



ACC

ARCHAEOLOGICAL
CONSULTANTS CANADA

Stage 1 & 2 Archaeological Assessment

Proposed Residential Development

Part of Lot 102, Concession 1 West of Yonge Street, Town of East Gwillimbury,
Regional Municipality of York, Former Township of East Gwillimbury, County of
York, Ontario

Original Report

Prepared for:

Ontario Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries

Prepared by:

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Archaeological Consultants Canada (“ACC”) was contracted by the Proponent to conduct a Stage 1 & 2 archaeological assessment, including background research and property survey. The assessment was carried out as part of proposed residential development and was required under the *Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990*. The subject property is 28.17 hectares (“ha”) in size and is located on Part of Lot 102, Concession 1 West of Yonge Street, in the Town of East Gwillimbury, Regional Municipality of York, former Township of East Gwillimbury, York County, Ontario (Figure 1). Note that there is a development plan available, and mapping used in this report is the best available at this time. The proponent provided mapping and confirmed subject property boundaries were accurate.

The Stage 1 & 2 assessment and fieldwork was conducted under Professional Archaeological License P1208, held by Matthew Muttart. The Ontario Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (“MHSTCI”) assigned project information number P1208-0088-2022 to this project. The licensee of ACC received permission from the proponent to access the property and to conduct all required archaeological fieldwork activities including the removal of artifacts, as necessary. The property was accessed between May 26th and May 30th, 2022.

Stage 1 background research indicates that the subject property has general archaeological potential due to proximity of Yonge Street, the presence of a historic farmstead on historical atlas mapping, a water source within the subject property, and the presence of five registered 19th century Euro-Canadian sites within 300 m of the subject property.

A visual property inspection determined that the water source, a tributary of Holland River, had low archaeological potential as it was low-lying and permanently wet. A farmstead, outbuildings, and gravel lane had been previously disturbed and also exhibited low archaeological potential. This farmstead is located in roughly the same location as the structure shown in 1878 historic atlas mapping (see Figure 3).

The remainder of the subject property retained archaeological potential. Agricultural fields were assessed by pedestrian survey at 5 m intervals. Wooded and overgrown lawn areas were assessed by test pit survey at 5 m intervals.

No artifacts or other archaeological resources were identified during the Stage 2 property assessment.

The following recommendations are provided for consideration by the Proponent and by the Ontario Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries:

1. No artifacts or other archaeological resources were identified during the Stage 1 & 2 archaeological assessment. The subject property has now been fully assessed according to the Ontario Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries’ 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*. No further archaeological assessment of the property is required.

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PROJECT PERSONNEL

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Stage 1 & 2 Archaeological Assessment

Proposed Residential Development

Part of Lot 102, Concession 1 West of Yonge Street, Town of East Gwillimbury, Regional Municipality of York, Former Township of East Gwillimbury, County of York, Ontario

1.0 PROJECT CONTEXT

1.1 Development Context

Archaeological Consultants Canada (“ACC”) was contracted by the Proponent to conduct a Stage 1 & 2 archaeological assessment, including background research and property survey. The assessment was carried out as part of proposed residential development and was required under the *Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990*. The subject property is 28.17 hectares (“ha”) in size and is located on Part of Lot 102, Concession 1 West of Yonge Street, in the Town of East Gwillimbury, Regional Municipality of York, former Township of East Gwillimbury, York County, Ontario (Figure 1). Note that there is a development plan available, and mapping used in this report is the best available at this time. The proponent provided mapping and confirmed subject property boundaries were accurate.

The objective of a Stage 1 background study is to provide information about the subject area’s geography, history, previous archaeological fieldwork, and current land conditions. A Stage 1 study evaluates the subject area’s archaeological potential in order to recommend appropriate strategies for the Stage 2 survey.

The objective of a Stage 2 property assessment is to document all archaeological resources present on the property and to make a determination about whether these resources, if present, have cultural heritage value or interest. Archaeological resources consist of artifacts (Indigenous stone tools, pottery and subsistence remains as well as Euro-Canadian objects), subsurface settlement patterns and cultural features (post moulds, trash pits, privies, and wells), and sites (temporary camps and special purpose activity areas, plus more permanent settlements such as villages, homesteads, grist mills and industrial structures). If any archaeological resources are present that exhibit cultural heritage value or interest, a Stage 2 survey will determine whether these resources require further assessment and, if necessary, recommend appropriate Stage 3 strategies for identified archaeological sites.

The Stage 1 & 2 assessment and fieldwork was conducted under Professional Archaeological License P1208, held by Matthew Muttart. The Ontario Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (“MHSTCI”) assigned project information number P1208-0088-2022 to this project. The licensee of ACC received permission from the proponent to access the property and to conduct all required archaeological fieldwork activities including the removal of artifacts, as necessary. The property was accessed between May 26th and May 30th, 2022.

All fieldwork and reporting were completed using MHSTCI's 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*. This report documents the research, the field methods and results, and the conclusions and recommendations based on the Stage 2 archaeological assessment. All documents and records related to this project will be curated at the offices of Archaeological Consultants Canada, in accordance with subsection 66(1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

1.2 Historical Context

1.2.1 Background Research

Stage 1 background research was conducted to determine the potential for finding and identifying archaeological resources including sites within the current subject property and to determine the necessity of conducting a Stage 2 survey. This is done by reviewing geographic, archaeological, and historical data for the property and the surrounding area. The background research was conducted to:

- amass all the readily available information on any previous archaeological surveys in the area.
- determine the locations of any registered and unregistered sites within and around the subject property.
- develop an historical framework for assigning levels of potential significance to any new sites discovered during fieldwork.

1.2.2 A Cultural Chronology for Southern Ontario

Over their thousands of years of occupation in the general region, Indigenous peoples have left behind, to a greater or lesser degree, physical evidence of their lifeway activities and settlements at many locations. Based upon a published synthesis of Indigenous cultural occupations (Wright, 1968). Table 1 is a general outline of the cultural history of southern Ontario that is applicable to the subject property. Ellis and Ferris (1990) provide greater detail of the distinctive characteristics of each time period and cultural group.

It is likely that Ontario was occupied soon after the retreat of the Ice Age glaciers. The earliest known human occupation in the area was during the Paleoindian period (between 12,000 and 9,500 years ago) wherein small groups of nomadic peoples hunted big game such as caribou in a cool sub-arctic climate. Sites are typically found near glacial features such as the shorelines of glacial lakes or kettle ponds which allowed access to the low-lying environments favoured by the caribou and other wildlife. These people were few and their small, temporary campsites are relatively rare. Paleoindian sites are recognized by the presence of distinctive artifacts such as fluted projectile points, beaked scrapers, and gravers and by the preference for light colored cherts, such as Collingwood chert. The Paleoindian Period is divided into two sub-periods, Early Paleoindian, and Late Paleoindian.



