Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment the Spiers Argo Lands, Part of the Bolton Residential Expansion Study Option 3, Part of Lot 11, Concession 4, Geographic Township of Albion, County of Peel, now in the Town of Caledon, Regional Municipality of Peel

Original Report

Prepared for:

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Project Information Form P449-0625-2022

Archaeological Services Inc. File: 22PL-126

5 January 2023



Executive Summary

Archaeological Services Inc. was retained by Argo Macville III Corporation to conduct a Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment of the Spiers Argo Lands, Part of the Bolton Residential Expansion Study Option 3, Part of Lot 11, Concession 4, in the former Geographic Township of Albion, County of Peel, now in the Town of Caledon, Regional Municipality of Peel. The subject property encompasses 17.77 hectares.

The previous Stage 1 assessments, completed in 2014 and 2020, entailed consideration of the proximity of previously registered archaeological sites and the original environmental setting of the property, along with nineteenth and twentieth-century settlement trends. Based on this research, it was determined that the entirety of the subject property retained the potential for the presence of both Indigenous and Euro-Canadian archaeological resources.

The Stage 2 assessment was conducted over October 18-20, 2022, by means of a combined pedestrian and test pit survey at five-metre intervals. During the pedestrian survey, three Indigenous isolated findspots were encountered. Findspots P1, P2, and P3 represent isolated non-diagnostic artifact locations that do not reflect loci of prolonged activity or occupation. As such, these findspots do not meet the criteria requiring Stage 3 Archaeological Assessment and it is recommended that no further archaeological assessment of the property be required.



Project Personnel

- Senior Project Manager: Jennifer Ley, Honours Bachelor of Arts (R376),
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- **Project Manager**: Robb Bhardwaj, Master of Arts (P449), Associate Archaeologist, Project Manager, Planning Assessment Division
- **Project Director**: Robb Bhardwaj
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1.0 Project Context

Archaeological Services Inc. was retained by Argo Macville III Corporation to conduct a Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment of the Spiers Argo Lands, Part of the Bolton Residential Expansion Study Option 3, Part of Lot 11, Concession 4, in the former Geographic Township of Albion, County of Peel, now in the Town of Caledon, Regional Municipality of Peel. The subject property encompasses 17.77 hectares.

1.1 Development Context

This assessment was conducted under the senior project management of Jennifer Ley (R376), and the project management and project direction of Robb Bhardwaj (P449), under Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (hereafter "the Ministry") Project Information Form P449-0625-2022. All activities carried out during this assessment were completed as part of a Draft Plan of Subdivision application, as required by the Town of Caledon, the Regional Municipality of Peel, and the *Planning Act* (Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, 1990). All work was completed in accordance with the *Ontario Heritage Act* (Ministry of Culture [now the Ministry], 1990) and the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (hereafter the Standards) (the Ministry of Tourism and Culture [now the Ministry], 2011).

Permission to access the subject property and to carry out all activities necessary for the completion of the assessment was granted by the proponent on March 18, 2021. Buried utility locates were obtained prior to fieldwork.

In 2014, Archaeological Services Inc. completed a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment for the Bolton Residential Expansion Study, comprising approximately 347 hectares, under Project Information Form P049-0691-2014 (Archaeological Services Inc., 2014). The report was entered into the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports on April 2, 2015. The current subject property was located within Option 3 of this large study.

In 2020, Archaeological Services Inc. completed a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment for the Bolton Option 3 Official Plan Amendment, comprising



approximately 185 hectares, under Project Information Form P449-0438-2020 (Archaeological Services Inc, 2020). This report included areas not previously reported on and expanded the previous 2014 research. The report was entered into the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports on December 4, 2020. The current subject property is located within the east portion of this assessment area. A summary of the background information pertinent to this assessment has been excerpted from the original Stage 1 research.

1.2 Historical Context

The previous Stage 1 assessments reviewed the general development history of the subject property and historical mapping sources to determine its archaeological potential (Archaeological Services Inc., 2014; 2020).

