

**Stage I-2 Archaeological Assessment
North Paris Fire Station
Scott Avenue
Town of Paris
Part of Lot 29, Concession 2
Geographic Township of South Dumfries
Brant County, Ontario**

Original Report

Submitted to:
Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism

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Project No: 2024-283
Dated: June 10, 2025



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A Stage 1 and 2 archaeological assessment was conducted in advance of the construction of a planned Fire Station to serve North Paris, in Paris, Ontario. The project area is roughly 0.72 ha (1.78 ac) in size and is located within Lot 29, Concession 2, in the Geographic Township of South Dumfries, Town of Paris, Brant County, Ontario. The project area is encompassed by an active hay field at the eastern end of Scott Avenue on property owned by the County of Brant and consists of two segments; a “Main Block” and an “Eastern Segment.”. In 2024, TMHC Inc. (TMHC) was contracted by Brant County to conduct the assessment, which was conducted as part of due diligence in the early planning for this project, in accordance with the provisions of the *Provincial Policy Statement*. The purpose of the assessment was to determine whether there were archaeological resources present within the project area.

The Stage 1 background study included a review of current land use, historic and modern maps, past settlement history for the area and a consideration of topographic and physiographic features, soils and drainage. It also involved a review of previously registered archaeological resources within 1 km of the project area and previous archaeological assessments within 50 m. The background study indicated that the property had potential for the recovery of archaeological resources due the proximity (i.e., within 300 m) of features that signal archaeological potential, namely:

- a mapped 19th-century thoroughfare (Grand River Street North);
- a mapped 19th century structure (residence);
- a watercourse (Gilbert Creek); and,
- a registered archaeological site (AhHc-80).

The project area consists of an active hay field. The “Main Block” was subject to Stage 2 assessment via standard pedestrian survey at a 5 m transect interval (55.6%; 0.40 ha), while the “Eastern Strip” was subject to pedestrian survey at a 1 m transect interval due to its narrow width (31.9%; 0.23 ha). The remainder of the project area consists of built features such as a gravelled parking area and the graded shoulder of a private road with buried utilities that were previously disturbed, deemed of low archaeological potential. These areas were photo-documented (12.5%, 0.09 ha).

All work met provincial standards and no archaeological material was documented during the assessment. As such, no further archaeological assessment is recommended.

These recommendations are subject to the conditions laid out in Section 5.0 of this report, and to the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism’s (MCM’s) review and acceptance of this report into the provincial register of archaeological reports.



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Lindsay Plant Facilities Project Coordinator – *County of Brant*



TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The project area is located within the Traditional and Treaty Territories of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, the Six Nations of the Grand River Elected Council and the Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council. The study area is encompassed by the Haldimand Tract and the Nanfan (Fort Albany) Deed of 1791. This land continues to be home to diverse Indigenous peoples (e.g., First Nations, Métis, and Inuit) whom we recognize as contemporary stewards of the land and vital contributors of our society.



INDIGENOUS PARTICIPANTS

Six Nations of the Grand River Elected Council (SNGREC)

Coordinators	Dawn LaForme	Tanya Hill-Montour
Fieldwork Monitors	Burgundy Martin	
	Mike Maracle	

Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)

Coordinator	Adam LaForme
Field Liaison Representatives	Stephen Land
	Jamie Laforme
	Sylas Brown



ABOUT TMHC

Established in 2003 with a head office in London, Ontario, TMHC Inc. (TMHC) provides a broad range of archaeological assessment, heritage planning and interpretation, cemetery, and community consultation services throughout the Province of Ontario. We specialize in providing heritage solutions that suit the past and present for a range of clients and intended audiences, while meeting the demands of the regulatory environment. Over the past two decades, TMHC has grown to become one of the largest privately-owned heritage consulting firms in Ontario and is today the largest predominately woman-owned CRM business in Canada.

Since 2004, TMHC has held retainers with Infrastructure Ontario, Hydro One, the Ministry of Transportation, Metrolinx, the City of Hamilton, and Niagara Parks Commission. In 2013, TMHC earned the Ontario Archaeological Society's award for Excellence in Cultural Resource Management. Our seasoned expertise and practical approach have allowed us to manage a wide variety of large, complex, and highly sensitive projects to successful completion. Through this work, we have gained corporate experience in helping our clients work through difficult issues to achieve resolution.

TMHC is skilled at meeting established deadlines and budgets, maintaining a healthy and safe work environment, and carrying out quality heritage activities to ensure that all projects are completed diligently and safely. Additionally, we have developed long-standing relationships of trust with Indigenous and descendent communities across Ontario and a good understanding of community interests and concerns in heritage matters, which assists in successful project completion.

TMHC is a Living Wage certified employer with the [Ontario Living Wage Network](#) and a member of the [Canadian Federation for Independent Business](#).



KEY STAFF BIOS

Matthew Beaudoin, PhD, Principal, Manager – Archaeological Assessments

Matthew received a PhD in Anthropology from Western University in 2013 and has a professional archaeological license with the Province of Ontario (P324). During his archaeological career, Matthew has conducted extensive field research and artifact analysis in Labrador and Ontario, and has taught the Field Methods Course and Principals of archaeology courses as a part-time faculty member at Western University. Matthew has also conducted ethnographic projects in Labrador, and has volunteered with the OAS to provide archaeological training to several Indigenous communities throughout the province.

Over the course of his career, Matthew has supervised over 800 archaeological assessments in Ontario, including Stages 1-4, under a variety of regulatory triggers including provincial and municipal Environmental Assessments, Green Energy projects, development projects under the *Planning Act*, and as due diligence process. Matthew has extensive experience managing large and complex archaeological projects in conjunction with other disciplines, specialists, and Indigenous communities including Enbridge Line 10 Westover Segment, Imperial Oil from Waterdown to Finch, and Highway 3 Widening in Kingsville. Since joining TMHC in 2008, Matthew has also been involved with several notable projects, such as the archaeological assessment of Stoney Point/Camp Ipperwash. For these and other projects, Matthew works closely with heritage staff at TMHC and with heritage staff employed by clients and stakeholder communities.

Matthew is an active member of the Canadian Archaeological Association, the Ontario Archaeological Society, the Society for American Archaeology, and the Society for Historical Archaeology.

Lara Wood, MA, Manager – Transportation Projects

Lara earned her MA in Anthropology from Western University based on her research into Early Woodland subsistence patterns in Ontario and she holds a professional archaeological license with the Province of Ontario. With over 14 years of experience in the sector, Lara has extensive experience completing archaeological assessments required under a variety of regulatory triggers including Environmental Assessments (EAs), Transit Project Assessment Processes (TPAPs), and private development projects. During this work, Lara has developed meaningful relationships through engagement with multiple Indigenous communities in Ontario. Lara regularly coordinates with clients, Indigenous communities, and various approval authorities to ensure that projects are completed efficiently and conform to provincial and Indigenous community requirements. She is an active member of the Ontario Archaeological Society and the Canadian Archaeological Association.



STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS AND LIMITATIONS

The attached Report (the “Report”) has been prepared by TMHC Inc. (TMHC) for the benefit of the Client (the “Client”) in accordance with the agreement between TMHC and the Client, including the scope of work detailed therein (the “Agreement”).

The information, data, recommendations and conclusions contained in the Report (collectively, the “Information”):

- is subject to the scope, schedule, and other constraints and limitations in the Agreement and the qualifications contained in the Report (the “Limitations”);
- represents TMHC’s professional judgment in light of the Limitation and industry standards for the preparation of similar reports;
- may be based on information provided to TMHC which has not been independently verified;
- has not been updated since the date of issuance of the Report and its accuracy is limited to the time period and circumstances in which it was collected, processed, made or issued;
- must be read as a whole and sections thereof should not be read out of such context; and
- was prepared for the specific purposes described in the Report and the Agreement.

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This Statement of Qualifications and Limitations is attached to and forms part of the Report and any use of the Report is subject to the terms hereof.



QUALITY INFORMATION

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Principal/Manager of Archaeological Assessment



I PROJECT CONTEXT

I.1 Development Context

I.1.1 Introduction

A Stage 1 and 2 archaeological assessment was conducted in advance of the construction of a planned Fire Station to serve North Paris, in Paris, Ontario. The project area is roughly 0.72 ha (1.78 ac) in size and is located within Lot 29, Concession 2, in the Geographic Township of South Dumfries, Town of Paris, Brant County, Ontario. The project area is encompassed by an active hay field at the eastern end of Scott Avenue on property owned by the County of Brant and consists of two segments; a “Main Block” and an “Eastern Segment.”. In 2024, TMHC Inc. (TMHC) was contracted by Brant County to conduct the assessment, which was conducted as part of due diligence in the early planning of this project, in accordance with the provisions of the *Provincial Policy Statement*. The purpose of the assessment was to determine whether there were archaeological resources present within the project area.

All archaeological assessment activities were performed under the professional archaeological license of Lara Wood, MA (P1078) and in accordance with the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (MTC 2011, “Standards and Guidelines”). Permission to enter the property and carry out all required archaeological activities, including collecting artifacts when found, was given by Lindsay Plant on behalf of Brant County.



1.1.2 Purpose and Legislative Context

The *Ontario Heritage Act* (R.S.O. 1990) makes provisions for the protection and conservation of heritage resources in the Province of Ontario. Heritage concerns are recognized as a matter of provincial interest in Section 2.6.2 of the *Provincial Policy Statement* (PPS) which states:

development and site alteration shall not be permitted on lands containing archaeological resources or areas of archaeological potential unless significant archaeological resources have been conserved (PPS 2020).

In the PPS, the term conserved means:

the identification, protection, management and use of built heritage resources, cultural heritage landscapes and archaeological resources in a manner that ensures their cultural heritage value or interest is retained. This may be achieved by the implementation of recommendations set out in a conservation plan, archaeological assessment and/or heritage impact assessment that has been approved, accepted or adopted by the relevant planning authority and/or decision-maker. Mitigative measures and/or alternative development approaches can be included in these plans and assessments (PPS 2020).

Therefore, the purpose of a Stage 1 background study is to determine if there is potential for archaeological resources to be found on a property for which a change in land use is pending. It is used to determine the need for a Stage 2 field assessment involving the search for archaeological sites. In accordance with *Provincial Policy Statement 2.6*, if significant sites are found, a strategy (usually avoidance, preservation or excavation) must be put forth for their mitigation.

