



**08 JULY 2022**

**STAGE 1-2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT**

*Victoria Village Development, 150 Toronto Street, 54 & 76 Ross Street and  
61 Wellington Street, Barrie, Part of Lot 23, Concession 5  
(Geographic Township Vespra), City of Barrie, County of Simcoe.  
(AMICK Corporate File #2022-830/MHSTCI File #P058-2193-2022)*

**SUBMITTED TO:**

Ontario Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries  
(MHSTCI)

&

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report describes the results of the 2022 Stage 1-2 Archaeological Property Assessment of 150 Toronto Street, 54 & 76 Ross Street and 61 Wellington Street, Barrie; part of Lot 23, Concession 5 (Vespra), Simcoe County, conducted by AMICK Consultants Limited. This assessment was undertaken as a requirement under the Planning Act (RSO 1990) and was conducted under Professional Archaeologist License #P058 issued to Michael Henry by the Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI) for the Province of Ontario. All work was conducted in conformity with Ontario Ministry of Tourism and Culture (MTC) Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (MTC 2011) and the Ontario Heritage Act (RSO 1990a).

The entirety of the study area is approximately 2.7 hectares (ha) in area and includes within it an apartment complex with associated paved driveways and parking lots. The study area also includes areas of lawn surrounding the complex, and a small wooded area in the northeast section. The study area is bounded on the north by Wellington Street, on the east by Toronto Street, on the south by Ross Street and on the west by existing commercial development. 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 MHSTCI (2011) for determining archaeological potential, portions of the study area were determined as having archaeological potential for Pre-contact and/or Post-contact archaeological resources. Consequently, this report is being prepared in advance of the planning process for this property.

The entirety of the study 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 by test pit survey at a ten-metre interval to confirm disturbance on 29 June 2022. All records, documentation, field notes, photographs, and artifacts (as applicable) related to the conduct and findings of these investigations are held at the Lakelands District corporate offices of AMICK Consultants Limited until such time that they can be transferred to an agency or institution approved by the MHSTCI on behalf of the government and citizens of Ontario.

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

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

## 1.0 PROJECT CONTEXT

### 1.1 DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT

This report describes the results of the 2022 Stage 1-2 Archaeological Property Assessment of 150 Toronto Street, 54 & 76 Ross Street and 61 Wellington Street, Barrie; part of Lot 23, Concession 5 (Vespra), Simcoe County, conducted by AMICK Consultants Limited. This assessment was undertaken as a requirement under the Planning Act (RSO 1990) and was conducted under Professional Archaeologist License #P058 issued to Michael Henry by the Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI) for the Province of Ontario. All work was conducted in conformity with Ontario Ministry of Tourism and Culture (MTC) Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (MTC 2011) and the Ontario Heritage Act (RSO 1990a).

The entirety of the study area is approximately 2.7 hectares (ha) in area and includes within it an apartment complex with associated paved driveways and parking lots. The study area also includes areas of lawn surrounding the complex, and a small wooded area in the northeast section. The study area is bounded on the north by Wellington Street, on the east by Toronto Street, on the south by Ross Street and on the west by existing commercial development. 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 MHSTCI (2011) for determining archaeological potential, portions of the study area were determined as having archaeological potential for Pre-contact and/or Post-contact archaeological resources. Consequently, this report is being prepared in advance of the planning process for this property.

The entirety of the study 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 by test pit survey at a ten-metre interval to confirm disturbance on 29 June 2022. All records, documentation, field notes, photographs, and artifacts (as applicable) related to the conduct and findings of these investigations are held at the Lakelands District corporate offices of AMICK Consultants Limited until such time that they can be transferred to an agency or institution approved by the MHSTCI on behalf of the government and citizens of Ontario.

The proposed development of the study area includes an addition to the existing apartment complex with associated parking and rooftop greenspaces. A preliminary plan of the proposed development has been submitted together with this report to MHSTCI for review and reproduced within this report as Map 4.

### 1.2 HISTORICAL CONTEXT

**1.2.1 PRE-CONTACT LAND-USE OUTLINE**

Table 1 illustrates the chronological development of cultures within southern Ontario prior to the arrival of European cultures to the area at the beginning of the 17<sup>th</sup> century. This general cultural outline is based on archaeological data and represents a synthesis and summary of research over a long period of time. It is necessarily generalizing and is not necessarily representative of the point of view of all researchers or stakeholders. It is offered here as a rough guideline and as a very broad outline to illustrate the relationships of broad cultural groups and time periods.

**TABLE 1 PRE-CONTACT CULTURAL CHRONOLOGY FOR SOUTHERN ONTARIO**

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

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

**1.2.1.1 PALEO-INDIAN PERIOD (APPROXIMATELY 9000-7500 B.C.)**

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

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

By about 8000 B.C. the gradual transition from a post glacial tundra-like environment to an essentially modern environment was largely complete. Prior to European clearance of the landscape for timber and cultivation, the area was characterized by forest. The Archaic Period is the longest and the most apparently stable of the cultural periods identified through archaeology. The Archaic Period is divided into the Early, Middle and Late Sub-Periods, each represented by specific styles in projectile point manufacture. Many more sites of this

period are found throughout Ontario, than of the Palaeo-Indian Period. This is probably a reflection of two factors: the longer period of time reflected in these sites, and a greater population density. The greater population was likely the result of a more diversified subsistence strategy carried out in an environment offering a greater variety of abundant resources (Smith 2002:58-59).

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

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

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

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

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

The Middle Woodland Sub-Period dates from about 400 B.C.-800 A.D. Within the region including the study area, a complex emerged at this time termed "Point Peninsula." Point Peninsula pottery reflects a greater sophistication in pottery manufacture compared with the

earlier industry. The paste and temper of the new pottery is finer and new decorative techniques such as dentate and pseudo-scallop stamping appear. There is a noted Hopewellian influence in southern Ontario populations at this time. Hopewell influences from south of the Great Lakes include a widespread trade in exotic materials and the presence of distinct Hopewell style artifacts such as platform pipes, copper or silver panpipe covers and shark's teeth. The populations of the Middle Woodland participated in a trade network that extended well beyond the Great Lakes Region.