1.2.1 Review of Historic Map Sources

The 1859 *Tremaine Map of the County of Peel* (Tremaine, 1859) indicates that the subject property was within a parcel owned by John McDougall, northeast of the settlement of Macville (Figure 2). There are no settlement features or watercourses depicted within the subject property. A settlement road (present-day King Street) aligns with the southeast boundary.

The 1877 Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Peel (Pope, 1877) shows the subject property in the northeast part of a parcel owned by Andrew McDougall (Figure 3). While there are no houses depicted on the subject property, the Toronto, Grey and Bruce railway corridor passes through the property at its south corner and a watercourse is illustrated to the northeast of the property, corresponding to a present tributary of the West Humber River. Present-day King Street aligns the southeast boundary and the village of Macville is illustrated southwest of the subject property.

Early topographic mapping was also reviewed for the presence of potential historical features. Land features, such as waterways, wetlands, woodlots, and elevation are clearly illustrated on this series of mapping, along with roads and structure locations. The 1919 *Bolton Topographic Map* (Figure 4) depicts the subject property on the 875-foot (267-metre) elevation contour in a vacant area



of land cleared for agriculture (Department of Militia and Defence, 1914). The railway corridor, now the Canadian Pacific Railway, bypasses the subject property to the south where it crosses King Street. Three railway bridges are illustrated along this corridor southwest of the subject property near a stone house, located approximately 200 metres distant, which likely corresponds to a house identified on the earlier 1877 map. The village of Macville continues to be depicted southwest of the property.

1.2.2 Review of Aerial Imagery

In order to further assess the previous land use of the subject property, aerial photography from 1954 was reviewed (University of Toronto 1954). Figure 5 shows the subject property overlying five agricultural fields, fronting King Street to the southeast. Trees line the edges of the northern fields and there are no settlement features on the subject property. A farm is visible approximately 150 metres southwest of the subject property in a location corresponding to historical mapping and the railway corridor can be seen passing the subject property at its south corner where it crosses King Street. A watercourse is visible to the north of the property, passing approximately 150 metres to the northeast, before bending northeast, as in the 1877 mapping.

1.3 Archaeological Context

1.3.1 Registered Archaeological Sites

Thirteen sites within a one-kilometre radius of the subject property are registered in the Ontario Archaeological Sites Database (the Ministry, 2022). A detailed summary of the sites is in Table 1. The nearest site, Mary (AlGw-204), is located approximately 380 metres northeast of the subject property.



Table 1: Sites Located Within One Kilometre of the Subject Property

Borden number	Site Name	Temporal/Cultural Affiliation	Site Type	Researcher
AlGw-38		Pre-Contact	Findspot	Museum of Indian Archaeology, 1989
AlGw-49	Lougheed	Pre-Contact	Findspot	D.R. Poulton and Associates, 1993
AlGw-69		Early Archaic	Findspot	Archeoworks, 2002
AlGw-194	Lougheed Site	Euro-Canadian	Homestead	Earthworks Archaeological Services Inc., 2018a; 2018b
AlGw-196	Nattress	Euro-Canadian	Homestead	Earthworks Archaeological Services Inc., 2018a
AlGw-201		Early Archaic	Findspot	Archaeological Services Inc., 2021a
AlGw-202		Early Archaic	Findspot	Archaeological Services Inc., 2021a



Borden number	Site Name	Temporal/Cultural Affiliation	Site Type	Researcher
AlGw-204	Mary			This Land Archaeology Inc., 2021
AlGw-206	Copeland	Euro-Canadian	Homestead	Archaeological Services Inc., 2022
AlGw-207		Late Archaic	Findspot	Archaeological Services Inc., 2022
AkGw-317	Peel 3-IF.1	Pre-contact	Findspot	Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, 2005
AkGw-318	Peel 3-IF.2	Pre-contact	Findspot	Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, 2005
AkGw-319	Peel 3-IF.3	Pre-contact	Findspot	Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, 2005



1.3.2 Previous Assessments

During the course of the background research, it was determined that six archaeological assessments are known to have been completed on or within 50 metres of the subject property.

