

**Stage 1 & 2 Archaeological Assessment for
Part of Lots 19 and 20, Concession 8,
Geographic Township of Whitchurch,
County of York,
Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville**



Prepared by

Licensee: Keith Powers
Archaeological Consulting Licence P052
Project Information Number P052-0693-2016

THE ARCHAEOLOGISTS INC.

Revised Report
REVISED Report Dated: October 2nd, 2017

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Archaeologists Inc. was contracted to conduct a Stage 1 & 2 Archaeological Assessment for Part of Lots 19 and 20, Concession 8, Geographic Township of Whitchurch, County of York, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville. The archaeological assessment was triggered by the Planning Act. This assessment report is required in order to obtain final approval/registration of the draft plan of subdivision.

A Stage 1 background study of the subject property was conducted to provide information about the property's geography, history, previous archaeological fieldwork and current land condition in order to evaluate and document in detail the property's archaeological potential and to recommend appropriate strategies for Stage 2 survey. A Stage 2 property assessment was conducted to document all archaeological resources on the property, to determine whether the property contains archaeological resources requiring further assessment, and to recommend next steps. The characteristics of the property dictated that the Stage 2 survey be conducted by test pit survey as well as a pedestrian survey.

The Stage 1 background study found that the subject property exhibits potential for the recovery of archaeological resources of cultural heritage value and concluded that the property requires a Stage 2 assessment. The Stage 2 property assessment, which consisted of a systematic test pit survey of forested lands as well as a pedestrian survey over ploughed and weathered agricultural field. The survey resulted in locating one precontact archaeological site, designated Site BaGt-44.

The Stage 1 background study concluded that the property exhibits archaeological potential. The Stage 2 property assessment identified one archaeological site within the subject property. The report recommends that a stage 3 archaeological assessment is required on the subject property.

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PROJECT PERSONNEL

Project/Field Director:	Mr. T. Keith Powers (P052)
Field Archaeologists	Mr. T. Keith Powers Ms. Karen Powers Mr. John Ellis Mr. Sam Filipe
Report Preparation:	Mrs. Susan Dyer Mr. Keith Powers
Historical Researcher	Mrs. Karen Powers
Graphics	Mrs. Karen Powers

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 Tourism, Culture & Sport (MTCS). All licensees are to file a report with the MTCS containing details of the fieldwork that has been done for each project. Following standards and guidelines set out by the MTCS is a condition of a licence to conduct archaeological fieldwork in Ontario. *The Archaeologists Inc.* 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 an archaeological license.

1.0 PROJECT CONTEXT (Section 7.5.5)

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 (Section 7.5.6, Standards 1-3)

Section 7.5.6, Standard 1

The Archaeologists Inc. was contracted to conduct a Stage 1 & 2 Archaeological Assessment for Part of Lots 19 and 20, Concession 8, Geographic Township of Whitchurch, County of York, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville. The archaeological assessment was triggered by the Planning Act. This assessment report is required in order to obtain final approval/registration of the draft plan of subdivision.

Section 7.5.6, Standard 2

There is no additional development-related information relevant to understanding the choice of fieldwork strategy or recommendations made in the report.

Section 7.5.6, Standard 3

Permission to access the study 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 (Section 7.5.7, Standards 1-2)

Section 7.5.7, Standard 1

In advance of the Stage 2 assessment, a Stage 1 background study of the subject property was conducted in order to document the property 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.

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 been special or spiritual places, such as waterfalls, rock outcrops, caverns, mounds, and promontories and their bases, resource areas, (including food or medicinal plants, scarce raw materials, early Euro-Canadian industry), areas of early Euro-Canadian settlement, early historical transportation routes, property listed on a municipal register or designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act* or that is a federal, provincial or municipal historic landmark or site, and 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 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 1860 *Tremaine Map of York County* and the 1878 *Historical Atlas of the County of York* was reviewed to determine the potential for finding historical archaeological remains within the study area.

The 1860 *Map* indicates that the south half of Lot 20 was owned by William Pettet, and Lot 20 was owned by William Read. There are no structures depicted within the study area. The subject property is adjacent to a historic transportation route (i.e. modern day Lakeshore Road). A small tributary runs through the southern portion of the subject area. Lake Musselman is depicted southeast of the subject property.

