



1.0 PROJECT REPORT COVER PAGE

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PROJECT INFORMATION:

Corporate Project Number:

2021-264

MHSTCI Project Number:

P038-1027-2021

Investigation Type:

Stage 2 Archaeological Property Assessment

Project Name:

Centre Street Meaford

Project Location:

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of Lot 14, Concession 5 (Geographic Township of St.
Vincent), Municipality of Meaford, County of Grey

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2.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report describes the results of the 2021 Stage 2 Archaeological Property Assessment of Part of Lot 14, Concession 5 (Geographic Township of St. Vincent), Municipality of Meaford, County of Grey, conducted by AMICK Consultants Limited. This study was conducted under Professional Archaeologist License P038 issued to Marilyn Cornies by the Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries for the Province of Ontario. This assessment was undertaken as a requirement under the Planning Act (RSO 1990) and the Provincial Policy Statement (2020) in order to support a Draft Plan of Subdivision and companion Zoning By-law Amendment application as part of the pre-submission process. Within the land use planning and development context, Ontario Regulation 544/06 under the Planning Act (1990b) requires an evaluation of archaeological potential and, where applicable, an archaeological assessment report completed by an archaeologist licensed by the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI). Policy 2.6 of the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS 2020) addresses archaeological resources. All work was conducted in conformity with Ontario Ministry of Tourism and Culture (MTC) Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (MTC 2011), the Ontario Heritage Act (RSO 1990a).

AMICK Consultants Limited was engaged by the proponent to undertake a Stage 2 Archaeological Property Assessment of lands potentially affected by the proposed undertaking and was granted permission to carry out archaeological fieldwork. The entirety of the study area was subject to a Stage 2 Property Assessment that included high intensity pedestrian survey at an interval of 5 metres between individual transects on 5 April and 4 May 2021. All records, documentation, field notes, photographs and artifacts (as applicable) related to the conduct and findings of these investigations are held at the Southwestern District corporate offices of AMICK Consultants Limited until such time that they can be transferred to an agency or institution approved by the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (MHSTCI) on behalf of the government and citizens of Ontario.

STAGE 2 RECOMMENDATIONS:

As a result of the Stage 2 Property Assessment of the study area, no archaeological resources were encountered. Consequently, the following recommendations are made:

- 1. No further archaeological assessment of the study area is warranted;*
- 2. The Provincial interest in archaeological resources with respect to the proposed undertaking has been addressed;*
- 3. The proposed undertaking is clear of any archaeological concern.*

3.0 TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0 PROJECT REPORT COVER PAGE.....	1
2.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	2
3.0 TABLE OF CONTENTS	3
4.0 PROJECT PERSONNEL.....	3
5.0 PROJECT CONTEXT	4
6.0 FIELD WORK METHODS AND WEATHER CONDITIONS.....	18
7.0 RECORD OF FINDS	19
8.0 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS.....	20
9.0 RECOMMENDATIONS	21
10.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY AND SOURCES.....	23
11.0 MAPS.....	25
12.0 IMAGES	30

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5.0 PROJECT CONTEXT

5.1 DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT

This report describes the results of the 2021 Stage 2 Archaeological Property Assessment of Part of Lot 14, Concession 5 (Geographic Township of St. Vincent), Municipality of Meaford, County of Grey, conducted by AMICK Consultants Limited. This study was conducted under Professional Archaeologist License P038 issued to Marilyn Cornies by the Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries for the Province of Ontario. This assessment was undertaken as a requirement under the Planning Act (RSO 1990) and the Provincial Policy Statement (2020) in order to support a Draft Plan of Subdivision and companion Zoning By-law Amendment application as part of the pre-submission process. Within the land use planning and development context, Ontario Regulation 544/06 under the Planning Act (1990b) requires an evaluation of archaeological potential and, where applicable, an archaeological assessment report completed by an archaeologist licensed by the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI). Policy 2.6 of the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS 2020) addresses archaeological resources. All work was conducted in conformity with Ontario Ministry of Tourism and Culture (MTC) Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (MTC 2011), the Ontario Heritage Act (RSO 1990a).

AMICK Consultants Limited was engaged by the proponent to undertake a Stage 2 Archaeological Property Assessment of lands potentially affected by the proposed undertaking and was granted permission to carry out archaeological fieldwork. The entirety of the study area was subject to a Stage 2 Property Assessment that included high intensity pedestrian survey at an interval of 5 metres between individual transects on 5 April and 4 May 2021. All records, documentation, field notes, photographs and artifacts (as applicable) related to the conduct and findings of these investigations are held at the Southwestern District corporate offices of AMICK Consultants Limited until such time that they can be transferred to an agency or institution approved by the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (MHSTCI) on behalf of the government and citizens of Ontario.

A concept site plan of subdivision has been submitted together with this report to MHSTCI for review and reproduced within this report as Map 3.

5.2 HISTORICAL CONTEXT

5.2.1 PRE-CONTACT LAND-USE OUTLINE

What follows is an outline of Aboriginal occupation in the area during the Pre-Contact Era from the earliest known period, about 9000 B.C. up to approximately 1650 AD.