2 STAGE I BACKGROUND REVIEW

2.1 Research Methods and Sources

A Stage I overview and background study was conducted to gather information about known and potential cultural heritage resources within the project area. According to the *Standards and Guidelines*, a Stage I background study must include a review of:

- an up-to-date listing of sites from the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism's (MCM) PastPortal for 1 km around the property;
- reports of previous archaeological fieldwork within a radius of 50 m around the property;
- topographic maps at 1:10,000 (recent and historical) or the most detailed scale available;
- historical settlement maps (e.g., historical atlas, survey);
- archaeological management plans or other archaeological potential mapping when available; and,
- commemorative plaques or monuments on or near the property.

For this project, the following activities were carried out to satisfy or exceed the above requirements:

- a database search was completed through MCM's PastPortal system that compiled a list of registered archaeological sites within 1 km of the project area (completed December 18, 2024);
- a review of known prior archaeological reports for the property and adjacent lands;
- Ontario Base Mapping (1:10,000) was reviewed through ArcGIS and mapping layers under the Open Government Licence – Canada and the Open Government Licence- Ontario;
- detailed mapping provided by the client was reviewed; and,
- a series of historic maps and photographs was reviewed related to the post-1800 land settlement.

Additional sources of information were also consulted, including modern aerial photographs, local history accounts, soils data provided by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), physiographic data provided by the Ontario Ministry of Northern Development and Mines, and detailed topographic data provided by Land Information Ontario.

When compiled, background information was used to create a summary of the characteristics of the project area, in an effort to evaluate its archaeological potential. The Province of Ontario (MTC 2011; Section 1.3.1) has defined the criteria that identify archaeological potential as:

- previously identified archaeological sites;
- water sources;
 - 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, relic river or stream channels, shorelines of drained lakes or marshes, cobble beaches);
 - accessible or inaccessible shorelines (e.g., high bluffs, sandbars stretching into a marsh);
- elevated topography (e.g., eskers, drumlins, large knolls, plateau);
- pockets of well-drained sandy soils;
- distinctive land formations that might have been special or spiritual places (e.g., waterfalls, rock outcrops, caverns, mounds, promontories and their bases);



- resource areas, including:
 - food or medicinal plants (e.g., migratory routes, spawning areas, prairies);
 - scarce raw materials (e.g., quartz, copper, ochre, or chert outcrops);
 - early industry (e.g., fur trade, logging, prospecting, mining);
- areas of early 19th-century settlement, including:
 - early military locations;
 - pioneer settlement (e.g., homesteads, isolated cabins, farmstead complexes);
 - wharf or dock complexes;
 - pioneer churches;
 - early cemeteries;
- early transportation routes (e.g., trails, passes, roads, railways, portage routes);
- a property listed on a municipal register, designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act*, or that is a federal, provincial, or municipal historic landmark or site; and,
- a property that local histories or informants have identified with possible archaeological sites, historical event, activities, or occupations.

In Southern Ontario (south of the Canadian Shield), any lands within 300 m of any of the features listed above are considered to have potential for the discovery of archaeological resources.

Typically, a Stage 1 assessment will determine potential for Indigenous and 19th-century period sites independently. This is due to the fact that lifeways varied considerably during these eras, so the criteria used to evaluate potential for each type of site also varies.

It should be noted that some factors can also negate the potential for discovery of intact archaeological deposits. The *Standards and Guidelines* (MTC 2011; Section 1.3.2) indicates that archaeological potential can be removed in instances where land has been subject to extensive and deep land alterations that have severely damaged the integrity of any archaeological resources. Major disturbances indicating removal of archaeological potential include, but are not limited to:

- quarrying;
- major landscaping involving grading below topsoil;
- building footprints; and,
- sewage and infrastructure development.

Some activities (agricultural cultivation, surface landscaping, installation of gravel trails, etc.) may result in minor alterations to the surface topsoil but do not necessarily affect or remove archaeological potential. It is not uncommon for archaeological sites, including structural foundations, subsurface features and burials, to be found intact beneath major surface features like roadways and parking lots. Archaeological potential is, therefore, not removed in cases where there is a chance of deeply buried deposits, as in a developed or urban context or floodplain where modern features or alluvial soils can effectively cap and preserve archaeological resources.



2.2 Project Context: Archaeological Context

2.2.1 Project Area: Overview and Physical Setting

The project area is located at the eastern end of Scott Avenue, east of Grand River Street North, in the Town of Paris, Ontario. It is roughly 0.72 ha (1.78 ac) in size and is located within Lot 29, Concession 2, in the Geographic Township of South Dumfries, Brant County (Maps 1 and 2). The project area currently encompasses an active hay field on property owned by the County of Brant and is split into two areas; a “Main Block” and an “Eastern Strip.” In the southwest corner of the “Main Block” is a gravelled parking area. The “Eastern Strip” is a narrow strip running north-south from the private road at the end of Scott Avenue within the broader hay field. Numerous commercial properties front the Grand River Street North corridor, which is situated less than one block west of the project area. However; the surrounding area can be characterized as primarily agricultural with woodlands situated along Gilbert Creek located east of the project area. Scott Avenue and a private road servicing a reservoir facility form the southern boundary of the project area.

The project area falls within the Horseshoe Moraines physiographic region (Map 3), as defined by Chapman and Putnam (1984:127). The region is essentially a horseshoe-shaped area consisting of two major landform components, one being irregular, stony knobs and ridges composed of till and kame deposits and the other being areas of horizontally bedded sand and gravel terraces surrounding swampy valley floors (Chapman and Putnam 1984:127). Near Paris, the moraines form a belt of moderate hills which eventually flatten to the south toward Norfolk County (Chapman and Putnam 1984:128).

Formal soil surveys for Brant County do not map the soils south of Hartley Avenue as they are defined as “urban.” North of Hartley Avenue, the soils are mapped as Teeswater loam (Map 4). Teeswater soils are characterized as well draining, slightly stony soils that generally form on gently sloping topography (Acton 1982: 72).

The project area lies within the Grand River drainage and numerous water sources are within its vicinity. The project area is roughly 1.5 km northeast of the Nith River, 1.4 km northwest of the Grand River and approximately 2.5 km north from the confluence of the two rivers. Gilbert Creek, a tributary of the Grand River, flows roughly 100 m east of the project area (Map 1). The Grand River is the largest watershed in southern Ontario (GRCA 2023). During the 19th century the forested areas adjacent to the river were cleared both for lumber and fuel, as well as for agricultural land. This clearing increased erosion rates resulting in higher sedimentation rates in the river, and the lack of vegetative cover on the banks for shade elevated summer temperatures. As dams for various mills (saw, grist, textile, etc.) were built, this further hampered the water level and flows, impeding fish migration and further increasing water temperatures effecting fish spawning along the Grand River (GRCA and MNR 2001). Along with its major tributaries including the Conestoga, Eramosa, Nith and Speed Rivers, the Grand River was designated a Canadian Heritage River in 1994.



2.2.2 Summary of Registered or Known Archaeological Sites

According to PastPortal (accessed December 18, 2024) there are 26 registered archaeological sites within 1 km of the project area (Table 1). These sites have typically been identified during archaeological assessments conducted prior to development projects as the Town of Paris has expanded in recent decades. Poland 1 (AhHc-80) is the closest registered site to the project area; roughly 120 m to the east. Registered in 1991 by Karen Harvey of the University of Illinois, Poland 1 (AhHc-80) is an isolated find spot of a Brewerton side notched projectile point identified during a research project that included pedestrian survey of the property (Harvey 1992). In 2017, when This Land Archaeology Inc. (TLA) conducted a Stage 1-2 archaeological assessment of the property containing the mapped location of Poland 1 (AhHc-80), they intensified their pedestrian survey of the area, but were unable to locate any additional artifacts associated with the site (TLA 2019).

Table 1: Registered Archaeological Sites within 1 km of the Project Area

Borden Number	Site Name	Time Period	Affinity	Site Type	Status	Distance
AhHc-80	Poland 1	Archaic	Indigenous	findspot		< 300 m
AhHc-160		Woodland, Early	Indigenous	findspot		< 1 km
AhHc-161		Archaic, Middle	Indigenous	findspot		< 1 km
AhHc-166	Dunk 1	Post-Contact	19th Century	findspot, homestead		< 1 km
AhHc-167	Dunk 2	Post-Contact	19th Century	midden		< 1 km
AhHc-171	Watts Pond 2	Woodland	Indigenous			< 1 km
AhHc-172	Watt's Pond 3	Archaic, Late	Indigenous	findspot		< 1 km
AhHc-173	Watts Pond 4	Post-Contact, Pre-Contact	Other: 19th Century, Indigenous			< 1 km
AhHc-174	Watt's Pond 5	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	findspot		< 1 km
AhHc-175	Watt's Pond 6	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	findspot		< 1 km
AhHc-243		Post-Contact	19th Century	homestead, house, log	No Further CHVI	< 1 km
AhHc-246	AhHc-246-P1	Pre-Contact	Other: Indigenous			< 1 km
AhHc-249		Woodland, Middle	Indigenous			< 1 km
AhHc-250	Location 8	Post-Contact		farmstead	Further CHVI	< 1 km
AhHc-251	location 9	Archaic, Early	Indigenous			< 1 km
AhHc-254	Location 6	Pre-Contact	Other: 19th Century			< 1 km

Borden Number	Site Name	Time Period	Affinity	Site Type	Status	Distance
AhHc-304	Knoll Site	Archaic	Indigenous	camp / campsite, hunting	No Further CHVI	< 1 km
AhHc-305	Water's Edge Site	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	camp / campsite, hunting	No Further CHVI	< 1 km
AhHc-306	Laneway Scatter	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	butchering, hunting	No Further CHVI	< 1 km
AhHc-307		Pre-Contact	Indigenous	scatter	Further CHVI	< 1 km
AhHc-308		Pre-Contact	Indigenous	scatter	Further CHVI	< 1 km
AhHc-309		Pre-Contact	Indigenous	scatter	Further CHVI	< 1 km
AhHc-310		Pre-Contact	Indigenous	scatter	Further CHVI	< 1 km
AhHc-315	The Bendemere Site	Archaic, Middle, Post-Contact	19th Century	farmstead, residential, scatter	No Further CHVI	< 1 km
AhHc-390		Pre-Contact		Unknown	Further CHVI	< 1 km
AhHc-403		Post-Contact	19th Century	farmstead	Further CHVI	< 1 km

2.2.3 Summary of Past Archaeological Investigations within 50 m

During the course of this study, records were found for two archaeological investigations within 50 m of the project area. However, it should be noted that the MCM currently does not provide an inventory of archaeological assessments to assist in this determination.

