirk. They abandoned their homes in the Red River Settlement of what is now known as Manitoba and they established the Scotch Settlement - the largest settlement in Simcoe County at the time (Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury 2017).

The village of Bradford was incorporated in 1857 and was named after Bradford, England. It was almost completely destroyed by fire in 1871, but it was rebuilt quickly and it became the major centre for the area with a population of 2,000 by 1873. The main economic activity of the area was agriculture, but several sawmills also operated in the area. Grain was the main crop, with growing interest in hay cut from the Holland Marsh area, which was used for stuffing mattresses (Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury 2017).

Map 2 is a facsimile segment from Hogg's Map of the County of Simcoe (Hogg 1871). Map 2 illustrates the location of the study area and environs as of 1871. The study area is not shown to belong to anyone and no structures are shown to be within the study area, however it is within the city of Bradford. This demonstrates that the original property of which the study area is a part was settled by the time that the atlas data was compiled. Accordingly, it has been determined that there is potential for archaeological deposits related to early Post-Contact settlement within the study area. In addition, this map settlement roads depicts as adjacent and within the study area. The road to the west corresponds with the present-day Simcoe Road, the road running through the study area and those running east-west to the immediate north and south of the study area do not survive into present-day (the current Marshview Boulevard was constructed in 2017, see Map 7 of this report).

Map 3 is a facsimile segment of the Township of West Gwillimbury map reproduced from the Simcoe Supplement in Illustrated Atlas of the Dominion of Canada (Belden 1881). Map 3 illustrates the location of the study area and environs as of 1881. The study area is not shown to belong to anyone and no structures are shown to be within the study area, however it is located immediately south of the town of Bradford. This demonstrates that the original property of which the study area is a part was settled by the time that the atlas data was compiled. Accordingly, it has been determined that there is potential for archaeological deposits related to early Post-Contact settlement within the study area. In addition, this map illustrates a settlement road adjacent to the study area to the west. This road is the current Simcoe Road.

It must be borne in mind that inclusion of names of property owners and depictions of structures and other features within properties on these maps were sold by subscription. Property owners paid to include information or details about their properties. While information included within these maps may provide information about the occupation of a property at a specific moment in time when the information was collected, the absence of such information does not necessarily indicate that the property was not occupied.

### **5.2.3 CURRENT CONDITIONS**

The present use of the study area is as recreation area and empty lot. The study area is roughly 0.85 hectares in area. The study area includes within it mostly lawn and meadow. The northwestern corner is covered in a gravel surface. East of the gravel lot is lawn and east of that is a soccer field. South of this area is a line of trees, a gravel path and an unnamed watercourse/drainage ditch. South of these features the remainder of the study area is overgrown meadow which has been deeply disturbed by the construction of Marshview Boulevard which was completed in 2017 (see Map 7 of this report). A small section of the study area in the north includes a corner of a concrete tennis court. The study area is bounded on the north by tennis court, soccer field, and lawn, on the east by empty lot and soccer field, on the south by recently constructed Marshview Boulevard and residential area, and on the east by Simcoe Road. A plan of the study area is included within this report as Map 4. Current conditions encountered during the Stage 1-2 Property Assessment are illustrated in



Maps 5 & 6. An aerial map showing disturbance from construction of Marshview Road in 2016 can be seen in Map 7.

#### **5.2.4 SUMMARY OF HISTORICAL CONTEXT**

The brief overview of readily available documentary evidence indicates that the study area is situated within an area that was close to historic transportation routes and in an area well populated during the nineteenth century and therefore has potential for sites relating to early Post-Contact settlement in the region. A brief overview of the current understanding of First Nations land use and occupation in the area indicates that the study area contains a source of potable water and therefore has potential for sites relating to Pre-Contact occupation

### **5.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT**

The Archaeological Site Database administered by the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI) indicates that there are three (3) previously documented sites within 1 kilometre of the study area. However, it must be noted that this is based on the assumption of the accuracy of information compiled from numerous researchers using different methodologies over many years. AMICK Consultants Limited assumes no responsibility for the accuracy of site descriptions, interpretations such as cultural affiliation, or location information derived from the Archaeological Sites Database administered by MHSTCI. In addition, it must also be noted that a lack of formerly documented sites does not indicate that there are no sites present as the documentation of any archaeological site is contingent upon prior research having been conducted within the study area..

On the basis of information supplied by MHSTCI, no archaeological assessments have been conducted within 50 metres of the study area.

The study area is situated within an area subject to an archaeological master plan or a similar regional overview study. The *County of Simcoe Archaeological Master Plan* was endorsed by County Council on 4 December 2019. The study involved the delineation of areas of archaeological potential within the County of Simcoe. A facsimile segment of the archaeological potential map produced as a part of that study has been reproduced within this report as Map 8 and illustrates the Study Area on this plan. This map indicates that the study area is in a zone of archaeological potential based on a composite screening criteria for First Nations, Métis, and Historical sites. However, Archaeological Management Plans and the conclusions therein are guidelines for municipal planners and are not a substitute for Stage 1 Background Assessment conducted by Licensed archaeologists. Table 1 describes the modelling criteria by which the Simcoe County regional archaeological potential was calculated.

**Table 1 : Summary of Archaeological Site Potential Modelling Criteria**

<b>Environmental or Cultural Feature</b>	<b>Buffer Distance (metres)</b>	<b>Buffer Qualifier</b>
<i>Pre-contact Indigenous Site Potential</i>		
rivers and streams	250	from top of bank for former; from centreline for latter; on well- or imperfectly drained soils only
lakes and ponds	250	on well or imperfectly drained soils only
Wetlands (including pre-settlement)	250	on well or imperfectly drained soils only
alluvial soils (former river courses)	250	on well or imperfectly drained soils only
registered archaeological sites	100	200 m for villages; if not completely excavated
slope > 20 degrees	0	removed from potential zone
<i>Historical Site Potential</i>		
historical settlement centres	polygon as mapped	no buffer, override integrity
domestic sites	100	None
breweries and distilleries	100	None
hotels/taverns	100	None
historical schools and churches	100	None
historic mills, forges, extraction industries	100	None
early settlement roads	100	both sides
early railways	50	both sides
cemeteries	100 for cemetery leads	10m around cemetery polygons
registered archaeological sites	100	if not completely excavated

It must be further noted that there are no relevant plaques associated with the study area, which would suggest an activity or occupation within, or in close proximity to, the study area that may indicate potential for associated archaeological resources of significant CHVI.

In addition, archaeological sites data is also used to determine if any archaeological resources had been formerly documented within or in close proximity to the study area and if these same resources might be subject to impacts from the proposed undertaking. This data was also collected in order to establish the relative significance of any resources that might be encountered during the conduct of the present study. For example, the relative rarity of a site can be used to assign an elevated level of significance to a site that is atypical for the immediate vicinity. The requisite archaeological sites data of previously registered archaeological sites was collected from the MHSTCI and the corporate research library of AMICK Consultants Limited. The Stage 1 Background Research methodology also includes a review of the most detailed available topographic maps, historical settlement maps, archaeological management plans (where applicable) and commemorative plaques or monuments. When previous archaeological research documents lands to be impacted by the proposed undertaking or archaeological sites within 50 metres of the study area, the reports documenting this earlier work are reviewed for pertinent information. AMICK Consultants Limited will often modify this basic methodology based on professional judgment to include

additional research (such as, local historical works or documents and knowledgeable informants).

### **5.3.1 PRE-CONTACT REGISTERED SITES**

A summary of registered and/or known archaeological sites within a 1-kilometre radius of the study area was gathered from the Archaeological Sites Database, administered by MHSTCI. As a result it was determined that no (0) archaeological sites relating directly to Pre-Contact habitation/activity had been formally registered within the immediate vicinity of the study area. However, the lack of formally documented archaeological sites does not mean that Pre-Contact people did not use the area; it more likely reflects a lack of systematic archaeological research in the immediate vicinity. Even in cases where one or more assessments may have been conducted in close proximity to a proposed landscape alteration, an extensive area of physical archaeological assessment coverage is required throughout the region to produce a representative sample of all potentially available archaeological data in order to provide any meaningful evidence to construct a pattern of land use and settlement in the past

The study area includes an unnamed watercourse, which is a source of potable water. The distance to water criteria used to establish potential for archaeological sites suggests potential for Pre-Contact occupation and land use in the area in the past.

Table 2 illustrates the chronological development of cultures within southern Ontario prior to the arrival of European cultures to the area at the beginning of the 17<sup>th</sup> century. This general cultural outline is based on archaeological data and represents a synthesis and summary of research over a long period of time. It is necessarily generalizing and is not necessarily representative of the point of view of all researchers or stakeholders. It is offered here as a rough guideline and as a very broad outline to illustrate the relationships of broad cultural groups and time periods.