Table 1: General Cultural Chronology for Southern Ontario

PERIOD	SUBDIVISION I	SUBDIVISION II	YEARS BEFORE PRESENT	COMMENTS
PALEOINDIAN	Early Paleoindian	Fluted Point Horizon	12,000-10,500	big game hunters
	Late Paleoindian	Holcombe & Hi-Lo Horizons	10,500-9,500	small nomadic groups
ARCHAIC	Early Archaic	Side Notched Horizon	10,000-9,700	nomadic hunters and gatherers
		Corner-Notched Horizon	9,700-8,900	
		Bifurcate Horizon	8,900-8,000	
	Middle Archaic	Middle Archaic I/Stemmed Horizon	8,000-5,500	territorial settlements
		Middle Archaic II	5,500-4,500	polished ground stone tools
	Late Archaic	Narrow Point Horizon	4,500-3,500	
		Broad Point Horizon	4,000-3,500	
		Small Point Horizon (including Haldimand and Glacial Kame Complexes)	3,500-2,800	burial ceremonialism
WOODLAND	Early Woodland	Meadowood Complex	2,900-2,400	introduction of pottery
		Middlesex Complex	2,500-2,000	
	Middle Woodland	SW Ontario: Saugeen	2,300-1,500	long distance trade networks
		Western Basin: Couture	2,300-1,500	
	Transitional Woodland	SW Ontario:		
		Princess Point	1,500/1,400-1,200	incipient agriculture
		Western Basin:		
		Riviere au Vase	1500/1400-1200/1100	
	Late Woodland: Ontario Iroquois Tradition	Early: Glen Meyer	1200/100-750/700	transition to village life
		Middle I: Uren	720/700-710/670	large villages with palisades
		Middle II: Middleport	710/670-670/600	wide distribution of ceramic styles
		Late: Neutral	600-450	
	Late Woodland: Western Basin Tradition	Younge Phase	1200/1100-800	
		Springwells Phase	800-600	
		Wolf Phase	600-450	
HISTORIC	SW Ontario Iroquois	Historic Neutral	450-350	tribal warfare
	European Contact	Initial Contact	380-300	tribal displacement
		European Settlement	200 >	European settlement
		First Nations Resettlement	200 >	

(Compiled from Adams, 1994, Ellis *et al.*, 1990, Wright, 1968)

People during the Archaic period (*circa* 10,000 to 500 years ago) were still primarily nomadic hunters, but they adapted to a more temperate climate. Groups were dispersed during winter months and converged around watercourses from the spring to fall in large fishing campsites. The Archaic period is characterized by the appearance of ground stone tools, notched, or stemmed projectile points. The Archaic Period is divided into three sub-periods, Early, Middle

and Late Archaic. During the Archaic Period, groups began to establish territorial settlements and introduce burial ceremonialism. There is a marked increase in the number and size of sites, especially during the Late Archaic period.

The Woodland period is distinguished by the introduction of pottery vessels for storage and cooking. Sites of the Woodland period (*circa* 3000 to 400 years ago) are usually the most numerous because the population levels in southern Ontario had significantly increased, especially along the shores of Lakes Erie and Ontario. The Woodland Period is also marked by the establishment of complex long distance trading networks. The Woodland Period is divided into three sub-periods, Early, Middle and Late Woodland. During the Late Woodland Period, there is increasing sedentarism and the establishment of horticulture, a reliance on tribal warfare, and the introduction of semi-permanent villages with large protective palisades. The Late Woodland period also envelops the emergence of Iroquoian tribes and confederacies.

The historic period (from A.D. 1650 to 1900) begins with the arrival of Euro-Canadian groups. While North America had been visited by Europeans on an increasing scale since the end of the fifteenth century, it was not until the voyages of Jacques Cartier in the 1530s that Europeans visited Ontario Iroquoians in their home territories. Sites of this period document European exploration, trade, and the displacement and devastation of native groups caused by warfare and infectious disease. The most common sites of this period include Euro-Canadian homesteads, industries, churches, schools, and cemeteries.

The subject property was historically located on Part of Lot 102, Concession 1 West of Yonge Street, in the Township of East Gwillimbury, York County. York County was first created in 1792 when Lieutenant John Graves Simcoe divided Upper Canada into 19 counties (Mika & Mika, 1983:681). Prior to the forming of the County there was a French fort located near the Lake Ontario shoreline near the mouth of the Humber River. This fort was constructed in 1749 to control fur trade traffic (Miles & Co., 1878: v). The fort was dubbed Rouillé, but it became more commonly known as Fort Toronto.

The area that is now York was first surveyed by Deputy Surveyor John Collins in 1788. A more thorough survey was completed by Joseph Bouchette in 1793. In spring of 1793, Governor Simcoe arrived in the area with his Queen's Rangers and determined that the area around Fort Toronto, which was in ruins by then, should be the new capital of Upper Canada. Construction of government buildings began in 1794. Early settlers to the County were largely United Empire Loyalists and Pennsylvania Quakers who settled in the townships of Whitchurch and King. The population grew quickly due to the construction of Yonge Street (Mika and Mika 1983:682).

The Township of East Gwillimbury was laid out in 1798 as one of ten townships included in the survey of the County of York in 1791. The town's name is thought to be derived from Elizabeth Simcoe née Gwillim, wife of Lieutenant-Governor John Graves Simcoe (Rayburn, 1997). The community of Holland Landing was named after Samuel Holland, Surveyor-General of British North America. Holland Landing was the subject of early settlement by, in large part, United Empire Loyalists and Quakers (Mika & Mika, 1981). Lieutenant-Governor John Graves Simcoe intended Holland Landing to be a town at the northern terminus of Yonge Street, creating a link



from York to Lake Simcoe. Holland Landing was settled in the early 1800's, most notably by Peter Robinson; who facilitated building the village's first mill in 1821 (Dictionary of Canadian Biography, 2022)

In 1846, East Gwillimbury had 9,215 acres under cultivation, had erected two gristmills, five sawmills, and had a population of 1,796 (Smith, 1846). The village of Holland Landing was formally incorporated into the Township of East Gwillimbury in 1850 and continued to grow into the 20th century.

The Crown Patent for Lot 102, Concession 1, was awarded to Stephen Howard in November of 1805, who in 1824 sold all 200 acres to John S. Millard (OnLand, 2022). Tremaine's 1860 map of the County of York shows that the land still belonged to John Millard (Figure 2) at that time. The subject property is directly adjacent to Yonge Street, an important historic transportation route. Also of note is the settlement of Holland Landing situated 1.7 kilometres ("km") north of the subject property. The Northern Railroad is located 1.4 km to the north and a schoolhouse is illustrated 640 metres ("m") south of the subject property.

Miles & Co.'s 1878 map of the Township of East Gwillimbury in the *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of York* shows John S. Millard still in ownership of Lot 102 (Figure 3). The property is still directly adjacent to Yonge Street and there is a farmstead and orchard shown on the lot within the current subject property. The settlement of Holland Landing remains 1.7 km from the subject property, with the Northern Railroad 1.4 km to the north, and a schoolhouse 640 m south of the subject property.

1.3 Archaeological Context

1.3.1 Natural Environment

The subject property is located within the southern tip of the Simcoe Lowlands physiographic region (Chapman and Putnam, 1984:113). This area is made up of the lowlands bordering Georgian Bay and Lake Simcoe. The lowlands fall naturally into two major divisions, Nottawasaga Basin and Lake Simcoe Basin, which are separated by the Simcoe Uplands. The two basins are connected in the Barrie area by a flat valley. The entire Simcoe Lowlands region was once flooded by Lake Algonquin and is made up of shorecliffs, beaches and bouldered terraces ((Chapman and Putnam, 1984:177-178). The physiography of the subject property is dominated by drumlinized till plains (MDNM, 2007).

The *Soil Survey of York County* (Hoffman & Richards, 1955) indicates that there are two dominant surface soil types within the subject property (Figure 4). The eastern third of the subject property consists of Schomberg clay loam. This soil is a mixture of clay and silt and is characterized by being stonefree with moderate to irregularly steep slopes. The western two thirds of the subject property consists of Bondhead sandy loam. This soil is slightly stony, with smooth moderate slopes and good drainage.

