

CITY OF TORONTO

STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

RE-IMAGINING YONGE STREET

**BEECROFT ROAD, DORIS AVENUE, & WILLOWDALE
AVENUE FROM SHEPPARD AVENUE EAST/WEST TO FINCH
AVE EAST/WEST, CITY OF TORONTO, FORMER
GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIP OF NORTH YORK, HISTORIC
YORK COUNTY, PROVINCE OF ONTARIO**

Submitted to:

Transportation Services Division
City of Toronto
City Hall: 22nd Floor East Tower
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ORIGINAL REPORT

JULY 24, 2017



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Project No.: 16M-00446-03

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

WSP Canada Inc. was retained by the City of Toronto to conduct a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment for the Reimagining Yonge Street Study, comprising of approximately 2.0 km sections of Beecroft Road, Doris Avenue and Willowdale Avenue from Sheppard Avenue East/West to Finch Avenue East/West within Lots 15 to 21, Concession 1 WYS and Concessions 1 and 2 EYS within the City of Toronto, Former Geographic Township of North York, Historic York County in the Province of Ontario.

This archaeological assessment has been triggered by the City of Toronto's intent to proceed with the inclusion of cycling facilities. The City of Toronto is the approval authority under the *Environmental Assessment Act*. The approval process includes the requirement for an archaeological assessment as one of the conditions for development approval to ensure that the proponent meets their legal obligations under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

Archaeological activities were carried out in accordance with the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport 2011). This study involved a review of documents pertaining to the property including historic maps, aerial photographs and local histories. A property inspection was conducted on May 24, 2017.

Archaeological recommendations have been made based on the background historic research, locations of known or registered archaeological sites, previous archaeological assessments, and indicators of archaeological potential as outlined in the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (Section 1.3.1). These recommendations include the following:

- 1. It is recommended that a licenced archaeologist be on site during all sub-surface excavations within 10m of the York Cemetery boundaries (Figure 6) to monitor construction activities and ensure that no unmarked graves are impacted during development. Monitoring activities should follow Section 3.3.3 Standard 4a-c, including the preparation of contingency plans should archaeological features or resources be encountered and the collection of all diagnostic artifacts from non-fill strata.**
- 2. Areas located outside of the impact area (disturbed road right-of-way and sidewalk) may hold archaeological potential for deeply buried archaeological resources. Prior to construction activities outside of the defined impact areas a thorough assessment of individual property locations must be conducted in accordance with Section 2.1.7 to ensure deeply buried archaeological resources are not impacted.**
- 3. Should deeply buried archaeological materials be encountered during construction, all work will cease and a professionally licensed archaeologist must be consulted to assess the cultural heritage value and significance of the significance of the archaeological deposits.**
- 4. Areas located outside of the area of impact (disturbed road right-of-way and sidewalk), such as green spaces, may hold archaeological potential. A thorough assessment of individual property locations must be conducted prior to construction activities if development is to expand beyond the ROW.**
- 5. The remainder of the property holds low archaeological potential due to areas of disturbance (Section 1.4 Standard 1f).**

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PROJECT PERSONNEL

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1 PROJECT CONTEXT

1.1 OBJECTIVES

The objective of a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment is to evaluate in detail the property's archaeological potential, which will support recommendations for Stage 2 survey for all or parts of the property and to recommend appropriate strategies for Stage 2 survey (if required). In support of the determination of archaeological potential, the Stage 1 will provide information about the property's geography, history, previous archaeological fieldwork and current land condition.

1.2 DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT

WSP Canada Inc. was retained by the City of Toronto to conduct a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment for the Reimagining Yonge Street Study, comprising of approximately 2.0 km sections of Beecroft Road, Doris Avenue and Willowdale Avenue from Sheppard Avenue East/West to Finch Avenue East/West within Lots 15 to 21, Concession 1 WYS and Concessions 1 and 2 EYS within the City of Toronto, Former Geographic Township of North York, Historic York County, in the Province of Ontario.

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The areas to be impacted by development along Beecroft Road, Doris Avenue and Willowdale Avenue are defined as being contained within the City's existing property limits, including the roadway, median and sidewalk, with no development expected beyond the property limits. The archaeological recommendations are only made for the areas to be impacted by development. For the purpose of historical research, these impact areas have been broadened into a wider study area (See Figures 1 and 2).

This archaeological assessment was carried out during Phases 1 to 4 of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study (i.e. the pre-approval stage of the process); therefore detailed design mapping was not available. The boundaries of the assessment correspond to maps provided by the Client at the outset of the investigation and do not correspond to legally surveyed lots.

Permission to access the property to conduct the property inspection was granted by the Client and no limits were placed on this access during the property inspection.

1.3 HISTORICAL CONTEXT

1.3.1 HISTORIC DOCUMENTATION

The *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of York and The Township of West Gwillimbury & Town of Bradford in the County of Simcoe, Ont.* (Miles & Co. 1878), provided insight into the early settlement of North York Township, while other historical mapping (1964 Fire Insurance Plan) and aerial photography depict the urbanization of the study area radiating from Yonge Street following WWII and development following the amalgamation of the area into the city of Toronto. As the impact area is contained within Beecroft Road, Doris Avenue and Willowdale Avenues' road allowances, no landowner information is available.

The following sections provide a brief outline of the study area history during the pre-contact and post-contact era in order to provide a generalized chronological framework in which Archaeological Assessment was conducted.

1.3.2 PRE-CONTACT PERIOD

Paleoindian period populations were the first to occupy what is now southern Ontario, moving into the region following the retreat of the Laurentide Ice Sheet approximately 11,000 years before present (BP). The first Paleoindian period populations to occupy southern Ontario are referred to as Early Paleoindians (Ellis and Deller 1990:39).

Early Paleoindian period groups are identified by their distinctive projectile point morphologies, exhibiting long grooves, or 'flutes', that likely functioned as a hafting mechanism. These Early Paleoindian group projectile morphologies include Gainey (ca. 10,900 BP), Barnes (ca. 10,700), and Crowfield (ca. 10,500) (Ellis and Deller 1990:39-43). By approximately 10,400 BP, Paleoindian projectile points transitioned to various un-fluted varieties such as Holcombe (ca. 10,300 BP), Hi-Lo (ca. 10,100 BP), and Unstemmed and Stemmed Lanceolate (ca. 10,400 to 9,500 BP). These morphologies were utilized by Late Paleoindian period groups (Ellis and Deller 1990:40).

Both Early and Late Paleoindian period populations were highly mobile, participating in the hunting of large game animals. Paleoindian period sites often functioned as small campsites (less than 200 m²) where stone tool production and maintenance occurred (Ellis and Deller 1990).

By approximately 8,000 BP the climate of Ontario began to warm. As a result, deciduous flora began to colonize the region. With this shift in flora came new faunal resources, resulting in a transition in the ways populations exploited their environments. This transition resulted in a change of tool-kits and subsistence strategies recognizable in the archaeological record, resulting in what is referred to archaeologically as the Archaic period. The Archaic period in southern Ontario is divided into three phases: the Early Archaic (ca. 10,000 to 8,000 BP), the Middle Archaic (ca. 8,000 to 4,500 BP), and the Late Archaic (ca. 4,500 to 2,800 BP) (Ellis et al. 1990).

The Archaic period is differentiated from earlier Paleoindian populations by a number of traits such as: 1) an increase in tool stone variation and reliance on local tool stone sources, 2) the emergence of notched and stemmed projectile point morphologies, 3) a reduction in extensively flaked tools, 4) the use of native copper, 5) the use of bone tools for hooks, gorges, and harpoons, 6) an increase in extensive trade networks, and 7) the production of ground stone tools. Also noted is an increase in the recovery of large woodworking tools such as chisels, adzes, and axes (Ellis et al. 1990:65-66). The Archaic period is also marked by population growth. Archaeological evidence suggests that by the end of the Middle Archaic period (ca. 4,500 BP) populations were steadily increasing in size (Ellis et al. 1990). Over the course of the Archaic period populations began to rely on more localized hunting and gathering territories. By the end of the Archaic period, populations were utilizing more seasonal rounds. From spring to fall, settlements would exploit lakeshore/riverine locations where a broad-based subsistence strategy could be employed, while the late fall and winter months would be spent at interior site where deer hunting was likely a primary focus with some wild edibles likely being collected (Ellis et al. 1990:114). This steady increase in population size and adoption of a more localized seasonal subsistence strategy eventually evolved into what is termed the Woodland period.

The Woodland period is characterized by the emergence of ceramic technology for the manufacture of pottery. Similar to the Archaic period, the Woodland period is separated into three primary timeframes: the Early Woodland (approximately 800 BC to 0 AD), the Middle Woodland (approximately 0 AD to 700/900 AD), and the Late Woodland (approximately 900 AD to 1600 AD) (Spence et al. 1990; Fox 1990).

The Early Woodland period is represented in southern Ontario by two different cultural complexes: the Meadowood Complex (ca. 900 to 500 BC), and the Middlesex Complex (ca. 500 BC to 0 AD). During this period the life ways of Early Woodland population differed little from that of the Late

Archaic with hunting and gathering representing the primary subsistence strategies. The pottery of this period is characterized by its relatively crude construction and lack of decorations. These early ceramics exhibit cord impressions, likely resulting from the techniques used during manufacture (Spence et al. 1990).

The Middle Woodland period is differentiated from the Early Woodland period by changes in lithic tool morphologies (projectile points) and the increased elaboration of ceramic vessels (Spence et al. 1990). In southern Ontario the Middle Woodland is observed in three different cultural complexes: the Point Peninsula Complex to the north and northeast of Lake Ontario, the Couture Complex near Lake St. Claire, and the Saugeen Complex throughout the remainder of southern Ontario. These groups can be identified by their use of either dentate or pseudo-scalloped ceramic decorations. It is by the end of the Middle Woodland period that archaeological evidence begins to suggest the rudimentary use of maize (corn) horticulture (Warrick 2000).

