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Appendix E

Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment

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Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment: Renew Golden Mile: Reconfigured & New Major Streets Environmental Assessment Study (Lots 30-35 Concessions C & D, Lots 3 & 4 Concession 3 From the Bay, and Lot 1 Concession 4 East of Yonge Street, Geographical Townships of Scarborough and York, County of York) City of Toronto

Original Report

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Executive Summary

Archaeological Services Inc. was contracted by HDR Inc., on behalf of the City of Toronto, to conduct a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment (Background Research and Property Inspection) as part of the ReNew Golden Mile: Reconfigured & New Major Streets Environmental Assessment Study. This project involves transportation network improvements proposed for new major streets and reconfiguration/ extension of existing street networks as identified in the Golden Mile Transportation Master Plan and Golden Mile Secondary Plan. The Stage 1 Project Area is composed of three interconnected segments that extend over an area approximately 2.3 kilometres long (east-west) by approximately 0.6 kilometres wide (north-south). A previous Stage 1 desktop research has previously been completed for this EA Study, on a general wider study area that included the lands comprised within the current Project Area (ASI, 2022).

The Stage 1 background research determined that one previously registered archaeological site is located within one kilometre of the Project Area, and that parts of the Project Area were previously assessed with no further work required. Property inspection determined that most of the Project Area was heavily disturbed by the construction of roads, sewers, drainage, industrial and commercial buildings, and road infrastructure, therefore lacking archaeological potential. A small part of the Project Area east of Pharmacy Avenue was found to preserve archaeological potential and Stage 2 assessment will be required.

The following recommendations are made:

- 1) A part of the Project Area exhibits archaeological potential. These lands east of Pharmacy Avenue require Stage 2 archaeological assessment by test pit survey at five-metre intervals. Stage 2 is required prior to any proposed construction activities on these lands;
- 2) The remainder of the Project Area does not retain archaeological potential on account of deep and extensive land disturbance or being previously assessed. These lands do not require further archaeological assessment; and,
- 3) Should the proposed work extend beyond the current Project Area, further archaeological assessment should be conducted to determine the archaeological potential of the surrounding lands.



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1.0 Project Context

Archaeological Services Inc. (ASI) was contracted by HDR Inc., on behalf of the City of Toronto, to conduct a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment (Background Research and Property Inspection) as part of the ReNew Golden Mile: Reconfigured & New Major Streets Environmental Assessment Study. This project involves transportation network improvements proposed for new major streets and reconfiguration/ extension of existing street networks as identified in the Golden Mile Transportation Master Plan (TMP) and Golden Mile Secondary Plan (GMSP). The following transportation improvements are contemplated:

- O'Connor Drive to Birchmount Road alignment and reconfiguration;
- a new east-west public street from Victoria Park Avenue to Birchmount Road;
- Craighton Drive preferred alignment, widening and reconfiguration;
- Thermos Road and Sinnott Road intersection design; and,
- Jonesville Crescent/Craighton Drive/Ashtonbee Road from Eglinton Avenue East to Birchmount Road functional coordination.

The Stage 1 Project Area is composed of three interconnected segments associated with the above transportation improvements that extend over an area approximately 2.3 kilometres long (east-west) by approximately 0.6 kilometres wide (north-south), from O'Connor Drive and Victoria Park Avenue in the west to Birchmount Road in the east, and intersecting or including Craighton Drive, Rannock Street, Pharmacy Avenue, Lebovic Avenue, Hakimi Avenue, Warden Avenue, Ashtonbee Road, Thermos Road, Sinnott Road, and Eglinton Avenue East in between (Figure 1).

All activities carried out during this assessment were completed in accordance with the *Ontario Heritage Act* (1990, as amended in 2024) and the 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (S & G), administered by the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM 2011).



1.1 Development Context

All work has been undertaken as required by the *Environmental Assessment Act* (Environmental Assessment Act, R.S.O. c. E.18, 1990 as amended 2024) and regulations made under the Act, and are therefore subject to all associated legislation. This project is being conducted in accordance with the *Municipal Class Environmental Assessment* process (Municipal Engineers Association, 2023).

A Master Plan of Archaeological Resources for the City of Toronto (ASI et al., 2004) was also consulted.

Authorization to carry out the activities necessary for the completion of the Stage 1 archaeological assessment and property inspection was granted by HDR Inc. on March 25, 2022.

1.1.1 Treaties and Traditional Territories

1.1.1.1. Deed from the Five Nations to the King, of their Beaver Hunting Ground

In 1701 the Haudenosaunee and British Crown signed the “Deed from the Five Nations to the King, of their Beaver Hunting Ground”, sometimes referred to as the 1701 Treaty of Fort Albany or Nanfan Treaty, where they agreed to place their beaver hunting grounds under the protection of the King of Britain and to reject the French from building forts on their lands, which included most of southcentral and southwestern Ontario.

In the following years, the Haudenosaunee called upon the King to honour this agreement and “tear down” the French forts at Detroit, Niagara and Fort Frontenac (Kingston) from their Beaver Hunting Grounds. The King did honour the terms of the 1701 deed. To confirm the Kings’ commitment to the Five Nations and to allow their forts in the Five Nations lands as protection against the French an affirming agreement was entered into on September 14, 1726.



The protection of the Five Nations interests throughout their Beaver Hunting Grounds was again affirmed in Article 15 of the Treaty of Utrecht, signed in 1713 between the British and the French, wherein the Five Nations specifically would not be interfered with between (Lakes) Ontario, Erie and Huron (Six Nations of the Grand River, 2020).

1.1.1.2. Williams Treaties, Johnson-Butler Purchase

The Project Area is also within the Johnson-Butler Purchases. It is the traditional and treaty territory of the Michi Saagiig and Chippewa Nations, collectively known as the Williams Treaties First Nations, including the Mississaugas of Alderville First Nation, Curve Lake First Nation, Hiawatha First Nation, Scugog Island First Nation and the Chippewas of Beausoleil First Nation, Georgina Island First Nation and the Rama First Nation (Government of Canada, 2018).

The Project Area is also within the area of interest of the Huron-Wendat Nation.

The Project Area is also within the active Rouge River Valley Tract Claim, filed in 2015 by the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. The Mississaugas of the Credit were not signatories to the Williams Treaty and claim unextinguished title to their traditional territories within the southern part of the Rouge River Valley (Fullerton & Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, 2015; Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, 2018).

The purpose of the Johnson-Butler Purchases of 1787/1788 was to acquire from the Mississaugas the Carrying Place Trail and lands along the north shore of Lake Ontario from the Trent River to Etobicoke Creek.

As part of the Johnson-Butler Purchases, the British signed a treaty, sometimes referred to as the “Gunshot Treaty” with the Mississaugas in 1787 covering the north shore of Lake Ontario, beginning at the eastern boundary of the Toronto Purchase and continuing east to the Bay of Quinte, where it meets the Crawford Purchase. It was referred to as the “Gunshot Treaty” because it covered the land as far back from the lake as a person could hear a gunshot. Compensation for the land apparently included “approximately £2,000 and goods such as muskets, ammunition, tobacco, laced hats and enough red cloth for 12 coats” (Surtees,



1984, pp. 37–45). First discussions about acquiring this land are said to have come about while the land ceded in the Toronto Purchase of 1787 was being surveyed and paid for (Surtees, 1984, pp. 37–45). During this meeting with the Mississaugas, Sir John Johnson and Colonel John Butler proposed the purchase of lands east of the Toronto Purchase (Fullerton & Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, 2015). However, descriptions of the treaty differ between the British and Mississaugas, including the depth of the boundaries: “Rice Lake and Lake Simcoe, located about 13 miles and 48 miles north of Lake Ontario, respectively, were not mentioned as landmarks in the First Nations’ description of the lands to be ceded. Additionally, original descriptions provided by the Chiefs of Rice Lake indicate a maximum depth of ten miles, versus an average of 15-16 miles in Colonel Butler's description” (Fullerton & Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, 2015).

However, records of the acquisition were not clear regarding the extent of lands agreed upon (Surtees, 1984, pp. 37–45). To clarify this, in October and November of 1923, the governments of Canada and Ontario, chaired by A.S. Williams, signed treaties with the Chippewa and Michi Saagiig for three large tracts of land in central Ontario and the northern shore of Lake Ontario, the last substantial portion of land in southern Ontario that had not yet been ceded to the government (Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs, 2013).

The Williams Treaties were signed on October 31 and November 15, 1923, by representatives of the Mississaugas of Alderville First Nation, Curve Lake First Nation, Hiawatha First Nation, Scugog Island First Nation and the Chippewas of Beausoleil First Nation, Georgina Island First Nation and the Rama First Nation. The purpose of the treaties was to address lands that had not been surrendered through previous treaties and no negotiations preceded the signing of the Williams Treaties in 1923, with a commission established by the Federal and Provincial governments led by Treaty Commissioner A. S. Williams.

Through the Williams Treaties, the Crown received three tracts of land occupying approximately 52,000 square kilometres of land. The territory covered by the Williams Treaties stretched from the northern shore of Lake Ontario between Trent River and the Don River to Lake Simcoe and the eastern



shore of Georgian Bay to the French River and Lake Nipissing and was bounded to the north and east by the Ottawa River. Specifically, the Williams Treaties include lands originally covered by the John Collins Purchase (1785), the Johnson-Butler Purchase (1787), the Rice Lake Purchase (Treaty #20 – 1818), and the Robinson-Huron Treaty (Treaty #61 – 1850). In exchange, the signing nations received a one-time payment of \$25 for each band member as well as \$233,425.00 to be divided amongst the four Mississauga nations and \$233,375.00 to be divided amongst the three Chippewa nations. However, records of the acquisition were not clear on the extent of lands agreed upon (Surtees, 1984, pp. 37–45).