2.2.3.1 Cordon Farms

In 2017, TLA was contracted to conduct a Stage 1 and 2 archaeological assessment of the Cordon Farms property on part of Lots 28 and 29, Concession 2, South Dumfries Township, Brant County. The property is immediately north of the property containing the current project area, roughly 125 m to the north (Map 5). The Stage 1 background research indicated that the property retained archaeological potential and a Stage 2 archaeological assessment was subsequently undertaken. The Stage 2 assessment consisted of both pedestrian and test survey at 5 m intervals and resulted in the identification of 13 Indigenous archaeological locations, two of which were recommended for further Stage 3 site specific assessment (SD Map 1); the Knoll Site (AhHc-304) and the Water's Edge Site (AhHc-305). Both the Knoll Site (AhHc-304) and the Water's Edge Site (AhHc-305) are large, plough-disturbed, lithic scatters that did not include any temporally diagnostic artifacts. The remaining locations consisted of small lithic scatters and isolated find spots which were determined to have no further CHVI under the provincial framework. The woodlot on either side of Gilbert Creek within the property was not subject to archaeological assessment. As such, this area retains archaeological potential and requires further archaeological assessment. The results of the archaeological assessment are presented in



a report entitled: *Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment, On Part of Lot 28 and 29, Concession 2, Township of South Dumfries, and Part of Lot 28 and 29, Concession 2, Town of Paris, Municipal Address 186 Pinehurst Road Rd, Plan 2R-1739, County of Brant, Ontario* (TLA 2019; Licensee William Finlayson, P059-0718-2017).

In 2018, TLA returned to both the Knoll Site (AhHc-304) and the Water's Edge Site (AhHc-305) and completed Stage 3 site specific assessments of both sites. Based on the results of the Stage 3 site specific assessment, neither site was recommended for Stage 4 mitigation. It was determined that both sites had been sufficiently documented under the provincial framework and retained no further CHVI. The woodlot situated along Gilbert Creek was not assessed and still requires further archaeological assessment. The results of the Stage 3 site specific assessment are presented in a report entitled: *Stage 3 Archaeological Assessment Of the Knoll Site (AhHc-304) and Water's Edge Site (AhHc-305) Located on Part of Lot 28 and 29, Concession 2, Township of South Dumfries, And Part of Lot 28 and 29, Concession 2, Town of Paris, Municipal Address 186 Pinehurst Rd, Plan 2R-1739, County of Brant, Ontario* (TLA 2018; Licensee Thomas Irvin, P0379-204-2018 and P379-0205-2018).

2.2.3.2 Grand River Street North

In 2024, TMHC was contracted to conduct a Stage 1 archaeological assessment in advance of planned improvements to the Grand River Street North corridor from Watts Pond Road to William Street as part of a Municipal Class EA. The Stage 1 study area extends roughly 75 m east of Grand River Street North and the eastern edge is therefore roughly 50 m west of the current project area (Maps 6 and 7). The Stage 1 background research determined that portions of the study area had been previously assessed and did not require further assessment, while the background research and property inspection confirmed that portions of the study area had witnessed prior disturbance and lacked integrity. Disturbance primarily related to the construction of roadways, railways, buildings, parking areas, stormwater management facilities, and the installation of buried utilities. However, portions of the study area were also determined to retain archaeological potential and further assessment was recommended. The results of this assessment are presented in a report entitled: *Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment, Operational Improvements Grand River Street North from Watts Pond Road to William Street, Town of Paris, Part of Lots 26-30, Concession 1, Lots 27-30, Concession 2, Lots 29 and 30 Concession 3, and Lots 1 and 2, Concession 2 WGR, Geographic Township of South Dumfries, Brant County, Ontario* (TMHC 2024; Licensee Lara Wood, P1078-0245-2024).

2.2.4 Dates of Archaeological Fieldwork

The Stage 2 fieldwork was conducted in the fall of 2024 and spring of 2025. The dates of fieldwork, prevailing weather conditions, and the field directors overseeing the fieldwork are summarized in Table 2.

Table 2: Dates of Fieldwork, Weather Conditions and Field Director

Dates of Fieldwork	Weather Conditions	Field Director
December 19, 2024	Overcast and Cold	S. Graziano (R1354)
May 8, 2025	Sunny and Cool	S. Graziano (R1354)
May 14, 2025	Overcast and Warm	S. Graziano (R1354)
June 2, 2025	Sunny and Warm	P. Weglorz, MSc (P1170)
June 3, 2025	Sunny and Warm	P. Weglorz, MSc (P1170)

2.3 Project Context: Historical Context

2.3.1 Indigenous Settlement along the Grand River and Brant County

The Grand River and its tributaries attracted considerable Indigenous settlement in the past. The frequency, diversity, and density of Indigenous sites in the Grand River Valley is indicative of the continued importance of the river from initial occupations to the present (Warrick 2012). Numerous archaeological sites dating from the Paleo period to the 18th and 19th centuries have been identified in Brant County, often along the Grand River and its tributaries. Despite the extensive documentation of these sites, our knowledge of the Indigenous settlement remains incomplete. Based on our knowledge of existing sites and using models generated from Province-wide and region-specific archaeological data, it is possible to provide a summary of Indigenous settlement in Brant County and along the Grand River. The general themes, time periods and cultural traditions of Indigenous settlement, based on archaeological evidence, are provided below and in Table 2.

Table 3: Chronology of Indigenous Settlement in Brant County

Period	Time Range	Diagnostic Features	Archaeological Complexes
Early Paleo	9000-8400 BCE	fluted projectile points	Gainey, Barnes, Crowfield
Late Pale	8400-8000 BCE	non-fluted and lanceolate points	Holcombe, Hi-Lo, Lanceolate
Early Archaic	8000-6000 BCE	serrated, notched, bifurcate base points	Nettling
Middle Archaic	6000-2500 BCE	stemmed, side & corner notched points	Brewerton, Otter Creek, Stanly/Neville
Late Archaic	2000-1800 BCE	narrow points	Lamoka
Late Archaic	1800-1500 BCE	broad points	Genesee, Adder Orchard, Perkiomen
Late Archaic	1500-1100 BCE	small points	Crawford Knoll
Terminal Archaic	1100-950 BCE	first true cemeteries	Hind
Early Woodland	950-400 BCE	expanding stemmed points, Vinette pottery	Meadowood
Middle Woodland	400 BCE-500 CE	dentate, pseudo-scallop pottery	Saugeen/Point Peninsula
Transitional Woodland	500-900 CE	first corn, cord-wrapped stick pottery	Princess Point
Late Woodland	900-1300 CE	first villages, corn horticulture, longhouses	Glen Meyer
Late Woodland	1300-1400 CE	large villages and houses	Uren, Middleport
Late Woodland	1400-1650 CE	tribal emergence, territoriality	
Contact Period - Indigenous	1700 CE-present	treaties, mixture of Indigenous & European items	
Contact Period - Settler	1796 CE-present	industrial goods, homesteads	

2.3.1.1 Paleo Period

The first evidence of human populations inhabiting Ontario indicates that they arrived in the region between 12,000 and 10,000 years ago, coincident with the end of the last period of glaciation. During the Last Glacial Maximum (LGM), large ice-sheets covered most of Canada and many northern portions of the United States, including all of Ontario. These ice-sheets, up to a mile in thickness, transformed the landscape and would have removed any evidence of earlier occupations from these areas. Recently deglaciated lands were typically marsh filled landscapes which frequently flooded as ponded meltwater burst through moraine features as the major drainage systems formed (Bergman 2016). Consequently, these newly exposed lands would have held harsh environments, relatively devoid of flora and fauna, an unwelcoming to anything but short-term settlement. Therefore, early populations likely crossed the landscape in small groups (i.e., bands or family units) following migratory game species as they expanded into the region.

In southern Ontario, caribou may have provided a dietary staple during the Paleo Period, supplemented by wild plants, small game, birds and fish. Given the low density of populations on the landscape at this time and their mobile nature, most sites from the Paleo Period are small and ephemeral. They are frequently identified by the presence of distinctive fluted projectile points, usually manufactured on high quality raw materials, including Onondaga chert from the Niagara Escarpment and Fossil Hill chert from Blue Mountains. Sites from the Paleo Period have commonly been found in association with relic glacial lakeshores throughout Ontario, like those found in Oakland Township and further south in Norfolk County.

2.3.1.2 Archaic Period

Settlement and subsistence patterns changed significantly during the Archaic Period as both the landscape and ecosystem adjusted to the retreat of the glaciers. Building on earlier patterns, early Archaic Period populations continued the mobile lifestyle of their predecessors. Through time and with the development of more resource rich local environments, these groups gradually reduced the size of their territories. A seasonal pattern of warm season riverine or lakeshore settlements and interior cold weather occupations has been documented in the archaeological record.

Since the large cold weather mammal species that formed the basis of subsistence patterns during the Paleo Period became extinct or moved northward with the onset of warmer climate conditions, populations during the Archaic Period had a more varied diet, exploiting a range of plant, bird, mammal and fish species. Reliance on specific food resources like fish, deer and nuts becomes more pronounced through time and the presence of more hospitable environments and resource abundance led to the expansion of band and family sizes. In the archaeological record, this is evident in the presence of larger sites and aggregation camps, where several families or bands would come together in times of plenty. The change to more preferable environmental circumstances led to a rise in population density. As a result, sites from the Archaic Period are more plentiful than those from the earlier Paleo Period. Artifacts typical of these occupations include a variety of stemmed and notched projectile points, chipped stone scrapers, ground stone tools (e.g., celts, adzes) and ornaments (e.g., bannerstones, gorgets), bifaces or tool blanks, animal bone (where and when preserved) and waste flakes, a by-product of the tool making process.