The 1878 *Atlas* indicates that the south half of Lot 20 is the Estate of William Pettet. Multiple structures are illustrated on his portion of the lot. The east half of lot 19 belongs to William Reid, and the west half belongs to Elijah Miller. No structures are illustrated within Lot 19. The subject property is adjacent to a historic transportation route (i.e. modern day Lakeshore Road). A small tributary runs through the southern portion of the subject area. Lake Musselman is depicted southeast of the subject property.

It must also be noted that not all features of interest today would have been considered within the scope of the *Atlas* at the time of publication. Nevertheless, the *Atlas* is considered one source for the assessment of archaeological potential. It can therefore be concluded that the study area has potential for the identification of historic archaeological remains.

The Subject lands are situated in the Oak Ridges Moraine physiographic region, which is considered a typical end moraine consisting of a hilly surface with a knob and basin relief (Chapman and Putnam 1973). The Oak Ridges Moraine, which is largely a belt of sand and gravel, extends 160 kilometres between the Niagara Escarpment and the Trent River, subsequently dividing the Lake Ontario drainage basin from the Georgian Bay/Trent River basin (Chapman and Putnam 1984).

The Stage 1 background study indicates, that there is potential for the recovery of pre-contact and post-contact Euro-Canadian archaeological resources within the subject property. As it cannot be clearly demonstrated through the background study that there has been complete and intensive disturbance of the area, archaeological potential is not removed. There are areas within the subject property that have the potential for the recovery of archaeological resources.

Section 7.5.7, Standard 2

The Stage 2 property assessment of the subject property employed the strategy of pedestrian survey and test pit survey, following the standards listed in Section 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 of the *2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*. This is the appropriate strategy based on Stage 1 background study. To our knowledge there are no other reports containing relevant background information related to this development project.

1.3 Archaeological Context (Section 7.5.8, Standards 1-7)

Section 7.5.8, Standard 1

In order that an inventory of archaeological resources could be compiled for the study area, three sources of information were consulted: the site forms for registered sites housed at the Ministry of Tourism and Culture; published and unpublished documentary sources; and the files of *The Archaeologists Inc.*

In Ontario, information concerning archaeological sites is stored in the Ontario Archaeological Sites Database (O.A.S.D.), an inventory of the documented archaeological record in Ontario.

Information on the known archaeological sites in the vicinity of the study area was obtained from the Ministry of Tourism and Culture site database. There are no known archaeological sites within the study area limits, however, there are eight known archaeological sites located within a one-kilometre radius of the subject property is provided in Table 1 of this report.

TABLE 1: Registered Archaeological Sites Within 1 kilometre of the Study Area

Borden #	Site Name	Cultural Affiliation	Site Type	Researcher
BaGt-43	Pettet	Post-Contact	Midden	2013, MacKinnon
BaGt-31	Ballantrae II	Post-Contact	Homestead	2009, DeDecker
BaGt-29	Savoia	Post-Contact	Homestead	2002, Cooper
BaGt-23		Pre-Contact	Findspot	1998, Williamson

BaGt-22	Pryne	Post-Contact	Homestead	1998, Williamson
BaGt-21	Reid	Post-Contact	Homestead	1998, Williamson
BaGt-20		Pre-Contact	Findspot	1998, Williamson
BaGt-19	Ballantrae	Woodland, Early, Woodland, Middle		1998, Williamson

Section 7.5.8, Standard 2

The subject property is located on Lakeshore Road, east of Highway 48. It is bound on the north and east by agricultural fields, on the south by Lakeshore Road, and on the west by residential properties. The subject property consists of agricultural land, scrub brush and forest, with grassed and treed areas. The southeast portion of the property contains a private residence that was not assessed.

The subject property is located within the Oak Ridges Moraine physiographic region (Chapman and Putnam 1984:166-169). The Oak Ridges Moraine stands out as one of the most distinctive physiographic units of Southern Ontario. Its general altitude is about 300 m.a.s.l. and it extends from the Niagara Escarpment to the Trent River, forming the height of land dividing the streams of the Lake Ontario drainage basin from those flowing into Georgian Bay and the Trent River. Over 100 miles in length, its width varying up to eight miles, the total area is approximately 500 square miles. In three places it narrows almost to the point of extinction and, whether by accident or design, these saddles are crossed by the three north trending highways. While, for the most part, these hills are composed of sandy or gravelly materials, this is not always the case.