**TABLE 2 PRE-CONTACT CULTURAL CHRONOLOGY FOR SOUTHERN ONTARIO**

<b>Years ago</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>Southern Ontario</b>
250	Terminal Woodland	Ontario and St. Lawrence Iroquois Cultures
1000 2000	Initial Woodland	Princess Point, Saugeen, Point Peninsula, and Meadowood Cultures
3000 4000 5000 6000	Archaic	Laurentian Culture
7000 8000 9000 10000 11000	Palaeo-Indian	Plano and Clovis Cultures
		(Wright 1972)

### **5.3.2 POST-CONTACT REGISTERED SITES**

A summary of registered and/or known archaeological sites within a 1-kilometre radius of the study area was gathered from the Archaeological Sites Database, administered by MHSTCI. As a result it was determined that two (2) archaeological sites relating directly to Post-Contact habitation/activity had been formally registered within the immediate vicinity of the study area. All previously registered Post-Contact sites are briefly described below in Table 3:

**TABLE 3 POST-CONTACT SITES WITHIN 1KM**

<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Borden #</b>	<b>Site Type</b>	<b>Cultural Affiliation</b>
SEAR H1	BaGv-94	OtherDisturbed	Post-Contact
Armstrong	BaGv-53	Homestead	Post-Contact

One of the above noted archaeological sites is situated within 300 metres of the study area. Therefore, it demonstrates archaeological potential for further archaeological resources related to Post-Contact activity and occupation with respect to the archaeological assessment of the proposed undertaking.

### **5.3.3 REGISTERED SITES WITH AN UNKNOWN CULTURAL AFFILIATION**

A summary of registered and/or known archaeological sites within a 1-kilometre radius of the study area was gathered from the Archaeological Sites Database, administered by MHSTCI. As a result, it was determined that one (1) archaeological sites without cultural affiliation had been formally registered within the immediate vicinity of the study area. All previously registered archaeological sites with an unknown cultural affiliation are briefly described below in Table 4:

**TABLE 4 UNAFFILIATED SITES WITHIN 1KM**

<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Borden #</b>	<b>Site Type</b>	<b>Cultural Affiliation</b>
Romanelli	BaGv-26	-	-

None of the above noted archaeological sites are situated within 300 metres of the study area. Therefore, they have no impact on determinations of archaeological potential for further archaeological resources related to Post-Contact activity and occupation with respect to the archaeological assessment of the proposed undertaking.

### **5.3.4 LOCATION AND CURRENT CONDITIONS**

The study area is described as 125 Simcoe Road, Part of Lot 16, Concession 6 (Geographic Township of West Gwillimbury), Town of Bradford, County of Simcoe. The study area was subject to this assessment as a requirement under the Planning Act (RSO 1990) and the

Provincial Policy Statement (2020) in order to support a Site Plan and companion Zoning By-law Amendment application as part of the pre-submission process.

The present use of the study area is as recreation area and empty lot. The study area is roughly 0.85 hectares in area. The study area includes within it mostly lawn and meadow. The northwestern corner is covered in a gravel surface. East of the gravel lot is lawn and east of that is a soccer field. South of this area is a line of trees, a gravel path and an unnamed watercourse/drainage ditch. South of these features the remainder of the study area is overgrown meadow which has been deeply disturbed by the construction of Marshview Boulevard which was completed in 2017 (see Map 7 of this report). A small section of the study area in the north includes a corner of a concrete tennis court. The study area is bounded on the north by tennis court, soccer field, and lawn, on the east by empty lot and soccer field, on the south by recently constructed Marshview Boulevard and residential area, and on the east by Simcoe Road. A plan of the study area is included within this report as Map 4. Current conditions encountered during the Stage 1-2 Property Assessment are illustrated in Maps 5 & 6. An aerial map showing disturbance from construction of Marshview Road in 2016 can be seen in Map 7.

### **5.3.5 PHYSIOGRAPHIC REGION**

The study area is situated within the Schomberg Clay Plains physiographic region. The Schomberg sediments are typically varved clays with annual layers of 2, 3, 4, or more inches in thickness. It is very slippery when wet and inclined to be mealy when dry. It is probably composed of ground rock flour rather than weathered clay minerals. The soil conditions of the area range from well to poorly drained silty clay loams (Chapman and Putnam 1984: 176-177).

### **5.3.6 SURFACE WATER**

Sources of potable water, access to waterborne transportation routes, and resources associated with watersheds are each considered, both individually and collectively to be the highest criteria for determination of the potential of any location to support extended human activity, land use, or occupation. Accordingly, proximity to water is regarded as the primary indicator of archaeological resource potential. The Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists stipulates that undisturbed lands within 300 metres of a water source are considered to have archaeological potential (MTC 2011: 21).

An unnamed watercourse/drainage ditch runs east-west through the study area, appearing above ground to the east of the study area. This watercourse contributes to low-lying and wet area in the area.

### **5.3.7 CURRENT PROPERTY CONDITIONS CONTEXT**

Current characteristics encountered within an archaeological research study area determine if property Assessment of specific portions of the study area will be necessary and in what

manner a Stage 2 Property Assessment should be conducted, if necessary. Conventional assessment methodologies include pedestrian survey on ploughable lands and test pit methodology within areas that cannot be ploughed. For the purpose of determining where property Assessment is necessary and feasible, general categories of current landscape conditions have been established as archaeological conventions. These include:

#### **5.3.7.1 BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURAL FOOTPRINTS**

A building, for the purposes of this particular study, is a structure that exists currently or has existed in the past in a given location. The footprint of a building is the area of the building formed by the perimeter of the foundation. Although the interior area of building foundations would often be subject to property Assessment when the foundation may represent a potentially significant historic archaeological site, the footprints of existing structures are not typically assessed. Existing structures commonly encountered during archaeological assessments are often residential-associated buildings (houses, garages, sheds), and/or component buildings of farm complexes (barns, silos, greenhouses). In many cases, even though the disturbance to the land may be relatively shallow and archaeological resources may be situated below the disturbed layer (e.g. a concrete garage pad), there is no practical means of assessing the area beneath the disturbed layer. However, if there were evidence to suggest that there are likely archaeological resources situated beneath the disturbance, alternative methodologies may be recommended to study such areas.

The study area contains no buildings or structural footprints.

#### **5.3.7.2 DISTURBANCE**

Areas that have been subjected to extensive and deep land alteration that has severely damaged the integrity of archaeological resources are known as land disturbances. Examples of land disturbances are areas of past quarrying, major landscaping, and sewage and infrastructure development (MTC 2011: 18), as well as driveways made of gravel or asphalt or concrete, in-ground pools, and wells or cisterns. Surfaces paved with interlocking brick, concrete, asphalt, gravel and other surfaces meant to support heavy loads or to be long wearing hard surfaces in high traffic areas, must be prepared by the excavation and removal of topsoil, grading, and the addition of aggregate material to ensure appropriate engineering values for the supporting matrix and also to ensure that the installations shed water to avoid flooding or moisture damage. All hard surfaced areas are prepared in this fashion and therefore have no or low archaeological potential. Major utility lines are conduits that provide services such as water, natural gas, hydro, communications, sewage, and others. These major installations should not be confused with minor below ground service installations not considered to represent significant disturbances removing archaeological potential, such as services leading to individual structures which tend to be comparatively very shallow and vary narrow corridors. Areas containing substantial and deeply buried services or clusters of below ground utilities are considered areas of disturbance, and may be excluded from Stage 2 Property Assessment. Disturbed areas are excluded from Stage 2 Property Assessment due to no or low archaeological potential and often because they are

also not viable to assess using conventional methodology.

*“Earthwork is one of the major works involved in road construction. This process includes excavation, material removal, filling, compaction, and construction. Moisture content is controlled, and compaction is done according to standard design procedures. Normally, rock explosion at the road bed is not encouraged. While filling a depression to reach the road level, **the original bed is flattened after the removal of the topsoil.** The fill layer is distributed and compacted to the designed specifications. This procedure is repeated until the compaction desired is reached. **The fill material should not contain organic elements, and possess a low index of plasticity.** Fill material can include gravel and decomposed rocks of a particular size, but should not consist of huge clay lumps. Sand clay can be used. The area is considered to be adequately compacted when the roller movement does not create a noticeable deformation. **The road surface finish is reliant on the economic aspects, and the estimated usage.**” [Emphasis Added]*

(Goel 2013)

The supporting matrix of a hard paved surface cannot contain organic material which is subject to significant compression, decay and moisture retention. Topsoil has no engineering value and must be removed in any construction application where the surface finish at grade requires underlying support.

Installation of sewer lines and other below ground services associated with infrastructure development often involves deep excavation that can remove archaeological potential. This consideration does not apply to relatively minor below ground services that connect structures and facilities to services that support their operation and use. Major servicing corridors will be situated within adjacent road allowances with only minor, narrow and relatively shallow underground services entering into the study area to connect existing structures to servicing mainlines. The relatively minor, narrow and shallow services buried within a residential property do not require such extensive ground disturbance to remove or minimize archaeological potential within affected areas.

The study area contains previous disturbances. A gravel path is located in the central east along the unnamed watercourse/drainage ditch, an area of gravel is located in the northwest, and the central north section of the study area includes the corner of a tennis court. Additionally, the entire southern half of the study area before the watercourse has been disturbed by the construction of Marshview Boulevard completed in 2017 (see Map 7 of this report for a 2016 Aerial of the construction limits). The lawn in the northern half has also been graded and includes sand fill. Maps 5 & 6 of this report illustrate the locations of these features.

