IRONSTONE
ARCHAEOLOGY

Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment:

Part of Lot 3 Concession 1,
Municipality of Port Hope
Historically part of the Geographic Township of Hope
Northumberland County

Draft Report

PIF#P1037-0345-2025

Licensee: Michael Golloher M.Sc. (P1037)

2025-05-16

Ironstone Archaeology Inc.
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Executive Summary

Ironstone Archaeology Inc.Ironstone) was contracted by the Proponent to conduct a Stage 2 archaeological assessment of a 2.52 hectare area located on Part of Lot 3 Concession 1, Municipality of Port Hope, Northumberland County; historically part of the Geographic Township of Hope Northumberland County (Map 1).

The assessment was triggered as part of a Site Plan Application and was undertaken according to the requirements of the *Planning Act*. In accordance with the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (Government of Ontario 2011). The Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment carried out in 2024 indicated that the study area sits within 300 metres of water resources, as a result it contains the potential to recover Indigenous resources. As a result of the background investigation and the site inspection the study area contains further cultural heritage value or interest (CHVI) and a Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment was recommended. The Stage 2 archaeological assessment was conducted for the following purposes:

- To document any archaeological resources on the property.
- To determine if the property contains archaeological resources requiring further assessment.
- To recommend appropriate Stage 3 assessment strategies for any archaeological sites identified

The Project Information Form Number (PIF) for the Stage 2 assessment was assigned by the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM) as PIF# P1037- 0345-2025 issued to Michael Golloher M.Sc. (P1037). The Stage 2 archaeological assessment of the study area was conducted on May 6th, 2025. Throughout the Stage 2 Assessment, there were no instances where weather or lighting conditions had an adverse impact to the observation and recovery of archaeological material. Weather conditions during the survey were sunny and warm.

Following Stage 1 recommendations, test-pits were excavated at 5 metre intervals in areas of archaeological potential. Test-pits were dug 30cm in diameter and excavated to at least 5cm into natural subsoil. Soils observed were examined for stratigraphy, cultural features, or evidence of fill. All soil from the test pits was screened through six-millimetre mesh and all pits were backfilled. No standing structures were present within the study area.

A total of 61% of the study area was test-pitted at 5m intervals with the remaining area visually confirmed to be low-lying and wet, steep slope, and disturbed by prior construction. These disturbed lands included a 20th century rail way line which once proceeded east-west through the southern portion of the study area, which has been converted into a drainage ditch, as well as a modern drainage pond with associated areas stripped of natural topsoil. Soil stratigraphy consisted of a dark brown sandy loam overlaying a clay-loam loam medium orange subsoil. Test-pits averaged 25 cm in depth.

The assessment resulted in the identification and documentation of no archaeological resources. Therefore, no further archaeological assessment of the Study Area is required.

The Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism is requested to assess this report and issue a letter confirming that the fieldwork and reporting for this archaeological assessment are in compliance with the Ministry's (2011) Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists; as well as the terms and conditions for archaeological licenses. Furthermore, this report is required by Section 65 (1) of the Ontario Heritage Act to be registered in the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports.

Ironstone Archaeology acknowledges the inherent limitations of any archaeological assessment and advises that if any archaeological materials are encountered during construction, the approval authority and the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism must be immediately notified.

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Special Thanks to

Julie Kapyrka, Consultation Manager, Alderville First Nation

1.0 Project Context

1.1 Development Context

Ironstone Archaeology Inc. (Ironstone) was contracted by the Proponent to conduct a Stage 2 archaeological assessment of a 2.52 hectare area located on Part of Lot 3 Concession 1, Municipality of Port Hope Northumberland County; historically part of the Geographic Township of Hope, Northumberland County (Map 1).

The assessment was triggered as part of a Site Plan Application and was undertaken according to the requirements of the *Planning Act*. In accordance with the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (Government of Ontario 2011, the Stage 1 archaeological assessment was conducted for the following purposes:

- To gather information about the geography, history, and current condition of the study area.
- To document any previous archaeological work undertaken and assess the archaeological potential of the study area.
- To make recommendations for suitable strategies for a Stage 2 archaeological assessment if further investigation is deemed necessary.

The Project Information Form Number (PIF) for the Stage 2 assessment was assigned by the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM) as PIF# P1037- 0345-2025 issued to Michael Golloher M.Sc. (P1037).

Permission to access the study area and complete all aspects of the archaeological assessment activities, including fieldwork and photography, was granted by the proponent.

1.2 Historic Context

1.1.1 Pre-Contact History

Table 1 provides an overview of the time periods and cultural characteristics relating to First Nations' settlement in what is now Southern Ontario (Ellis & Ferris 1990). The table is not all encompassing, and not all periods and groups may be represented, as the continuing investigation into the cultural history of the province is an ongoing and ever evolving discipline.

Table 1: Summary of Southern Ontario Pre-Contact Indigenous Cultural History

Date Range (circa)	Cultural Period	Material Culture	Characteristics
10,500- 8,400 BCE	Early Paleo-Indigenous	Fluted Projectile Points- Gainey, Crowfield	Nomadic big game/herd animal hunters
8,400-8,000 BCE	Late Paleo-Indigenous	Hi-Lo, Holcombe, Plano Projectile Points	Gradual population increase.
8,000-6,000 BCE	Early Archaic	Nettling and Bifurcate Base Projectile Points (Kirk, Thebes)	Small Nomadic Hunting Groups More localized tool sources Ground stone tools
6,000-2,500 BCE	Middle Archaic	Brewerton, Otter Creek, and Stanly-Neville Projectile Points	Environment resembles present day Laurentian Tradition (Eastern Ontario) Increased trade networks Increased importance of fishing for subsistence.
2,500-1,800 BCE	Narrow Point Late Archaic	Lamoka and Normanskill Projectile Points	Larger site size
1,800-1,500 BCE	Broad Point Late Archaic	Genessee, Adder Orchard, Perkiomen Projectile Points	Large chipped lithic tools.
1,500-1000 BCE	Small Point (Terminal) Archaic	Crawford Knoll, Innes, Hind Projectile Points	Introduction of Small Projectile points and bow and arrow. First evidence of group cemeteries Exotic trade goods
1000 -400 BCE	Early Woodland	Meadowood Points, Cache Blades, and Birdstones	Introduction of pottery (Vinette I) Expanding stemmed points
400 BC – 500 CE	Middle Woodland	Dentate, Pseudo-scallop shell pottery	Larger spring and summer settlements Monumental mortuary practices (Burial Mounds) Point Peninsula, Saugeen, and Couture Complexes
500-900 CE	Transitional Woodland	Cord-wrapped stick pottery	First evidence of corn horticulture
900-1300 CE	Late Woodland (Early)	Levanna Point	First villages (Longhouses), limited agriculture
1300-1400 CE	Late Woodland (Middle)	Saugeen Projectile Points,	Large Migrating agricultural villages More elaborate smoking pipes
1400-1650 CE	Late Woodland (Latel)	Nanticoke Projectile Points	Migrating villages; Large palisaded villages Tribal warfare Initial European Contact.
1650 CE – modern	Early Historic	Contact period Indigenous and historic European artifacts.	Fur trade Displacement Homesteads

The Palaeolithic Period (10,500 BC-8,000 B.C.E)

Southern Ontario remained inhospitable to human occupation until around 12,500 years ago when the glaciers finally retreated. The vast Laurentide Ice Sheet of the Wisconsinian glacier covered the southwestern Ontario region until approximately 12,500 B.P. During this period, the receding glacial terminus reached the southern edge of what is now Georgian Bay, resulting in the formation of Early Lake Erie and Lake Iroquois, which is the precursor to today's Lake Ontario.