The original vegetation of the area was a mixed forest of pine and hardwoods. The valuable white pine was early sought out and very few trees of any size are left in the present wood lots. Among the hardwoods, hard maple, beech, and red and white oak were most important and a few good stands may still be seen.

Section 7.5.8, Standard 3

The initial Stage 2 archaeological fieldwork of the subject property was undertaken on May 6th, and May 8th – 10th, 2016. A section of the property containing a private residence was not included in the initial assessment, and was subject to test pit survey on September 1st, 2017.

Section 7.5.8, Standard 4

Previous archaeological fieldwork has taken place within the limits of the project area. A Stage 1 & 2 archaeological assessment was conducted on a portion of the property, labelled as previously assessed on Map 5 (under PIF P345-0021-2014). The Stage 2 assessment consisted of a systematic test pit survey, and did not result in the identification of archaeological resources.

The Archaeologists Inc. is aware of archaeological fieldwork conducted adjacent to the subject property, during which Site BaGt-43 was discovered. Site BaGt-43 was identified as a Post-Contact midden site, mostly consisting of late 19th and 20th century artifacts, including plastic, aluminum, wire nails and 20th century ceramics. Test

excavations did not reveal subsurface features, and the site was described as appearing to be a refuse deposit on the edge of a farm complex.

Section 7.5.8, Standard 5

We are unaware of previous findings and recommendations relevant to the current stage.

Section 7.5.8, Standard 6

There are no unusual physical features that may have affected fieldwork strategy decisions or the identification of artifacts or cultural features.

Section 7.5.8, Standard 7

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 (Section 7.8.1, Standards 1-3)

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.

Section 7.8.1, Standard 1

The entire project area was surveyed.

Section 7.8.1, Standard 2

As relevant, we provide detailed and explicit descriptions addressing Standards 2a, b and c. Standard 2d is not relevant.

Section 7.8.1, Standard 2a - The general standards for property survey under Section 2.1 of the *2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* were addressed as follows:

- Section 2.1, S1 – The entire property was surveyed including lands immediately adjacent to built structures, when present.
- Section 2.1, S2a (land of no or low potential due to physical features such as permanently wet areas, exposed bedrock, and steep slopes) – two areas of standing water/low and wet were not assessed (see Map 5).
- Section 2.1, S2b (no or low potential due to extensive and deep land alterations) – n/a
- 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 – GPS recordings were taken to record the location of Site BaGt-44 as per Section 5 of the *2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*.
- Section 2.1, S5 - All field activities were mapped in reference to either fixed landmarks, survey stakes and 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.
- Section 2.1, S7 - n/a

Section 7.8.1, Standard 2b -The subject property was subject to a systematic pedestrian survey and test pit survey appropriate to the characteristics of the property.

The pedestrian survey of the property followed the standards within Section 2.1.1 of the *2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*. Actively or recently cultivated land was recently ploughed and weathered by at least one heavy rainfall or several light rains to improve the visibility of archaeological resources. Ploughing was deep enough to provide total topsoil exposure, but not deeper than previous ploughing. At least 80% of the ploughed ground surface was visible. Survey transects were spaced at maximum intervals of five metres. Upon discovery of pre-contact Site P1, survey transects were reduced to 1 m intervals over a minimum of a 20 m radius around the surface finds to determine the extent of the scatter. The scatter consisted of approximately 10 artifacts, including a single mid-section projectile point. The diagnostic projectile point was collected, and approximately 9 flakes were left in place in order to facilitate relocation of the site in order to conduct further assessment.

The test pit survey of the property followed the standards within Section 2.1.2 of the *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 five metres and to within one metre of built structures, when present, or until test pits showed evidence of recent ground disturbance. All test pits were at least 30 cm in diameter. Each test pit was excavated by hand, into the first five cm of subsoil and examined for stratigraphy, cultural features, or evidence of fill. No stratigraphy or cultural features were noted. Soils were screened through 6mm mesh. All test pits were backfilled.

Section 7.8.1, Standard 2c – All areas of the subject property were surveyed at five metre intervals, with the exception of the areas noted above.

Section 7.8.1, Standard 3

Approximately 50% of the property was pedestrian surveyed, approximately 35% was test pit surveyed, approximately 5% was standing water/low and wet, and approximately 10% was previously assessed.