Water has been identified as the major determinant of site selection and the presence of potable water is the single most important resource necessary for any extended human occupation or

settlement. The nearest water source is a tributary of the Holland River West which runs through the western portion of the subject property flowing north to south. The Holland River itself runs 1.9 km to the northeast

1.3.2 Current Land Use

The subject property currently consists of agricultural fields and stands of trees along neighbouring agricultural fields. A modern watercourse runs through the southwest corner into the north of the study area, surrounded by a wooded area. A farmstead including outbuildings, house and driveway is located along Yonge Street.

The surrounding area consists of active agricultural fields to the north, south and west and a commercial block, consisting of a Shoppers Drug Mart, Lowes Home Improvement, Tim Hortons, and several restaurants to the east.

Figure 1 provides the location of the subject property on a 1:50000-scale topographic map. Fieldwork for the project was conducted between May 26th and May 30th, 2022.

1.3.3 Previous Archaeological Investigations

1.3.3.1 Registered Archaeological Sites

Previously registered archaeological sites can be used to indicate archaeological potential. To determine if any previous assessments have yielded archaeological sites, either within or surrounding the current subject property, two main sources were consulted. These include the *Ontario Archaeological Sites Database* (“OASD”) and the *Public Register of Archaeological Reports*, both of which are maintained by MHSTCI.

The *Ontario Archaeological Sites Database* contains archaeological sites registered within the Borden system (Borden, 1952). The Borden system divides Canada into 13 km by 18.5 km blocks based on longitude and latitude. Each Borden block is designated with a four-letter label and sites identified within the block are numbered sequentially as they are registered. The subject property is located within the *BaGu* Borden block.

No archaeological sites have been registered within the subject property. Eighteen sites have been registered within approximately 1 km of the subject property (MHSTCI 2022a). Table 2 lists these sites along with the current Cultural Heritage Value or Interest (“CHVI”) for each site. Ten of the 18 sites are Euro-Canadian or have a Euro-Canadian component. Three of the 18 sites are Indigenous or have an Indigenous component. Five sites are of unknown cultural affiliation. Sites include, campsites, findspots, farmsteads, homesteads, and a village. Five of the sites are located within 300 m of the subject property (MHSTCI, 2022a). Each of these sites is discussed in further detail below.

Table 2: Registered Archaeological Sites within 1 km of the Subject Property

REG. #	NAME	TIME PERIOD	CULTURAL AFFILIATION	TYPE	STATUS
BaGu-4	Swezie	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	findspot	Unknown
BaGu-5	Thompson	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	campsite	Unknown
BaGu-62	Cook	Unknown	Unknown	unknown	Unknown
BaGu-63	Zenos Rogers	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead	Unknown
BaGu-64	Phillips	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead	Unknown
BaGu-65	Huntly	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead	Unknown
BaGu-66	Unknown	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	findspot	Unknown
BaGu-67	Unknown	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	Findspot	Unknown
BaGu-107	Green Lane	Woodland, Late	Iroquoian	village	Unknown
BaGu-133	Unknown	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	house	Unknown
BaGu-142	Lount Site	Post-Contact	Unknown	homestead	Further CHVI
BaGu-143	Willis Site	Post-Contact	Unknown	homestead	Further CHVI
BaGu-152	Lount	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead	Further CHVI
BaGu-153	Willis	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead	Unknown
BaGu-156	BaGu-156-H1	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	house	Unknown
BaGu-157	BaGu-157-H2	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	building	Unknown
BaGu-183	Yonge Green Lane Site 2	Post-Contact	Unknown	farmstead	Further CHVI
BaGu-184	Yonge Green Lane Site 1	Post-Contact	Unknown	homestead	Further CHVI

1.3.3.2 Archaeological Sites Registered within 300 m of Subject Property

BaGu-142, the Lount Site, is located 65 m from the subject property. The site was first documented in 2008 by Archeoworks Inc. (“Archeoworks”) as a 20 m by 30 m scatter with 12 Euro-Canadian artifacts related to a homestead occupation dating to between 1850 and 1880 (Archeoworks, 2008). The site was recommended for Stage 3 site-specific excavation.

BaGu-152, the Lount Site, is located 65 m from the subject property. Stage 3 and subsequent Stage 4 salvage excavations were carried out in 2009 by Archeoworks, who determined that the site represented a homestead dating from the 1830s to the 1850s (Archeoworks, 2009a). As Archeoworks only excavated the southern portion of the site the unexcavated northern portion still retains CHVI.

Based on the location, names, reporting, and general descriptions of the site it appears possible that BaGu-142 and BaGu-152 are actually the same site, but it is unclear why there are two separate site registration numbers for the site in the OASD if this is the case.

BaGu-143, the Willis Site, is located 215 m from the subject property. The site was first documented in 2008 by Archeoworks Inc. (“Archeoworks”) as a 60 m by 50 m scatter with 19



Euro-Canadian artifacts related to a homestead occupation dating to between 1830 and 1850 (Archeoworks, 2008). The site was recommended for Stage 3 site-specific excavation.

BaGu-153, the Willis Site is located 215 m from the subject property. Stage 3 and subsequent Stage 4 salvage excavations were carried out in 2009 by Archeoworks, who determined that the site represented a homestead dating from the 1850s to the 1880s (Archeoworks, 2009b). The site has been fully excavated and no longer retains CHVI (MHSTCI, 2022a).

Based on the location, names, reporting, and general descriptions of the site it appears possible that BaGu-143 and BaGu-153 are actually the same site, but it is unclear why there are two separate site registration numbers for the site in the OASD if this is the case.

BaGu-184, Yonge Green Lane Site 1, is located 235 m from the subject property. This Land Archaeology Inc. (“TLA”) first documented the site during a Stage 1 & 2 assessment. 149 Euro-Canadian artifacts were recovered from 21 surface findspots. TLA interpreted the site as a mid to late 19th century Euro-Canadian homestead (TLA, 2015). Stage 3 assessment was recommended.

1.3.3.3 Previous Archaeological Reports

A review of archaeological reports within the *Public Register of Archaeological Reports* indicated that no archaeological reports detailing previous archaeological fieldwork within the subject property. However, three reports documenting fieldwork within 50 m of the subject property have been filed with the MHSTCI at the time this report was written (MHSTCI, 2022b). Figure 5 shows the location of these assessments in relation to the current subject property. One additional report related to the nearby assessments is also discussed below.

Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment of Proposed Development Area, Part of Lots 103 and 102, Concession 1 East of Yonge Street, Town of East Gwillimbury, R.M of York. Archeoworks, 2008. PIF P029-573-2008.

Archeoworks conducted a Stage 1 & 2 assessment for a proposed development located 40 m to the east of the subject property, on lands east of Yonge Street. Two Euro-Canadian sites were registered as a result of this assessment, BaGu-142 and BaGu-143. Both sites were recommended for Stage 3 excavation (Archeoworks, 2008).

Stage 3 Archaeological Assessment (AA) and Stage 4 Mitigation Report: Lount Site (H2: BaGu-152) Part of Lot 102 Concession 1 East of Yonge St., Town of East Gwillimbury, Regional Municipality of York, Ontario. Archeoworks, 2009. PIF P029-613-2009 (Stage 3) and P029-645-2009 (Stage 4).