In 2009, Archaeological Services Inc. conducted a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment as part of the Caledon East Additional Water Supply and Storage Class Environmental Assessment for the Regional Municipality of Peel (Archaeological Services Inc., 2010; Project Information Forms P057-582-2009 and P163-034-2010). The current subject property is in the south of this study area and was one of the areas determined to have archaeological potential requiring a Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment ahead of future development.

In 2014, Archaeological Services Inc. completed a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment for the Bolton Residential Expansion Study (BRES), comprising approximately 347 hectares, under Project Information Form P049-0691-2014 (Archaeological Services Inc, 2014). The large study included background research for two future development options, along with three "rounding out areas". The current subject property was located in the Option 3 lands, all of which were found to retain archaeological potential and were recommended for a Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment ahead of development.

In 2020, Archaeological Services Inc. completed a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment for the Bolton Option 3 Official Plan Amendment, comprising approximately 185 hectares, under Project Information Form P449-0438-2020 (Archaeological Services Inc, 2020). This report included areas not previously reported on and expanded the previous 2014 research. The current subject property is in the east of this study area. The Stage 1 assessment determined that approximately 97% of the area, including the entire subject property, has archaeological potential and would require a Stage 2 assessment ahead of future development.

In 2020, Archaeological Services Inc. was retained to conduct a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment associated with the Region of Peel Settlement Area Boundary Expansion Study (Archaeological Services Inc., 2020; Project



Information Form P1030-0059-2020). The subject property is in the northwest of the 8,311.1-hectare study area. It was determined that 91.4% of the total study area, including the entire subject property, retains archaeological potential and would require a Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment ahead of future development.

In 2020, Irvin Heritage Inc. was retained to conduct a Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment of 14100, 14166, and 14196 Humber Station Road, located immediately northeast of the current subject property (Irvin Heritage Inc., 2020; Project Information Form P379-0339-2020). Although the combined pedestrian and test pit survey was carried out in all areas of archaeological potential, no archaeological resources were encountered during the survey. It was determined that no further archaeological assessment be required.

In 2022, Archaeological Services Inc. conducted a Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment of Parcels 11 and 12 of the Bolton Residential Expansion Study Option 3 lands, located directly north of the current subject property (Archaeological Services Inc., 2022; Project Information Form P449-0458-2020). The pedestrian survey resulted in the identification of one Indigenous findspot and one Indigenous site (AlGw-207). It was determined that both the findspot and site retained no cultural heritage value or interest, and the property was cleared of further archaeological concern.

1.3.3 Physiography

The subject property is situated within the drumlinized till plains of the South Slope physiographic region of southern Ontario (Chapman and Putnam, 1984: 172-174), which is the southern slope of the Oak Ridges Moraine. The South Slope meets the Moraine at heights of approximately 300 metres above sea level and descends southward toward Lake Ontario, ending, in some areas, at elevations below 150 metres above sea level. Numerous streams descend the South Slope, having cut deep valleys in the till.

The surficial geology of the subject property consists of clay to silt-textured till derived from glaciolacustrine deposits or shale (Ontario Geological Survey, 2018).



The subject property is located within the West Humber River subwatershed (Figure 1) (Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, 2020). A tributary of the West Branch of the Humber River, identified as Lindsay Creek, flows approximately 150 metres north of the subject property.

1.3.4 Existing Conditions

The subject property is 17.77 hectares and is completely comprised of agricultural lands (Figure 6). It is bounded by King Street to the southeast, there is a farm adjacent to the east corner, and agricultural lands on all other sides.

2.0 Field Methods

The Stage 2 field assessment was conducted over October 18-20, 2022, in order to inventory, identify, and describe any archaeological resources extant within the subject property prior to development. All fieldwork was conducted under the field direction of Poorya Kashani (R1133) and was carried out in accordance with the Standards. The weather conditions were appropriate for the completion of fieldwork, permitting good visibility of the land features.

