Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment

6582 and 6585 Highway 6,
(Formerly Part of Lot 17, Concession 15,
Geographic Township of Nichol, Wellington County), Now in the
Township of Centre Wellington, Wellington
County, Ontario

Prepared by

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MCM Project Information Number: P1034-0082-2026 and P1034-0083-2026

ORIGINAL REPORT
Report Dated: July 29, 2026

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

AS&G Archaeological Consulting Inc. was contracted to conduct a Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment of 6582 and 6585 Highway 6, (formerly part of Lot 17, Concession 15, Geographic Township of Nichol, Wellington County), now in the Township of Centre Wellington, Wellington County, Ontario. The proposed development project was triggered by the *Planning Act* and the Archaeological Assessment was completed in advance of a Draft Plan of Subdivision. The proposed plan consists of the development of blocks containing a mixture of single-family homes, townhouses, low-rise apartments, school board lands, parks, roadways, pathways, mixed-use/commercial spaces, and natural heritage spaces.

A Stage 1 Background Study of the Project Area, was conducted to provide information about the Project Area's geography, history, previous archaeological fieldwork and current land condition in order to evaluate and document in detail the Project Area's archaeological potential and to recommend appropriate strategies for Stage 2 Survey. The Stage 1 Archaeological Background Study established that there is potential for the recovery of archaeologically significant materials within the Project Area. Therefore, the Stage 1 Background Study found that the Project Area exhibits potential for the recovery of archaeological resources of cultural heritage value and concluded that the Project Area requires a Stage 2 Assessment.

A Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment was conducted to document all archaeological resources within the Project Area, to determine whether the Project Area contains archaeological resources requiring further Assessment, and to recommend next steps. The characteristics of the Project Area dictated that the Stage 2 Assessment be performed by a combination of a pedestrian survey at five metre intervals and a judgmental test pit survey at 10 metre intervals throughout portions within the Project Area that were visibly disturbed. The Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment resulted in the identification of 14 isolated Euro-Canadian findspots or scatters. None of the findspots meet the MCM (2011) criteria for being designated an archaeological site; thus, they do not retain any further Cultural Heritage Value or Interest (CHVI). **Therefore, the Report recommends that no further Archaeological Assessment of the Project Area is required (see Maps 6, 8 and 9).**

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INTRODUCTION

The *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990 c. O.18, requires anyone wishing to carry out archaeological fieldwork in Ontario to have a license from the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM). All licensees are to file a report with the MCM containing details of the fieldwork that has been done for each project. Following standards and guidelines set out by the MCM is a condition of a licence to conduct archaeological fieldwork in Ontario. **AS&G Archaeological Consulting Inc. (AS&G)** confirms that this report meets ministry report requirements as set out in the *2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* and is filed in fulfillment of the terms and conditions of an archaeological license.

1.0 PROJECT CONTEXT

This section of the report will provide the context for the archaeological fieldwork, including the development context, the historical context, and the archaeological context.

1.1 Development Context

AS&G Archaeological Consulting Inc. was contracted to conduct a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of 6582 and 6585 Highway 6, (formerly part of Lot 17, Concession 15, Geographic Township of Nichol, Wellington County), now in the Township of Centre Wellington, Wellington County, Ontario. The proposed development project was triggered by the *Planning Act* and the Archaeological Assessment was completed in advance of a Draft Plan of Subdivision. The proposed plan consists of the development of blocks containing a mixture of single-family homes, townhouses, low-rise apartments, school board lands, parks, roadways, pathways, mixed-use/commercial spaces, and natural heritage spaces.

Permission to access the Project Area to conduct all required archaeological fieldwork activities, including the recovery of artifacts was given by the landowner and their representative.

1.2 Historical Context

In advance of the Stage 2 Assessment, a Stage 1 Background Study of the Project Area was conducted in order to document the Project Area's archaeological and land use history and present condition. Several sources were referenced to determine if features or characteristics indicating archaeological potential for Pre-Contact and Post-Contact resources exist within the Project Area. Sources included information about the Project Area's geography, history, previous archaeological fieldwork, current land condition, contemporary satellite imagery, and historic atlas maps.

In Ontario, the framework for determining the presence of archaeological potential is taken from the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (MCM 2011, Sections 1.3.1 & 1.3.2). Characteristics indicating archaeological potential include the near-by presence of previously identified archaeological sites, primary and secondary water sources, features indicating past water sources, accessible or inaccessible shoreline, pockets of well-drained sandy soil, distinctive land formations that might have special or spiritual places (such as waterfalls, rock outcrops, caverns, mounds, promontories and their bases, as well as resource areas that include food or medicinal plants, or scarce raw materials), early Euro-Canadian industry, areas of early Euro-Canadian settlement, early historical transportation routes, properties listed on a municipal register or designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act* as a federal, provincial, or municipal historic landmark or site; as well as properties that local histories or informants have identified as important locations for historical events, activities, and/or occupations.

Archaeological potential can be determined not to be present for either the entire property or a part 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: quarrying, major landscaping involving grading below topsoil, building footprints, and sewage and infrastructure development. 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.

The Background Study determined that the following features or characteristics indicate archaeological potential for the Project Area:

- The Project Area is located within an area of early Euro-Canadian settlement and transportation routes.
- The Guelph Drumlin Field occupies an area of approximately 320 square miles situates to the northwest of the Paris Moraine (Chapman and Putnam 1984: 137).
- There are seven (7) known archaeological sites within a one-kilometre radius of the Project Area, one of which is located within 100 metres of the Project Area limits (see Table 1).

In summary, there are areas of archaeological potential within the Project Area. The Stage 1 Background Study identified that the Project Area retains archaeological potential. The Stage 1 Background Study did not identify any areas of previously disturbed lands within the Project Area that have severely damaged the integrity of archaeological resources and have removed archaeological potential.

1.2.1 *Indigenous Historical Context*

The Project Area is situated in an area of Ontario that has a rich and diverse cultural history that extends back at least 11,000 years ago. To provide context for this report, the settlement history is summarized below. Drawn from Ellis and Ferris (1990), Table 1 provides a general outline of the Pre-Contact and early Euro-Canadian Contact Period cultural history of south-central Ontario.

Table 1: General Archaeological Chronology for South-Central Ontario

Period	Archeological/Material Culture	Date Range	Comments
PALEO			
Early	Gainey, Barnes, Crowfield, Fluted Points	11,000-10,500 BP	Big game hunters, i.e., caribou
Late	Holcombe, Hi-Lo, Lanceolate	10,500-9,500 BP	Paleo Point Technology
ARCHAIC			
Early	Bifurcate-base, Nettling, Side Notched	9,800-8,000 BP	Nomadic hunters/gathers
Middle	Stanley, Kirk, Brewerton, Laurentian	8,000-4,000 BP	Focused seasonal resource areas
Late	Lamoka, Genesee, Innes, Crawford Knoll	4,500-2,500 BP	Polished/ground stone tools Burial ceremonialism
	Hind	3,000-2,600 BP	
WOODLAND			
Early	Meadowood, Middlesex	2,800-2,000 BP	Introduction of pottery, elaborate burials
Middle	Princess Point, Saugeen, Point Peninsula	2,000-950 BP	Long-distance trade, burial mounds, horticulture
Late	Pickering, Uren, Middleport (Anishinabek/Iroquois), Algonkian-Wendat Alliance	950-300 BP	Emergence of agricultural villages Large, palisaded villages Trade, alliances, and warfare
HISTORIC			
	Huron, Neutral, Petun, Odawa, Ojibwa Six Nations Iroquois, Ojibwa, Mississauga	350 BP-Present	Mission villages and Reserves
	Euro-Canadian		European settlement

1.2.1.1 Paleo

Archaeological evidence demonstrates that people inhabited South-central Ontario just after the end of the Wisconsin Glacial Period, approximately 11,000

years ago. This early settlement period is known as the Paleo Period (Ellis and Deller 1990, Jackson 1998, 2019). Based upon current archaeological knowledge, Indigenous groups originally living south of the Great Lakes migrated to the area. Small family groups, i.e., less than 35 individuals, used fluted and lanceolate points. These groups are believed to have maintained a seasonal pattern of mobility over vast territories, ranging up to 200 km annually (Ellis and Deller 1990, Jackson 1998, 2019).

These Early Paleo sites are typically located in elevated locations, with well-drained loamy soils. Many known sites found on former beach ridges, associated with glacial lakes (Ellis and Deller 1990). These sites were likely formed when they were occupied for short increments, over the course of many years, possibly as communal hunting camps. Their locations appear conducive to hunting migratory mammals, such as caribou (Ellis and Deller 1990).

During the Late Paleo Period (10,500-9,500 BP), the south-central Ontario environment started to become dominated by closed coniferous forests, with only some minor deciduous elements. The hunting landscape had also changed, as many of the large game species that had been hunted in the early part of the Paleo Period either migrated further north, or in some cases, had become extinct, i.e., mastodons and mammoths (Ellis and Deller 1990).

1.2.1.2 Archaic Period

During the Early Archaic Period (9,800-8,000 BP), the jack and red pine forests that characterized the Late Paleo environment, were replaced by forests of white pine, with a few correlated deciduous trees (Ellis et al. 1990). Based on material culture, the Early Archaic Period is recognized by the shift to side and corner-notched projectile points (Ellis et al. 1990). Other notable innovations, include the introduction of ground stone tools such as celts and axes. These tools suggest that there was a woodworking industry. Additionally, the presence of these, often large and not easily portable tools, suggests that there may have been a reduction in seasonal movement. However, the current understanding of the Period suspects that population densities were still low, and seasonal territories were still large (Ellis et al. 1990).

During the Middle Archaic Period (8,000-4,000 BP), it is speculated that there was an increase in regional population growth, which precipitated a decrease in overall seasonal migration territory. Additionally, as a consequence of population growth, a shift in subsistence patterns occurred, as more people needed to be supported from the resources contained within the smaller area (Ellis et al 1990). Thus, the Middle Archaic is characterized by the diversification of toolkits and diets, with the introduction of net-sinkers and bannerstones, as well as stone tools specifically designed for the preparation of wild plant foods. The appearance of

net-sinkers suggests that fishing was becoming an important aspect of the subsistence economy. In contrast, bannerstones were carefully crafted ground stone devices that served as a counterbalance for *atlatls* or spear-throwers, used in hunting game (Ellis et al 1990).

Another characteristic of the Middle Archaic Period is an increased reliance on local, often poor-quality chert resources, for the manufacturing of projectile points. Unlike earlier periods, when nomadic groups occupied vast territories, at least once in their seasonal migration it was possible for them to visit a primary outcrop of high-quality chert. However, during the Middle Archaic Period, groups inhabited smaller territories, which usually did not contain a source of high-quality raw material, and were forced to use the locally sourced, poorer quality resources (Ellis et al. 1990). It was also during the latter part of the Middle Archaic Period, that long-distance trade routes began to develop, which spanned the northeastern part of the continent. For instance, copper tools, which were manufactured from a source located northwest of Lake Superior, were being widely traded (Ellis et al. 1990).

The trend towards a decreasing territory size and a broadening subsistence economy continued during the Late Archaic Period (4,500-2,500 BP). Similarly, archaeologically Late Archaic sites are more numerous than Early or Middle Archaic sites, which is correlated to an increasing population (Ellis et al. 1990). With the trend towards larger groups, the first cemeteries have also been dated to the Late Archaic Period. Prior to this, individuals were interred close to the location where they died. Furthermore, during the Late Archaic Period, if an individual died while away from their home territory, the bones would be kept until they could be placed in the group cemetery. Therefore, it is not unusual to find disarticulated skeletons, and/or skeletons lacking minor elements, i.e., fingers, toes and/or ribs (Ellis et al. 1990).

