

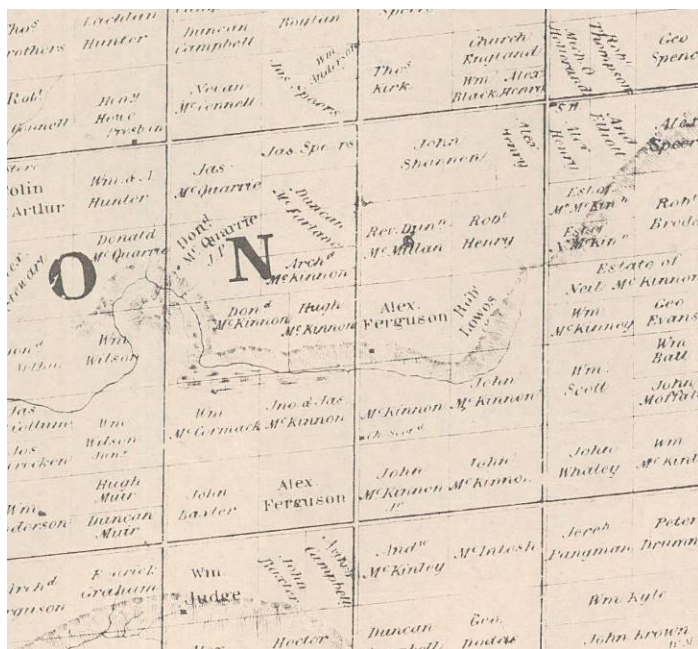
8. SCOTTISH SETTLEMENT ALONG ST. ANDREW'S ROAD

Note: All lot references are east of Hurontario Street unless otherwise noted.

8.1 HISTORICAL CONTEXT

This is an *organically evolved rural landscape*, as described in the *Town of Caledon: Criteria for the Identification of Cultural Heritage Landscapes* extending along St. Andrew's Road, north of Escarpment Sideroad and focused around St. Andrew's Church.

This area is being considered for candidacy as its distinctive concentration of stone structures contrasts with the immediately surrounding environment and is associated with the early Scottish settlement of this area of Caledon Township.



Scottish Settlement, Tremaine Map 1859

8.2 INVENTORY

1. Physiographic Description

The Candidate area occupies a portion of the Niagara Escarpment as it angles northeast forming the Caledon Hills. The area generally rises to the north. At its western edge are a series of ponds and marshes associated with the headwaters of Caledon Creek, a tributary of the Credit River, which flows westward to the confluence just north of Cataract.

2. Processes

Land Uses and Activities

The survey of Caledon Township was completed in 1819. From the mid 1820s, Scots, mainly from the Island of Mull, settled in concessions Con. 4 and 5 between what is now the Escarpment Sideroad and Charleston Sideroad. The rocky, hill country would have been difficult to clear for farming but would also have been reminiscent of their West Highlands home.

Among the earliest settlers were members of the clan McKinnon, who came to own all or parts of Lots 11 through 14 in those concessions, with the remainder owned by Fergusons, Baxters, McQuarries and McCormacks. While initially absorbed in land clearing, by building more permanent log dwellings and with the establishment of subsistence farms as they became more settled, they sought to recreate a sense of community. Strong Presbyterians



17812 St. Andrew's Road

(Church of Scotland), they met for worship prior to 1830 at the home of Donald McKinnon, but in 1830 appealed to the Glasgow Colonial Society for a Minister. Rev. Duncan McMillan answered the call and was inducted as Minister in the barn of Archibald Ferguson (W ½ Lot 13, Con. 5), north of the extant church. A small log building was constructed as a church, probably also on Ferguson's lot. In 1853, Allan McKinnon donated an acre of his property (W ½ Lot 12, Con. 5) for the construction of the stone church and associated burying ground.

It is unknown at this time whether St. Andrew's was the first stone structure in the Candidate area but it is clear that the limestone for it and the other stone houses and barns in the vicinity was quarried along the north bank of Caledon Creek, particularly on Lots 13 (the original Donald McKinnon property) and 14, Con. 4. It is along this ridge, too, that lime kilns were established to make the mortar for these buildings. As with many of the Scottish communities in Ontario the settlers seem to have carried with them the masonry traditions of their native land. It is likely that, as with the Scots of Rockside, they worked on masonry projects in many different locations throughout the Province (particularly canals) and probably were employed in the quarries and stone-cutting operations along the Credit River later in the century. This practice was common to supplement the farming income, which may not have exceeded subsistence level in certain years.