Archeoworks conducted Stage 3 and 4 assessments of the Lount Site, BaGu-152 in 2009. Archeoworks concluded that the site was a Euro-Canadian homestead dating from the 1830s to the 1850s (Archeoworks, 2009a). Archeoworks excavated the portion of the site within their study area, and recommended Stage 4 for the portion of the site beyond their study area that remained unexcavated (Archeoworks, 2009a).

Stage 3 Archaeological Assessment (AA) and Stage 4 Mitigation Report: Willis Site (H1: BaGu-153) Part of Lot 102 Concession 1 East of Yonge St., Town of East Gwillimbury, Regional Municipality of York, Ontario. Archeoworks, 2009. PIF P029-612-2009 (Stage 3) and P029-644-2009 (Stage 4).

While the site is not located within 50 m of the current subject property, Archeoworks overall development area is situated directly east of Yonge Street, and the site is located within 300 m of the current subject property, therefore this report warrants discussion here. Archeoworks conducted Stage 3 and 4 assessments of the Willis Site, BaGu-153 in 2009. Archeoworks concluded that the site was a Euro-Canadian homestead dating from the 1850s to the 1880s (Archeoworks, 2009a). Archeoworks excavated the entire site and recommended no additional fieldwork for BaGu-153 (Archeoworks, 2009b).

Report on the Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment of Yonge Green Lane Limited Partnership's Land, Part of Lots 101 & 102 Concession 1 WYS, Town of East Gwillimbury, Regional Municipality of York, Ontario. This Land Archaeology Inc., March 10, 2015. PIF P059-0617-2014.

This Land Archaeology Inc. ("TLA") conducted a Stage 1 & 2 archaeological assessment on lands directly to the south of the current subject property. Two Euro-Canadian sites were registered as a result of this assessment, BaGu-184 and BaGu-183. Both sites were recommended for Stage 3 excavation (TLA, 2015).

1.3.4 Potential for Archaeological Resources

Archaeological potential is defined as the likelihood of finding archaeological sites within a subject area. For planning purposes, determining archaeological potential provides a preliminary indication that significant sites might be found within the subject area, and consequently, that it may be necessary to allocate time and resources for archaeological survey and mitigation.

The framework for assigning levels of potential archaeological significance is drawn from provincial guidelines found in the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (MHSTCI, 2011: Sections 1.3.1 and 1.3.2). The following are features or characteristics that can indicate archaeological potential:

- previously identified archaeological sites
- water sources (It is important to distinguish types of water and shoreline, and to distinguish natural from artificial water sources, as these features affect site locations and types to varying degrees.).
 - primary water sources (e.g., lakes, rivers, streams, creeks)
 - secondary water sources (e.g., intermittent streams and creeks, springs, marshes, swamps)

- features indicating past water sources (e.g., glacial lake shorelines indicated by the presence of raised sand or gravel beach ridges, relic river or stream channels indicated by clear dip or swale in the topography, shorelines of drained lakes or marshes, cobble beaches)
 - accessible or inaccessible shoreline (e.g., high bluffs, swamp or marsh fields by the edge of a lake, sandbars stretching into marsh)
- elevated topography (e.g., eskers, drumlins, large knolls, plateaus)
- pockets of well-drained sandy soil, especially near areas of heavy soil or rocky ground
- distinctive land formation that might have been special or spiritual places, such as waterfalls, rock outcrops, caverns, mounds, and promontories and their bases. There may be physical indicators of their use, such as burials, structures, offerings, rock paintings or carvings.
- resource areas, including:
 - food or medicinal plants (e.g., migratory routes, spawning areas, prairie)
 - scarce raw materials (e.g., quartz, copper, ochre or outcrops of chert)
 - early Euro-Canadian industry (e.g., fur trade, logging, prospecting, mining)
- areas of early Euro-Canadian settlement. These include places of early military or pioneer settlement (e.g., pioneer homesteads, isolated cabins, farmstead complexes), early wharf or dock complexes, pioneer churches and cemeteries. There may be commemorative markers of their history, such as local provincial, or federal monuments or heritage parks
- early historical transportation routes (e.g., trails, passes, roads, railways, portages)
- property listed on a municipal register or designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act* or that is in a federal, provincial, or municipal historic landmark site
- property that local histories or informants have identified with possible archaeological sites, historical events, activities, or occupations

Archaeological potential can be determined not to be present for either the entire property or parts 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

- sewage and infrastructure development
- activities such as agricultural cultivation, gardening, minor grading, and landscaping do not necessarily affect archaeological potential.

Several factors can be used to assess the potential for recovery of Euro-Canadian archaeological resources on a property. Much of the subject area is comprised of well drained, fertile land that is suitable for human habitation. There is a historic transportation route, Yonge Street, located directly east of the subject property. Historical atlas mapping indicates a farmstead and orchard within the subject property (Figure 3, Miles & CO., 1878. There are ten registered Euro-Canadian sites located within 1 km of the subject area, five of which are within 300 m (Table 2).

Several factors can be used to assess the potential for recovery of Indigenous archaeological resources on a property. Much of the subject area is comprised of well-drained, fertile land that is suitable for human habitation. A tributary of Holland River transects the subject property. There are three registered Indigenous sites located within 1 km of the subject area (Table 2).

Given the above, background archival research indicates that all previously undisturbed portions of the subject property exhibit general archaeological potential for the discovery of Indigenous and Euro-Canadian archaeological resources, therefore, a Stage 2 archaeological assessment is required.

Areas that have been disturbed by modern activities, both extensive and intensive, have low potential for the recovery of archaeological resources. The subject property has a long gravel drive, with a farmstead and several associated outbuildings of various sizes that have been subject to previous disturbance.

Areas that are low-lying and permanently wet exhibit low potential for the recovery of archaeological resources. A tributary of Holland River cuts across the western portion of the subject property.

2.0 FIELD METHODS

A Stage 1 visual inspection and Stage 2 property assessment was conducted concurrently between May 26th and May 30th, 2022, with advance permission to enter the subject property obtained from the Proponent. Weather conditions during the assessment were excellent, with mainly sunny skies and a maximum daily temperature of 24 degrees Celsius. There were no weather, ground, or lighting conditions detrimental to the recovery of artifacts. As such, it is confirmed that the assessment met Section 2.1 Standard 3 of the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* regarding weather and lighting. The entirety of the subject property was assessed. Results of the Stage 1 and 2 assessments are shown on Figures 6 & 7 and in Sections 8 & 9.

The subject area measures 28.17 ha. The assessment began with an on-site property inspection to gain first-hand knowledge of the geography, topography, and current condition of the property. The entirety of the property was accessible and was inspected. Appropriate photographic documentation was taken during the visual inspection. Coverage of the property was sufficient to identify the presence or absence of features of archaeological potential, meeting the requirements of Section 1.2 Standard 1 of the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*.

Based on the visual property inspection and background research, 0.07 ha (0.3%) of the subject property is composed of low-lying and permanently wet areas - a tributary of Holland River that transects the subject property. 0.56 ha (2.0%) of the subject property has been previously disturbed – including a farmstead, with outbuildings and gravel lanes. The permanently wet and disturbed areas do not retain archaeological potential and do not require further Stage 2 assessment. The remaining 27.54 ha (97.7%) of the subject property retains archaeological potential and requires Stage 2 assessment (Figure 6).

22.51 ha (79.9%) of the subject property consists of agricultural field that was assessed by means of pedestrian survey at 5 m intervals. The fields had been recently ploughed, with direction provided to the contractor undertaking the ploughing that the ploughing should be deep enough to provide total topsoil exposure, but not deeper than previous ploughing. The ploughed lands were weathered by several light rains to improve the visibility of archaeological resources. At least 80% of the ground surface was visible, meeting conditions for field visibility.