The appearance of cemeteries during the Late Archaic Period has been interpreted as a response to increased population densities. The increased populations also demonstrated evidence of regionalized variation in Late Archaic projectile point styles (Ellis et al. 1990). The differences were likely indicative of the different relationships the people had to the land and waters they inhabited. Additionally, trade networks established during the Middle Archaic continued to flourish. For instance, copper native to northern Ontario and marine shell artifacts from as far away as the Mid-Atlantic coast, are frequently encountered as grave goods. Other artifacts such as polished stone pipes and banded slate gorgets, also appear on Late Archaic sites. One of the more unusual and interesting of the Late Archaic artifacts is the *birdstone*. Birdstones are small, bird-like effigies usually manufactured from green banded slate (Ellis et al. 1990).

1.2.1.3 Woodland Period

For archaeologists, the Early Woodland Period (2,800-2,000 BP) is distinguished from the Late Archaic Period primarily by the addition of ceramic technology. The first pots were crudely constructed, had undecorated thick walls, and were friable. Spence et al. (1990) suggests they were used in the processing of nut oils, which required boiling crushed nut fragments in water and skimming off the oil. As these vessels were not easily portable, individual pots were likely not used for extended periods of time. Additionally, as there are many Early Woodland sites where no pottery was recovered, it has been suggested that these poorly constructed vessels were not utilized by all Early Woodland peoples (Spence et al. 1990).

Other than the limited use of ceramics, there were other subtle differences between the Late Archaic and the Early Woodland Periods. For example, 'pop-eyes', a protrusion from the side of the head, was added to birdstones. Similarly, a slight modification was made to the thin, well-made projectile points made during the Archaic Period, i.e. Early Woodland variants were side-notched rather than corner-notched (Spence et al. 1990). The trade networks which were established in the Middle and Late Archaic Periods, continued to flourish; however, there appeared to be a decrease in the trade of marine shell during the Early Woodland Period. Projectile points crafted from high quality American Midwest materials, began to be found on southwestern Ontario sites, dated towards the end of the Early Woodland Period (Spence et al. 1990).

The Middle Woodland (2,000-950 BP) is characterized by rich, densely occupied sites, which are usually found bordering major rivers and lakes. While these locations were inhabited periodically by earlier peoples, Middle Woodland sites are significant as they represent long periods of continuous occupations, i.e., hundreds of years (Spence et al. 1990). The shift in settlement pattern created large deposits of artifacts, as the sites appear to have functioned as home bases that were occupied throughout the year. Numerous smaller Middle Woodland sites have been found inland, and likely functioned as specialized camps, for the exploitation of local resources (Spence et al. 1990).

The shift to a more sedentary lifestyle also resulted in a shift in subsistence patterns, comparable to the Early Woodland Period. Although they still relied on hunting and gathering, fish became a predominant diet staple, to meet their growing subsistence needs (Spence et al. 1990). Additionally, the people of the Middle Woodland relied more on ceramic technology, with many being heavily decorated with impressed designs covering the entire exterior surface, and the upper portion of the interior of vessels (Spence at al. 1990).

Material culture changes that occurred in the early portion of the Late Woodland (950-300 BP), include the appearance of triangular projectile point styles, first seen with the Levanna form, and a change to more intricate design patterns on ceramics. Designs included cord-wrapped stick decorated ceramics, which were created using the paddle and anvil forming technique (Bursey 1995; Ferris and Spence 1995; Spence et al. 1990; Williamson 1990).

The Late Woodland Period is marked by two major subsistence innovations, harvesting of wild rice (*Zizania palustris*) throughout south-central and northern Ontario (Jackson et al. 2022), and a reliance on corn (*Zea mays*) horticulture (Crawford et al. 1997; Fox 1990; Martin 2004; Smith 1990; Williamson 1990). Although corn was possibly introduced into southwestern Ontario from the American Midwest as early as 2,500 BP, it was not considered a dietary staple until at three to four hundred years later. From there, corn cultivation gradually spread into south-central and southeastern Ontario. Thus, the Late Woodland Period is widely accepted as the beginning of a reliance on agriculture, for subsistence. Researchers have suggested that a warming trend, which increased the number of frost-free days, was likely a catalyst for the spread of maize into southern Ontario (Stothers and Yarnell 1977). Additionally, sites have been identified in a wider variety of environments, including riverine, lacustrine and wetlands (Dieterman 2001).

1.2.1.4 Post-Contact History

At the end of the 17th and beginning of the 18th century, the dispersal of several Iroquoian-speaking peoples by the New York State Iroquois, coupled with the return of the Algonkian-speaking groups from Northern Ontario, formed the post-contact Indigenous occupation landscape of southern Ontario (Schmalz 1991). As European settlers encroached on traditional Indigenous territories, settlement sizes, populations, and material culture shifted. Despite this shift, there remains a continuity from ancient Indigenous groups to the communities written about in historical accounts (Ferris and Spence 2009). Thus, it should be noted that the Indigenous peoples of southern Ontario have deposited archaeologically significant resources throughout the province, demonstrating a shared traditional and continuing history, regardless of whether their presence is recorded in historic Euro-Canadian documents.

The Project Area is located within the lands included in the 1784 Haldimand Proclamation. Later known as the Simcoe Patent or Treaty #4 (signed in 1793), it refers to a swatch of land known as the Haldimand Tract or the Haldimand Grant, which starts at the shores of Lake Erie and ends at the head of the Grand River, extending 10 km on both sides along its course (Filice 2020). The Crown provided the land grant, at the request of the Mohawk leader Joseph Brant (Thayendanegea), as a sign of loyalty and as a replacement for lands lost during

the American Revolution. The land was originally part of a larger accord; whereby in exchange for £1,180, the Mississauga Chiefs ceded 385,000 hectares of land to the Crown. This land would become the foundation of the Six Nations reserve (Filice 2020).

From the outset, the Haudenosaunee and the British Crown disagreed over the Haldimand Proclamation and ownership of the Haldimand Tract. While the Crown saw the land as restricted from sale or lease to anyone but itself, Thayendanegea argued it was promised as freehold land, essential for the Haudenosaunee to lease or sell in order to support their struggling economy. He believed limited Euro-Canadian settlement could help modernize agriculture and promote economic development (Filice 2020). This dispute reflected a broader issue of sovereignty, as Thayendanegea wanted the Six Nations recognized as autonomous allies, not British subjects. However, the Crown saw them as under its authority. The creation of Upper Canada in 1791 further complicated matters, adding new bureaucratic barriers to securing land title (Filice 2020).

Sir John Johnson, an Indian Department official, discovered that the Haldimand Proclamation mistakenly included land at the Grand River's headwaters that had not been ceded by the Mississauga in 1784. To clarify the boundaries, the Crown commissioned surveyor Augustus Jones in 1791, who redrew the tract's northern limit, now known as the Jones' Base Line, and established straight borders instead of following the river's curves (Filice 2020). Although Thayendanegea and others expected that Six Nations would receive the remaining land after the Crown purchased it from the Mississauga in 1792, the Crown insisted that only land legally acquired at the time of the proclamation could be included, and therefore withheld the additional territory (Filice 2020).

In 1792, frustrated by the loss of territory, Thayendanegea petitioned Lieutenant Governor John Graves Simcoe for control over the Haldimand Tract. To clarify the confusion surrounding the original proclamation, Simcoe issued the Simcoe Patent in 1793, which confirmed the boundaries set by Augustus Jones and granted 111,000 hectares exclusively to the Six Nations (Filice 2020). While it allowed the Haudenosaunee to sell or lease land to the Crown, with Crown approval, it did not address the disputed territory near the Grand River's headwaters, a continuing source of conflict. Thayendanegea and the Grand River Chiefs rejected the patent, viewing it as reinforcing Crown control rather than recognizing their sovereignty or land rights (Filice 2020).

By 1796, Six Nations began selling and leasing land to settlers, reaching a compromise with Lieutenant Governor Peter Russell that required offering land to the Crown first. Thayendanegea sold about 350,000 acres, which was later divided into six blocks and sold to private buyers in 1798. These blocks would develop into the modern towns of Dumfries, Waterloo, and Brantford (named

after Thayendanegea). However, this came at a steep cost, since by 1828, nearly two-thirds of Grand River lands were sold, leased, or occupied by squatters (Filice 2020). By the mid-1800s, increased squatting prompted the Province of Canada to propose that the Six Nations sell their remaining land to the Crown in exchange for sale proceeds and the establishment of a roughly 8,093 hectares reserve. The Crown claimed this was agreed to in 1841, but the Haudenosaunee dispute the agreement, asserting they only consented to leasing the land. By 1847, Six Nations had relocated to the area now known as the Grand River community, representing just 4.8% of the original Haldimand Tract. In 1850, the Crown formalized a reserve of approximately 19,000 hectares, which the Six Nations' Chiefs accepted (Filice 2020).

The Williams Treaties also had broad implications for the First Nation Communities in Ontario. The Treaties were signed on October 31 and November 15, 1923, by: Commissioner Angus Seymour Williams, representing the Dominion of Canada; Robert Victor Sinclair and Uriah McFadden, representing the Province of Ontario; the Anishinaabe Chippewa of Simcoe (First Nation Communities of Beausoleil, Georgina Island, and Rama); and the Anishinaabe Michi Saagig of the north shore of Lake Ontario (First Nation Communities of Alderville, Curve Lake, Hiawatha, and Scugog Island) (Government of Canada 1923). The two treaties encompass 12,944,400 acres of land, separated into three distinct tracts. Tract 1 is between the Etobicoke and Trent Rivers, bounded by Lake Ontario's Northern Shore, which then extends north to Lake Simcoe to create Tract 2. Tract 3 includes the area between the Ottawa River and Lake Huron, which is delineated in the North by the Mattawa River-Lake Nipissing and French Line (Government of Canada 1923; Manners 2022). The Williams Treaties were the culmination of almost sixty years of the Chippewa and Mississauga (Michi Saagig) lobbying the Ontario and Canadian governments for protection and respect of their rights to harvest, hunt, fish, and trap on their traditional lands (Manners 2022).

The Williams Treaties were originally designed by the Crown to quell the complaints put forth by the various First Nation communities regarding settlers interfering and encroaching on their traditional lands. Instead, the Williams Treaties effectively obtained large tracts of unceded lands held by the First Nation communities, and removed their rights to harvest, hunt, fish, and trap outside of Reserve lands. Thus, the Treaties led to long-standing disputes between the First Nation Communities and the government, regarding compensation, land, harvesting, and access to traditional lands used for hunting, fishing, and trapping (Government of Canada 2018ab). In 1992, the Chippewa and the Mississaugas filed a lawsuit against the Crown, under the claim that the Crown had not met their financial and legal obligations set forth in the Williams Treaties (Manners 2022).

The matter would remain before the courts until 2018, when the Canadian and Ontario Governments formally settled the matter with the First Nation Communities, by including a billion dollars in compensation, the ability to add up to 11,000 acres to their respective reserve land base(s), and the recognition of the First Nation Communities to hunt, fish, harvest, and trap on their traditional lands. Additionally, the Honourable Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations, issued a formal apology on behalf of the Government of Canda, in recognition of the negative impacts the Williams Treaties had on the Chippewas and the Mississaugas (Government of Canada 2018ab; Manners 2022).

1.2.2 *Oral History*

The traditional homelands of the Michi Saagiig (Mississauga Anishinaabeg) encompass a vast area of what is now known as southern Ontario. The Michi Saagiig are known as "the people of the big river mouths" and were also known as the "Salmon People" who occupied and fished the north shore of Lake Ontario where the various tributaries emptied into the lake. Their territories extended north into and beyond the Kawarthas as winter hunting grounds on which they would break off into smaller social groups for the season, hunting and trapping on these lands, then returning to the lakeshore in spring for the summer months.