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

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

The Early Ontario Iroquoian stage dates to approximately 950-1050 A.D. This stage marks the beginning of a cultural development that led to the historically documented Ontario Iroquoian groups that were first contacted by Europeans during the early 1600s (Petun, Neutral, and Huron). At this stage formal semi-sedentary villages emerge. The Early stage of this cultural development is divided into two cultural groups in southern Ontario. The areas occupied by each being roughly divided by the Niagara Escarpment. To the west were located the Glen Meyer populations, and to the east were situated the Pickering people (Smith 2002: 67).

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

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

### *1.2.2 POST-CONTACT LAND USE OUTLINE*

In the seventeenth century Simcoe County was home to the Huron. With the arrival of French priests and Jesuits, missions were established near Georgian Bay. After the destruction of the missions by the Iroquois and the British, Algonquin speaking peoples occupied the area.

After the war of 1812, the government began to invest in the military defences of Upper Canada, through the extension of Simcoe's Yonge Street from Lake Simcoe to Penetanguishene on Georgian Bay. Most early Euro-Canadian settlers came from the British Isles, and some former soldiers were given free land grants, such as the Roman Catholic Irish in Adjala, but the majority were individual settlers. (Garbutt 2010).

Three First Nations trails known as the Rouge Trail, Don Trail and Humber Trail began on the shore of Lake Ontario in the Toronto area and terminated on the two branches of the Holland River (Myers 1977: 2). These trails form part of a long established trade and communications network that linked the upper and lower Great Lakes. The route followed the Holland River into the southern end of Lake Simcoe. Also, the route followed the western shore of Lake Simcoe northward to Kempenfelt Bay, and then westward to the end of the bay. A portage was then undertaken to the Nottawasaga River and this river was followed into Georgian Bay at the present location of the Town of Wasaga Beach. This network of trade and communication had been long established by the time Europeans began to operate in the area. The presence of artifacts dating to the Early Archaic Period in close proximity to the upper and lower landings on the Holland River East Branch suggests that the use of this system most likely dates back to at least that period.

In Smith's Canadian Gazetteer (1846), it is said of Barrie that it was first settled in 1832 and had 28 families resident there by 1837. In 1843, the District of Simcoe was created and Barrie named as the seat of the District government. By 1846, the population of Barrie was estimated to be approximately 500 persons of predominantly English, Irish and Scotch origins. Barrie had three churches by 1846: two Methodist and one Episcopal. In addition, an excellent private school had been established, as had a mechanics' institute and a cricket club. The professions of Barrie included one physician, one lawyer, six stores, three tanneries, one surveyor, three taverns, four blacksmiths, one wagon maker, one baker, one saddler, one cabinet maker, one watchmaker, six shoemakers, three tailors, two butchers, and one Bank of Upper Canada branch (Smith 1846: 9).

Map 2 is a facsimile segment from The Historical County Map of Simcoe County (J.T.R Ralph 1871). Map 2 illustrates the location of the study area and environs as of 1871. The study area is not shown to belong to anyone and no structures are shown to be within the study area. However, two settlement roads are shown to be within the study area, but recent maps no longer show the presence of these roads. This map illustrates an unnamed stream channel situated immediately south and southwest of the study area and a settlement road is depicted as adjacent to the study area to the east. This road is the current Toronto Street, and recent maps no longer show the presence of this stream. Accordingly, it has been determined that there is potential for archaeological deposits related to early Post-contact settlement within the study area.

Map 3 is a facsimile segment of the Township of Vespra map reproduced from The Simcoe supplement in Illustrated atlas of the Dominion of Canada. (H. Belden & Co. 1881). Map 3 illustrates the location of the study area and environs as of 1881. The study area is not shown to belong to anyone and no structures are shown to be within the study area. However, a settlement road is shown to be within the study area, but recent maps no longer show the

presence of this road. This map illustrates an unnamed stream channel situated south and southwest of the study area and settlement roads are depicted as adjacent to the study area to the east and south. These roads are the current Toronto Street and Ross Street, and recent maps no longer show the presence of this stream. Accordingly, it has been determined that there is potential for archaeological deposits related to early Post-contact settlement within the study area.

A plan of the study area is included within this report as Map 4. Current conditions encountered during the Stage 1-2 Property Assessment are illustrated in Maps 5 & 6.

### ***1.2.3 SUMMARY OF HISTORICAL CONTEXT***

The brief overview of readily available documentary evidence indicates that the study area is situated within an area that was close to historic transportation routes and in an area well populated during the nineteenth century and therefore has potential for sites relating to early Post-contact settlement in the region. Background research indicates the property has potential for significant archaeological resources of Native origins based on proximity to a natural source of potable water.

## **1.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT**

The study area is located in Barrie, west of the shoreline of Kempenfelt Bay and is bounded on the north by Wellington Street, on the east by Toronto Street, on the south by Ross Street and on the west by existing commercial development.

The study area contains an apartment complex with associated paved driveways and parking lots. The study area also includes areas of lawn surrounding the complex, and a small wooded area in the northeast section. The study area does not contain any ploughable lands.

### ***1.3.1 PHYSIOGRAPHIC REGION***

The study area is situated within the Simcoe Uplands physiographic region. The Simcoe Uplands is described as a series of broad, rolling till plains separated by steep-sided, flat-floored valleys, indicating they were islands in Lake Algonquin. The till is composed of mainly Precambrian rock, the texture of which is a gritty loam that becomes sandier toward the north; more calcareous till occurs near Lake Simcoe and near Midland. Although the dominant soil in the uplands is a sandy loam, smaller areas near the sandy ridges of the Oro Moraine and the Hendrie forest feature extremely pervious soil areas, sometimes with dry depressions many feet in depth. The loose sandy texture of the surface soil is conducive to wind erosion when vegetation has been removed (Chapman and Putnam 1984: 182-183).