The seven signatory nations claimed that the original terms of the treaty were not honoured when it was written by the Crown, which included the right to fish and hunt within the treaty lands and did not include the islands along the Trent River (Surtees, 1986; Williams Treaties First Nations, 2017). In 1992, the seven Williams Treaties First Nations filed a lawsuit against the federal government — Alderville Indian Band et al v. Her Majesty the Queen et al — seeking compensation for the 1923 land surrenders and harvesting rights. This case went to trial in 2012 and in September 2018 the Federal and Provincial governments announced that they had successfully reached a settlement with the seven member nations. The settlement includes financial compensation of \$1.11 billion to be divided amongst the nations as well as an entitlement for each First Nation to add up to 11,000 acres to their reserve lands and the recognition by the Crown of the First Nation's Treaty rights to harvest on Crown lands within the treaty territories (Government of Canada, 2018).

1.2 Historical Context

1.2.1 Indigenous Land Use and Settlement

Current archaeological evidence indicates humans were present in southern Ontario 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 & Fritz, 1988) and populations now occupied less extensive territories (Ellis & 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 archaeological evidence for cemeteries dates to approximately 4,500-3,000 BP and is interpreted by archaeologists to be indicative of increased social organization and the investment of labour into social infrastructure (Brown, 1995, p. 13; Ellis et al., 1990, 2009).

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, pp. 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, pp. 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 phytolith 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 & Williamson, 2013, pp. 13–15). As shown in detailed Anishinaabe ethnographies, 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 understood that these populations were Algonquian speakers during the 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), larger settlement sites focused on horticulture begin to dominate the archaeological record. Seasonal dispersal of the community for the exploitation of a wider territory and more varied resource base was still practised (Williamson, 1990, p. 317). By 1300-1450 CE, archaeological research focusing on these horticultural societies note that this episodic community dispersal was no longer practised and these populations now occupied sites throughout the year (Dodd et al., 1990, p. 343). By the mid-sixteenth century these small villages had coalesced into larger communities (Birch et al., 2021). Through the process of coalescence, the socio-political organization of these First Nations, as described historically by the French and English explorers who first visited southern Ontario, was developed. Other First Nation communities continued to practice residential mobility and to harvest available resources across landscapes they returned to seasonally/annually.

By 1600 CE, the Confederation of Nations were encountered by the first European explorers and missionaries in Simcoe County. By the 1640s, devastating epidemics and the traditional enmity between the Haudenosaunee and the Attawandaron and the Huron-Wendat (and their Algonquian allies such as the Nipissing and Odawa) led to their dispersal from southern Ontario. Shortly afterwards, the Haudenosaunee established a series of settlements at strategic locations along the trade routes inland from the north shore of Lake Ontario. Peace was achieved between the Haudenosaunee and the Anishinaabe Nations in August of 1701 when representatives of more than twenty Anishinaabe Nations assembled in Montreal to participate in peace negotiations. Peace was confirmed again at council held at Lake Superior when the Haudenosaunee delivered a wampum belt to the Anishinaabe Nations. This agreement between the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe nations is referred to as the Dish with One Spoon.

In 1763, following the fall of Quebec, New France was transferred to British control with the Treaty of Paris. The British government began to pursue major land purchases to the north of Lake Ontario in the early nineteenth century. The Crown acknowledged the Mississaugas of the Credit as the owners of the lands



between Georgian Bay and Lake Simcoe and entered into negotiations for additional tracts of land as the need arose to facilitate European settlement.

1.2.2 Post-Contact Settlement

Historically, most of the Project Area is located in the Geographical Township of Scarborough, County of York, in Lots 30-35, Concessions C and D. The western end of the Project Area is located in the Geographic Township of York, County of York, in Lots 3 & 4 Concession 3 From the Bay, and Lot 1 Concession 4 East of Yonge Street.

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 metres 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).



Early European settlements occupied similar locations as Indigenous settlements as they were generally accessible by trail or water routes and would have been in locations with good soil and suitable topography to ensure adequate drainage.

Throughout the period of initial European settlement, Indigenous groups continued to fish, gather, and hunt within their traditional and treaty territories, albeit often with legal and informal restrictions imposed by colonial authorities and settlers. In many cases, Indigenous peoples acted as guides and teachers, passing on their traditional knowledge to settlers, allowing them to sustain themselves in their new homes. Indigenous peoples entered into economic arrangements and partnerships, and often inter-married with settlers. However, pervasive and systemic oppression and marginalization of Indigenous peoples also characterized Euro-Canadian colonization, with thousands being displaced from their lands, denied access to traditional and treaty hunting, fishing, and collecting grounds, and forced to assimilate with Euro-Canadian culture through mandatory attendance at Day and Residential Schools (Ray, 2005; Rogers & Smith, 1994).

1.2.2.1. Township of Scarborough

The township of Scarborough, originally called Glasgow Township, was partially laid out to the east of the township of York. Beginning in 1791, Augustus Jones surveyed the new township, and a baseline was laid out. The early survey of the township was found to be faulty and carelessly done, resulting in numerous lawsuits among property owners. To remedy this situation, a new survey of the township was undertaken under F.F. Passmore in 1864 to correct and confirm the township concession lines. In August 1793, Mrs. Simcoe noted in her diary that she and her party “came within sight of what is named in the Map the high lands of Toronto—the shore is extremely bold and has the appearance of Chalk Cliffs... they appeared so well that we talked of building a Summer Residence there and calling it Scarborough” (Bonis, 1968, p. 196). The first land grants were patented in Scarborough in 1796, and were issued to Loyalists, high ranking Upper Canadian government officials, and some absentee Loyalist grantees. Among the first landowners were: Captain William Mayne (1796);



David Thomson (1801); Captain John McGill (1797); Captain William Demont (1798); John McDougall (1802); Sheriff Alexander McDonell (1806); and Donald McLean, clerk of the House of Assembly (1805).

The Euro-Canadian settlement of Scarborough remained slow, and in 1802 there were just 89 settlers in the Township. In 1803, the township contained just one assessable house and no grist or sawmills. The livestock was limited to five horses, eight oxen, 27 milch cows, seven “horned cattle” and 15 swine. In 1809 the population had increased to 140 men, women and children. The settlement and improvement of the township was aided when the Danforth Road was constructed across the township but was checked in 1812 with the outbreak of the war. By 1819, new settlement was augmented by settlers from Britain, Scotland and Ireland, but the population remained low at just 349 inhabitants (Bonis, 1968).

1.2.2.2. City of Toronto

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 (Firth, 1962, p. 196; Winearls, 1991). 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 (Armstrong, 1985; Firth, 1962).

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, 2007). 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 (Natural Resources Canada, 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 seventeenth 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 the French explorer Antione de la Mothe 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 York 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 (Mosser, 1984; Smith, 1846, 1851; Walton, 1837). The City of Toronto continued to grow and annex lands from the Township, stretching 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 of Toronto 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. Residential lots were divided and subdivided as the city's density increased, new office buildings and manufacturing plants filled in open spaces, and public transportation networks were expanded.

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.

1.2.3 Map Review

The 1860 Tremaine's *Historical Map of York County* (Tremaine, 1860), 1878 *Illustrated Atlas of York County* (Miles & Co., 1878), 1909 topographic *Toronto Sheet* (Department of Militia and Defence, 1909), 1942 topographic *Toronto Sheet* (Department of National Defence, 1942), and the 1985 National Topographic System (NTS) *Toronto Sheet* (Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, 1985) were examined to determine the presence of historic features within the Project Area during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries (Figure 2- Figure 6).



It should be noted that not all features of interest were mapped systematically in the Ontario series of historical atlases. For instance, they were often financed by subscription limiting the level of detail provided on the maps. Moreover, not every feature of interest would have been within the scope of the atlases. The use of historical map sources to reconstruct or predict the location of former features within the modern landscape generally begins by using common reference points between the various sources. The historical maps are geo-referenced to provide the most accurate determination of the location of any property on a modern map. The results of this exercise can often be imprecise or even contradictory, as there are numerous potential sources of error inherent in such a process, including differences of scale and resolution, and distortions introduced by reproduction of the sources.

The 1860 Tremaine map (Figure 2) shows the Project Area crossing multiple lots with known landowner names mentioned. Taylor Creek is shown intersecting the northeast of the Project Area. The map shows historic correspondents for the major modern roads within the Project Area: Victoria Park Avenue, Pharmacy Avenue, Warden Avenue, Birchmount Road, and Eglinton Avenue East. One historic structure appears to be within the Project Area in Lot 32, Concession C, on the property of William Eagan. Two other structures are approximately within 50 metres of the Project Area on Lot 31, Concession C, in the form of a Wagon Shop on the property of J. Hugh, and on Lot 34, Concession 4: probably John Walton's homestead. This property is within 50 metres of the area of archaeological potential identified on the east side of Pharmacy Avenue (Figure 10, Figure 11).

On the 1878 atlas (Figure 3), most data remain the same, but new structures appear inside or within 50 metres of the Project Area. In Concession C: on the north subdivision of Lot 31, the northwest corner of Lot 31, and north part of Lot 33. In Concession D: in Lots 31 and 34. The household on Lot 34 (Walton family) is probably the same one as on the 1860 map and is within or not more than 50 metres from the area of potential identified for that segment of the Project Area (Figure 10, Figure 11).



The 1909 topographic map (Figure 4) shows a new creek crossing the western segments of the Project Area, probably Tyler Creek. In the east, Taylor Creek is in the expected place at the northeast corner of the Project Area, but a new branch of this watercourse is mapped crossing the Project Area in three points where no watercourse is visible today anymore: east of Sinnott Road, north of Eglinton Avenue across Thermos Road, and Ashtonbee Road west of Thermos Road. The entire Project Area was farmland, with some woodlots and a few scattered structures, none within its limits. Several bridges existed within or adjacent to the Project Area over Tyler Creek (Pharmacy Avenue) and the Taylor Creek branches (Eglinton Road and Birchmount Road).