The adoption and expansion of maize horticulture during the Late Woodland period allowed for an increase in population size, density, and complexity among Late Woodland populations. As a result, a shift in subsistence and settlement patterns occurred, with the adoption of a more sedentary village life and reliance on maize horticulture, with beans, squash, and tobacco also being grown (Racher 2014). Late Woodland occupation in the study area is predominantly that of the Iroquoian speaking Petun or Tobacco Nation as well as Algonkian-speaking Odawa (Fox 1990). Nearing the end of the Late Woodland Period (approximately 1400 AD) villages reached their maximum size. During this period, increased warfare resulted in the development of larger villages with extensive palisades.

Early contact with European settlers at the end of the Late Woodland period resulted in extensive change to the traditional lifestyles of most populations inhabiting southern Ontario.

1.3.3 STUDY AREA SPECIFIC HISTORY IN THE POST CONTACT PERIOD

The initial European exploration in the area that would later become North York was transient in nature, consisting of early traders and missionaries who travelled the traditional routes of the First Nations peoples who guided them (ASI 2004; Kennedy 2013). The settlement of land in the region did not truly begin until after 1791. At this time John Graves Simcoe had been appointed Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada and initiated the survey and establishment of nineteen counties and associated townships. Patents to lands in these townships were then sold or granted to European settlers or Empire Loyalists who formed the basis of many of Ontario's early towns and communities. Following the trends of earlier First Nation settlements, these early communities established themselves first at major water crossings due to their ability to both provide accessibility to markets via ports and their ability to power various mills and other industries required in early settlement communities (ASI 2004).

During this early period of settlement the Town of York was established along the shores of Lake Ontario. As an important stopping point and supply town for settlers travelling through the region, Simcoe identified the requirement for established road networks throughout the region to ease the movement of goods and people (ASI 2004; Berchem 1977). Of primary importance to Simcoe was the construction of a new military transportation route north from York to the Upper Great Lakes, as the previously established routes through Lake Erie was too close to the newly formed United States. As such, Simcoe ordered that the construction of Yonge Street begin, and by 1794 enough of the road had been cleared to reach as far as Lot 17, Concession 1, just north of Sheppard Avenue (Hart 1968). The establishment of permanent and navigable road networks facilitated a change in settlement patterns, allowing communities to grow in areas where major intersections or surveyed lots and concessions intersected, away from major waterways that had previously been the focal points of communities (ASI 2004). Key communities within proximity of the study area were Lansing, Willowdale, and Newtonbrook.

These early farming communities were established at major road crossings, where post offices were established and the local community congregated. In general there was little change in these

communities until the latter half of the 19th century. By the 1890's electric rail car transit had reached this section of Yonge Street, allowing for ease of movement and an increase in settlement opportunity (Railway visible in Image 22, Berchem 1996; Kennedy 2013). However, the increased use of automobiles following the First World War, and the expanding costs associated with track upkeep, led to the abandonment of the railcar system north of the North Toronto Terminal (located on Yonge Street, south of St. Clair Avenue) by the 1930's (Berchem 1996).

During this time the lots which form the study area were located in an area which still formed part of the larger Township of York. However, by the beginning of the 20th century the rural communities located north of Toronto's major settlement centres grew frustrated with a government that often ignored their needs in favour of urban problems. A petition formed as a result and in 1922 the northern section of York Township separated to form the Township of North York (Kennedy 2013).

Following the end of World War II settlement along Yonge Street within the study area rapidly grew. Spurred on by the baby boom and an increased desire to settle in more suburban areas, urbanization spread north resulting in the removal and replacement of the majority of the original farm buildings and shops. Yonge Street was widened and various utilities and municipal infrastructure installed. By 1967 the Township of North York was renamed to the Borough of North York, reflecting its urbanized nature. In 1979 the Borough gained City status and, in 1998 the City of North York was amalgamated into the City of Toronto.

Community of Lansing

The early settlement of Lansing was pioneered by three individuals: Thomas Hill (settling in 1797), John Everson (settling in 1798), and Joseph Shepard (settling in 1798). By 1802 both Hill and Everson were operating taverns on the southern corners of Yonge Street and Sheppard Avenue, with Hill being on the southwest (Lot 15 Concession 1 WYS) and Everson on the southeast (Lot 15 Concession 1 EYS). Meanwhile Shepard had built a small log house on the northwest corner (Hart 1968).

A number of businesses and their associated buildings hold prominence in the early growth of Lansing. In 1805, Thomas Shepard purchased Hill's tavern and, in 1824, constructed the Golden Lion Hotel (Image 22). The Golden Lion Hotel became a landmark in the community of Lansing, with large stables and barns being located to the south and a number of out-buildings and sheds located to the north. The hotel remained in use throughout the remainder of the 19th century, and following the creation of North York Township in 1922, functioned as the first municipal offices. In 1928, this structure was removed and the land is currently being used as a parking lot. To the east of the Golden Lion was the Elihu Pease' Tannery (Lot 15 Concession 1 EYS). Elihu Pease moved to Lansing from Newtonbrook in 1834 and establish a tannery on the southeast corner of Yonge Street and Sheppard; now the location of a large high-rise building (Hart 1968).

In 1843, following a pardon from the Queen for his role in the failed 1837 rebellion, Joseph Shepard II built a large brick general store on the northwest corner of Yonge Street and Sheppard Avenue (Lot 16 Concession 1 WYS). The Shepard General Store became a gathering place within the community, with a small post office opening inside the shop in 1866, giving the community its official name as Lansing. In 1923 the general store was purchased by George and William Dempsey from Benjamin F. Brown, who then converted it to a hardware store. By the 1870's a number of other businesses had established themselves along Yonge Street, including: a wagon carriage shop, physician, shoemaker, and agricultural supply shop.

No permanent structures remain along Yonge Street today related to this early period of settlement, with the majority having been replaced by modern structures following the post WW2 population expansion (Hart 1968). The last remnant of this period, the Dempsey Brothers Hardware Store, operated at its original location until the 1980's at which point it was sold and relocated in 1996 to

250 Beecroft Avenue. Today the original store location is a 7-11 corner store and McDonald's restaurant.

Community of Willowdale

The earliest settlers in this community were Jacob Cummer, his wife Elizabeth, and their three children who moved to the area in 1797. At this time the area was given the name of Kummer's Settlement (Hart 1968). The use of the name Willowdale, as it pertains to the community located along Yonge Street, did not come about until 1855 when David Gibson petitioned the government of Upper Canada to provide a post office stop to service the community around the Yonge Street/Park Home Avenue area. When the petition was granted Gibson put forward the name Willow Dale, which was accepted and later also given to the community area. While similar post offices were established around the communities of Newtonbrook and Lansing, the streamlining of services in the 20th century led to the Willowdale office becoming the sole postal location and the collective area being known as Willowdale, though locally the names of Newtonbrook and Lansing were still used (Kennedy 2013:9-10).

The initial development of Willowdale was much slower than that of Lansing, with few notable structures being erected until the mid-1800s. In 1825 an inn was constructed by James Davis along Yonge Street, south of Finch Avenue (Lot 20 Concession 1 WYS). Davis also constructed a tannery on the property in 1834. In 1834, Joseph Cummer and the family of Lawrence Johnson provided land for the construction of a church (located on the northeast corner of Yonge Street and Church Avenue, Lot 19 Concession 1 EYS). On this lot was constructed the original Willowdale United Church, which consisted of a log building built at the northeast corner of Yonge Street and Church Avenue. This wooden church was eventually replaced by a brick structure in 1856 (Hart 1968). While the church has since been removed from the property, sections of the old cemetery are still present there today.

Three early schools were located along this section of Yonge Street. The first of these was an early log schoolhouse constructed in the middle of the original Yonge Street in 1801 (Near Lots 19). The odd placement of this school was meant to ensure that children, who travelled from neighbouring communities to reach the school, would not get lost in the uncleared woodland (Hart 1968). This school was quickly replaced as the roadway became more establish, with no traces being left due to the heavy disturbance caused by infrastructure development. In 1842 a brick schoolhouse was built near the corner of Eglers Avenue and Yonge Street on lands sold by Abraham Johnson (Lot 19 Concession 1 WYS). A new two-story brick school replaced the original 1842 structure in 1875. This in turn was replaced by an even larger two-story brick school in 1892.

Similar to Lansing, no original structure dating to the original settlement of Willowdale remains (with the exception of the Willowdale cemetery).

Community of Newtonbrook

Newtonbrook, centred at the intersection of Yonge Street and Drewry. The sections of the study area within the impact area only extend into the community as far as Lots 21. These sections of land once held two inns (Lot 21 Concession 1 EYS), as well as the property of John Cummer, son Jacob Cummer of Willowdale (Lot 21 Concession 1 WYS).

The first of the two inns located on the northeast corner of Yonge Street and Finch Avenue was built by John Montgomery in the 1820's. Montgomery later leased this inn to John Finch in the 1830's who operated at Montgomery's inn until 1847. At this time Finch opened his own inn adjacent to the original Montgomery inn. Nothing remains of these two early structures, as the area now comprises the TTC subway Finch Station, a large parking complex, and a number of multi-story structures

1.3.4 SUMMARY

First Nations peoples have a deep history of occupation in the study area since initial migrations following deglaciation. Early First Nations groups would have made use of resource areas and various well-drained terrain features located near river mouths or along the glacial and post-glacial shorelines.

During the early Euro-Canadian settlement period, three communities were established within the study area: Lansing; Willowdale; and Newtonbrook. These early settlements were largely rural in nature until post-WWII, when growth and development resulted in the urbanization of these communities. Today very little remains of the original settlements. The majority of property which once held significant structures or sites have been subject to heavy urban development resulting from the installation of utilities, growth of infrastructure, and construction of high-rise buildings.

1.4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

1.4.1 CURRENT CONDITIONS

The areas to be potentially impacted by the inclusion of cycling facilities consists of three 2.0 km sections along Beecroft Road, Doris Avenue and Willowdale Avenue from Sheppard Avenue East/West to the Finch Hydro Corridor within Lots 15 to 21, Concession 1 WYS and Concession 1 EYS within the City of Toronto, Former Geographic Township of North York, Historic York County, in the Province of Ontario. A property inspection was conducted on May 24, 2017 to review current conditions.

