

**Danby Lands,
4631 Sideroad 20 North, Puslinch**

Parts of Lot 21 and 22, Concession 4, Geographic
Township of Puslinch, Wellington County

Submitted to:

MHBC Planning
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Submitted by:



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Executive Summary

Detritus Consulting Ltd. ('Detritus') was retained by MHBC Planning (the 'Proponent') to conduct a Desktop Assessment on parts of Lot 21 and 22, Concession 4, in the Geographic Township of Puslinch, within County of Wellington, Ontario (Figure 1). This assessment was undertaken in advance of future development on the property at 4631 Sideroad 20 North in Puslinch (the 'Study Area;' Figure 4).

The background research of the Study Area consisted of a review of recent and historic aerial imagery of the Study Area. According to this research, the Study Area measures 23.1 hectares ('ha') and comprises a triangular-shaped parcel that is bound by the Hanlon Expressway to the northeast, Concession Road 4 to the south, and Sideroad 20 North (also known as Phelan Drive) to the west. According to recent aerial imagery, the Study Area comprises mostly active agricultural land in the form of three fields in roughly the central portion of the Study Area, separated by tree lines (Figure 3). The northern point of the triangular Study Area comprises woodlot while the southern half of the Study Area comprises a derelict agricultural property featuring a smaller agricultural field to the west, a large area of overgrown lawns and grasses to the east, a small pond, and the remains of an old farmhouse.

According to the *Historical Atlas* map of Puslinch Township, in 1876, Lots 21 and 22, Concession 4 also formed a triangular-shaped property along the edge of what is now Crawley Road and Concession 5 that was owned in its entirety P. McGarr (Figure 2). No structures or orchards are visible within the Study Area on the. Historic aerial imagery from 1985 shows the Study Area has changed little and that the land has been used for agricultural purpose for at least the last forty years and likely since the late 19th century. A large swathe of the eastern portion of the long edge of the triangular, however, has been repurposed as the Hanlon Expressway.

Additionally, Detritus reviewed the *Regional Municipality of Waterloo Archaeological Master Plan* (Archaeology Division, 1989), which indicates that portions of the Study Area retain archaeological potential.

According to this research, **the Study Area appears to exhibit moderate to high potential for the identification and recovery of archaeological resources.**

The Executive Summary highlights key points from the report only; for complete information and findings, the reader should examine the complete report.

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Acknowledgments

Generous contributions by MHBC Planning made this report possible.

1.0 Project Context

1.1 Historical Context

1.1.1 Post-Contact Indigenous Resources

Prior to the arrival of European settlers, much of the central and southern Ontario was occupied by Iroquoian speaking linguistic groups that had united to form confederacies, including the Huron-Wendat, the Neutral (or Attawandaran), and the Petun in Ontario, as well as the Five Nations Iroquois Confederacy in Upper New York State (Warrick, 2013; Birch, 2010). Of these groups, the Huron-Wendat established themselves to the east of the Niagara escarpment and the Neutral, to the west (Warrick, 2000).

Throughout the middle of the 17th century, the Iroquois Confederacy sought to expand upon their territory and to monopolize the fur trade between the European markets and the tribes of the western Great Lakes region. A series of bloody conflicts followed known as the Beaver Wars or the French and Iroquois Wars, contested between the Iroquois Confederacy and the Algonkian speaking communities of the Great Lakes region. Many communities were destroyed including the Huron, Neutral, Susquehannock and Shawnee leaving the Iroquois as the dominant group in the region. By 1653 after repeated attacks, the Niagara peninsula and most of Southern Ontario had been vacated (Heidenreich, 1990).

At this same time, the Anishinaabeg Nation, an Algonkian-speaking community situated inland from the northern shore of Lake Huron, began to challenge the Haudenosaunee for dominance in the Lake Huron and Georgian Bay region in order to advance their own role in the fur trade (Gibson, 2006). The Algonkian-speaking groups that settled in the area bound by Lake Ontario, Lake Erie, and Lake Huron were referred to by the English as the Chippewas or Ojibwas. By 1680, the Ojibwa began expanding into the evacuated Huron-Wendat territory, and eventually into Southern Ontario. By 1701, the Haudenosaunee had been driven out of Ontario completely and were replaced by the Ojibwa (Gibson, 2006; Schmalz, 1991).