5.2.1.1 PALEO-INDIAN PERIOD (APPROXIMATELY 9000-7500 B.C.)

North of Lake Ontario, evidence suggests that early occupation began around 9000 B.C. People probably began to move into this area as the glaciers retreated and glacial lake levels began to recede. The early occupation of the area probably occurred in conjunction with environmental conditions that would be comparable to modern Sub-Arctic conditions. Due to the great antiquity of these sites, and the relatively small populations likely involved, evidence of these early inhabitants is sparse and generally limited to tools produced from stone or to by-products of the manufacture of these implements.

5.2.1.2 ARCHAIC PERIOD (APPROXIMATELY 8000-1000 B.C.)

By about 8000 B.C. the gradual transition from a post glacial tundra-like environment to an essentially modern environment was largely complete. Prior to European clearance of the landscape for timber and cultivation, the area was characterized by forest. The Archaic Period is the longest and the most apparently stable of the cultural periods identified through archaeology. The Archaic Period is divided into the Early, Middle and Late Sub-Periods, each represented by specific styles in projectile point manufacture. Many more sites of this period are found throughout Ontario, than of the Palaeo-Indian Period. This is probably a reflection of two factors: the longer period of time reflected in these sites, and a greater population density. The greater population was likely the result of a more diversified subsistence strategy carried out in an environment offering a greater variety of abundant resources (Smith 2002:58-59).

Current interpretations suggest that the Archaic Period populations followed a seasonal cycle of resource exploitation. Although similar in concept to the practices speculated for the big game hunters of the Palaeo-Indian Period, the Archaic populations utilized a much broader range of resources, particularly with respect to plants. It is suggested that in the spring and early summer, bands would gather at the mouths of rivers and at rapids to take advantage of fish spawning runs. Later in the summer and into the fall season, smaller groups would move to areas of wetlands to harvest nuts and wild rice. During the winter, they would break into yet smaller groups probably based on the nuclear family and perhaps some additional relatives to move into the interior for hunting. The result of such practices would be to create a distribution of sites across much of the landscape (Smith 2002: 59-60).

The material culture of this period is much more extensive than that of the Palaeo-Indians. Stylistic changes between Sub-Periods and cultural groups are apparent, although the overall quality in production of chipped lithic tools seems to decline. This period sees the introduction of ground stone technology in the form of celts (axes and adzes), manos and metates for grinding nuts and fibres, and decorative items like gorgets, pendants, birdstones, and bannerstones. Bone tools are also evident from this time period. Their presence may be a result of better preservation from these more recent sites rather than a lack of such items in earlier occupations. In addition, copper and exotic chert types appear during the period and are indicative of extensive trading (Smith 2002: 58-59).

5.2.1.3 WOODLAND PERIOD (APPROXIMATELY 1000 B.C.-1650 A.D.)

The primary difference in archaeological assemblages that differentiates the beginning of the Woodland Period from the Archaic Period is the introduction of ceramics to Ontario populations. This division is probably not a reflection of any substantive cultural changes, as the earliest sites of this period seem to be in all other respects a continuation of the Archaic mode of life with ceramics added as a novel technology. The seasonally based system of resource exploitation and associated population mobility persists for at least 1500 years into the Woodland Period (Smith 2002: 61-62).

The Early Woodland Sub-Period dates from about 1000-400 B.C. Many of the artifacts from this time are similar to the late Archaic and suggest a direct cultural continuity between these two temporal divisions. The introduction of pottery represents an entirely new technology that was probably acquired through contact with more southerly populations from which it likely originates (Smith 2002:62).

The Middle Woodland Sub-Period dates from about 400 B.C.-800 A.D. Within the region including the study area, a complex emerged at this time termed "Point Peninsula". Point Peninsula pottery reflects a greater sophistication in pottery manufacture compared with the earlier industry. The paste and temper of the new pottery is finer and new decorative techniques such as dentate and pseudo-scallop stamping appear. There is a noted Hopewellian influence in southern Ontario populations at this time. Hopewell influences from south of the Great Lakes include a widespread trade in exotic materials and the presence of distinct Hopewell style artifacts such as platform pipes, copper or silver panpipe covers and shark's teeth. The populations of the Middle Woodland participated in a trade network that extended well beyond the Great Lakes Region.

The Late Woodland Sub-Period dates from about 500-1650 A.D. The Late Woodland includes four separate phases: Princess Point, Early Ontario Iroquoian, Middle Ontario Iroquoian and Late Ontario Iroquoian.

The Princess Point phase dates to approximately 500-1000 A.D. Pottery of this phase is distinguished from earlier technology in that it is produced by the paddle method instead of coil and the decoration is characterized by the cord wrapped stick technique. Ceramic smoking pipes appear at this time in noticeable quantities. Princess Point sites cluster along major stream valleys and wetland areas. Maize cultivation is introduced by these people to Ontario. These people were not fully committed to horticulture and seemed to be experimenting with maize production. They generally adhere to the seasonal pattern of occupation practiced by earlier occupations, perhaps staying at certain locales repeatedly and for a larger portion of each year (Smith 2002: 65-66).

The Early Ontario Iroquoian stage dates to approximately 950-1050 A.D. This stage marks the beginning of a cultural development that led to the historically documented Ontario Iroquoian groups that were first contacted by Europeans during the early 1600s (Petun, Neutral, and Huron). At this stage formal semi-sedentary villages emerge. The Early stage of this cultural development is divided into two cultural groups in southern Ontario. The areas occupied by each being roughly divided by the Niagara Escarpment. To the west were

located the Glen Meyer populations, and to the east were situated the Pickering people (Smith 2002: 67).