The study areas consists of heavily developed urban area with numerous high-rise structures or subdivisions. A few small greenspaces are located along Beecroft Road and Doris Avenue, and consist of landscaped areas likely planted/developed following initial building construction.

1.4.2 PHYSIOGRAPHY AND GENERALIZED ECOLOGY

The study area is located primarily in the Peel Plain physiographic region, with the southern extent extending into the northern sections of the South Slope region. The Peel Plain region is described as level-to-undulating with clay soils. The numerous streams and rivers crossing the region provide drainage, limiting the presence of undrained lands. Overall the region slopes gently towards the shores of Lake Ontario, transitioning into the South Slope region. The South Slope region is described as a gently rolling till plain which slopes southeast towards Lake Ontario.

Locally, the study area is characterized by till plains, both bevelled and drumlinized (Chapman and Putnam 1984). Due to the extensive urbanization that has occurred in the study area there are limited to no visible features within the study area.

The study area lies in the Mixedwood Plains Ecozone, in the Lake Erie-Lake Ontario Ecoregion (Ecoregion 7E) (Crins et al. 2009). This Ecoregion covers approximately 2.2% of Ontario, spreading from Windsor and Sarnia east to the Niagara Peninsula and Toronto. Climatic and geological characteristics for this ecoregion are provided below, along with a brief description of dominant vegetation and wildlife species. The ecoregion is comprised primarily of land converted for pasture and agricultural uses (~78%) and urban/developed land (~7%). Forest cover in the remaining areas consists primarily of dense deciduous (10.3%), sparse deciduous (1.0%), and mixed deciduous forest.

1.4.3 PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENTS

Five previous archaeological assessments have been completed within the study area in proximity to all three corridors. These assessments consist of Stage 1-4 investigations all pertaining to the development of 5220-5254 Yonge Street, Part of Lot 18, Concession 1 WYS. These assessments resulted in the exposure of cultural features associated with the 1840-1870 occupation along Yonge Street. The domestic nature of artifacts led to the interpretation that the site was domestic in origin, potentially serving as an inn or tavern at some point during its use. It was

determined that the site was also likely associated with the Cummer family, who occupied Lot 18 at that time. The features excavated throughout these assessments were given Borden number AkGu-75 (the 5220 Yonge Street Site). WSP Canada Inc (2016) conducted an assessment of the Yonge Street corridor between Beecroft Road and Doris Avenue as part of the original scope of the Re-Imagining Yonge Street project.

Table 1: Archaeological assessments completed within 50m of the study area

Researcher	PIF Number	Report Title
Archeoworks Inc.	P305-005-2009	Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment (AA): 5220-5254 Yonge Street, within Part of Lot 18, Concession 1 West of Yonge Street, City of Toronto
Archeoworks Inc.	P029-614-2009	Stage 2 Trench Excavation: 5220-5254 Yonge Street, within Part of Lot 18, Concession 1 West of Yonge Street, City of Toronto
Archeoworks Inc.	P029-630-2009	Stage 3 Archaeological Assessment (AA) and Stage 4 Mitigation Report of: 5220 Yonge Street, within Part of Lot 18, Concession 1 West of Yonge Street, City of Toronto
Archeoworks Inc.	P016-0106-2015	Stage 4 Mitigation: Outstanding Portion of Feature #2 at the 5220 Yonge Street Site (AkGu-75) within Lot 18, Concession 1 WYS, City of Toronto, Ontario
WSP Canada Inc.	P474-0004-2016	Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment: Reimagining Yonge Street: From Florence/Avondale Avenue to the Finch Hydro Corridor, City of Toronto, Former Geographic Township of North York, Historic York

In addition to these assessments, the City of Toronto Draft Archaeological Mater Plan (ASI 2004 – shapefile update February 12, 2016) covers the study area, providing some generalized indicators of archaeological potential (Figures 5a-c). As this is a generalized overview of potential meant to provide city planners with an idea of archaeological requirements prior to development there is no in depth detail regarding the nature of archaeological potential (i.e. pre-contact or contact) available. It can be assumed however that the proximity of a heritage properties as well as early Euro-Canadian settlements and transportations routes are a primary factor. Today these areas consist of smaller shops, likely associated with the growth of the area following 1940 and a vacant lot that is being converted into a high-rise building (previously assessed under P016-0106-2015).

1.4.4 REGISTERED ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

A search of the Ontario Archaeological Sites Database of the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport indicated that there are three registered sites are located within a 1km radius of the study area. Sites AkGu-9 and AkGu-78 consist of pre-contact, woodland sites while site AkGu-75 (discussed above) is associated with the 1840-1870 occupation along Yonge Street. The first two sites are located greater than 300m to the east of the areas to be impacted by this project. AkGu-322 is located within the study area between Beecroft and Yonge Street on Park Home Avenue outside of the impact area of Beecroft Street corridor. This site is associated with the David Gibson designated house and 1851 farmstead of the Gibson family.

Table 2: Registered archaeological sites located within a 1km radius of the study area.

Borden Number	Site Name	Time Period	Cultural Affinity	Site Type	Development Status
AkGu-9	Doncaster 1	Late Woodland	-	-	-
AkGu-78	Willow	Late Woodland	-	-	-
AkGu-75	5220 Yonge St	Post-Contact	-	Homestead, inn, tavern/restaurant	No Further CHVI
AkGu-322	Gibson House Site	Post-Contact	English	Farmstead	-

1.4.5 DESIGNATED HERITAGE PROPERTIES

A total of 15 municipally-identified heritage properties are located within 1 km of the study area, with two being located immediately adjacent to the areas of impact along the Beecroft Road corridor and one immediately adjacent to the areas of impact along the Doris Avenue corridor (Figure 5). A list of listed and designated heritage properties can be found in Table 2. Heritage properties located within the study area consist of the Joshua Cummer House (since removed and replaced by a high-rise complex, Figure 6b), the North York Hydro Building (ca. 1929), the North York Board of Education Offices (ca. 1970), David Gibson House (1851) set back from the area to be impacted, Joseph Shepard House: also Demsey Brothers Store (1860) (which was relocated to its current location from 4804 Yonge street and replaced with a 7/11 and McDonalds), John McKenzie House (1913), and the Willowdale United Church (1954). Given the removal and intensive disturbance associated with the Cummer House and Joseph Shepard House: also Demsey Brothers Store and the relatively recent construction dates of the Hydro and Board of Education buildings, these do not indicate archaeological potential.

The David Gibson House, John McKenzie House, and Willowdale United Church are still in situ and pose an elevated potential for archaeological resources along the Beecroft Road and Doris Avenue Corridors although they are well outside of the areas that the corridors will be directly impacting. The two designated properties adjacent to Beecroft Road corridor is the York Cemetery and the Shepard House: also Demsey Brothers Store. The York Cemetery raises the archaeological potential of the Beecroft Road and monitoring should be conducted as development occurs within a 10m buffer of the Cemetery (Figure 6). The Shepard House: also Demsey Brothers Store was moved from its original location and there for does not elevate the archaeological potential of the corridor. Along the Doris Avenue corridor the John McKenzie House abuts the corridor and raises archaeological potential for this section of the corridor (Figure 5a). All heritage properties are over 300m from the Willowdale Avenue Corridor.

Table 3: Designated Heritage Properties within 1km of the Study Area

Location	Status	Address	Bylaw	Details
1	Part IV	101 Senlac Rd	775-1999	Michael Shepard House, 1859; Designation By-Law Enacted by City Council on Nov. 25, 1999
2	Part IV	90 Burndale Ave	32310	Joseph Shepard House, Circa 1835; Designation By-Law Enacted by North York City Council on June 22, 1994
3	Listed	5050 Yonge St	N/A	North York Board Of Education Offices, 1970; Mathers & Haldenby Architects
4	Listed	5151 Yonge St	N/A	North York Hydro Building, 1929
5	Part IV	5172 Yonge St	27975	David Gibson House, 1851; Designation By-Law Enacted by North York City Council on Dec. 15, 1980
6	Part IV	250 Beecroft Rd	812-1998	Joseph Shepard House; Also Dempsey Bros. Store, 1860, Relocated from 4804 Yonge Street in 1996; Designation By-Law Enacted by North York City Council on Dec.17, 1998
7	Listed	25 Abbotsford Rd	N/A	Robert Lackie House, 1875
8	Part IV	34 Parkview Ave	31872	John McKenzie House, 1913; Designation By-Law Enacted By North York City Council on Nov. 4, 1992
9	Listed	20 Mckee Ave	N/A	Joshua Cummer House, Circa 1845, Later Second Floor Addition.
10	Listed	349 Kenneth Ave	N/A	Willowdale United Church, 1954; J. E. Hoare Jr., Architect; Adopted by City Council on Oct 1, 2004
11	Part IV	18 Harrison Garden Blvd	31251	Elihu Pease House, circa 1834; Designation By-Law Enacted by North York City Council on July 11, 1990; Originally located at 34 Avondale Ave
12	Part IV	285 Cummer Ave	381-2007	St. John's Convalescent Hospital, adopted by City Council on Feb 8, 2007; Designation by-law enacted by city council on Apr 24, 2007
13	Listed	5926 Yonge St	N/A	Newtonbrook Store
14	Listed	270 Drewry Ave	N/A	Rueter House, circa 1870, later additions
15	Part IV	34 Avondale Ave	31251	Moved to 20 Harrison Garden Blvd; Elihu Pease House

Also present within the study area are a number of non-designated properties determined to hold heritage value (as per Geoff Kettel of the North York Community Preservation Panel, Figure 5). These properties consist of a cluster of building representing 'Modernist' construction methods and designed landscapes, while the one represents a significant cultural heritage landscape (Moorhead Park). These potential heritage properties and landscapes represent modern features and do not impact archaeological potential within the Beecroft Road, Doris Avenue and Willowdale Avenue corridor

Table 4: Potential Heritage Properties within 1km of the Study Area

Location	Status	Address	Bylaw	Details
16	Not Registered	5100 Yonge St.	N/A	North York Civic Centre: Potential Heritage Property due to Modernists Construction Techniques
17	Not Registered	5100 Yonge St.	N/A	Mel Lastman Square: Potential Heritage Landscape
18	Not Registered	5040 Yonge St.	N/A	Toronto Centre for the Arts: Potential Heritage Property due to Modernists Construction Techniques
19	Not Registered	80 Sheppard Ave E.	N/A	Moorhead Park: Potential Heritage Landscape
20	Intention	172 Finch Ave W	N/A	Arthur Edward Wayne House: intention to Designate adopted by City Council on April 24, 2007

1.4.6 SUMMARY

Property inspection was conducted on May 24, 2017.