The late 17th and early 18th centuries also mark the arrival of an Ojibwa band known as the Mississaugas into Southern Ontario and, in particular, the watersheds of the lower Great Lakes. 'The Mississaugas' is the name that the Jesuits had used in 1840 for the Algonquin community living near the Mississagi River on the northwestern shore of Lake Huron (Smith, 2002). The oral traditions of the Mississaugas, as recounted by Chief Robert Paudash and recorded in 1904, suggest that the Mississaugas defeated the Mohawk Nation, who retreated to their homeland south of Lake Ontario. Following this conflict, a peace treaty was negotiated between the two groups (Praxis Research Associates, n.d.).

From the beginning of the 18th century until the end of the Seven Year War in 1763, the Ojibwa nation, including the Mississaugas, experienced a golden age in trade holding no alliance with either the French or the British (Schmalz, 1991). At the end of the 17th century, the Mississaugas' settled permanently in Southern Ontario (Praxis Research Associates, n.d.). Around this same time, in 1722, the Five Nation Iroquois Confederacy adopted the Tuscarora in New York becoming the Six Nations (Pendergast, 1995).

The Study Area first entered the Euro-Canadian historical record on December 7th, 1792, as part of Treaty No. 3, which included land acquired in the 'Between the Lakes Purchase' dating to May 22, 1784. According to the terms of the treaty, the Mississaugas ceded to the Crown approximately 3,000,000 acres of land between Lake Huron, Lake Erie, and Lake Ontario in return for trade goods valued at £1180.

The limits of the Treaty 3 lands are documented as comprising,

Lincoln County excepting Niagara Township; Saltfleet, Binbrook, Barton, Glanford and Ancaster Townships, in Wentworth County; Brantford, Onondaga, Tusc[a]r[o]ra, Oakland and Burford Townships in Brant County; East and West Oxford, North and South Norwich, and Dereham Townships in Oxford County; North Dorchester Township in Middlesex County; South Dorchester, Malahide

and Bayham Township in Elgin County; all Norfolk and Haldimand Counties; Pelham, Wainfleet, Thorold, Cumberland and Humberstone Townships in Welland County.

Morris, 1943, pp. 17-8

One of the stated objectives of the Between the Lakes Purchase was “to procure for that part of the Six Nation Indians coming into Canada a permanent abode” (Morris, 1943, p. 17). Shortly after the transaction had been finalised in May of 1784, Sir Frederick Haldimand, the Governor of Québec, made preparations to grant a portion of land to those Six Nations who remained loyal to the Crown during the American War of Independence. More specifically, Haldimand arranged for the purchase of approximately 550,000 acres of land adjacent to the Treaty 3 limits from the Mississaugas. This tract of land, referred to as either the Haldimand Tract or the 1795 Crown Grant to the Six Nations, was provided for in the Haldimand Proclamation of October 25th, 1784 and was intended to extend a distance of six miles on each side of the Grand River from mouth to source (Weaver S. , 1978). By the end of 1784, representatives from each constituent nation of the Six Nations, as well as other allies, relocated to the Haldimand Tract with Joseph Brant (Weaver S. , 1978; Tanner, 1987).