The Michi Saagiig were a highly mobile people, traveling vast distances to procure subsistence for their people. They were also known as the "Peacekeepers" among Indigenous nations. The Michi Saagiig homelands were located directly between two very powerful Confederacies: The Three Fires Confederacy to the north and the Haudenosaunee Confederacy to the south. The Michi Saagiig were the negotiators, the messengers, the diplomats, and they successfully mediated peace throughout this area of Ontario for countless generations.

Michi Saagiig oral histories speak to their people being in this area of Ontario for thousands of years. These stories recount the "Old Ones" who spoke an ancient Algonquian dialect. The histories explain that the current Ojibwa phonology is the 5th transformation of this language, demonstrating a linguistic connection that spans back into deep time. The Michi Saagiig of today are the descendants of the ancient peoples who lived in Ontario during the Archaic and Paleo periods. They are the original inhabitants of southern Ontario, and they are still here today.

The traditional territories of the Michi Saagiig span from Gananoque in the east, all along the north shore of Lake Ontario, and west to the north shore of Lake Erie at Long Point. The territory spreads as far north as the tributaries that flow into these lakes, from Bancroft and north of the Haliburton highlands. This also includes all the tributaries that flow from the height of land north of Toronto like the Oak Ridges Moraine, and all of the rivers that flow into Lake Ontario (the Rideau, the Salmon,

the Ganaraska, the Moira, the Trent, the Don, the Rouge, the Etobicoke, the Humber, and the Credit, as well as Wilmot and 16 Mile Creeks) through Burlington Bay and the Niagara region including the Welland and Niagara Rivers, and beyond. The western side of the Michi Saagiig Nation was located around the Grand River which was used as a portage route as the Niagara portage was too dangerous. The Michi Saagiig would portage from present-day Burlington to the Grand River and travel south to the open water on Lake Erie.

Michi Saagiig oral histories also speak to the occurrence of people coming into their territories sometime between 500-1000 A.D. seeking to establish villages and a corn growing economy – these newcomers included peoples that would later be known as the Huron-Wendat, Neutral, Petun/Tobacco Nations. The Michi Saagiig made Treaties with these newcomers and granted them permission to stay with the understanding that they were visitors in these lands. Wampum was made to record these contracts, ceremonies would have bound each nation to their respective responsibilities within the political relationship, and these contracts would have been renewed annually (see Gitiga Migizi and Kapyrka 2015). These visitors were extremely successful as their corn economy grew as well as their populations. However, it was understood by all nations involved that this area of Ontario were the homeland territories of the Michi Saagiig.

The Odawa Nation worked with the Michi Saagiig to meet with the Huron-Wendat, the Petun, and Neutral Nations to continue the amicable political and economic relationship that existed – a symbiotic relationship that was mainly policed and enforced by the Odawa people.

Problems arose for the Michi Saagiig in the 1600s when the European way of life was introduced into southern Ontario. Also, around the same time, the Haudenosaunee were given firearms by the colonial governments in New York and Albany which ultimately made an expansion possible for them into Michi Saagiig territories. There began skirmishes with the various nations living in Ontario at the time. The Haudenosaunee engaged in fighting with the Huron-Wendat and between that and the onslaught of European diseases, the Iroquoian-speaking peoples in Ontario were decimated.

The onset of colonial settlement and missionary involvement severely disrupted the original relationships between these Indigenous nations. Disease and warfare had a devastating impact on the Indigenous peoples of Ontario, especially the large sedentary villages, which mostly included Iroquoian-speaking peoples. The Michi Saagiig were largely able to avoid the devastation caused by these processes by retreating to their wintering grounds to the north, essentially waiting for the smoke to clear.

Michi Saagiig Elder Gitiga Migizi (2017) recounts:

"We weren't affected as much as the larger villages because we learned to paddle away for several years until everything settled down. And we came back and tried to bury the bones of the Huron but it was overwhelming, it was all over, there were bones all over – that is our story.

There is a misnomer here, that this area of Ontario is not our traditional territory and that we came in here after the Huron-Wendat left or were defeated, but that is not true. That is a big misconception of our history that needs to be corrected. We are the traditional people; we are the ones that signed treaties with the Crown. We are recognized as the ones who signed these treaties, and we are the ones to be dealt with officially in any matters concerning territory in southern Ontario.

We had peacemakers go to the Haudenosaunee and live amongst them in order to change their ways. We had also diplomatically dealt with some of the strong chiefs to the north and tried to make peace as much as possible. So, we are very important in terms of keeping the balance of relationships in harmony.

Some of the old leaders recognized that it became increasingly difficult to keep the peace after the Europeans introduced guns. But we still continued to meet, and we still continued to have some wampum, which doesn't mean we negated our territory or gave up our territory – we did not do that. We still consider ourselves a sovereign nation despite legal challenges against that. We still view ourselves as a nation and the government must negotiate from that basis."

Oftentimes, southern Ontario is described as being "vacant" after the dispersal of the Huron-Wendat peoples in 1649 (who fled east to Quebec and south to the United States). This is misleading as these territories remained the homelands of the Michi Saagiig Nation. The Michi Saagiig participated in eighteen treaties from 1781 to 1923 to allow the growing number of European settlers to establish in Ontario. Pressures from increased settlement forced the Michi Saagiig to slowly move into small family groups around the present-day communities: Curve Lake First Nation, Hiawatha First Nation, Alderville First Nation, Scugog Island First Nation, New Credit First Nation, and Mississauga First Nation. The Michi Saagiig have been in Ontario for thousands of years, and they remain here to this day.

This historical context was prepared by Gitiga Migizi, a respected Elder and Knowledge Keeper of the Michi Saagiig Nation

1.2.3 *Euro-Canadian Settlement History*

In 1791, the Provinces of Upper Canada and Lower Canada were created from the former Province of Quebec by an act of British Parliament, with Colonel John Graves Simcoe appointed as the Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada. Simcoe

was responsible for governing the new province, directing its settlement, and establishing a constitutional government modelled after that of Britain (Coyne 1895). In 1792, Simcoe divided Upper Canada into 19 counties consisting of previously settled lands, new lands opened for settlement, and lands not yet acquired by the Crown, which extended from Essex in the west to Glengarry in the east. By 1798, with population expansion requiring smaller administrative regions, the Home District was created, which comprised the Counties of Northumberland, Durham, York, and Simcoe.

1.2.3.1 History of Wellington County

Wellington County was originally part of Wellington District, which contained areas that would later become the counties of Wellington, Waterloo, and Grey, as well as a portion of Dufferin County. Wellington County was officially established in 1849, and was approximately 657,120 acres in size (Mika & Mika 1977). The District Council of Wellington District first convened in its new courthouse on February 8, 1842, which later became the courthouse for Waterloo County. After Wellington County's establishment, the representatives of the newly formed county continued to convene in Waterloo County until January 23, 1854, when an independent council for the County of Wellington met for the first time in the County Courthouse in Guelph, Ontario (Mika & Mika 1977). At the time of its formation, the County of Wellington consisted of the townships of Amaranth, Arthur, Eramose, Erin, Garafaxa, Guelph, Marborough, Nicho, Peel, Pilkington, and Puslinch (Mika & Mika 1977). In 1881 the County of Dufferin was formed and the townships of Amaranth and Garafraxa left the County of Wellington to join it. The County of Wellington consists today of the same townships it did in 1881 after the departure of Amaranth and Garafraxa (Mika & Mika 1977).

1.2.3.2 History of Nichol Township

Nichol Township, a township within Wellington County, was first established in 1793, with the first survey of the township occurring in 1819. However, the first legal settler of the township was not recorded until 1823 (Armstrong 1985). The township is 28,000 acres in size. It is bound in the northeast by the townships of Eramose and Garafraxa, in the northwest by the township of Peel, in the southwest by Woolwich Township, and in the southeast by Guelph (Smith 1846: p.130). The township was described as being a well-settled, which was not surprising as it was known for containing excellent land with rolling topography, and was timbered with hard wood (Smith 1846). In 1842, the township had a recorded population of 1019 individuals, consisting primarily of Scottish settlers (Smith 1846).

1.2.4 *Past Land Use of the Project Area*

Historically, the Project Area is located within Part of Lot 17, Concession 15, Geographic Township of Nichol, Wellington County. According to the Leslie &

Charles (1861) *Historical County Map of Wellington County*, the portion of Lot 17, Concession 15, Geographic Township of Nichol, Wellington County, including the current Project Area limits, was owned by a "David Allen" (see Map 3). No structures or other features of interest are depicted within the Project Area. Similarly, according to the Walker & Miles (1877) *Historical atlas of the County of Wellington, Ontario*, the portion of Lot 17, Concession 15, Geographic Township of Nichol, Wellington County, including the current Project Area limits, was owned by a "D. Allen" (see Map 4). No structures or other features of interest are depicted within the Project Area.

In discussing 19th century mapping, it must be remembered that historical county atlases were produced primarily to identify factories, offices, residences, and landholdings of subscribers, and were funded by subscription fees. Landowners who did not subscribe were not always listed on the maps. As such, all structures were not necessarily depicted or placed accurately. Regardless of these limitations, the property depicted on these maps was illustrated directly adjacent to historical transportation routes.

1.3 Archaeological Context

1.3.1 *Known Archaeological Sites within 1-km of the Project Area*

In Ontario, information concerning archaeological sites is stored in the Ontario Archaeological Sites Database (OASD), an inventory of the documented archaeological record in Ontario. Summary information on the known archaeological sites in the vicinity of the Project Area was obtained from the MCM site database (MCM 2025). There are no known sites within the Project Area limits or within 100 metres of the current Project Area. However, there are six known archaeological sites within one-kilometre radius of the Project Area, none of which is located within 300 metres of the Project Area limits (Table 2).

Table 2: Sites Recorded within a One-Kilometre Radius of the Project Area

Borden Number	Site Name	Time Period	Affinity	Site Type	Current Development Review Status
AkHc-30	24-656H1	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead	Further CHVI
AkHc-27	Ford Family Farmstead 4	Post-Contact		agricultural	Further CHVI
AkHc-28	Ford Family Farmstead 5 Site	Post-Contact		agricultural	Further CHVI
AkHc-26	Ford Family Farmstead 2	Post-Contact		Other: secondary deposit	No Further CHVI
AkHc-29		Middle Archaic		findspot	Further CHVI

Table 2: Sites Recorded within a One-Kilometre Radius of the Project Area					
Borden Number	**Site Name**	**Time Period**	**Affinity**	**Site Type**	**Current Development Review Status**
AkHc-24	Ford Family Farmstead 2	Post-Contact		Other: secondary deposit	No Further CHVI

**Sites Located within 100 metres of Property*

1.3.2 *Previous Archaeological Assessments on or within 50 m of the Project Area*

Based on the current information available in the MCM archaeological sites database, **AS&G** is aware of three previous Archaeological Assessments that have been conducted on or within 50 metres of the Project Area.

A Stage 1-2 Archaeological Property Assessment of 968 St. David Street North & 6581 Highway 6 North, Lot 18, Concession 16, (Geographical Township of Nichol), Town of Fergus, Wellington County, conducted by AMICK Consultants Limited (2025). The following summary it taken from the associated report (PIF#: P038-1483-2024):

> *The entirety of the Project Area is approximately 38.71 hectares (ha) in area and includes within it ploughable lands and two farm complexes. The farm complex in the northern portion of the Project Area consists a house, a garage, a barn, two silos, a shed, and an outbuilding. The farm complex in the southern portion of the Project Area consists of a house, a barn, a silo, a shed, and three outbuildings. The Project Area is bounded on the north by farmland, on the east by farmland, on the south by farmland, meadow area, and Jiggin' Jody's Seafood and on the west by St. David Street North. AMICK Consultants Limited was engaged by the proponent to undertake a Stage 1-2 Archaeological Property Assessment of lands potentially affected by the proposed undertaking and was granted permission to carry out archaeological fieldwork. Following the criteria outlined by MCMS (2011) for determining archaeological potential, portions of the Project Area were determined as having archaeological potential for Pre-contact and Post-contact archaeological resources. Consequently, this report is being prepared in advance of the planning process for this property.*
>
> *The entirety of the Project Area was subject to property inspection and photographic documentation concurrently with the Stage 2 Property Assessment which consisted of high intensity test pit methodology at a five-metre interval between individual test pits and high intensity pedestrian survey at an interval of 5 metres between individual transects on 02 August, 14 September, 11 & 18 October 2024. All records, documentation, field notes, photographs, and artifacts (as applicable) related to the conduct*

and findings of these investigations are held at the corporate office of AMICK Consultants Limited until such time that they can be transferred to an agency or institution approved by the MCM on behalf of the government and citizens of Ontario.