Representative photos documenting the field conditions during the Stage 2 fieldwork are presented in Section 8.0 of this report, and photo locations and field observations have been compiled on project mapping (Images 1-5; Figure 7). Field observations and photographs were recorded with a Trimble Catalyst Digital Antennae 1 Geographic Positioning System unit using World Geodetic System 1984.

2.1 Areas of No Potential

Approximately 0.3% of the subject property was documented as having no archaeological potential during the Stage 2 assessment. This area, located in the south corner of the property is permanently low and wet, and is covered in reeds (Image 1). In accordance with the Standards, Section 2.1, Standards 2a.i, this area was not subject to the Stage 2 field survey (Figure 7).



2.2 Test Pit Survey

Test pit survey was conducted on approximately 0.7% of the subject property in a small, wooded area in the south corner adjacent to the low and wet area. In accordance with the procedures outlined in the Standards, Section 2.1.2, Standard 2, this area of closed surface visibility was subject to a test pit survey at five-metre intervals (Figure 7). All test pits were excavated stratigraphically by hand to no less than five centimetres into subsoil, and all soil was screened through six-millimetre wire mesh to facilitate artifact recovery (Image 2). All test pits were at least 30 centimetres in diameter and excavated within approximately one metre of all disturbances and/or low and wetlands where possible. Each test pit was examined for stratigraphy, cultural features, and evidence of fill. Test pits were backfilled upon completion of the survey.

Soil profiles were undisturbed and uniform, consisting of 25 centimetres of very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) sandy clay loam A-horizon over yellowish-brown (10YR 5/4) sandy clay B-horizon (Image 3).

2.3 Pedestrian Survey

Approximately 99% of the subject property is active agricultural land. Prior to the initiation of survey, all open areas within the subject property were ploughed and allowed to weather through several rainfalls. All standards under section 2.1.1 Pedestrian Survey of the Standards were met. Ploughing was deep enough to provide total topsoil exposure, but not deeper than previous ploughing. All ploughed lands were well weathered and ground surface visibility was better than 80%. Ploughzone soils were primarily sandy clay loam. All ploughed lands were assessed by means of pedestrian survey at five-metre transects (Images 4-5).

2.3.1 Intensified Pedestrian Survey

During the course of the pedestrian survey, Indigenous artifacts were encountered (Supplementary Documentation: Figure 1). In accordance with the Standards, Section 2.1.1, Standard 7, when archaeological material was encountered, an intensified survey at one-metre transects was conducted at a radius of 20-metres around all surface artifacts (Supplementary Documentation:



Figure 1; Image 6). The location of each artifact was recorded, and all artifacts encountered during the pedestrian survey were collected and retained for analysis.

3.0 Record of Finds

During the course of the Stage 2 field assessment, three isolated Indigenous finds were documented during the pedestrian survey of the ploughed fields. The three isolated findspots do not meet the requirements for registry as outlined by the Standards.

3.1 Inventory of Documentary and Material Record

The documentation and materials related to this project will be curated by Archaeological Services Inc. until such a time that arrangements for their ultimate transfer to His Majesty the King in right of Ontario, or other public institution, can be made to the satisfaction of the project owner(s), the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, and any other legitimate interest groups.

Table 2 provides an inventory and location of the documentary and material record for the project in accordance with the Standards, Sections 6.7 and 7.8.2.3.

Table 2: Inventory of Documentary and Material Record

Document/Material	Location	Comments
Written Field Notes, Annotated Field Maps, and GPS Logs.	Archaeological Services Inc., 528 Bathurst Street, Toronto, ON, M5S 2P9	Hard copy notes stored in Archaeological Services Inc. project folder 22PL-126; Geographic Positioning System and digital information stored on Archaeological Services Inc. network servers.