3.0 RECORD OF FINDS (Section 7.8.2, Standards 1-3)

This section documents all finds discovered as a result of the Stage 1 and 2 archaeological assessment of the subject property.

Section 7.8.2, Standard 1a-d

One archaeological site, designated Site BaGt-44, was identified during the Stage 2 pedestrian survey. The site was discovered on level terrain in the eastern portion of the subject property (see Map 6). The site consists of a surface scatter measuring approximately 10 x 10 metres. Approximately 10 artifacts were noted including a single mid-section projectile point. The diagnostic projectile point was collected, and the additional 9 flakes were left in the field in order to relocate the site and conduct further assessment.

The projectile point collected is made of Onondaga chert, and suggests a date range between 7500 and 8000 B.C.

Section 7.8.2, Standard 2

An inventory of the documentary record generated in the field is provided in Table 2.

Table 2: Inventory of Documentary Record	
Document Type	Description
Field Notes	This report constitutes the field notes for this project
Photographs	10 digital photographs
Maps	mapping provided in the report represent all of the maps generated in the field.

Section 7.8.2, Standard 3

See supplementary documentation for information detailing exact site location.

4.0 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS (Section 7.8.3, Standards 1-2)

Section 7.8.3, Standard 1

One archaeological site, temporarily designated as Site BaGt-44, was identified. Despite careful scrutiny, no other sites were identified within the subject property.

Section 7.8.3, Standard 2

One archaeological site, designated Site BaGt-44, was identified during the Stage 2 pedestrian survey. The site was discovered on level terrain in the eastern portion of the subject property (see Map 6). The site consists of a surface scatter measuring approximately 10 x 10 metres. Approximately 10 artifacts were noted including a single mid-section projectile point. The diagnostic projectile point was collected, and the additional 9 flakes were left in the field in order to relocate the site and conduct further assessment.

The projectile point collected is made of Onondaga chert, and suggests a date range between 7500 and 8000 B.C.

Site BaGt-44 is identified as an Early Archaic archaeological site and, as such, a Stage 3 site-specific archaeological assessment is required. A determination regarding whether Stage 4 mitigation is required will be determined upon completion of the Stage 3 site-specific assessment.

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS (Section 7.8.4, Standards 1-3)

Section 7.8.4, Standard 1

One archaeological site was identified and is designated BaGt-44. Site BaGt-44 is of further cultural heritage value or interest and requires Stage 3 site-specific archaeological assessment. The Stage 3 assessment will include detailed historical documentation, a controlled surface pick-up, and test unit excavation as per Sections 3.1 and 3.2 of the *2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*.

The general Stage 3 test unit excavation will follow Section 3.2.2 of the *2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* and the location and number of test units will follow the strategy for small pre-contact sites where it is not yet evident that the level of cultural heritage value or interest will result in a recommendation to proceed to Stage 4: test units will be placed and excavated in a 5 m grid across the site, and additional units amounting to 20% of the initial grid unit total, focusing on areas of interest within the site extent. It is recommended that, for a sample of units (at least 20% of the total number of units in sandy soil, and at least 10% of the total number of units in heavy soil), the entire contents be screened through mesh with an aperture of no greater than 3 mm.

Section 7.8.4, Standard 2

The report makes recommendations only regarding archaeological matters.

6.0 ADVICE ON COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION (Section 7.5.9, Standards 1-2)

Section 7.5.9, Standard 1a

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 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 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.

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 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 *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.

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.

7.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY AND SOURCES (Section 7.5.10, Standards 1)

Chapman, L.J. and F. Putnam

- 1984 *The Physiography of Southern Ontario, Ontario Geological Survey Special Volume 2*. Toronto: Government of Ontario, Ministry of Natural Resources.

Miles and Co.

- 1878 *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of York*. Miles and Company, Toronto.

Ministry of Tourism and Culture

- 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*.

The Archaeologists Inc.

- 2014 *Stage 1 & 2 Archaeological Assessment for 5452 Lakeshore Road, Part of Lot 19, Concession 8, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville Regional Municipality of York*. PIF P345-0021-2014.

8.0 IMAGES (Sections 7.5.11, 7.7.5, 7.8.6)



Plate 1 Shows conditions for pedestrian survey.



Plate 2 Shows conditions for pedestrian survey.



Plate 3 Shows conditions for pedestrian survey.