Throughout southern Ontario, the size and nature of the pre-contact settlements and the subsequent spread and distribution of Indigenous material culture began to shift with the establishment of European settlers. By 1834 it was accepted by the Crown that losses of portions of the Haldimand Tract to Euro-Canadian settlers were too numerous for all lands to be returned. Lands in the Lower Grand River area were surrendered by the Six Nations to the British Government in 1832, at which point most Six Nations people moved into Tuscarora Township in Brant County and a narrow portion of Oneida Township (Page, H. & Co., 1879; Weaver S. , 1978; Tanner, 1987). Following the population decline and the surrender of most of their lands along the Credit River, the Mississaugas were given 6000 acres of land on the Six Nations Reserve, establishing the Mississaugas of New Credit First Nation, now the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, in 1847 (Smith, 2002)

Despite the encroachment of European settlers on previously established Indigenous territories, “written accounts of material life and livelihood, the correlation of historically recorded villages to their archaeological manifestations, and the similarities of those sites to more ancient sites have revealed an antiquity to documented cultural expressions that confirms a deep historical continuity to Iroquoian systems of ideology and thought” (Ferris, 2009, p. 114). As Ferris observes, despite the arrival of a competing culture, First Nations communities throughout Southern Ontario have left behind archaeologically significant resources that demonstrate continuity with their pre-contact predecessors, even if they have not been recorded extensively in historical Euro-Canadian documentation.

1.1.2 Euro-Canadian Resources

The current Study Area is located on parts of Lot 21 and 22, Concession 4, in the Geographic Township of Puslinch, within County of Wellington, Ontario.

The history of the area began on July 24, 1788, when Sir Guy Carleton, the Governor-General of British North America, divided the Province of Québec into the administrative districts of Hesse, Nassau, Mecklenburg and Lunenburg (Archives of Ontario, 2012-2024). Further change came in December 1791 when the former Province of Québec was rearranged into Upper Canada and Lower Canada under the *Constitutional Act*. Colonel John Graves Simcoe was appointed as Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada (Coyne, 1895) and he introduced several initiatives to populate the province including the establishment of shoreline communities with effective transportation links between them.

In July 1792, Simcoe divided Upper Canada into 19 counties stretching from Essex in the west to Glengarry in the east. Each new county was named after a county in England or Scotland; the constituent townships were then given the names of the corresponding townships from each original British county (Powell & Coffman, 1956).

Later that year, the four districts originally established in 1788 were renamed the Western, Home, Midland, and Eastern Districts. As population levels in Upper Canada increased, smaller and more manageable administrative bodies were needed resulting in the establishment of many new counties and townships. As part of this realignment, the boundaries of the Home and Western Districts were shifted and the West Riding District was established in 1798. Under this new territorial arrangement, the Study Area became part of the West Riding District; however, this district would undergo several realignments including the Gore and Wellington Districts, until 1849 when the districts were abolished (Archives of Ontario, 2012-2024).

Wellington County was originally created in 1837 as part the larger District of Wellington, which also contained Waterloo, Grey, and part of Dufferin Counties, and went through several administrative divisions before becoming its own county in 1854. The latest realignment of the boundaries of Wellington County, which give it its present size and shape, occurred in 1883 (Weaver E. , 1913). The county is a midland area of ideal agricultural land and includes the town of Guelph, which became the main seat of the county when it was settled by the Canada Company in 1827 (Middleton & Landon, 1927).

Puslinch Township was initially surveyed in 1828 by David Gibson and completed in 1838. The Brock Road (as Gordon Street was then known) was put through to facilitate settlers moving north to Guelph from the port at Dundas, and lots fronting the Brock Road were the first to be settled.

The *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Wellington* ('*Historical Atlas*') demonstrates the extent to which Puslinch Township had been settled by 1877 (Walker & Miles, 1877). The township changed very little except many of the lots had been subdivided multiple times into smaller parcels to accommodate an increasing population throughout the late 19th century. According to the *Historical Atlas* map of Puslinch Township, in 1876, Lots 21 and 22, Concession 4 formed a triangular-shaped property along the edge of what is now Crawley Road and Concession 5. that was owned in its entirety P. McGarr (Figure 2). No structures or orchards are visible within the Study Area.

Although significant and detailed landowner information is available on the historical maps discussed here, it should be recognized that historical county atlases were funded by subscriptions fees and were produced primarily to identify factories, offices, residences and landholdings of subscribers. Landowners who did not subscribe were not always listed on the maps (Caston, 1997, p. 100). Moreover, associated structures were not necessarily depicted or placed accurately (Gentilcore & Head, 1984).