The remainder of the subject property, 5.03 ha (17.8%), of the subject property consists of woodlot and overgrown lawn with mature trees and could not be ploughed, meeting the requirements of Section 2.1.2 1e of the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*, that ploughing or cultivation is not viable. Therefore, a Stage 2 archaeological assessment in the form of a test pit survey at 5 m intervals was conducted in the wooded and lawn areas. All test pits were excavated by hand and were a minimum 30 cm in diameter. Each pit was dug into the first 5 cm of subsoil. All pits were examined for stratigraphy, cultural features, or evidence of fill. Test pitting was conducted to within 1 m of all disturbances. All soils were screened



through wire mesh with an aperture of 6 millimetres to facilitate artifact recovery. Appropriate photographic documentation was taken, and all test pits were backfilled upon completion.



3.0 RECORD OF FINDS

3.1 Soils

Topsoil within the test pits ranged from 15 to 35 cm in depth and consisted of dark brown sandy loam topsoil above light brown sandy loam to clay loam subsoil. Images of test pit stratigraphy are shown in Section 9.

3.2 Artifacts

No artifacts or other archaeological resources were recovered during the Stage 1 & 2 assessment.

3.3 Documentary Record

All fieldwork-related activities were documented and kept, including field notes and observations and detailed maps. Appropriate photographic records were kept of the excavation, and all pictures were recorded in a photo log.

A detailed list of field records is presented in Table 3. All digital items have been duplicated and all paper items have been scanned and stored as digital documents. All items are housed in the corporate offices of ACC.

Under Section 6 of Regulation 881 of the Ontario Heritage Act, ACC will keep in safekeeping all objects of archaeological significance that are found under the authority of the license and all field records that are made in the course of the work authorized by the license, except where the objects and records are donated to Her Majesty the Queen in right of Ontario or are directed to be deposited in a public institution under subsection 66 (1) of the Act.

Table 3: Inventory of Documentary and Material Records

PROJECT INFORMATION		
ACC project number	142-12-22	
Licensee	Matthew Muttart	
MHSTCI PIF number	P1208-0088-2022	
DOCUMENT/MATERIAL	NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
field notes& photo logs	2	pages (paper, with digital copies)
maps	1	sketch map of study area
	1	aerial photograph of subject property
photos	10	digital format



4.0 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS

Stage 1 background research indicates that the subject property has general archaeological potential due to proximity of Yonge Street, the presence of a historic farmstead on historical atlas mapping, a water source within the subject property, and the presence of five registered 19th century Euro-Canadian sites within 300 m of the subject property.

A visual property inspection determined that the water source, a tributary of Holland River, had low archaeological potential as it was low-lying and permanently wet. A farmstead, outbuildings, and gravel lane had been previously disturbed and also exhibited low archaeological potential. This farmstead is located in roughly the same location as the structure shown in 1878 historic atlas mapping (see Figure 3).

The remainder of the subject property retained archaeological potential. Agricultural fields were assessed by pedestrian survey at 5 m intervals. Wooded and overgrown lawn areas were assessed by test pit survey at 5 m intervals.

No artifacts or other archaeological resources were identified during the Stage 2 property assessment. According to the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (MHSTCI, 2011), the property has now been completely assessed and does not require any additional fieldwork.

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Subject to acceptance of the results and approval of the recommendations, MHSTCI is requested to deem this report compliant with ministry requirements for archaeological fieldwork and reporting and to issue a letter accepting this report into the *Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports*.

The following recommendations are provided for consideration by the Proponent and by the Ontario Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries:

1. No artifacts or other archaeological resources were identified during the Stage 1 & 2 archaeological assessment. The subject property has now been fully assessed according to the Ontario Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries' 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*. No further archaeological assessment of the property is required.



6.0 ADVICE ON COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION

The following advice on compliance with current legislation is provided for consideration:

- a. This report is submitted to the Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries as a condition of licensing in accordance with Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 2005, c O.18. The report is reviewed to ensure that it complies with the standards and guidelines that are issued by the Minister, and that the archaeological fieldwork and report recommendations ensure the conservation, protection, and preservation of the cultural heritage of Ontario. When all matters relating to archaeological sites within the project area of a development proposal have been addressed to the satisfaction of the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries, a letter will be issued by the ministry stating that there are no further concerns with regard to alterations to archaeological sites by the proposed development.
- b. It is an offence under Sections 48 and 69 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* for any party other than a licensed archaeologist to make any alteration to a known archaeological site or to remove any artifact or other physical evidence of past human use or activity from the site, until such 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*.
- c. Should previously undocumented archaeological resources be discovered, they may be a new archaeological site and therefore subject to Section 48 (1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. The proponent or person discovering the archaeological resources must cease alteration of the site immediately and engage a licensed consultant archaeologist to carry out archaeological fieldwork, in compliance with Section 48 (1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
- d. The *Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act*, 2002, S.O. 2002, c.33 requires that any person discovering human remains must notify the local police or coroner and the Registrar of Cemeteries at the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services.



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8.0 STAGE 1 IMAGES



Image 1: Ploughed portion of subject property.
From northeast corner, facing southwest.



Image 2: Gravel laneway and surrounding greenspace. Facing northeast.



Image 3: Ploughed portion of subject property.
From east of tributary, facing northeast.



Image 4: Tributary and surrounding greenspace. Facing northeast.



Image 5: Ploughed portion of subject property.
From northwest corner, facing southeast.



Image 6: Ploughed portion of subject property
west of tributary, facing northwest.



Image 7: View of existing house. Facing southwest.



Image 8: Outbuildings and gravel lane. Facing northeast.



9.0 STAGE 2 IMAGES



Image 9: Crew at work conducting test pit assessment at 5 m intervals, near tributary. Facing northwest.



Image 10: Typical test pit near tributary.



Image 11: Crew at work conducting test pit assessment at 5 m intervals, southeastern portion of subject property. Facing northeast.



Image 12: Typical test pit in northern portion of subject property



Image 13: Crew at work conducting field walk assessment at 5 m intervals in eastern ploughed field. Facing southwest.



Image 14: Crew at work conducting field walk assessment at 5 m intervals in western ploughed field. Facing southeast.