As a result of the property Assessment of the Project Area, one historic site, the 24-656H1 (AkHc-30) Site, was identified. Based on the characteristics of these sites and the analysis of artifacts, the following recommendations are made:

1. The Cultural Heritage Value or Interest (CHVI) of the 24-656H1 (AkHc-30) Site has not been completely documented. There is potential for further CHVI for this location. The 24-656H1 (AkHc-30) Site requires Stage 3 Site-specific Assessment to gather further data to determine if Stage 4 Mitigation of Development Impacts will be required.

2. A Stage 3 Site-specific assessment of the 24-656H1 (AkHc-30) Site must be completed for this site in accordance with the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (MTC 2011). The Stage 3 Site-specific assessment will consist of the excavation of 1 by 1 metre square test units on a 5 by 5 metre square grid; the grid squares will be referred to by the intersection coordinates of their southwest corner. Each test unit will be excavated stratigraphically by hand into the first 5 centimetres of subsoil. Each unit will be examined for stratigraphy, cultural features, or evidence of fill, and all soil was screened through wire mesh of 6-millimetre width. All artifacts will be retained and recorded by the corresponding grid unit designation and will be held at the corporate office of AMICK Consultants Limited until such time that they can be transferred to an agency or institution approved by the Ontario MCM (MCM) on behalf of the government and citizens of Ontario.

3. The Stage 3 Site-specific Assessment of the 24-656H1 (AkHc-30) Site must include further archival research to establish the details of the occupation and land use history of the rural township lot of which the Project Area was a part.

A Stage 3 Site-Specific Assessment of the AkHc-30 Site, located at 968 St. David Street north, Lot 18, concession 16 (Geographic Township of Nichol), Town of Fergus, Wellington County, was conducted by AMICK Consultants Limited. The following summary it taken from the associated report (PIF#: P038-1565-2024):

AMICK Consultants Limited was engaged by the proponent to undertake a Stage 3 Site-Specific Assessment of 24-656H1 (AkHc-30), a historic Euro-Canadian archaeological site potentially affected by the proposed undertaking, and was granted permission to carry out archaeological fieldwork. The Stage 3 Assessment consisted of the excavation of 1 by 1

metre square test units on a 5 by 5 metre square grid; the grid squares are referred to by the intersection coordinates of their southwest corner. Each test unit was excavated stratigraphically by hand into the first 5 centimetres of subsoil. Depth varied between 35 and 55 centimetres. Each unit was examined for stratigraphy, cultural features, or evidence of fill, and all soil was screened through wire mesh of 6 millimetre width. All artifacts were retained and recorded by the corresponding grid unit designation. The soil stratigraphy consisted of a brown sandy loam overlaying an orange sandy loam subsoil. A total of 19 test units, with an additional 4 test units amounting to 20% of the grid unit total in areas of interest or high artifact concentration, were hand-excavated on 13, 14 & 23 May 2025. All records, documentation, field notes, photographs and artifacts (as applicable) related to the conduct and findings of these investigations are held at the Exeter 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 Citizenship and Multiculturalism on behalf of the government and citizens of Ontario.

The Stage 3 archaeological assessment of Post-contact site 24-656H1 (AkHc-30) has produced numerous additional artifacts and exposed two cultural features in three units. These finds indicate that Post-contact site 24-656H1 (AkHc-30) has further Cultural Heritage Value or Interest (CHVI). There remains the potential for additional cultural features across the site, as well as deeply buried deposits associated with the occupation of the site. It is understood by the proponent that preservation and protection of significant archaeological deposits is always the preferred option, however, given the location of the site in an area necessary for predevelopment servicing, preservation is not an option.

1. Stage 4 Mitigation of Development Impacts through excavation of the 24-656H1 (AkHc-30) site in advance of any landscape alteration is required.

2. It was determined through discussion with the proponent that Stage 4 Mitigation of Development Impacts through avoidance and protection of the 24-656H1 (AkHc-30) site was not viable in the context of their development plans and that excavation is the only viable option for Stage 4 Mitigation of Development Impacts to the site.

3. Stage 4 Mitigation of the 24-656H1 (AkHc-30) site must be completed in accordance with the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists for small post-1830 sites. The Stage 4 mitigation strategy will follow that outlined in Sections 4.2, 4.2.1, 4.2.2, and 4.2.6 of the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (MTC 2011).

4. Hand excavations must be undertaken within the main concentration of artifacts identified in the surface collection of the site and positioned adjacent to high yield test units from the Stage 3 Site-specific Assessment in Accordance with Standard 3, Section 4.2.2 of the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (MTC 2011).

5. The cultural features of the site must be fully exposed by hand excavation and the units must be excavated at least two meters beyond the edge of any features. The cultural features of the site must then be excavated by hand as per Standard 7, Section 4.2.2 of the 2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists.

6. Hand excavations must be completed stratigraphically by cultural layer and all excavated soils must be screened through.

A Stage 1-2 Archaeological of Assessment of Part of Lot 17, concession15, Geographic Township of Nichol), and Part of Lots 3, 4, 12, 13, 14, 16, and 17, Registered Plan 87. (Geographic Township of Nichol), now all in the Township of Centre Wellington, County of Wellington, was conducted by AMICK Consultants Limited. The following summary it taken from the associated report (PIF#: P058-416-2009):

AMICK Consultants Limited was engaged by the proponent to undertake this assessment and was granted permission to carry out archaeological fieldwork on the subject on August 6, 2008. Those portions of the property which did not consist of previous disturbance or low lying and wetlands were subject to physical assessment May 12, 2009, consisting of high-intensity test pit survey at an interval of five metres between individual test pits and high intensity pedestrian survey at an interval of five metres between individual transects.

As a result of the physical assessment of the subject property 1 isolated First Nations find spot was encountered, No further archaeological investigations *are recommended for the isolated findspot as it represents few artifacts over a large area and further investigation of this find is unlikely to result in further information.*

1.4 Environmental Conditions

The Guelph Drumlin Field occupies an area of approximately 320 square miles, and is situated to the northwest of the Paris Moraine (Chapman and Putnam 1984: 137). This area is inclusive of the Regional Municipalities of Hamilton-Wentworth, Waterloo, Halton, and part of Wellington County. The area includes approximately 300 drumlins of varying sizes. The drumlins of the Guelph Drumlin field are not as closely grouped as other areas and there is more intervening low

ground occupied by fluvial materials (Chapman and Putnam 1984). The till of the drumlin field is loamy, calcareous, and derived mostly from dolostone of the Amabel Formation exposed along the Niagara cuesta. It also contains fragments of underlying red shale exposed below the escarpment, and is more pale brown in colour as a result in contrast to the pale gray of the Peterborough drumlins (Chapman and Putnam 1984). Till composition is roughly 50% sand, 35% silt, and 15% clay, getting progressively sandier to the northeast. The drumlins to the northeast are covered by a layer of stoneless fine sand and silt, a few inches thick. The till throughout is stony, with large surface boulders in the area (Chapman and Putnam 1984).

The general landform pattern of the area consists of drumlines fringed by gravel terraces and separated swampy valleys. The dominant soils are characterized as stony tills of the drumlins, with gravel terraces situated between them - both possessing a veneer of loam reducing that reduces the stoniness of the surface soil (Chapman and Putnam 1984). The drainage of the drumlin soils varies depending on region, being well-drained in the Guelph catena area, imperfectly drained in the London area, and poorly drained where Parkhill loams are present. The loamy soils of the gravel terraces adjacent to the drumlins are poorly drained and swampy in large areas (Chapman and Putnam 1984). The soil within the Project Area is of the Harriston loam variety, consisting of a loam till with generally good drainage (Hoffman & Matthews 1963).

1.5 Current Conditions

The Project Area is irregular in shape, approximately 29.74 hectares in size, and measures approximately 310 metres E-W by 1,029 metres N-S. The Project Area consists of two separate agricultural lots. Municipal address 6582 Highway 6 consists of agricultural lands with a disused area adjacent to Highway 6. Municipal address 6585 Highway 6 consists of agricultural land, a single residential structure, a barn, and associated unpaved driveway. Both lots have wooded areas in the southwest area. The Project Area is bound to the northeast by Highway 6, to the southeast by residential properties, to the northwest by an agricultural property, and to the southwest by Beatty Line North and a single residential property.

1.6 Stage 2 Archaeological Fieldwork

The Stage 2 Archaeological Fieldwork of the Project Area was undertaken between May 9, 20, and May 25, 2026 under variable weather conditions (see Table 3). The weather conditions did not impede the assessment in any way and there was no rain. The Stage 2 fieldwork was directed by Mr. Norbert Stanchly on May 9 and May 25, 2026. Mr. Pete Demarte directed fieldwork on May 20, 2026.

Table 3: Weather Conditions during the Stage 1-2 Assessment

Date	Temperature	Comments
May 9, 2026	13 - 16°C	Partly cloudy, with wind gusts of 16 – 27 km/h from the S
May 20, 2026	11 - 14°C	Sunny, with wind gusts of 13 km/h from the NNE/ENE
May 25, 2026	18 - 24°C	Sunny with wind gusts of 9 – 12 km/h from the WNW

AS&G is unaware of any previous findings and recommendations relevant to the current stage of work with the exception of those discussed above. There are no unusual physical features that may have affected fieldwork strategy decisions or the identification of artifacts or cultural features. There is no additional archaeological information that may be relevant to understanding the choice of fieldwork techniques or the recommendations of this Report.

2.0 FIELD METHODS

This section of the report addresses Section 7.8.1 of the 2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists. It does not address Section 7.7.2, because no property inspection was done as a separate Stage 1. The characteristics of the property dictated that the Stage 2 Assessment be performed by a combination of pedestrian survey and judgemental test-pitting survey, performed at standardized five metre intervals and ten metre intervals respectively throughout the Project Area limits.

2.1 Test Pit Survey

A portion of the Project Area was subject to a judgmental test pit survey appropriate to the characteristics of the property. The test pit survey of the property followed the Standards within Section 2.1.2 of the MCM (2011) *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*. Test pit survey was only conducted where ploughing was not possible or viable, as per Standard 1. Test pits were spaced at maximum intervals of 10 metres throughout the property, as it was determined that there were disturbed areas throughout that could not be ploughed. All test pits were at least 30 cm in diameter and dug to within one metre of built structures, as applicable. Each test pit was excavated by hand, into at least the first 5 cm of subsoil and examined for stratigraphy, cultural features, or evidence of fill where possible. No artifacts or cultural features were noted. All test pit fills consisted of gravel. Soils were screened through 6 mm mesh. The test pit survey did not result in the recovery of artifacts. All test pits were backfilled.

As relevant, we provide detailed and explicit descriptions addressing Standards 2a and b. The general standards for property survey under Section 2.1 of the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (MCM 2011) were addressed as follows:

- **Section 2.1, S1:** All of the Project Area was surveyed, including areas immediately adjacent to existing structures (as applicable).