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Document/Material	Location	Comments
Field Photography (Digital)	Archaeological Services Inc., 528 Bathurst Street, Toronto, ON, M5S 2P9	Stored on Archaeological Services Inc. network servers.
Research, Analysis and Reporting Materials (Various Formats)	Archaeological Services Inc., 528 Bathurst Street, Toronto, ON, M5S 2P9	Digital files stored on Archaeological Services Inc. network servers.
Artifacts	Archaeological Services Inc., 528 Bathurst Street, Toronto, ON, M5S 2P9	All artifacts collected stored by class and provenience. Artifacts stored in 12.7- centimetre x 20.32- centimetre plastic bags and further separated into 5.08- centimetre x 7.62- centimetre plastic bags. All material housed in a standard banker's box (width 30-centimetre, depth 38- centimetre, height 25 centimetre). Artifact assemblage stored in one box labeled: 22PL-126, Speirs Property Caledon Stage 2

Geographic Positioning System coordinates for all surface artifacts were recorded with a Trimble Catalyst Digital Antenae 1 Geographic Positioning System unit using Word Geodetic System 1984. No correction was used for the coordinates, and conditions (such as, clear skies, tree cover) were optimal for recording accuracy. Detailed site mapping and Geographic Positioning System coordinates are provided in the Supplementary Documentation associated with this project.



3.2 Indigenous Locations

A pre-contact Indigenous site is distinguished from an isolated find by either the quantity of material encountered (three or more artifacts) or by the presence of a diagnostic artifact (for example, a projectile point). Whenever artifacts were encountered, a unique field designation (P-number) was assigned. A total of three P-numbers were assigned: P1, P2 and P3. A minimum distance of 15 metres separates each location (see Supplementary Documentation: Figure 1).

3.2.1 Isolated Finds

In total, three, non-diagnostic Indigenous isolated finds were documented across the ploughed fields. The field designation (P-number), artifact yield, artifact type(s), and pertinent comments regarding each are summarized in Table 3. A full catalogue of all material is presented in Appendix A and the artifacts are displayed in Section 8.0 (Images 7-8). Among the isolated artifacts collected are one flake fragment and two bifaces. All artifacts are Onondaga chert and so thermal alteration was observed on any of them.

Table 3: Summary of Indigenous Isolated Finds

Isolated Find	Quantity	Artifact Type(s)	Comments
P1	1	Flake fragment	
P2	1	Biface	Tip fragment
P3	1	Biface	Tip/base fragment

4.0 Analysis and Conclusions

Archaeological Services Inc. was retained by Argo Macville III Corporation to conduct a Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment of the Spiers Argo Lands, Part of the Bolton Residential Expansion Study Option 3, Part of Lot 11, Concession 4, in the



former Geographic Township of Albion, County of Peel, now in the Town of Caledon, Regional Municipality of Peel. The subject property encompasses 17.77 hectares.

Archaeological Services Inc. previously completed two Stage 1 Archaeological Assessments which covered the subject property, the Bolton Residential Expansion Study in 2014 and the Bolton Option 3 Official Plan Amendment in 2020, which updated and expanded the previous research. As a result, the subject property was identified to retain both Indigenous and Euro-Canadian archaeological potential.

The Stage 2 field assessment was completed over October 18-20, 2022, by means of a combined pedestrian and test pit survey in all areas of archaeological potential. During the course of the survey, three isolated finds were identified. Findspots P1-P3 represent isolated non-diagnostic artifact locations that do not reflect loci of prolonged activity or occupation. As such, these findspots do not meet the criteria outlined in the Standards, Section 2.2, Standard 1 requiring Stage 3 Archaeological Assessment.

5.0 Recommendations

In light of these results, the following recommendation is made, in accordance with the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (2011)*:

- 1. Given the isolated and non-diagnostic nature of Indigenous findspots P1, P2 and P3, these locations do not exhibit cultural heritage value or interest and may be considered free of any further archaeological concern.
- 2. No further archaeological assessment is required on the subject property.