Historic aerial imagery from 1985 shows the Study Area has changed little and that the land has been used for agricultural purpose for at least the last forty years and likely since the late 19th century. A large swathe of the eastern portion of the long edge of the triangular, however, has been repurposed as the Hanlon Expressway.

Additionally, Detritus reviewed the *Regional Municipality of Waterloo Archaeological Master Plan* (Archaeology Division, 1989), which indicates that portions of the Study Area retain archaeological potential.

1.2 Archaeological Context

1.2.1 Property Description and Physical Setting

The background research of the Study Area consisted of a review of recent and historic aerial imagery of the Study Area. According to this research, the Study Area measures 23.1ha and comprises a triangular-shaped parcel that is bound by the Hanlon Expressway to the northeast, Concession Road 4 to the south, and Sideroad 20 North (also known as Phelan Drive) to the west. According to recent aerial imagery, the Study Area comprises mostly agricultural fields in the form of three fields in the central portion of the Study Area, separated by tree lines (Figure 3). The northern point of the triangular Study Area comprises woodlot while the southern half of the Study Area comprises a derelict agricultural property featuring a smaller agricultural field to the west, a large area of overgrown lawns and grasses to the east, a small pond, and the remains of an old farmhouse.

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The majority of the region surrounding the Study Area has been subject to European-style agricultural practices for over 100 years, having been settled by Euro-Canadian farmers by the mid-19th century. Much of the region today continues to be used for agricultural purposes.

The Study Area is located within the Horseshoe Moraines physiographic region (Chapman & Putnam, 1984). The Horseshoe Moraines is moderately hilly with gravel terraces and swampy floors and contains two to three morainic ridges of pale brown, hard and calcareous fine-textured till, with a moderate degree of stoniness. Moreover, this region

...forms the core of a horseshoe-shaped region flanking the upland that lies to the west of the highest part of the Niagara cuesta. The associated meltwater stream deposits are also included giving the region two chief landform components (a) the irregular, stony knobs and ridges which are composed mostly of till and with some sand and gravel deposits (kames); and (b) the more or less pitted sand and gravel terraces and swampy valley floors. ... The northern section, in Grey County, includes several tracts of shallow, stony drift on the Niagara cuesta and, also a few scattered groups of drumlin. The "toe" of the horseshoe-shaped region lies on the highest part of the upland south of Georgian Bay...

Chapman & Putnam, 1984, p. 127

The closest source of potable water is the Aberfoyle Creek system located approximately 1.5km to the southeast of the Study Area.

1.2.2 Pre-Contact Indigenous Land Use

This portion of southern Ontario was occupied by people as far back as 11,000 years ago as the glaciers retreated. For the majority of this time, people were practicing hunter-gatherer lifestyles with a gradual move towards more extensive farming practices. Table 1 provides a general outline of the cultural chronology of Puslinch Township (Ellis & Ferris, 1990).

Table 1: Cultural Chronology for Puslinch Township

Time Period	Cultural Period	Comments
9500 – 7000 BC	Paleo Indian	first human occupation hunters of caribou and other extinct Pleistocene game nomadic, small band society
7500 - 1000 BC	Archaic	ceremonial burials increasing trade network hunter gatherers
1000 - 400 BC	Early Woodland	large and small camps spring congregation/fall dispersal introduction of pottery
400 BC – AD 800	Middle Woodland	kinship based political system incipient horticulture long distance trade network
AD 800 - 1300	Early Iroquoian (Late Woodland)	limited agriculture developing hamlets and villages
AD 1300 - 1400	Middle Iroquoian (Late Woodland)	shift to agriculture complete increasing political complexity large palisaded villages
AD 1400 - 1650	Late Iroquoian	regional warfare and political/tribal alliances destruction of Huron and Neutral

1.2.3 Previously Identified Archaeological Work

In order to compile an inventory of archaeological resources, the registered archaeological site records kept by the MCM were consulted. In Ontario, information concerning archaeological sites stored in the ASDB (Government of Ontario, n.d.) is maintained by the MCM. 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 kilometres ('km') east to west and approximately 18.5km 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 Study Area lies within block AiHb.