### ***1.3.2 SURFACE WATER***

Two sections of an intermittent stream course are located approximately 65 metres west and 135 metres southwest of the study area. This stream course is possibly a remnant of the unnamed stream course that is shown on the Historic Atlas Maps of 1871 & 1891.

### 1.3.3 LITHIC SOURCES

The study area is not located in proximity to any formations or outcroppings of lithic material.

### 1.3.4 REGISTERED ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

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

#### 1.3.4.1 PRE-CONTACT REGISTERED SITES

A summary of registered and/or known archaeological sites within a 1-kilometre radius of the study area was gathered from the Archaeological Sites Database, administered by MHSTCI. As a result, it was determined that two (2) archaeological sites relating directly to Pre-contact habitation/activity had been formally registered within the immediate vicinity of the study area. However, the lack of formally documented archaeological sites does not mean that Pre-contact people did not use the area; it more likely reflects a lack of systematic archaeological research in the immediate vicinity. Even in cases where one or more assessments may have been conducted in close proximity to a proposed landscape alteration, an extensive area of physical archaeological assessment coverage is required throughout the region to produce a representative sample of all potentially available archaeological data in order to provide any meaningful evidence to construct a pattern of land use and settlement in the past. All previously registered Pre-contact sites are briefly described below in Table 2:

**TABLE 2 PRE-CONTACT SITES WITHIN 1KM**

<b>Borden #</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Time Period</b>	<b>Affinity</b>	<b>Site Type</b>
BcGw-22	Sunnidale Park	Late Woodland	Iroquoian	Hamlet
BcGw-21	Cundles Creek 1	Late Woodland	Iroquoian	Hamlet

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

**1.3.4.2 POST-CONTACT REGISTERED SITES**

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

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

<b>Borden #</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Time Period</b>	<b>Affinity</b>	<b>Site Type</b>
BcGw-20	Cundles Creek 2	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	Earthwork

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

**1.3.5 PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENTS**

On the basis of information supplied by MHSTCI, no archaeological assessments have been conducted within 50 metres of the study area. AMICK Consultants Limited assumes no responsibility for the accuracy of previous assessments, interpretations such as cultural affiliation, or location information derived from the Archaeological Sites Database administered by MHSTCI. In addition, it must also be noted that the lack of formerly documented previous assessments does not indicate that no assessments have been conducted.

**1.3.5.2 PREVIOUS REGIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL MODELLING**

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

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### 1.3.6 HISTORIC PLAQUES

There are no relevant plaques associated with the study area, which would suggest an activity or occupation within, or near, the study area that may indicate potential for associated archaeological resources of significant CHVI.

### 1.3.7 SUMMARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

The study area includes within it an apartment complex with associated paved driveways and parking lots. The study area also includes areas of lawn surrounding the complex, and a small wooded area in the northeast section. The study area does not contain any ploughable lands.

Current conditions within the study area indicate that some areas of the property may have no or low archaeological potential and do not require Stage 2 Property Assessment or should be excluded from Stage 2 Property Assessment. These areas would include the footprint of existing structures and areas under pavement. A significant proportion of the study area does exhibit archaeological potential and therefore a Stage 2 Property Assessment is required.

Background research also indicates that the study area is situated in the Simcoe Uplands physiographic region, which is characterized by a series of broad, rolling till plains separated by steep-sided, flat-floored valleys, indicating they were islands in Lake Algonquin. The till is composed of mainly Precambrian rock, the texture of which is a gritty loam that becomes sandier toward the north; more calcareous till occurs near Lake Simcoe and near Midland.

A total of 3 previously registered archaeological sites have been documented within 1km of the study area. Of these, 2 are Pre-contact, 1 is Post-contact. None of these sites are located within 300m of the study area and, therefore, do not demonstrate archaeological potential for further archaeological resources of Pre-contact/Post-contact activity and occupation with respect to the archaeological assessment of the current study area

The study area is situated within an area subject to an archaeological master plan or a similar regional overview study. There are no relevant plaques associated with the study area.

The study area has potential for archaeological resources of Native origins based on proximity to a source of potable water. Background research also suggests potential for archaeological resources of Post-contact origins based on proximity to a historic roadway.

## 2.0 FIELD WORK METHODS AND WEATHER CONDITIONS

### 2.1 INTRODUCTION

A property inspection was carried out in compliance with Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (MTC 2011) to document the existing conditions of the study area to facilitate the Stage 2 Property Assessment. All areas of the study area were visually inspected and select features were photographed as a representative sample of each area

defined within Maps 5 and 6. Observations made of conditions within the study area at the time of the inspection were used to inform the requirement for Stage 2 Property Assessment for portions of the study area as well as to aid in the determination of appropriate Stage 2 Property Assessment strategies. The locations from which photographs were taken and the directions toward which the camera was aimed for each photograph are illustrated in Maps 5 & 6 of this report.

The Stage 2 Assessment of the study area was carried out on 29 June 2022 and consisted of high intensity test pit methodology at a five-metre interval between individual test pits and by test pit survey at a ten-metre interval to confirm disturbance which was conducted in compliance with the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists, section 2.1.2: Test Pit Survey and 2.1.8: Property Survey to Confirm Previous Disturbance (MTC 2011). Weather conditions were appropriate for the necessary fieldwork required to complete the Stage 2 Property Assessment and to create the documentation appropriate to this study.

## **2.2 TEST PIT SURVEY**

Approximately 0.045 ha of the study area was wooded or lawn areas that cannot be strip ploughed and was subjected to test pit survey at 5m intervals per Section 2.1.2, Standard 1 (MTC 2011).