10.0 FIGURES



Figure 1: Location of the Subject Property on a 1:50,000 Scale Topographic Map

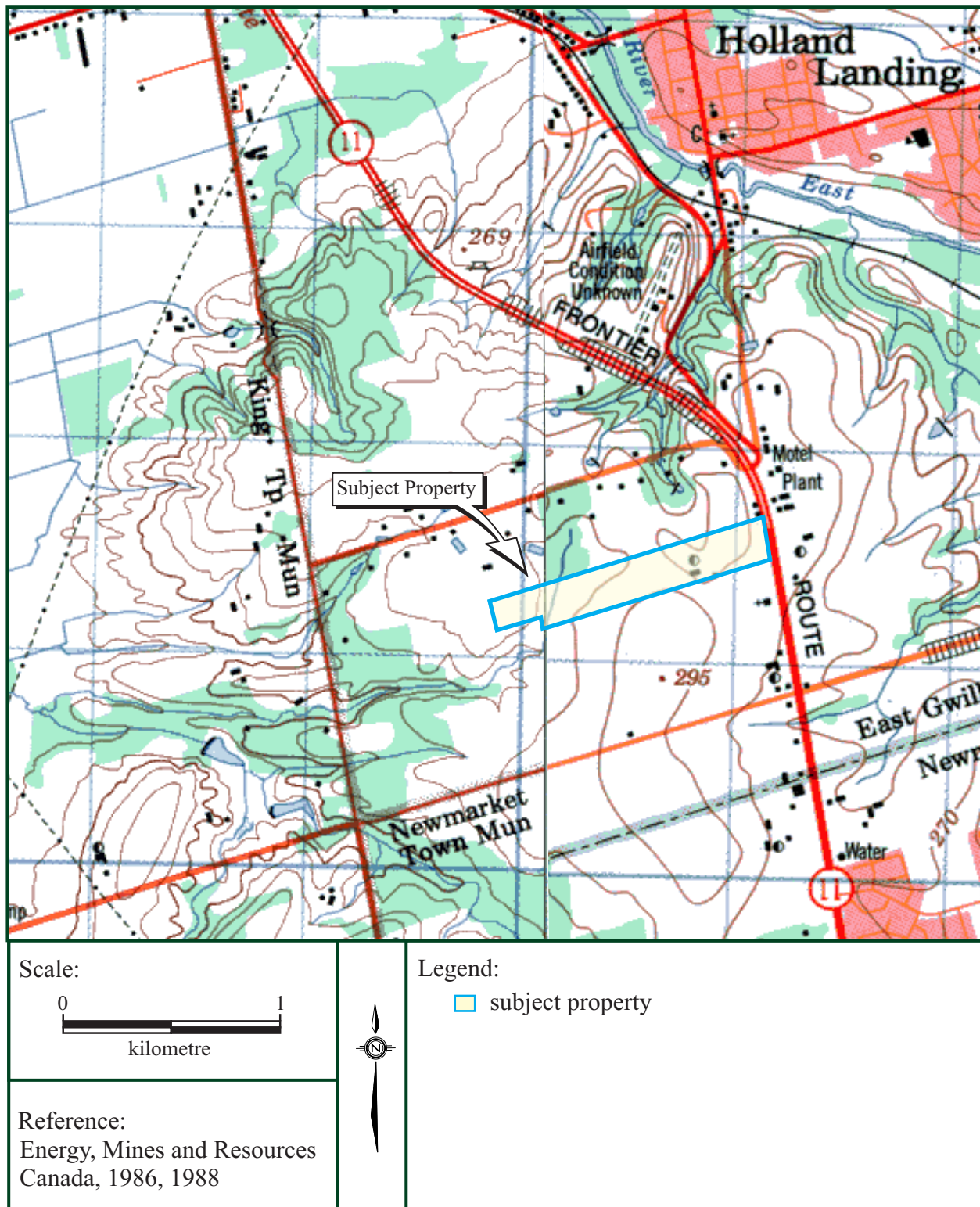


Figure 2: Location of the Subject Property on Tremaine's 1860 Historic Atlas Map of York County

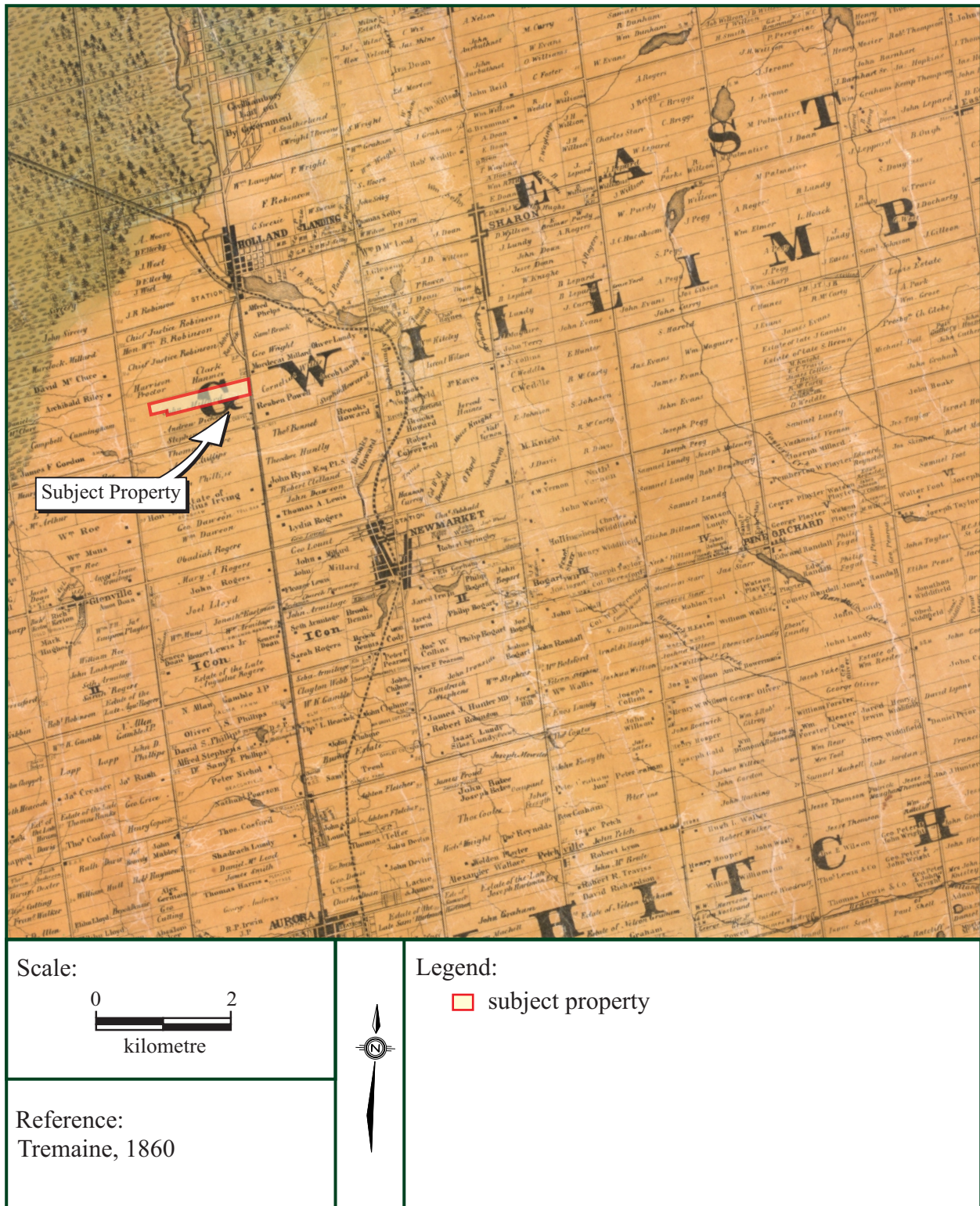
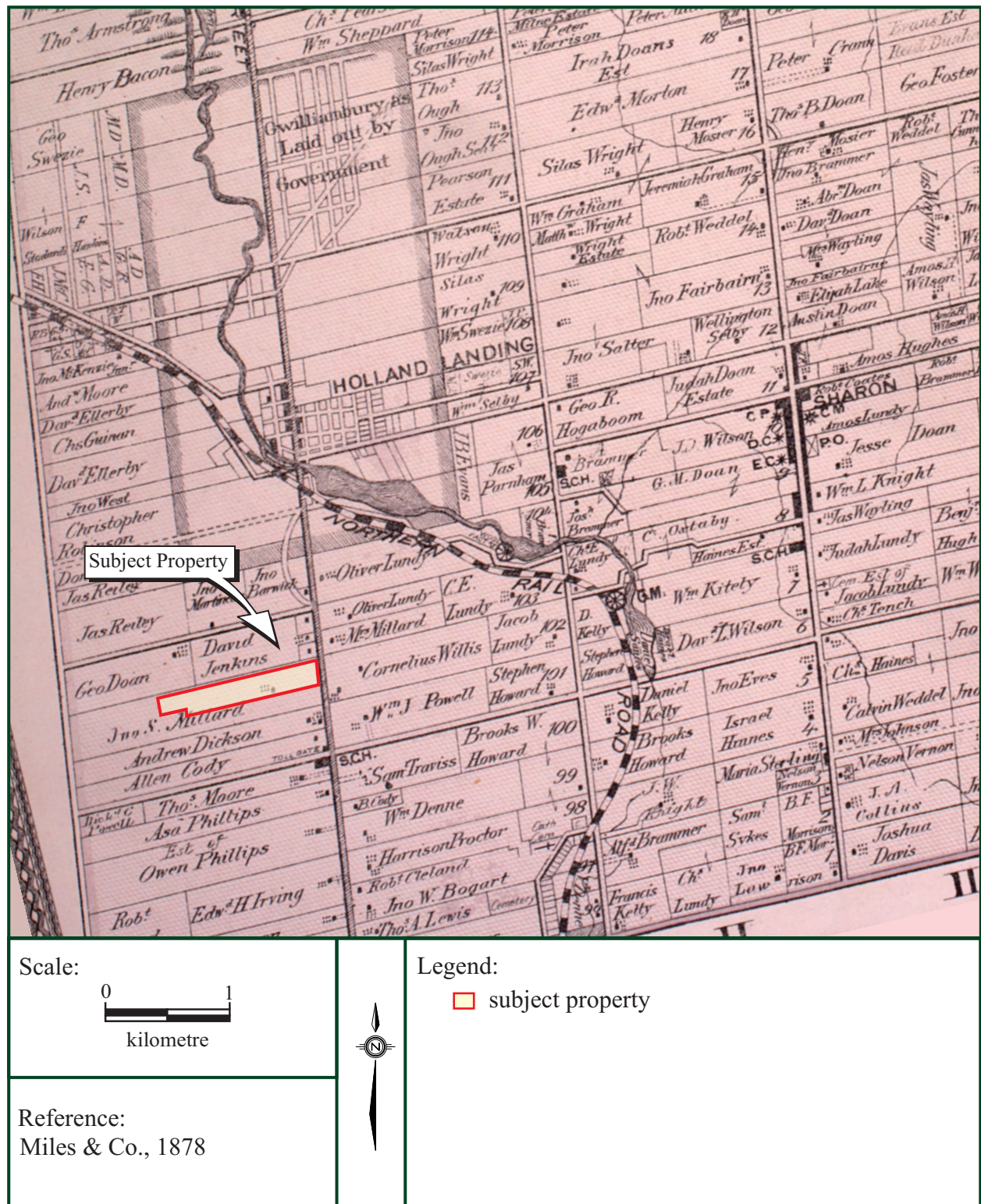