Information concerning specific site locations is protected by provincial policy and is not fully subject to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (Government of Ontario, 1990c). The release of such information in the past has led to looting or various forms of illegally conducted site destruction. Confidentiality extends to all media capable of conveying location, including maps, drawings, or textual descriptions of a site location. The MCM will provide information concerning site location to the party or an agent of the party holding title to a property, or to a licensed archaeologist with relevant cultural resource management interests.

According to the ASDB, fourteen archaeological sites have been registered within a 1km radius of the Study Area (Table 2). Four of the sites have been registered ss Post-Contact Euro-Canadian sites and the other ten registered as pre-Contact Indigenous sites.

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

Borden #	Site Name	Time Period	Affinity	Site Type
AiHb-290	Hanlon: Field 11, Site1	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead
AiHb-320	Southgate 18 a+b	Other		camp/campsite_
AiHb-322	Southgate 6	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead
AiHb-329	Southgate 9	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead
AiHb-318	Southgate 2	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	findspot
AiHb-319	Southgate 16	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	camp/campsite, scatter
AiHb-321	Southgate 19	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	camp/campsite, scatter
AiHb-323	Southgate 8	Archaic, Middle	Indigenous	camp/campsite, scatter
AiHb-324	Southgate 11	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	camp/campsite, scatter
AiHb-325	Southgate 14	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	camp/campsite, scatter
AiHb-326	Southgate 17	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	camp/campsite
AiHb-327	Southgate 12	Archaic, Middle	Indigenous	findspot
AiHb-328	Southgate 4	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	findspot
AiHb-357		Post-Contact		agricultural

Twelve of the sites listed above, including all of the pre-contact sites and two of the post-contact sites, namely AiHb-318 to 329, were identified and documented during Stage 1 to 3 assessments of a large study area related to the Southgate Development to the northwest of the Study Area across the Hanlon Expressway and Crawley Road. The results of these assessments were detailed by D. Poulton in a general Stage 1 to 3 report (Poulton, 2006). The closest of these sites was Southgate 16 (AiHb-319) which was located 150m to the northwest of the Study Area and identified as a campsite. The Stage 2 assessment of the site resulted in the recovery of 11 pieces of chipping detritus including 6 fragments, 3 secondary flakes, 1 primary flake, and 1 shatter flake. Five of the remaining pre-contact sites were also identified as campsites with one dating to the middle Archaic Period. The remaining two pre-contact sites were identified as findspots, one of which dated to the middle Archaic period. Additionally, the two post-contact sites (AiHb-322 and AiHb-329) were identified as Euro-Canadian homesteads.

To the best of Detritus' knowledge, no other assessments have been conducted adjacent to the Study Area, and no sites are registered within 50m of the Study Area.

2.0 Conclusions

Detritus was retained by the Proponent to conduct a Desktop Assessment on parts of Lot 21 and 22, Concession 4, in the Geographic Township of Puslinch, within County of Wellington, Ontario. This assessment was undertaken in advance of future development on the property at 4631 Sideroad 20 North in Puslinch

This Study Area comprises a triangular-shaped parcel that is bound by the Hanlon Expressway to the northeast, Concession Road 4 to the south, and Sideroad 20 North (also known as Phelan Drive) to the west. According to recent aerial imagery, the Study Area includes mostly agricultural land. The northern point of the triangular Study Area comprises woodlot while the southern half of the Study Area features a derelict agricultural property with a smaller agricultural field to the west, a large area of overgrown lawns and grasses to the east, a small pond, and the remains of an old farmhouse.