NOTWITHSTANDING the results and recommendations presented in this study, Archaeological Services Inc. notes that no archaeological assessment, no matter how thorough or carefully completed, can necessarily predict, account for, or identify every form of isolated or deeply buried archaeological deposit. In the event that archaeological remains are found during subsequent construction activities, the consultant archaeologist, approval authority, and the Cultural



Programs Unit of the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism must be immediately notified.

The above recommendations are subject to Ministry approval, and it is an offence to alter any archaeological site without Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism concurrence. No grading or other activities that may result in the destruction or disturbance of any archaeological sites are permitted until notice of the Ministry approval has been received.

6.0 Advice on Compliance with Legislation

Archaeological Services Inc. advises compliance with the following legislation:

- 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, RSO 2005, 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 field work and report recommendations ensure the conservation, preservation, and protection 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 regards 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 field work 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 or having knowledge of a burial site shall immediately notify the police or coroner. It is recommended that the Registrar of Cemeteries at the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services is also immediately notified.
- Archaeological sites recommended for further archaeological field work or protection remain subject to Section 48(1) of the Ontario Heritage Act and may not be altered, nor may artifacts be removed from them, except by a person holding an archaeological license.

7.0 Bibliography and Sources

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8.0 Images



Image 1: View of permanently low and wet area in the south corner of the subject property.



Image 2: View of field crew test pitting in the south corner of the subject property.





Image 3: View of typical test pit soil profile.



Image 4: View of pedestrian survey field conditions.





Image 5: View of field crew conducting pedestrian survey in the northwest of the subject property.



Image 6: View of field crew conducting intensified pedestrian survey.





Image 7: Biface fragment recovered at Findspot P2.



Image 8: Biface fragment recovered at Findspot P3.