By at least 11,000 B.P., northeastern North America became the home of the Paleo-Indigenous people. In Ontario, the Paleo period is typically divided into the Early Paleo period (11,000 - 10,400 B.P.) and the Late Paleo period (10,500 - 9,400 B.P.), distinguished by changes in tool technology (Ellis and Deller 1990). These early Paleo people consisted of small, nomadic groups of hunter-gatherers who relied on a diverse range of plants and large game animals, covering extensive territories. The size of these groups would fluctuate based on food availability, and campsites likely followed the migration patterns of large game animals (Ellis and Deller 1990; Jamieson 1999).

The archaeological assemblage typical of the Paleo Period includes various stone tools, including fluted projectile points, scrapers, burins, and gravers. Paleo sites in the region are rare. Their scarcity in the region is attributed to the Holocene warming period, which caused water levels in the Great Lakes, including Rice Lake, to rise, subsequently submerging these sites and making them challenging to locate and excavate.

The Archaic Period (8000-950 BC)

The warming climate ended the Paleolithic age and led to the proliferation of white pine and deciduous trees in the region. Archaic populations remained hunter-gatherers with an increasing emphasis on fishing This period is generally characterized by increasing populations, developments in lithic technology (e.g., ground stone tools), and emerging trade networks.

The **Early Archaic Period** (8,000 - 6,000 BCE) is characterized by the presence of Side-Notched (8,000-7,700 BCE), Corner-Notched (7,700-6,900 BCE), and Bifurcated (6,900-6,000 BCE) projectile points. Early Archaic sites have been recorded throughout much of southwestern Ontario extending as far north as the Lake Huron Basin region and as far east as Rice Lake (Deller et al. 1986).

The **Middle Archaic Period** (6000-2500 BCE) is largely defined by a more diversified tool kit including polished stone tools and the utilization of various raw materials for lithic production. Technological innovations occurred during this period including the introduction grooved stone net-sinkers indicating an emphasis on fishing, and the introduction of bannerstones, which served as counterweights for atlatls (Ellis et al 1990: 81). Stemmed corner notched points (Brewerton, Otter Creek, Stanly/Neville) are also indicative of Middle Archaic Sites. The prevalent use of local chert, often of inferior quality, implies a contraction of territorial ranges during the Middle Archaic, as well as a breakdown in regional trading.

In Eastern Ontario, the Middle Archaic presents a distinctive cultural tradition, originally outlined by W. Ritchie, known as the “Laurentian Archaic”. These sites are thought to be localized to the “Lake Forest” transitional region of Eastern Ontario, Southern Quebec, Northern New York and Vermont, between deciduous forests to the south and boreal northern forests. Laurentian Archaic sites are identifiable through the association of certain diagnostic tool types, including ground slate semi-lunar knives (or “ulus”), plummets, a variety of ground slate points, and ground stone gouges, adzes and ungrooved axes. Notched end-scrapers and drills are also typical of Laurentian Sites, as well as a variety of bone tools including: stemmed, socketed and barbed points and harpoons, awls, gouges and hooks, bi-pointed

gorges, flutes, and perforated bear canines. Although a number of sites have been found in western Ontario with isolated tools associated with the Laurentian tradition, thus far none have presented the full suite of material mentioned above typical of Laurentian sites in Eastern Ontario. Laurentian sites also differ from contemporary sites in Western Ontario by a much greater frequency of copper tools, indicating a trade network with resources from the north shores of Lake Superior. Slate projectile points are also largely absent from Western Ontario Middle Archaic sites (Ellis et al 1990:86, 92).

The **Late Archaic Period** (2,500 - 1000 BCE) is better documented than the Middle Archaic and it is believed that groups at this time had a more sedentary lifestyle, with the appearance of true cemeteries, and more diversified tool technologies, which culminated in the advent of ceramics around 1000 BCE. Generally, the Late Archaic has been subdivided into the Narrow Point Late Archaic (2500-1800 BCE), Broad Point Late Archaic (1800-1500 BCE), and Small Point (Terminal) Archaic (1500-1000 BCE). The late Archaic is noted for the establishment of long-term camps, and complex trade networks. Sites are largely defined by projectile point style, with small point technology arising during the Terminal Archaic indicating the invention of the bow and arrow (Snary and Ellis 2010:36). Sandstone and quartz also become more prevalent in use as tools. Late archaic sites also include bone tools such as awls, notched projectile points, and barbed hooks (Ellis et al 1990). The prevalence of Late Archaic sites surpasses those from the Early or Middle Archaic periods. This trend suggests a possible population growth during the Late Archaic era. However, around 4,500 years ago, the water levels in the Great Lakes started to increase, eventually shaping into their current form. This rise in water levels likely led to the submersion of many Early and Middle Archaic sites, accounting for their relative scarcity in the archaeological record (Ellis *et al* 1990:93).

The Woodland Period (1000 BCE-1650 CE)

The Woodland period begins with the introduction of ceramics and is divided into the Early Woodland Period (1000-400 BCE), the Middle Woodland Period (400 BCE to 900 CE), and the Late Woodland (900–1650 CE European Contact) periods.

The **Early Woodland Period** (1000-400 BCE), is characterized by the emergence of Vintette I ceramics and Meadowood bifaces and projectile points. Caches of Meadowood preforms are prevalent during this period.

The **Middle Woodland Period** (400 BCE- 900 CE) is identified primarily by changes in pottery style (e.g.,Vinette II; the addition of decoration), although the Bruce Boyd and Dawson Creek sites noted punctates on Vinette I vessels (Spence *et al* 1990: 137). Distinct ceramic styles appear during this period with decorations including dentate stamping, pseudo-scalloped shell impressions.