2.3.1.3 Early, Middle and Transitional Woodland Periods

Significant changes in cultural and environmental patterns are witnessed in the Woodland period (c. 950 BCE-1700 CE). By this time, the coniferous forests of earlier times were replaced by stands of mixed and deciduous species. Occupations became increasingly more substantial in this period, culminating in major semi-permanent

villages by 1,000 years ago. Archaeologically, the most significant changes associated with the Woodland period are the appearance of artifacts manufactured from modeled clay and the construction of house structures. As such, the Woodland period is often defined by the occurrence of pottery, storage facilities and residential areas. Populations during the Early and Middle Woodland periods are also known for a well-developed burial complex and ground stone tool industry. Unique Early Woodland period ground stone items include pop-eyed birdstones and gorgets. The Grand River would have played an important role as a trade route during this period as part of the wide ranging, often river based, trade and exchange network. The evidence for the development of widespread trade in raw materials, objects and finished tools, with sites in Ontario containing trade items with origins in the Mississippi and Ohio River valleys.

During the Middle Woodland Period, the Grand River is considered a rough border between the Saugeen and Point Peninsula archaeological complexes, while during the Transitional Woodland Period the lower Grand River valley is associated with the Princess Point archaeological complex (Fox 1990; Spence et al 1990).

2.3.1.4 Late Woodland Period

Beginning around ca. 1000 CE the archaeological record documents the emergence of more substantial, semi-permanent settlements and the adoption of corn horticulture throughout much of southern Ontario. Villages incorporated a number of longhouses which were multi-family dwellings that contained several families related through the female line.

Sites such as the Myers Road Site (AiHb-13) give a glimpse into Late Woodland village lifeways in the Grand River valley. The village of ten longhouses is located along the Grand River in the City of Cambridge. Through faunal analysis of features found within the village palisades, archaeologists recovered physical evidence of fish and amphibian foodways sourced from the Grand River. Examination of zooarchaeological remains of sites along the Grand River provide evidence of lake sturgeon fishing from as early as approximately 700-900 CE. Sturgeon remains are identified on additional Grand River sites following this period up until approximately 1830-1840 CE, following which they are no longer present. This coincides with the development of dams and locks along the lower Grand River that would have restricted lake sturgeon access to traditional spawning sites in the Grand River (General and Warrick 2012).

Late Woodland sites are characterized by the occurrence of well-decorated and high-quality ceramic pipes and vessels, as well as a diversity of chipped stone and bone implements and decorative items. With the arrival of Europeans in the late-15th and early 16th centuries, items of European manufacture also occur on such sites (e.g., glass beads, copper/brass kettles, iron axes, knives and other metal implements) and are materials acquired by trade.

2.3.1.5 Contact Period Indigenous Settlement

The Attawandaron, a group described by European missionaries, resided along the Grand River. Like other known Iroquoian groups including the Huron (Wendat) and Petun (Tionontati), the Attawandaron practiced a system of intensive horticulture based on three primary subsistence crops (corn, beans and squash). Their villages incorporated a number of longhouses, multi-family dwellings that contained several families related through the female line. The Jesuit Relations describe several Attawandaron centres in existence in the 17th century, including a number of sites where missions were later established. The Attawandaron were dispersed and their population decimated by the arrival of epidemic European diseases and inter-tribal warfare. Many were adopted into other Iroquoian communities.



The Mississaugas (Anishnabeg – Ojibway), who had been living along the north shore of Lake Huron, moved south to the Grand River valley in the 1690's. Oral history identifies Southern Ontario as the ancestral homeland of the Mississaugas (Anishnabeg – Ojibway), who had made Treaties with the Haudenosaunee sometime between 500 to 1000 CE to allow them to live and practice agriculture in the area (Migizi and Kapyrka 2015). It is likely that the Mississaugas were familiar with the area in recent history through co-existence with the Huron-Wendat. Although the Huron-Wendat lived north of the Grand River, they would travel to the headwaters of the Grand, a route shared with the Attawandaron (Garrad 2014).

During the period where France claimed the area as New France, the Grand River drainage was used by the Mississauga as seasonal camping and hunting grounds (Bloomfield 2006:2). The river was little utilized by the French and their Indigenous allies beyond brief encampment staging areas as they moved between Fort Montreal and Fort Detroit through the Brantford area. Following the French defeat in the Seven Years' War, significant changes began to occur in the Grand River watershed. In the late 18th century, the Grand River area was also settled by Six Nations (the Mohawk, Cayuga, Oneida, Onondaga, Seneca and Tuscarora) and United Empire Loyalists, largely ex-military men and their families. Many of these early inhabitants established permanent settlements along the Grand River including near "Brant's Ford," now the City of Brantford. The European settlement of what would become "Dumfries," Brantford and Waterloo townships was assisted by local entrepreneurs who were given the responsibility of attracting families to the region (McLaughlin 1987:17).

2.3.2 Treaty History

The study area is encompassed by the Crown Grant to the Six Nations otherwise known as the Haldimand Tract or Haldimand Grant, and also by Treaty 3, otherwise known as the Between the Lakes Treaty.

2.3.2.1 Treaty 3

The municipal settlement of the area surrounding and including the study area was facilitated by the signing of the Between the Lakes Treaty No. 3 between the British Crown and representatives of Mississauga peoples. The original treaty dated 1784 but proved to be unclear; it was redrafted and signed on December 7, 1792 to provide a better description of the affected lands. The latter extended from Mapleton Township in the northwest to Elgin County in the southwest to the edge of a tract of land ceded earlier along the Niagara River in the east. The stated purpose of Treaty No. 3 (MCFN 2020; Surtees 1984) was the Crown acquisition of land for the resettling of British allies from the American Revolutionary War, most notably allies from the Haudenosaunee Confederacy (Six Nations). Of these groups, Thayendanegea (Joseph Brant) and some 1,843 members of the Six Nations and their allies settled along the Grand River in what was to become known as the Haldimand Tract (Surtees 1984:25).

The signatories of Treaty No. 3, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN), were forced to abandon their original reserve along the Credit River as a result of increasing settlement in the area. They were granted lands by Six Nations near the current town of Hagersville in 1848 (Praxis n.d.).

2.3.2.2 Haldimand Tract

After the first signing of the Between the Lakes Treaty No. 3 with the Mississauga in 1784, Quebec Governor Frederick Haldimand signed the Haldimand Proclamation which granted Thayendanegea (Joseph Brant) and his allies a significant portion of the newly ceded territory. The territory was also part of what the Haudenosaunee consider their Beaver Hunting Grounds as represented in the Nanfan Treaty of 1701 (Six

Nations Land and Resources 2019). Thayendanegea was awarded the land in consideration for the efforts of himself, his allies, and the Haudenosaunee Confederacy on behalf of the British during the American Revolutionary War (Surtees 1984). These efforts resulted in pressure on the Confederacy to abandon their homeland in New York State and relocate north to British territory.

The Haldimand Tract consisted of six miles on either side of the Grand River from its mouth on Lake Erie to the headwaters. The ambiguity of the boundaries of the original Treaty No. 3 and issues surrounding the original survey of the Tract by Augustus Jones in 1791 contributed to disputes between Six Nations and the Crown about the extent of the grant (Filice 2016). The most significant area affected was the disposition of the headwaters of the Grand River, an issue which remains contentious to this day.

In attempting to resolve these early disputes, Lieutenant Governor John Graves Simcoe issued the controversial Simcoe Patent in 1793. The Patent reiterated that Jones's survey represented the Crown's interpretation of the Tract's boundaries (Filice 2016). The Patent reaffirmed Jones's use of straight lines to represent the Tract's boundaries six miles from a sinuous river and the exclusion of the headwaters, terminating the Tract at a line that became known as the Jones' Base Line (Filice 2016). The Patent also outlined the terms under which Thayendanegea and the Six Nations could sell or lease territory within the Haldimand Tract. The reaffirmation of the reduced boundaries and conditions placed on their title to the Tract, resulted in Thayendanegea and the Six Nations chiefs rejecting the Simcoe Patent (Filice 2016). According to Six Nations, by the early 19th century almost 90 percent of their original grant had been transferred, with the proceeds of these sales supposedly held in trust for Six Nations by the Crown (Six Nations 2014). The administration of this trust fund by the Crown remains a significant issue. Six Nations asserts that poor-record-keeping and dubious decision-making over its 200-year history has depleted the total amount generated from the sale of approximately 950,000 acres of the original grant (Six Nations 2014; Six Nations Land and Resources 2019).

Over the past two centuries, the land tenure history of the Haldimand Tract and the parcels of the Tract that have been sold or leased in that time have been the subject of significant scrutiny (Six Nations Lands and Resources 2006). The legitimacy of this tenure has been questioned both within the Six Nations and as part of the wider dispute with the Crown. In 2006, Six Nations of the Grand River summarized 29 claims filed with the Specific Claims Branch, formed by the Government of Canada in 1991 (Six Nations Lands and Resources 2006).

The study area falls within or is in close proximity to three distinct areas of the Haldimand Tract as identified by Six Nations (Six Nations Lands and Resources 2015b). According to Six Nations, Block I Dumfries Township was separated from the Tract in 1796 by Joseph Brant for the use of settlers in return for revenues from the land that went unrealized. The Gore of Dumfries and a third area south of the Gore, consisting of the 1st Concession of Brantford Township, remain unsurrendered according to inventories compiled by Six Nations.

2.3.3 Nineteenth-Century and Municipal Settlement

Historically the project area falls within Lots 27-30, Concessions 1 and 2, in the Geographic Township of South Dumfries, Brant County, Ontario. A brief discussion of 19th-century settlement and land use in the township is provided below in an effort to identify features signaling archaeological potential.

2.3.3.1 Brant County

Brant County formed in 1851 from parts of Halton, Oxford, and Wentworth counties. It consists of six townships; Brantford, Burford, Oakland, Onondaga, South Dumfries, and Tuscarora. Prior to the formation of Brant County, Burford was part of Oxford County, South Dumfries was part of Halton County, and the remaining townships were part of Wentworth County. Brantford and Burford townships were the first two townships surveyed and settled and the majority of the county was surveyed by 1826.

Following the Crown Grant to the Six Nations, and led by Thayendanegea (Joseph Brant), hundreds of people from the Six Iroquoian Nations (the Mohawk, Cayuga, Oneida, Onondaga, Seneca and Tuscarora) trekked to the Grand River area and established permanent settlements along the Grand River near “Brant’s Ford,” now the City of Brantford. Alongside them were a small number of other United Empire Loyalists, many of English descent, who had also suffered personal losses for their loyalty to the Crown and sought a new life outside of the American colonies.

