

Appendix A

**Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment Report
(Part 1 of 4)**

**STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT
YELLOW CREEK GEOMORPHIC SYSTEM MASTER PLAN
PART OF LOTS 16-18, CONCESSION II FROM THE BAY
AND PART OF LOT 20, CONCESSION III FROM THE BAY
(FORMER TOWNSHIP OF YORK, COUNTY OF YORK)
CITY OF TORONTO, REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK
ONTARIO**

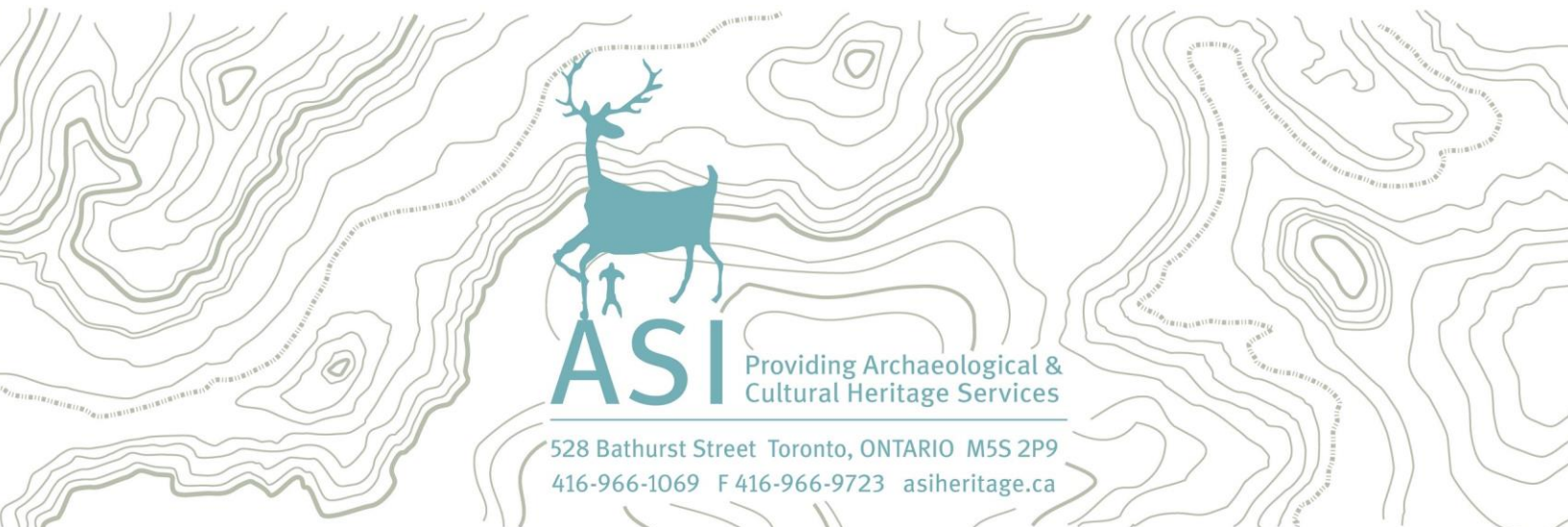
ORIGINAL REPORT

Prepared for:

GHD
6705 Millcreek Drive, Unit 1
Mississauga, ON L5N 5M4

Archaeological Licence #P380 (Cooper)
Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries PIF# P380-0067-2020
ASI File: 19EA-216

17 June 2020



**Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment
Yellow Creek Geomorphic System Master Plan
Part of Lots 16-18, Concession II FROM THE BAY
Part of Lot 20, Concession III FROM THE BAY
(Former Township of York, County of York)
City of Toronto, Regional Municipality of York
Ontario**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ASI was contracted by GHD to conduct a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment (Background Research and Property Inspection) as part of the Geomorphic Systems Master Plan for Yellow Creek in the City of Toronto. This project involves a long-term plan for the mitigation of erosion that could potentially damage or create risk for Toronto Water Infrastructure within Yellow Creek, a tributary of the Don River.

The Stage 1 background study determined that two previously registered archaeological sites are located within one kilometre of the Study Area. The property inspection determined that parts of the Study Area exhibits archaeological potential and will require Stage 2 assessment.

In light of these results, the following recommendations are made:

1. The Study Area exhibits archaeological potential. These lands require Stage 2 archaeological assessment by test pit survey at five metre intervals, prior to any proposed impacts to the property;
2. A post-1960s addition to Mount Pleasant Cemetery is located within the Study Area. All cemetery lands must be avoided by the project designs;
3. The remainder of the Study Area does not retain archaeological potential on account of deep and extensive land disturbance or slopes in excess of 20 degrees. These lands do not require further archaeological assessment; and,
4. Should the proposed work extend beyond the current Study Area, further Stage 1 archaeological assessment should be conducted to determine the archaeological potential of the surrounding lands.



PROJECT PERSONNEL

<i>Senior Project Manager:</i>	Lisa Merritt, MSc. (P094) <i>Partner / Director</i> <i>Environmental Assessment Division</i>
<i>Project Coordinator:</i>	Katrina Thach, Hon. BA (R1225) <i>Archaeologist / Project Coordinator</i> <i>Environmental Assessment Division</i>
<i>Project Director (Licensee):</i>	Martin Cooper, MA (P380) <i>Senior Associate</i>
<i>Project Manager:</i>	Eliza Brandy, MA (R1109) <i>Associate Archaeologist / Project Manager</i> <i>Environmental Assessment Division</i>
<i>Field Director:</i>	Martin Cooper Alexis Dunlop, MSc. (P1146) <i>Lead Bioarchaeologist / Manager – Laboratory and Fieldwork Services,</i> <i>Operations Division</i>
<i>Report Preparation:</i>	Eliza Brandy Danielle Bella, BA (Hon) <i>Archaeologist / Analyst</i> <i>Laboratory and Fieldwork Services, Operations Division</i>
<i>Graphics:</i>	Eric Bongelli, MA <i>Archaeologist / Geomatics Specialist</i> <i>Operations Division</i>
<i>Report Reviewer:</i>	Lisa Merritt



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1.0 PROJECT CONTEXT

Archaeological Services Inc. (ASI) was contracted by GHD to conduct a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment (Background Research and Property Inspection) as part of the Geomorphic Systems Master Plan for Yellow Creek in the City of Toronto (Figure 1). This project involves a long-term plan for the mitigation of erosion that could potentially damage or create risk for Toronto Water Infrastructure within Yellow Creek, a tributary of the Don River.