In Northern Ontario the Middle Woodland begins at the Laurel Complex (c.200 BCE). In Southern Ontario the Middle Woodland is loosely divided into the Couture Complex of Southwestern most Ontario, the Saugeen Complex of Western Ontario, and the Point Peninsula Complex of Central and Eastern Ontario. These all emphasize pseudo-scalloped and dentate impressions with regional variants of ceramic production style and lithic and bone assemblages (ibid 143). Middle Woodland sites are characterized by large middens and structures indicating a shift toward larger group (macro-band) settlements, particularly focused on fishing activities. These groups often revisited sites seasonally across multiple years (Spence et al., 1990). One of the most notable features of the Middle Woodland Period in this region is the construction of burial mounds, a practice possibly influenced by the Hopewell culture of the Ohio River Valley. These mounds often contained elaborate grave goods, suggesting a complex social structure. Domesticated

plants began to be introduced towards the end of Middle Woodland which coincides with semi-permanent villages (Fox 1990:

The **Late Woodland Period** (900CE-1650CE) is largely defined by the corn horticulture and village settlements. Hopewellian influence diminishes toward the end of the Middle Woodland Period and pottery forms are generally more globular, varied and regionally complex. Lithics are more locally sourced in the Late Woodland, and projectile point forms are largely finely made triangular forms (Fox 1990:132). Elaborate burial mounds disappear in the Late Woodland, and are replaced by group burials and ossuaries. By the beginning of the fourteenth century, large fortified villages appear in Southern Ontario indicating regional conflict. By the period of European contact distinct regional populations occupied specific areas of Ontario.

1.1.2 Post-Contact Historical Summary

Euro-Canadian first contact in the area is documented during Samuel de Champlain's 1615 voyage with the Huron from Georgian Bay to the St. Lawrence River via the Trent-Severn waterway region (Brunger 1985:95). These early accounts describe the area at the time as loosely defined hunting territory associated with the Huron Confederacy (Trigger 1994). Section 1.2.3 describes contemporary oral history which states that the area was shared at this time with the Huron by the Anishinaabeg people who were the descendants of the ancient keepers of the region (Williams and Kapyrka 2015; Williams 2018:36-37). During this time, European influence in the region was primarily limited to the beaver pelt trade, and Indigenous groups maintained a way of life that closely resembled the Pre-Contact Period.

By the 1640s, the beaver pelt supply had significantly diminished, leading to the invasion of Huronia by the League of Five Nations Iroquois. By 1649, the Iroquois had destroyed five Huron villages, leading to the collapse of the Huron Confederacy and the dispersal of its members into the Petun, Neutral, and other Indigenous groups (Stone and Chaput 1978). The Michi Saagiig people retreated to the upper Great Lakes region during this tumultuous period, seeking refuge from the outbreaks of disease and violence (Williams 2018:41). A series of Iroquios villages were established along the north shore of Lake Ontario to facilitate trade with European settlers in the 17th century including the Cayuga village of Ganaraske which is depicted on mapping at the mouth of the Ganaraska River (Robinson 1933; Clayton 2024).

Towards the end of the seventeenth century, the Michi Saagiig returned to the region, prompting the Iroquois to retreat to New York State after a brief period of conflict (Williams 2018:42-44). Its unknown exactly when the Cayuga abandoned Ganaraske, however the area was occupied in the latter half of the 18th century by the Mississauga who had established the village known as Cochingomink on the eastern bank of the Ganaraska River. This name is said to translate as "the commencement of the carrying-place," which implies a trading system north along the Ganaraska River into Rice Lake and beyond.

The Michi Saagiig went on to play a crucial role in facilitating trade between Indigenous groups and European settlers, adapting to new economic opportunities while preserving their cultural heritage (Williams 2018:45). This dynamic interplay between Indigenous resilience, adaptation, and cultural continuity is emblematic of the enduring legacy of the Michi Saagiig and their enduring connection to the study area.

The current study area lies within the "Gunshot Treaty" which was signed between the British and the Mississaugas in 1787 covering the north shore of Lake Ontario, beginning at the eastern boundary of the Toronto Purchase, and continuing east to the Bay of Quinte, where it meets the Crawford Purchase. This Treaty was later found to be deficient and negotiations with the Government of Canada; and four Mississauga nations, Alderville First Nation, Curve Lake First Nation, Hiawatha First Nation, and the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation, and three Chippewa nations: Beausoliel First Nation, Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation and Chippewas of Rama First Nation, resulted in the signing of the Williams Treaties in 1923. Litigation ensued questioning the details of the Williams Treaties and a settlement was carried out in 2018 between Williams Treaties First Nations, the Government of Canada, and the Provincial Government of Ontario.

1.1.3 Oral History

The following is an excerpt provided by Curve Lake First Nation, from an oral history of the region, as recounted by Gitiga Migizi (Doug Williams), a respected Elder and Knowledge Keeper of the Michi Saagiig Nation:

> *The traditional homelands of the Michi Saagiig (Mississauga Anishinaabeg) encompass a vast area of what is now known as southern Ontario. The Michi Saagiig are known as "the people of the big river mouths" and were also known as the "Salmon People" who occupied and fished the north shore of Lake Ontario where the various tributaries emptied into the lake. Their territories extended north into and beyond the Kawarthas as winter hunting grounds on which they would break off into smaller social groups for the season, hunting and trapping on these lands, then returning to the lakeshore in spring for the summer months.*
>
> *The Michi Saagiig were a highly mobile people, travelling vast distances to procure subsistence for their people. They were also known as the "Peacekeepers" among Indigenous nations. The Michi Saagiig homelands were located directly between two very powerful Confederacies: The Three Fires Confederacy to the north and the Haudenosaunee Confederacy to the south. The Michi Saagiig were the negotiators, the messengers, the diplomats, and they successfully mediated peace throughout this area of Ontario for countless generations.*
>
> *Michi Saagiig oral histories speak to their people being in this area of Ontario for thousands of years. These stories recount the "Old Ones" who spoke an ancient Algonquian dialect. The histories explain that the current Ojibwa phonology is the 5th transformation of this language, demonstrating a linguistic connection that spans back into deep time. The Michi Saagiig of today are the descendants of the ancient peoples who lived in Ontario during the Archaic and Paleo-Indian periods. They are the original inhabitants of southern Ontario, and they are still here today.*
>
> *The traditional territories of the Michi Saagiig span from Gananoque in the east, all along the north shore of Lake Ontario, west to the north shore of Lake Erie at Long Point. The territory spreads as far north as the tributaries that flow into these lakes, from Bancroft and north of*

the Haliburton highlands. This also includes all the tributaries that flow from the height of land north of Toronto like the Oak Ridges Moraine, and all of the rivers that flow into Lake Ontario (the Rideau, the Salmon, the Ganaraska, the Moira, the Trent, the Don, the Rouge, the Etobicoke, the Humber, and the Credit, as well as Wilmot and 16 Mile Creeks) through Burlington Bay and the Niagara region including the Welland and Niagara Rivers, and beyond.