Patterns of Spatial Organization

The survey of Caledon Township was completed by Samuel Rykman in 1819 and was one of the first to be undertaken using the double-front system. In this system the common unit of concession is the half-lot of 100 acres with each half of the 200 acre lot fronting on a different concession line road. These half lots are almost square. Concessions run essentially north-south. At every five lots there was an allowance for a side road.

The Niagara Escarpment and position of Caledon Creek influenced the siting of the settler's homes. Alex Ferguson's stone house (17797 St. Andrew's Road), seemingly the first masonry dwelling in the Candidate area, was set at the brow of the hill above the creek facing south, rather than to the road. Not only did this allow a broad view to the plain and the capture of maximum sunlight, but the house was actually built into the hill so that a cellar was provided at the rear half of the ground floor. This practice was common to many hill dwelling peoples and is often found in Ontario in relation to Palatine German homes as well. In general the setting of Ferguson's house and its close relationship to the original one storey stone barn, now in ruins, is closer to West Highland than typical Ontario practice. Another stone house across the road (19812 St. Andrew's Road), built after 1860, appears to be more 'conventionally' orientated to road and outbuildings.

3. Elements

Circulation Networks

While the typical surveyed concession road and associated side roads provided the main circulation routes, there grew to be a range of internal tracks, particularly through Lot 13 and Lot 14 Con. 4 relating to the location of the stone quarries and lime kilns along the escarpment ridge.

Boundary Demarcations

Extant fencing within and between properties consists largely of wire (around the Churchyard), cedar rail, and cedar post and wire. Surprisingly there is no ready evidence of stone fences, such as are found in the Rockside area or typically in locations where Scots were building other structures in stone.



Barn complex at 17728 St. Andrew's Road

Vegetation Related to Land Use

The Caledon Creek passes generally east-west through the Candidate CHL, hugging the base of the Niagara Escarpment, as it swings northeasterly through the Caledon Hills. West of St. Andrew's Road, and mid-concession, is a vegetated area of the Niagara Escarpment, which together with the wetland and pond areas associated with this section of the Caledon Creek, is protected within the Niagara Escarpment Plan as an Escarpment Natural Area. Some disturbed areas through this section of the Escarpment can be seen on current air photos, which may well be the sites of former domestic quarries and lime kilns.

To the east of St. Andrew's Road, the original escarpment landscape and creek valley are much disturbed by farming practices, although some regeneration is occurring. Unlike other areas of Caledon, there are few hedgerows and windrows demarcating field layouts and farm laneways through this Candidate CHL area.

A dug pond is situated in the creek valley adjacent to St. Andrew's Road between the properties at 17741 and 17797. The pond appears to be more recently developed with views from the road partially obscured by maturing planted conifers and successional vegetation.

A pine plantation occupies nearly a full lot in the southeast corner of the Candidate CHL, on rolling land east of the property occupied by St. Andrew's Church and burying ground.

Buildings, Structures and Objects

Note that * denotes designation under the Ontario Heritage Act.

A key component of the heritage character of the area is the use of local limestone, laid as random rubble, in the construction of its main structures in a manner consistent with traditional Scottish vernacular. There is remaining evidence that on the Church and 17797 St. Andrew's at least the jointing mortar was buttered out over the irregular stone edges and a fine, more regular 'faux' joint introduced.

***17621 St. Andrew's Road: St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church and Cemetery (Pt. W ½ Lot 12, Con. 5)**

Constructed in 1853 to replace the first log church, St. Andrew's was constructed with limestone quarried just west of the site, likely by the residents under the supervision of one among them with particular masonry skills. The simplicity of the building, gable front with three gothic windows on the side elevations, is typical of many rural and village Kirks. Its setting, close to the road with the cemetery directly adjacent, is also typical.



St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church and Cemetery

The Gothic windows are actually a relatively sophisticated feature and incorporate paired double hung units separated by the heavy mullion of the 'Y' tracery.

17797 St. Andrew's Road (W ½ Lot 13, Con. 5)

This farmhouse, built by Archibald Ferguson, appears to be quite early (possibly pre-dating the church) with its vernacular Georgian form incorporating massive stone end chimneys. Heavy timber lintels are used at the second storey window openings. It is built directly into the hill so that the rear of the ground storey can act as a cellar, while the south elevation is exposed to the maximum sunlight. The ruins (stone gable walls) of the original hay barn set directly beside the house remain on the property. The later livestock and hay barn is extant as well as several more recent outbuildings.