All activities carried out during this assessment were completed in accordance with the *Ontario Heritage Act* (1990, as amended in 2018) and the 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (S & G), administered by the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI 2011), formerly the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport.

1.1 Development Context

All work has been undertaken as required by the *Environmental Assessment Act*, RSO (Ministry of the Environment 1990 as amended 2010) and regulations made under the Act, and are therefore subject to all associated legislation. This project is being conducted in accordance with the Municipal Engineers' Association document *Municipal Class Environmental Assessment* (2000 as amended in 2007, 2011 and 2015).

The *Master Plan of Archaeological Resources for the City of Toronto (Interim Report)* was also consulted (ASI et al. 2004).

Authorization to carry out the activities necessary for the completion of the Stage 1 archaeological assessment was granted by GHD on March 18, 2020.

1.2 Historical Context

The purpose of this section, according to the S & G, Section 7.5.7, Standard 1, is to describe the past and present land use and the settlement history and any other relevant historical information pertaining to the Study Area. A summary is first presented of the current understanding of the Indigenous land use of the Study Area. This is then followed by a review of the historical Euro-Canadian settlement history.

1.2.1 Indigenous Land Use and Settlement

Southern Ontario has been occupied by human populations since the retreat of the Laurentide glacier approximately 13,000 years before present (BP) (Ferris 2013). Populations at this time would have been highly mobile, inhabiting a boreal-parkland similar to the modern sub-arctic. By approximately 10,000 BP, the environment had progressively warmed (Edwards and Fritz 1988) and populations now occupied less extensive territories (Ellis and Deller 1990).

Between approximately 10,000-5,500 BP, the Great Lakes basins experienced low-water levels, and many sites which would have been located on those former shorelines are now submerged. This period produces the earliest evidence of heavy wood working tools, an indication of greater investment of labour in felling trees for fuel, to build shelter, and watercraft production. These activities suggest prolonged seasonal



residency at occupation sites. Polished stone and native copper implements were being produced by approximately 8,000 BP; the latter was acquired from the north shore of Lake Superior, evidence of extensive exchange networks throughout the Great Lakes region. The earliest evidence for cemeteries dates to approximately 4,500-3,000 BP and is indicative of increased social organization, investment of labour into social infrastructure, and the establishment of socially prescribed territories (Ellis et al. 1990; Ellis et al. 2009; Brown 1995:13).

Between 3,000-2,500 BP, populations continued to practice residential mobility and to harvest seasonally available resources, including spawning fish. The Woodland period begins around 2,500 BP and exchange and interaction networks broaden at this time (Spence et al. 1990:136, 138) and by approximately 2,000 BP, evidence exists for small community camps, focusing on the seasonal harvesting of resources (Spence et al. 1990:155, 164). By 1,500 BP there is macro botanical evidence for maize in southern Ontario, and it is thought that maize only supplemented people's diet. There is earlier phytolithic evidence for maize in central New York State by 2,300 BP - it is likely that once similar analyses are conducted on Ontario ceramic vessels of the same period, the same evidence will be found (Birch and Williamson 2013:13-15). As is clearly evident in the detailed ethnographies of Anishinaabek populations, winter was a period during which some families would depart from the larger group as it was easier to sustain smaller populations (Rogers 1962). It is generally understood that these populations were Algonquian-speakers during these millennia of settlement and land use.

From the beginning of the Late Woodland period at approximately 1,000 BP, lifeways became more similar to that described in early historical documents. Between approximately 1000-1300 Common Era (CE), the communal site is replaced by the village focused on horticulture. Seasonal disintegration of the community for the exploitation of a wider territory and more varied resource base was still practised (Williamson 1990:317). By 1300-1450 CE, this episodic community disintegration was no longer practised and populations now communally occupied sites throughout the year (Dodd et al. 1990:343). From 1450-1649 CE this process continued with the coalescence of these small villages into larger communities (Birch and Williamson 2013). Through this process, the socio-political organization of the First Nations, as described historically by the French and English explorers who first visited southern Ontario, was developed. By 1600 CE, the communities within Simcoe County had formed the Confederation of Nations encountered by the first European explorers and missionaries. In the 1640s, the traditional enmity between the Haudenosaunee¹ and the Huron-Wendat (and their Algonquian allies such as the Nipissing and Odawa) led to the dispersal of the Huron-Wendat.

The Don River watershed has been an area of human land use and settlement for millennia. Archaeological sites dating back thousands of years have been located within the Don River watershed, including a 6,700 year old campsite on Deerlick Creek (Williamson 2008:30). A Late Woodland ancestral Huron-Wendat settlement sequence has been posited for the Lower Don River watershed based on the identification of the Moatfield and Jackes sites (Noble 1974; Konrad 1973; Mayer, Pihl, Poulton and Associates Inc. 1985; Birch and Williamson 2013:31). The greater Don River watershed settlement sequence has documented occupation from the early fourteenth century (Williamson and Pfeiffer 2003) to the late fifteenth century (e.g. Keffer site) (Finlayson et al. 1973). This sequence has been difficult to reconstruct primarily because of intensive urban development. The Don River population are thought to have amalgamated with those occupying the Middle Humber River. This group appear to have abandoned the Toronto-area in the early

¹ The Haudenosaunee are also known as the New York Iroquois or Five Nations Iroquois and after 1722 Six Nations Iroquois. They were a confederation of five distinct but related Iroquoian-speaking groups – the Seneca, Onondaga, Cayuga, Oneida, and Mohawk. Each lived in individual territories in what is now known as the Finger Lakes district of Upper New York. In 1722 the Tuscarora joined the confederacy.



seventeenth century (e.g. Skandatut site) and migrated northward to historic Wendake, between Lake Simcoe and Georgian Bay (ASI 2012; Birch and Williamson 2013:38).