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

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

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

Michi Saagiig Elder Gitiga Migizi (2017) recounts:

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

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

these treaties and we are the ones to be dealt with officially in any matters concerning territory in southern Ontario.

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

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

See Williams and Kapyrka 2015; Williams 2018

1.1.4 Historic Plaques

No historic plaques are found nearby associated with the current study area.

1.1.5 Euro-Canadian Regional Settlement History

After the initial period of contact with European explorers and French Missionaries, and following the Treaty of Paris in 1763, the area known today as Southern Ontario began to be populated by United Empire Loyalists who moved northwards following the end of the American Revolution. In order to administer these treaty lands, the British Crown established 19 individual counties in 1792 (Cole 1975:4-5). Townships within each county were surveyed and Crown Patents were transferred to individuals and organizations.

In 1792 the County of Durham was created by a proclamation of Lieutenant Governor Simcoe. The boundaries were by the Parliament of Upper Canada in 1798, and included the townships Clarke, Darlington and Hope. The township of Eldon, Fenelon and Verulam were added in to Durham County in 1834. Durham County merged with Northumberland County in 1850. In 1974, half of Durham County was merged with Ontario County to create the Regional Municipality of Durham. Various other townships were transferred to adjacent Counties including the township of Manvers which was transferred to Victoria County, the township of Cavan which was transferred to Peterborough County, and the Township of Hope which was transferred to Northumberland County, where it is now part of the town of Port Hope.

The first official colonial settler in what would become Hope Township was the Fur Trader Peter Smyth who traded with the Mississauga near the mouth of the Ganaraska River around 1778 up until 1790. By 1780 the area had taken the English name Smith's Creek (Clayton 2024).

The first United Empire Loyalists to settle in the area were Elias Smith, and Jonathan and Abraham Walton in 1792. Between 1793 and 1797 they helped settle forty families in the newly created Township of Hope.

The name of the town was changed to Port Hope in 1819 in honour of Lieutenant-Governor of Quebec, Col. Henry Hope. Port Hope was incorporated into a town in 1834 (Mika and Mika, 1983). By 1844 the population of Port Hope had grown to around 1,200, and the bustling community was on the Stage coach route from Toronto to Kingston with steamboat ferries offering daily routes to Toronto, Kingston and Rochester. The main exports for Port Hope in 1844 were lumber (91000 feet), wheat (58 099 bushels), flour (8452 barrels), and pipe staves (5130) (Smith 1846: 150). The construction of the Midland Railway in the 1850's permitted access to communities to the north and furthered the economic prosperity of the town. The collapse of the lumber industry in the 1880's disrupted the growth of Port Hope and today it remains a modest sized municipality.

1.1.6 Euro-Canadian Land Use History of Study Area

The study area is located in the northern half of Lot 3 Concession 1 in historic Hope Township. The Crown patent was granted in 1801 to Myndert Harris. In 1811 Harris sold 113.75 acres to Thomas Ward. The lot was subdivided in 1861 with George Charles Ward buying 49.5 acres on the western portion of the lot in which the study area sits in 1861. Mapping from 1861 indicated G.C. Ward as owning the western portion of the lot with a historic settlement in the southern portion of Lot 3. These holdings are referred to as Rose Hill Farms at this time (Map 3). In 1868 G.C. Ward sold the 49.5 acres to C.H. Williams. Williams later acquired additional land on Lot 3 and the study area is shown as within the Williams Estate on mapping from 1878 (Map 4). The Williams Estate sold their holdings on Lot 3 to Paul Bennett in 1906 and in 1910 a portion of the study area was sold to the Canadian Northern Ontario Railway. Lands to the south of the study area were sold to Trinity College in 1911.

The Canadian Northern Ontario Railway line was built within the study area circa. 1910-11. It passed in an east-west direction through the southern portion of the study area. By 1918 the Canadian Northern Railway was bankrupt and the line was abandoned (Clayton 2024). The location of the earthwork ditches associated with the abandoned railway and hydro corridor along the southern portion of the study area is depicted on historic orthophotography (Map 3) and 20th century topographic mapping from 1951 and 1973 (Map 4).

Topographic mapping and satellite imagery from the 20th century to present indicate that the study area was initially mostly farmland which had been converted to woodlot (Map 4). Between 2013 and 2014 a large drainage pond was constructed in the northern and eastern portions of the study area and additional construction and grading activities are shown in satellite imagery having taken place along the northwestern portion of the study area (Map 7).

1.3 Archaeological Context

1.1.7 Registered Archaeological Sites / Previous Archaeological Fieldwork

The MCM keeps a database of all known registered archaeological sites in Ontario. The Archaeological Sites Database indicates that five archaeological sites are located within a one kilometre radius of the study area. *Table 2* indicates the MCM Archaeological Site Database for sites within one kilometres of the study area. None of these sites is located within 500 metres of the present study area.

Table 2: Registered Archaeological Sites Located within One Kilometres of the Study Area.

Borden #	Site Name	Time Period	Affinity	Site Type	Current Development Review Status
AlGn-8	E. W. Austin 2	Archaic	Aboriginal	Unknown	
AlGn-40	FS008	Post-Contact, Woodland	Aboriginal, Euro-Canadian	Other-Gardening, Unknown	No Further CHVI
AlGn-39	Ganaraska River I	Woodland		camp / campsite	Further CHVI
AlGn-32		Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	burial	Further CHVI
AlGn-25	-	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian		N/A

Ironstone Archaeology carried out a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment including a background history and a site inspection in 2024 under PIF #P1037-0335-2024. The following analysis and recommendations were made:

> *The site inspection found the study area to be partially disturbed by the construction of two drainage ponds with a paved access road along the north and eastern portion, as well as a hydro-corridor and 20th century railway construction with associated artificial channelized ditches, which would have removed any archaeological potential. The remainder of the study area was found to be flat woodlot in which minor grading may have occurred in the past but still presents archaeological potential.... Background research and a property inspection has determined that the study area exhibits archaeological potential and a further Stage 2 archaeological assessment is required. Due to the wooded nature of the study area, a Stage 2 test-pit assessment shall be carried out on areas which have archaeological potential. Test pits shall be excavated at 5 metre intervals, dug 30cm in diameter and excavated to at least 5cm into natural subsoil. Soils shall be examined for stratigraphy, cultural features, or evidence of fill. All soil from the test pits shall be screened thru six-millimetre mesh and all pits backfilled. Test pits shall be excavated with one metre of any standing structures, although none are currently present on the lot.*
>
> *Ironstone 2025: 17-19*

No other archaeological surveys were identified which were carried out within 50 metres of the study area. The closest archaeological assessment was a Stage 1-2 Assessment conducted in 2023 on a 4.77 ha area west of the current study area adjacent to the east bank of the Ganaraska River on Lots 4 and 5 of Concession 1. A total of 2.4 ha of the area was test-pitted and no archaeological resources were observed (ASI 2023:1).