Plate 4 Shows conditions of subject property.



Plate 5 Shows area pedestrian surveyed at a one metre interval.



Plate 6 Shows conditions of subject property.



Plate 7 Shows conditions for test pitting.



Plate 8 Shows conditions for test pitting and existing structure and pond.



Plate 9 Shows conditions for test pitting.



Plate 10 Shows conditions of property - existing structure and pool.



Plate 11 Shows existing structure.



Plate 12 Shows conditions for test pitting.



Plate 13 Shows conditions for test pitting and existing structure.



Plate 14 Shows conditions for test pitting and existing structure.



Plate 15 Shows conditions of subject property.

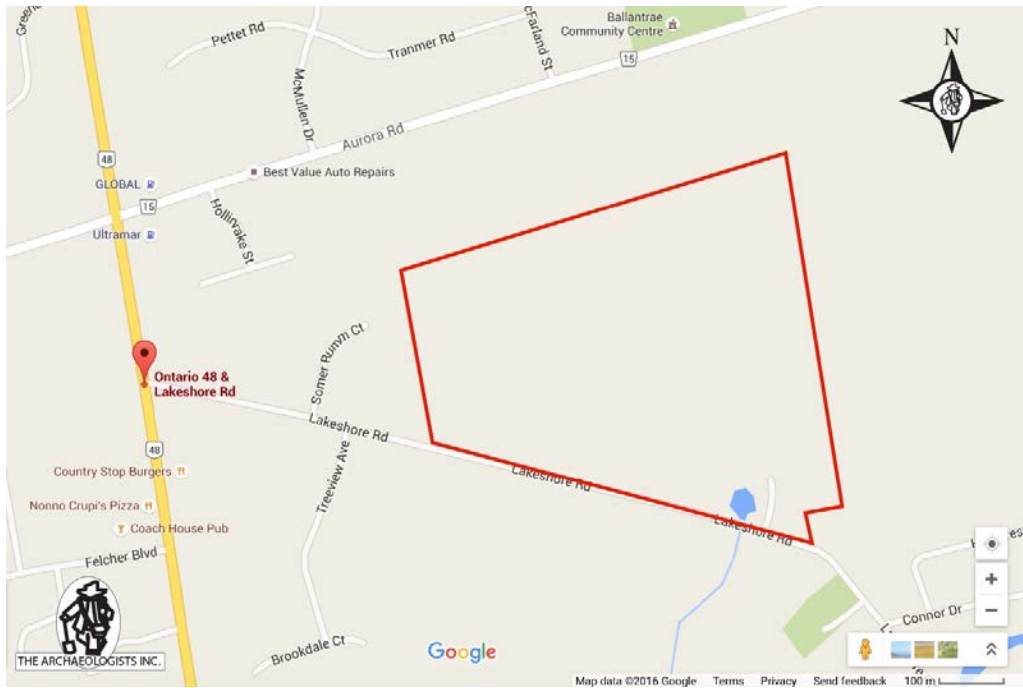


Plate 16 Shows existing pond.



Plate 17 Picture of projectile point collected.

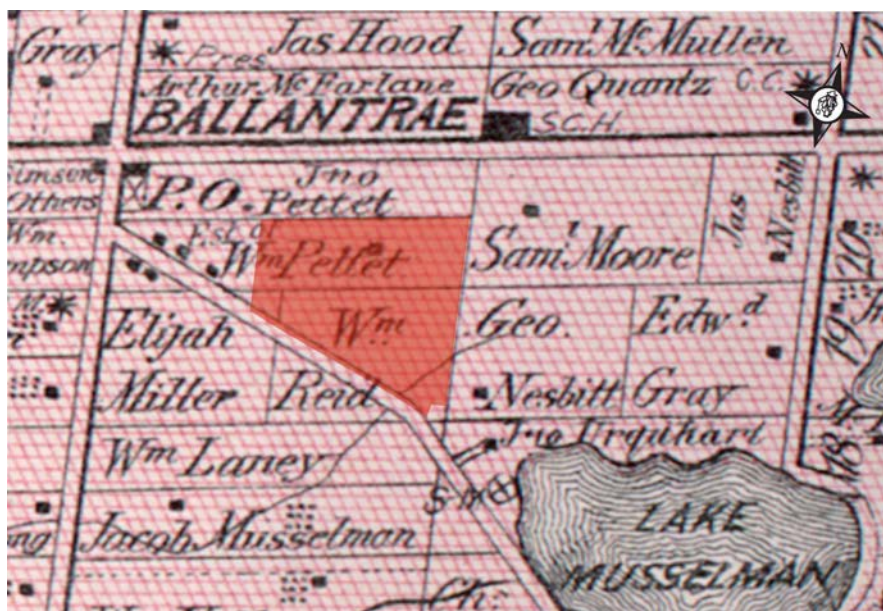
9.0 MAPS (Section 7.5.12, 7.7.6, 7.8.7)