The Middle Ontario Iroquoian stage dates to approximately 1300-1400 A.D. This stage is divided into two sub-stages. The first is the Uren sub-stage lasting from approximately 1300-1350 A.D. The second of the two sub-stages is known as the Middleport sub-stage lasting from roughly 1350-1400 A.D. Villages tend to be larger throughout this stage than formerly (Smith 2002: 67).

The Late Ontario Iroquoian stage dates to approximately 1400-1650 A.D. During this time the cultural divisions identified by early European explorers are under development and the geographic distribution of these groups within southern Ontario begins to be defined.

5.2.2 GENERAL HISTORICAL OUTLINE

The Huron, Petun and various Algonkian First Nations resided in this area for an extended period of time prior to any European visitors to the area. The County of Grey was first established in 1852. Before the county was organized, the British referred to the entire area as “The Queen’s Bush”. Until 1852 this area was known for its dangerous travelling conditions for Euro-Canadians. The first townships within Grey County were originally called “Alta” and “Zero” which was quickly renamed Collingwood and St. Vincent respectively. During the colonization of the County, a quickly established network of trails and roads, in an addition to several natural harbours, provided easy access for settlers. However, due to the great distances involved and dangerous traveling conditions, the early settlers of this area relied heavily on First Nations to advise on settlement area selection, crop planting, medicine and survival. From the start of colonization it was easy to use the numerous natural resources easily available in the area as a means to generate income. Typically fish, furs, minerals, and forestation were the initial main industries. By 1865 Grey County consisted of 16 Townships, 4 towns and 44 villages or post offices (Grey County 2010).

The Township of St. Vincent was originally called “Zero” (Marsh 1931: 53). St. Vincent was the first township to be settled in Grey County. By 1865, the township had a brick chapel, mills and schoolhouses, as well as five post offices (Marsh 1931: 53).

Map 2 is a facsimile segment from the Belden & Co. Grey supplement in Illustrated historical atlas of the Dominion of Canada (Belden & Co. 1880). Map 2 illustrates the location of the study area and environs as of 1880. The study area is not shown to belong to anyone and no structures are shown to be within the study area.

It must be borne in mind that inclusion of names of property owners and depictions of structures and other features within properties on these maps were sold by subscription. Property owners paid to include information or details about their properties. While information included within these maps may provide information about the occupation of a

property at a specific moment in time when the information was collected, the absence of such information does not necessarily indicate that the property was not occupied.

5.2.3 CURRENT CONDITIONS

The study area is comprised of ploughable agricultural land as the previous apple orchard has since been removed. A small portion of the study area is bounded by Union Street to the east and Centre Street to the west. North of the study area is Russet Drive and south is Side Road 13. A plan of the study area is included within this report as Map 3. Current conditions encountered during the Stage 2 Property Assessment are illustrated on Map 4 & 5.

5.2.4 SUMMARY OF HISTORICAL CONTEXT

The brief overview of readily available documentary evidence indicates that the study area is situated in the outskirts of the town centre of Meaford. The property is also located in proximity to historic transportation routes and therefore, has potential for sites relating to early Post-Contact settlement in the region. Background research indicates the property has potential for significant archaeological resources of Native origins based on proximity to Bighead River and the unnamed creek, natural sources of potable and navigable water in the past. Both water sources are approximately 330 metres from the study area's boundaries.

5.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

The Archaeological Sites Database administered by the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI) indicates that there are no previously documented sites within 1 kilometre of the study area. However, it must be noted that this is based on the assumption of the accuracy of information compiled from numerous researchers using different methodologies over many years. AMICK Consultants Limited assumes no responsibility for the accuracy of site descriptions, interpretations such as cultural affiliation, or location information derived from the Archaeological Sites Database administered by MHSTCI. In addition, it must also be noted that a lack of formerly documented sites does not indicate that there are no sites present as the documentation of any archaeological site is contingent upon prior research having been conducted within the study area.

On the basis of information supplied by MHSTCI, no archaeological assessments have been conducted within 50 metres of the study area. AMICK Consultants Limited assumes no responsibility for the accuracy of previous assessments, interpretations such as cultural affiliation, or location information derived from the Archaeological Sites Database administered by MHSTCI. In addition, it must also be noted that the lack of formerly documented previous assessments does not indicate that no assessments have been conducted.

Background research shows that one (1) previous study has taken place within 50m of the study area. For further information see:

AMICK Consultants Limited (2020). Stage 1 Archaeological Background Study of Part of Lot 14, Concession 5 (Geographic Township of St. Vincent), Municipality of Meaford, County of Grey. London, Ontario. Archaeological License Report on File With the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries, Toronto, Ontario.

Data contained in previous archaeological reports in close proximity to the study area that is relevant to Stage 1 Background Study is defined within the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists in Section 7.5.8 Standard 4 as follows:

“Provide descriptions of previous archaeological fieldwork carried out within the limits of, or immediately adjacent to the project area, as documented by all available reports that include archaeological fieldwork carried out on the lands to be impacted by this project, or where reports document archaeological sites immediately adjacent (i.e., within 50 m) to those lands.”