- **Section 2.1, S2a:** (land of no or low potential due to physical features such as permanently wet areas, exposed bedrock, and steep slopes): There are two large marsh areas at the western end of the Project Area.
- **Section 2.1, S2b:** no or low potential due to extensive and deep land alterations): There are areas of disturbance due to the construction of the existing structures and driveways. There is also a large berm within the Project Area, which was created from construction grading.
- **Section 2.1, S2c:** (lands recommended not to require Stage 2 Assessment by a previous Stage 1 report where the Ministry has accepted that Stage 1 into the register): N/A
- **Section 2.1, S2d** (lands designated for forest management activity w/o potential for impacts to archaeological sites, as determined through Stage 1 forest management plans process): N/A
- **Section 2.1, S2e** (lands formally prohibited from alterations): N/A
- **Section 2.1, S2f** (lands confirmed to be transferred to a public land holding body, etc.): N/A
- **Section 2.1, S3:** The Stage 2 survey was conducted when weather and lighting conditions permitted excellent visibility of features.
- **Section 2.1, S4:** No GPS recordings were taken as no artifacts were found during the Stage 2 Assessment.
- **Section 2.1, S5:** All field activities were mapped in reference to fixed landmarks, survey stakes, and/or development markers, as appropriate. See Report Section *9.0 Maps*.
- **Section 2.1, S6:** See Report Section *8.0 Images* for photo documentation of examples of field conditions encountered.

2.2 Pedestrian Survey

A portion of the property was subject to a systematic pedestrian survey appropriate to the characteristics of the property. The pedestrian survey of the property followed the Standards within Section 2.1.1 of the MCM (2011) *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*, and are addressed as follows:

- **Section 2.1.1, S1**: Actively or recently cultivated agricultural land was subject to pedestrian survey.
- **Section 2.1.1, S2:** Lands were recently ploughed.

- **Section 2.1.1, S3**: Ploughed lands were weathered by at least one heavy rainfall or several light rains, to improve the visibility of archaeological resources.
- **Section 2.1.1, S4**: Direction was provided to the contractor undertaking the ploughing to plough deep enough to provide total topsoil exposure, but not deeper than previous ploughing.
- **Section 2.1.1, S5**: At least 80% of the ploughed ground surface was visible.
- **Section 2.1.1, S6:** Survey transects were spaced at maximum intervals of five metres.
- **Section 2.1.1, S7**: When archaeological resources were found, the survey transects were decreased to 1 m intervals over a minimum of a 20 m radius around the find - to determine whether it was an isolated find or part of a larger scatter. Intensification was continued outward at this interval until the full extent of the surface scatter had been defined.
- **Section 2.1, S8**: A total of 14 isolated findspots were identified, yielding 15 artifacts.
- **Section 2.1, S9**: All artifacts were collected, during the Controlled Surface Pick-up (CSP), following the MCM (2011) *Standards and Guidelines*, Section 3.2.1, Standards 1 – 6).

Overall, the pedestrian survey, performed at standardized five metre intervals, resulted in the identification of 14 isolated historic findspots.

Approximately 60% of the Project Area was assessed by a systematic pedestrian survey at five metre intervals. Approximately 15% of the Project Area was assessed by a judgmental test pit survey, performed at ten metre intervals. Approximately 15% consisted of low and wet marsh lands, while the remaining 10% of the Project Area consisted of visibly disturbed areas, i.e., existing structures and associated driveway (see Map 6).

2.3 GPS Coordinates

All coordinates were obtained using a Garmin GPSMap 64x GPS unit, with ± 2 m accuracy. No methods of correction were used. Relevant UTM coordinates for all locations are presented in Table 4 below.

Table 4: GPS Coordinates for Findspots H1 to H14 (UTM Zone 17T)

Findspot	Easting	Northing
H1	0548071	4840434

Table 4: GPS Coordinates for Findspots H1 to H14 (UTM Zone 17T)		
Findspot	**Easting**	**Northing**
H2	0548357	4840735
H3	0548339	4840737
H4	0547931	4840427
H5	0547929	4840482
H6	0548009	4840585
H7	0548253	4840814
H8	0548253	4840814
H9	0548253	4840814
H10	0548249	4840808
H11	0548256	4840801
H12	0548249	4840798
H13	0548244	4840813
H14	0548259	4840949
Fixed Landmark (Hydro Pole on north side of property driveway)	0548410	4840906

3.0 RECORDS OF FINDS

This section documents all finds discovered as a result of the Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment of the Project Area.

3.1 Euro-Canadian Artifacts

The analysis and cataloguing of the material recovered from the 14 findspots throughout the Project Area, utilized a series of behavioural and functional categories that address the various aspects of the lifeways of the inhabitants of the site. The devised system employs a hierarchical classificatory system, which emphasizes object function. The main functional groups are further subdivided into more specified categories referred to as classes, which are then further refined into increasingly specific classifications to ensure detailed recording of each artifact and its function. Artifacts were identified, examined in detail, and recorded in a catalogue adhering to this behavioural classification system.

In total 15 artifacts were recovered during the Stage 2 Assessment. All finds were recovered through pedestrian survey (see Table 5).

Table 5: Stage 2 Controlled Surface Pickup (CSP) Yields		
Provenience	**Artifact Qty.**	**% of total**
H1	1	6.67%
H2	1	6.67%
H3	1	6.67%
H4	1	6.67%
H5	1	6.67%

Table 5: Stage 2 Controlled Surface Pickup (CSP) Yields		
Provenience	**Artifact Qty.**	**% of total**
H6	1	6.67%
H7	1	6.67%
H8	1	6.67%
H9	1	6.67%
H10	1	6.67%
H11	2	13.33%
H12	1	6.67%
H13	1	6.67%
H14	1	6.67%
Total	**15**	**100.00%**

Table 6 illustrates artifact frequency according to material. Ceramic artifacts account for most of the assemblage.

Table 6: Distribution of artifacts by material		
Material	**Artifact Qty.**	**% of total**
Ceramic	13	86.67%
Glass	2	13.33%
Total	**15**	**100.00%**

Table 7 provides a breakdown of the artifact groups recovered from the Project Area. Group refers to the broadest behavioural/functional categories to which artifacts were assigned. Most artifacts recovered belong to the Foodways group and those that could not be classified further were designated to the Unassigned group.

Table 7: Artifact distribution by broad functional group		
Artifact Group	**Artifact Qty.**	**% of total**
Foodways	13	86.67%
Unassigned	2	13.33%
Total	**15**	**100.00%**

3.1.1 *Foodways*

The Foodways group is comprised entirely of ceramic sherds. Ceramic artifacts offer an effective diagnostic tool to be implemented in relative dating techniques. Ceramics produced in the industrial era follow a chronological progression in terms of ware types, styles, finishes, and patterns. Table 8 illustrates the frequency of ware types recovered.

Table 8: Waretype frequency		
Waretype	**Artifact Qty.**	**% of total**
Ironstone	6	46.15%
Semi-Porcelain	3	23.08%
Whiteware	4	30.77%
Total	**13**	**100.00%**

The assemblage of 13 ceramic sherds was found to include refined white earthenware (n=4); ironstone (n=6); and semi-porcelain (n=3). Whiteware is the earliest waretype recovered. Whiteware production began in the 1820s and continued throughout the 19th century (Miller 1980). Ironstone, which dates post 1840, was one of the most popular ceramic types of the second half of the 19th century (Sussman 1985; Miller 1991). A subclassification within the Ironstone category is semi-porcelain. Semi-porcelain is a lighter-weight semivitreous and vitreous, white-bodied ceramic with production generally beginning after 1880 and gaining popularity after 1890. This waretype often exhibits more variable decorative techniques than classic ironstone (Majewski and O'Brien 1987: 114-155, 120-124).

Decoration was the main way in which 19th-century ceramic ware types were marketed and sold; therefore, identification and organization according to decorative type is a more useful method when analyzing refined earthenwares, especially when employing relative dating techniques (Miller 1980,1991). Decorative types were recovered in relatively equal limited quantities. Table 9 provides the frequency of ceramic sherds by decorative type.

Table 9: Ceramic distribution by decorative type		
Decoration	**Artifact Qty.**	**% of total**
Decorated, Blue	1	7.69%
Dipped Ware, Annular	1	7.69%
Moulded, Floral	1	7.69%
Moulded, UID decoration	1	7.69%
Painted, Late-Palette/Spongeware, Stamped	1	7.69%
Shell-Edged, Blue	2	15.38%
Transfer-Printed, Blue	2	15.38%
Transfer-Printed, Light Blue	1	7.69%
Undecorated	3	23.08%
Total	**13**	**100.00%**

Table 10 presents a breakdown of the ceramic assemblage by form. Due to the highly fragmented nature of the ceramic sherds the majority fall under the designations of holloware or flatware.

Table 10: Ceramic distribution by vessel form		
Vessel Form	**Artifact Qty.**	**% of total**
Bowl	1	7.69%
Flatware	4	30.77%
Hollowware	4	30.77%
Jug	1	7.69%
Plate	3	23.08%
Total	**13**	**100.00%**

3.1.2 *Unassigned*

Artifacts belonging to the Unassigned group include two machine-made container glass fragments, which for various reasons could not be classified further as belonging to the Foodways, Health/Hygiene, or other artifact groups.

3.1.3 *Dating and Interpretation*

The artifact assemblage recovered from the 14 findspots throughout the Project Area are typical of late 19th- to early 20th- century domestic contexts. The ceramic artifacts are indicative of the latter half of the 19th century into the 20th century. Ironstone was a dominant waretype from the mid 19th century onward and semi-porcelain gained popularity from the 1890s to the early 20th century. The presence of machine-made glass further suggests a later occupation of the property. See Table 11 for date ranges.

Table 11: Datable Material		
Datable Artifacts	**Qty.**	**Date Range**
Ironstone	4	Produced 1840 – 1900+ (Sussman 1985)
Ironstone, Shell-Edged	2	Produced 1840 – 1900+ (Sussman 1985)
(W. Ware) Transfer-Printed, Blue	3	Produced 1820 – 1900+ (des Fontaines 1990)
Painted, Late-Palette/Stamped Spongeware	1	Produced 1830-1870s (Miller 1991)
Semi-Porcelain	3	Produced 1880+; Popular post 1890 (Majewski and O'Brien 1987)
Glass		
Machine Made	2	1889-present (Jones and Sullivan 1989)

As per the MCM (2011) Standards 2.2, S1c, Post-Contact archaeological sites require Stage 3 Site-Specific Assessment if they contain at least 20 artifacts that date the period of use, at least in part, to before 1900. The assemblage

recovered does not meet this criteria and therefore does not have further Cultural Heritage Value or Interest (CHVI).

3.2 Inventory of Documentary Record

An inventory of the documentary record generated in the field is provided in Table 12.

Table 12: Inventory of the Documentary Record	
Document Type	**Description**
Field Notes	• 1 page of handwritten field notes - scanned and archived on AS&G Servers
Photographs	• 22 digital photographs, included in the current Report and archived on AS&G Servers
Maps	• 1 field map - scanned, archived on AS&G servers, and included in the current Report

All artifacts will be retained at the corporate offices of **AS&G** until such time that they can be transferred to an agency or institution approved by the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM) on behalf of the government and citizens of Ontario. All the artifacts are contained within a single banker box.

4.0 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS

The entirety of the Project Area was assessed, and a total of 14 isolated findspots consisting of Euro-Canadian artifacts were identified and designated Findspots H1 through H14. None of the findspots meet the criteria for being designated an archaeological site, and as such, they do not retain CHVI. Therefore, no archaeological sites were identified during the Stage 2 Assessment.