9.0 Maps

See following pages for detailed assessment mapping and figures



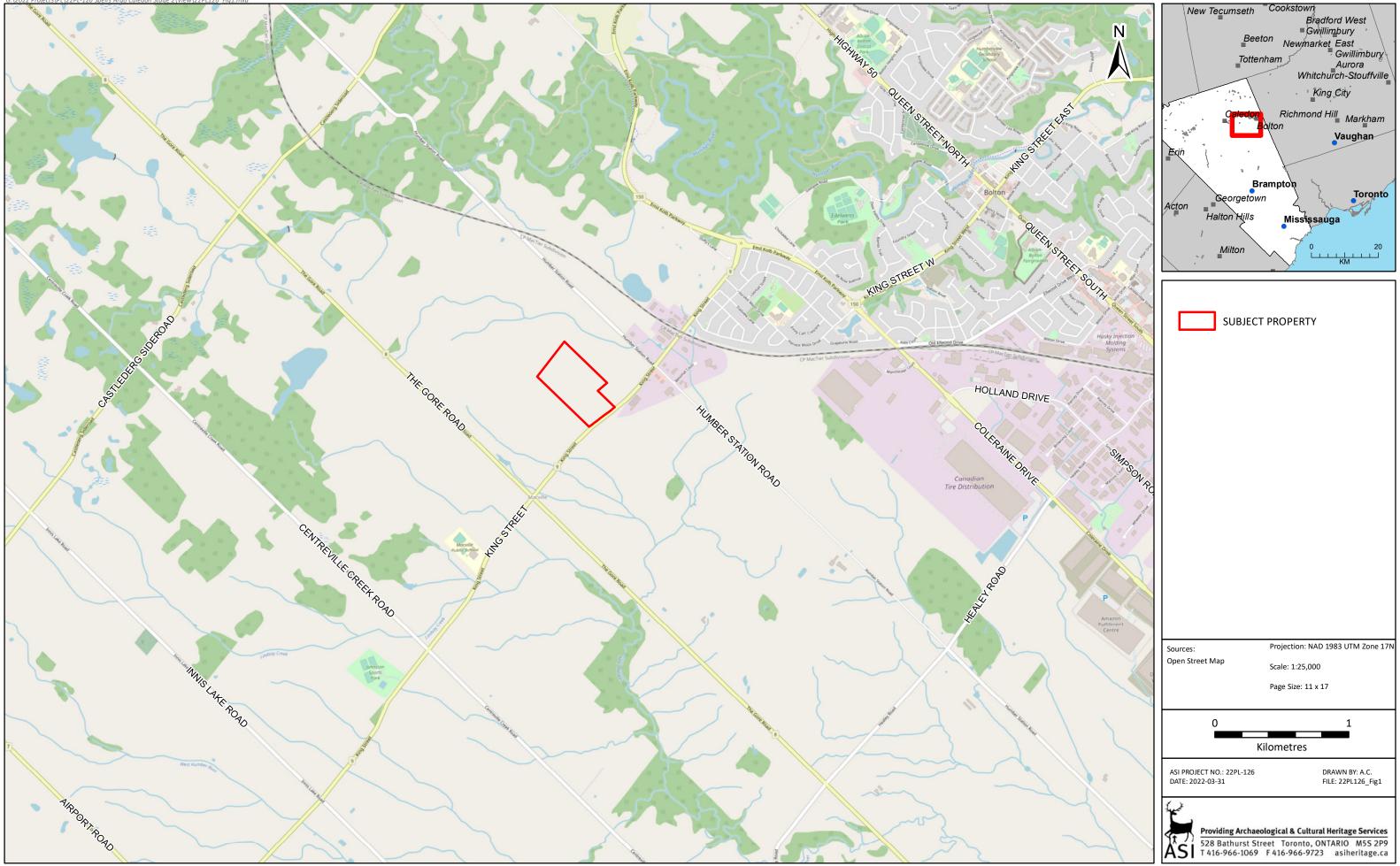


Figure 1: Location of the Subject Property



Figure 2: Subject Property located on the 1859 Tremaine Map of the County of Peel



Figure 3: Subject Property located on the 1877 Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Peel