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4.0 Maps

Figure 1: Study Area Location

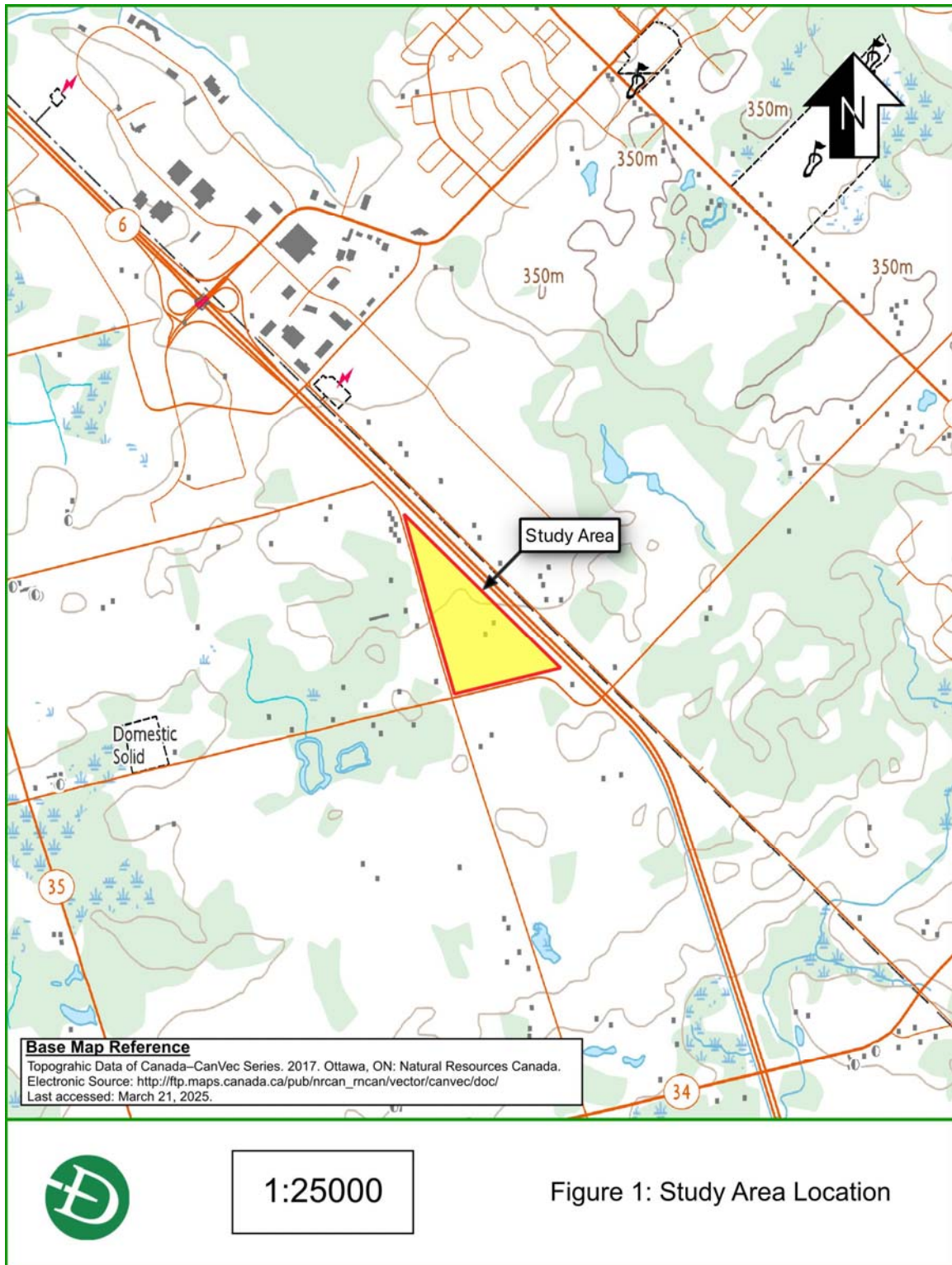


Figure 2: Historic Map