All test pits were excavated within 1m of all built structures, were at least 30cm in diameter and were excavated into the first 5cm of subsoil to examine stratigraphy, cultural features and evidence of fill. All soils were screened through mesh no greater than 6mm and all test pits were backfilled. All work was photo documented.

During the 5m test pit survey, no archaeological resources were encountered.

## **2.3 CONFIRMATION OF DISTURBANCE**

Approximately 0.68 ha of the study area was subject to test pit survey at 10m intervals to confirm disturbance. Areas of suspected disturbance within the study area consists of an area identified as probable disturbance from the construction of the apartment complex and associated features. AMICK Consultants Limited tested the suspected disturbed area at a 10-metre interval to confirm disturbance in a manner consistent with the objectives to ensure that the area is accurately delimited and properly identified. This procedure demonstrated that the entire disturbed portion of the study area consists of gravel and sand fill deposited within a deeply disturbed context. There is no archaeological potential within this area.

Approximately 25% of the study area consisted of lawn area that was test pit surveyed at an interval of 10 metres between individual test pits to confirm disturbance. Approximately 5% of the study area was a wooded area that was test pit surveyed at an interval of 5 metres between individual test pits. Approximately 70% of the study area was not assessable due to the presence of existing structures and paved driveways and parking lots. Maps 5 & 6 of this report illustrate the Stage 2 Assessment methodology within the study area.

## **3.0 RECORD OF FINDS**

### **3.1 INTRODUCTION**

As a result of the Stage 1-2 Assessment of the study area, no archaeological resources of any description were encountered.

The documentation produced during the field investigation conducted in support of this report includes: one sketch map, one page of photo log, one page of field notes, and 34 digital photographs.

## **4.0 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS**

### **4.1 STAGE 1 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS**

#### **4.1.1 CHARACTERISTICS INDICATING ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL**

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

- 1) Within 300m of Previously Identified Archaeological Sites
- 2) Within 300m of Primary Water Sources (e.g., lakes, rivers, streams, and creeks)
- 3) Within 300m of Secondary Water Sources (e.g., intermittent streams and creeks, springs, marshes, and swamps)
- 4) Within 300 m of 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, and cobble beaches)
- 5) Within 300m of an Accessible or Inaccessible Shoreline (e.g., high bluffs, swamp, or marsh fields by the edge of a lake, sandbars stretching into marsh)
- 6) Elevated Topography (e.g., eskers, drumlins, large knolls, and plateaux)
- 7) Pockets of Well-drained Sandy Soil, especially near areas of heavy soil or rocky ground.
- 8) Distinctive Land Formations that might have been special or spiritual places, such as waterfalls, rock outcrops, caverns, mounds, and promontories and their bases. There

- may be physical indicators of their use, such as burials, structures, offerings, rock paintings or carvings.
- 9) Resource Areas, including:
    - food or medicinal plants (e.g., migratory routes, spawning areas, and prairie)
    - scarce raw materials (e.g., quartz, copper, ochre or outcrops of chert)
    - resources of importance to early Post-contact industry (e.g., logging, prospecting, and mining)
  - 10) Within 300m of Areas of Early Post-contact Settlement, including:
    - military or pioneer settlement (e.g., pioneer homesteads, isolated cabins, and farmstead complexes)
    - early wharf or dock complexes, pioneer churches and early cemeteries
  - 11) Within 100m of Early Historical Transportation Routes (e.g., trails, passes, roads, railways, portage routes)
  - 12) Heritage Property – A property listed on a municipal register or designated under the Ontario Heritage Act or is a federal, provincial, or municipal historic landmark or site.
  - 13) Documented Historical or Archaeological Sites – property that local histories or informants have identified with possible archaeological sites, historical events, activities, or occupations. These are properties which have not necessarily been formally recognized or for which there is additional evidence identifying possible archaeological resources associated with historic properties in addition to the rationale for formal recognition.

The study area is situated approximately 65 metres east and 135 metres northeast of two unnamed intermittent watercourses. The study area is situated in the Simcoe Uplands physiographic region. As such the shoreline of glacial Lake Algonquin would have receded within proximity to the study area in the past. The study area is within close proximity to two historical transportation routes. These roads can be seen on the historic atlas maps of 1871 and 1881, and correspond to the modern roads known as Ross Street and Toronto Street.

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

Section 1.3.2 of the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists specifies the property characteristics which indicate no archaeological potential or for which archaeological potential has been removed (MTC 2011). These characteristics include:

- 1) Quarrying
- 2) Major Landscaping Involving Grading Below Topsoil
- 3) Building Footprints

4) Sewage and Infrastructure Development

The study area contains an apartment complex and associated parking areas and driveways.

**4.1.3 SUMMARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL**

Table 4 below summarizes the evaluation criteria of the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI) together with the results of the Stage 1 Background Study for the proposed undertaking. Based on the criteria, the property is deemed to have archaeological potential on the basis of proximity to water and the location of early historic settlement roads adjacent to the study area.