17797 St. Andrew's Road

**17812 St. Andrew's Road
(E ½ Lot 13, Con. 4)
'Stone Ridge Farm'**

This fine stone farmhouse is set well back from the road and reached via a curved lane. It appears to have been constructed c.1865 and (as can be discerned from the road) forms an 'L' plan. It is well screened from the road by mature conifers with new plantings filling existing gaps. A range of barns and outbuildings are reached to the rear of the main house via a circular drive.

The original house appears to have been constructed by Hugh McKinnon from stone directly on the site as both a quarry and lime kiln were located on his property as well as the neighbouring lot to the west (originally Donald and later Archibald McKinnon).



Stone Ridge Farm

**17728 St. Andrew's Road,
(E ½ Part Lot 12, Con. 4)**

While not a stone structure, this was another McKinnon property throughout the 19th century and is a relatively intact farmstead in its own right, retaining all but a small corner of its original lot and a variety of barns, outbuildings and silos. The farmhouse is of red brick with buff detailing and may well have replaced the original log home later in the century.



Brick farmstead at 17728 St. Andrew's Road

**17741 St. Andrew's Road,
(W ½ Pt Lot 12, Con. 5)**

Located on the same lot as the church and directly across the road from 17728, and across the creek valley from 17797, this fine 1 ½ storey side gabled stone residence with pilastered main entrance surround and rectangular transom appears to have been built by the McKinnon family about the time of the construction of St. Andrew's Church. There is also a well maintained log structure on the property. Prior to the construction of the current stone



17741 St. Andrew's Road

church, worship was said to be held in a log structure. It is perhaps possible that the log building on this site may have housed the church, which would make it both very old and extremely significant.

Archaeological Sites

Though no archaeological survey has been undertaken within the Candidate CHL the presence of Caledon Creek with its associated wetlands and ponds in close proximity to high ground (ideal for campsites) suggest high potential for archaeological remains. Indeed there are some registered sites just south of the creek just east of Hurontario Street.

4. Site Context

The general context of the Candidate CHL remains one of traditional upland farms, though the density of recent building on severed property becomes more pronounced to the north. The rise of the road up to the stone farmhouses (17797, 17741 and 17812) creates wide views from that point to the south and particularly the southwest. Looking southwest, the property with the brick house, itself on a gentle rise, provides a traditional farmstead viewscape of outbuildings, and fields with cedar rail boundary and field fencing undulating with the landscape. 17812 St. Andrew's Road would appear to have views southwest toward the ponds, creeks and marshes from which Caledon Creek springs.



17812 St. Andrew's Road

8.3 EVALUATION

To be identified as a CHL an area must clearly embody both heritage significance and integrity.

Significance

Significance Criteria

While any landscape upon which humankind has left its imprint is a cultural landscape, only those cultural landscapes that have a deep connection with the history of the jurisdiction can be identified as cultural heritage landscapes. To be considered significant from a heritage perspective it must be demonstrated through the Inventory Report that the Candidate CHL meets one or more of the following criteria:

- A. Is associated with events that made significant contributions to the broad patterns of area history, i.e., strong association with central themes.*
- B. Is closely associated with the lives of individuals and/or families who are considered significant to the history of the area.*
- C. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a particular settlement pattern or lifeway whether derived from ethnic background, imposed by the landscape, was the practice of a specific historic period or a combination of the above.*
- D. Manifests a particularly close and harmonious long-standing relationship between the natural and domestic landscape.*
- E. Has yielded or is likely to yield information important to prehistory or history.*
- F. Is strongly associated with the cultural and/or spiritual traditions of First Nations or any other ethnic and/or religious group.*

Integrity

A CHL must be able to be justified as a distinct area of contiguous heritage integrity. Its key individual elements, which constitute the cultural heritage landscape and the way in which their interweaving makes a unique 'place,' must still clearly reflect the historic period and/or organic evolution from which the heritage significance derives.

Conclusions

As revealed through the study process, this Candidate area well exemplifies *Criteria C and D* in the evidence of Scottish vernacular building practices utilizing limestone found directly within the area and the siting of structures to best optimize the topography and environment. This small enclave of Scottish rural community remains quite striking in contrast to the surrounding built environment.