### **5.3.7.3 LOW-LYING AND WET AREAS**

Landscape features that are covered by permanently wet areas, such as marshes, swamps, or bodies of water like streams or lakes, are known as low-lying and wet areas. Low-lying and wet areas are excluded from Stage 2 Property Assessment due to inaccessibility.

The study area contains low-lying and wet areas. An unnamed watercourse/drainage ditch runs east-west through the study area, appearing above ground in the east and a corresponding low-lying and wet area surrounds the watercourse (5.5% of the study area). This area cannot be assessed using conventional methodology and has therefore been excluded from the Stage 2 Property Assessment. Maps 5 & 6 of this report illustrate the locations of these features.

### **5.3.7.4 STEEP SLOPE**

Landscape which slopes at a greater than (>) 20 degree change in elevation, is known as steep slope. Areas of steep slope are considered uninhabitable, and are excluded from Stage 2 Property Assessment.

Generally, steep slopes are not assessed because steep slopes are interpreted to have low potential, not due to viability to assess, except in cases where the slope is severe enough to become a safety concern for archaeological field crews. In such cases, the Occupational Health and Safety Act takes precedence as indicated in the introduction to the Standards and Guidelines. AMICK Consultant Limited policy is to assess all slope areas whenever it is safe to do so. Assessment of slopes, except where safety concerns arise, eliminates the invariably subjective interpretation of what might constitute a steep slope in the field. This is done to minimize delays due to conflicts in such interpretations and to increase the efficiency of review.

The study area does not contain areas of steep slope.

### **5.3.7.5 WOODED AREAS**

Areas of the property that cannot be ploughed, such as natural forest or woodlot, are known as wooded areas. These wooded areas qualify for Stage 2 Property Assessment, and are required to be assessed using test pit survey methodology.

The study area does not contain any wooded areas.

### **5.3.7.6 PLOUGHABLE AGRICULTURAL LANDS**

Areas of current or former agricultural lands that have been ploughed in the past are considered ploughable agricultural lands. Ploughing these lands regularly turns the soil, which in turn brings previously buried artifacts to the surface, which are then easily identified during visual inspection. Furthermore, by allowing the ploughed area to weather

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sufficiently through rainfall, soil is washed off of exposed artifacts at the surface and the visibility of artifacts at the surface of recently worked field areas is enhanced markedly. Pedestrian survey of ploughed agricultural lands is the preferred method of physical assessment because of the greater potential for finding evidence of archaeological resources if present.

The study area does not contain any ploughable lands.

#### **5.3.7.7 LAWN, PASTURE, MEADOW**

Landscape features consisting of former agricultural land covered in low growth, such as lawns, pastures, meadows, shrubbery, and immature trees. These are areas that may be considered too small to warrant ploughing, (i.e. less than one hectare in area), such as yard areas surrounding existing structures, and land-locked open areas that are technically workable by a plough but inaccessible to agricultural machinery. These areas may also include open area within urban contexts that do not allow agricultural tillage within municipal or city limits or the use of urban roadways by agricultural machinery. These areas are required to be assessed using test pit survey methodology.

The study area contains any areas of lawn, pasture or meadow. Lawn is found in the northern half of the study area, east of the gravel area on the western border. Overgrown meadow is found in the southern half of the study area on the other side of the watercourse/drainage ditch and treeline where the area has been disturbed by construction. These areas consists of 72% of the study area. Maps 5 & 6 of this report illustrate the locations of these features.

#### **5.3.8 SUMMARY**

Background research indicates the vicinity of the study area has potential for archaeological resources of Native origins based on proximity to a source of potable water. Background research also suggests potential for archaeological resources of Post-Contact origins based on proximity to previously registered archaeological sites of Post-Contact origins, proximity to a historic roadway, and proximity to areas of documented historic settlement.

Current conditions within the study area indicate that some area may have no or low archaeological potential and do not require Stage 2 Property Assessment or should be excluded from Stage 2 Property Assessment. These areas would include the areas under gravel surface and areas disturbed by construction of Marshview Boulevard. A significant proportion of the study area does exhibit archaeological potential and therefore a Stage 2 Property Assessment is required.

Archaeological potential does not indicate that there are necessarily sites present, but that environmental and historical factors suggest that there may be as yet undocumented archaeological sites within lands that have not been subject to systematic archaeological research in the past.

## **6.0 FIELD WORK METHODS AND WEATHER CONDITIONS [STAGE 2]**

This report confirms that the study area was subject to Stage 2 Property Assessment by test pit survey at a ten metre interval to confirm disturbance on 26 October 2021.

The fieldwork undertaken as a component of this study was conducted according to the archaeological fieldwork standards and guidelines (including weather and lighting conditions). Weather conditions were appropriate for the necessary fieldwork required to complete the Stage 2 Property Assessment and to create the documentation appropriate to this study. The locations from which photographs were taken and the directions toward which the camera was aimed for each photograph are illustrated in Maps 5 & 6 of this report. Upon completion of the property inspection of the study area, it was determined that select areas would require Stage 2 Property Assessment.

It must be noted that AMICK Consultants Limited has been retained to assess lands as specified by the proponent. As such, AMICK Consultants Limited is constrained by the terms of the contract in place at the time of the Archaeological Assessment and can only enter into lands for which AMICK Consultants Limited has received consent from the owner or their agent(s). The proponent has been advised that the entire area within the planning application must be subject to archaeological assessment and that portions of the planning application may only be excluded if they are of low potential, are not viable to assess, or are subject to planning provisions that would restrict any such areas from any form of ground altering activities.

### **6.1 PROPERTY INSPECTION [STAGE 2]**

A detailed examination and photo documentation was carried out on the study area in order to document the existing conditions of the study area to facilitate the Stage 2 Property Assessment. All areas of the study area were visually inspected and select features were photographed as a representative sample of each area defined within Maps 5 & 6. Observations made of conditions within the study area at the time of the inspection were used to inform the requirement for Stage 2 Property Assessment for portions of the study area as well as to aid in the determination of appropriate Stage 2 Property Assessment strategies. The locations from which photographs were taken and the directions toward which the camera was aimed for each photograph are illustrated in Maps 5 & 6 of this report.

### **6.2 TEST PIT SURVEY**

In accordance with the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists, test pit survey is required to be undertaken for those portions of the study area where deep prior disturbance had not occurred prior to assessment or which were accessible to survey. Test pit survey is only used in areas that cannot be subject to ploughing or cultivation. This report confirms that the conduct of test pit survey within the study area conformed to the following standards:

1. *Test pit survey only on terrain where ploughing is not possible or viable, as in the following examples:*

*a. wooded areas*

[Not Applicable – The study area does not contain any wooded areas]

*b. pasture with high rock content*

[Not Applicable - The study area does not contain any pastures with high rock content]

*c. abandoned farmland with heavy brush and weed growth*

[Not Applicable - The study area does not contain any abandoned farmland with heavy brush and weed growth]

*d. orchards and vineyards that cannot be strip ploughed (planted in rows 5 m apart or less), gardens, parkland or lawns, any of which will remain in use for several years after the survey*

[Not Applicable - The study area does not contain any of the above-mentioned circumstances]

*e. properties where existing landscaping or infrastructure would be damaged. The presence of such obstacles must be documented in sufficient detail to demonstrate that ploughing or cultivation is not viable.*

[The study area is situated in an area of urban density development where there are numerous underground services such as hydro, water, sanitary sewer, gas, communications, etc. Many of these services support the existing use of the study area. Ploughing of the affected portions of the study area would therefore damage or destroy these services. All areas where existing landscaping or infrastructure would be damaged were test pit surveyed at an interval of 5 metres between individual test pits] (

*f. narrow (10 m or less) linear survey corridors (e.g., water or gas pipelines, road widening). This includes situations where there are planned impacts 10 m or less beyond the previously impacted limits on both sides of an existing linear corridor (e.g., two linear survey corridors on either side of an existing roadway). Where at the time of fieldwork the lands within the linear corridor meet the standards as stated under the above section on pedestrian survey land preparation, pedestrian survey must be carried out. Space test pits at maximum intervals of 5 m (400 test pits per hectare) in areas less than 300 m from any feature of archaeological potential.*

[Not Applicable – The study area does not contain any linear corridors]

2. *Space test pits at maximum intervals of 5 m (400 test pits per hectare) in areas less than 300 m from any feature of archaeological potential.*

[All test pits were spaced at an interval of 10m between individual test pits to confirm disturbance]

3. *Space test pits at maximum intervals of 10 m (100 test pits per hectare) in areas more than 300 m from any feature of archaeological potential.*

[The entirety of the test pitted areas of the study area were assessed using test pit methodology at a 10 metre interval to confirm extent of disturbances where applicable.]

4. *Test pit to within 1 m of built structures (both intact and ruins), or until test pits show evidence of recent ground disturbance.*

[Not Applicable]

5. *Ensure that test pits are at least 30 cm in diameter.*

[All test pits were at least 30 cm in diameter]

6. *Excavate each test pit, by hand, into the first 5 cm of subsoil and examine the pit for stratigraphy, cultural features, or evidence of fill.*

[Regardless of the interval between individual test pits, all test pits were excavated by hand into the first 5 cm of subsoil where possible and examined for stratigraphy, cultural features, or evidence of fill. In areas where topsoil was not present, test pits were excavated to a minimum of 30cm in depth to ensure that suspected subsoils, if present, were not layers of fill or waterborne materials overlying buried topsoil. If these areas consisted of fill soils, test pits were also excavated below grade in order to ensure disturbance extended below even deep topsoil layers such as those encountered in agricultural fields to ensure that the depth of disturbance was sufficient to remove archaeological potential in most contexts. Where other evidence indicates locations of potentially significant archaeological sites that may include cultural deposits below fill soils, alternative strategies to explore beneath the fill layers found in some areas may be necessary to complete the Stage 2 Property Assessment. In such cases, further Stage 2 Property Assessment may be recommended following completion of the property survey under conventional methodologies.]