Following this initial land grant, Thayendanegea (Joseph Brant) proceeded to negotiate the transfer of some of the Six Nations land grant to settlers. Some transfers were for small tracts and lots which would come to be settled by United Empire Loyalists, largely ex-military men and their families, many of whom were friends, companions or associates of Thayendanegea. Other more substantial blocks, all north of Brantford, were surveyed and sold to local entrepreneurs. Block 1, comprising some 38,164 hectares from Paris to just north of Galt, was sold to Philip Stedman in 1795 (McLaughlin 1987:16-17) and would eventually become “Dumfries.” Block 2, at 38,082 hectares, was sold to Richard Beasley, James Wilson and John Baptiste Rousseau and would later become Waterloo Township, encompassing Hespeler, Preston and Galt (McLaughlin 1987:16-17).

United Empire Loyalists who followed Thayendanegea (Joseph Brant) and the Six Nations to the Grand River Valley comprised many of the earliest settlers in the county. The Township of Burford was the first to be settled, attracting settlers as early as the 1790s. The first survey of the township took place in 1793 (Waldie 1984:8). Settlement in Brantford Township occurred shortly thereafter, along Fairchild Creek, so named for Isaac Fairchild, Sr. (Page & Smith 1875:69). Fairchild opened and operated the first trading post on the creek, known as Smokey Hollow (Luard 1966:13). Another one of the early settlers was John File, who was a member of Butler’s Rangers and friend of Thayendanegea’s (Reville 1920:335). By 1810, only three families had settled on the eastern side of the Grand River between Brantford and Ancaster, but settlement would increase steadily over the next twenty-five years. Other early settlers included John Oles, Isaac Whiting, and Major Westbrook (Mulvany 1883:362). All of these men were United Empire Loyalists who had arrived from the United States (Waldie 1984:11). Thomas Perrin was the first to settle on the western banks of the Grand River. Perrin was a rye farmer who served as captain in the militia and fought at the Battle of Lundy’s Lane (Page & Smith 1875:69).

Following his journey to Detroit from Niagara in 1793, the first Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada, John Graves Simcoe, ordered the construction of a military road between Burlington Bay (Dundas) and the forks of the Thames where he intended to establish the capital of Upper Canada (Smith 1956:4). Located at the forks of the Thames, London never became the capital of Upper Canada, but Dundas Street, also known as the Governor’s Road, was still constructed and by 1794 had reached the Grand River, just south of Paris (Smith 1956:5). Bridges were built across the Grand River as early as 1812, but spring flooding usually destroyed them (Luard 1966:22). In order to exploit the commercial and economic potential of the river, the Grand River Navigation Company was formed. Chartered in 1832 and after many financial setbacks, a canal was

opened in November of 1848 (Luard 1966:24). The canal (along with the Hamilton to London Road which was completed in 1842) was the driving force behind the establishment of mills and factories along the river, and the economic prosperity of local towns. However, the subsequent development of the railway diverted business from the canal, and the Company faced increasing financial difficulties until it declared bankruptcy in June 1861 (Mulvany 1883:280-281).

As reliance on the Grand for the transportation of goods waned, the role of the railway became increasingly important for the success of communities along the river and the surrounding hinterlands. The coming of the railways in 1854 was a boon for local farmers, as demand for wheat abroad increased dramatically. The 1854 Reciprocity Treaty additionally facilitated the exchange of goods with the United States, and industrialized Britain's growing need for goods further advanced the prosperity of not only Brantford, but the entire county (Reville 1920).

2.3.3.2 South Dumfries Township

In 1795, "Dumfries" or "Block I" was transferred to Philip Stedman of the Niagara District. Stedman died shortly thereafter and the land was inherited and later sold by his sister, Mrs. John Sparkman, to one Hon. Thomas Clarke. Clarke, in turn, sold it to William Dickson, a wealthy Scott who helped initiate European settlement in the townships (Mulvany 1883:432-33). In 1817, a year following Dickson's purchase, the Township of Dumfries was surveyed by Adrian Marlett of Ancaster. In subsequent times, Dickson's tract would be divided into North Dumfries (now in the County of Waterloo) and South Dumfries (now in the County of Brant) Townships. Throughout its early history, the territory of South Dumfries was well traveled by settlers and businessmen who were journeying between Dundas, Brantford and Galt. Indigenous trails provided the earliest transportation routes across the township. There are reports of several known trails in the vicinity of Highway 24 and on either bank of the Grand River (Taylor 1970:26, 134). These would eventually become early settlement roads. In 1818, Absalom Shade had a road cut along an Indigenous trail that ran from Galt to Paris. Within the "Lower Town" of Paris, the road roughly followed Grand River Street North to William Street, where it turned west through a dense, spongy swamp to a bridge across the Nith River to Laurel Street and south to Dundas Street (Smith 1956:7). While no major centres emerged in South Dumfries, early settlement grew around several main communities, Paris, St. George, Glen Morris and Harrisburg. In addition, homesteads sprang up along the river's edge along what are now known as East River Road and Highway 24, and other major concession roads. East River Road was also once an Indigenous trail that passed through what would become the communities of Galt and Glen Morris.

2.3.3.3 Town of Paris

The town of Paris lies at the confluence of the Nith and Grand rivers, known initially as the "Forks of the Grand." In the 18th century, prior to the arrival of the first settlers in what would become Paris, a trapper had built a small log-cabin where Hiram Capron was later to build his homestead (Smith 1956:2). However, the first documented settler at the Forks of the Grand was William Holme, an English-born Quaker from a wealthy family who arrived in 1821 (Smith 1956:7). Holme leased the plaster bed on the south bank of the Nith from George Hamilton and sold gypsum as a fertilizer to settlers. Around 1824, Holm supervised the construction of a raceway through the swamp separating the Nith from the Grand and erected a small grinding mill (Smith 1956:8). Holme also supervised the clearing of part of the oak plain north of Paris in the vicinity of the former golf course and high school. Although William Holme along with his brother Christopher and the Curtis family were the earliest settlers in Paris, they are not credited with the town's founding (Page & Smith 1875:68).

In 1829, when Hiram Capron purchased William Holme's land, the "Forks of the Grand" was the location of a plaster bed and mill, and was known as the place where the Governor's Road crossed the Grand River (Smith 1956:10). It was the actions of Hiram Capron Esq. that initiated the formation of the Town of Paris (Byers and McBurney 1982). Hiram Capron Esq., known to the locals as "King Capron", owned all the land that currently forms the "Lower Town" of Paris, north of the Nith River (formerly known as Smith's Creek) in South Dumfries Township (Page & Smith 1875:68). The "Upper Town" of Paris, south of the Nith River and located in Brantford Township was formed from the lands of Robert Roseburgh, Esq. (Page & Smith 1875:68). In 1829, Hiram Capron commissioned surveyor Lewis Burwell to divide part of his land into streets and sold lots for \$10 each (Page & Smith 1875:68).

By 1830, people started to settle the newly formed lots and by 1831 the community was named Paris, after the gypsum beds from which Plaster of Paris is manufactured (Smith 1956:19). Paris was incorporated as a village in 1850 and as a town in 1856. Railways arrived in Paris in 1854, with both the Great Western Railway and the Buffalo, Brantford & Goderich Railway (BB&G) opening to Paris that year. During the construction of railroads, the population nearly doubled from 1810 to 3000, but was back to 2439 when incorporated as a town in 1856 (Smith 1956:90). In the 1880s, the population was roughly 3,000 people and steadily grew to 4,200 by 1924 (Hagopian 1994).

Fire was the primary concern that led to the construction of Paris' municipally-financed waterworks system in 1882-1884 (Hagopian 1994). The beginning of the 20th century was marked by the most significant fires in Paris's history. On September 11-12, 1900, a massive fire consumed much of Paris's core along Grand River Street North south of William Street, including the Roller Mills (Smith 1956). Thirty-eight businesses were destroyed, and damages were estimated to total \$250,000 (Reville 1920). Despite the losses, downtown quickly recovered with the majority of the street rebuilt by 1905 (Wilkinson 2006).

The slow decline of manufacturing in Paris took much of the 20th century, as the mills along Mechanic Street and Willow Street closed. Despite the steady loss of industry, Paris continued to grow incrementally throughout the 20th century according to census data. Tourism and service industries for growing residential neighbourhoods expanded as Paris leveraged its architectural and natural heritage in the latter half of the 20th century and into the 21st. Consequently, major commercial and residential developments north of the Great Western Railway line (now operated by CN), did not take place until the latter part of the 20th century and initially focused on those properties fronting Grand River Street North.

2.3.4 Review of Historic Maps

The 1858 *Tremaine's Map of the County of Brant, Canada West* indicates that the project area is encompassed by the property associated with L.A. Sovereign (Map 8). The map also depicts Grand River Street North, Watts Pond Road, Paris Links Road, and the Great Western Railway in the vicinity of the Sovereign property, but only Grand River Street North is situated within 300 m of the project area. No structures are depicted on the 1858 map and the majority of the Town of Paris is depicted south of the Great Western Railway line.

The 1875 *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the Couty of Brant, Ont.* depicts the project area encompassed by the property associated with L.A. Sovereign. Two residences and two orchards are depicted on the Sovereign property, one of which is situated a short distance northwest of the project area. Gilbert Creek is depicted east of the project area. As with the 1858 map, Grand River Street North, Watts Pond Road, Paris Links Road, and the Great Western Railway in the vicinity of the Sovereign property.

A review of 20th century topographic maps demonstrates that there was little change in the vicinity of the project area until after World War II (Map 10). Both the 1916 and 1940 topographic maps depict a residence slightly northwest of the project. Gilbert Creek is depicted east of the project area and the major roads and railway have not changed significantly (Map 10: top left; top right). By 1968, Scott Avenue had been built and serves a reservoir and pump house east of the project area. There is some development on the west side of Grand River Street North, just north of Scott Avenue. Finally, additional outbuildings are depicted in association with the residence west of the project area, including a large barn (Map 10: bottom left). The 1976 topographic map shows further development along Scott Avenue west of Grand River Street North and along the east side of Grand River Street North south of the project area. A Girl Guide Camp is depicted along Gilbert Creek south of the reservoir and north of the Great Western Railway line (Map 10: bottom right).