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

The Report makes recommendations only regarding archaeological matters. The Stage 1 Background Study found that the Project Area exhibits potential for the recovery of archaeological resources of cultural heritage value and concluded that the Project Area required a Stage 2 Assessment. The Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment consisted of a pedestrian survey at five metre intervals and a judgmental test pit survey at 10 metre intervals throughout portions within the Project Area that were visibly disturbed. The Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment resulted in the identification of 14 isolated Euro-Canadian findspots or scatters. None of the findspots meet the MCM (2011) criteria for being designated an archaeological site; thus, they do not retain any further Cultural Heritage Value or Interest (CHVI). **Therefore, the Report recommends that no further Archaeological Assessment of the Project Area is required (see Maps 6, 8 and 9).**

6.0 ADVICE ON COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION

Section 7.5.9, Standard 1a

This report is submitted to the Minister Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries as a condition of licensing in accordance with Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c 0.18. The report is reviewed to ensure that it complies with the standards and guidelines that are issued by the Minister, and that the archaeological fieldwork and report recommendations ensure the conservation, protection and preservation of the cultural heritage of Ontario. When all matters relating to archaeological sites within the Project Area of a development proposal have been addressed to the satisfaction of the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport, a letter will be issued by the ministry stating that there are no further concerns with regard to alterations to archaeological sites by the proposed development.

Section 7.5.9, Standard 1b

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 a 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.

Section 7.5.9, Standard 1c

Should previously undocumented archaeological resources be discovered, they may be a new archaeological site and therefore subject to Section 48 (1) of the Ontario Heritage Act. The proponent or person discovering the archaeological resources must cease alteration of the site immediately and engage a licensed consultant archaeologist to carry out archaeological fieldwork, in compliance with Section 48 (1) of the Ontario Heritage Act.

Section 7.5.9, Standard 1d

The Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002, S.O. 2002, c.33 requires that any person discovering human remains must notify the police or corner and the Registrar of Cemeteries at the Ministry of Consumer Services.

Section 7.5.9, Standard 2

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.

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8.0 IMAGES

Image 1: Shows conditions for pedestrian survey.

Image 2: Shows conditions for pedestrian survey.

Image 3: Shows conditions for pedestrian survey.

Image 4: Representative image of field visibility for pedestrian survey.

Image 5: Shows existing asphalt driveway.

Image 6: Shows existing berm and area subject to judgmental test pit survey to confirm disturbance.

Image 7: Shows existing berm and area subject to judgmental test pit survey to confirm disturbance

Image 8: Representative image showing disturbed test pit.

Image 9: Representative image showing gravel fills within disturbed test pit.

Image 10: Shows conditions for test pit survey.

Image 11: Shows visibly disturbed areas.

Image 12: Shows existing structure and conditions for test pit survey.

Image 13: Shows conditions for test pit survey.

Image 14: Shows area subject to judgmental test pit survey to confirm disturbance. Note standing concrete pad.

Image 15: Shows conditions for test pit survey.

Image 16: Representative image of gravel fills found in disturbed test pits.

Image 17: Shows conditions for test pit survey.

Image 18: Shows conditions for test pit survey.

Image 19: Representative image of gravel fills found in disturbed test pits.

Image 20: Shows disturbed area subject to judgmental test pit survey.

Image 21: Representative image of gravel fills found in disturbed test pits.

Image 22: Shows low and wet marsh area. Note wet black soils.

Image 23: Close up showing wet "mucky" soils within marsh area.

Image 24: Close up showing some standing water within low and wet marsh area.

Image 25: Ceramic artifacts recovered during Stage 2 assessment. Top Row (left to right): Cat# H2013, H2006, H2010, H2011. Bottom row: H2005, H2004, H2009, H2007, H2008.

Image 26: Ceramic artifacts recovered during Stage 2 assessment. Left to right: Cat# H2012, H2003, H2000, H2002.

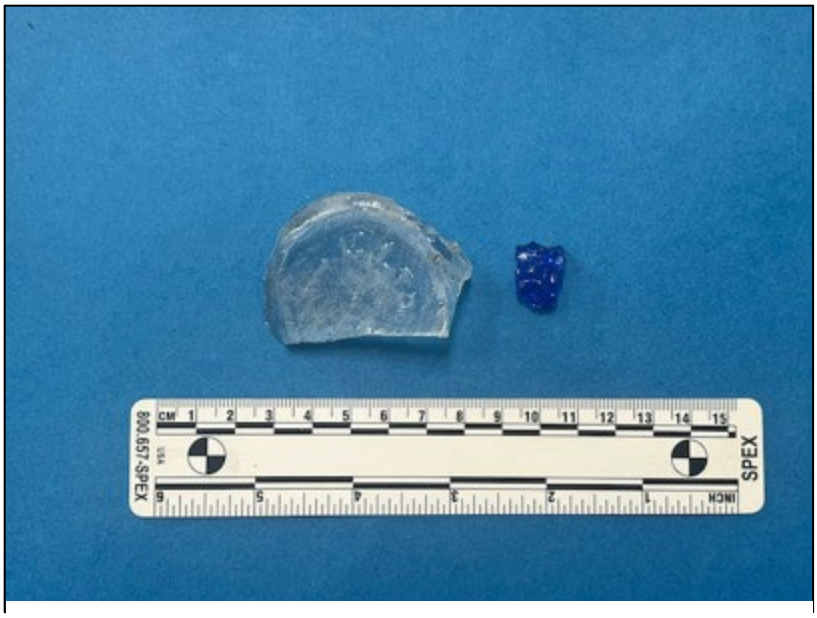
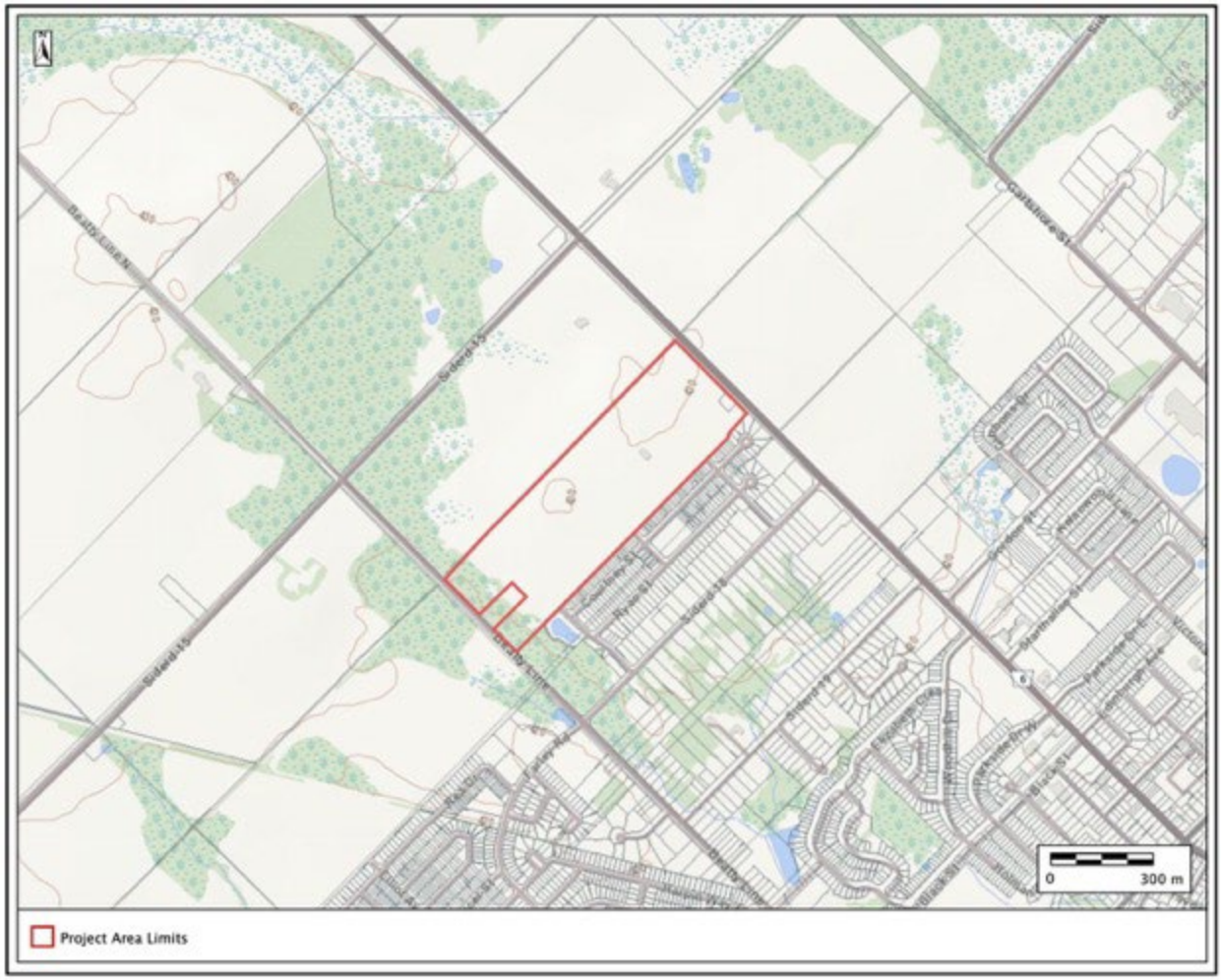


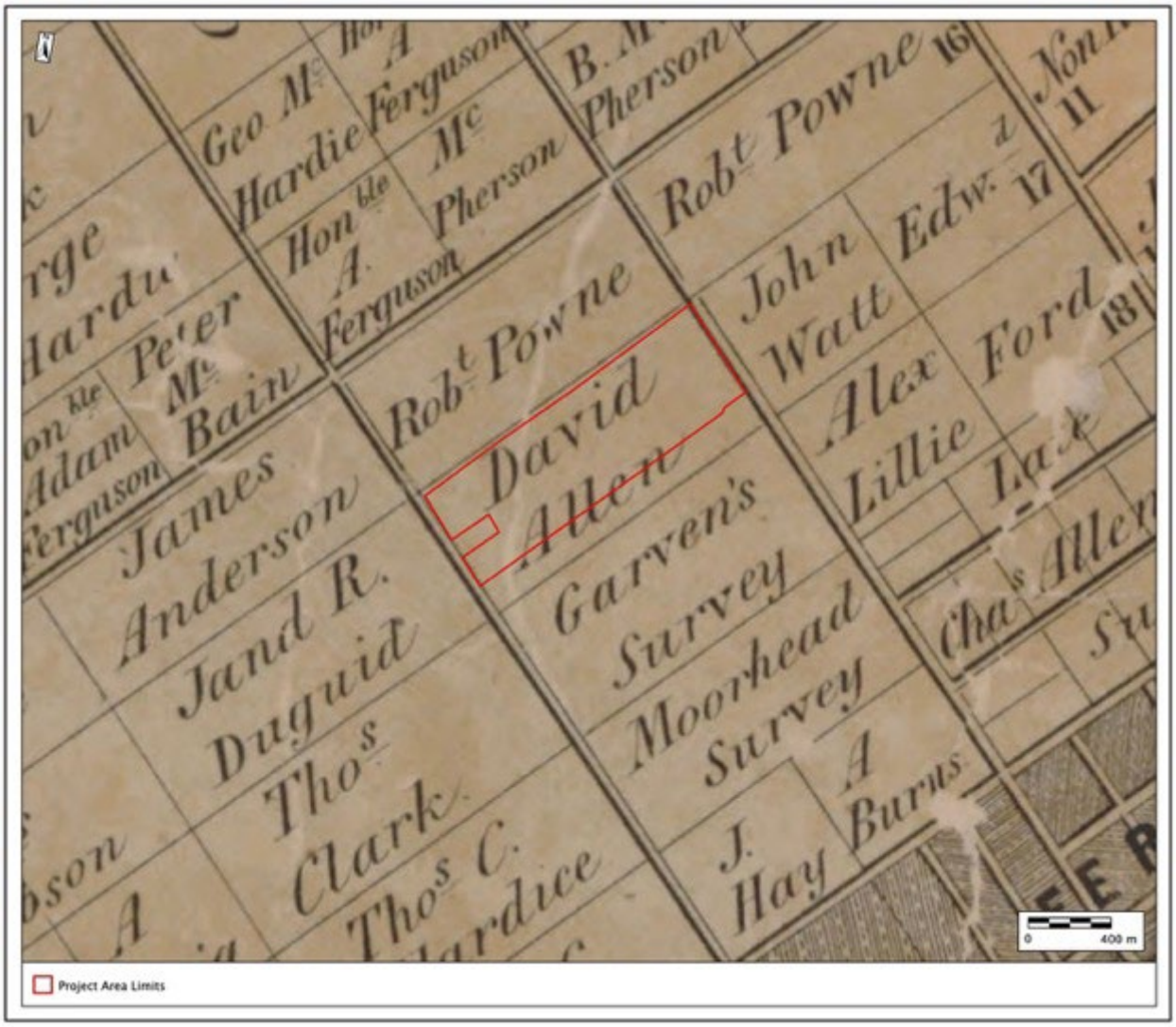
Image 27: Glass artifacts recovered during Stage 2 assessment. Left to right: Cat #H2014 and H2001.