1.1.8 Geography

The study area is located within clay plains of the Iroquois Plain Physiographic region of Ontario (Map 5) which is characterized by flat-to-undulating plain of limestone with thin soil (Chapman & Putnam 1984:186). The surficial geology of the study area is listed as mainly stone-poor, sandy silt to silty sand-textured till on Paleozoic terrain (Map 6). Soil mapping indicates the study area contains Newcastle Loam, a fair to good draining grey-brown loam over light brown loam underlain by weak reddish brown clay loam, and loam, high in lime with some stones (Webber et al. 1946:42-43).

Proximity to water resources is a main indicator of archaeological potential, and any water resources located within 300 metres of a study area require an additional Stage 2 archaeological assessment. The nearest water source is a small tributary of Gage Creek located approximately 235 metres southeast of the study area, a second tributary of Gage Creek is located approximately 260 metres east of the study area. Gage Creek flows into Lake Ontario approximately two kilometres southeast of the study area.

2.0 Field Methods

The Stage 2 archaeological assessment of the study area was conducted on May 6th, 2025. Throughout the Stage 2 Assessment, there were no instances where weather or lighting conditions had an adverse impact to the observation and recovery of archaeological material. Weather conditions during the survey were sunny and warm.

Test-pits were excavated at 5 metre intervals in areas of archaeological potential. Test-pits were dug 30cm in diameter and excavated to at least 5 cm into natural subsoil. Soils observed were examined for stratigraphy, cultural features, or evidence of fill. All soil from the test pits was screened thru six-millimetre mesh and all pits were backfilled. No standing structures were present within the study area.

A total of 61% of the study area was test-pitted at 5m intervals with the remaining area visually confirmed to be low-lying and wet, steep slope, and disturbed by prior construction. These disturbed lands included the area of a 20th century rail way line which proceeded east-west through the southern portion of the study area which has been converted into a drainage ditch, and a modern drainage pond with associated areas stripped of natural topsoil. Soil stratigraphy consisted of a dark brown sandy loam overlaying a clay-loam loam medium orange subsoil. Test-pits averaged 25 cm in depth.

3.0 Analysis and Conclusion

Ironstone Archaeology was consulted to carry out a Stage 2 archaeological assessment for a 2.52 hectare area located on Part of Lot 3 Concession 1, Municipality of Port Hope, Northumberland County; historically part of the Geographic Township of Hope Northumberland County.

The Stage 2 archaeological assessment was carried out on May 6, 2025.

No archaeological resources were observed during the course of the Stage 2 assessment.

4.0 Recommendations

No archaeological resources were identified in the study area during the course of the Stage 2 archaeological assessment. Thus, in accordance with Section 2.2 and Section 7.8.4 of the MCM'S 2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (Government of Ontario 2011), no further archaeological assessment is required for the study area.

Ironstone Archaeology acknowledges the inherent limitations of any archaeological assessment and advises that if any archaeological materials are encountered during construction, the approval authority, the consultant archaeologist and the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism must be immediately notified.

The Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism is requested to assess this report and issue a letter confirming that the fieldwork and reporting for this archaeological assessment are in compliance with the Ministry's (2011) *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*; as well as the terms and conditions for archaeological licenses. Furthermore, this report is required by Section 65 (1) of the Ontario Heritage Act to be registered in the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports.

5.0 Advice on Compliance with Legislation

Following *Section 7.5.9 Standard 1* of the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologist* the following statement is included for the benefit of the proponent and approval authority:

> *This report is submitted to the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism 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 Citizenship and Multiculturalism, 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 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 (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.*
>
> *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.*
>
> (Government of Ontario 2011:126-127)

6.0 References

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7.0 Images

Image 1: Study Area Conditions. SE.

Image 2: Study Area Conditions. E.

Image 3: Study Area Conditions. N.

Image 4: Study Area Conditions. S.

Image 5: Study Area Conditions. W.

Image 6: Study Area Conditions. N.

Image 7: Study Area Conditions. WSW.

Image 8: Study Area Conditions. E.

Image 9: Study Area Conditions. WSW.

Image 10: Study Area Conditions. WSW.

Image 11: Study Area Conditions. ENE.

Image 12: Study Area Conditions. SE.

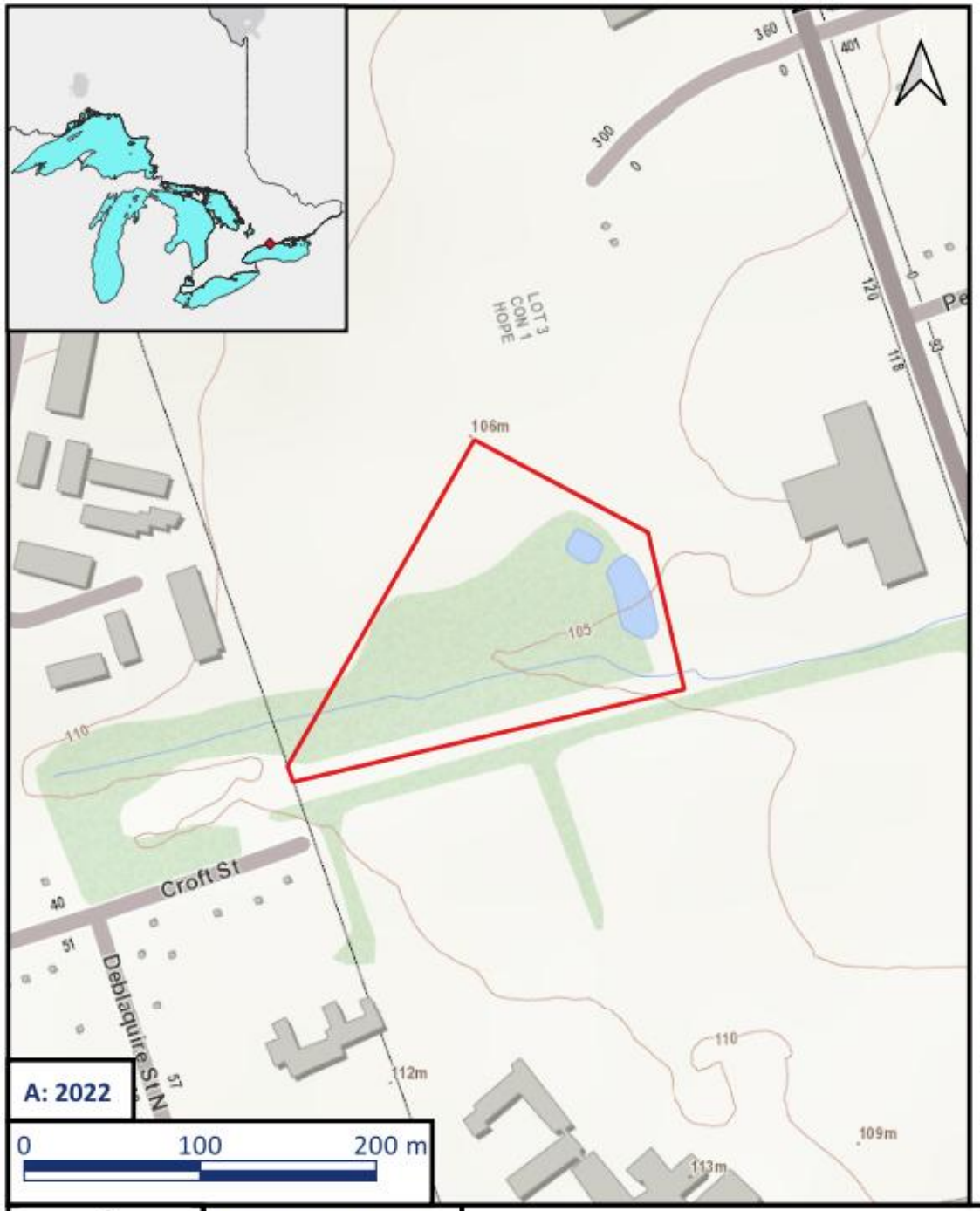
Image 13: Study Area Conditions. NE.