On the 1942 map (Figure 5), there are multiple structures (probably homesteads) in locations within or adjacent to the Project Area, on the roads today named Victoria Park Avenue, Pharmacy Avenue, Eglinton Avenue, and Birchmount Road.

The 1985 NTS sheet (Figure 6) already shows the massive urban growth all around the Project Area and the construction of the vast industrial and commercial Golden Mile complex, largely similar to the modern extension, with few disturbance gaps within the Project Area on and south of Ashtonbee Road.

1.2.4 Aerial and Orthoimagery Review

Historical aerial imagery from 1954 (City of Toronto Archives, 1954) indicates that major disturbance and development was already ongoing across the entire Project Area, in the form of new roads, industrial and commercial buildings, and parking lots as Scarborough expanded in the mid-20th century. The area of archaeological potential on the east side of Pharmacy Avenue shows no visible signs of mid-twentieth century disturbance (Figure 7 and Figure 8).

A review of available Google satellite imagery between 2002 and 2024 shows no significant changes within the Project Area during this time.



1.3 Archaeological Context

This section provides background research pertaining to previous archaeological fieldwork conducted within and in the vicinity of the Project 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 MCM through “Ontario’s Past Portal”; published and unpublished documentary sources; and the files of ASI.

1.3.1 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 Project 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 B.P. (Karrow & 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 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).

1.3.1.1. Physiography

The Project Area is located within the drumlinized till plains of the South Slope physiographic region of southern Ontario (Chapman & Putnam, 1984).

The South Slope physiographic region is the southern slope of the Oak Ridges Moraine. The South Slope meets the Moraine at heights of approximately 300 metres above sea level, and descends southward toward Lake Ontario, ending, in some areas, at elevations below 150 metres above sea level. Numerous streams descend the South Slope, having cut deep valleys in the till creating ideal locations for mills and other industries using waterpower. The soil in the area is generally stony but once cleared by early settlers became suitable for growing grain. Grain growing was later replaced by commercial farming of beef and dairy cattle, hogs, orchards, and canning crops (Chapman & Putnam, 1984).

1.3.1.2. Surficial Geology

The surficial geology mapping (Figure 9) shows that the Project Area is underlain entirely by glacial till (stone-poor, sandy silt to silty sand-textured till on Paleozoic terrain).

1.3.1.3. Soil Types and Drainage

The 1977 soil mapping shows that the Project Area sits on top of the following soil units: Milliken loam, a grey-brown podzolic with imperfect drainage, and Woburn loam, a grey-brown podzolic with good drainage (Department of Agriculture, 1977). However, more recent data emphasizes that the entire



Project Area is on top of disturbed urban land (Ministry of Natural Resources et al., 2018).

1.3.1.4. Watersheds, Water Sources

The Project Area is within the Don River Watershed.

Tyler Creek is within 100 metres of the northwestern sector of the Project Area, while Taylor-Massey Creek intersects the Project Area at its northeast corner. Taylor-Massey Creek is channelized and disturbed within the Project Area.

1.3.2 Previously Registered Archaeological Sites

In Ontario, information concerning archaeological sites is stored in the Ontario Archaeological Sites Database maintained by the MCM. 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 kilometres east to west, and approximately 18.5 kilometres 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 Project Area under review is located in Borden block *AkGt*.

According to the Ontario Archaeological Sites Database, only one previously registered archaeological site is located within one kilometre of the Project Area, but not within 50 metres (MCM 2025). A summary of the site is provided below in Table 1.



Table 1: Registered Sites within One Kilometre of the Project Area

Borden number	Site Name	Temporal/ Cultural Affiliation	Site type	Researcher
AkGt-216	Copse	Late Woodland	campsite	Archaeological Assessments Ltd., 2017; Bluestone Research, 2017

1.3.3 Previous Archaeological Assessments

ASI reviewed previous archaeological assessments that detail fieldwork within 50 metres of the Project Area. Only those specific archaeological assessments of direct relevance to the present undertaking have been included here:

- (The Archaeologists Inc., 2016) *Stage 1&2 Archaeological Assessment of Part of Lots 4 and 5, Registered Plan 4087, (Part of Lot 32, Concession D, Township of Scarborough, County of York) City of Toronto*; PIF# P052-0645-2015
 - This project overlapped with a portion of the current Project Area west of Thermos Road, across a commercial area parking lot. Property inspection was carried out as part of the Stage 2 survey. The area was assessed as heavily disturbed with no further assessment required.
- (ASI, 2018) *Stage 1 Archaeological Resource Assessment of 2200-2206 Eglinton Avenue East and 1020 Birchmount Road (Lot 6, Registered Plan 4087 [Formerly City of Scarborough], Formerly Part of Lot 31, Broken Front Concession D, Township of Scarborough, County of York), City of Toronto, Ontario*; PIF# P1030-0038-2018
 - This project overlapped with the current Project Area on the segment located across an industrial built-up area in between Birchmount Road and Thermos Road. A property inspection was



performed in June 2018. The overlapping lands were assessed as completely disturbed and no further assessment was needed.

- (ASI, 2019a) *Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of 1920-1940 Eglinton Avenue East, 880-900 Warden Avenue and 20-50 Ashtonbee Road (Part of Lot 2, Registered Plan 4087, City of Scarborough) City of Toronto, Ontario; PIF# P449-0282-2019*
 - This Stage 1 project assessed lands located in between Eglinton Avenue (south), Warden Avenue (east), Ashtonbee Road (north), and Hakimi Avenue (west) and overlapped with a portion of the current Project Area along Hakimi Avenue and across an industrial parcel between Hakimi Avenue and Warden Avenue. The assessment involved a property inspection carried out in February 2019. The report found no archaeological potential for the overlapping lands, and the area was cleared of further concern.
- (ASI, 2019b) *Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of 1960 Eglinton Avenue East, Part of Lot 32, Broken Front Concession D, Geographic Township of Scarborough, York County, City of Toronto; PIF# P449-0401-2019*
 - This assessment overlapped with the current Project Area for a narrow portion of the southern ROW of Ashtonbee Road and for approximately 168 metres east of Warden Avenue across an industrial or business area. Property inspection was conducted in December 2019. The report found that the entire assessment area was heavily disturbed during the twentieth century, with no remaining archaeological potential, therefore the lands were cleared of further concern.
- (AMICK Consultants Limited, 2023) *Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment, 1911-1921 Eglinton Avenue East, Part of Lot 33, Concession C (Geographical Township of Scarborough, County of York) City of Toronto (AMICK Corporate Project #2023-453/MCM File #P038-1412-2023); PIF# P038-1412-2023*
 - This project overlapped with the current Project Area for a portion west of Warden Avenue and included property inspection. The overlapping lands, situated in a built-up area, were assessed as heavily disturbed, with no further work recommended.



- (ASI, 2024) *Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of 1880 Eglinton Avenue East External Municipal Servicing Improvements (Part of Lot 35, Concession D, Geographic Township of Scarborough, Former County of York), City of Toronto, Ontario*; PIF# P372-0298-2024
 - o This assessment overlapped with the current Project Area on a segment of Victoria Park Avenue north of Eglinton Avenue and for the segment on Craighton Drive and Rannock Street between Victoria Park and Pharmacy Avenue.
 - o The entire overlapping area was assessed as previously disturbed, with no further work required.

2.0 Property Inspection

2.1 Field Methods

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 by Ciprian Ardelean under the field direction of Eliza Brandy (R1109) on June 13,



2025, in order to gain first-hand knowledge of the geography, topography, and current conditions and to evaluate and map archaeological potential of the Project Area. It was a systematic visual inspection from publicly accessible lands only and did not include excavation or collection of archaeological resources. Fieldwork was conducted when weather conditions were deemed clear with good visibility (partly cloudy with occasional drizzle and seasonal temperatures up to 19 degrees Celsius), per S & G Section 1.2., Standard 2. Field photography is presented in section 7.0 (Image 1-Image 18), and field observations are overlaid onto the existing conditions of the Project Area in the maps section 8.0 (Figure 11-Figure 13).

2.2 Current Land Use and Field Conditions

The entire Project Area extends through heavily disturbed urban industrial and commercial landscape characterized by roads, complex intersections, landscaped roadside areas, watermains, stormwater drainages, sewers, underground telecom cables, vast parking lots, supermarket buildings, shopping malls, industrial buildings, berms, fenced areas, and residential parking lots and driveways. In places, the trajectory of the Project Area passes straight through existing industrial buildings and shopping malls. On the east side of Pharmacy Avenue and delimited on its east side by the built-up parking lot of a Walmart supermarket, there is a rectangular fenced private property parcel, covered in manicured lawn within the Project Area, that presumably remained unaltered and may preserve intact sediments and archaeological potential.

3.0 Analysis of Archaeological Potential

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

- Previously identified archaeological sites within 300 metres (Table 1);
- Water sources within 300 metres: primary, secondary, or past water source (Taylor-Massey Creek and Tyler Creek);
- Well-drained soils within the Project Area (Woburn loam);
- Early settlements within 100 metres (homesteads, farmsteads); and



- Early historic transportation routes within 100 metres (historically surveyed roads on the trajectory of the modern roads Victoria Park Avenue, Pharmacy Avenue, Warden Avenue, Birchmount Road, and Eglinton Avenue East).