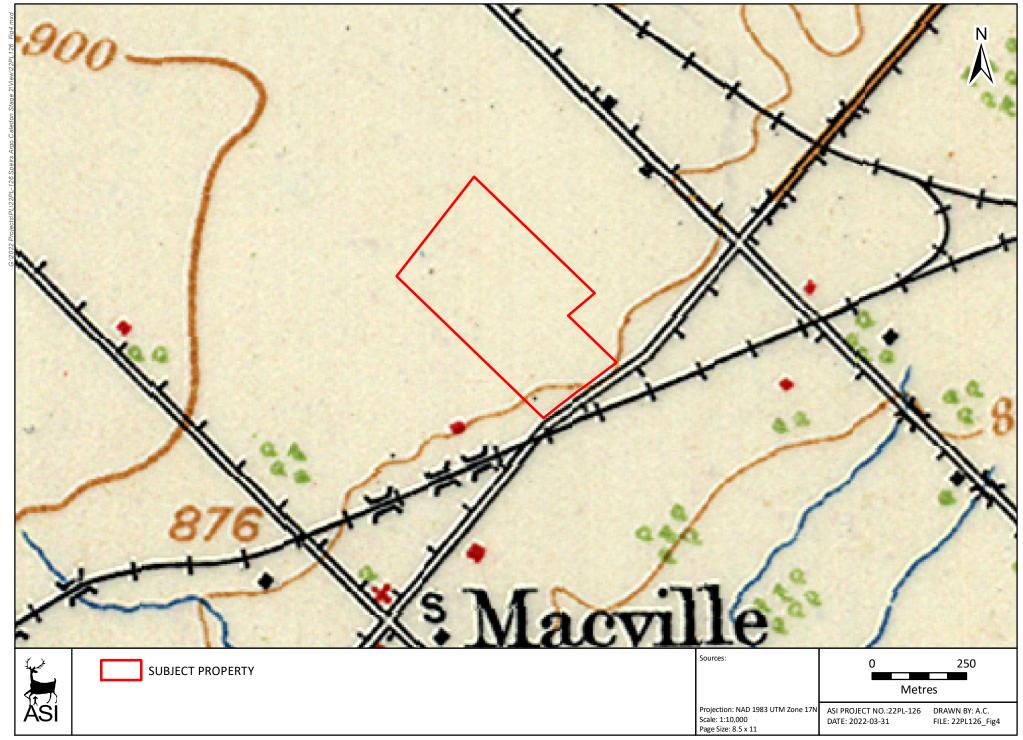


Figure 4: Subject Property located on the 1919 Bolton Topographic Map



Figure 5: Subject Property located on the 1954 Aerial Photo of Southern Ontario



Figure 6: Existing Conditions of Subject Property

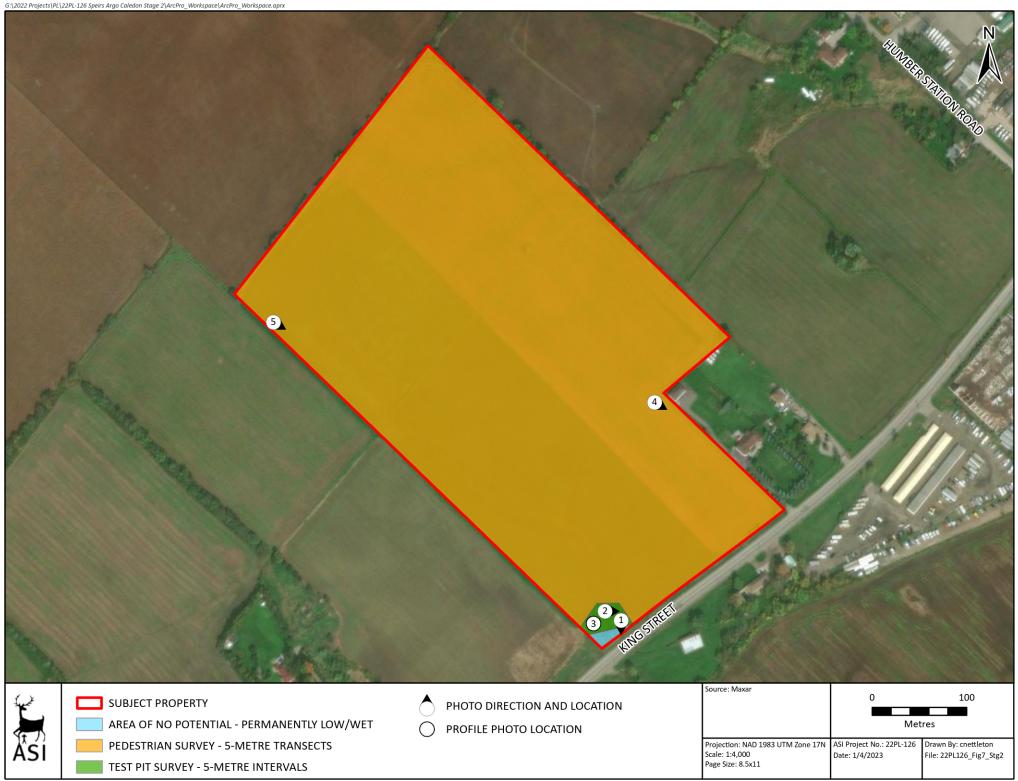


Figure 7: Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment Results

Appendix A

See the following page for the full catalogue of Findspots P1, P2 and P3.



Stage 2 Lithic Catalogue

Cat#	Qty	Provenience	Stratum	Туре	Material	Comments
P1						
1	1	Surface	Ploughzone	Flake Fragment	Onondaga Chert	
Total:	1 artifa	act				
P2						
1	1	Surface	Ploughzone	Biface	Onondaga Chert	L:38 mm W:27 mm T:8 mm; tip fragment; semi-refined; utilized edges
Total:	1 artifa	act				
Р3						
1	1	Surface	Ploughzone	Biface	Onondaga Chert	L:26 mm W:33 mm T:7 mm; tip/base fragment; semi-refined; retouched lateral margin
Total:	1 artifa	act				
Grand	Total:	: 3 artifacts				