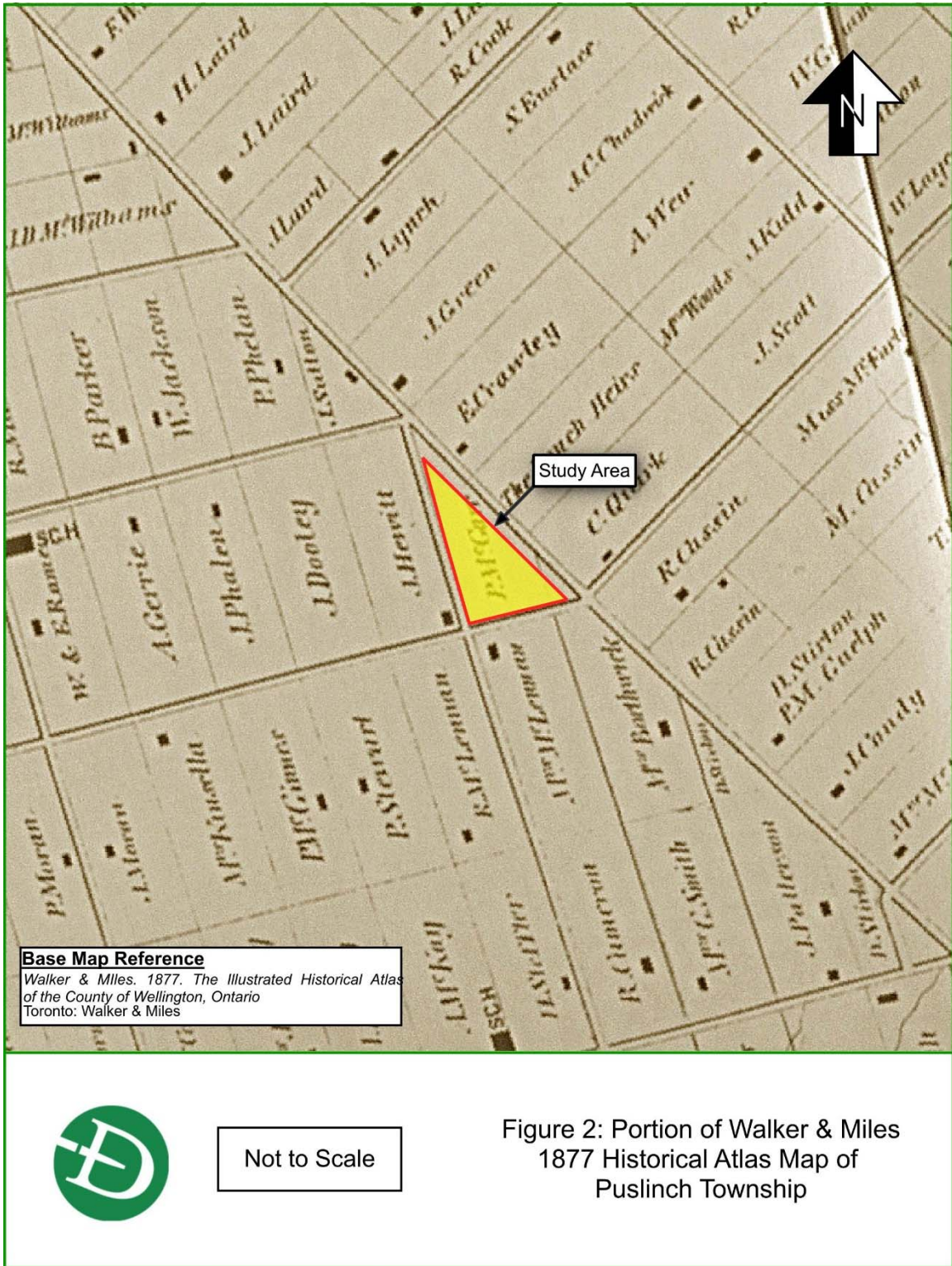
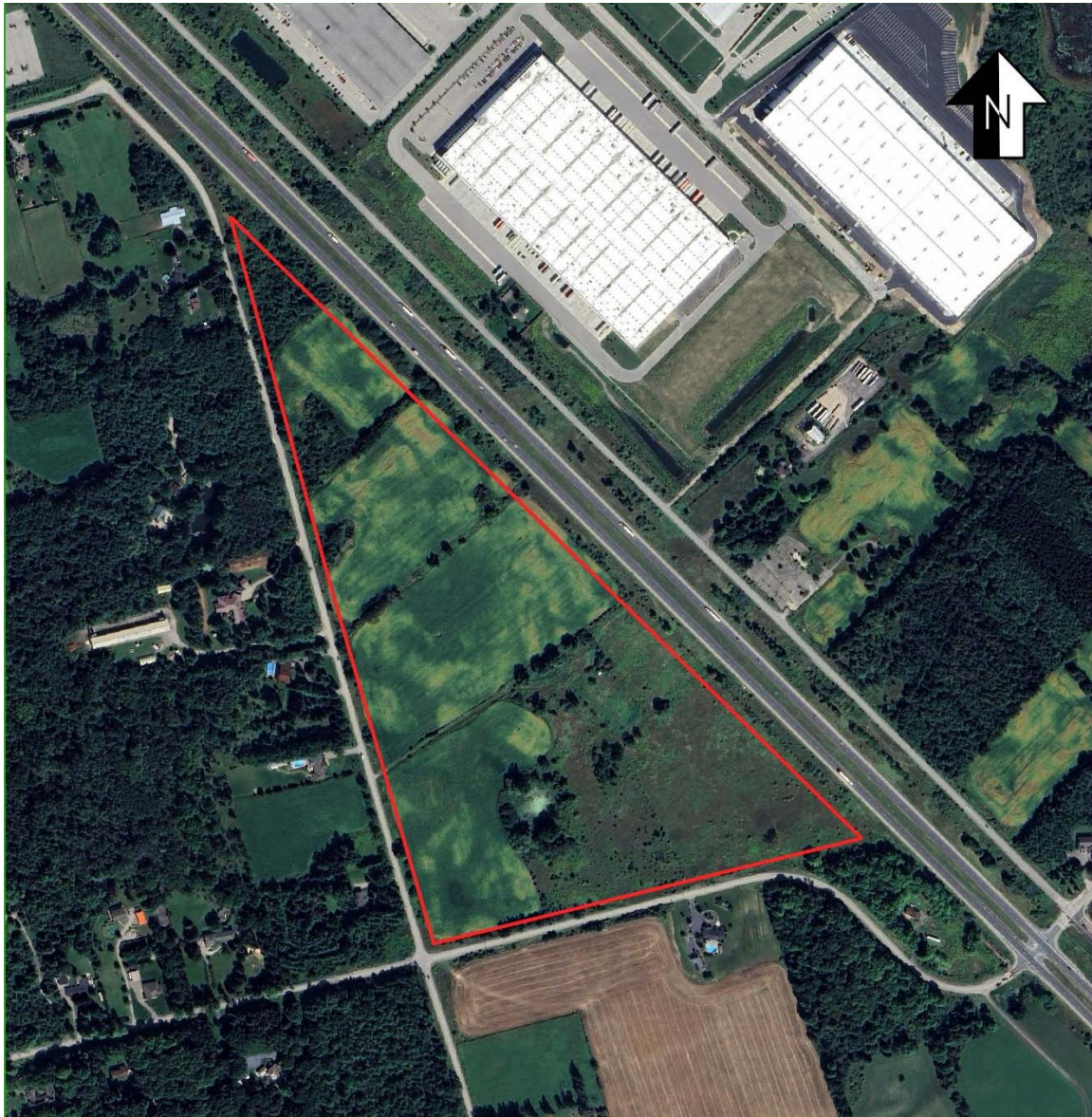



Figure 3: Study Area



Legend

 Study Area

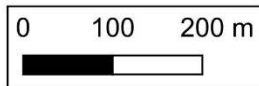


Figure 3: Study Area and Recent Aerial Imagery

Danby Lands, 4631 Sideroad 20 North, Puslinch

Figure 4: Development Plan