Historic orthophotography from 1951, 1966, 2014, and 2017 shows the changes in land use during the 20th and 21st centuries (Map 11). The 1951 aerial imagery shows the project area encompassed by an agricultural field and Scott Avenue appears as a dirt track to the south. The farm complex depicted on topographic maps, is visible to the west (Map 11: top left). By 1966, Scott Avenue has been improved and appear to be a more substantial road. The project area remains encompassed by an agricultural field east of the established farm complex (Map 11: top right). Disturbance is visible in the northeast corner of the intersection of Scott Avenue and Grand River Street North where a building is visible on later aerial imagery. In 2014, the southwest portion of the study area is no longer part of the agricultural field and appears to be a graveled parking area for the adjacent farm complex. Further improvements have been made to Scott Avenue and buildings are visible to the south opposite the farm complex (Map 11: bottom left). In 2017, a majority of the graveled parking area is once again part of a larger agricultural field and fences have been built along Scott Avenue (Map 11: bottom right). Overall, there is some indication of disturbance in the southwestern portion of the project area.

2.3.5 Review of Heritage Properties

The *Ontario Heritage Act* allows for municipalities to protect properties that are considered to hold cultural heritage value or interest. Brant County has numerous listed and designated properties in Paris and surrounding areas (Brant 2022). However, there are no designated or listed heritage properties within 300 m of the project area and no plaques within 50 m of the project area.



2.4 Analysis and Conclusions

As noted in Section 2.1, the Province of Ontario has identified numerous factors that signal the potential of a property to contain archaeological resources. Based on the archaeological and historical context reviewed above, the project area is in proximity (i.e., within 300 m) to features that signal archaeological potential, namely:

- a mapped 19th-century thoroughfare (Grand River Street North);
- a mapped 19th century structure (residence);
- a watercourse (Gilbert Creek); and,
- a registered archaeological site (AhHc-80).

2.5 Recommendations

Given that the project area demonstrated potential for the discovery of archaeological resources, a Stage 2 archaeological assessment was recommended. In keeping with provincial standards, the areas within the project area that consist of agricultural field are recommended for assessment by pedestrian survey at a 5 m transect interval to achieve the provincial standard. As the project area is considered to have archaeological potential pending Stage 2 field inspection, a separate map detailing zones of archaeological potential is not provided herein (MTC 2011; Section 7.7.4, Standard 1 and Section 7.7.6, Standards 1 and 2).

3 STAGE 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

3.1 Field Methods

All fieldwork was undertaken in good weather and lighting conditions. No conditions were encountered that would hinder the identification or recovery of artifacts. The property boundaries were determined in the field based on proponent mapping, landscape features, property fencing, and GPS co-ordinates. The project area consists of two segments within a county owned property; a “Main Block” and an “Eastern Strip.” The majority of both segments is within a hay field. Only the areas to be impacted were ploughed prior to the Stage 2 assessment.

As the majority of the project area is encompassed by an agricultural field, the project area was subject to pedestrian survey. The “Main Block” was surveyed at a 5 m interval (Images 1 and 2), following ploughing and weathering under heavy rains (Image 3) (55.6%; 0.40 ha). Due to the narrow nature of the “Eastern Strip,” this area was surveyed at a 1 m interval (Image 4), following ploughing and weathering under heavy rains and exceeding the provincial standard (Image 5) (31.9%; 0.23 ha). Surface visibility for both segments of the project area was good to excellent (80% or greater). It was anticipated that, if cultural material was identified during the survey, the transects would be reduced to 1 m or less for a minimum 20 m radius around each find and intensively examined to determine the spatial extent of each site. Only a representative number of artifacts would be collected at each location to adequately date it, with the general aim being to leave enough in the field for site re-identification. However, if a location obviously did not meet the criteria for Stage 3 archaeological assessment at the time of the field survey, all of the surface artifacts would be collected and mapped using a E-Survey E-600 GPS/Glonass Network Rover, a high precision survey unit that advertises subcentimetre accuracy.

As per Section 2.1, Standard 2 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (MTC 2011:28-29), certain physical features and deep land alterations are considered as having low archaeological potential and are thus exempt from the standard test pit survey. Approximately 12.5% (0.09 ha) of the project area was disturbed, consisting of the graded gravel parking area (Images 6 and 7) and the graded shoulder of a private road at the end of Scott Avenue with subsurface utilities present (Images 8 and 9). These areas were photo-documented.

Map 12 illustrates the Stage 2 field conditions and assessment methods; the location and orientation of all photographs appearing in this report are also shown on this map. Map 13 presents the Stage 2 results on the proponent mapping. An unaltered proponent map is provided as Map 14.

3.2 Record of Finds

No archaeological materials or sites were identified during the Stage 2 archaeological assessment of the project area. Table 4 provides an inventory of the documentary records generated during this project.

All files are currently being stored at the TMHC corporate office located at 1108 Dundas Street, Unit 105, London, ON, N5W 3A7.

Table 4: Documentary Records

Date	Field Notes	Field Maps	Digital Images
December 19, 2024	Digital and hard copies	Digital and hard copies	8 Images
May 8, 2025	Digital and hard copies	Digital and hard copies	7 Images



May 14, 2025	Digital and hard copies	Digital and hard copies	3 Images
June 2, 2025	Digital and hard copies	Digital and hard copies	3 Images
June 3, 2025	Digital and hard copies	Digital and hard copies	4 Images

3.3 Analysis and Conclusions

A Stage 2 field assessment was conducted in keeping with the MCM's *Standards and Guidelines* (MTC 2011). The pedestrian survey did not result in the documentation of archaeological resources.

3.4 Recommendations

All work met provincial standards and no archaeological material was documented during the assessment. As such, no further archaeological assessment is recommended.

These recommendations are subject to the conditions laid out in Section 5.0 of this report and to the MCM's review and acceptance of this report into the provincial register.



4 SUMMARY

A Stage 1 and 2 archaeological assessment was conducted in advance of the construction of a planned Fire Station to serve North Paris, in Paris, Ontario. The project area is roughly 0.72 ha (1.78 ac) in size and is located within Lot 29, Concession 2, in the Geographic Township of South Dumfries, Town of Paris, Brant County, Ontario. The Stage 1 assessment revealed that the property had potential for the discovery of archaeological resources and a Stage 2 survey was recommended and carried out. The Stage 2 assessment (pedestrian survey at a 5 m interval) did not result in the documentation of archaeological resources. As such, no further archaeological assessment is recommended.

5 ADVICE ON COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION

This report is submitted to the MCM 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 MCM, 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.

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 Archaeology Reports referred to in Section 65.1 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

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*.

The *Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act*, 2002, S.O. 2002, c.33 requires that any person discovering human remains must notify the police or coroner and the Registrar of Cemeteries at the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and Procurement.

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7 IMAGES

Image 1: Pedestrian Survey at 5 m Interval (Main Block)

Looking East



Image 2: Pedestrian Survey at 5 m Interval (Main Block)

Looking South



Image 3: Surface Visibility (Main Block)



Image 4: Pedestrian Survey at 5 m Interval (Eastern Strip)

Looking North



Image 5: Surface Visibility (Eastern Strip)



Image 6: Gravel Parking Area Disturbance (Graded with Gravel Fill)

Looking Southwest



Image 7: Gravel Parking Area Disturbance (Graded with Gravel Fill)

Looking South



Image 8: Grading and Buried Utilities (water main) along Private Road

Looking East



Image 9: Monitoring Well along Private Road

Looking South





8 MAPS

PROJECT LOCATION



Map 1: Location of the Project Area in Brant County, ON

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY

COUNTY OF BRANT ORTHOPHOTOGRAPHY (2024)