Ojibwa were first encountered by Samuel de Champlain in 1615 along the eastern shores of Georgian Bay. While he probably met Odawa, Etienne Brule later encountered other groups and by 1641, Jesuits had journeyed to Sault Sainte Marie (Thwaites 1896:11:279) and opened the Mission of Saint Peter in 1648 for the occupants of Manitoulin Island and the northeast shore of Lake Huron. The Jesuits reported that these Algonquian peoples lived “solely by hunting and fishing and roam as far as the “Northern sea” to trade for “Furs and Beavers, which are found there in abundance” (Thwaites 1901, 33:67), and “all of these Tribes are nomads, and have no fixed residence, except at certain seasons of the year, when fish are plentiful, and this compels them to remain on the spot” (Thwaites 1896-1901: 33:153). The locations of both Iroquoian and Algonquian groups at the time of first contact are well-documented. The Nipissing lived near Lake Nipissing, which was on the historic route between Quebec and the Huron-Wendat country; some wintered with the Huron-Wendat (Thwaites 1896-1901: 14:7; 18: 229; 21:239; 23:227; 33:153). Other Algonquian-speaking groups who wintered with the Huron-Wendat included the Algonquin led by Captain Yroquet in 1615-16 (Biggar 1971:3:94); the Tontthrataronons (an Algonquin tribe), about fifteen cabins of which were wintering near the mission of Saint Jean Baptiste to the Arendaehronons in the Relation of 1640-41 (Thwaites 1896-1901: 21: 247); some Island Algonquins noted in the Relation of 1643-44 (Thwaites 1896-1901: 26:301); and a village of the Atontrataronnon Algonquins, who abandoned their country on the shores of the St. Lawrence because of attacks from the Haudenosaunee to live in safety near the village of Saint Jean Baptiste as noted in the Relation of 1643-44 (Thwaites 1896-1901: 27:37).

Shortly after dispersal of the Huron-Wendat, Ojibwa returned to southern Ontario and Michigan. The Haudenosaunee began to exert pressure on the Ojibwa to the north. While their numbers had been reduced through warfare, starvation, and European diseases, the coalescence of various Anishinnabeg groups led to enhanced social and political strength (Thwaites 1896-1901: 52:133) and Sault Sainte Marie was a focal point for people who inhabited adjacent areas both to the east and to the northwest as well as for the Saulteaux, who considered it their home (Thwaites 1896-1901: 54:129-131). The Haudenosaunee established a series of settlements at strategic locations along the trade routes inland from the north shore of Lake Ontario. From east to west, these villages consisted of Ganneious, on Napanee Bay, an arm of the Bay of Quinte; Quinte, near the isthmus of the Quinte Peninsula; Ganaraske, at the mouth of the Ganaraska River; Quintio, at the mouth of the Trent River on the north shore of Rice Lake; Ganatsekwyagon (or Ganestiquiagon), near the mouth of the Rouge River; Teyaiagon, near the mouth of the Humber River; and Quinaouatoua, on the portage between the western end of Lake Ontario and the Grand River (Konrad 1981:135). Their locations near the mouths of the Humber and Rouge Rivers, two branches of the Toronto Carrying Place, strategically linked these settlements with the upper Great Lakes through Lake Simcoe. The inhabitants of these villages were agriculturalists, growing maize, pumpkins and squash, but their central roles were that of portage starting points and trading centres for Iroquois travel to the upper Great Lakes for the annual beaver hunt (Konrad 1974; Williamson et al. 2008:50–52). Ganatsekwyagon, Teyaiagon, and Quinaouatoua were primarily Seneca; Ganaraske, Quinte and Quintio were likely Cayuga, and Ganneious was Oneida, but judging from accounts of Teyaiagon, all of the villages might have contained peoples from a number of the Iroquois constituencies (ASI 2013).

E.S. Roger’s chapter “Southeastern Ojibwa” in the *Smithsonian Handbook of Northamerican Indians, Northeast Volume* was constructed using both Anishinaabeg oral tradition and the European documentary record. The history of Anishinaabeg movement from along the north shore of Lake Huron and their military actions against the Haudenosaunee is based almost entirely on Anishinaabeg oral tradition provided by elders such as Kahgegagahbowh (George Copway) and Robert Paudash.



Kahgegagahbowh was born among the Mississauga in 1818 and followed a traditional lifestyle until his family converted to Christianity. He became a Methodist missionary in Canada and the US, including to the Saugeen Mission for a period, and later a popular author and lecturer (MacLeod 1992:197; Smith 2000). Rogers notes that this movement included those populations that were later known as the Chippewa, Ojibwa, Mississauga, and Saulteaux or “Southeastern Ojibwa” groups. He also noted linguistic differences between those groups split between Central Ojibwa-Odawa, spoken primarily by the Odawas of Manitoulin Island and Michigan and some Ojibwas (or Chippewas) of the Lower Peninsula of Michigan and that part of southwestern Ontario lying west of a north-south line drawn through the base of the Bruce peninsula east of which is spoken the second major dialect, spoken by Ojibwa (or Chippewa) and Mississauga. There is also sub-dialectical variation within each major dialect, and some groups and individuals whose speech is fundamentally of one type use forms characteristic of the other.

According to Kahgegagahbowh, the objectives of campaigns against the Haudenosaunee were to create a safe trade route between the French and the Ojibway, to regain the land abandoned by the Huron-Wendat and “drive the Iroquois wholly from the peninsula.” Kahgegagahbowh describes more than 700 canoes meeting near Sault Ste Marie and splitting into three parties for a three-pronged attack via the Ottawa River, Lake Simcoe and along the Trent River, and the St. Clair River, and all of which had fierce engagements with the Haudenosaunee. While various editions of Kahgegagahbowh’s book have these battles occurring in the mid-seventeenth century, common to all is a statement that the battles occurred around 40 years after the dispersal of the Huron-Wendat (Copway 1850:88; Copway 1851:91; Copway 1858:91). Various scholars agree with this timeline ranging from 1687, in conjunction with Denonville’s attack on Seneca villages (Johnson 1986:48; Schmalz 1991:21–22) to around the mid- to late-1690s leading up to the Great Peace of 1701 (Schmalz 1977:7; Bowman 1975:20; Smith 1975:215; Tanner 1987:33; Von Gernet 2002:7–8).