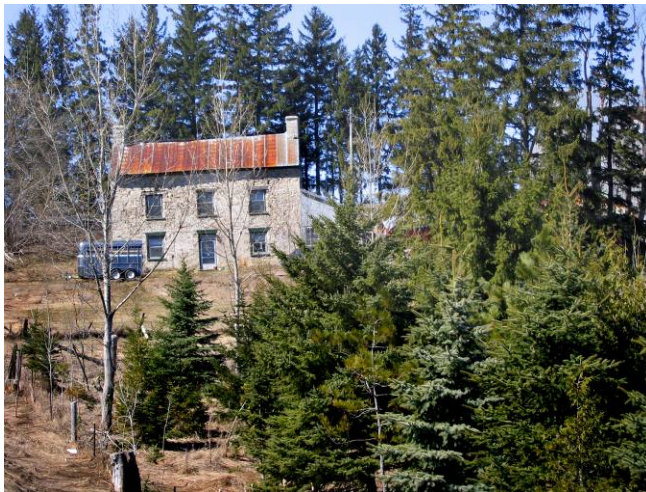
8.4 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Scots, largely from the West Highland Island of Mull, began settling on this section of the Niagara Escarpment c.1825. Members of the McKinnon clan were among the earliest settlers who came to own all or parts of lots 11-14 in concessions 4 and 5. Staunch Presbyterians, the settlers first held services at the home of Donald McKinnon prior to the construction of a church. Shortly after 1830, a small log building was constructed as a church, on the property of Archibald Ferguson (W ½ Lot 13, Con. 5), north of the extant stone church. In 1853, Allan McKinnon donated an acre of his property (W ½ Lot 12, Con. 5) for the construction of St. Andrew's church and its associated burying ground. A fine stone McKinnon home with log ancillary structure also survive on the property.

The church is an excellent example of Scottish vernacular ecclesiastical building featuring three Gothic windows along its longitudinal elevations. It is unknown at this time whether St. Andrew's was the first stone structure in the Candidate area but it is clear that the limestone for it and the other stone houses and barns in the vicinity was quarried along the north bank of Caledon Creek, particularly on Lot 13 (the original Donald McKinnon property) and Lot 14, Con. 4. It is also along this ridge that lime kilns were established to make the mortar for these buildings. It is likely that the settlers also utilized their masonry and quarrying skills to obtain income to supplement their largely subsistence farming.



St. Andrew's Church



17797 St. Andrews Road

The Escarpment and position of Caledon Creek influenced the location of the early settlers' homes. Alex Ferguson's large Georgian stone house (17797 St. Andrew's), seemingly the first masonry dwelling in the Candidate area, was set at the brow of the hill above the creek facing south, rather than to the road. Not only did this allow a broad view to the plain and the capture of maximum sunlight, but the house was actually built into the hill so that a cellar was provided at the rear half of the ground floor. In general the setting of Ferguson's house and its close relationship to the original one storey stone barn, now in ruins, is closer to West Highland than typical Ontario practice.

This area, with the church and burying ground at its core, still clearly exemplifies the traditional building practices brought to bear by using locally available materials and site topography, as well as a sense of community of the original Scottish settlers.

Character-defining Elements:

- SS-1 17812 St. Andrew's Road, 'Stone Ridge Farm' (E ½ Lot 13, Con. 4)
- SS-2 17797 St. Andrew's Road (W ½ Lot 13, Con. 5)
- SS-3 17728 St. Andrew's Road (E ½ Part Lot 12, Con. 4)
- SS-4 17741 St. Andrew's Road (W ½ Part Lot 12, Con. 5)
- SS-5 17621 St. Andrew's Road, 'St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church and Cemetery' (Part. W ½ Lot 12, Con. 5)
- SS-6 The ponds and wetlands associated with Caledon Creek

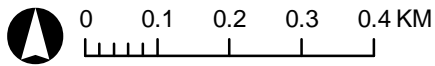
- SS-7 The vestiges of the 19th century farmstead quarries (Lots 13, 14 Con. 4)
- SS-8 The remaining field pattern, woodlots
- SS-9 The Escarpment setting offering views to the south

It is thus recommended that this candidate CHL referred to as the Scottish Settlement Along St. Andrew's Road be identified as a CHL.