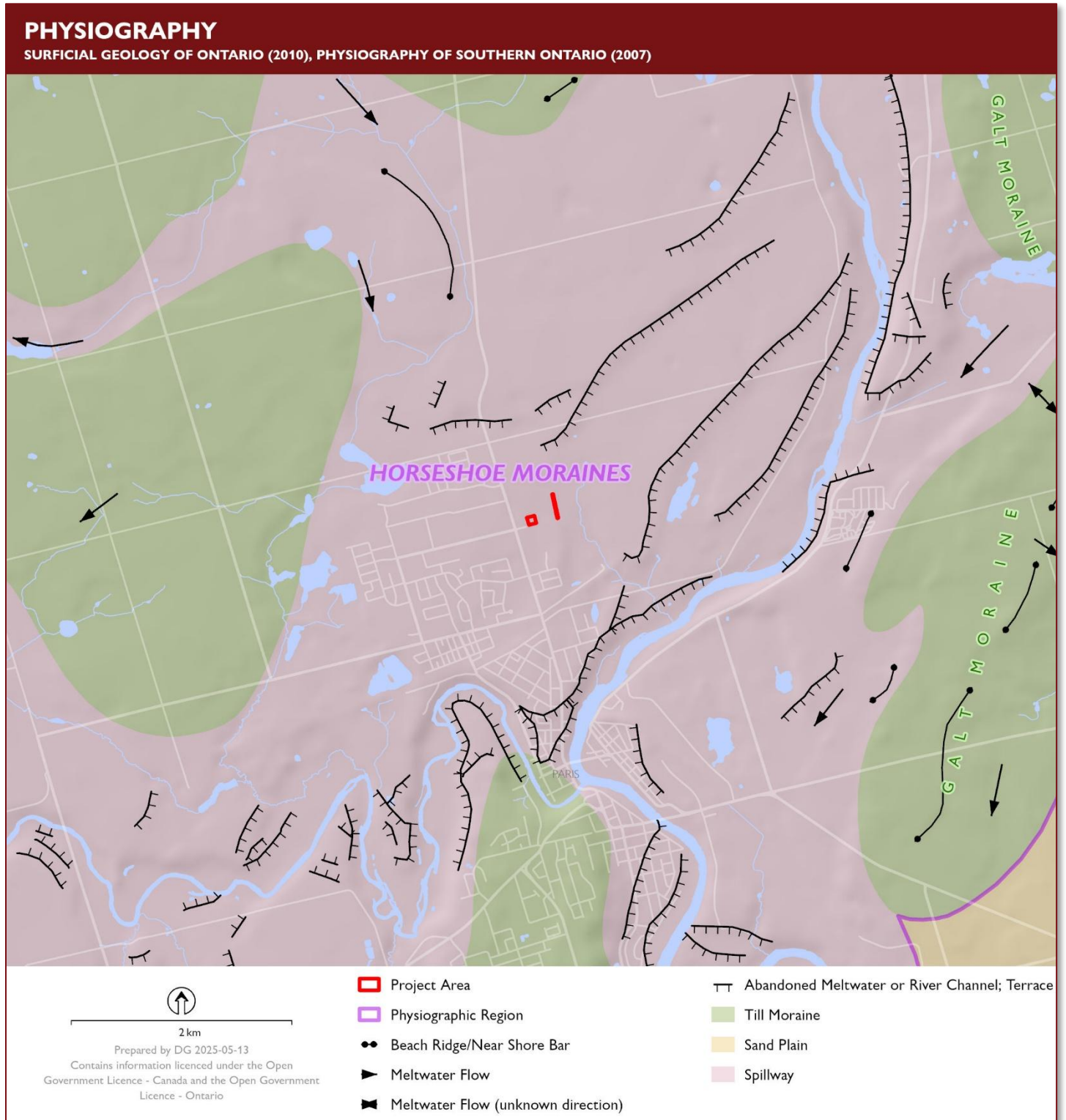
200 m

Prepared by DG 2025-06-04

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Licence - Ontario

 Project Area

Map 2: Aerial Photograph Showing the Location of the Project Area



Map 3: Physiography Within the Vicinity of the Project Area



Map 4: Soils Within the Vicinity of the Project Area



Map 5: Cordon Farms Stage 1-2 Methods and Recommendations (TLA 2019)



STAGE 1 RESULTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

- Study Area
- Report Photo
- ▨ Previous Archaeological Assessment

STAGE 1 ASSESSMENT RESULTS

Areas of Archaeological Potential

- Agricultural Field (Pedestrian Survey Required)
- Grassed, Treed (Test Pit Survey Required)

Areas of Low Archaeological Potential (No Assessment Required)

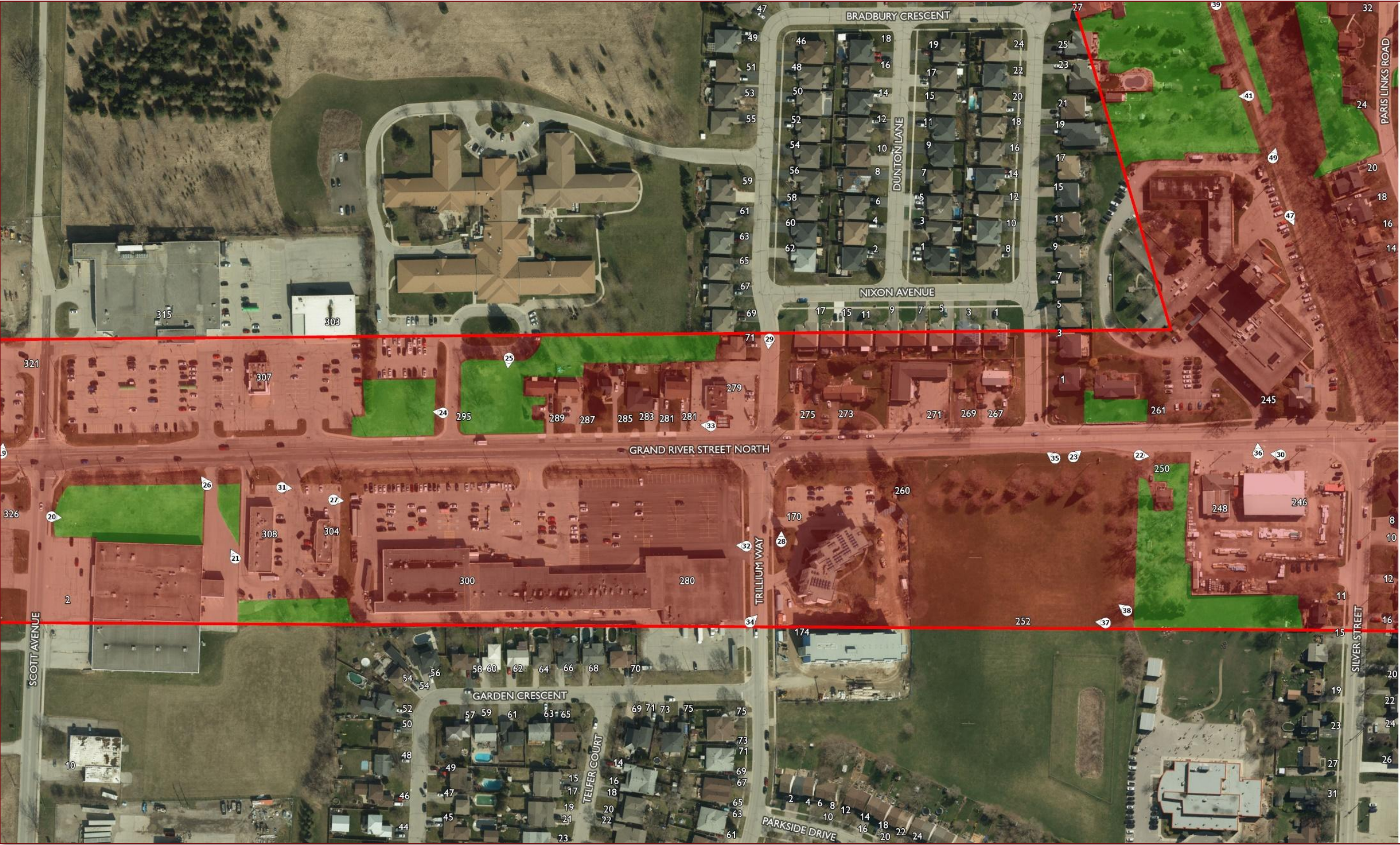
- Disturbed (Paved Areas, Drainage, Structures, Utilities)
- Previously Assessed

Page 1 of 6

100 m

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Map 6: Grand River Street North Stage I Results and Recommendations – Page I of 2 (TMHC 2024)



STAGE 1 RESULTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

- Study Area
- Report Photo

STAGE 1 ASSESSMENT RESULTS

Areas of Archaeological Potential

- Grassed, Treed (Test Pit Survey Required)

Areas of Low Archaeological Potential (No Assessment Required)

- Disturbed (Paved Areas, Drainage, Structures, Utilities)

Page 2 of 6

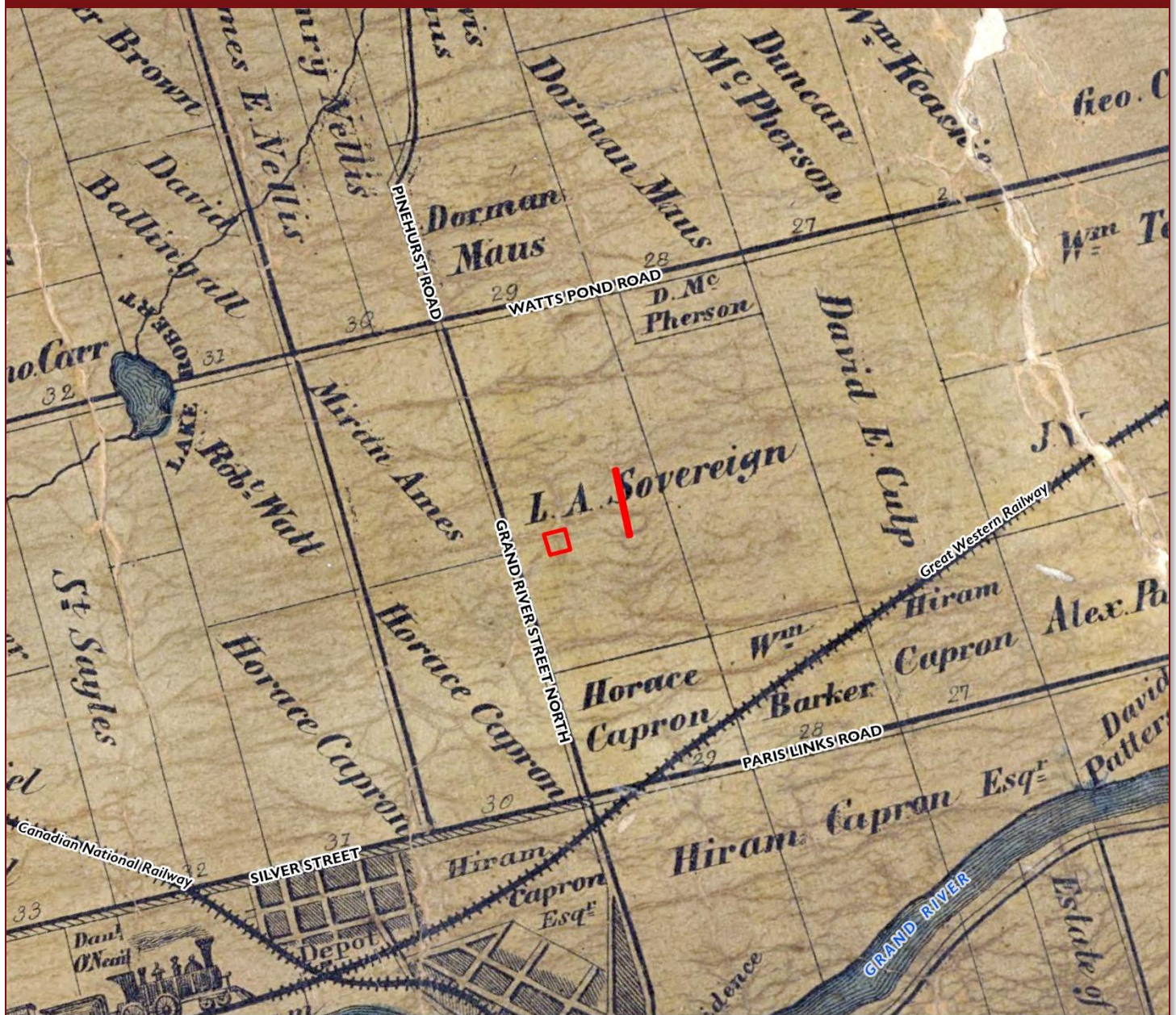
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Map 7: Grand River Street North Stage I Results and Recommendations – Page I of 2 (TMHC 2024)