The subject area is located in the Peel Slope physiographic region, within the Mixedwood Plains Ecozone, in the Lake Erie-Lake Ontario Ecoregion (Ecoregion 7E).

Five archaeological assessments have been conducted within or in close proximity to the current study area. The Ontario Archaeological Sites Database (OASDB) indicates that there are four registered sites located within a 1km radius of the property. There are also fifteen designated heritage properties and five potential heritage properties within 1km of the study area.

2 FIELD METHODS

2.1 PROPERTY INSPECTION

A property inspection is a visit to the property to gain first-hand knowledge of its geography, topography, and current condition, and to evaluate and map the archaeological potential.

A property inspection was conducted on May 24, 2017, in order to review site conditions. The weather at the time was sunny with a temperature of 30 degrees Celsius. The weather allowed for good visibility of land features.

Property inspection began at the southern extent of Beecroft Road, travelling north until Finch Avenue where property inspection then moved south along Doris Avenue. Willowdale Avenue was also inspected. Considerable urban development has occurred within the impact area which is defined as the existing roadway including adjacent sidewalks and boulevards. However, green spaces still exist intermittently mostly in the form of parks or lawns.

The eastern edge of York Cemetery runs along a portion of Beecroft Road (Image 2 & 3). While the edge of the property is composed of a parking lot and a small greenspace that is not part of the cemetery, an archaeologist is required to monitor work within 10m of the property edge as there is the potential for the discovery of unmarked grave shafts (Figure 6).

Two Part IV Heritage properties are located in close proximity of the proposed impact area. John McKenzie House (Image 12) is found along Doris Avenue and Joseph Shepard House (Image 5) is found along Beecroft Road. According to the current development plan, these heritage properties will not be impacted as the work is contained in the disturbed ROW. If work is to go beyond the ROW, these properties will require an archaeological assessment.

A focus was made during the property inspection to investigate areas identified within the Archaeological Master Plan (ASI 2004) as holding archaeological potential. In all cases, areas of archaeological potential were identified as being disturbed within the proposed impact area.

Field notes and photographs of the property were taken during the inspection. The photograph locations and directions were noted and all photographs were catalogued. Locations of photos presented can be found in Figure 6 and Appendix B.

2.2 RECORD OF FINDS

A Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment includes a visual inspection only and does not include excavation or collection of archaeological resources.

2.3 INVENTORY OF DOCUMENTATION RECORDS

The following list represents all the documentation taken in the field relating to this project and is being retained by WSP Canada Inc.:

- 2 pages of field notes
- 21 digital photographs in JPG format
- GPS readings taken during the property inspection.

3 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS

3.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

A number of factors are employed in determining archaeological potential. Features indicating archaeological potential can be found in [Appendix A](#).

Criteria for pre-contact archaeological potential is focused on physiographic variables that include distance from the nearest source of water, the nature of the nearest source/body of water, distinguishing features in the landscape (e.g. ridges, knolls, eskers, wetlands), the types of soils found within the area of assessment and resource availability. Also considered in determining archaeological potential are known archaeological sites within or in the vicinity of the study area. Historic research provides the basis for determining historic archaeological potential. Land registry records, historical maps and aerial photographic evidence all assist in determining historic archaeological potential. Additionally, the proximity to historic transportation corridors such as roads, rail and water courses also affect the historic archaeological potential.

Five previous archaeological assessments have been conducted adjacent to the impact area. Four of these studies all pertain to Part of Lot 18, Concession 1 WYS, and resulted in the identification of domestic features associated with 1840-1870 domestic site use along Yonge Street. The Ontario Archaeological Sites Database (OASDB) indicates that there are four registered sites located within a 1km radius of the property. Two of these fall well beyond 300m of the impact area, while AkGu-75 and AkGu-322, is associated with archaeological investigation conducted on portions of Lot 18, Concession 1 WYS.

Based on a review of documents pertaining to the property including historic maps, aerial photographs and local histories it was determined that the study area held potential for the recovery of archaeological sites and materials associated with the early Euro-Canadian settlement of the area. This was determined by the proximity of early Euro-Canadian settlements (within 300m) and early Euro-Canadian transportations routes (within 100m).

The areas to be impacted by development consist of the current Beecroft Road, Doris Avenue and Willowdale Avenue corridors within the City's existing property limits, including the roadway, median and sidewalk. Despite the close proximity of numerous early Euro-Canadian structures and early transportation routes, heavy disturbance associated with urban development and infrastructure has resulted in the removal of archaeological potential in the immediate impact areas. As a result of this disturbances it is determined that the majority of the area to be impacted by streetscape and public realm improvements holds low archaeological potential.

One exception to this is the lands located within 10m of the York Cemetery. While the lands to be impacted adjacent to the cemetery are known to have been impacted by the installation of various subsurface utilities, potential to encounter buried remains is still present. Following discussions with MTCS staff archaeologists (June 20, 2016), it was determined that archaeological monitoring should be conducted during all work within 10m of the existing cemetery boundary. Archaeological monitoring should follow Standards 4 and 5, Section 3.3.3 of the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport).

3.2 CONCLUSIONS

Based on the proximity of primary water sources (300m), and historic transportation routes (100m) it is determined that the study area holds archaeological potential for pre-contact and post contact resources. Consult Figure 5 for areas that hold high archaeological potential. All other areas have been noted as disturbed. As per Section 1.4 Standard 1f of the *Standards and Guidelines*, areas documented as disturbed can be recommended to not require survey, despite the proximity of features indicating archaeological potential.

Stage 2 is required for areas with high archaeological potential caused by primary water sources and historic transportation routes. Stage 2 is not required for areas identified as disturbed.

4 RECOMMENDATIONS

Archaeological activities were carried out in accordance with the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport 2011).

This study involved a review of documents pertaining to the property including historic maps, aerial photographs and local histories. A property inspection was completed May 24, 2017.

Archaeological recommendations have been made based on the background historic research, locations of known or registered archaeological sites, previous archaeological assessments, and indicators of archaeological potential as outlined in the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (Section 1.3.1). These recommendations include the following:

1. It is recommended that a licenced archaeologist be on site during all sub-surface excavations within 10m of the York Cemetery boundaries (Figure 6) to monitor construction activities and ensure that no unmarked graves are impacted during development. Monitoring activities should follow Section 3.3.3 Standard 4a-c, including the preparation of contingency plans should archaeological features or resources be encountered and the collection of all diagnostic artifacts from non-fill strata.
2. Areas located outside of the impact area (disturbed road right-of-way and sidewalk) may hold archaeological potential for deeply buried archaeological resources. Prior to construction activities outside of the defined impact areas a thorough assessment of individual property locations must be conducted in accordance with Section 2.1.7 to ensure deeply buried archaeological resources are not impacted
3. Should deeply buried archaeological materials be encountered during construction, all work will cease and a professionally licensed archaeologist must be consulted to assess the cultural heritage value and significance of the archaeological deposits.
4. Areas located outside of the area of impact (disturbed road right-of-way and sidewalk), such as green spaces, may hold archaeological potential. A thorough assessment of individual property locations must be conducted prior to construction activities if development is to expand beyond the ROW
5. The remainder of the property holds low archaeological potential due to areas of disturbance (Section 1.4 Standard 1f).

5 ADVICE ON COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION

This report is submitted to the Minister of Tourism and Culture as a condition of licensing in accordance with Part VI of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c 0.18. The report is reviewed to ensure that it complies with the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (2011a) that are issued by the Minister, and that the archaeological fieldwork and report recommendations ensure the conservation, protection and preservation of the cultural heritage of Ontario. When all matters relating to archaeological sites within the project area of a development proposal have been addressed to the satisfaction of the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport, a letter will be issued by the Ministry stating that there are no further concerns with regard to alterations to archaeological sites by the proposed development.

It is an offence under Sections 48 and 69 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* for any party other than a licensed archaeologist to make any alteration to a known archaeological site or to remove any artifact or other physical evidence of past human use or activity from the site, until such time as a licensed archaeologist has completed archaeological fieldwork on the site, submitted a report to the Minister stating that the site has no further cultural heritage value or interest, and the report has been filed in the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports referred to in Section 65.1 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

Should previously undocumented archaeological resources be discovered, they may be a new archaeological site and therefore subject to Section 48(1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. The proponent or person discovering the archaeological resources must cease alteration of the site immediately and engage a licensed consultant archaeologist to carry out archaeological fieldwork, in compliance with Section 48(1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

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

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7 IMAGES



Image 1: View North/North/West of Beecroft Road.



Image 2: View West/South/West of York Cemetery entrance.



Image 3: View West/South/West of green space adjacent to York Cemetery property.



Image 4: View North/East of park near Beecroft Road.



Image 5: View West/South/West of Joseph Shepard House along Beecroft Road.



Image 6: View East/North/East of small greenspace and footpath.



Image 7: View South/South/East of development along Beecroft Road.



Image 8: View East/North/East of Doris and Finch Avenue intersect. Utilities within the boulevard in the foreground.



Image 9: View South/South/East of green space along Doris Ave along with developed infrastucutre.



Image 10: View South/South/West of west side of Doris Ave.



Image 11: View East/North/East of park along Doris Ave.



Image 12: View North of John McKenzie House.



Image 13: View East/North/East of developed park along Doris Ave.



Image 14: View South/West of Princess Park.



Image 15: View East/North/East of recent housing development along Doris Ave.



Image 16: View East/North/East of Willowdale Ave.