Map 1 General location of subject property on Google imagery.



Map 2 Approximate location of subject property, overlaid in red, on 1860 York County Map.



Map 3 Approximate location of subject property, overlaid in red, on 1878 Illustrated Atlas.

Stage 1 & 2 Archaeological Assessment for Part of Lots 19 and 20, Concession 8, Geographic Township of Whitchurch, County of York, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville



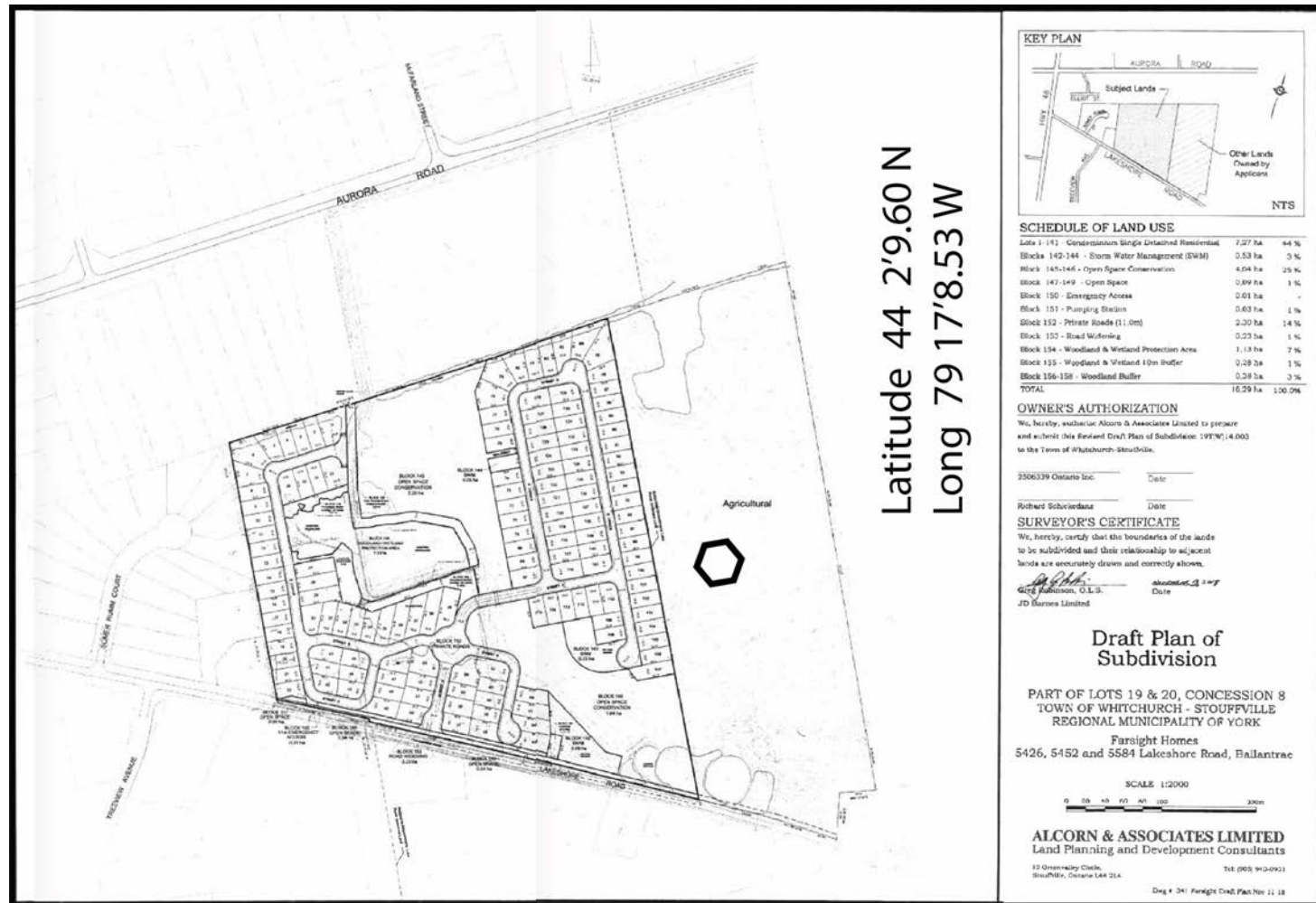
Map 4 Clear copy of mapping provided by proponent.