1859 HISTORIC MAP

TREMAINE'S MAP OF THE COUNTY OF BRANT, CANADA WEST



1,000 m

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Project Area

Map 8: Location of the Project Area Shown on the 1858 Map of Brant County

1875 HISTORIC MAP

ILLUSTRATED HISTORICAL ATLAS OF THE COUNTY OF BRANT, ONT



1,000 m

Prepared by DG 2025-05-13

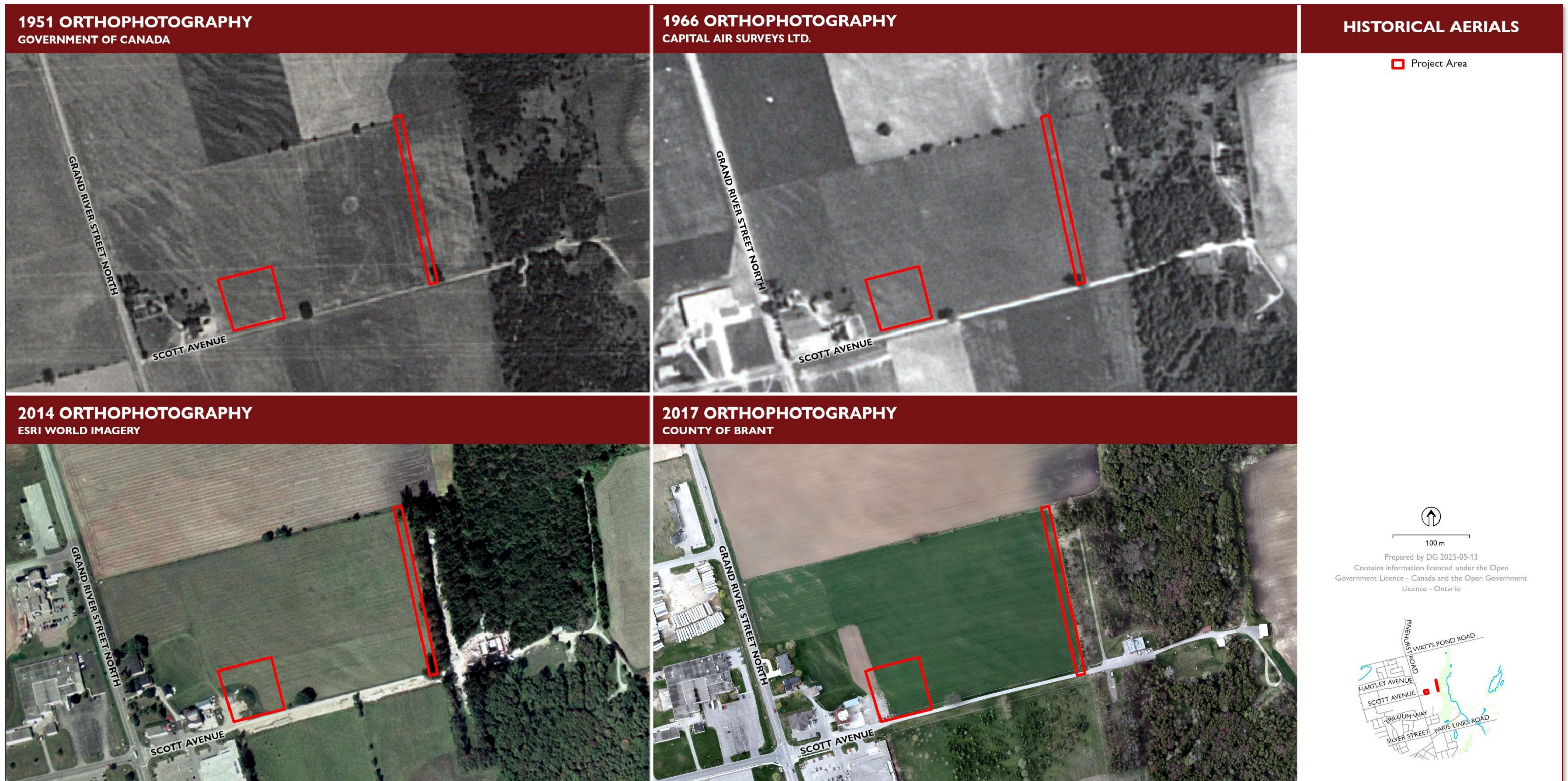
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 Project Area

Map 9: Location of the Project Area Shown on the 1875 Map of Brant County



Map 10: Location of the Project Area on Historic Orthophotography



Map 11: Location of the Project Area on Historic Orthophotography



STAGE 2 METHODS

- Project Area
- Report Photo
- Previously Assessed

STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT METHODS

Areas of Archaeological Potential

- Ploughed Agricultural Field (Pedestrian Survey, 5m Interval)
- Ploughed Agricultural Field (Pedestrian Survey, 1m Interval)

Areas of Low Archaeological Potential

- Not Surveyed, Photo Documented
- Disturbed (Gravel and Utilities)

50 m
Prepared by AT 2025-06-04
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Map 12: Stage 2 Field Conditions and Assessment Methods



STAGE 2 METHODS

- Project Area
- Report Photo
- Previously Assessed

STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT METHODS

Areas of Archaeological Potential

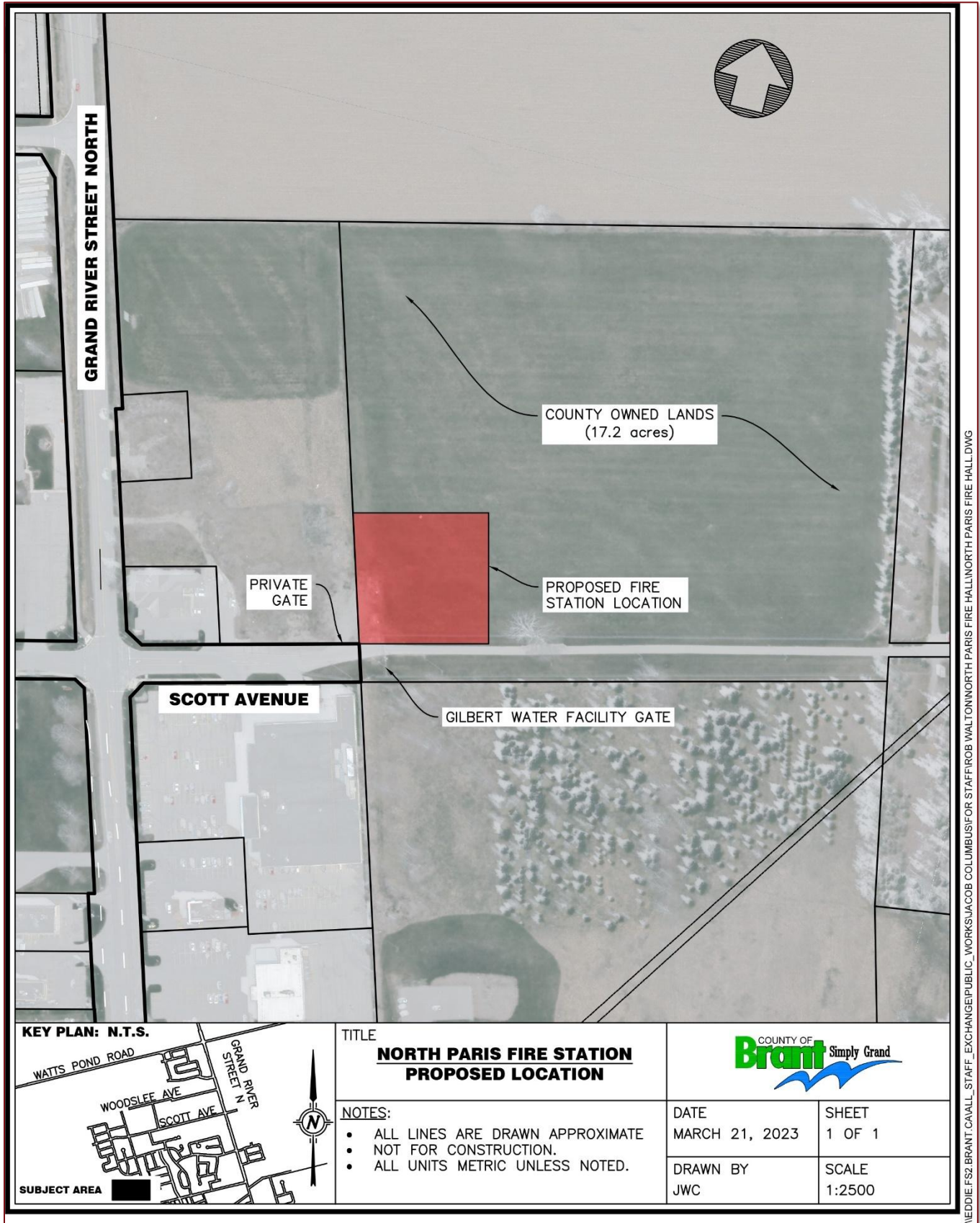
- Ploughed Agricultural Field (Pedestrian Survey, 5m Interval)
- Ploughed Agricultural Field (Pedestrian Survey, 1m Interval)

Areas of Low Archaeological Potential

- Not Surveyed, Photo Documented
- Disturbed (Gravel and Utilities)

50 m
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Map 13: Stage 2 Field Conditions and Assessment Methods Shown on Proponent Mapping



Map 14: Unaltered Proponent Mapping

**Stage I-2 Archaeological Assessment
North Paris Fire Station
Scott Avenue
Town of Paris
Part of Lot 29, Concession 2
Geographic Township of South Dumfries
Brant County, Ontario**

SUPPLEMENTARY DOCUMENTATION

NOT FOR PUBLIC CIRCULATION



Licensee: Lara Wood, MA, PI078
PIF No: PI078-0274-2024
Project No: 2024-283
Dated: June 10, 2025



SD Map I: Cordon Farms Stage 2 Results (TLA 2019)



Summary of Indigenous Engagement

Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) and Six Nations of the Grand River were engaged as part of this project. Communications regarding fieldwork were directed through email by Lara Wood of TMHC. Representatives from MCFN and SNG were present during the Stage 2 fieldwork for fulsome participation. Fieldwork results were communicated to communities via email. A copy of the report was provided to both communities for review prior to the submission of this report to the MCM. No concerns were raised with the report prior to submission.