**TABLE 4 EVALUATION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL**

FEATURE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL		YES	N O	N/A	COMMENT
1	Known archaeological sites within 300m		<b>N</b>		If Yes, potential determined
<b>PHYSICAL FEATURES</b>					
2	Is there water on or near the property?	<b>Y</b>			If Yes, what kind of water?
2 a	Primary water source within 300 m. (lakeshore, river, large creek, etc.)		<b>N</b>		If Yes, potential determined
2 b	Secondary water source within 300 m. (stream, spring, marsh, swamp, etc.)	<b>Y</b>			If Yes, potential determined
2 c	Past water source within 300 m. (beach ridge, river bed, relic creek, etc.)	<b>Y</b>			If Yes, potential determined
2 d	Accessible or Inaccessible shoreline within 300 m. (high bluffs, marsh, swamp, sand bar, etc.)		<b>N</b>		If Yes, potential determined
3	Elevated topography (knolls, drumlins, eskers, plateaus, etc.)		<b>N</b>		If Yes, and Yes for any of 4-9, potential determined
4	Pockets of sandy soil in a clay or rocky area		<b>N</b>		If Yes and Yes for any of 3, 5-9, potential determined
5	Distinctive land formations (mounds, caverns, waterfalls, peninsulas, etc.)		<b>N</b>		If Yes and Yes for any of 3-4, 6-9, potential determined
<b>HISTORIC/PREHISTORIC USE FEATURES</b>					
6	Associated with food or scarce resource harvest areas (traditional fishing locations, agricultural/berry extraction areas, etc.)		<b>N</b>		If Yes, and Yes for any of 3-5, 7-9, potential determined.
7	Early Post-contact settlement area within 300 m.		<b>N</b>		If Yes, and Yes for any of 3-6, 8-9, potential determined
8	Historic Transportation route within 100 m. (historic road, trail, portage, rail corridors, etc.)	<b>Y</b>			If Yes, and Yes for any 3-7 or 9, potential determined
9	Contains property designated and/or listed under the Ontario Heritage Act (municipal heritage committee, municipal register, etc.)		<b>N</b>		If Yes and, Yes to any of 3-8, potential determined

APPLICATION-SPECIFIC INFORMATION					
1 0	Local knowledge (local heritage organizations, Pre-contact, etc.)		<b>N</b>		If Yes, potential determined
1 1	Recent disturbance not including agricultural cultivation (post-1960-confirmed extensive and intensive including industrial sites, aggregate areas, etc.)	<b>Y</b>			If Yes, no potential or low potential in affected part (s) of the study area.

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

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

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

## **4.2 STAGE 2 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS**

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

## **5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **5.1 STAGE 1-2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