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 Heritage Register of the City of Toronto was consulted and no property within the Project Area is Listed or Designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

A Master Plan of Archaeological Resources for the City of Toronto (ASI et al., 2004) was reviewed for background information and to help inform any indicators of archaeological potential not captured in other research. Generally speaking, archaeological management plans (AMP) are high-level analyses of archaeological potential for non-specialists but cannot be considered a replacement for Stage 1 archaeological assessments. ASI's review of the above AMP indicates that only one parcel has archaeological potential within the limits of the Project Area: a manicured lawned rectangular area on the east side of Pharmacy Avenue, north of Eglinton Avenue, on Lot 34, Concession D (Figure 10, Figure 11: area highlighted in green). The property inspection confirmed that these lands will require Stage 2 archaeological assessment prior to any construction activities or other proposed impacts. 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 (Image 10).

Parts of the Project Area have been previously assessed and do not require further archaeological assessments (Figure 11-Figure 13: areas highlighted in red).

The remainder of the Project Area has been subjected to deep soil disturbance events due to the construction of roads, industrial areas, residential areas, parking lots, shopping centres, business infrastructure, and buried utilities.



According to the S & G Section 1.3.2 these areas do not retain archaeological potential (Image 1-Image 9 and Image 11-Image 18; Figure 11-Figure 13: areas highlighted in yellow) and do not require further survey.

3.1 Conclusions

The Stage 1 background research determined that one previously registered archaeological site is located within one kilometre of the Project Area, and that parts of the Project Area were previously assessed with no further work required. Property inspection determined that most of the Project Area was heavily disturbed by the construction of roads, sewers, drainage, industrial and commercial buildings, and road infrastructure, therefore lacking archaeological potential. A small part of the Project Area east of Pharmacy Avenue was found to preserve archaeological potential, as indicated in the Toronto AMP, and Stage 2 survey will be required.

4.0 Recommendations

The following recommendations are made:

- 1) A part of the Project Area exhibits archaeological potential. These lands east of Pharmacy Avenue require Stage 2 archaeological assessment by test pit survey at five-metre intervals (Figure 11). Stage 2 is required prior to any proposed construction activities on these lands;
- 2) The remainder of the Project Area does not retain archaeological potential on account of deep and extensive land disturbance or being previously assessed. These lands do not require further archaeological assessment; and,
- 3) Should the proposed work extend beyond the current Project Area, further 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 Archaeology Programs Unit of the MCM should be immediately notified.

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

5.0 Advice on Compliance with Legislation

- This report is submitted to the Minister as a condition of licensing in accordance with Part VI of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c 0.18. The report is reviewed to ensure that it complies with the standards and guidelines that are issued by the Minister, and that the archaeological field work and report recommendations ensure the conservation, protection and preservation of the cultural heritage of Ontario. When all matters relating to archaeological sites within the project area of a development proposal have been addressed to the satisfaction of the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism a letter will be issued by the ministry stating that there are no further concerns with regard to alterations to archaeological sites by the proposed development.
- It is an offence under Sections 48 and 69 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* for any party other than a licensed archaeologist to make any alteration to a known archaeological site or to remove any artifact or other physical evidence of past human use or activity from the site, until such time as a licensed archaeologist has completed 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 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 Public and Business Services Delivery.
- 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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7.0 Images



Image 1: Project Area disturbed by road infrastructure, grading, buildings, and buried utilities – no archaeological potential



Image 2: Project Area disturbed by road infrastructure, landscaping, and stormwater drainage – no archaeological potential



Image 3: Project Area disturbed by road infrastructure and buildings – no archaeological potential



Image 4: Project Area disturbed by road infrastructure, landscaping, and sewer – no archaeological potential



Image 5: Project Area disturbed by road infrastructure and buildings – no archaeological potential



Image 6: Project Area disturbed by road, landscaping, and construction – no archaeological potential



Image 7: Project Area disturbed by road infrastructure and watermain – no archaeological potential



Image 8: Project Area disturbed by road infrastructure, landscaping, and sewer – no archaeological potential



Image 9: Project Area disturbed by parking lot – no archaeological potential



Image 10: Fenced property, part of the Project Area, preserves archaeological potential – test pit survey required



**Image 11: Project Area disturbed by parking lot, shopping areas, and drainage
– no archaeological potential**



**Image 12: Project Area disturbed by road infrastructure, parking lot, buildings
– no archaeological potential**



Image 13: Project Area disturbed by parking lot, shopping mall, and drainage – no archaeological potential



Image 14: Project Area disturbed by shopping mall and parking lot – no archaeological potential



Image 15: Project Area disturbed by road infrastructure, buildings, and watermain – no archaeological potential



Image 16: Project Area disturbed by landscaping, electric infrastructure, and drainage – no archaeological potential



Image 17: Project Area disturbed by buildings, road infrastructure, and watermain – no archaeological potential



Image 18: Project Area disturbed by road infrastructure, landscaping, and underground fiber optics – no archaeological potential