Robert Paudash’s 1904 account of Mississauga origins is like that of Kahgegagahbowh’s and relies on oral history. It came from Paudash’s father, who died at the age of 75 in 1893 and was the last hereditary chief of the Mississauga at Rice Lake. His account in turn came from his father Cheneebesh, who died in 1869 at the age of 104 and was the last sachem or Head Chief of all the Mississaugas. He also relates a story of origin on the north shore of Lake Huron near the river that gave them their name having been founded by a party of Shawnee (Paudash 1905:7–8) and later, after the dispersal of the Huron-Wendat, carrying out coordinated attacks against the Haudenosaunee. Francis Assikinack (1858:308–309) provides similar details on battles with the Haudenosaunee. Francis Assikinack (b. 1824) was an Ojibwa of Manitoulin Island. He enrolled at Upper Canada College when he was 16 and after graduation, worked for the Indian Department as an interpreter, clerk, and teacher.

During the 1690s, the Anishinaabeg replaced, it appears by force, the Haudenosaunee who had settled after 1650 along the north shores of Lake Ontario. By the first decade of the eighteenth century, the Michi Saagiig had settled at the mouth of the Humber, near Fort Frontenac at the east end of Lake Ontario and the Niagara region and within decades were well re-established in the region. In 1736, the French estimated there were 60 men at Lake Saint Clair and 150 among small settlements at Quinte, the head of Lake Ontario, the Humber River, and Matchedash (Rogers 1978:761).

Peace was achieved between the Haudenosaunee and the Anishinaabeg Nations in August of 1701 when representatives of more than twenty Anishinaabeg Nations assembled in Montreal to participate in peace negotiations (Johnston 2004:10). During these negotiations captives were exchanged and the Iroquois and Anishinaabeg agreed to live together in peace. Peace between these nations was confirmed again at council held at Lake Superior when the Iroquois delivered a wampum belt to the Anishinaabeg Nations.



From the beginning of the eighteenth century to the assertion of British sovereignty in 1763, there is no interruption to Anishinaabeg control and use of southern Ontario. While hunting in the territory was shared, and subject to the permission of the various nations for access to their lands, its occupation was by Anishinaabeg until the assertion of British sovereignty, the British thereafter negotiating treaties with them. Eventually, with British sovereignty, tribal designations changed (Smith 1975:221–222; Surtees 1985:20–21). The word “Saulteux,” for example, was gradually substituted by “Chippewa” while the north shore of Lake Ontario groups became known as “Mississauga,” although some observers, like John Graves Simcoe, described them as a branch of the “Chippewa” and the two terms were often used as synonyms. The nineteenth-century Mississauga also called themselves “Ojibwa,” especially when addressing an English-speaking audience (Jones 1861:31).

According to Rogers (1978), by the twentieth century, the Department of Indian Affairs had divided the “Anishinaubag” into three different tribes, despite the fact that by the early eighteenth century, this large Algonquian-speaking group, who shared the same cultural background, “stretched over a thousand miles from the St. Lawrence River to the Lake of the Woods.” With British land purchases and treaties, the communities at Beausoleil Island, Cape Croker, Christian Island, Georgina and Snake Islands, Rama, Sarnia, Saugeen, the Thames, and Walpole, became known as “Chippewa” while the communities at Alderville, New Credit, Mud Lake, Rice Lake, and Scugog, became known as “Mississauga.” The northern groups on Lakes Huron and Superior, who signed the Robinson Treaty in 1850, appeared and remained as “Ojibawas” in historical documents.

The Study Area is within Treaty 13, the Toronto Purchase. In the 1787, representatives of the Crown met with members of the Mississaugas at the Bay of Quinte to negotiate the sale of lands along the shore of Lake Ontario near the settlement of York, the seat of the colonial government. Due to disputes over the boundaries, a new agreement was signed, and the Toronto Purchase Treaty 13 was signed on August 1, 1805, in which the Mississaugas ceded to the Crown 250,830 acres of land. Both the 1787 Purchase and its 1805 Indenture are known as Treaty 13. The Mississaugas claimed that the Toronto Islands and other lands were not part of the purchase, and a land claim settlement was reached for these areas in 2010 (Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation 2017; Mississauga of the New Credit First Nation 2001).

1.2.2 Euro-Canadian Land Use: Township Survey and Settlement

Historically, the Study Area is located in the Former York Township, County of York in part of Lot 16-18, Concession 2 From the Bay (FTB) and part of Lot 20, Concession 3 FTB.

The S & G stipulates that areas of early Euro-Canadian settlement (pioneer homesteads, isolated cabins, farmstead complexes), early wharf or dock complexes, pioneer churches, and early cemeteries are considered to have archaeological potential. Early historical transportation routes (trails, passes, roads, railways, portage routes), properties listed on a municipal register or designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act* or a federal, provincial, or municipal historic landmark or site are also considered to have archaeological potential.

For the Euro-Canadian period, the majority of early nineteenth century farmsteads (i.e., those that are arguably the most potentially significant resources and whose locations are rarely recorded on nineteenth century maps) are likely to be located in proximity to water. The development of the network of concession roads and railroads through the course of the nineteenth century frequently influenced the



siting of farmsteads and businesses. Accordingly, undisturbed lands within 100 m of an early settlement road are also considered to have potential for the presence of Euro-Canadian archaeological sites.

The first Europeans to arrive in the area were transient merchants and traders from France and England, who followed Indigenous pathways and set up trading posts at strategic locations along the well-traveled river routes. All of these occupations occurred at sites that afforded both natural landfalls and convenient access, by means of the various waterways and overland trails, into the hinterlands. Early transportation routes followed existing Indigenous trails, both along the lakeshore and adjacent to various creeks and rivers (ASI 2006).