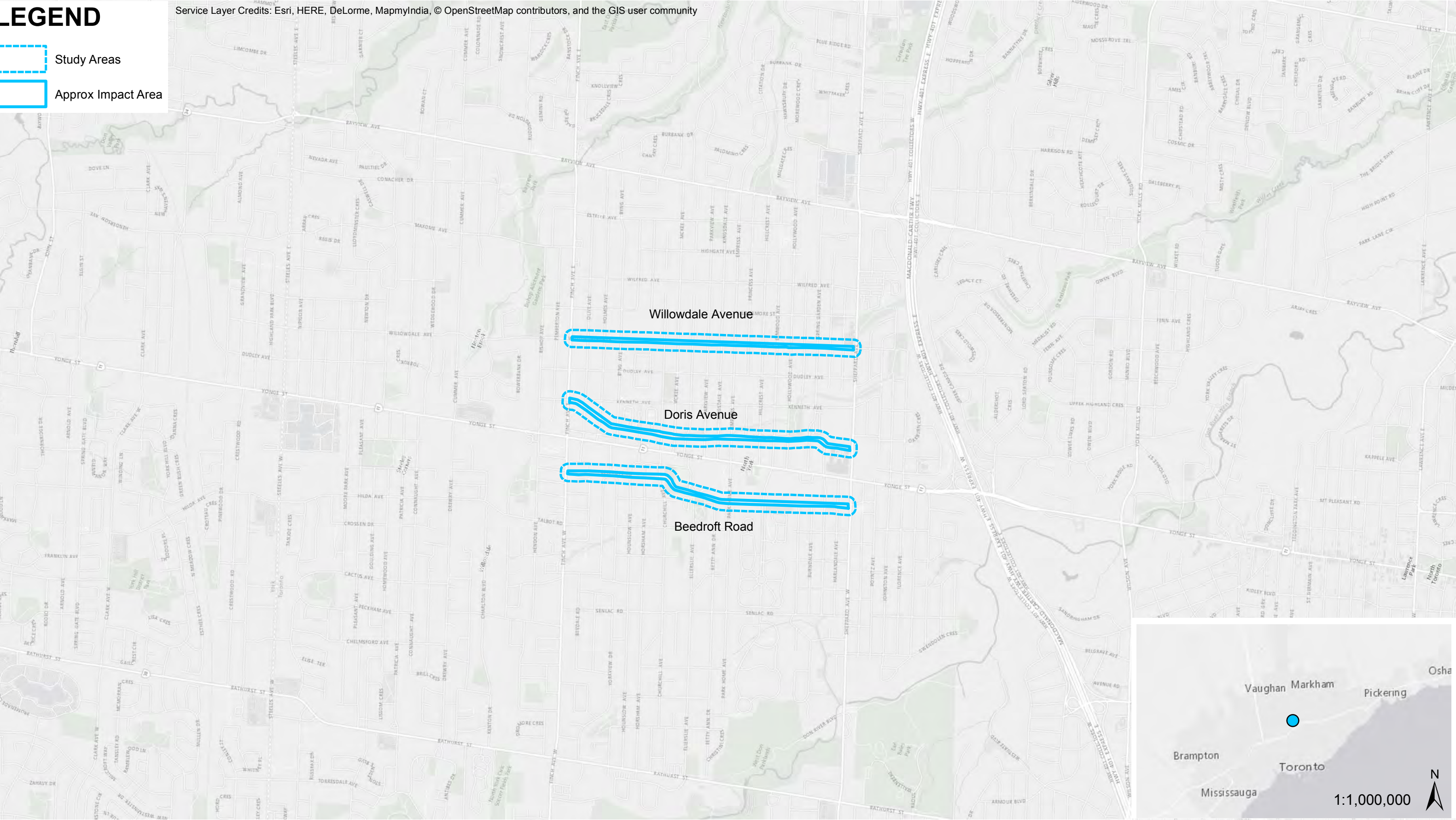
Image 17: View South/South/East of showing development along Willowdale Ave.



FIGURES

LEGEND

- Study Areas
- Approx Impact Area



PROJECT:
STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL:
RE-IMAGINING YONGE STREET

CLIENT:
CITY OF TORONTO

PROJECT NO.:
16M-00446-03

DATE:
7/10/2017

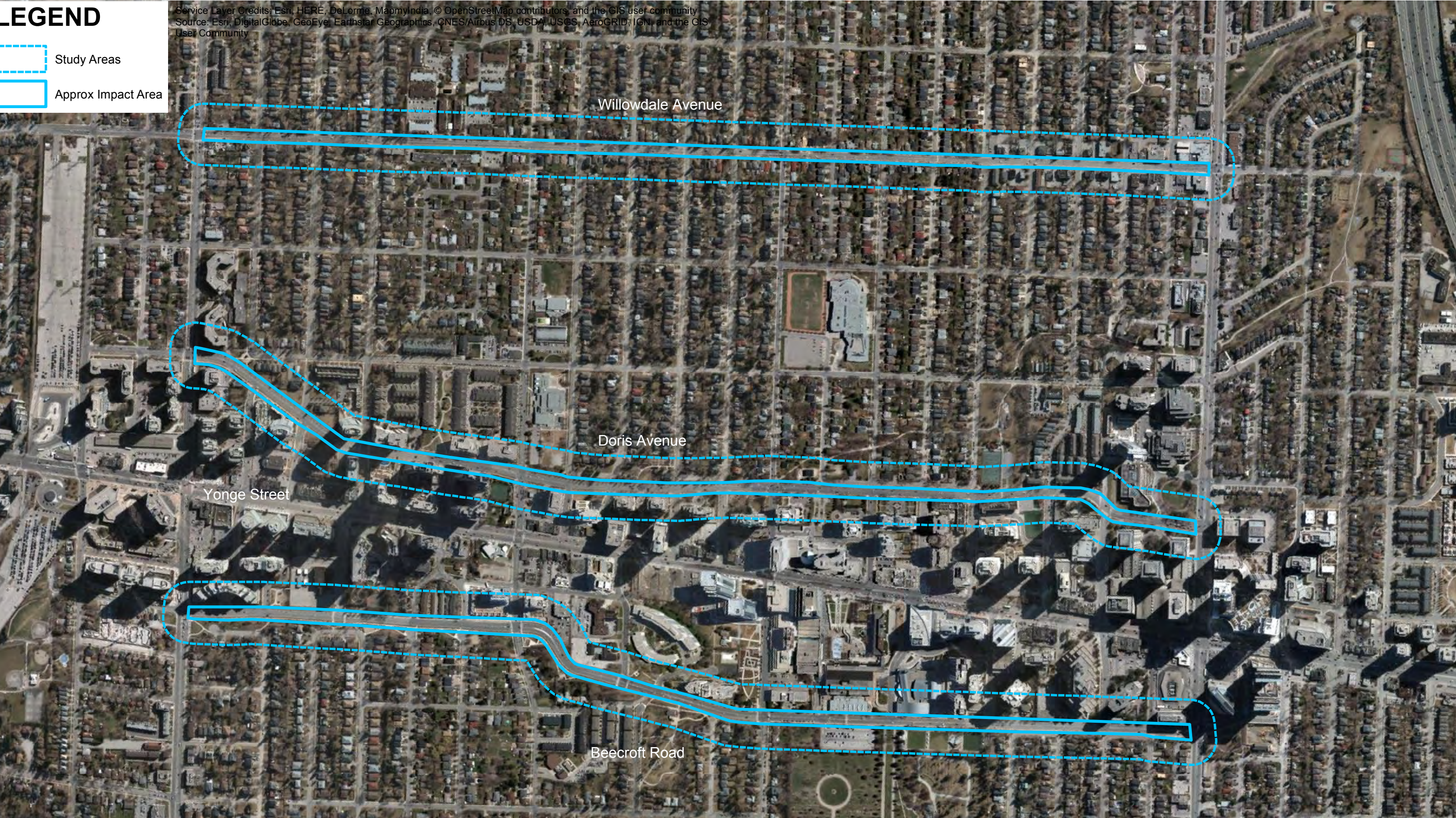
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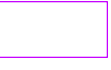
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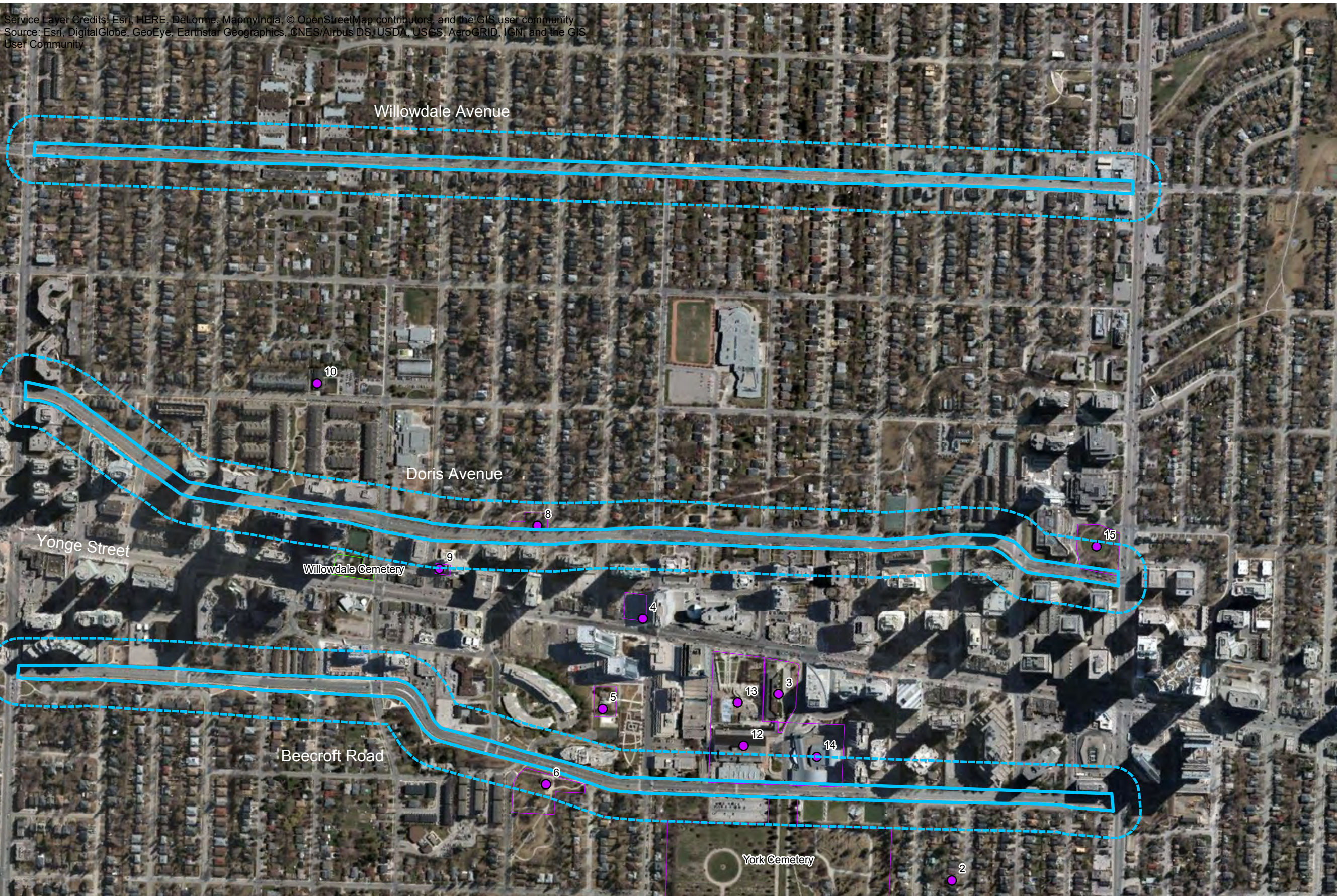