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

## 6.0 ADVICE ON COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION

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

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

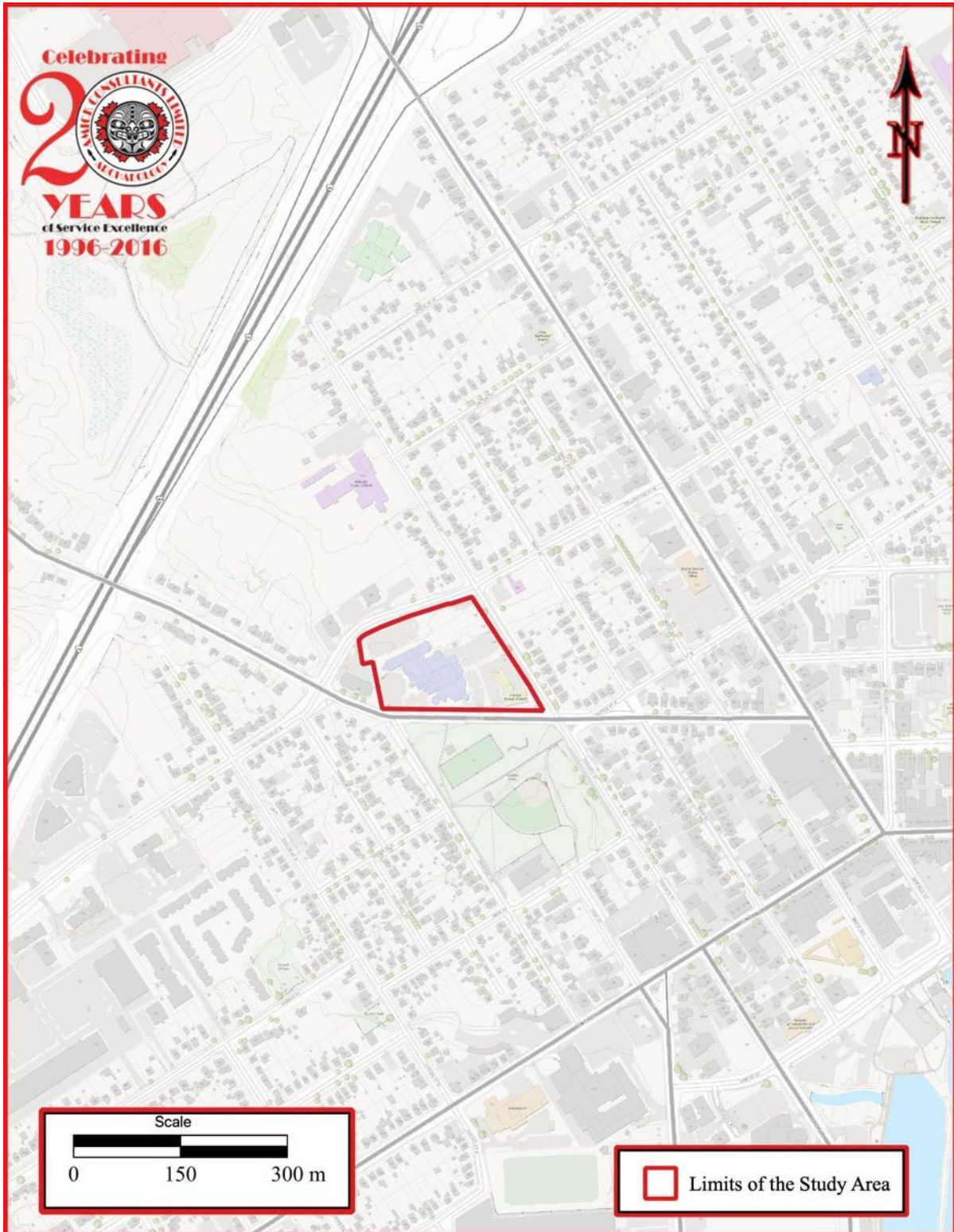
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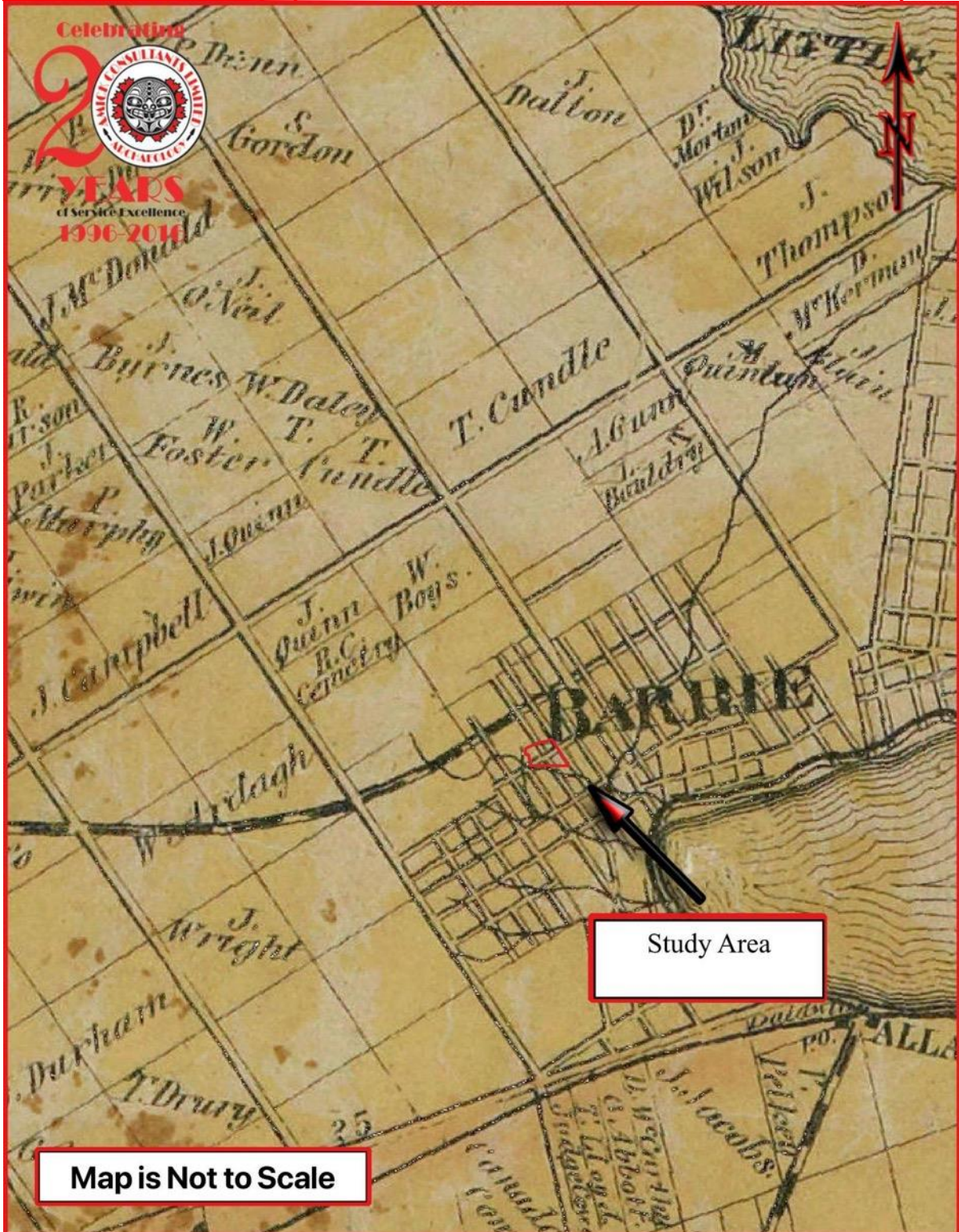
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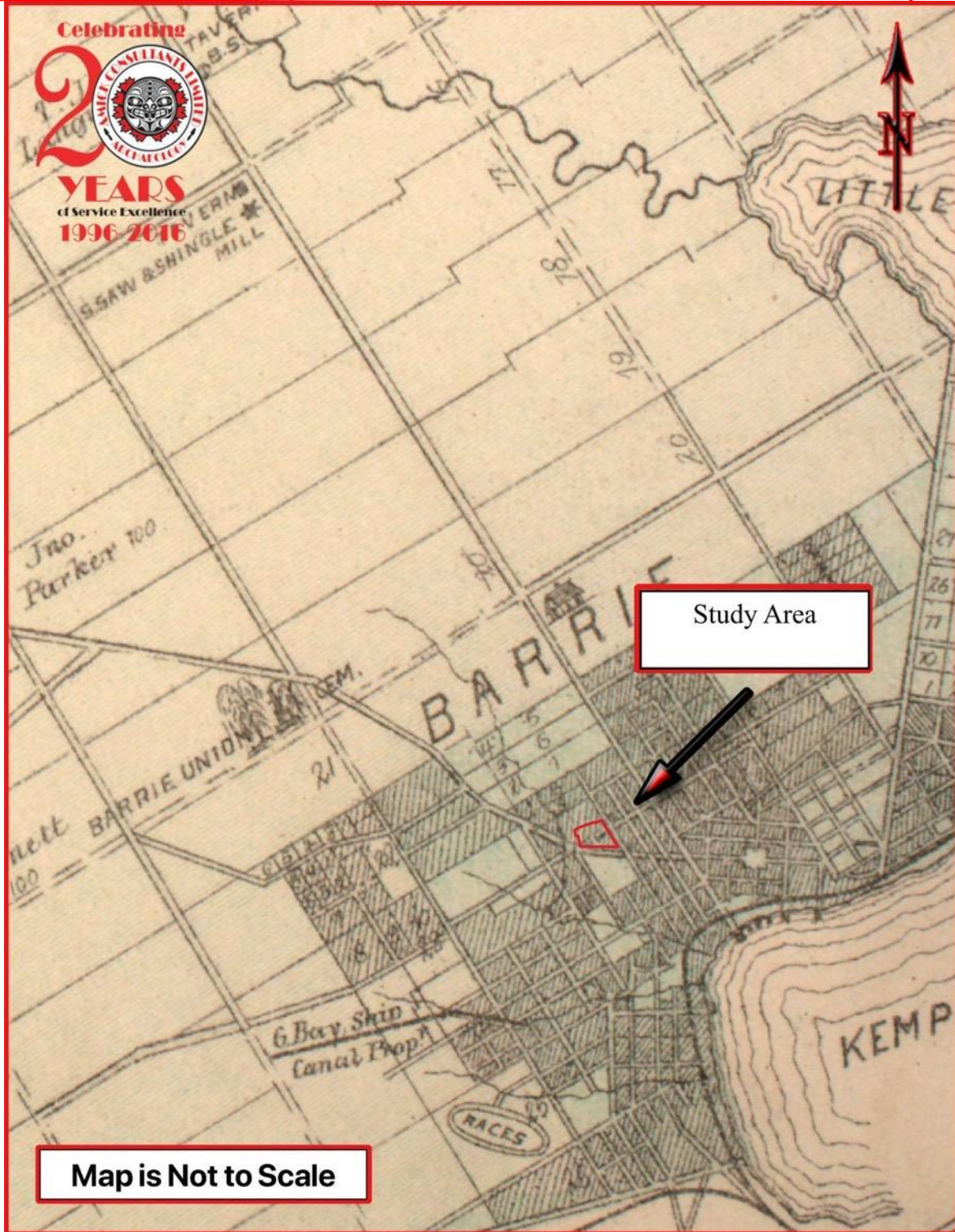
MAPS