Image 14: Study Area Conditions. N.

Image 15: Test Pit Survey in Progress. N.

Image 16: Example of Undisturbed Study Area Soil Stratigraphy. W.

8.0 Maps



A: 2022

B: 2018

MHP INC

A: Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. 2022. Land Information Ontario - Topographic Data Cache.

B: Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. 2018. SCOOP Aerial Imagery.

Map 1: Study Area Location

Legend

Study Area

IRONSTONE ARCHAEOLOGY

MAP morningstar archaeology and paleobotany INC

Map is Not to Scale

Basemap: H. Belden & Co. 1878. Hope Township. In Illustrated historical atlas of the counties of Northumberland and Durham, Ont. Toronto : H. Belden & Co.

Map 2: 19th Century Historical Mapping

Legend

Study Area

IRONSTONE ARCHAEOLOGY

MAP INC
morningstar archaeology and paleobotany

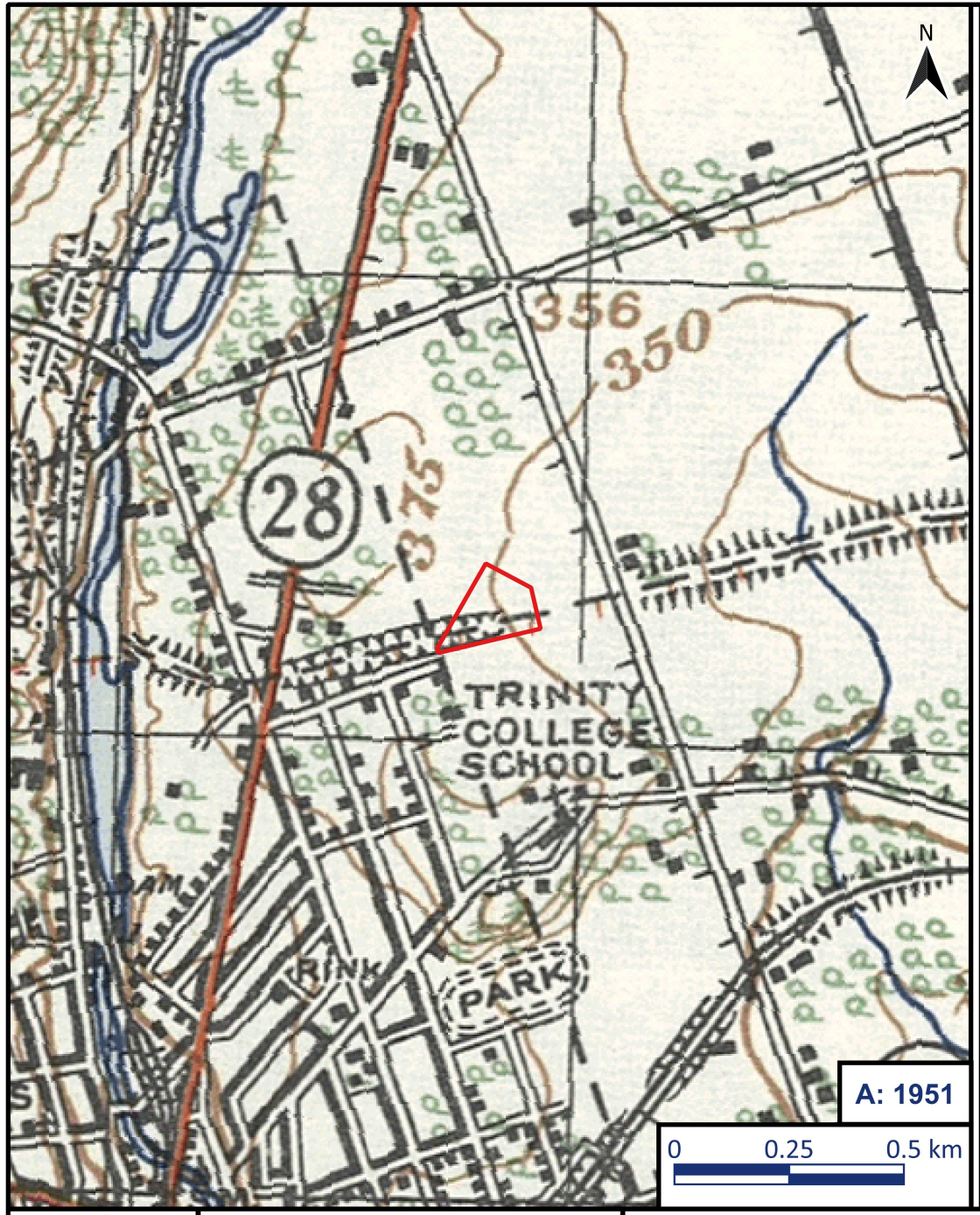
Basemap:
Hunting Survey Corporation Limited. (1954). Digital Aerial Photographs, Southern Ontario 1954.