8.0 Maps

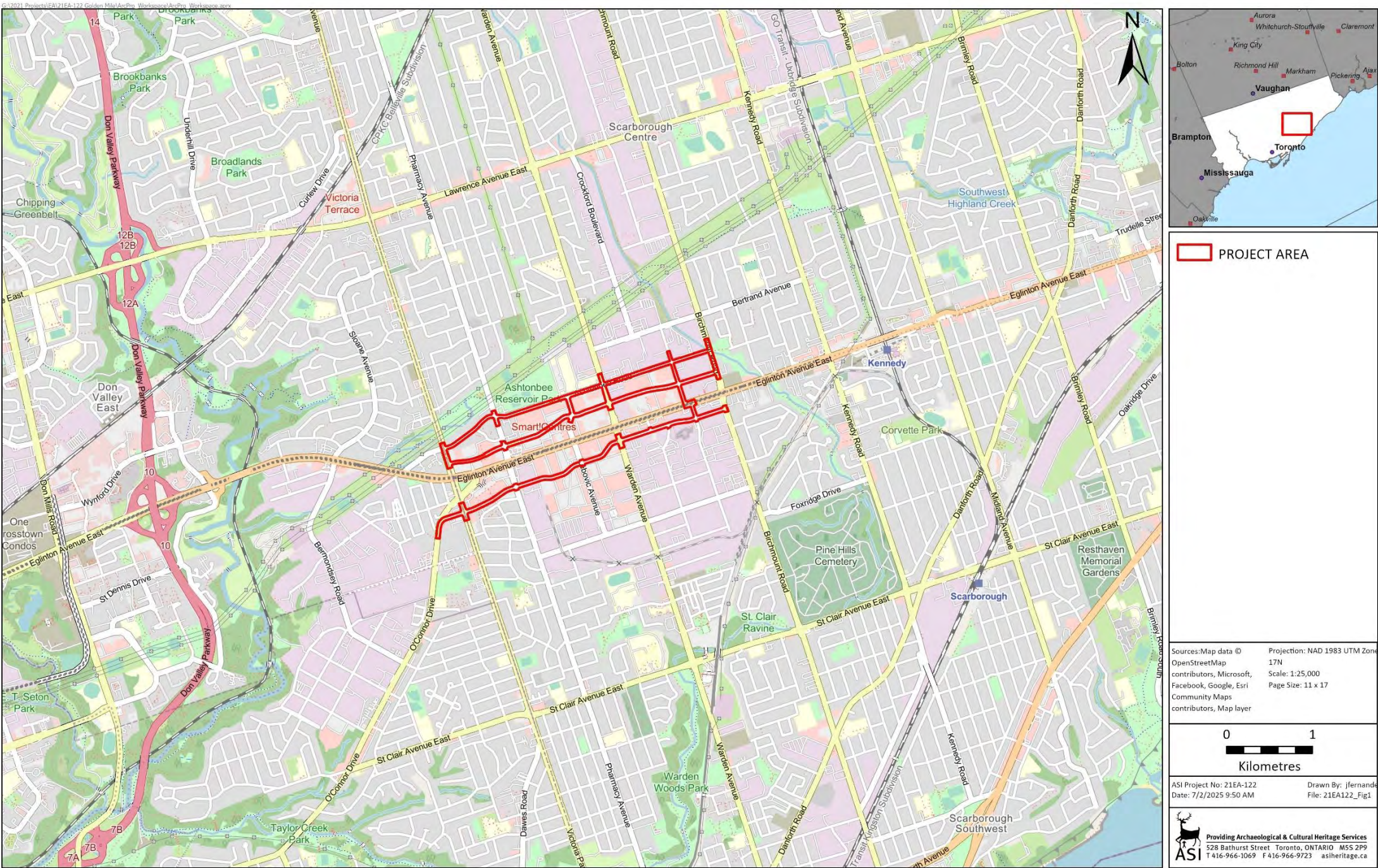


Figure 1: General Location of the Project Area



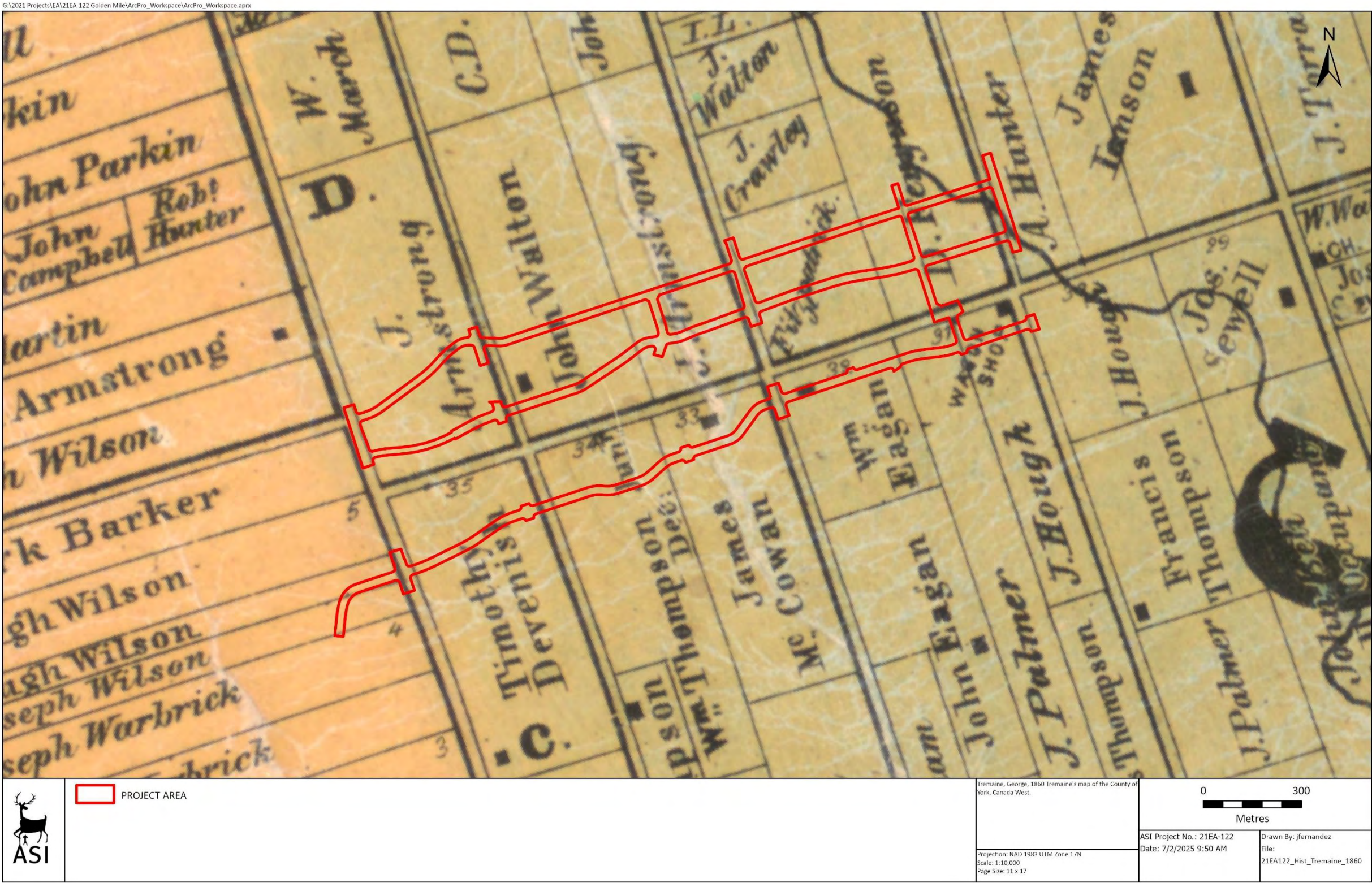


Figure 2: Project Area (Approximate Location) Overlaid on the 1860 Tremaine Historical Map of York County



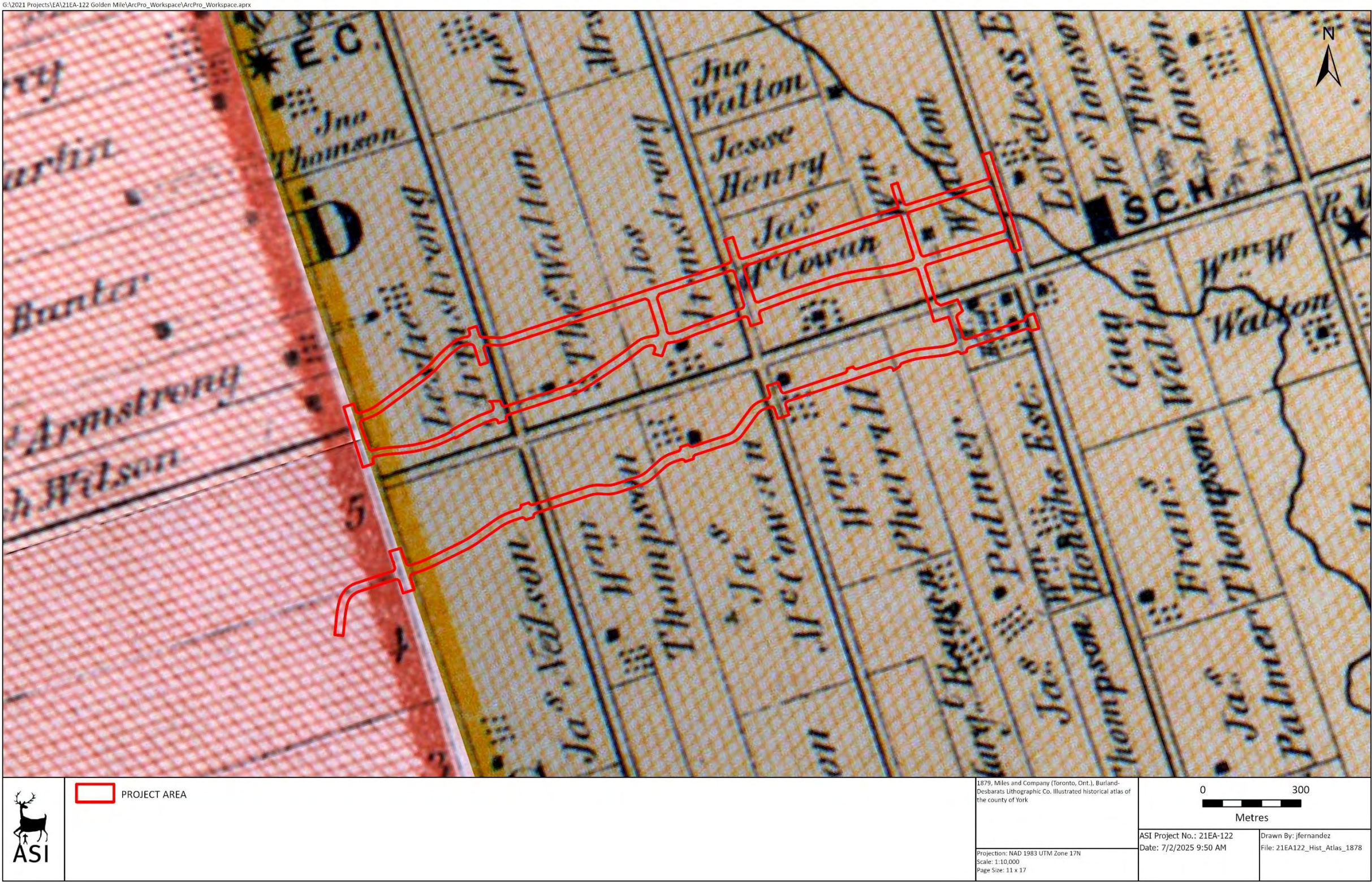


Figure 3: Project Area (Approximate Location) Overlaid on the 1878 Illustrated Atlas of York County



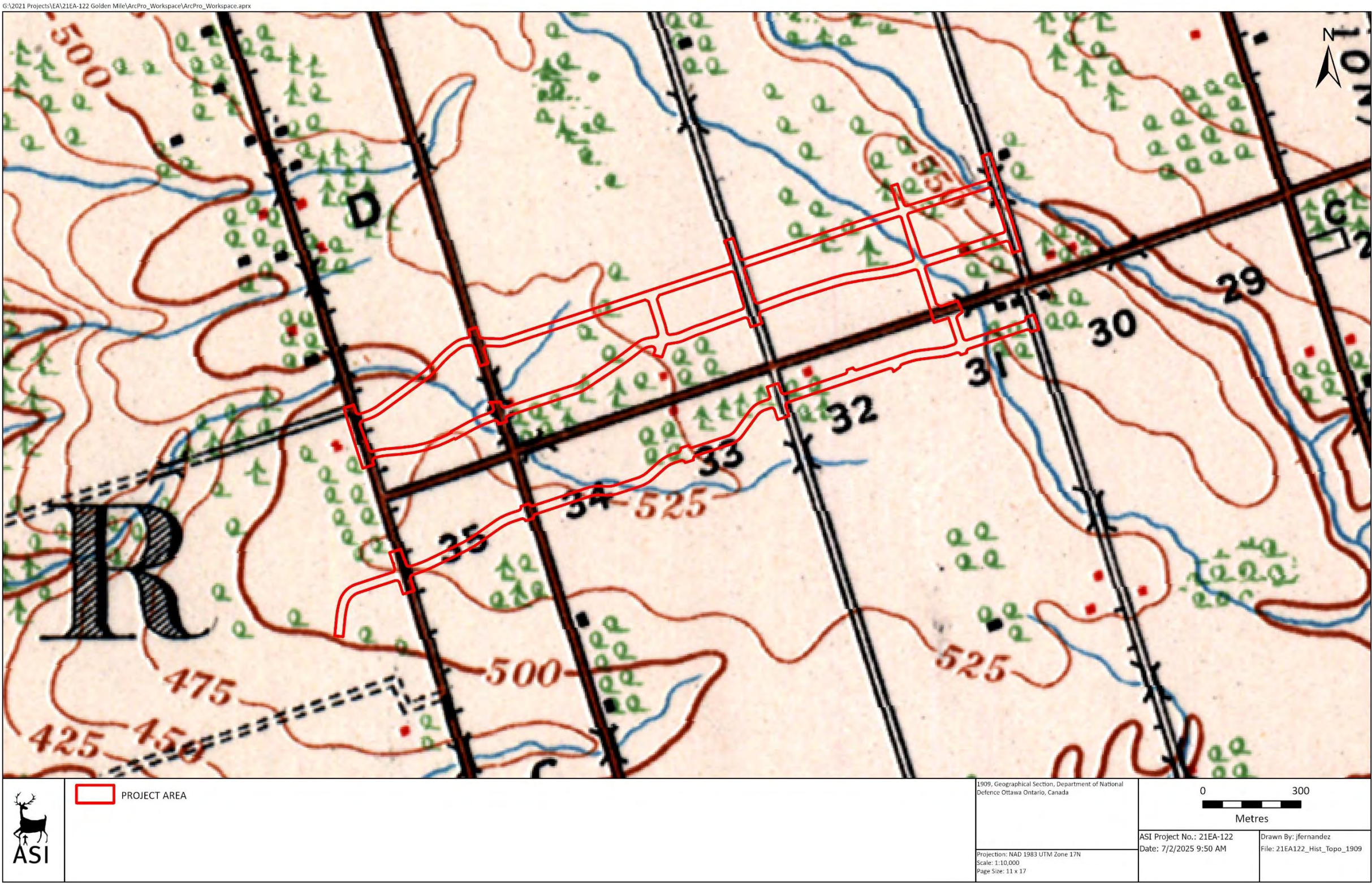


Figure 4: Project Area (Approximate Location) Overlaid on the 1909 Topographic Toronto Sheet