LEGEND

-  Study Areas
-  Approx Impact Area
-  Willowdale Cemetery
-  Heritage Register (April 2017)
-  Heritage Parcels



PROJECT:
STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL:
RE-IMAGINING YONGE STREET

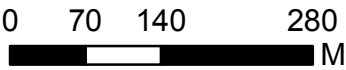
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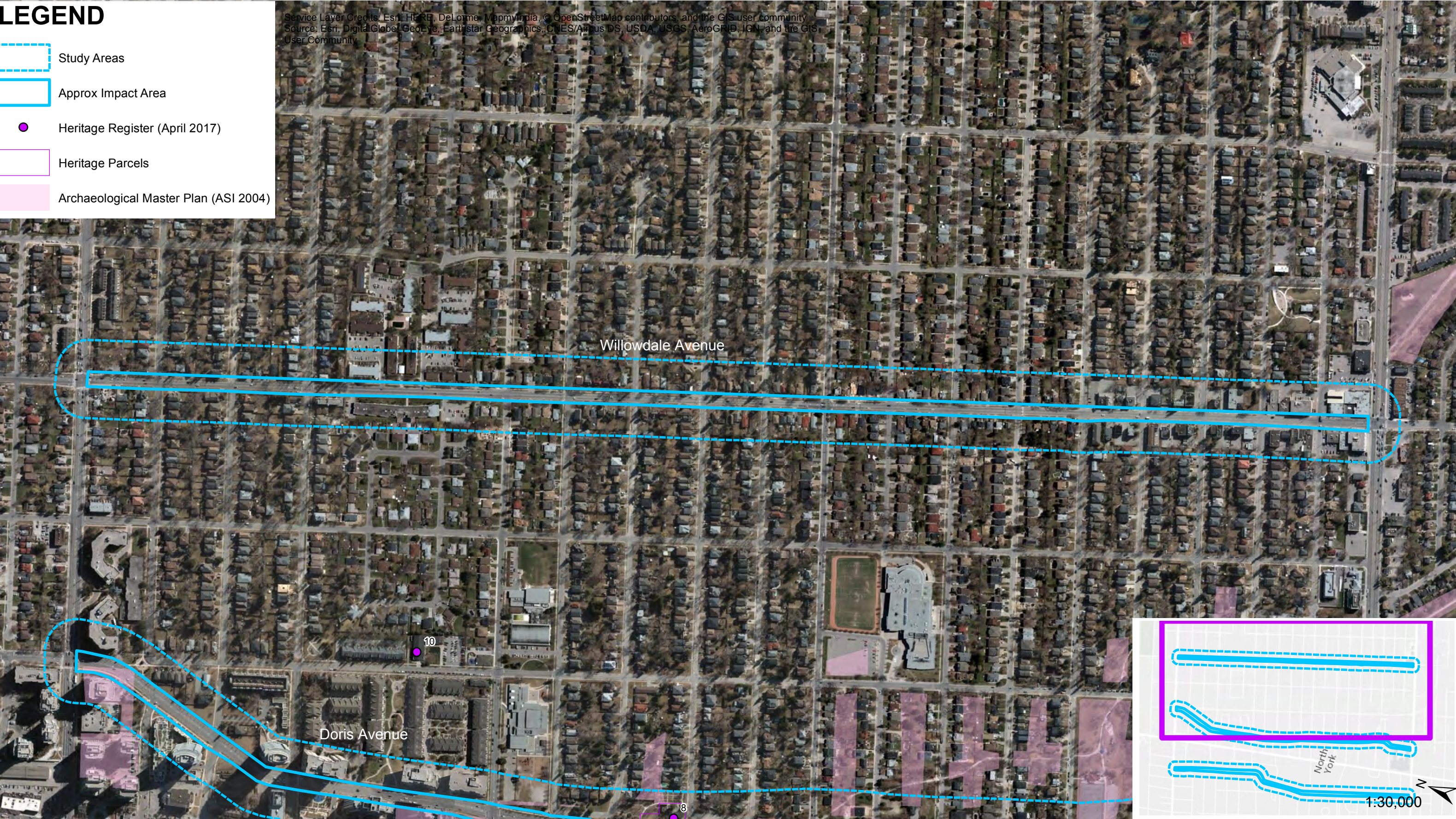
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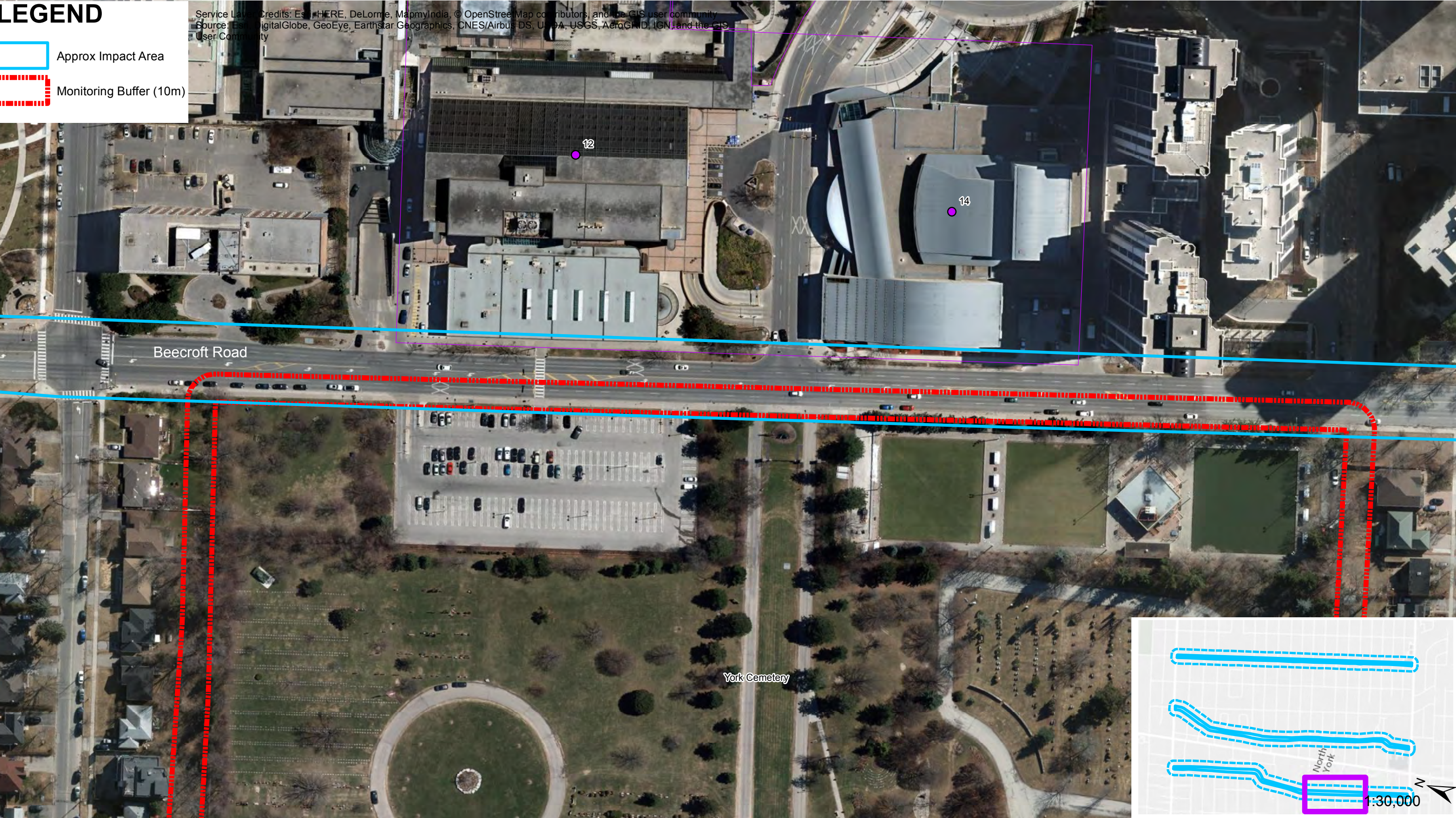
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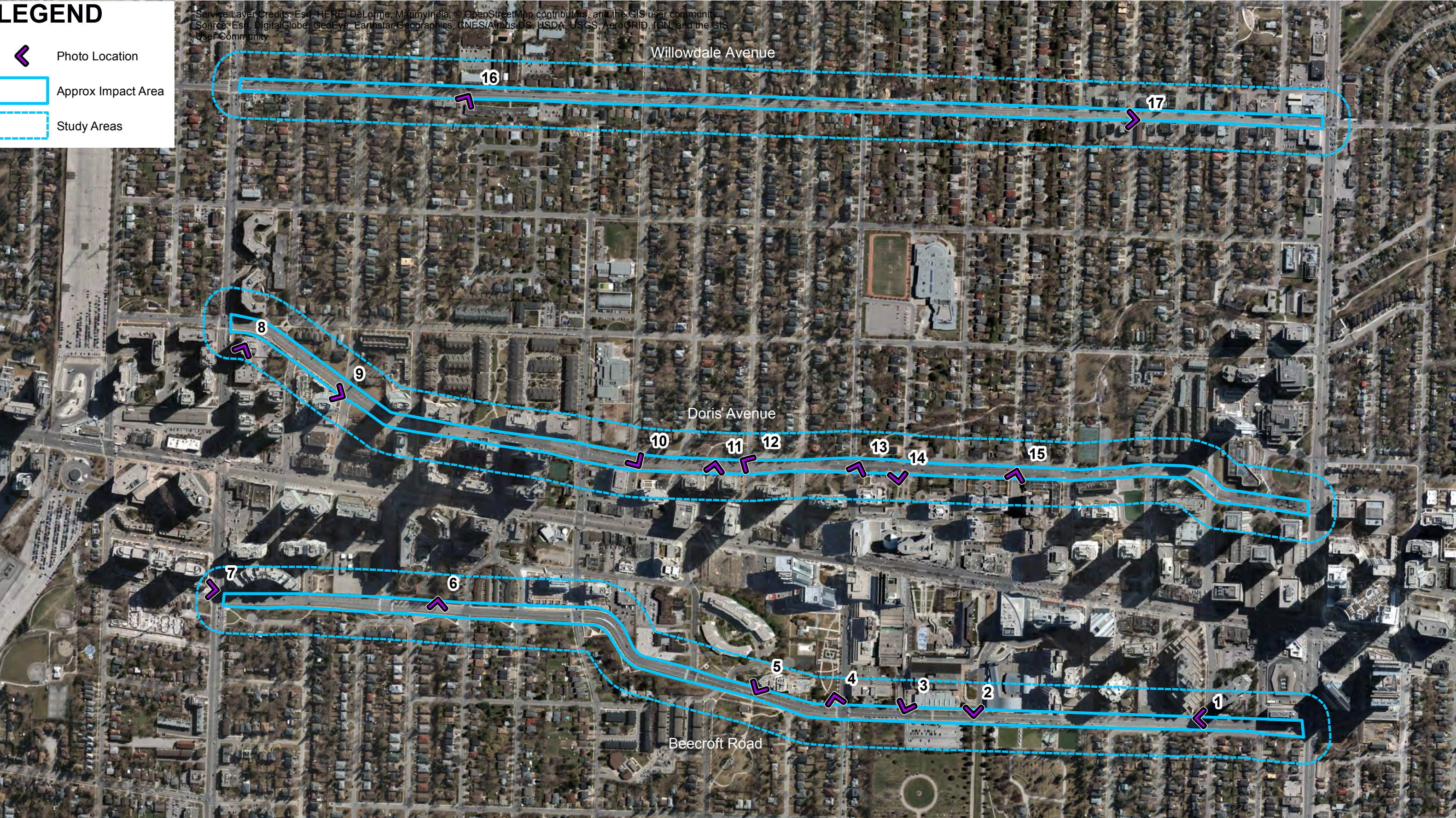