Stage 1 & 2 Archaeological Assessment for Part of Lots 19 and 20, Concession 8, Geographic Township of Whitchurch, County of York, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville



Map 5 Results of Stage 2 archaeological assessment.

Stage 1 & 2 Archaeological Assessment for Part of Lots 19 and 20, Concession 8, Geographic Township of Whitchurch, County of York, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville



Map 6 General location of Site BaGt-44 on development map. See supplementary documentation.

Appendix A: Artifact Catalogue BaGt-44

Cat #	Prov.	Artifact Type	Qty.	Description
L1	Surface	Lithic	1	projectile point; Onondaga chert.

Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport

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Oct 16, 2017

T. Keith Powers (P052)
The Archaeologists Inc.
790 Exceller Newmarket ON L3X 1P6

RE: Review and Entry into the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports: Archaeological Assessment Report Entitled, "Stage 1 & 2 Archaeological Assessment for Part of Lots 19 and 20, Concession 8, Geographic Township of Whitchurch, County of York, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville", Dated Oct 2, 2017, Filed with MTCS Toronto Office on Oct 13, 2017, MTCS Project Information Form Number P052-0693-2016, MTCS File Number 0004281

Dear Mr. Powers:

This office has reviewed the above-mentioned report, which has been submitted to this ministry as a condition of licensing in accordance with Part VI of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c 0.18.¹ This review has been carried out in order to determine whether the licensed professional consultant archaeologist has met the terms and conditions of their licence, that the licensee assessed the property and documented archaeological resources using a process that accords with the 2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists set by the ministry, and that the archaeological fieldwork and report recommendations are consistent with the conservation, protection and preservation of the cultural heritage of Ontario.

The report documents the assessment/mitigation of the study area as depicted in Map 5 of the above titled report and recommends the following:

One archaeological site was identified and is designated BaGt-44. Site BaGt-44 is of further cultural heritage value or interest and requires Stage 3 site-specific archaeological assessment. The Stage 3 assessment will include detailed historical documentation, a controlled surface pick-up, and test unit excavation as per Sections 3.1 and 3.2 of the 2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists.

The general Stage 3 test unit excavation will follow Section 3.2.2 of the 2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists and the location and number of test units will follow the strategy for small pre-contact sites where it is not yet evident that the level of cultural heritage value or interest will result in a recommendation to proceed to Stage 4: test units will be placed and excavated in a 5 m grid across the site, and additional units amounting to 20% of the initial grid unit total, focusing on areas of interest within the site extent. It is recommended that, for a sample of units (at least 20% of the total number of units in sandy soil, and at least 10% of the total number of units in heavy soil), the entire contents be screened through mesh with an aperture of no greater than 3 mm.

Based on the information contained in the report, the ministry is satisfied that the fieldwork and reporting for the archaeological assessment are consistent with the ministry's 2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists and the terms and conditions for archaeological licences. This report has been entered into the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports. Please note that the ministry makes no representation or warranty as to the completeness, accuracy or quality of reports in the register.

Should you require any further information regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jessica Marr
Archaeology Review Officer

cc. Archaeology Licensing Officer
Randy Alcorn, Alcorn & Associates Limited
Bob Curgenven, Whitchurch-Stouffville Heritage Advisory Committee

¹In no way will the ministry be liable for any harm, damages, costs, expenses, losses, claims or actions that may result: (a) if the Report(s) or its recommendations are discovered to be inaccurate, incomplete, misleading or fraudulent; or (b) from the issuance of this letter. Further measures may need to be taken in the event that additional artifacts or archaeological sites are identified or the Report(s) is otherwise found to be inaccurate, incomplete, misleading or fraudulent.