York Township

Between 1784 and 1792, this part of southern Ontario formed a part of the judicial District of Montreal in the Province of Quebec. Augustus Jones undertook the first township survey for York in 1791, when the base line, corresponding to present day Queen Street, was established (Winearls 1991:591; Firth 1962:11). The Township comprised part of the East Riding of York in the Home District, which, between 1792 and 1800, was administered from Niagara. York was planned to be the unofficial capital of Upper Canada in the winter of 1796. It was not, however, until February 1798 that it was selected as the “seat of Government on mature deliberation” by the Duke of Portland. On January 1, 1800, the Home District was elevated into a separated administrative district from Niagara. Following the abolition of the Districts in 1849, the Home District was succeeded by the United Counties of York, Peel and Ontario in 1850. Ontario and Peel were elevated to separate county status in 1851-52 (Firth 1962:24-47; Armstrong 1985:143).

The Town of York was incorporated as the City of Toronto on March 6, 1834. The etymology of ‘Toronto’ is most likely related to the Toronto passages (ASI et al. 2004). It is thought to be derived from the Mohawk word *tkaronto* which means “where there are trees standing in the water” or from the Huron-Wendat word *toronton* meaning “place of meetings”/“place of plenty.” Late seventeenth and early eighteenth century French sources refer to Lake Simcoe as *Lac Taronto*, which is thought to be on account of the fish weir at the Narrows between Lake Simcoe and Lake Couchiching (NRCAN 2007). By 1670, Lake Simcoe is also found labeled on a number of early French maps as *Lac de Taronto* and in 1686, the Humber carrying place was known as the *Passage de Taronto*. In turn, that river became known as *Riviere Taronto*. On the other hand, Nicolas Perrot, a 17th century explorer, interpreter, and fur-trader, used Toronto in his memoirs to apply to the old Huron country evacuated in 1650. He also noted that Toronto was used by Cadillac in a letter at the turn of the seventeenth century and by the remnant populations of the exiled Hurons, Petuns and Neutrals as the name of the region from which they had been expelled fifty years before by the Iroquois.

In its first 30 years, York Township (as differentiated from the Town of York) was a rolling and well wooded countryside. The centre of the township was present day Yonge Street and Eglinton Avenue or Eglinton Village. Eglinton Avenue, which was surveyed as the township’s baseline, was at that time known as Baseline Road, and the crossroads community had a number of services including four hotels and a Masonic Hall. Yonge Street was settled on both sides and one mile south of Eglinton the Davis family ran a pottery business (in the community later known as Davisville). A large number of suburban residences were constructed along the Davenport Ridge, an early Indigenous trail. Other villages in the township and their years of incorporation included Yorkville (1884) and North Toronto (Eglinton and Davisville combined, 1889). The villages of Riverdale, Rosedale, the Annex, Seaton Village and Sunnyside were all annexed directly to Toronto during the 1880s.



The population of the Township increased steadily during the nineteenth century. In 1797, for instance, the total number of inhabitants “of Yonge Street” was estimated at 86 persons (ie, 52 males and 34 females.) Within the space of one decade, the Township proper contained 502 men, women, children and “servants.” At the outbreak of the War of 1812, York Township contained 756 inhabitants, and by 1823 this number had increased to 1,909 residents. In 1837, the population had reached 4,320, and by 1842 this number had increased again to 5,720 (Walton 1837:189; Smith 1846:335; Smith 1851:43; Mosser 1984:6,93, 156). This required the growing urban area to stretch its northern limits from Queen Street to Bloor Street. Outside of the core of the city, especially north along Yonge Street, Yorkville (above Bloor) was a prosperous village and some Torontonians settled between Bloor and Eglinton as new street railway services improved suburban to urban access.

New immigration and more land annexation, including North Toronto and Moore Park in 1912, resulted in strong population growth. The geographic area of the city doubled between 1891 and 1912 and the population grew from 181,000 to 378,000 during the same period. During the 1920s, a dramatic economic boom fueled the construction of new office towers: a total of fourteen between 1922 and 1928. Increased automobile use necessitated improvements to local roads and crossings. Before the Second World War ended a post-war reconstruction plan was put together for the city and this represented the first overall approach to urban planning since Governor Simcoe envisioned plans for York in 1793.

Toronto is Ontario’s capital city and Canada’s largest municipality, after its amalgamation in 1998 of all the former cities of Toronto, North York, Scarborough, York and Etobicoke, and the former borough of East York.

Deer Park

The neighbourhood of Deer Park was settled by the Heath family in 1837 at the intersection of Yonge Street and St. Clair Avenue in an area known to the Mississaugas as Mashquoteh, referring to the area where deer feed. A hotel was built in 1836 at the southwest corner of the intersection, called O’Halloran’s, Seller’s, and Deer Park, and guests were said to have fed wild deer on the grounds. In 1852 William Baldwin built an estate called Mashquoteh in Deer Park on Lots 22 and 23 at what is now Avenue Road and Heath Street, with a gate lodge at Oriole Road and St. Clair Avenue. The house was demolished in 1888 for the construction of Avenue Road to Upper Canada College. Baldwin’s widow Margaret McLeod built a second house called Mashquoteh further west at what is now Forest Hill Road. The City of Toronto annexed Deer Park in 1908 (Toronto’s Historical Association 2018; Lost Rivers 2018).

The St. Clair Viaduct on St. Clair Avenue East between Avoca Avenue and Inglewood Drive spans the Vale of Avoca, the steeply sloping ravine through which Yellow Creek flows. The original iron bridge was built in 1888 or 1890 by John Thomas Moore to connect traffic to Yonge Street in order to encourage settlement in his proposed neighbourhood of Moore Park to the east (hikingthegta 2015; Historic Bridges 2015). Construction of the existing bridge was completed in 1924, which included tree clearing, excavation, timbering, footings, abutments, and concrete forms, as well as diversion of the creek through the ravine and dismantling of the former iron bridge – parts of which were used in the construction of the new bridge’s railings, though this feature has since been replaced (City of Toronto 2016).



1.2.3 Historical Map Review

The 1851 Map of the Township of York (Browne 1851), the 1878 Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of York (Miles & Co. 1878), Southeast Park of York page, and the 1899 Goad's Fire Insurance Plan of Toronto (Goad 1899) were examined to determine the presence of historic features within the Study Area during the nineteenth century (Table 1; Figures 2-4).