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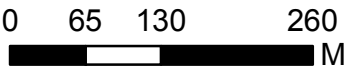
- Photo Location
- Approx Impact Area
- Study Areas



PROJECT:
STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL:
RE-IMAGINING YONGE STREET
CLIENT:
CITY OF TORONTO

PROJECT NO.:
16M-00446-03
DATE:
7/10/2017

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Appendix A

FEATURES INDICATING ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

FEATURES INDICATING ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

The following are features or characteristics that indicate archaeological potential:

- Previously identified archaeological sites
- Water sources:
 - primary water sources (lakes, rivers, streams, creeks).
 - secondary water sources (intermittent streams and creeks, springs, marshes, swamps).
 - features indicating past water sources (e.g. glacial lake shorelines, relic river or stream channels, shorelines of drained lakes or marshes, cobble beaches).
 - accessible or inaccessible shoreline (e.g. high bluffs, swamp or marsh fields by the edge of a lake, sandbars stretching into marsh).
- Elevated topography (e.g. eskers, drumlins, large knolls, plateaux)
- Pockets of well-drained sandy soil, especially near areas of heavy soil or rocky ground
- Distinctive land formations that might have been special or spiritual places, such as waterfalls, rock outcrops, caverns, mounds, and promontories and their bases
- Resource areas, including:
 - food or medicinal plants (e.g. migratory routes, spawning areas, prairie).
 - scarce raw materials (e.g. quartz, copper, ochre or outcrops of chert).
 - early Euro-Canadian industry (e.g. fur trade, logging, prospecting, mining).
- Areas of early Euro-Canadian settlement. These include places of early military or pioneer settlement (e.g. pioneer homesteads, isolated cabins, farmstead complexes), early wharf or dock complexes, pioneer churches and early cemeteries.
- Early historical transportation routes (e.g. trails, passes, roads, railways, portage routes).
- Property listed on a municipal register or designated under the Ontario Heritage Act or that is a federal, provincial or municipal historic landmark or site.
- Property that local histories or informants have identified with possible archaeological sites, historic events, activities, or occupations.

Source: Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport
2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists
Section 1.3.1

Appendix B

PHOTOGRAPH LOCATIONS

PHOTOGRAPH LOCATIONS

Image	Zone	Easting	Northing	Facing
1	17 T	627684	4846755	NNW
2	17 T	627550	4847156	WSW
3	17 T	627515	4847278	WSW
4	17 T	627484	4847406	NE
5	17 T	627453	4847549	WSW
6	17 T	627398	4848165	ENE
7	17 T	627278	4848569	SSE
8	17 T	627720	4848669	ENE
9	17 T	627702	4848472	SSE
10	17 T	627772	4847907	SSW
11	17 T	627814	4847766	ENE
12	17 T	627843	4847714	N
13	17 T	627903	4847515	ENE
14	17 T	627912	4847438	SW
15	17 T	627993	4847233	ENE
16	17 T	628301	4848437	ENE
17	17 T	628691	4847254	SSE

Source: Garmin 64st (NAD 83)

Appendix C

HISTORIC PLAQUE TRANSCRIPTIONS

HISTORIC PLAQUE TRANSCRIPTIONS

WILLOWDALE: HISTORIC COMMUNITY

The original community of Willowdale was established between Lansing and Newtonbrook on today's Park Home and Finch Avenues. Jacob and Elizabeth Cummer (Kummer) and their family were some of the earliest to settle in the area along with the Johnston, Wilson and McBride families. The early community was often referred to as Kummer's Settlement.

The Cummers are credited with having donated land on which a Methodist log chapel was built in 1834 at the north east corner of to-day's Yonge and Church Avenue. Adjacent to the church, the Johnston family offered part of their land to serve as a family burial ground. In 1856 the log church was replaced with a brick structure which boasted a towering, artistic spire that could be seen for miles around until a severe storm tore it down. Part of the original church site still remains as this pioneer cemetery built in memory of the early settlers who helped to establish the Willowdale Methodist Church.

Willowdale boasted one of the earliest schools located at present-day Yonge Street and Ellerslie Avenue. The Willowdale School, SS #4 also known as Brown's School was originally built in 1842 with bricks made on the neighbouring farm of David Gibson.

David Gibson, a land surveyor, farmer and politician is best remembered for his actions in the ill-fated Rebellion of 1837. As a result of his participation in the rebellion, Gibson's first home, which he and his wife, Eliza, built in 1829, was torched by government troops. With a price on his head for high treason, Gibson fled to the U.S. He and his family returned to Willowdale and, in 1851 built a new home on the same site. The Gibson House still stands today as a historic museum on Yonge Street north of City Hall. In 1855 Gibson opened the Willowdale post office just north of his farm, naming it after the number of willow trees in the area, thereby giving the community its name.

WILLOWDALE CEMETERY

This graveyard is a rare remnant of the time when Willowdale was a small agricultural community centres around this stretch of Yonge Street. Aboriginal peoples hunted, fished, and camped on this land for thousands of years before European settlement began in the late 1790's. The area then became known as "Cummer's Settlement" after the pioneering family of Jacob Cummer (Kummer). The name "Willowdale" appear after the opening of the area's first post office, named "Willow Dale", in 1855.

Largely unchanged until early in the 20th century, Willowdale then began to expand with the development of new residential streets, at first stretching out on either side of Yonge Street. In 1923, it became the site of the new offices of the Township of North York. Beginning in the 1950's and 1960's, residential development rapidly replaced the earlier farmsteads as widened roads and new expressways provided better access from North York to the City of Toronto.

CHURCH AVENUE

Here, on land granted to Jacob Cummer, an early settler who came with his family from Pennsylvania in 1797, stood 'Cummer's Chapel'. In 1816 a Sunday School was established in his log house and camp meetings were held at his saw mill.

In 1834 he gave this site for 'a place where divine services were to be held forever' and a Methodist Episcopal log meeting house was built.

In 1856 a yellow brick building, later Willowdale United Church, replaced the log chapel. In 1930 the front part was removed with the widening of Yonge Street and the remainder was demolished in 1956, with new church facilities being established nearby.

NEWTONBROOK: HISTORIC COMMUNITY

Centred at Yonge Street and Drewry Avenue, Newtonbrook forms North York's most northern Yonge Street community. By 1870 Newtonbrook was considered a thriving village with more than 200 settlers establishing homes at these crossroads.