(MTC 2011: 126 Emphasis Added)

In accordance with data supplied by MHSTCI for the purposes of completing this study, there are no previous reports detailing, “archaeological fieldwork carried out on the lands to be impacted by this project”, nor do any previous reports document known archaeological sites within 50 metres of the study area.

The Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists stipulates that the necessity to summarize the results of previous archaeological assessment reports, or to cite MHSTCI File Numbers in references to other archaeological reports, is reserved for reports that are directly relevant to the fieldwork and recommendations for the study area (S & Gs 7.5.7, Standard 2, MTC 2011: 125). This is further refined and elaborated upon in Section 7.5.8, Standards 4 & 5, MTC 2011:

“4. Provide descriptions of previous archaeological fieldwork carried out within the limits of, or immediately adjacent to the project area, as documented by all available reports that include archaeological fieldwork carried out on the lands to be impacted by this project, or where reports document archaeological sites immediately adjacent (i.e., within 50m) to those lands.”

“5. If previous findings and recommendations are relevant to the current stage of work, provide the following:

- a. *a brief summary of previous findings and recommendations*
- b. *documentation of any differences in the current work from the previously recommended work*
- c. *rationale for the differences from the previously recommended work”*

(Emphasis Added)

The study area is situated in area for which there is no archaeological master plan.

It must be further noted that there are no relevant plaques associated with the study area which would suggest an activity or occupation within the study area that may indicate potential for associated archaeological resources of significant CHVI. There is a “Founding of Meaford” plaque located on Sykes Street North, near Collingwood Street West. It reads:

In 1837 inhabitants of St. Vincent Township petitioned the government requesting that land at the mouth of the Bighead River be reserved as a landing place. The land was set aside, a town plot of "Meaford" laid out in 1845, and lots subsequently offered for sale. As early as 1841 a sawmill and a grist-mill had been built on adjoining land, several roads constructed to the landing and a post office called "St. Vincent" established. In 1865 this post office was re-named "Meaford", which by that time had become a flourishing community, connected by steamer and road with the railhead at Collingwood. Meaford was incorporated as a town in 1874. (Read the Plaque)

In addition, archaeological sites data is also used to determine if any archaeological resources had been formerly documented within or in close proximity to the study area and if these same resources might be subject to impacts from the proposed undertaking. This data was also collected in order to establish the relative significance of any resources that might be encountered during the conduct of the present study. For example, the relative rarity of a site can be used to assign an elevated level of significance to a site that is atypical for the immediate vicinity. The requisite archaeological sites data of previously registered archaeological sites was collected from the MHSTCI and the corporate research library of AMICK Consultants Limited. The Stage 1 Background Research methodology also includes a review of the most detailed available topographic maps, historical settlement maps, archaeological management plans (where applicable) and commemorative plaques or monuments. When previous archaeological research documents lands to be impacted by the proposed undertaking or archaeological sites within 50 metres of the study area, the reports documenting this earlier work are reviewed for pertinent information. AMICK Consultants Limited will often modify this basic methodology based on professional judgment to include additional research (such as, local historical works or documents and knowledgeable informants).

5.3.1 PRE-CONTACT REGISTERED SITES

A summary of registered and/or known archaeological sites within a 1-kilometre radius of the study area was gathered from the Archaeological Sites Database, administered by MHSTCI. As a result, it was determined that no (0) archaeological sites relating directly to Pre-Contact habitation/activity had been formally registered within the immediate vicinity of the study area. However, the lack of formally documented archaeological sites does not mean that Pre-Contact people did not use the area; it more likely reflects a lack of systematic archaeological research in the immediate vicinity. Even in cases where one or more assessments may have been conducted in close proximity to a proposed landscape alteration,

an extensive area of physical archaeological assessment coverage is required throughout the region to produce a representative sample of all potentially available archaeological data in order to provide any meaningful evidence to construct a pattern of land use and settlement in the past.

No archaeological sites are situated within 300 metres of the study area. Therefore, there is no impact on determinations of archaeological potential for further archaeological resources related to Pre-Contact activity and occupation with respect to the archaeological assessment of the proposed undertaking.

The study area is in proximity to Bighead River and an unnamed creek. Both may have been used as a source of potable water in the past. The distance to water criteria used to establish potential for archaeological sites suggests potential for Pre-Contact occupation and land use in the area in the past.

Table 1 illustrates the chronological development of cultures within southern Ontario prior to the arrival of European cultures to the area at the beginning of the 17th century. This general cultural outline is based on archaeological data and represents a synthesis and summary of research over a long period of time. It is necessarily generalizing and is not necessarily representative of the point of view of all researchers or stakeholders. It is offered here as a rough guideline and as a very broad outline to illustrate the relationships of broad cultural groups and time periods.

TABLE 1 PRE-CONTACT CULTURAL CHRONOLOGY FOR SOUTHERN ONTARIO

Years ago	Period	Southern Ontario
250	Terminal Woodland	Ontario and St. Lawrence Iroquois Cultures
1000 2000	Initial Woodland	Princess Point, Saugeen, Point Peninsula, and Meadowood Cultures
3000 4000 5000 6000	Archaic	Laurentian Culture
7000 8000 9000 10000 11000	Palaeo-Indian	Plano and Clovis Cultures
		(Wright 1972)

5.3.2 POST-CONTACT REGISTERED SITES

A summary of registered and/or known archaeological sites within a 1-kilometre radius of the study area was gathered from the Archaeological Sites Database, administered by MHSTCI. As a result, it was determined that no (0) archaeological sites relating directly to

Post-contact habitation/activity had been formally registered within the immediate vicinity of the study area.