It should be noted, however, that not all features of interest were mapped systematically in the Ontario series of historical atlases, given that they were financed by subscription, and subscribers were given preference with regard to the level of detail provided on the maps. Moreover, not every feature of interest would have been within the scope of the atlases.

In addition, the use of historical map sources to reconstruct/predict the location of former features within the modern landscape generally proceeds by using common reference points between the various sources. These sources are then geo-referenced in order to provide the most accurate determination of the location of any property on historic mapping sources. The results of such exercises are often imprecise or even contradictory, as there are numerous potential sources of error inherent in such a process, including the vagaries of map production (both past and present), the need to resolve differences of scale and resolution, and distortions introduced by reproduction of the sources. To a large degree, the significance of such margins of error is dependent on the size of the feature one is attempting to plot, the constancy of reference points, the distances between them, and the consistency with which both they and the target feature are depicted on the period mapping.

According to the 1851 map, St. Clair Road and Yonge Street were concession roads. The Study Area is shown located east of the Deer Park neighbourhood. Parts of the Study Area are shown to be wooded, and one structure is located within the Study Area.

By 1878, St. Clair Avenue is labelled, and Yellow Creek depicted. Clarence Avenue is shown to the north, unlabelled. As are Rosehill Avenue and Inglewood Drive, which are joined through the creek, and the city reservoir is shown south of this road, west of the creek. A road runs diagonally through the Study Area from Clarence Avenue to St. Clair in a westward direction, where it diverts eastward to Rosehill Avenue before curving south of the road and connecting again east of the creek. Part of this road becomes what is now Avoca Avenue. The Deer Park Post Office and two other structures are shown west of the Study Area, located south of Clarence Avenue and east of Yonge Street, on the property of Ames Henderson. Two structures on the property of Elmes Henderson are located north of Clarence Avenue and east of Yonge Street. Mount Pleasant Cemetery is located to the north of the Study Area.

The 1899 plan shows the Canadian Pacific Railway crossing the south end of the Study Area. By this time, the area has been divided into town lots adjacent Yellow Creek. Glen Avenue is shown at the northern edge of the Study Area. One structure is depicted within the Study Area, south of Grace Terrance and Rosehill Avenue. Ten structures are adjacent the Study Area, south of Clarence Avenue, north of St. Clair Avenue, to the north and the south of the city reservoir, and at the south end of the Study Area.

1.2.4 Twentieth-Century Mapping Review

The 1942 National Topographic System (NTS) Toronto Sheet (Department of National Defence 1942), the 1974 NTS West Toronto Sheet (Department of Energy, Mines and Resources 1974), and the 1991



aerial photography (City of Toronto Archives 2020a) were examined to determine the extent and nature of development and land uses within the Study Area (Figures 5-7).

The 1942 map illustrates that the St. Clair Avenue Viaduct had been constructed across the ravine between Yonge Street and what is now Inglewood Drive, with the former bridge removed. By 1974, the city reservoir is now underground, and the ravine is indicated to be steeply sloped. A rail yard is located south of the rail corridor and west of Yellow Creek. Urban development surrounds the Study Area. By 1991, an addition to Mount Pleasant Cemetery extends into the north end of the Study Area. David Balfour Park can be seen on the surface of the reservoir, and the Rosehill Pumping Station is located off Mount Pleasant Road.

Section 8.0 includes historical images from 1923 (City of Toronto 2016) documenting the construction of the St. Clair viaduct and illustrating the extent of disturbance (Images 1-2). Section 8.0 also includes a series of aerial photography between 1950 and 1983 (City of Toronto Archives 2020b), serving to highlight the channelization and burial of Yellow Creek followed by the overlying addition to Mount Pleasant Cemetery, the construction of Mount Pleasant Road, and capping of the Toronto City Reservoir with David Balfour Park (Images 3-7).

1.3 Archaeological Context

This section provides background research pertaining to previous archaeological fieldwork conducted within and in the vicinity of the Study Area, its environmental characteristics (including drainage, soils or surficial geology and topography, etc.), and current land use and field conditions. Three sources of information were consulted to provide information about previous archaeological research: the site record forms for registered sites available online from the MHSTCI through “Ontario’s Past Portal”; published and unpublished documentary sources; and the files of ASI.

1.3.1 Current Land Use and Field Conditions

A review of available Google satellite imagery since 2002 shows that the Study Area has remained relatively unchanged. Construction for the new Hydro One building can be seen from 2012 to its completion in 2016.

The Stage 1 property inspection was conducted on April 17 and June 8, 2020 that noted the Study Area is located along Yellow Creek, from Mt. Pleasant Cemetery to Roxborough Street East. It includes the St. Clair Avenue East viaduct and the steeply sloping and wooded ravine called the Vale of Avoca. A paved path runs from Mount Pleasant Road at Roxborough Drive north through the ravine. North of the rail corridor, the path diverges at a bridge over Yellow Creek. There it continues west of Yellow Creek extending north. A dirt path extends north from this divergence on the east side. Yellow Creek has been altered through channelization and bank stabilization through use of limestone blocks and gabion baskets. Part of David Balfour Park (Rosehill Reservoir) is located within the Study Area. Construction for the Yellow Creek Below Summerhill Gardens Emergency Works were occurring at the time of the property inspection.



1.3.2 Geography

In addition to the known archaeological sites, the state of the natural environment is a helpful indicator of archaeological potential. Accordingly, a description of the physiography and soils are briefly discussed for the Study Area.

The S & G stipulates that primary water sources (lakes, rivers, streams, creeks, etc.), secondary water sources (intermittent streams and creeks, springs, marshes, swamps, etc.), ancient water sources (glacial lake shorelines indicated by the presence of raised sand or gravel beach ridges, relic river or stream channels indicated by clear dip or swale in the topography, shorelines of drained lakes or marshes, cobble beaches, etc.), as well as accessible or inaccessible shorelines (high bluffs, swamp or marsh fields by the edge of a lake, sandbars stretching into marsh, etc.) are characteristics that indicate archaeological potential.

Water has been identified as the major determinant of site selection and the presence of potable water is the single most important resource necessary for any extended human occupation or settlement. Since water sources have remained relatively stable in Ontario since 5,000 BP (Karrow and Warner 1990:Figure 2.16), proximity to water can be regarded as a useful index for the evaluation of archaeological site potential. Indeed, distance from water has been one of the most commonly used variables for predictive modeling of site location.