7. *Screen soil through mesh no greater than 6 mm.*

[All soil was screened through mesh no greater than 6 mm]

8. *Collect all artifacts according to their associated test pit.*

[Not Applicable - No archaeological resources were encountered]

9. *Backfill all test pits unless instructed not to by the landowner.*

[All test pits were backfilled]

(MTC 2011: 31-32)

“A combination of property inspection and test pitting may be used when initial Stage 2 results determine that all or part of the project area may in fact be disturbed. The

*Stage 2 survey may then consists of a detailed inspection (equivalent to Stage 1), combined with test pitting.”*

1. *If it was not done as part of Stage 1, inspect and document the disturbed areas according to the standards described for Stage 1 property inspections.*

[The disturbed areas of the study area were inspected and documented as per the standards described for Stage 1 property inspections. Areas of suspected disturbance where test pit survey was viable were shovel tested as described below. These areas were limited to the south end of the study area where the area has been disturbed by construction of Marshview Boulevard, and in the north where the area has been affected by construction of the recreational area, and parking lot.

Standard archaeological survey methodologies employed in Ontario for Stage 2 Archaeological Property Assessment (i.e. pedestrian survey and test pit survey) cannot determine if deeply buried cultural remains are or are not present. The purpose of Stage 2 Property Assessment is not to test for deeply buried deposits. The Standards and Guidelines for Consultants Archaeologists recognize this fact and have a whole separate section covering this specific issue. The only way to determine if deeply buried remains are present is to follow those standards not via a standard Stage 1-2 Archaeological Property Assessment.

In most cases, unless there is documentation or evidence to the contrary, areas where grading has exceeded topsoil depth are areas considered to have no or low archaeological potential because in most cases removal of the topsoil will remove archaeological sites. While archaeological sites are popularly thought of as being deeply buried, archaeological sites begin on the surface of the ground and for most of humanity’s history involved no substantial excavations or significant landscape alterations. Only with the rise of urbanization and sedentary settlement do sites begin to accumulate depth. This is a result of continuous building and rebuilding over top of earlier settlements. Deep archaeological sites are created by adding to the surface of an area and building the landform up. Deeply buried archaeological deposits are relatively rare outside of urban environments in Ontario and even within urban contexts, this seldom occurs outside of the historic core of the community where redevelopment has occurred since initial settlement.

If an area was not occupied during a period of potential archaeological significance, there is no potential to locate deeply buried significant archaeological resources. There are only a few very rare exceptions related to historical significance that is not tied to the time period of activity or occupation of a site but to certain historical events and/or personalities.

Areas of suspected disturbance where test pit survey was viable were shovel tested as described below]

The entire study area was test pit at 10 metre intervals to confirm disturbance. Disturbance of the study area includes, a gravel area in the northwest, a gravel path running east-west in the eastern central area along the watercourse, the entire southern half of the study area which was affected by construction of Marshview Boulevard, and the northern lawn and soccer pitch which is disturbed with sand fill.

- 2. Place Stage 2 test pits throughout the disturbed areas according to professional judgment (and where physically viable) as to confirm that these areas have been completely disturbed.*

[An area of suspected disturbance was identified during the Property Inspection conducted as part of the Stage 2 Property Assessment. This area consists of an area identified probable disturbance from the construction of Marshview Boulevard and the recreation area. Test pits were excavated every 10 metres across the entirety of this portion of the study area. The intensity of test pit survey conducted is far in excess of the minimum standard required. AMICK Consultants Limited tested the suspected disturbed area at a 10-metre interval to confirm disturbance in a manner consistent with the objectives to ensure that the area is accurately delimited and properly identified. Additionally, once the boundaries of this area were defined, a visual inspection was conducted at 5 m transects across the entirety of the disturbed area to ensure a thorough investigation of the area. There is no requirement to systematically examine such areas. The Standards and Guidelines require only judgmental testing based on the professional judgment of the investigating archaeologist. In most typical archaeological assessments the entire area of presumed disturbance will be written off as an area of no archaeological potential without thorough testing to demonstrate that the entire area is disturbed or it will be tested at subjective, irregular and inconsistent intervals, and consequently such testing cannot verify that the entire area contained within the presumed limits of disturbance are, in fact, disturbed. The methodology employed here by AMICK Consultants Limited exceeds any requirements of the Standards and Guidelines and that which is generally applied within the industry.

The excavated soil and the profiles of these test pits were examined to determine if each represented an area of disturbance. Test pits were excavated below grade in order to ensure that test pits were excavated to depths below the surrounding natural grade. This procedure demonstrated that the entire study area consists of fill deposited within a deeply disturbed context. There is no archaeological potential within this area.]

(MTC 2011: 38)

## **7.0 RECORD OF FINDS**

Section 7.8.2 of the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (MTC 2011: 137-138) outlines the requirements of the Record of Finds component of a Stage 2 report:

1. *For all archaeological resources and sites that are identified in Stage 2, provide the following:*
  - a. *a general description of the types of artifacts and features that were identified*
  - b. *a general description of the area within which artifacts and features were identified, including the spatial extent of the area and any relative variations in density*
  - c. *a catalogue and description of all artifacts retained*
  - d. *a description of the artifacts and features left in the field (nature of material, frequency, other notable traits).*
2. *Provide an inventory of the documentary record generated in the field (e.g. photographs, maps, field notes).*
3. *Submit information detailing exact site locations on the property separately from the project report, as specified in section 7.6. Information on exact site locations includes the following:*
  - a. *table of GPS readings for locations of all archaeological sites*
  - b. *maps showing detailed site location information.*

## **7.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

No archaeological resources of any description were encountered anywhere within the study area

## **7.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK DOCUMENTATION**

The documentation produced during the field investigation conducted in support of this report includes: one sketch map, one page of photo log, one page of field notes, and 22 digital photographs.

## **8.0 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS**

AMICK Consultants Limited was engaged by the proponent to undertake a Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment of lands potentially affected by the proposed undertaking and was granted permission to carry out archaeological fieldwork. The entirety of the study area was subject to property inspection and photographic documentation concurrently with the Stage 2 Property Assessment on 26 October 202, consisting of test pit survey at an interval of 10-metres between individual test pits to confirm disturbance. All records, documentation, field notes, photographs and artifacts (as applicable) related to the conduct and findings of these investigations are held at the Lakelands District corporate offices of AMICK Consultants Limited until such time that they can be transferred to an agency or institution approved by the Ontario Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI) on behalf of the government and citizens of Ontario.

## **8.1 STAGE 1 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS**

As part of the present study, background research was conducted in order to determine the archaeological potential of the proposed project area.

*“A Stage 1 background study provides the consulting archaeologist and Ministry report reviewer with information about the known and potential cultural heritage resources within a particular study area, prior to the start of the field assessment.”* (OMCzCR 1993)

The evaluation of potential is further elaborated Section 1.3 of the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologist (2011) prepared by the Ontario Ministry of Tourism and Culture:

*“The Stage 1 background study (and, where undertaken, property inspection) leads to an evaluation of the property’s archaeological potential. If the evaluation indicates that there is archaeological potential anywhere on the property, the next step is a Stage 2 assessment.”* (MTC 2011: 17)

Features or characteristics that indicate archaeological potential when documented within the study area, or within close proximity to the study area (as applicable), include:

- “ - *previously identified archaeological sites*
- *water sources (It is important to distinguish types of water and shoreline, and to distinguish natural from artificial water sources, as these features affect site locations and types to varying degrees.):*
  - *primary water sources (lakes, rivers, streams, creeks)*
  - *secondary water sources (intermittent streams and creeks, springs, marshes, swamps)*
  - *features indicating past water sources (e.g., 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)*
  - *accessible or inaccessible shoreline (e.g., high bluffs, swamp or marsh fields by the edge of a lake, sandbars stretching into marsh)*
- *elevated topography (e.g., eskers, drumlins, large knolls, plateaux)*
- *pockets of well-drained sandy soil, especially near areas of heavy soil or rocky ground*
- *distinctive land formations that might have been special or spiritual places, such as waterfalls, rock outcrops, caverns, mounds, and promontories and their bases. There may be physical indicators of their use, such as burials, structures, offerings, rock paintings or carvings.*
- *resource areas, including:*
  - *food or medicinal plants (e.g., migratory routes, spawning areas, prairie)*
  - *scarce raw materials (e.g., quartz, copper, ochre or outcrops of chert)*
  - *early Post-contact industry (e.g., fur trade, logging, prospecting, mining)*



- areas of early Post-contact settlement. These include places of early military or pioneer settlement (e.g., pioneer homesteads, isolated cabins, farmstead complexes), early wharf or dock complexes, pioneer churches and early cemeteries. There may be commemorative markers of their history, such as local, provincial, or federal monuments or heritage parks.
- Early historical transportation routes (e.g., trails, passes, roads, railways, portage routes)
- property listed on a municipal register or designated under the Ontario Heritage Act that is a federal, provincial or municipal historic landmark or site
- property that local histories or informants have identified with possible archaeological sites, historical events, activities, or occupations”

(MTC 2011: 17-18)

The evaluation of potential does not indicate that sites are present within areas affected by proposed development. Evaluation of potential considers the possibility for as yet undocumented sites to be found in areas that have not been subject to systematic archaeological investigation in the past. Potential for archaeological resources is used to determine if property assessment of a study area or portions of a study area is required.