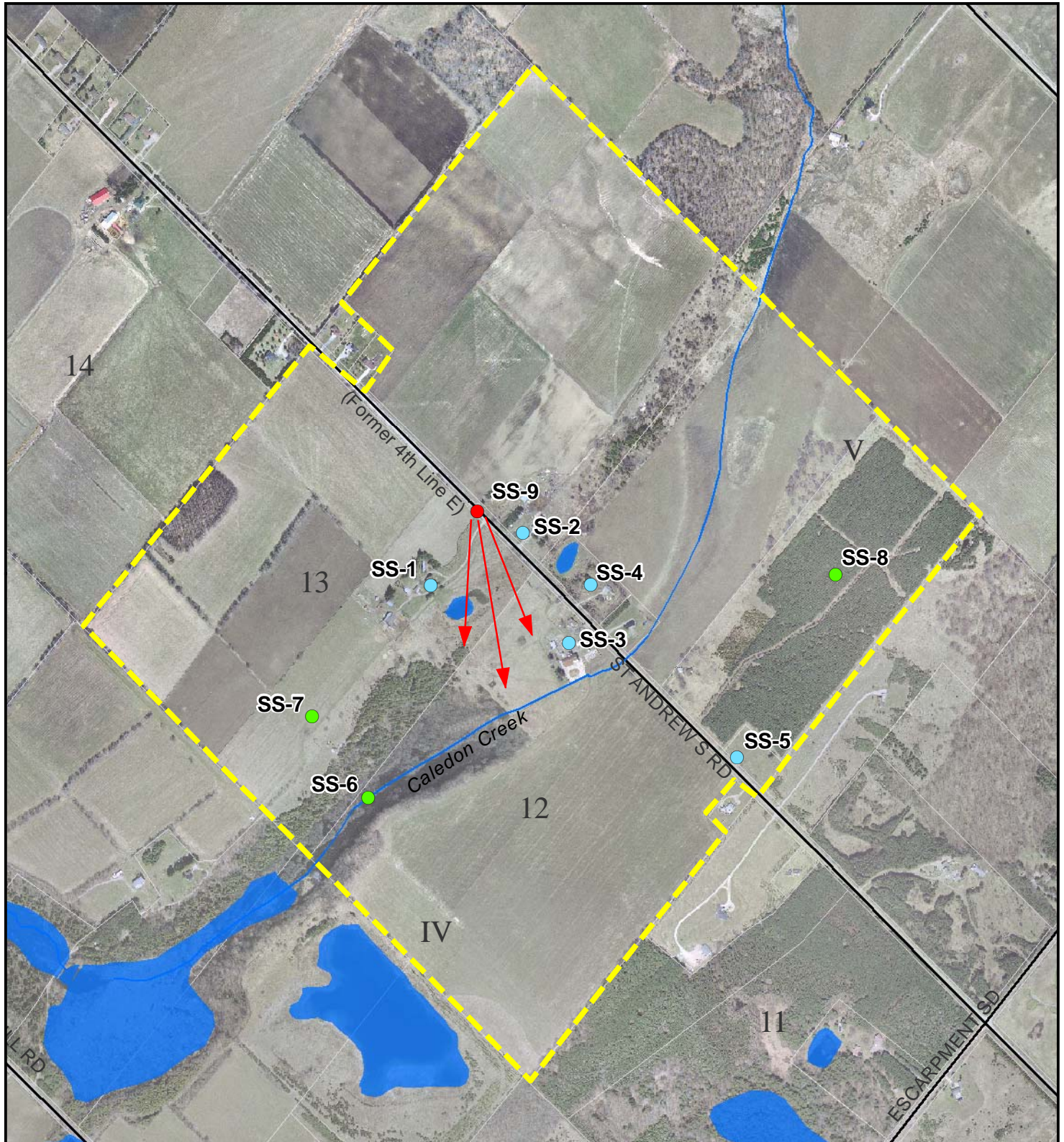
8.5 BOUNDARIES

The boundary of this Scottish Settlement along St. Andrew's Road CHL may be most simply described thus: comprising lots 12 and 13 in the west half of Con. 5 and the east half of Con. 4 but with small notches taken out of the north and south boundary adjacent to St. Andrew's Road.

Refer to **Figure 10 Scottish Settlement Along St. Andrew's Road** for detailed delineation of boundaries.



Scottish Settlement along St. Andrew's Road Figure 10



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|-----------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| Character Defining Elements | CHL Boundary | Property Boundary (2006) |
| Built | Road | Viewshed |
| Landscape | Rivers / Streams | |
| View | Lakes / Ponds | |