9.0 MAPS

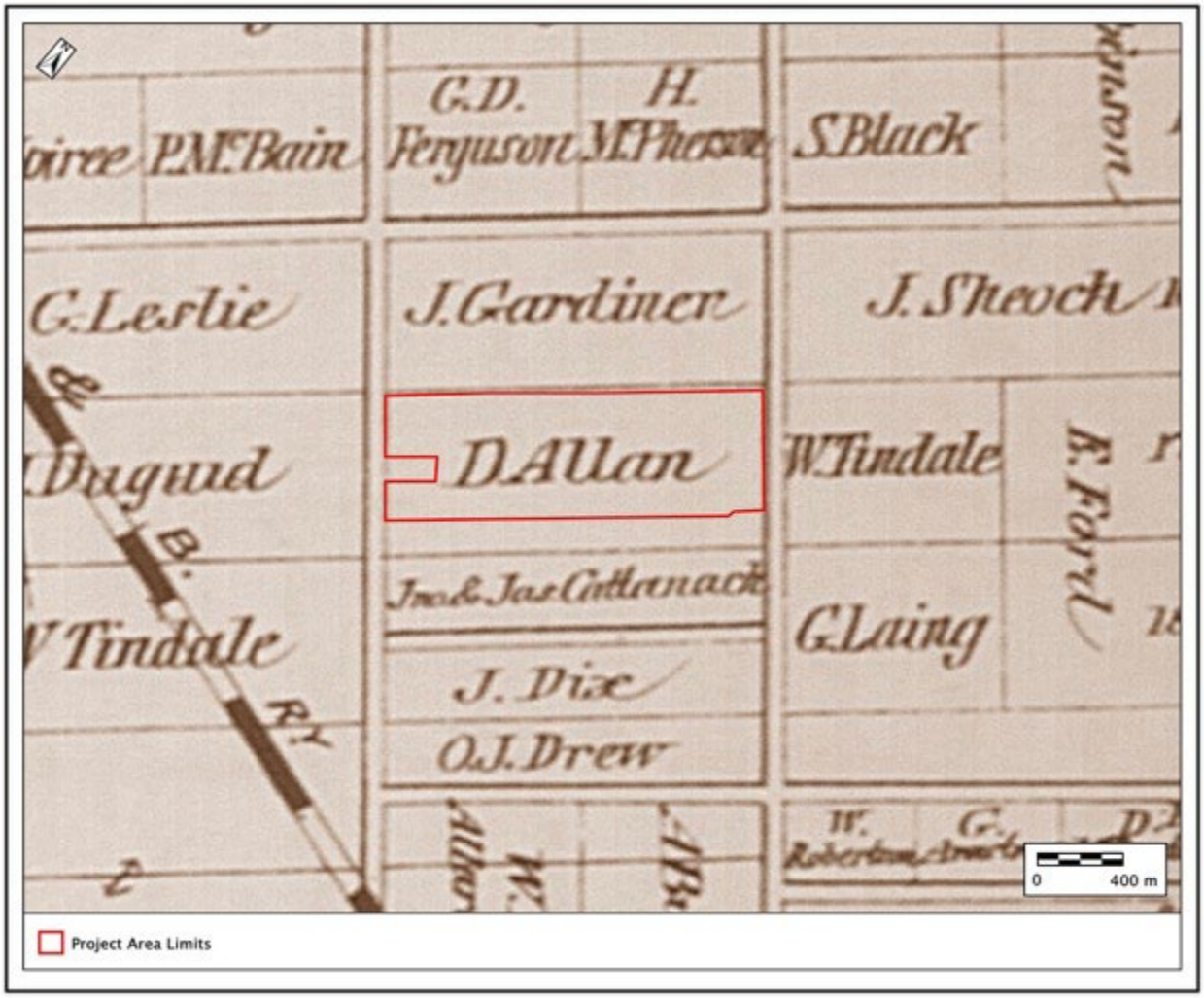


Map 1: General Location of Property and Project Area Limits (MNRF 2025).

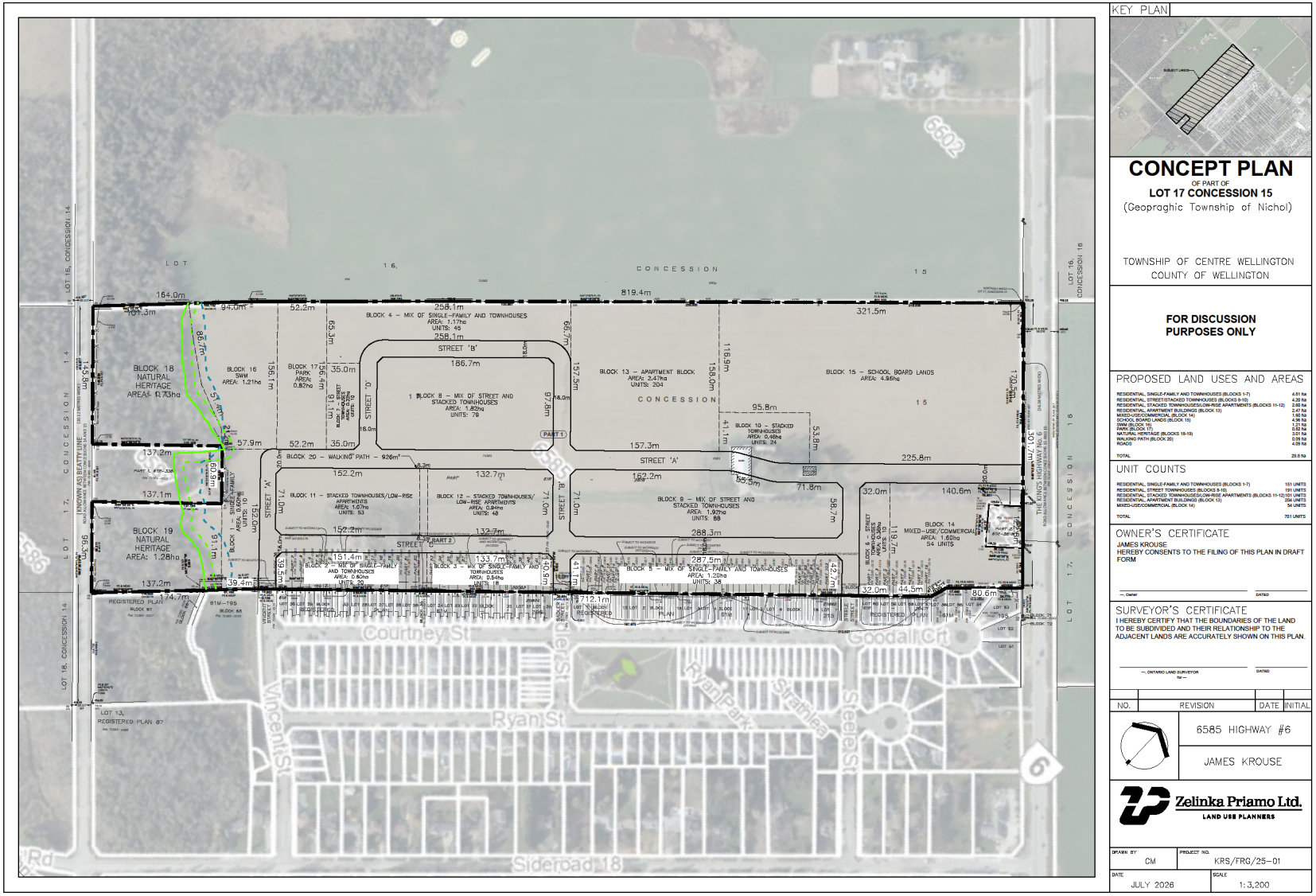
Map 2: Aerial Imagery of Property and Project Area Limits (MNRF 2025).



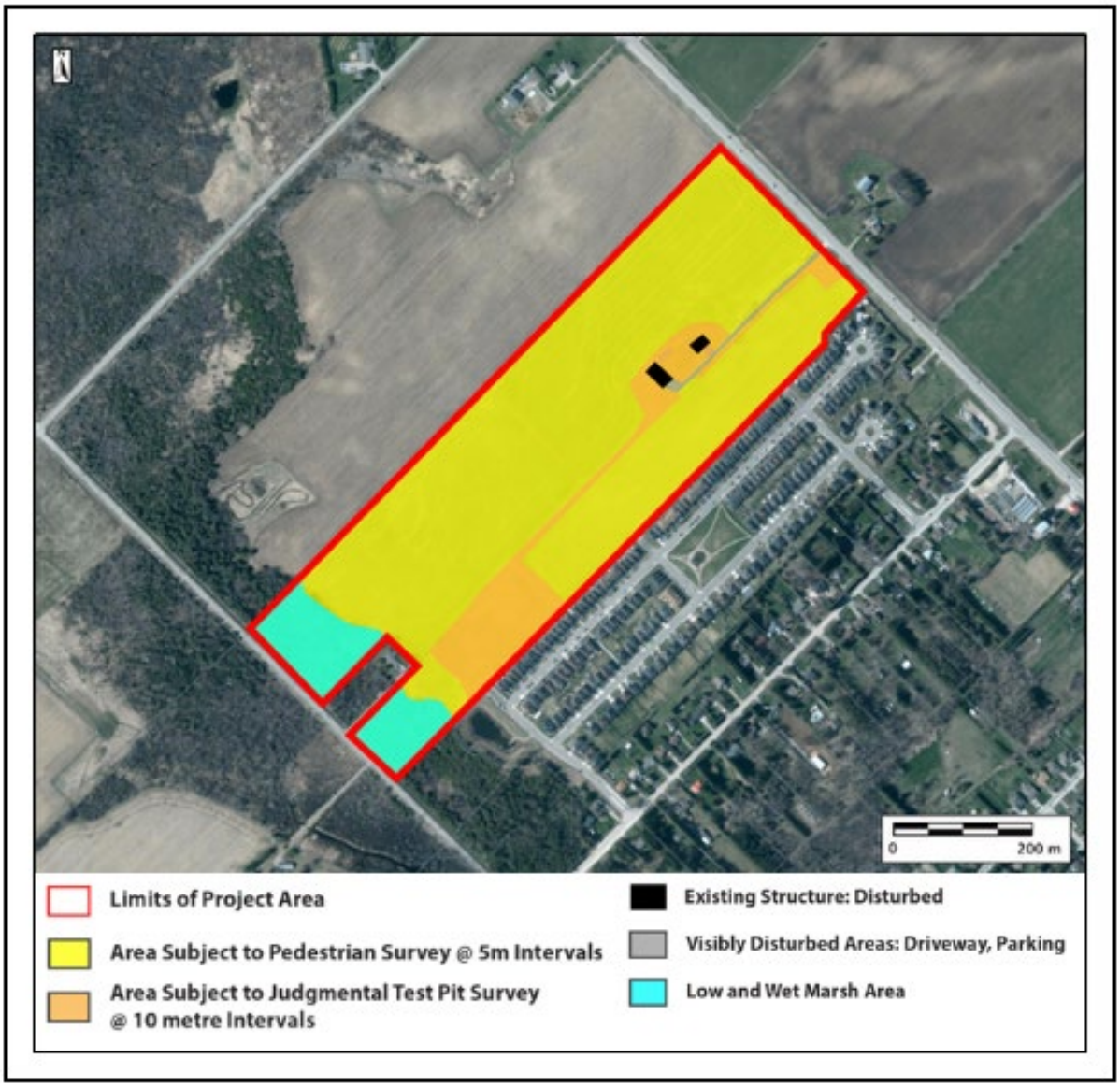
Map 3: Project Area Limits Overlaid on 1861 Historical Atlas Map (Leslie & Charles 1878).