*“Archaeological resources not previously documented may also be present in the affected area. If the alternative areas being considered, or the preferred alternative selected, exhibit either high or medium potential for the discovery of archaeological remains an archaeological assessment will be required.”*

(MCC & MOE 1992: 6-7)

*“The Stage 1 background study (and, where undertaken, property inspection) leads to an evaluation of the property’s archaeological potential. If the evaluation indicates that there is archaeological potential anywhere on the property, the next step is a Stage 2 assessment.”*

(MTC 2011: 17)

In addition, archaeological sites data is also used to determine if any archaeological resources had been formerly documented within or in close proximity to the study area and if these same resources might be subject to impacts from the proposed undertaking. This data was also collected in order to establish the relative cultural heritage value or interest of any resources that might be encountered during the conduct of the present study. For example, the relative rarity of a site can be used to assign an elevated level of cultural heritage value or interest to a site that is atypical for the immediate vicinity. The requisite archaeological sites data of previously registered archaeological sites was collected from the MHSTCI and the corporate research library of AMICK Consultants Limited. The Stage 1 Background Research methodology also includes a review of the most detailed available topographic maps, historical settlement maps, archaeological management plans (where applicable) and commemorative plaques or monuments. When previous archaeological research documents lands to be impacted by the proposed undertaking or archaeological sites within 50 metres of the study area, the reports documenting this earlier work are reviewed for pertinent

information. AMICK Consultants Limited will often modify this basic methodology based on professional judgment to include additional research (such as, local historical works or documents and knowledgeable informants).

Section 7.7.3 of the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (MTC 2011: 132) outlines the requirements of the Analysis and Conclusions component of a Stage 1 Background Study.

- 1) *“Identify and describe areas of archaeological potential within the project area.*
- 2) *Identify and describe areas that have been subject to extensive and deep land alterations. Describe the nature of alterations (e.g., development or other activity) that have severely damaged the integrity of archaeological resources and have removed archaeological potential.”*

### **CHARACTERISTICS INDICATING ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL**

Section 1.3.1 of the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists specifies the property characteristics that indicate archaeological potential (MTC 2011: 17-18). Factors that indicate archaeological potential are features of the local landscape and environment that may have attracted people to either occupy the land or to conduct activities within the study area. One or more of these characteristics found to apply to a study area would necessitate a Stage 2 Property Assessment to determine if archaeological resources are present. These characteristics are listed below together with considerations derived from the conduct of this study.

- 1) *Previously Identified Archaeological Sites*  
Previously registered archaeological sites have been documented within 300 metres of the study area.
- 2) *Water Sources*  
Primary water sources are described as including lakes, rivers streams and creeks. Close proximity to primary water sources (300 metres) indicates that people had access to readily available sources of potable water and routes of waterborne trade and communication should the study area have been used or occupied in the past.

There are no identified primary water sources within 300 metres of the study area

Secondary water sources are described as including intermittent streams and creeks, springs, marshes, and swamps. Close proximity (300 metres) to secondary water sources indicates that people had access to readily available sources of potable water, at least on a seasonal basis, and in some cases seasonal access to routes of waterborne trade and communication should the study area have been used or occupied in the past.

There is a identified secondary water sources within 300 metres of the study area. An unnamed watercourse/drainage ditch runs east-west through the study area.

3) *Features Indicating Past Water Sources*

Features indicating past water resources are described as including 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, and cobble beaches. Close proximity (300 metres) to features indicating past water sources indicates that people had access to readily available sources of potable water, at least on a seasonal basis, and in some cases seasonal access to routes of waterborne trade and communication should the study area have been used or occupied in the past.

There are no identified features indicating past water sources within 300 metres of the study area.

4) *Accessible or Inaccessible Shoreline*

This form of landscape feature would include high bluffs, swamp or marsh fields by the edge of a lake, sandbars stretching into marsh, etc.

There are no shorelines within 300 metres of the study area.

5) *Elevated Topography*

Features of elevated topography that indicate archaeological potential include eskers, drumlins, large knolls, and plateaux.

There are no identified features of elevated topography within the study area.

6) *Pockets of Well-drained Sandy Soil*

Pockets of sandy soil are considered to be especially important near areas of heavy soil or rocky ground.

The study area is entirely disturbed, and no original soil remains.

7) *Distinctive Land Formations*

These are landscape features that might have been special or spiritual places, such as waterfalls, rock outcrops, caverns, mounds, and promontories and their bases. There may be physical indicators of their use, such as burials, structures, offerings, rock paintings or carvings.

There are no identified distinctive land formations within the study area.

8) *Resource Areas*

Resource areas that indicate archaeological potential include food or medicinal plants (e.g., migratory routes, spawning areas, and prairie), scarce raw materials (e.g., quartz, copper, ochre or outcrops of chert) and resources of importance to early Post-contact industry (e.g., logging, prospecting, and mining).

There are no identified resource areas within the study area.

9) Areas of Early Post-Contact Settlement

These include places of early military or pioneer settlement (e.g., pioneer homesteads, isolated cabins, and farmstead complexes), early wharf or dock complexes, pioneer churches and early cemeteries. There may be commemorative markers of their history, such as local, provincial, or federal monuments or heritage parks.

The study area is situated in close proximity to a historic community identified on the historic atlas map.

10) Early Historical Transportation Routes

This includes evidence of trails, passes, roads, railways, portage routes.

The study area is situated within 100 metres of an early settlement road that appears on the Historic Atlas Map of 1871. This historic road correspond to the road presently known as Simcoe Road which is adjacent to the study area.

11) Heritage Property

Property listed on a municipal register or designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act* or is a federal, provincial or municipal historic landmark or site.

There are no listed or designated heritage buildings or properties that form a part of the study area. There are no listed or designated heritage buildings or properties that are adjacent to the study area.

12) Documented Historical or Archaeological Sites

This includes property that local histories or informants have identified with possible archaeological sites, historical events, activities, or occupations. These are properties which have not necessarily been formally recognized or for which there is additional evidence identifying possible archaeological resources associated with historic properties in addition to the rationale for formal recognition.

There are no known heritage features, or known historic sites, or known archaeological sites within the study area in addition to those formally documented with the appropriate agencies or previously noted under a different criterion.

## **CHARACTERISTICS INDICATING REMOVAL OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL**

Section 1.3.2 of the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists specifies the property characteristics which indicate no archaeological potential or for which archaeological potential has been removed (MTC 2011: 18-19). These characteristics are listed below together with considerations derived from the conduct of this study. The introduction of Section 1.3.2 (MTC 2011: 18) notes that “*Archaeological potential can be determined not to be present for either the entire property or a part(s) of it when the area under consideration has been subject to extensive and deep land alterations that have severely damaged the integrity of any archaeological resources. This is commonly referred to as ‘disturbed’ or ‘disturbance’, and may include:*”

1) Quarrying

There is no evidence to suggest that quarrying operations were ever carried out within the study area.

2) Major Landscaping Involving Grading Below Topsoil

Unless there is evidence to suggest the presence of buried archaeological deposits, such deeply disturbed areas are considered to have lost their archaeological potential. Properties that do not have a long history of Post-Contact occupation can have archaeological potential removed through extensive landscape alterations that penetrate below the topsoil layer. This is because most archaeological sites originate at grade with relatively shallow associated excavations into the soil. Pre-Contact sites and early historic sites are vulnerable to extensive damage and complete removal due to landscape modification activities. In urban contexts where a lengthy history of occupation has occurred, properties may have deeply buried archaeological deposits covered over and sealed through redevelopment activities that do not include the deep excavation of the entire property for subsequent uses. Buildings are often erected directly over older foundations preserving archaeological deposits associated with the earlier occupation.

There is evidence to suggest that major landscaping operations involving grading below topsoil were ever carried out within the study area. Surfaces paved with interlocking brick, concrete, asphalt, gravel and other surfaces meant to support heavy loads or to be long wearing hard surfaces in high traffic areas, must be prepared by the excavation and removal of topsoil, grading, and the addition of aggregate material to ensure appropriate engineering values for the supporting matrix and also to ensure that the installations shed water to avoid flooding or moisture damage. All hard surfaced areas are prepared in this fashion and therefore have no or low archaeological potential. Disturbed areas are excluded from Stage 2 Property Assessment due to no or low archaeological potential and often because they are also not viable to assess using conventional methodology.

3) Building Footprints

Typically, the construction of buildings involves the deep excavation of foundations, footings and cellars that often obliterate archaeological deposits situated close to the surface.

There are no buildings within the study area.