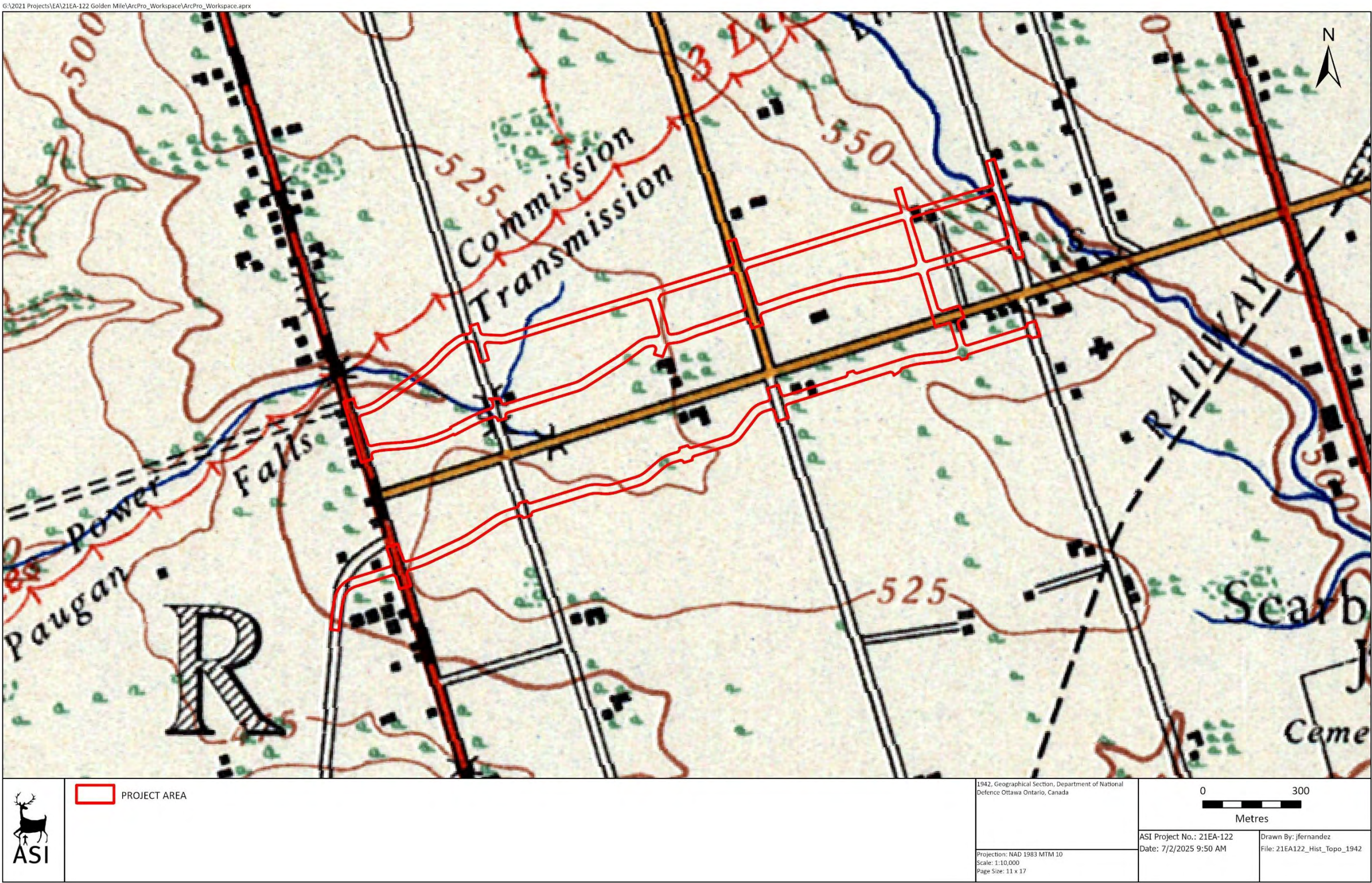


Figure 5: Project Area (Approximate Location) Overlaid on the 1942 Topographic Toronto Sheet



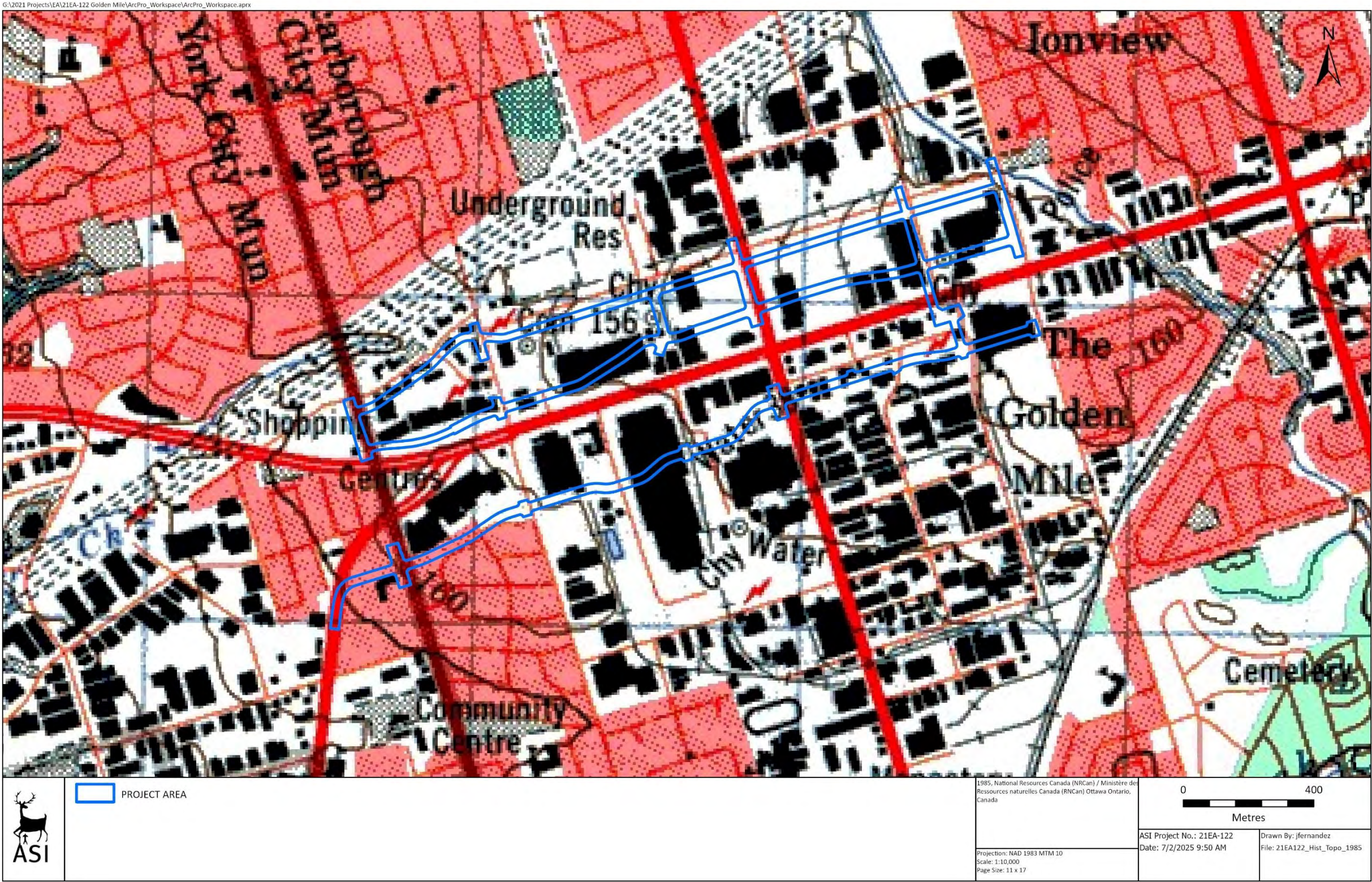


Figure 6: Project Area (Approximate Location) Overlaid on the 1985 NTS Toronto Sheet