Other geographic characteristics that can indicate archaeological potential include: elevated topography (eskers, drumlins, large knolls, and 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. There may be physical indicators of their use, such as burials, structures, offerings, rock paintings or carvings. Resource areas, including; food or medicinal plants (migratory routes, spawning areas) are also considered characteristics that indicate archaeological potential (S & G, Section 1.3.1).

The Study Area is located within the drumlinized till plains and sand plains of the South Slope and Iroquois Plain physiographic regions of southern Ontario (Chapman and Putnam 1984). The South Slope is the southern slope of the Oak Ridges Moraine (Chapman and Putnam 1984: 172-174). 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 Iroquois Plain is a lowland region bordering Lake Ontario. This region is characteristically flat, formed by lacustrine deposits laid down by the inundation of Lake Iroquois, a body of water that existed during the late Pleistocene. This region extends from the Trent River, around the western part of Lake Ontario, to the Niagara River, spanning a distance of 300 km (Chapman and Putnam 1984:190). The old shorelines of Lake Iroquois include cliffs, bars, beaches and boulder pavements. The old sandbars in this region are good aquifers that supply water to farms and villages. The gravel bars were quarried for road and building material, while the clays of the old lake bed have been used for the manufacture of bricks (Chapman and Putnam 1984:196). The glacial Lake Iroquois shoreline runs just south of the Study Area.

Figure 8 depicts surficial geology for the Study Area. The surficial geology mapping demonstrates that the Study Area is underlain by coarse-textured glaciolacustrine deposits of sand and gravel, fine-textured glaciolacustrine deposits of silt and clay, minor sand and gravel, stone-poor sandy silt to silty sand-textured till, and modern alluvial deposits (Ontario Geological Survey 2010). Natural soils in the Study



Area consist of Oneida clay loam and Fox sandy loam, both grey-brown podzols with good drainage, and Jeddo clay, a dark grey gleysolic soil with poor drainage (Figure 9).

The Study Area is along Yellow Creek, a tributary of the Lower Don River watershed. Yellow Creek flows from near the former Downsview Airport through a large ravine near St. Clair Avenue East, known as the Vale of Avoca, and into the Don River near the Prince Edward Viaduct. The Vale of Avoca is one section where Yellow Creek is above ground in a well-treed ravine, rather than buried underground.

The Don River headwaters are on the Oak Ridges Moraine flowing south into Lake Ontario in downtown Toronto at the Keating Channel, draining an area of approximately 360 square kilometers (Toronto and Region Conservation Authority n.d.). The east and west branches intersect the old Lake Iroquois beach and transit the Peel plain and South Slope physiographic regions crossing the old Lake Iroquois beach at the intersection of Don Mills Road and the Don Valley Parkway (Chapman and Putnam 1984:103–104). The once-lower water levels that immediately followed the draining of glacial Lake Iroquois, and the resulting lower erosional base levels, created the deeply entrenched valley of the lower Don. This entrenchment is on the order of 30 metres below the surrounding upland in places, including along the study area. The higher base levels that have resulted from the re-filling of the Lake Ontario basin have caused the river to meander, widening the floodplain in the lower reaches to a maximum of around 750 metres. The Don River is known to the Mississauga as Wonscotonach, translated by Augustus Jones as “back burnt grounds” (Fairburn 2013:220).

1.3.3 Previous Archaeological Research

In Ontario, information concerning archaeological sites is stored in the Ontario Archaeological Sites Database (OASD) maintained by the MHSTCI. This database contains archaeological sites registered within the Borden system. Under the Borden system, Canada has been divided into grid blocks based on latitude and longitude. A Borden block is approximately 13 km east to west, and approximately 18.5 km north to south. Each Borden block is referenced by a four-letter designator, and sites within a block are numbered sequentially as they are found. The Study Area under review is located in Borden block *AkGu*.

According to the OASD, two previously registered archaeological sites are located within one kilometre of the Study Area, neither of which are located within 50 metres (MHSTCI 2019). A summary of the sites is provided below.

Table 1: List of previously registered sites within one kilometre of the Study Area

Borden #	Site Name	Cultural Affiliation	Site Type	Researcher
AkGu-32	Whitney Public School	Euro-Canadian	School	Toronto Board of Education 1987
AkGu-79	Homewood Estate Site	Euro-Canadian	Residential	AMICK 2010

According to the background research, five previous reports detail fieldwork within 50 m of the Study Area.

- (ASI 2007) conducted a Stage 1 AA for a 1650 mm watermain from Rosehill Pumping Station to Bayview Avenue at Parkhurst Boulevard. Rosehill Pumping Station is located within the current Study Area. Three proposed alternatives were within the existing disturbed roadway of Mt. Pleasant Road. The field review determined the alternatives were clear of further concern, and no further archaeological assessment was recommended. P057-296-2006



- ASI (2010) conducted a Stage 1-2 AA as part of the Midtown Toronto Electricity Infrastructure Renewal Project. Test pit survey was conducted around the Rosehill Pumping Station within the current Study Area. Stratigraphy revealed that the majority of the area had been significantly disturbed by underground utilities and grading activities. No cultural material was recovered, and no further work was recommended. P094-023-2010
- (ASI 2018) conducted a Stage 1 AA for the Yellow Creek storm sewer, overlapping the Study Area at St. Clair Avenue East over Yellow Creek. The property inspection determined the study area to not retain potential, and further archaeological assessment was not recommended. P450-0036-2018
- (TRCA 2020) conducted a Stage 1-2 AA of Yellow Creek below Summerhill Gardens, located within the Study Area from Roxborough Drive to north of the railway corridor. A test pit survey was conducted at five metre intervals. When met with disturbed ground conditions, the areas were tested strategically. No cultural material was recovered, and no further work was recommended. P303-0544-2019

2.0 FIELD METHODS: PROPERTY INSPECTION

A Stage 1 property inspection must adhere to the S & G, Section 1.2, Standards 1-6, which are discussed below. The entire property and its periphery must be inspected. The inspection may be either systematic or random. Coverage must be sufficient to identify the presence or absence of any features of archaeological potential. The inspection must be conducted when weather conditions permit good visibility of land features. Natural landforms and watercourses are to be confirmed if previously identified. Additional features such as elevated topography, relic water channels, glacial shorelines, well-drained soils within heavy soils and slightly elevated areas within low and wet areas should be identified and documented, if present. Features affecting assessment strategies should be identified and documented such as woodlots, bogs or other permanently wet areas, areas of steeper grade than indicated on topographic mapping, areas of overgrown vegetation, areas of heavy soil, and recent land disturbance such as grading, fill deposits and vegetation clearing. The inspection should also identify and document structures and built features that will affect assessment strategies, such as heritage structures or landscapes, cairns, monuments or plaques, and cemeteries.