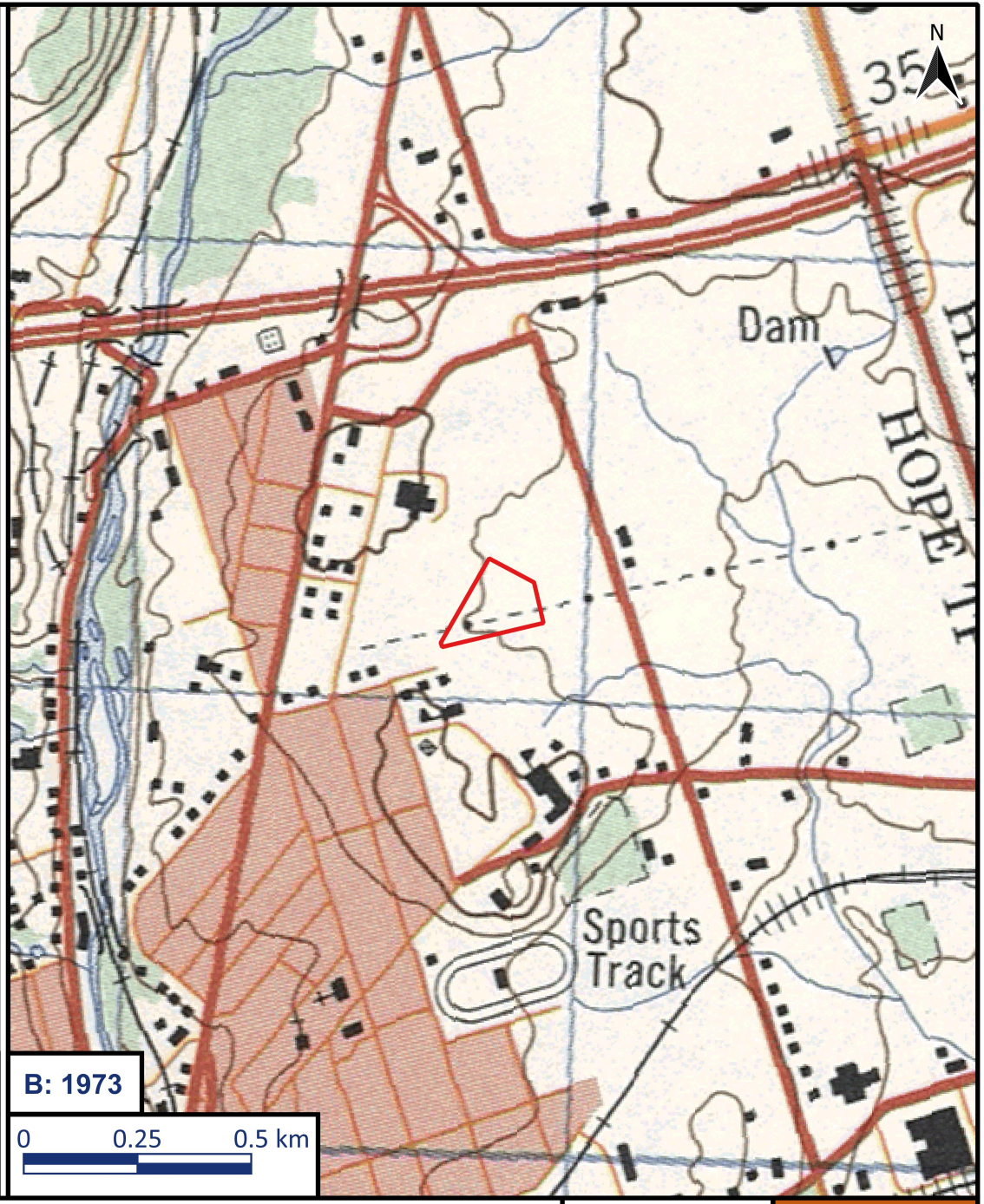
Map 3: 20th Century Orthophotography

Legend

Study Area

IRONSTONE ARCHAEOLOGY





MAP morningstar archaeology and paleobotany INC

A: Government of Canada, Army Survey Establishment. Port Hope (West) Ontario. 1:50,000. Map Sheet 030M16, ed. 1, 1951.

B: Government of Canada, Army Survey Establishment. Port Hope Ontario. 1:50,000. Map Sheet 030M16, ed. 3, 1973.

Map 4: Historic Topographic Maps

Legend

Study Area

IRONSTONE ARCHAEOLOGY

Legend

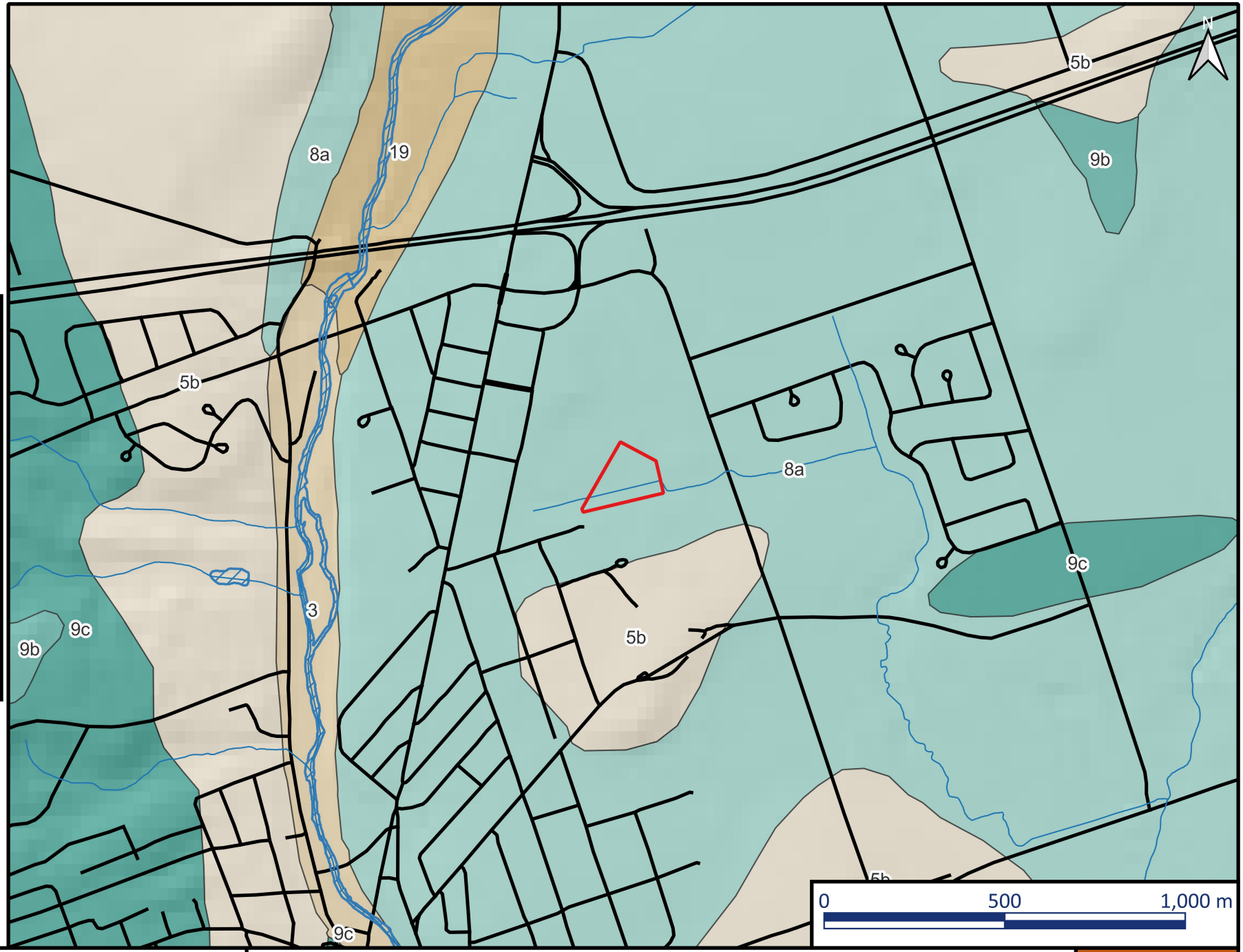
- Study Area
- Roadway
- Watercourse
- Waterbody
- 6 - Till Plains (Drumlinized)
- 7 - Drumlins
- 12 - Clay Plains