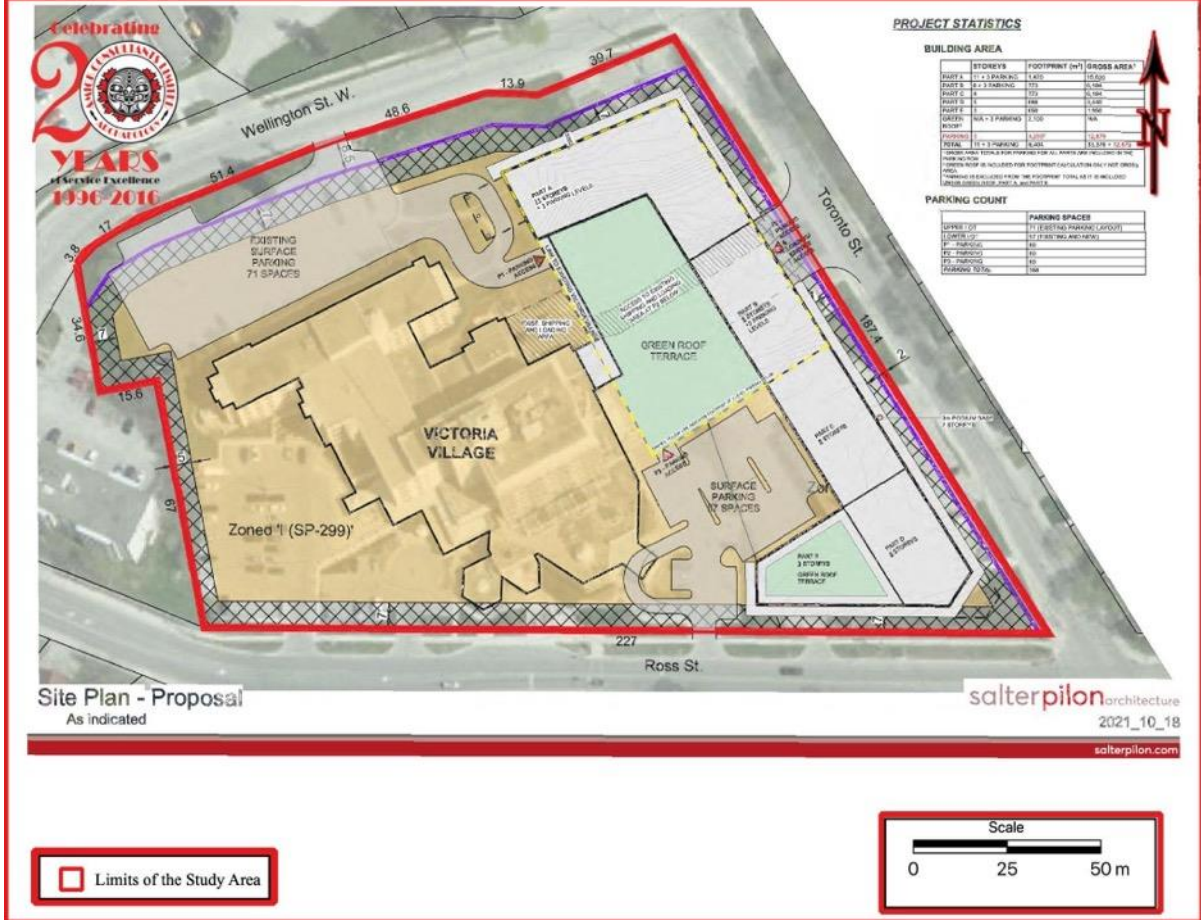
MAP 1 LOCATION OF THE STUDY AREA (ESRI 2019)



MAP 2 FACSIMILE SEGMENT OF THE HISTORICAL COUNTY MAP OF SIMCOE COUNTY  
(J.T.R. RALPH 1871)