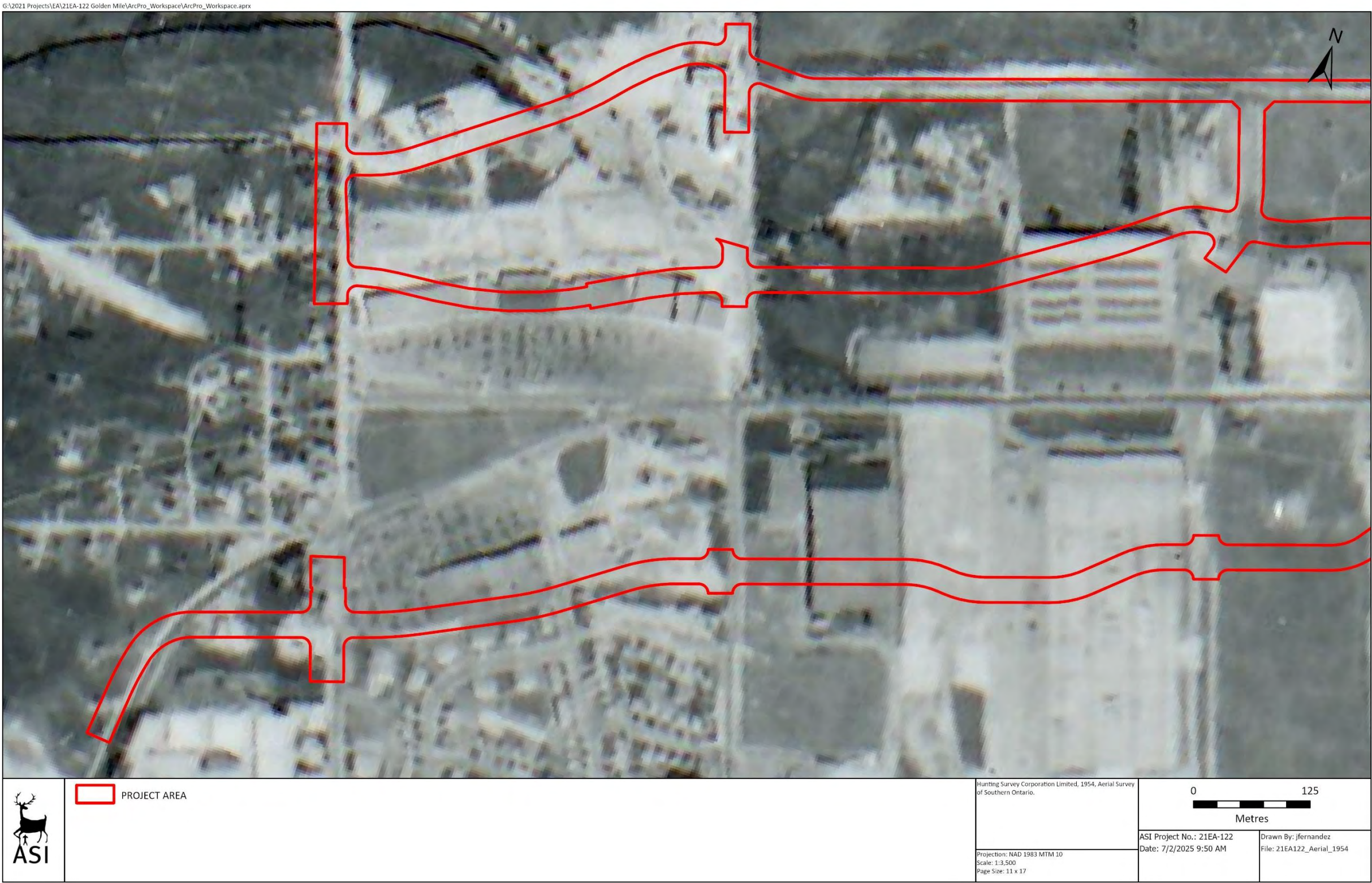


Figure 7: Western Half of the Project Area (Approximate Location) Overlaid on the 1954 Aerial Photograph





Figure 8: Eastern Half of the Project Area (Approximate Location) Overlaid on the 1954 Aerial Photograph