MAP morningstar archaeology and paleobotany INC

Basemap:
Chapman, L.J. and Putnam, D.F. 1984. Physiography of Southern Ontario; Ontario Geological Survey, King's Press.

Map 5: Physiographic Regions

IRONSTONE ARCHAEOLOGY



Legend

- Study Area
- Roadway
- Watercourse
- Waterbody
- 19 - River deposits
- 3 - Bedrock
- 5b - Glacial deposits (Newmarket /Northern/Bowmanville Till)
- 8a - Glacial lake deposits
- 9b - Glacial lake deposits
- 9c - Glacial lake deposits

MAP morningstar archaeology and paleobotany INC

Basemap:
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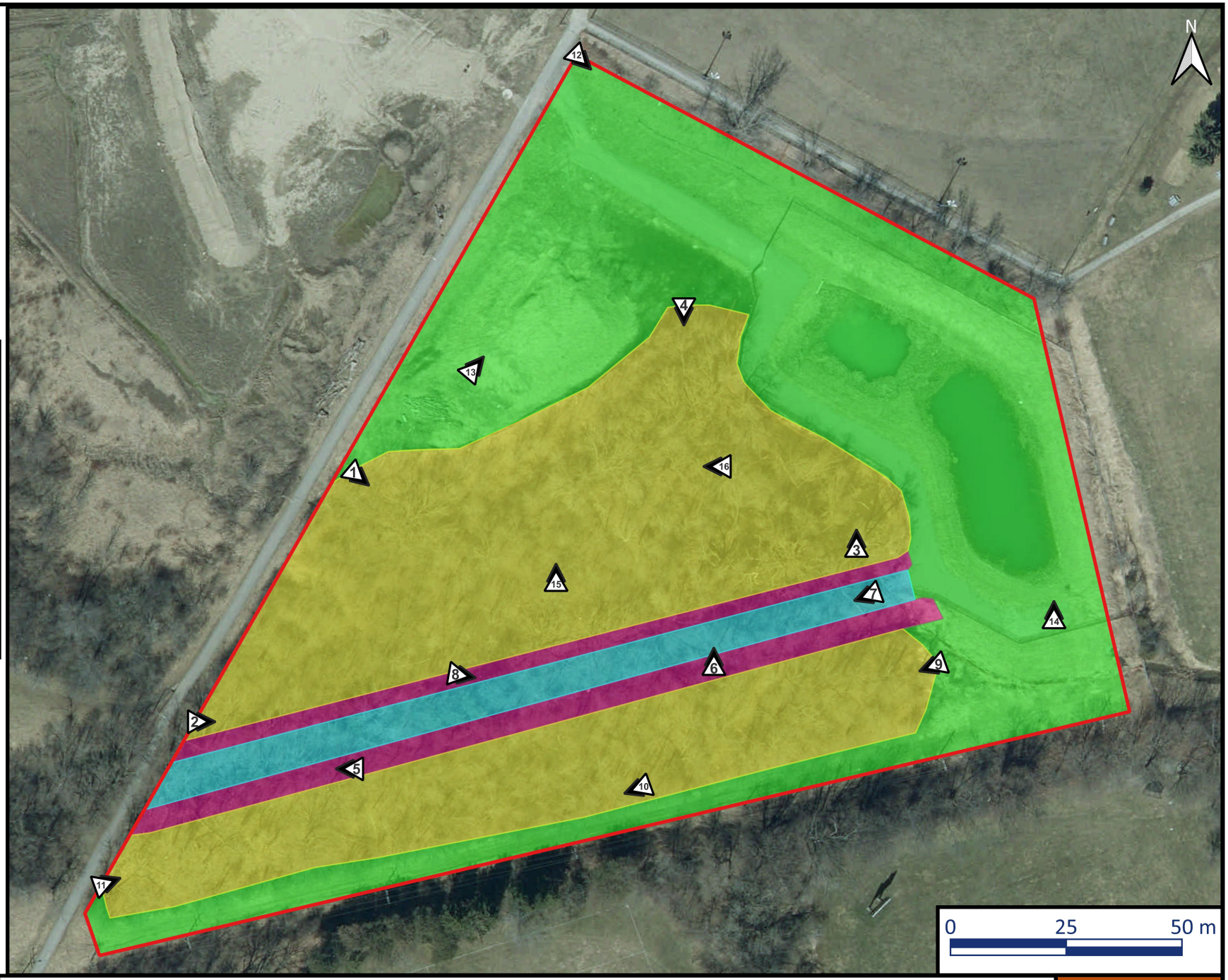
Map 6: Surfacial Geology of Southern Ontario

IRONSTONE ARCHAEOLOGY



Legend

- Study Area
- Area Subject to Stage 2 Test Pit Survey at 5 m Intervals
- Area of Steep Slope, No Further Assessment Required
- Artificial Drainage Ditch, Disturbed and Low-Lying and Wet Area
- Visually Disturbed, Stage 1 Assessment (P1037-0335-2024)
- Photo Location and Direction

MP morningstar archaeology and paleobotany INC

Basemap:
Ontario Ministry of Natrual Resources and Forestry. 2018. SCOOP Aerial Imagery.

Map 7: Assessment Results

IRONSTONE ARCHAEOLOGY