No archaeological sites are situated within 300 metres of the study area. Therefore, there is no impact on determinations of archaeological potential for further archaeological resources related to Post-Contact activity and occupation with respect to the archaeological assessment of the proposed undertaking.

5.3.3 PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS

AMICK Consultants Limited in 2020 completed a Stage 1 Archaeological Background Study on the same lands as the current study area. Below is the executive summary of the study area and the resulting recommendations:

This report describes the results of the 2020 Stage 1 Archaeological Background Study of Centre Street Meaford, Residential Development, Roll #42104920022010, Part of Lot 14, Concession 5 (Geographic Township of St. Vincent), Municipality of Meaford, County of Grey, conducted by AMICK Consultants Limited. This study was conducted under Professional Archaeologist License #P058 issued to Michael Henry by the Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries for the Province of Ontario. This assessment was undertaken as a requirement under the Planning Act (RSO 1990) and the Provincial Policy Statement (2014) in order to support a Draft Plan of Subdivision and companion Zoning By-law Amendment application as part of the pre-submission process. Within the land use planning and development context, Ontario Regulation 544/06 under the Planning Act (1990b) requires an evaluation of archaeological potential and, where applicable, an archaeological assessment report completed by an archaeologist licensed by the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI). Policy 2.6 of the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS 2014) addresses archaeological resources. All work was conducted in conformity with Ontario Ministry of Tourism and Culture (MTC) Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (MTC 2011), the Ontario Heritage Act (RSO 1990a).

AMICK Consultants Limited was engaged by the proponent to undertake a Stage 1 Archaeological Background Study of lands potentially affected by the proposed undertaking and was granted permission to carry out archaeological fieldwork. The entirety of the study area was subject to property inspection and photographic documentation on 16 November 2020. All records, documentation, field notes, photographs and artifacts (as applicable) related to the conduct and findings of these investigations are held at the Lakelands District corporate offices of AMICK Consultants Limited until such time that they can be transferred to an agency or institution approved by the Ontario Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI) on behalf of the government and citizens of Ontario.

STAGE 1 RECOMMENDATIONS:

The study area has been identified as a property that exhibits potential to yield archaeological deposits of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest (CHVI). The objectives of the Stage 1 Background Study have therefore been met and in accordance with the results of this investigation, the following recommendations are made:

- 1. Further archaeological assessment of the study area is warranted;*
- 2. The Provincial interest in archaeological resources with respect to the proposed undertaking remains to be addressed;*
- 3. The proposed undertaking has a potential for archaeological resources and a Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment is recommended;*
- 4. A test pit survey at 5 metre intervals between individual test pits is recommended in all areas. If disturbance occurs than a test pit survey at 10 metre intervals is recommended;*
- 5. No soil disturbances or removal of vegetation shall take place within the study area prior to the acceptance of a report recommending that all archaeological concerns for the study area have been addressed and that no further archaeological studies are warranted into the Provincial Registry of Archaeological reports maintained by MHSTCI.*

[Amick Consultants Ltd. 2020: 2-3]

5.3.4 LOCATION AND CURRENT CONDITIONS

The study area is described as Part of Lot 14, Concession 5, (Geographic Township of St. Vincent), Municipality of Meaford, County of Grey. The study area was subject to this assessment as a requirement under the Planning Act (RSO 1990) and the Provincial Policy Statement (2020) in order to support a Draft Plan of Subdivision and companion Zoning By-law Amendment application as part of the pre-submission process.

The study area is comprised of ploughable agricultural land as the previous apple orchard has since been removed. A small portion of the study area is bounded by Union Street to the east and Centre Street to the west. North of the study area is Russet Drive and south is Side Road 13. A plan of the study area is included within this report as Map 3. Current conditions encountered during the Stage 1 Property Inspection are illustrated on Map 4 & 5.

5.3.5 PHYSIOGRAPHIC REGION

The study area is situated within the Bighead Valley physiographic region. Measuring approximately 12.8 kilometres in width by 16-19.3 kilometres in depth, the region was largely eroded in preglacial times. Approximately 4.02 kilometres inland from the present shoreline of Georgian Bay is the abandoned shoreline of Lake Algonquin, which is marked by a large beach barrier. (Chapman and Putnam 1984: 124).

The town of Meaford is a “boulder terrace backed by a 25-foot bluff marking the highest water of the Nipissing Great Lakes”. (Chapman and Putnam 1984: 125) The drumlins in the town are greyish brown calcareous till that is mixed with red shale and have well drained stony and clay loam. The loamy terraces near Meaford are well-suited to grow apple trees and the area has approximately 2000 acres of apple farms. (Chapman and Putnam 1984: 126).

5.3.6 SURFACE WATER

Sources of potable water, access to waterborne transportation routes, and resources associated with watersheds are each considered, both individually and collectively to be the highest criteria for determination of the potential of any location to support extended human activity, land use, or occupation. Accordingly, proximity to water is regarded as the primary indicator of archaeological resource potential. The Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists stipulates that undisturbed lands within 300 metres of a water source are considered to have archaeological potential (MTC 2011: 21).