4) *Sewage and Infrastructure Development*

Installation of sewer lines and other below ground services associated with infrastructure development often involves deep excavation that can remove archaeological potential.

There is evidence to suggest that substantial below ground services of any kind have resulted in significant impacts to any significant portion of the study area. Major utility lines are conduits that provide services such as water, natural gas, hydro, communications, sewage, and others. These major installations should not be confused with minor below ground service installations not considered to represent significant disturbances removing archaeological potential, such as services leading to individual structures which tend to be comparatively very shallow and vary narrow corridors. Areas containing substantial and deeply buried services or clusters of below ground utilities are considered areas of disturbance, and may be excluded from Stage 2 Property Assessment.

*“Activities such as agricultural cultivation, gardening, minor grading and landscaping do not necessarily affect archaeological potential.”*

(MTC 2011: 18)

*“Archaeological potential is not removed where there is documented potential for deeply buried intact archaeological resources beneath land alterations, or where it cannot be clearly demonstrated through background research and property inspection that there has been complete and intensive disturbance of an area. Where complete disturbance cannot be demonstrated in Stage 1, it will be necessary to undertake Stage 2 assessment.”*

(MTC 2011: 18)

## **SUMMARY**

Table 5 below summarizes the evaluation criteria of the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI) together with the results of the Stage 1 Background Study for the proposed undertaking. Based on the criteria, the property is deemed to have archaeological potential on the basis of proximity to water, proximity to a previously registered archaeological site, proximity to a historic settlement, and the location of early historic settlement roads adjacent to the study area

**TABLE 5 EVALUATION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL**

FEATURE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL		YES	NO	N/A	COMMENT
1	Known archaeological sites within 300m	Y			If Yes, potential determined
<b>PHYSICAL FEATURES</b>					
2	Is there water on or near the property?	Y			Drainage ditch
2a	Primary water source within 300 m. (lakeshore, river, large creek, etc.)		N		If Yes, potential determined
2b	Secondary water source within 300 m. (stream, spring, marsh, swamp, etc.)	Y			If Yes, potential determined
2c	Past water source within 300 m. (beach ridge, river bed, relic creek, etc.)		N		If Yes, potential determined
2d	Accessible or Inaccessible shoreline within 300 m. (high bluffs, marsh, swamp, sand bar, etc.)		N		If Yes, potential determined
3	Elevated topography (knolls, drumlins, eskers, plateaus, etc.)		N		If Yes, and Yes for any of 4-9, potential determined
4	Pockets of sandy soil in a clay or rocky area		N		If Yes and Yes for any of 3, 5-9, potential determined
5	Distinctive land formations (mounds, caverns, waterfalls, peninsulas, etc.)		N		If Yes and Yes for any of 3-4, 6-9, potential determined
<b>HISTORIC/PREHISTORIC USE FEATURES</b>					
6	Associated with food or scarce resource harvest areas (traditional fishing locations, agricultural/berry extraction areas, etc.)		N		If Yes, and Yes for any of 3-5, 7-9, potential determined.
7	Early Post-Contact settlement area within 300 m.	Y			If Yes, and Yes for any of 3-6, 8-9, potential determined
8	Historic Transportation route within 100 m. (historic road, trail, portage, rail corridors, etc.)	Y			If Yes, and Yes for any 3-7 or 9, potential determined
9	Contains property designated and/or listed under the Ontario Heritage Act (municipal heritage committee, municipal register, etc.)		N		If Yes and, Yes to any of 3-8, potential determined
<b>APPLICATION-SPECIFIC INFORMATION</b>					
10	Local knowledge (local heritage organizations, Pre-Contact, etc.)		N		If Yes, potential determined
11	Recent disturbance not including agricultural cultivation (post-1960-confirmed extensive and intensive including industrial sites, aggregate areas, etc.)	Y			If Yes, no potential or low potential in affected part (s) of the study area.

If **YES** to any of 1, 2a-c, or 10 Archaeological Potential is **confirmed**

If **YES** to 2 or more of 3-9, Archaeological Potential is **confirmed**

If **YES** to 11 or No to 1-10 Low Archaeological Potential is **confirmed** for at least a portion of the study area.

## **8.2 STAGE 2 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS**

Section 7.8.3 of the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (MTC 2011: 138-139) outlines the requirements of the Analysis and Conclusions component of a Stage 2 Property Assessment.

1. *Summarize all finding from the Stage 2 survey, or state that no archaeological sites were identified.*
2. *For each archaeological site, provide the following analysis and conclusions:*
  - a. *A preliminary determination, to the degree possible, of the age and cultural affiliation of any archaeological sites identified.*
  - b. *A comparison against the criteria in 2 Stage 2: Property Assessment to determine whether further assessment is required*
  - c. *A preliminary determination regarding whether any archaeological sites identified in Stage 2 show evidence of a high level cultural heritage value or interest and will thus require Stage 4 mitigation.*

No archaeological sites or resources were found during the Stage 2 survey of the study area.

## **9.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **9.1 STAGE 2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

Under Section 7.8.4 of the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (MTC 2011: 139) the recommendations to be made as a result of a Stage 2 Property Assessment are described.

- 1) *For each archaeological site, provide a statement of the following:*
  - a. *Borden number or other identifying number*
  - b. *Whether or not it is of further cultural heritage value or interest*
  - c. *Where it is of further cultural heritage value or interest, appropriate Stage 3 assessment strategies*
- 2) *Make recommendations only regarding archaeological matters. Recommendations regarding built heritage or cultural heritage landscapes should not be included.*
- 3) *If the Stage 2 survey did not identify any archaeological sites requiring further assessment or mitigation of impacts, recommend that no further archaeological assessment of the property be required.*

A draft copy of this report has been provided to the Curve Lake, Alderville and Mohawks of As a result of the Stage 2 Property Assessment of the study area, no archaeological resources were encountered. Consequently, the following recommendations are made:

- 
1. *No further archaeological assessment of the study area is warranted;*



2. *The Provincial interest in archaeological resources with respect to the proposed undertaking has been addressed;*
3. *The proposed undertaking is clear of any archaeological concern.*

## **10.0 ADVICE ON COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION**

While not part of the archaeological record, this report must include the following standard advisory statements for the benefit of the proponent and the approval authority in the land use planning and development process:

- a. This report is submitted to the Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries as a condition of licensing in accordance with Part VI of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. 0.18. The report is reviewed to ensure that it complies with the standards and guidelines 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 and Culture, a letter will be issued by the ministry stating that there are no further concerns with regard to alterations to archaeological sites by the proposed development.*
- b. It is an offence under Sections 48 and 69 of the Ontario Heritage Act for any party other than a licensed archaeologist to make any alteration to a known archaeological site or to remove any artifact or other physical evidence of past human use or activity from the site, until such time as a licensed archaeologist has completed archaeological fieldwork on the site, submitted a report to the Minister stating that the site has no further cultural heritage value or interest, and the report has been filed in the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports referred to in Section 65.1 of the Ontario Heritage Act.*
- c. 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 archaeologist to carry out archaeological fieldwork, in compliance with sec. 48 (1) of the Ontario Heritage Act.*
- d. The Cemeteries Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. C.4 and the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002, S.O. 2002, c.33 (when proclaimed in force) require that any person discovering human remains must notify the police or coroner and the Registrar of Cemeteries at the Ministry of Consumer Services.*
- e. Archaeological sites recommended for further archaeological fieldwork or protection remain subject to Section 48 (1) of the Ontario Heritage Act and may not be altered, or have artifacts removed from them, except by a person holding an archaeological licence.*