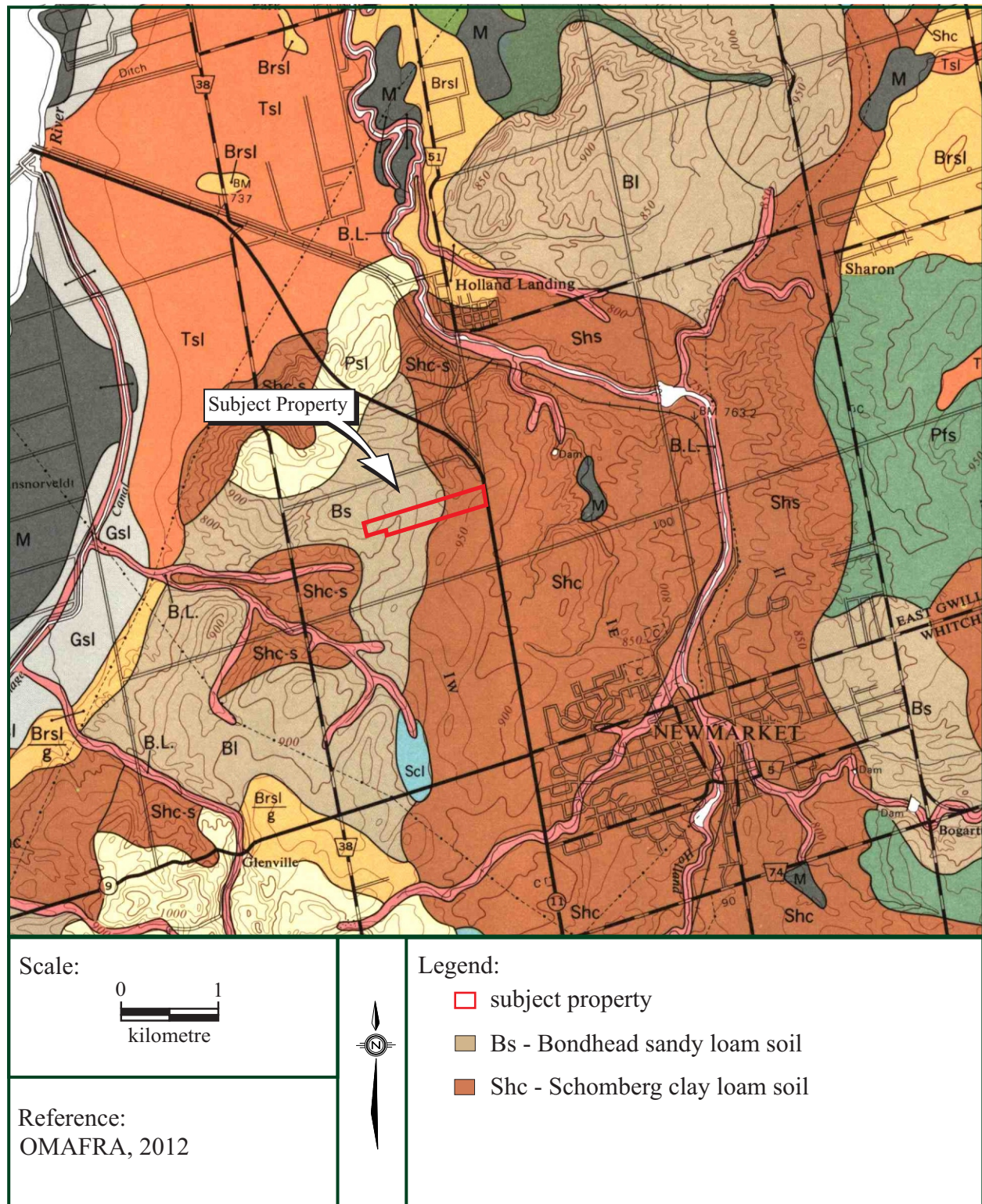
Figure 3: Location of the Subject Property on Miles & Co.'s 1878 Historic Atlas Map of East Gwillimbury Township, York County



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Figure 4: Location of the Subject Property on a Map of York County Soils



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Figure 5: Aerial Image Showing Previous Assessments Conducted within 50 m of the Subject Property