There are no creeks or watercourses situated within the study area. Bighead River is located approximately 330 metres west of the study area and an unnamed creek is approximately 330 metres east of the study area. While the watercourses are located slightly outside of the 300-metre buffer, the study area is still considered to have archaeological potential.

5.3.7 CURRENT PROPERTY CONDITIONS CONTEXT

Current characteristics encountered within an archaeological research study area determine if property Assessment of specific portions of the study area will be necessary and in what manner a Stage 2 Property Assessment should be conducted, if necessary. Conventional assessment methodologies include pedestrian survey on ploughable lands and test pit methodology within areas that cannot be ploughed. For the purpose of determining where property Assessment is necessary and feasible, general categories of current landscape conditions have been established as archaeological conventions. These include:

5.3.7.1 BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURAL FOOTPRINTS

A building, for the purposes of this particular study, is a structure that exists currently or has existed in the past in a given location. The footprint of a building is the area of the building formed by the perimeter of the foundation. Although the interior area of building foundations would often be subject to property Assessment when the foundation may represent a potentially significant historic archaeological site, the footprints of existing structures are not typically assessed. Existing structures commonly encountered during archaeological assessments are often residential-associated buildings (houses, garages, sheds), and/or component buildings of farm complexes (barns, silos, greenhouses). In many cases, even though the disturbance to the land may be relatively shallow and archaeological resources may be situated below the disturbed layer (e.g. a concrete garage pad), there is no practical means of assessing the area beneath the disturbed layer. However, if there were

evidence to suggest that there are likely archaeological resources situated beneath the disturbance, alternative methodologies may be recommended to study such areas.

The study area does not contain any buildings or structural footprints.

5.3.7.2 DISTURBANCE

Areas that have been subjected to extensive and deep land alteration that has severely damaged the integrity of archaeological resources are known as land disturbances. Examples of land disturbances are areas of past quarrying, major landscaping, and sewage and infrastructure development (MTC 2011: 18), as well as driveways made of gravel or asphalt or concrete, in-ground pools, and wells or cisterns. Surfaces paved with interlocking brick, concrete, asphalt, gravel and other surfaces meant to support heavy loads or to be long wearing hard surfaces in high traffic areas, must be prepared by the excavation and removal of topsoil, grading, and the addition of aggregate material to ensure appropriate engineering values for the supporting matrix and also to ensure that the installations shed water to avoid flooding or moisture damage. All hard surfaced areas are prepared in this fashion and therefore have no or low archaeological potential. Major utility lines are conduits that provide services such as water, natural gas, hydro, communications, sewage, and others. These major installations should not be confused with minor below ground service installations not considered to represent significant disturbances removing archaeological potential, such as services leading to individual structures which tend to be comparatively very shallow and vary narrow corridors. Areas containing substantial and deeply buried services or clusters of below ground utilities are considered areas of disturbance, and may be excluded from Stage 2 Property Assessment. Disturbed areas are excluded from Stage 2 Property Assessment due to no or low archaeological potential and often because they are also not viable to assess using conventional methodology.

*“Earthwork is one of the major works involved in road construction. This process includes excavation, material removal, filling, compaction, and construction. Moisture content is controlled, and compaction is done according to standard design procedures. Normally, rock explosion at the road bed is not encouraged. While filling a depression to reach the road level, **the original bed is flattened after the removal of the topsoil.** The fill layer is distributed and compacted to the designed specifications. This procedure is repeated until the compaction desired is reached. **The fill material should not contain organic elements,** and possess a low index of plasticity. Fill material can include gravel and decomposed rocks of a particular size, but should not consist of huge clay lumps. Sand clay can be used. The area is considered to be adequately compacted when the roller movement does not create a noticeable deformation. **The road surface finish is reliant on the economic aspects, and the estimated usage.**” [Emphasis Added]*

(Goel 2013)

The supporting matrix of a hard paved surface cannot contain organic material, which is subject to significant compression, decay and moisture retention. Topsoil has no engineering

value and must be removed in any construction application where the surface finish at grade requires underlying support.

Installation of sewer lines and other below ground services associated with infrastructure development often involves deep excavation that can remove archaeological potential. This consideration does not apply to relatively minor below ground services that connect structures and facilities to services that support their operation and use. Major servicing corridors will be situated within adjacent road allowances with only minor, narrow and relatively shallow underground services entering into the study area to connect existing structures to servicing mainlines. The relatively minor, narrow and shallow services buried within a residential property do not require such extensive ground disturbance to remove or minimize archaeological potential within affected areas.

The study area does not contain previous disturbances.

5.3.7.3 LOW-LYING AND WET AREAS

Landscape features that are covered by permanently wet areas, such as marshes, swamps, or bodies of water like streams or lakes, are known as low-lying and wet areas. Low-lying and wet areas are excluded from Stage 2 Property Assessment due to inaccessibility.

The study area does not contain low-lying and wet areas.

5.3.7.4 STEEP SLOPE

Landscape which slopes at a greater than ($>$) 20 degree change in elevation, is known as steep slope. Areas of steep slope are considered uninhabitable, and are excluded from Stage 2 Property Assessment.