## **11.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY AND SOURCES**

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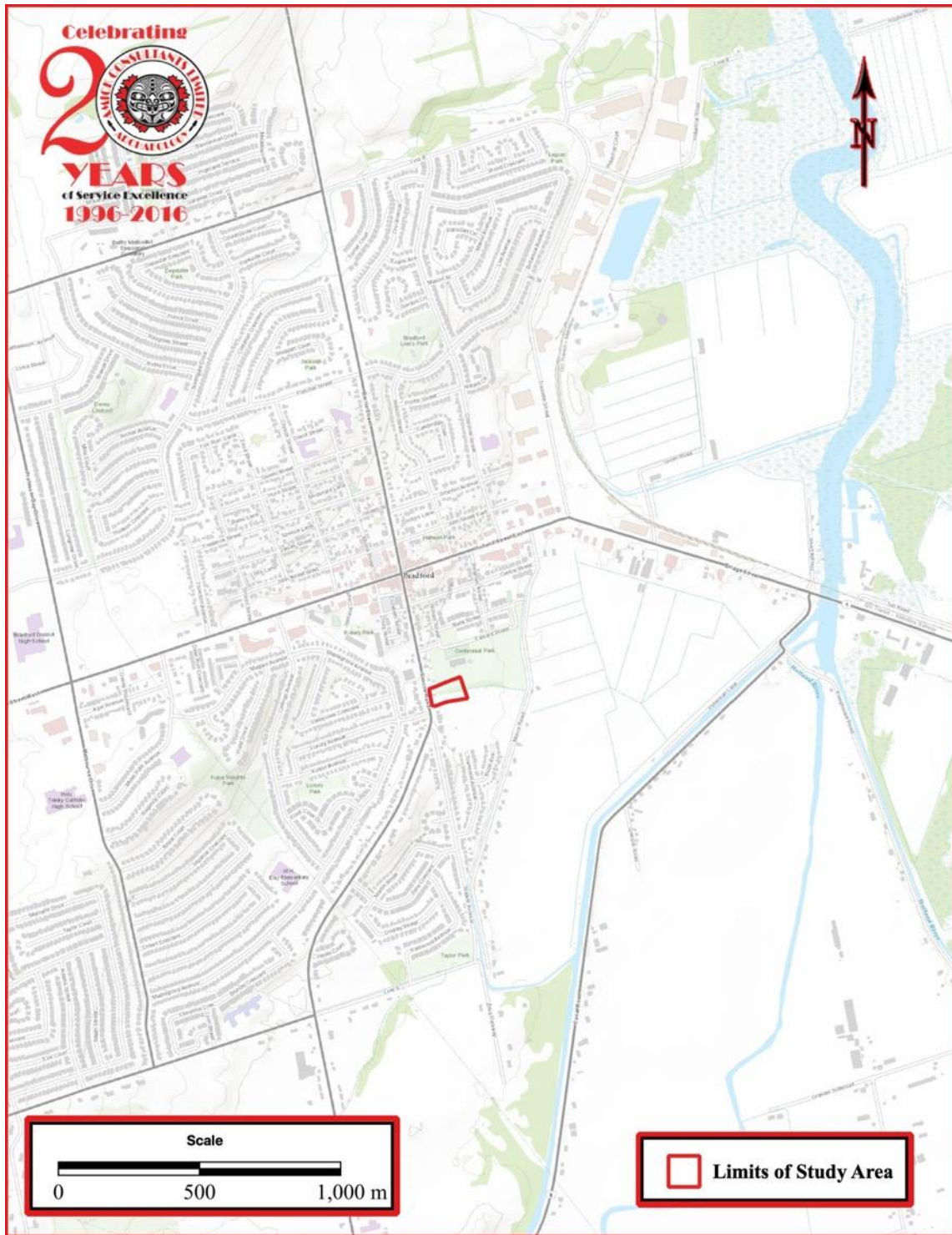
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**ORIGINAL 15 December 2021 Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment of 125 Simcoe Road, Part of Lot 16, Concession 6 (Geographic Township of West Gwillimbury), Town of Bradford, County of Simcoe (AMICK File #2021-569/MHSTCI File #P038-1141-2021)**

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## 12.0 MAPS



MAP 1 LOCATION OF THE STUDY AREA (ESRI 2018)

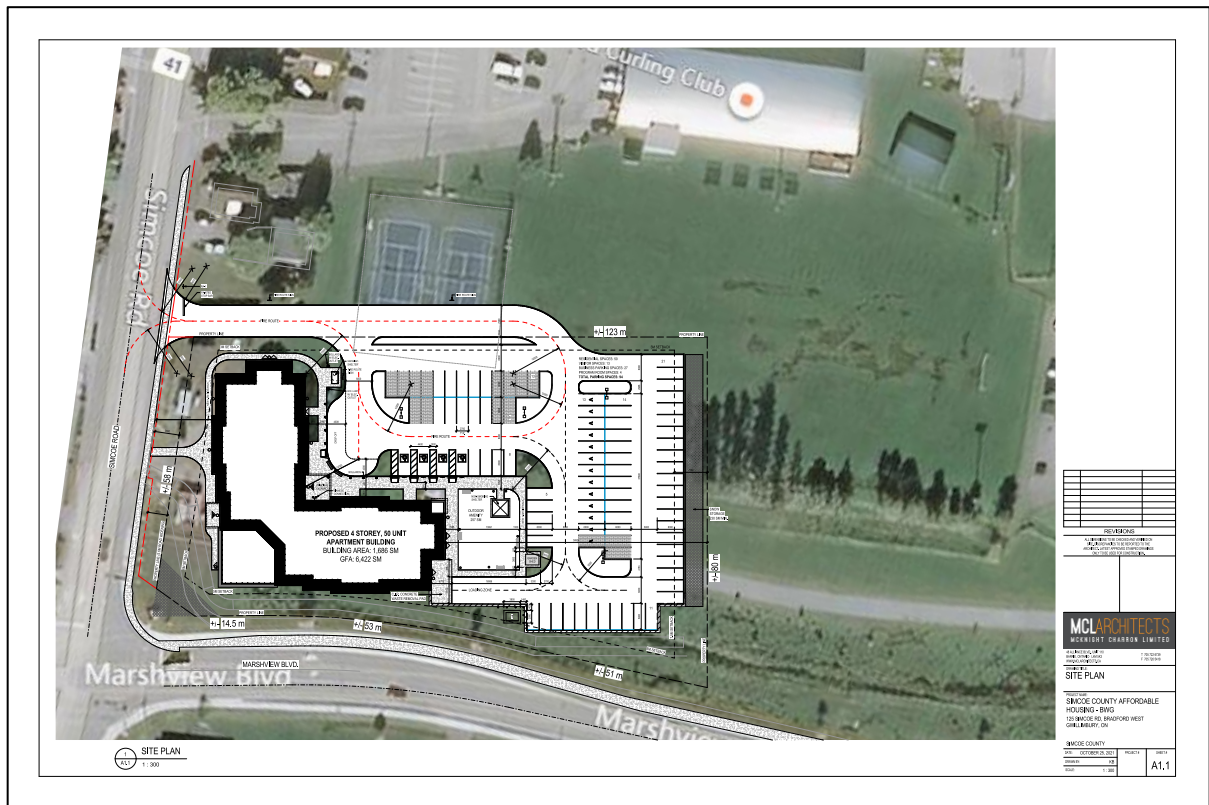


**MAP 2 FACSIMILE SEGMENT OF HOGG'S MAP OF THE COUNTY OF SIMCOE (HOGG 1871)**



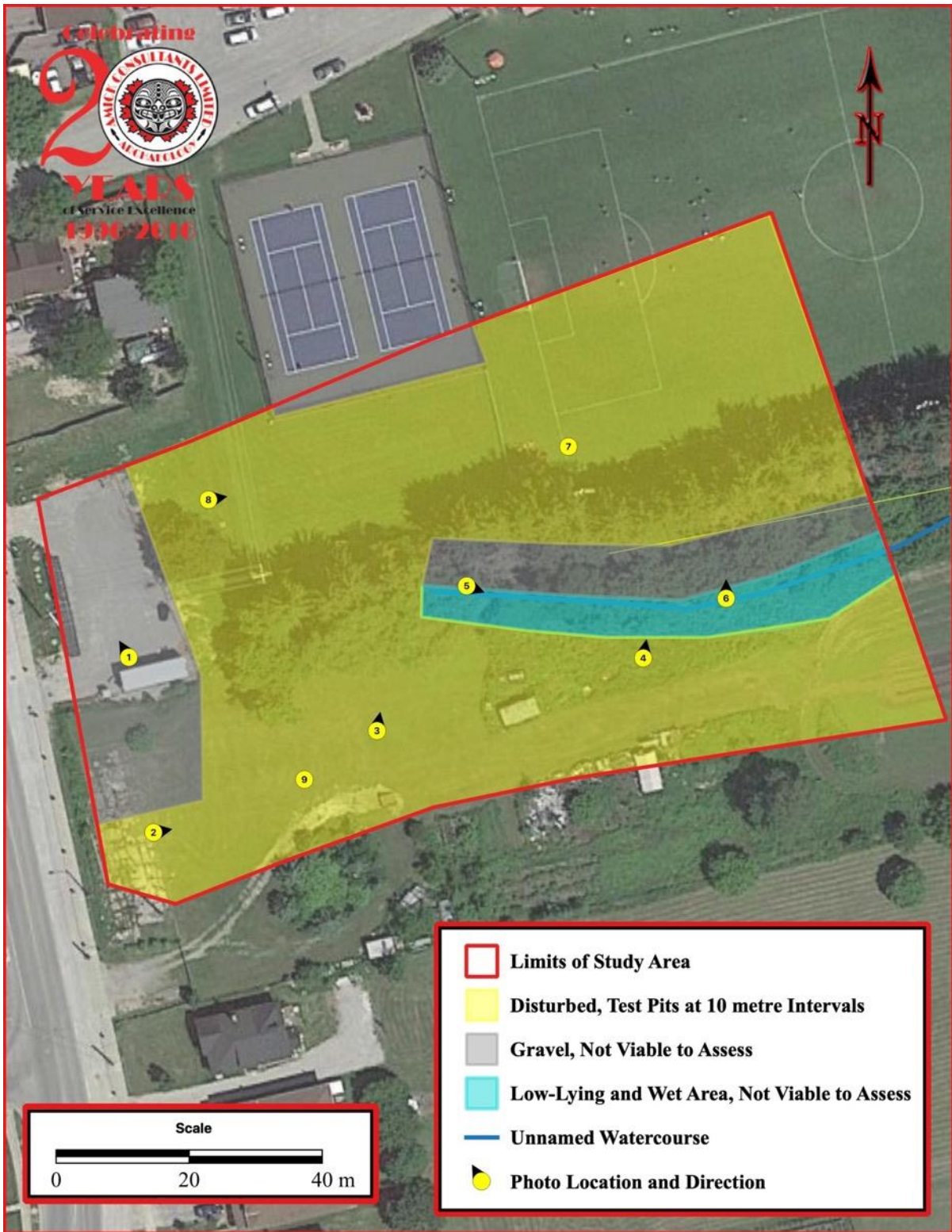
**MAP 3 FACSIMILE SEGMENT OF THE SIMCOE SUPPLEMENT IN ILLUSTRATED ATLAS OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA (BELDEN & CO 1881)**