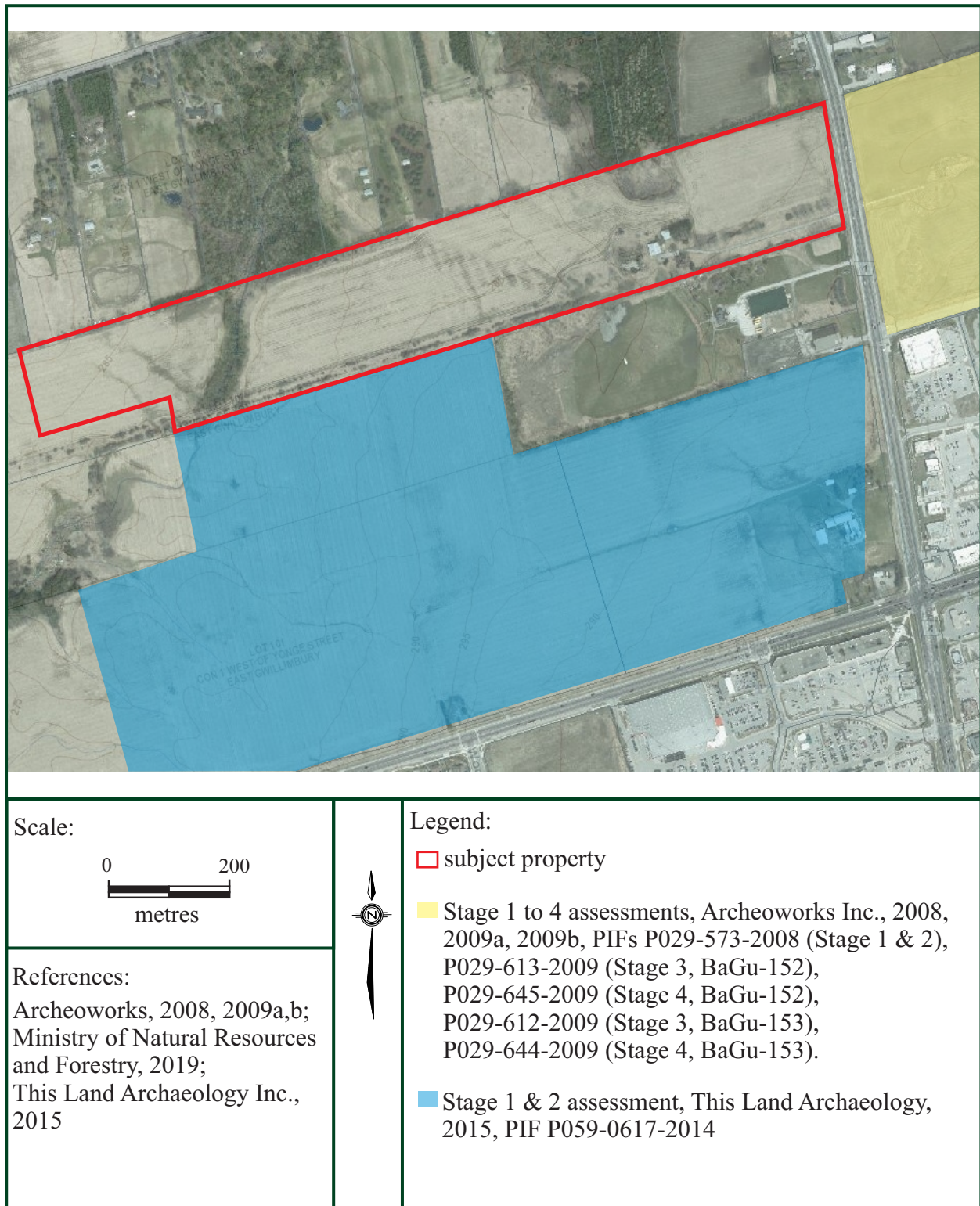


Figure 6: Aerial Image Showing the Results of the Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment, with Image Locations and Directions

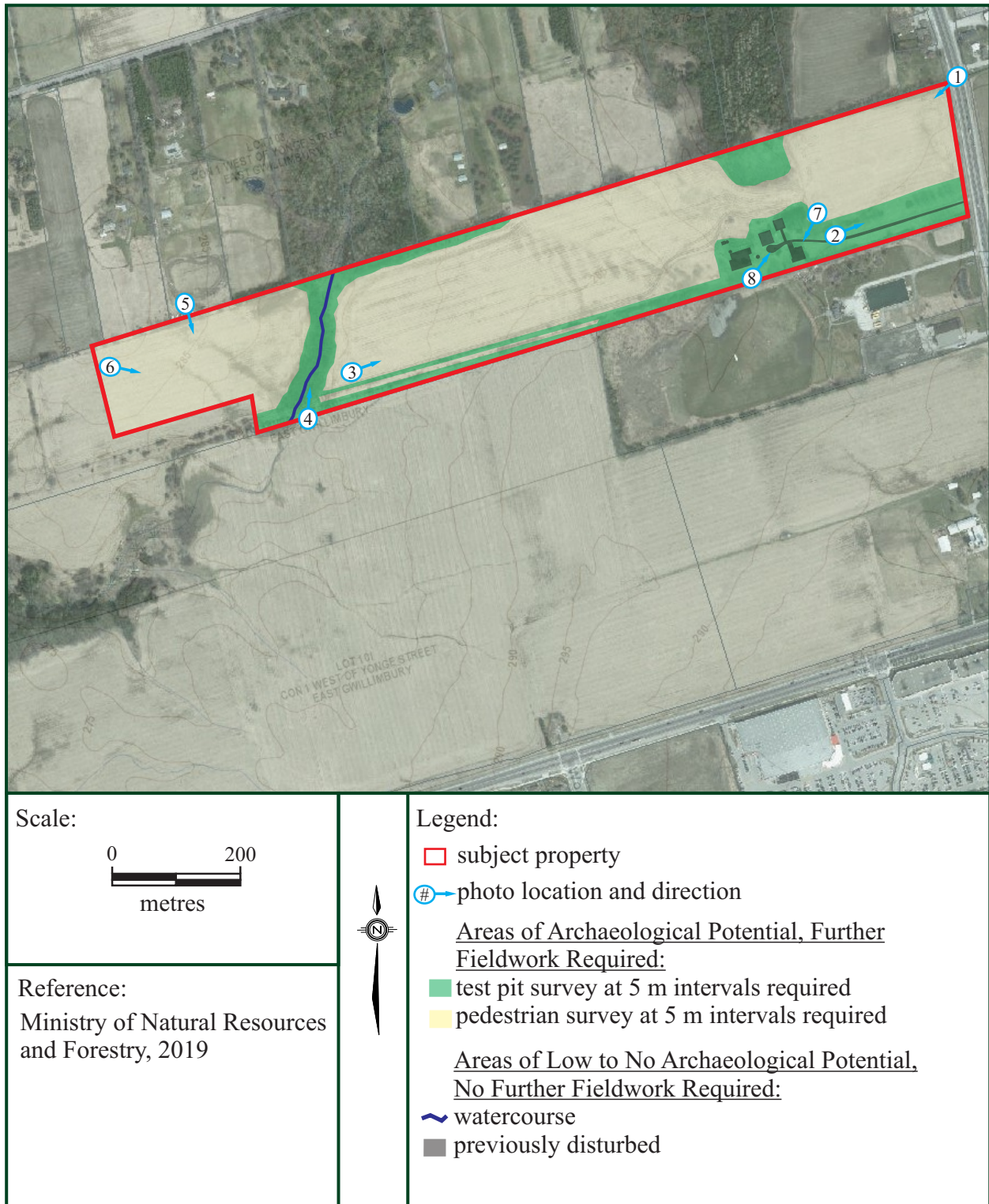


Figure 7: Aerial Image Showing the Results of the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment, with Image Locations and Directions