Generally, steep slopes are not assessed because steep slopes are interpreted to have low potential, not due to viability to assess, except in cases where the slope is severe enough to become a safety concern for archaeological field crews. In such cases, the Occupational Health and Safety Act takes precedence as indicated in the introduction to the Standards and Guidelines. AMICK Consultant Limited policy is to assess all slope areas whenever it is safe to do so. Assessment of slopes, except where safety concerns arise, eliminates the invariably subjective interpretation of what might constitute a steep slope in the field. This is done to minimize delays due to conflicts in such interpretations and to increase the efficiency of review.

The study area does not contain areas of steep slope.

5.3.7.5 WOODED AREAS

Areas of the property that cannot be ploughed, such as natural forest or woodlot, are known as wooded areas. These wooded areas qualify for Stage 2 Property Assessment, and are required to be assessed using test pit survey methodology.

The study area does not contain any wooded areas as the previous orchard has since been removed and the land has been recently ploughed.

5.3.7.6 PLOUGHABLE AGRICULTURAL LANDS

Areas of current or former agricultural lands that have been ploughed in the past are considered ploughable agricultural lands. Ploughing these lands regularly turns the soil, which in turn brings previously buried artifacts to the surface, which are then easily identified during visual inspection. Furthermore, by allowing the ploughed area to weather sufficiently through rainfall, soil is washed off of exposed artifacts at the surface and the visibility of artifacts at the surface of recently worked field areas is enhanced markedly. Pedestrian survey of ploughed agricultural lands is the preferred method of physical assessment because of the greater potential for finding evidence of archaeological resources if present.

The study area consists entirely of ploughable agricultural land.

5.3.7.7 LAWN, PASTURE, MEADOW

Landscape features consisting of former agricultural land covered in low growth, such as lawns, pastures, meadows, shrubbery, and immature trees. These are areas that may be considered too small to warrant ploughing, (i.e. less than one hectare in area), such as yard areas surrounding existing structures, and land-locked open areas that are technically workable by a plough but inaccessible to agricultural machinery. These areas may also include open area within urban contexts that do not allow agricultural tillage within municipal or city limits or the use of urban roadways by agricultural machinery. These areas are required to be assessed using test pit survey methodology.

The study area does not contain any areas of lawn, pasture or meadow.

5.3.8 SUMMARY

Background research indicates the vicinity of the study area has potential for archaeological resources of Native origins based on proximity to a primary water source (Bighead River and the unnamed creek). Background research also suggests potential for archaeological resources of Post-Contact origins based on the location of the study area within the historic town limits of Meaford.

Current conditions within the study area indicate that the entire property exhibits archaeological potential and therefore requires a Stage 2 Property Assessment by pedestrian survey.

Archaeological potential does not indicate that there are necessarily sites present, but that environmental and historical factors suggest that there may be as yet undocumented archaeological sites within lands that have not been subject to systematic archaeological research in the past.

6.0 FIELD WORK METHODS AND WEATHER CONDITIONS

This report confirms that the study area was subject to a Stage 2 Property Assessment by pedestrian survey at five metre transects on 5 April and 4 May 2021. The apple orchard that was previously within the study area has since been removed and the land recently ploughed.

The fieldwork undertaken as a component of this study was conducted according to the archaeological fieldwork standards and guidelines (including weather and lighting conditions). Weather conditions were appropriate for the necessary fieldwork required to complete the Stage 2 Property Assessment and to create the documentation appropriate to this study. The locations from which photographs were taken and the directions toward which the camera was aimed for each photograph are illustrated in Maps 4 & 5 of this report.

It must be noted that AMICK Consultants Limited has been retained to assess lands as specified by the proponent. As such, AMICK Consultants Limited is constrained by the terms of the contract in place at the time of the Archaeological Assessment and can only enter into lands for which AMICK Consultants Limited has received consent from the owner or their agent(s). The proponent has been advised that the entire area within the planning application must be subject to archaeological assessment and that portions of the planning application may only be excluded if they are of low potential, are not viable to assess, or are subject to planning provisions that would restrict any such areas from any form of ground altering activities.

6.1 PEDESTRIAN SURVEY

In accordance with the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists, pedestrian survey is required for all portions of the study area that are ploughable or can be subject to cultivation. This is the preferred method to utilize while conducting an assessment. This report confirms that the conduct of pedestrian survey within the study area conformed to the following standards:

1. *Actively or recently cultivated agricultural land must be subject to pedestrian survey.*
[All actively or recently cultivated agricultural land was subject to pedestrian survey.]
2. *Land to be surveyed must be recently ploughed. Use of chisel ploughs is not acceptable. In heavy clay soils ensure furrows are disked after ploughing to break them up further.*

[All land was recently ploughed.]

3. *Land to be surveyed must be weathered by one heavy rainfall or several light rains to improve visibility of archaeological resources.*

[All land was weathered by rainfall.]

4. *Provide direction to the contractor undertaking the ploughing to plough deep enough to provide total topsoil exposure, but not deeper than previous ploughing.*

[Direction was given to the contractor undertaking the ploughing to plough deep enough to provide total topsoil exposure, but not deeper than previous ploughing]

5. *At least 80 % of the ploughed ground surface must be visible. If surface visibility is below 80% (e.g. due to crop stubble, weeds, young crop growth), ensure the land is re-ploughed before surveying.*

[Roughly 99% of the ploughed field surface was exposed and visible.]