The Stage 1 archaeological assessment property inspection was conducted under the field direction of Martin Cooper (P380) on April 17, and Alexis Dunlop (P1146) on June 8, 2020, in order to gain first-hand knowledge of the geography, topography, and current conditions and to evaluate and map archaeological potential of the Study Area. It was a visual inspection only and did not include excavation or collection of archaeological resources. Fieldwork was only conducted when weather conditions were deemed suitable and seasonally appropriate, per S & G Section 1.2., Standard 2. Previously identified features of archaeological potential were examined; additional features of archaeological potential not visible on mapping were identified and documented as well as any features that will affect assessment strategies. Field observations are compiled onto the existing conditions of the Study Area in Section 7.0 (Figures 10-12) and associated photographic plates are presented in Section 8.0 (Plates 1-28).



3.0 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS

The historical and archaeological contexts have been analyzed to help determine the archaeological potential of the Study Area. These data are presented below in Section 3.1. Results of the analysis of the Study Area property inspection are presented in Section 3.2.

3.1 Analysis of Archaeological Potential

The S & G, Section 1.3.1, lists criteria that are indicative of archaeological potential. The Study Area meets the following criteria indicative of archaeological potential:

- Previously identified archaeological sites (see Table 1);
- Water sources: primary, secondary, or past water source (Yellow Creek);
- Early historic transportation routes (St. Clair Avenue, Yonge Street); and
- Proximity to early settlements (neighbourhood of Deer Creek, farmsteads)

According to the S & G, Section 1.4 Standard 1e, no areas within a property containing locations listed or designated by a municipality can be recommended for exemption from further assessment unless the area can be documented as disturbed. The Municipal Heritage Register was consulted and two properties located within the Study Area are Listed or Designated under the Ontario Heritage Act:

- 120 Inglewood Drive
- 122 Inglewood Drive

The *Master Plan of Archaeological Resources for the City of Toronto (Interim Report)* (ASI et al. 2004) indicates that the Study Area exhibits archaeological potential.

These criteria are indicative of potential for the identification of Indigenous and Euro-Canadian archaeological resources, depending on soil conditions and the degree to which soils have been subject to deep disturbance.

3.2 Analysis of Property Inspection Results

The property inspection determined that the Study Area exhibits archaeological potential. These areas will require Stage 2 archaeological assessment prior to any development. According to the S & G Section 2.1.2, test pit survey is required on terrain where ploughing is not viable, such as wooded areas, properties where existing landscaping or infrastructure would be damaged, overgrown farmland with heavy brush or rocky pasture, and narrow linear corridors up to 10 metres wide (Plates 4, 9, 12, 14-17, 20; Figures 11-12: areas highlighted in green).

The Study Area includes a post-1960s addition of Mount Pleasant Cemetery. All cemetery lands must be avoided by the project designs (Plate 1; Figure 11: area outlined in purple).

Part of the Study Area has been previously assessed and does not require further archaeological assessments (Figures 11-12: areas highlighted in red).

The property inspection and topographic survey (see also Appendix A) determined that some of lands



within the Study Area are sloped in excess of 20 degrees, and according to the S & G Section 2.1 do not retain potential (Plates 5-6, 9, 13, 19, 21, 23-24; Figures 11-12: areas highlighted in pink). The remainder of the Study Area has been subjected to deep soil disturbance events associated with the construction of existing buried utilities and drainage, channelization and burial of Yellow Creek, the twentieth century addition to Mount Pleasant Cemetery, the Rosehill Reservoir and Pumping Station, road right-of-ways. According to the S & G Section 1.3.2 do not retain archaeological potential (Plates 1-3, 7-8, 10-11, 13, 18-19, 21-28; Figures 11-12: areas highlighted in yellow). These areas do not require further survey.

3.3 Conclusions

The Stage 1 background study determined that two previously registered archaeological sites are located within one kilometre of the Study Area. The property inspection determined that parts of the Study Area exhibit archaeological potential and will require Stage 2 assessment.

4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

In light of these results, the following recommendations are made:

1. The Study Area exhibits archaeological potential. These lands require Stage 2 archaeological assessment by test pit survey at five metre intervals, prior to any proposed impacts to the property;
2. A post-1960s addition to Mount Pleasant Cemetery is located within the Study Area. All cemetery lands must be avoided by the project designs;
3. The remainder of the Study Area does not retain archaeological potential on account of deep and extensive land disturbance or slopes in excess of 20 degrees. These lands do not require further archaeological assessment; and,
4. Should the proposed work extend beyond the current Study Area, further Stage 1 archaeological assessment should be conducted to determine the archaeological potential of the surrounding lands.

NOTWITHSTANDING the results and recommendations presented in this study, ASI 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 MHSTCI should be immediately notified.



5.0 ADVICE ON COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION

ASI also advises compliance with the following legislation:

- This report is submitted to the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries as a condition of licensing in accordance with Part VI of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, RSO 1990, c 0.18. The report is reviewed to ensure that it complies with the standards and guidelines that are issued by the Minister, and that the archaeological 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 Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries, 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 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 sec. 48 (1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
- The *Cemeteries Act*, R.S.O. 1990 c. C.4 and the *Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act*, 2002, S.O. 2002, c.33 (when proclaimed in force) require that any person discovering human remains must notify the police or coroner and the Registrar of Cemeteries at the Ministry of Consumer Services.



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