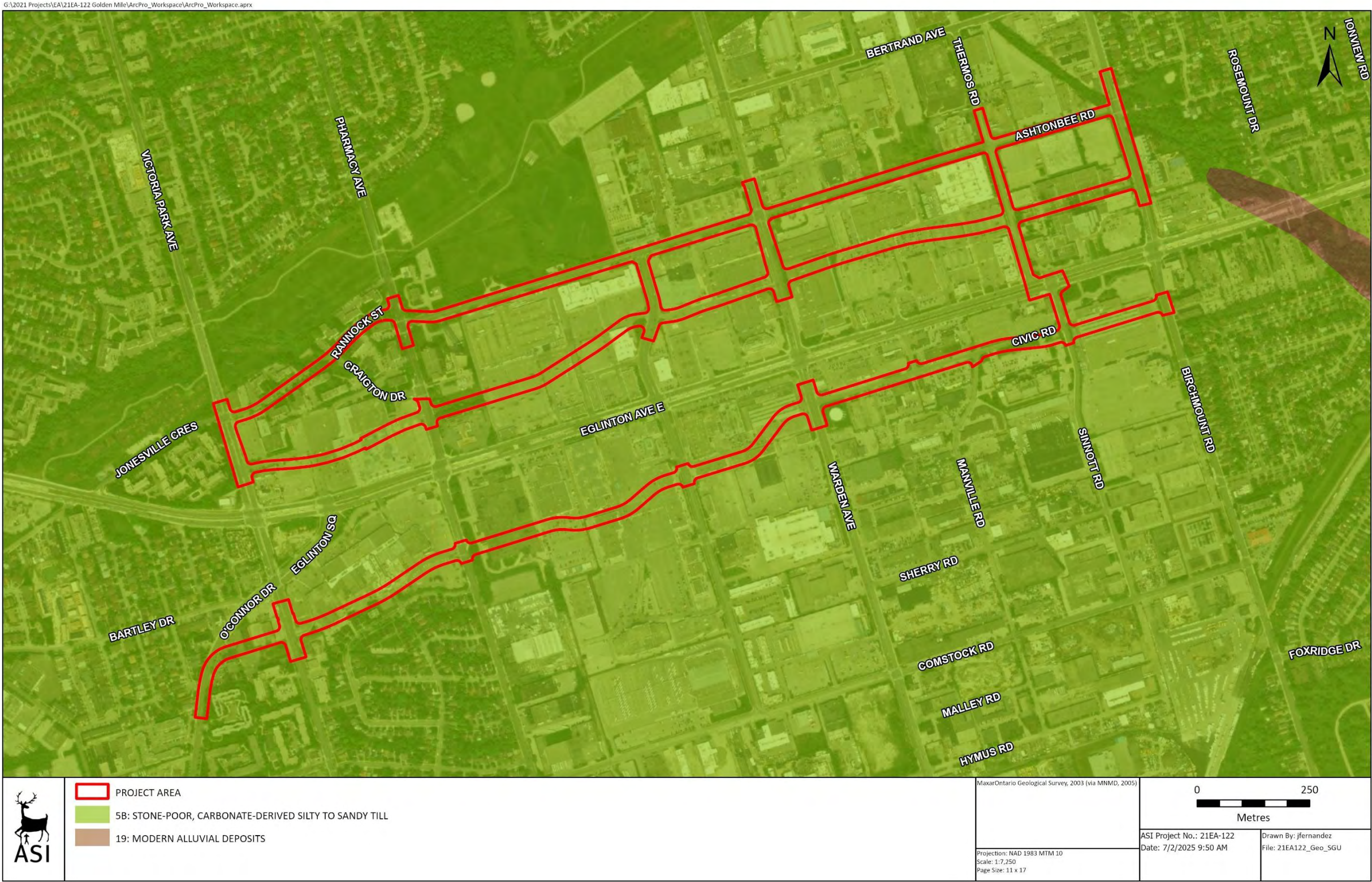


Figure 9: Project Area – Surficial Geology





Figure 10: Project Area – Archaeological Potential



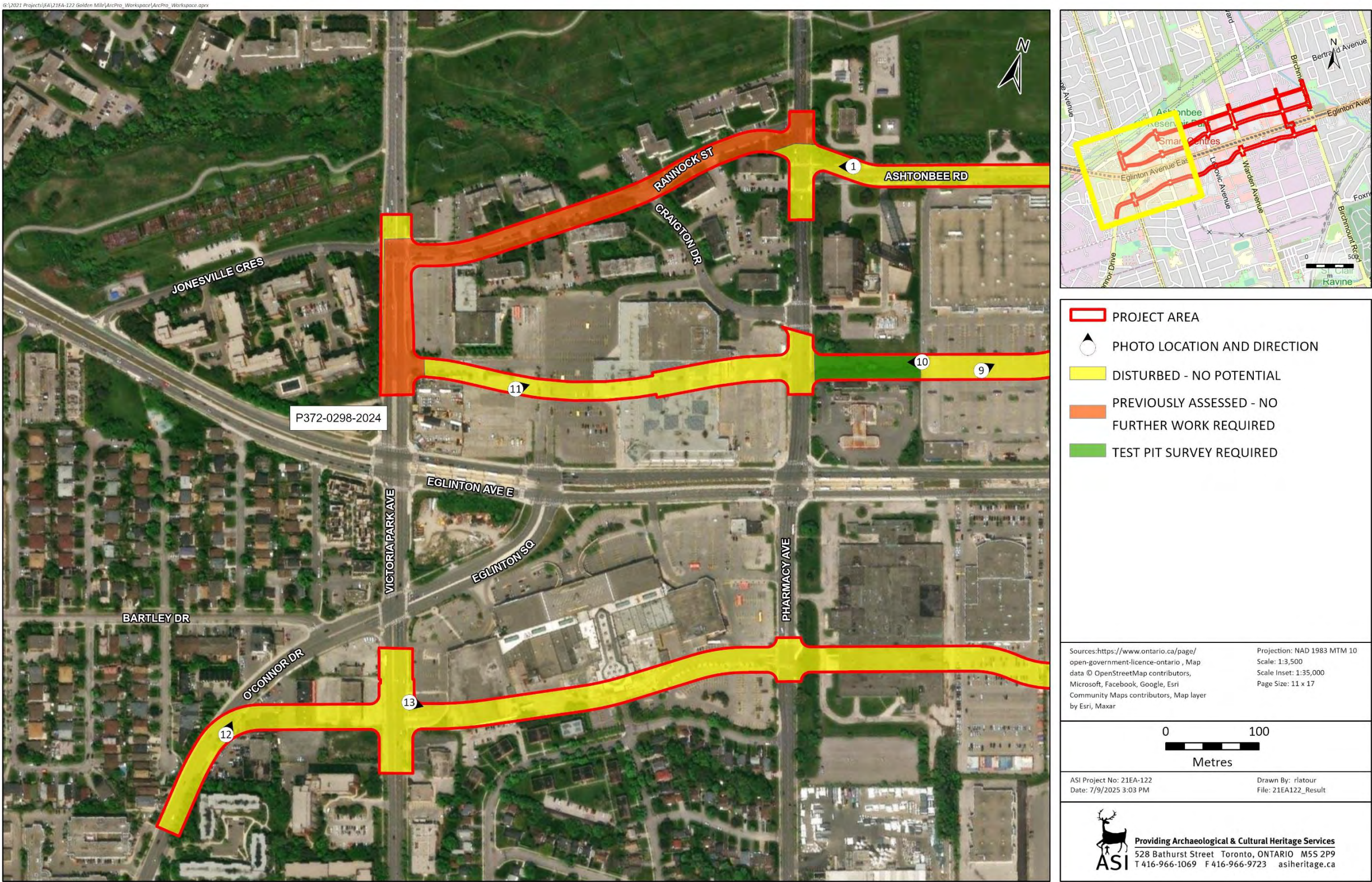


Figure 11: Results of the Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment – Sheet 1



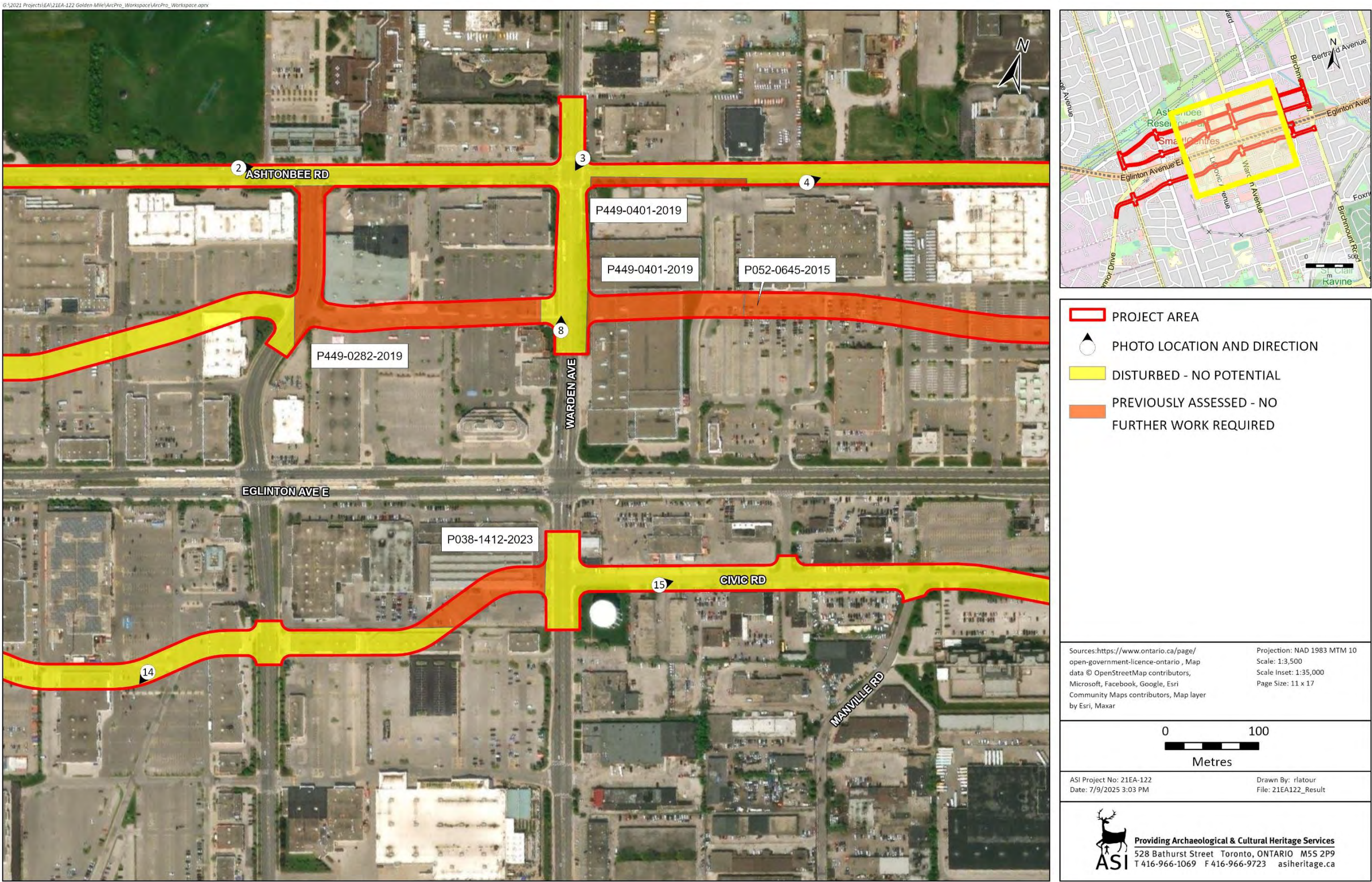


Figure 12: Results of the Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment – Sheet 2



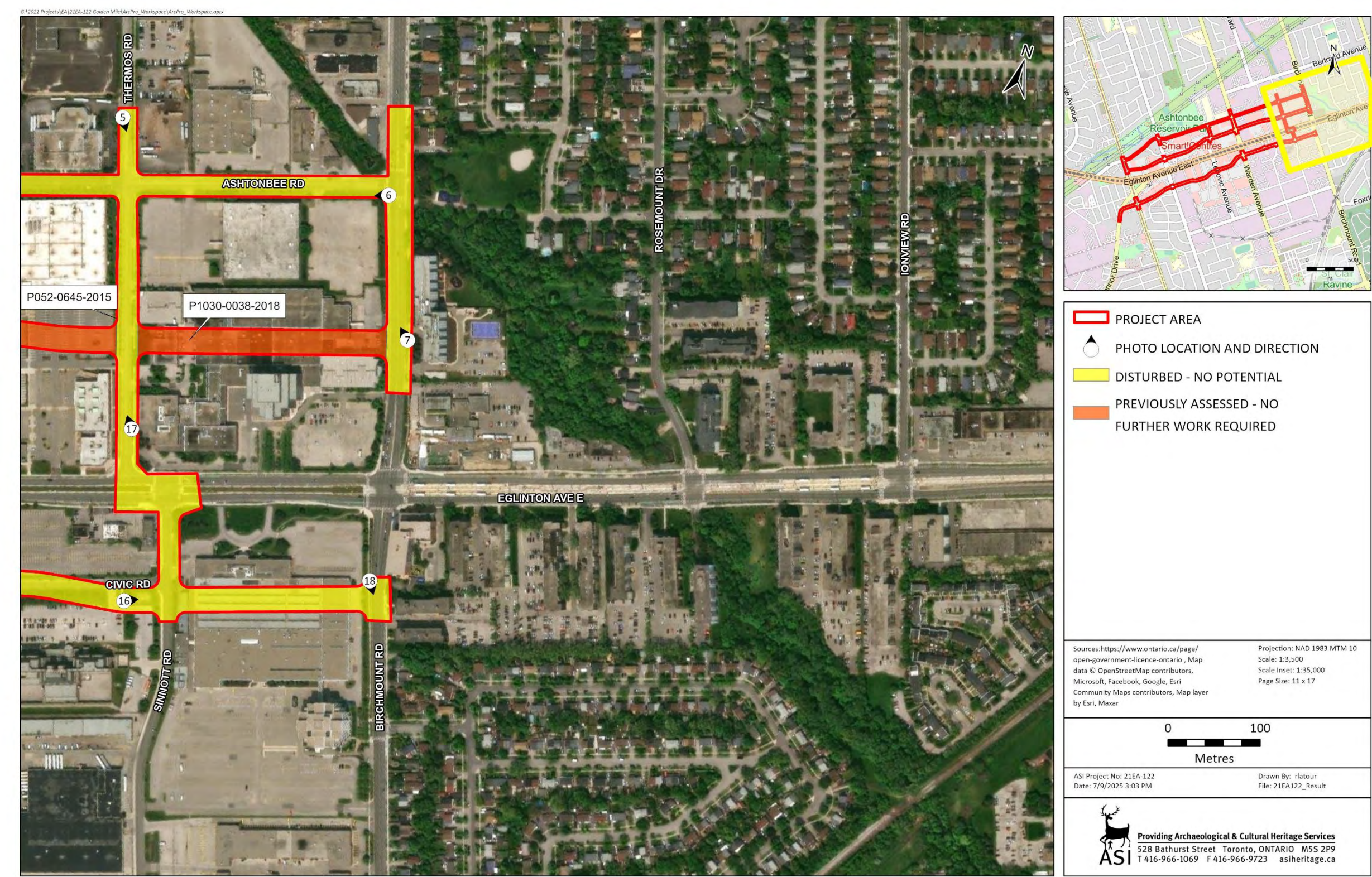


Figure 13: Results of the Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment – Sheet 3