As early as 1801, Newtonbrook claimed one of the first log schools in North York. The early 1800s also saw two mill sites along Yonge Street, the Playter Mill at Drewry and the Cummer Mills at present-day Cummer Avenue. The Cummer Mill site was operated by John Cummer and owned by his father Jacob of Willowdale. For years, many religious camp meetings were held at the mill site, some of which reportedly went on for days. Descendants of York Mill's Humberstone family also made their home in Newtonbrook. Having apprenticed with his father, Thomas Humberstone opened a pottery in 1835 on the west side of Yonge Street, south of Steeles where earthenware pitches, vases and bricks were manufactured. Some of the most popular inns and taverns were found in Newtonbrook including Finch's Hotel built in 1847 on the north east corner of what is now Finch Avenue. In 1857 the Newtonbrook Wesleyan Methodist Church Congregation was formed and named after a local preacher, the name by which the community became known. Although a church wasn't erected until 1857, it's not the house of worship itself which is most remembered, but its parsonage, as it was the birthplace of Lester B. Pearson, elected Canada's Prime Minister in 1963. Today, little remains of early Newtonbrook. A general store and post office at the northwest corner of Drewry and Yonge was originally known as the C.C. Charleton's store. The frame structure was replaced in 1907 and continues to function as a commercial business.

LANSING: HISTORIC COMMUNITY

The community of Lansing developed around the crossroads of Yonge Street and present-day Sheppard Avenue. Joseph Shepard was one of the earliest settlers to Lansing, building a log cabin in 1798 on the northwest corner of these crossroads.

An enterprising family, the Shepard's built saw mills, taverns and in 1860 the well-known general store at Yonge and Sheppard which came to be the hub of the Lansing community. In 1866, a post office opened in the store and called Lansing, thereby giving the community its name. Beginning in 1921 the Dempsey Brothers ran a thriving hardware business for more than 75 years. In 1996 the Shepard/Dempsey Store was moved from its original location to a nearby park setting.

Joseph Shepard also built a clapboard house in 1835 on today's Burndale Avenue which became a regular meeting place for reform radicals of William Lyon Mackenzie, leader of the failed Rebellion of 1837. During the uprising, Joseph's wife, Catherine tried to shelter Colonel Van Egmond, one of Mackenzie's soldiers from government troops. As a reprisal to her, Loyalists set fire to the house. She managed to put out the fire, but her rebel friend was apprehended and jailed.

The Golden Lion Hotel built in 1825 by Thomas Shepard, son of Joseph, once stood directly across from the original site of the Shepard Store. It was a much-frequented place, serving for a time as a Sunday School and a place for Mackenzie's reform members to congregate. At the turn of the 20th century, it also housed North-York's township offices. One of the two oak-carved "golden" lions is preserved today in the lobby of the Novotel Hotel in the City Centre.

LANSING: HISTORIC SITE

A prominent landmark building, the Joseph Sheppard House/Dempsey Brothers Store once occupied this corner of Yonge Street and Sheppard Avenue.

Built in 1860, by Joseph Shepard II, the building was constructed as a general store and originally included the Shepard family's residence. In 1886, a post office was added. The post office and subsequently the immediate surrounding community was called "Lansing". The store served as a depot for the coach from Yorkville to Richmond Hill. It then became a milk depot for local farmers and was the main source of all manufactured goods in the vicinity. In 1888, Benjamin F. Brown took over the operation of the store. He purchased it in 1904 and sold it to George and William Dempsey in 1923. From that time, the building operated as the well-known Dempsey Brothers Hardware Store and was owned by a member of the Dempsey family until the late 1980's. The building and property were sold to developers in 1989. In 1996, the building was relocated to its present park site just north of here at 250 Beecroft Avenue. The City of North York rehabilitated and restored the Georgian Survival building, returning its original storefront appearance and superimposed Late Victorian verandah. In the early Fall of 1997, the Dempsey Store was officially reopened by the City of North York as a municipal archival storage and research facility.

FIRST MUNICIPAL BUILDING: NORTH YORK COMMUNITY

This elegant frontispiece once served as the front entrance to North York's first municipal hall which officially opened on December 19, 1923 at the south-east corner of Yonge Street and Empress Avenue.

Designed by Murray Brown, a local architect, the building was constructed in response to the formation of North York Township in 1922, and the loss of the temporary offices which once stood at the north-east corner of Yonge Street and Sheppard Avenue. In 1946, the municipal hall was enlarged with an addition. Incorporating a stylized round-arched entrance with limestone detailing at its east side.

Stylistically, Murray Brown based the first municipal hall on North American colonial architecture, incorporating the imagery of civic authority and a design that was considered appropriate to a small municipal government. Brown was also responsible for the design of the municipality's official crest bearing the inscription "Progress with Economy". In 1942, he was commissioned by the municipality

to design North York's first fire hall, whose fire hose tower has also been reconstructed in the adjacent public park.

In 1953, the first municipal hall housed the Magistrate's Court. During the late 1960's, the building was operated by the Emergency Measures Organization and the council chamber served as a courtroom where construction safety law offences were tried. The municipal hall was later used by North York's parks and Recreation Department until May 1, 1978. Subsequently, the Victorian Order of Nurses took possession of the premises.

The municipal hall was carefully dismantled in 1989. Its principal and east entrance were conserved and reintroduced into this development as architectural artifacts that interpret North York's early municipal heritage.

FIRST FIRE HALL: NORTH YORK COMMUNITY

This brick fire hose tower represents a partial reconstruction of North York's first fire hall, which once stood proudly on the east side of Yonge Street near Empress Avenue. It was named in honour of Ivan M Nelson, who led North York's fire-fighting force after 1935.

The original two-bay fire hall was designed by Murray Brown and constructed in 1942. An English trained architect of noteworthy talent. Brown also designed North York's first municipal building in 1923, whose elegant frontispiece and stylized east entrance now stand inside the east vestibule of the Empress Walk development beside this public park.

At the time the fire hall was built, the newly-established force consisted of five full-time fire-fighters, two pumper trucks and several volunteers. As North York developed and its population grew, the fire-fighting force expanded and the fire hall was enlarged with an additional bay on its left-side circa 1962, presumably by Brown.

Architecturally, the fire-hall was fashioned in the Colonial Revival style incorporating clean lines, contemporary materials and an overall massing influenced by Modern design. Its tower features a gabled roof with cornice returns, pilasters framing a half-circle louvered vet, time clocks, red brick quoins and frieze-like bands of smooth-cut Indiana limestone. Functionally, the design of the structure was influenced by 19th century fire halls incorporating garage bays, a compact massing and a tower used to hang wet fire hoses.

The fire hall was carefully dismantled in 1989. The hose tower was conserved and reintroduced into the public park as an important element interpreting North York's early municipal heritage.

DAVID GIBSON: 1804-1864

This Building, a good example of an early Victorian farm-house was completed in 1851 by David Gibson. Born in Glamis Parish, Forfarshire, Scotland. Gibson emigrated to Upper Canada where, in 1825, he was appointed a Deputy Land Surveyor. He was an ardent supporter of William Lyon Mackenzie, and was twice elected as a Reform member to the provincial parliament. One of

Mackenzie's chief lieutenants in the unsuccessful Rebellion of 1837, he fled to the United States. His house was burned by order of the Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Francis Bond Head, and his property was made subject to forfeiture. Fully pardoned, he returned in 1848, and resumed his profession as surveyor. Later he was appointed as Inspector of Crown Land Agencies and Superintendent of Colonization Roads.

THE ONTARIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The foremost historical organization in the province. The Ontario Historical Society, originally called the Pioneer Association of Ontario, was established on September 4, 1888 largely through the efforts of the Reverend Henry Scadding. It initially operated as a federation of local groups and was primarily concerned with the promotion of British-Canadian nationalism through the study of history. Reorganized in 1898 and incorporated with an expanded mandate the following year, the Society became increasingly involved in the movement to preserve archival records and historic sites. It also assumed more scholarly pursuits, including a publication program, in addition to encouraging and co-ordinating the activities of local historical associations and museums. Today the Society continues its many efforts to preserve, interpret and publicize Ontario's multi-faceted heritage.

THE CUMMER FAMILY

The family of Elizabeth (nee Fisher) and Jacob Cummer (Kummer) was important to the founding of Willowdale (North York). Among the area's early settlers of German descent, they arrived from Pennsylvania in 1797. By 1801, Jacob had acquired 80 hectares of land, later known as Cummer's Settlement, on the east side of Yonge Street. He was a successful farmer, entrepreneur, and craftsman. Originally Lutheran, the family founded an Episcopal Methodist chapel and cemetery at Yonge Street and present-day Church Avenue. By 1819, they had built a sawmill on the east Don River, later adding both woollen and gristmills. One of their six sons, Joshua, constructed his farmhouse on this site circa 1830. Upon Jacob's death in 1841, each son was given a farm nearby. The family contributed to this community well into the 20th century.

YORK COTTAGE: HISTORIC SITE

York Cottage was originally constructed circa 1850 as a one-and-a-half storey brick structure in the Ontario Cottage Style. It replaced an earlier log cabin on this site.

The Johnson family emigrated from Nova Scotia and settled on these lands in 1797. Abraham, son of Lawrence Johnson, married Catherine Hommen Fisher and had seven children, all born in Upper Canada between 1801 and 1814. Their son, Abraham Jr., was born in 1807. Abraham Jr. and his wife Harriet built a brick home on this site and called it "Ash Cottage". Here they raised nine children.

In serving the community, Abraham Jr. was Justice of the Peace in 1857 and 1871. He was active in the temperance movement, assisting in the formation of the first Sons of Temperance Society on Yonge Street. Abraham Jr.'s eldest son, Abraham S. was born in 1840. He married Sarah, a daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Sheppard, and remained in the family home until it was sold in 1911.

In 1855, after the death of Abraham Sr., Abraham Jr. sold the south half of the property to Joshua Lackie. In 1911, the remainder was sold and then subdivided. After the second storey was added in the 1920's, the house served as a rural cottage for the Red Cross and then offices for the Children's Aid Society.

York Cottage was demolished in 1993, but the original stone gates that existed on the property at Yonge Street were conserved and re-introduced into this development.

FINCH

In 1830, John Finch leased the inn "The Bird in The Hand", on the West side of what is now Yonge street just North of Finch Avenue, from John Montgomery. Later he purchased a lot on the Northeast corner and built a two storey frame hotel. "Finch's Hotel" was operated by many innkeepers until 1873, when it was demolished. During its early years, a travelling circus performed on the grounds.

The original settlement had begun in 1797, when Jacob Cummer, from Pennsylvania, acquired land in this area. His son, John, later owned a farm at the Northwest corner of Yonge and Finch.