Map 4: Project Area Limits Overlaid on 1877 Historical Atlas Map (Walker & Miles 1877).

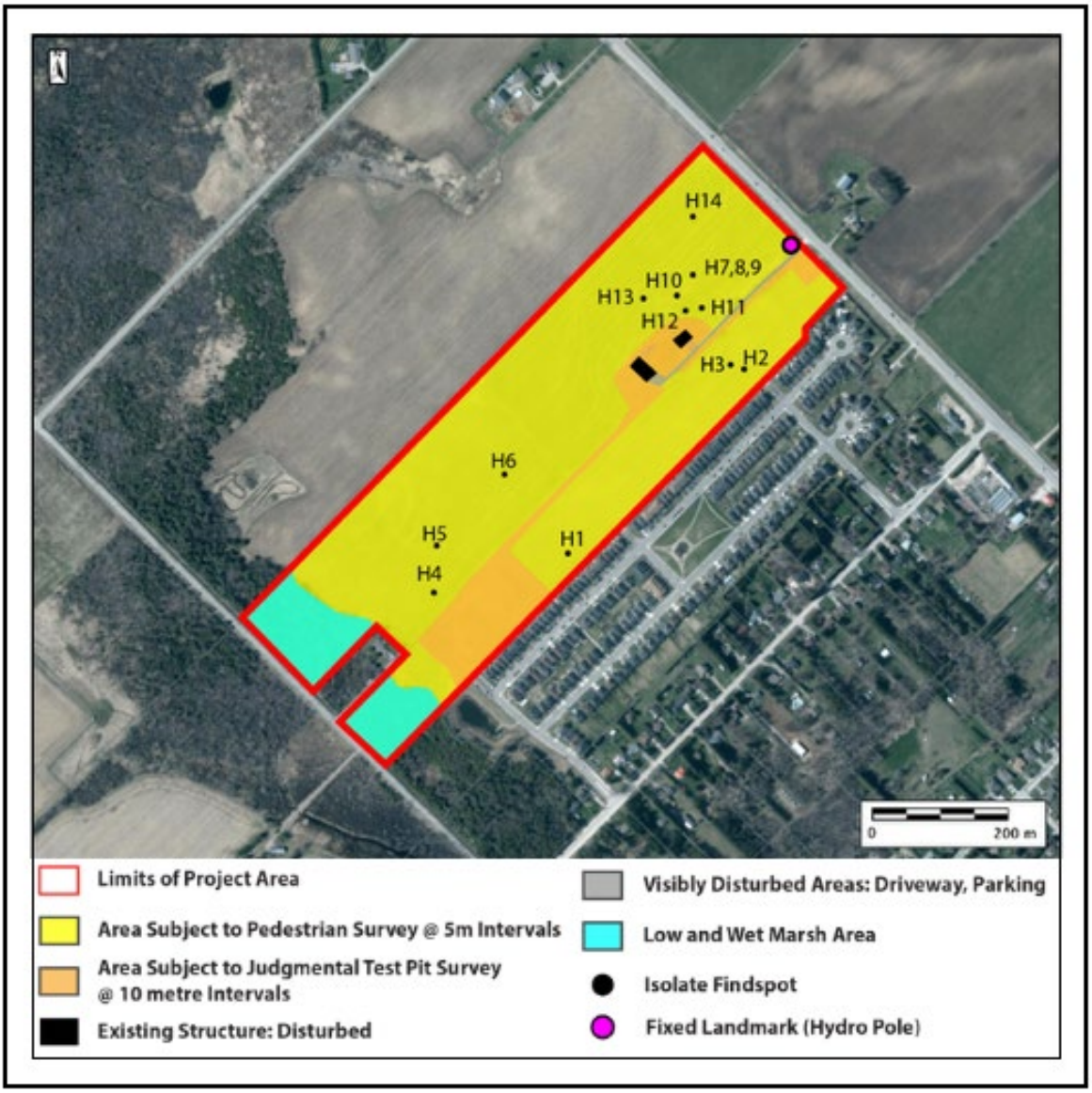


Map 5: Copy of Preliminary Concept Plan (Provided by Project Proponent)

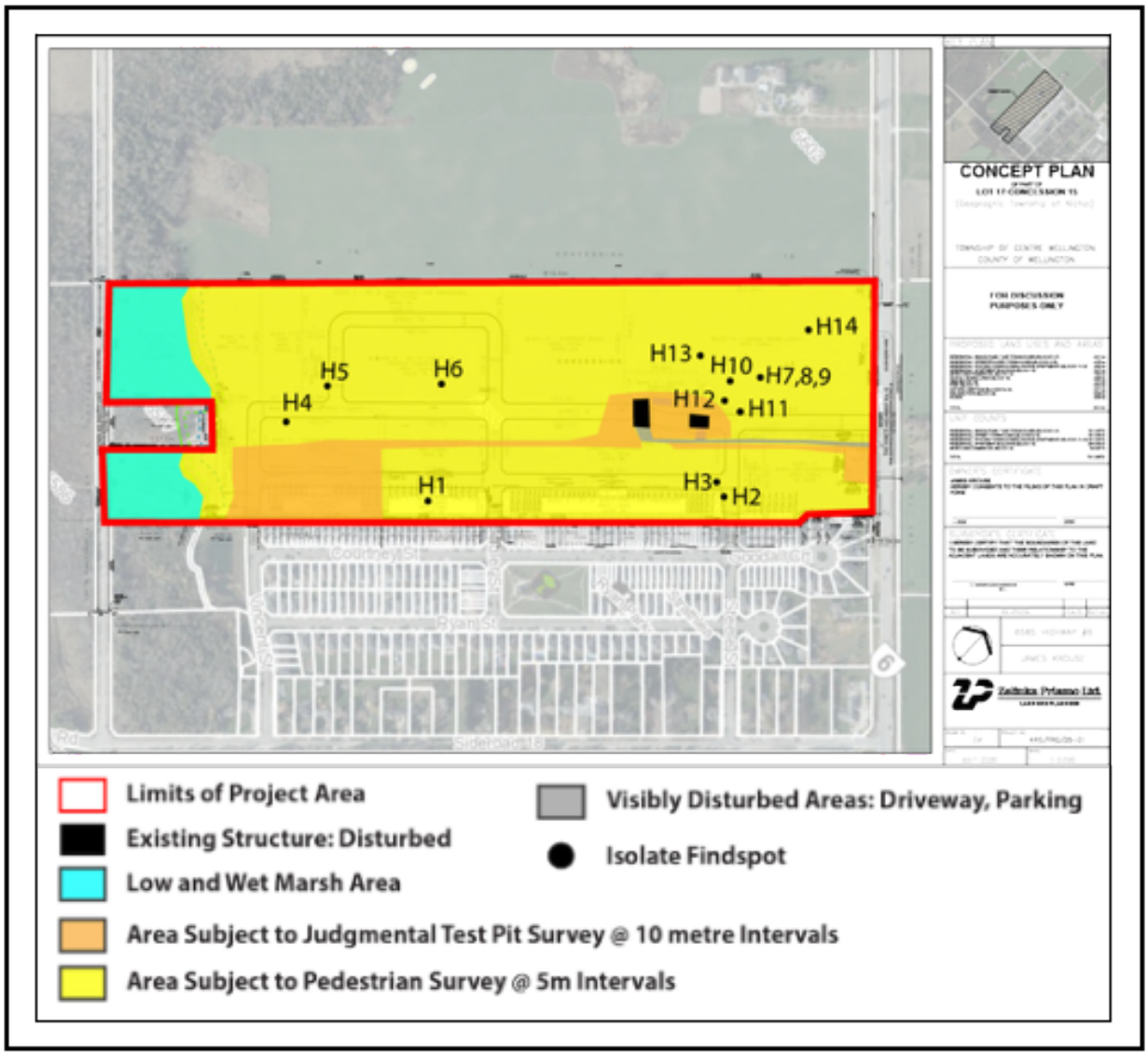


Map 6: Results of the Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment.

Map 7: Location and Direction of Images



Map 8: Stage 1 and 2 Results Showing Location of Isolated Findspots.



Map 9: Stage 1 and 2 Results Overlaid on Concept Plan.

10.0 APPENDIX A

APPENDIX A: STAGE 2 ARTIFACT CATALOG											
Cat #	CSP	Qty	Material	Group	Class	Object Type	Object Subtype	Datable Attribute	Decorative Type	Colour	Additional Comments
H2000	H4	1	Ceramic	Foodways	Ceramic Tableware	Hollowware	IRO	Ironstone	Undecorated	White	
H2001	H12	1	Glass	Unassigned	Glass Containers	Hollowware		Machine Made		Blue	
H2002	H6	1	Ceramic	Foodways	Ceramic Tableware	Flatware	IRO	Ironstone	Undecorated	White	
H2003	H8	1	Ceramic	Foodways	Ceramic Tableware	Hollowware	IRO	Semi-Porcelain	Moulded, Floral	White	
H2004	H13	1	Ceramic	Foodways	Ceramic Tableware	Plate	IRO	Ironstone	Shell-Edged, Blue	White/Blue	Unscalloped, impressed. Similar to chicken foot edge
H2005	H10	1	Ceramic	Foodways	Ceramic Tableware	Plate	IRO	Ironstone	Shell-Edged, Blue	White/Blue	Unscalloped, impressed. Similar to chicken foot edge
H2006	H14	1	Ceramic	Foodways	Ceramic Tableware	Bowl	IRO	Semi-Porcelain	Dipped Ware, Annular	White/Blue	Rim sherd, blue banding
H2007	H9	1	Ceramic	Foodways	Ceramic Tableware	Flatware	IRO	Ironstone	Undecorated	White	Base portion of plate
H2008	H9	1	Ceramic	Foodways	Ceramic Tableware	Flatware	REW	Whiteware	Transfer-Printed, Light Blue	White/Blue	Marley portion of plate
H2009	H9	1	Ceramic	Foodways	Ceramic Tableware	Hollowware	REW	Whiteware	Painted, Late-Palette/Spongeware, Stamped	Blue/Green/Dark Pink	Floral decoration with sponge stamping and interior rim lining
H2010	H11	1	Ceramic	Foodways	Ceramic Tableware	Plate	REW	Whiteware	Transfer-Printed, Blue	White/Blue	Floral decoration. Rim sherd
H2011	H11	1	Ceramic	Foodways	Ceramic Tableware	Flatware	REW	Whiteware	Decorated, Blue	White/Blue	UID decoration
H2012	H1	1	Ceramic	Foodways	Ceramic Tableware	Jug	IRO	Ironstone	Moulded, UID decoration	White	Rope like decoration
H2013	H2	1	Ceramic	Foodways	Ceramic Tableware	Hollowware	IRO	Semi-Porcelain	Transfer-Printed, Blue	Blue	Chinoiserie motifs
H2014	H7	1	Glass	Unassigned	Glass Containers	Bottle		Machine Made		Colourless	Bottle base with partial maker's mark reading "C. G. LTD"