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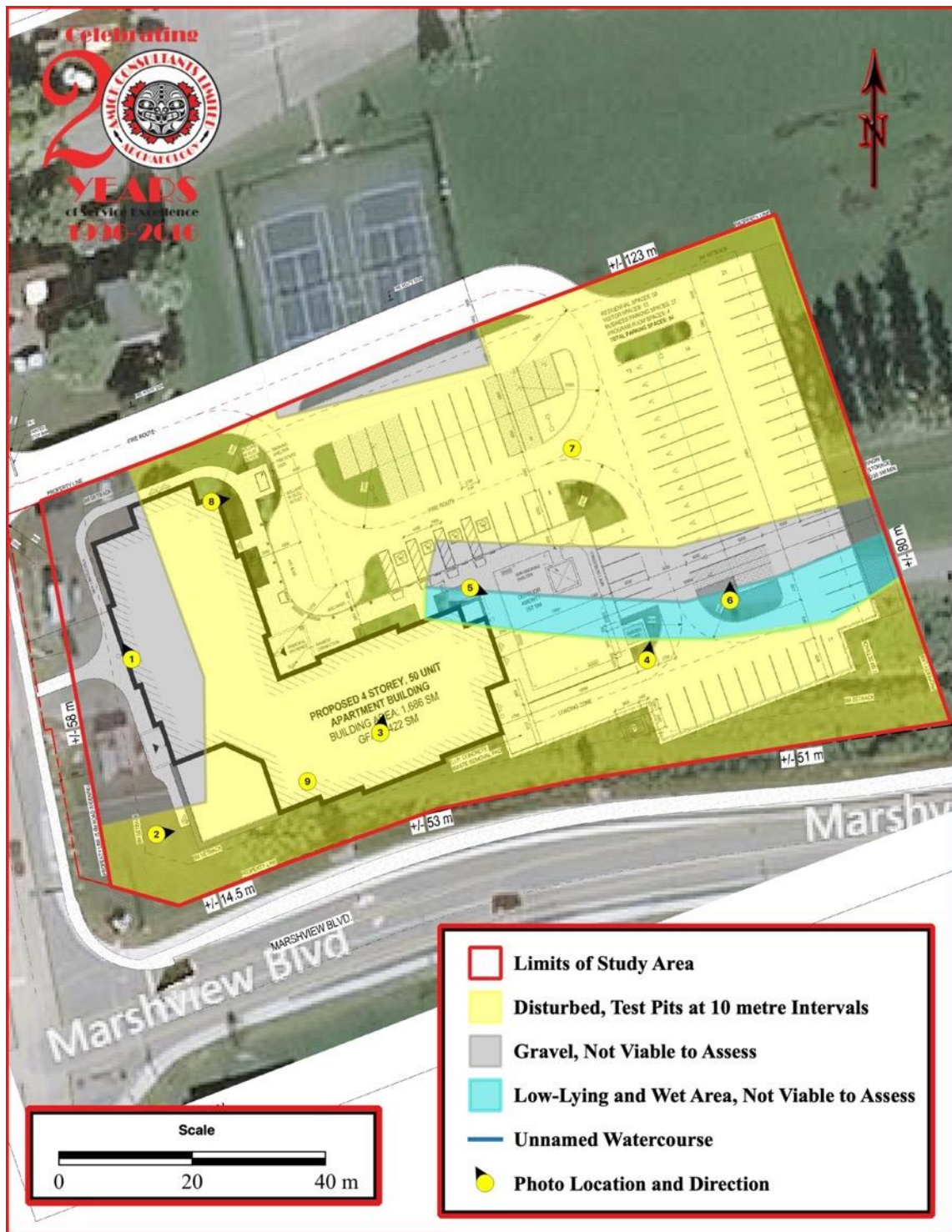


**MAP 4 SITE PLAN (McKNIGHT CHARRON LIMITED 2021)**





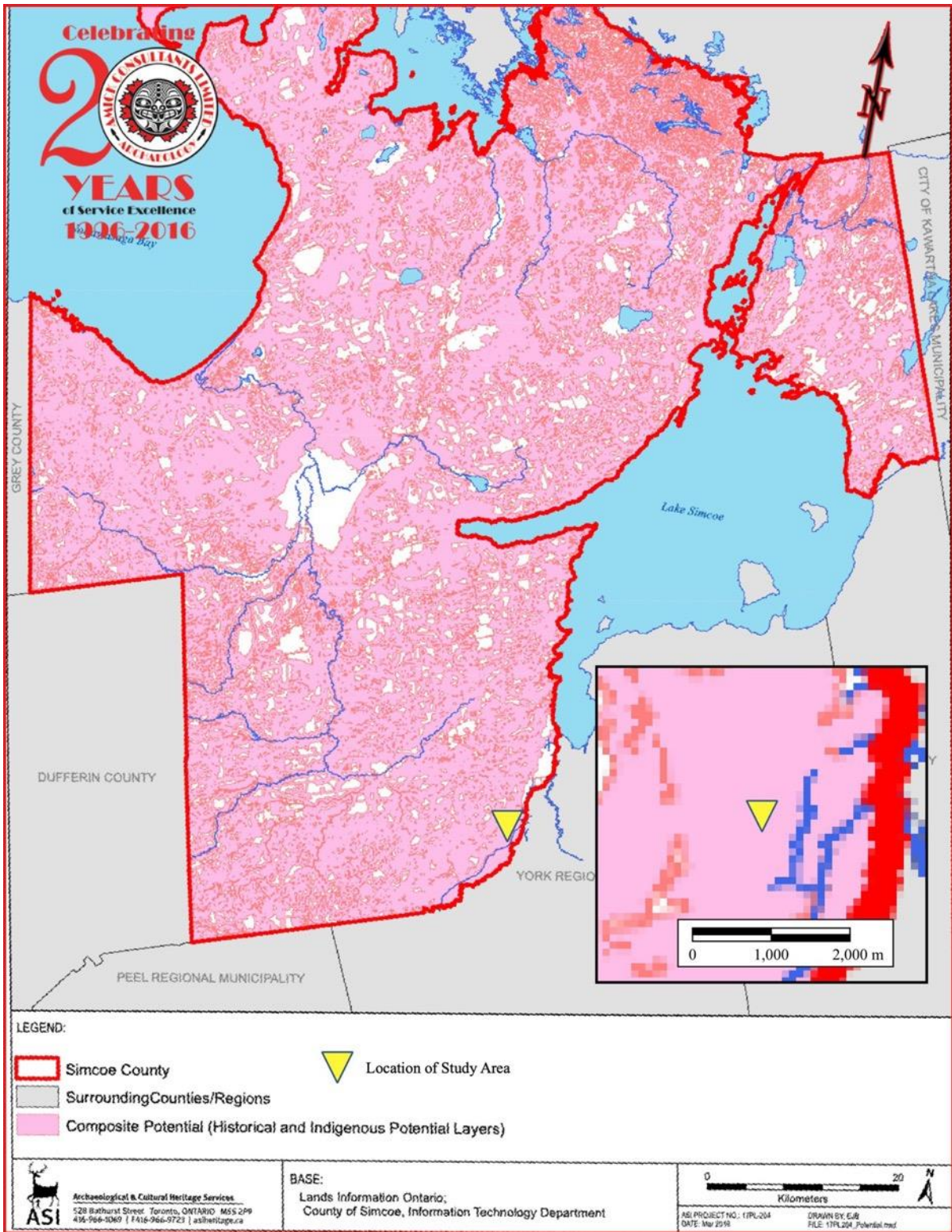
**MAP 5 AERIAL PHOTO OF THE STUDY AREA (GOOGLE EARTH 2015)**



**MAP 6 DETAILED PLAN OF THE STUDY AREA (AFTER (MCKNIGHT CHARRON LIMITED 2021)**



**MAP 7 2016 AERIAL OF STUDY AREA SHOWING CONSTRUCTION OF MARSHVIEW BOULEVARD (GOOGLE EARTH 2016)**



**MAP 8 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL (AFTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES INC 2019)**

### 13.0 IMAGES

	
<b>IMAGE 1 GRAVEL SURFACE</b>	<b>IMAGE 2 CREW AT WORK, TEST PIT S AT 10 METRES</b>
	
<b>IMAGE 3 OVERGROWN MEADOW</b>	<b>IMAGE 4 LOW-LYING AND WET AREA</b>
	
<b>IMAGE 5 WATERCOURSE/ DRAINAGE DITCH</b>	<b>IMAGE 6 GRAVEL PATH</b>
	
<b>IMAGE 7 TEST PIT DISTURBED WITH SAND FILL</b>	<b>IMAGE 8 LAWN AREA, TENNIS COURT</b>



**IMAGE 9 DISTURBED TEST PIT**