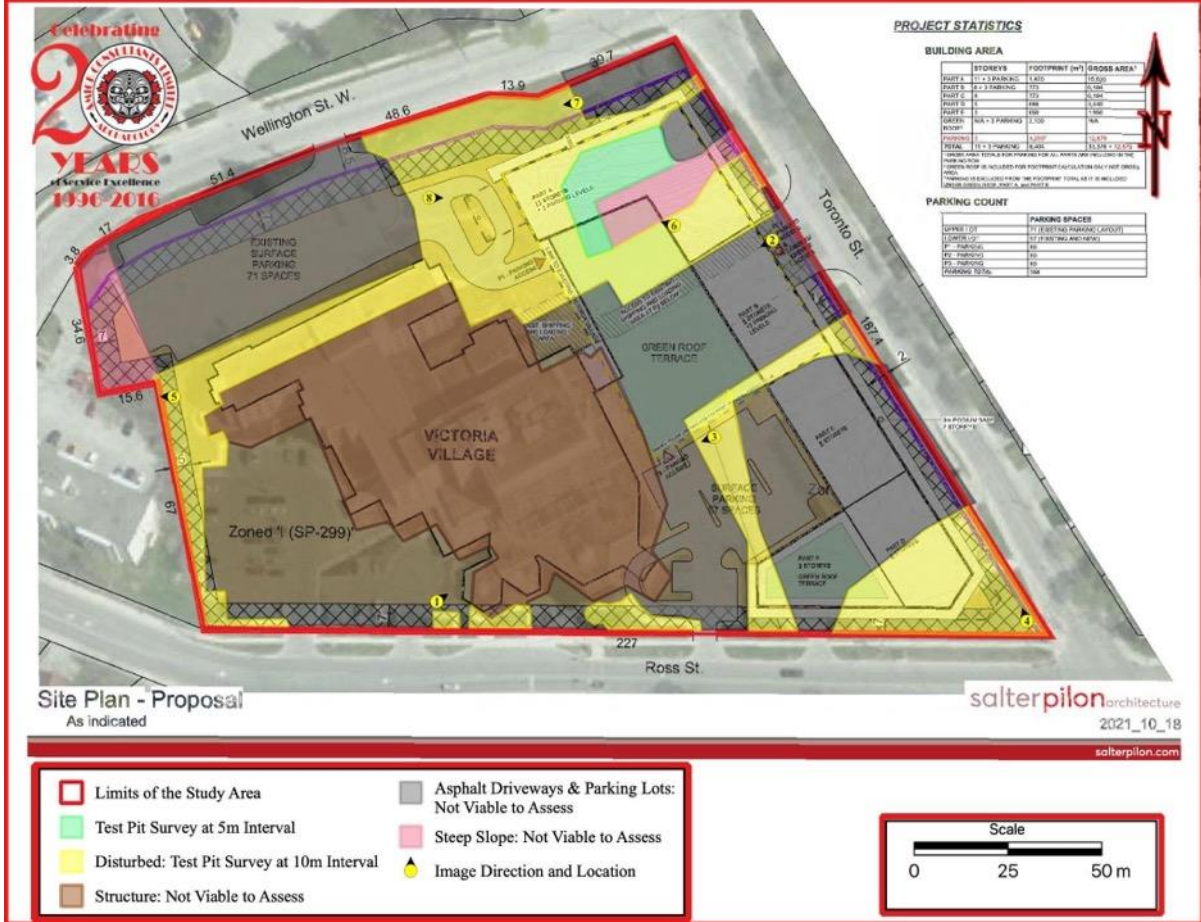
MAP 3 FACSIMILE SEGMENT OF THE HISTORIC ATLAS MAP OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VESPA  
(H. BELDEN & Co. 1881)



MAP 4 SITE PLAN (SALTER PILON ARCHITECTURE 2021)



MAP 5 AERIAL PHOTO OF THE STUDY AREA (GOOGLE EARTH 2016)



MAP 6 DETAILED PLAN OF THE STUDY AREA (AFTER SALTER PILON ARCHITECTURE 2021)

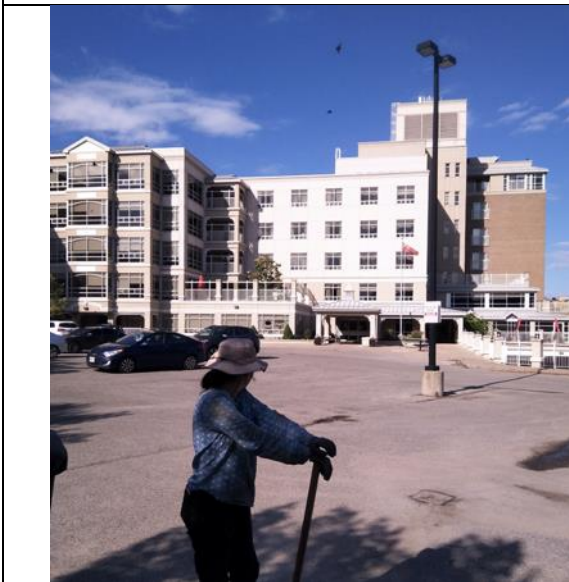
**IMAGES**



**IMAGE 1 APARTMENT COMPLEX**



**IMAGE 2 APARTMENT COMPLEX & PARKING LOTS**



<b>IMAGE 3 APARTMENT COMPLEX &amp; PARKING LOTS</b>	<b>IMAGE 4 TEST PIT SURVEY CONDITIONS &amp; CREW AT WORK</b>
	
<b>IMAGE 5 TEST PIT SURVEY CONDITIONS &amp; CREW AT WORK</b>	<b>IMAGE 6 STEEP SLOPE</b>
	
<b>IMAGE 7 TEST PIT IN PROGRESS: DISTURBANCE ENCOUNTERED</b>	<b>IMAGE 8 TEST PIT IN PROGRESS: DISTURBANCE ENCOUNTERED</b>