6. *Space survey transects at maximum intervals of 5m (20 survey transects per hectare)*

[All transects were conducted at an interval of 5m between individual transects.]

7. *When archaeological resources are found, decrease survey transects to 1m intervals over a minimum of a 20m radius around the find to determine whether it is an isolated find or part of a larger scatter. Continue working outward at this interval until full extent of the surface scatter has been defined.*

[Not Applicable – No archaeological resources were encountered.]

8. *Collect all formal artifact types and diagnostic categories. For 19th century archaeological sites, collect all refined ceramic sherds (or, for larger sites collect a sufficient sample to form the basis for dating).*

[Not Applicable – No archaeological resources were encountered.]

9. *Based on professional judgment, strike a balance between gathering enough artifacts to document the archaeological site and leaving enough in place to relocate the site if it is necessary to conduct further assessment.*

[Not Applicable – No archaeological resources were encountered.]

(MTC 2011: 30-31)

Approximately 100% of the study area was pedestrian surveyed at 5 metre intervals.

7.0 RECORD OF FINDS

Section 7.8.2 of the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (MTC 2011: 137-138) outlines the requirements of the Record of Finds component of a Stage 2 report:

1. *For all archaeological resources and sites that are identified in Stage 2, provide the following:*
 - a. *a general description of the types of artifacts and features that were identified*
 - b. *a general description of the area within which artifacts and features were identified, including the spatial extent of the area and any relative variations in density*
 - c. *a catalogue and description of all artifacts retained*
 - d. *a description of the artifacts and features left in the field (nature of material, frequency, other notable traits).*
2. *Provide an inventory of the documentary record generated in the field (e.g. photographs, maps, field notes).*
3. *Submit information detailing exact site locations on the property separately from the project report, as specified in section 7.6. Information on exact site locations includes the following:*
 - a. *table of GPS readings for locations of all archaeological sites*
 - b. *maps showing detailed site location information.*

7.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

No archaeological resources of any description were encountered anywhere within the study area.

7.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK DOCUMENTATION

The documentation produced during the field investigation conducted in support of this report includes: one sketch map, one page of photo log, one page of field notes, and 15 digital photographs.

8.0 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS

8.1 STAGE 2 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS

Section 7.8.3 of the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (MTC 2011: 138-139) outlines the requirements of the Analysis and Conclusions component of a Stage 2 Property Assessment.

1. *Summarize all finding from the Stage 2 survey, or state that no archaeological sites were identified.*
2. *For each archaeological site, provide the following analysis and conclusions:*
 - a. *A preliminary determination, to the degree possible, of the age and cultural affiliation of any archaeological sites identified.*
 - b. *A comparison against the criteria in 2 Stage 2: Property Assessment to determine whether further assessment is required*

- c. *A preliminary determination regarding whether any archaeological sites identified in Stage 2 show evidence of a high level cultural heritage value or interest and will thus require Stage 4 mitigation.*

No archaeological sites or resources were found during the Stage 2 survey of the study area.

9.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 STAGE 2 RECOMMENDATIONS

Under Section 7.8.4 of the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (MTC 2011: 139) the recommendations to be made as a result of a Stage 2 Property Assessment are described.

- 1) *For each archaeological site, provide a statement of the following:
 - a. Borden number or other identifying number
 - b. Whether or not it is of further cultural heritage value or interest
 - c. Where it is of further cultural heritage value or interest, appropriate Stage 3 assessment strategies*
- 2) *Make recommendations only regarding archaeological matters. Recommendations regarding built heritage or cultural heritage landscapes should not be included.*
- 3) *If the Stage 2 survey did not identify any archaeological sites requiring further assessment or mitigation of impacts, recommend that no further archaeological assessment of the property be required.*

As a result of the Stage 2 Property Assessment of the study area, no archaeological resources were encountered. Consequently, the following recommendations are made:

1. *No further archaeological assessment of the study area is warranted;*
2. *The Provincial interest in archaeological resources with respect to the proposed undertaking has been addressed;*
3. *The proposed undertaking is clear of any archaeological concern.*

10.0 ADVICE ON COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION

While not part of the archaeological record, this report must include the following standard advisory statements for the benefit of the proponent and the approval authority in the land use planning and development process:

- a. This report is submitted to the Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries 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 issued by the Minister, and that the archaeological fieldwork and report recommendations ensure the conservation, protection and preservation of the cultural heritage of Ontario. When all matters relating to archaeological sites within the project area of a development proposal have been addressed to the satisfaction of the Ministry of Tourism and Culture, 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.*
- b. It is an offence under Sections 48 and 69 of the Ontario Heritage Act for any party other than a licensed archaeologist to make any alteration to a known archaeological site or to remove any artifact or other physical evidence of past human use or activity from the site, until such time as a licensed archaeologist has completed archaeological fieldwork on the site, submitted a report to the Minister stating that the site has no further cultural heritage value or interest, and the report has been filed in the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports referred to in Section 65.1 of the Ontario Heritage Act.*
- c. 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 archaeologist to carry out archaeological fieldwork, in compliance with sec. 48 (1) of the Ontario Heritage Act.*
- d. 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.*
- e. 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.*

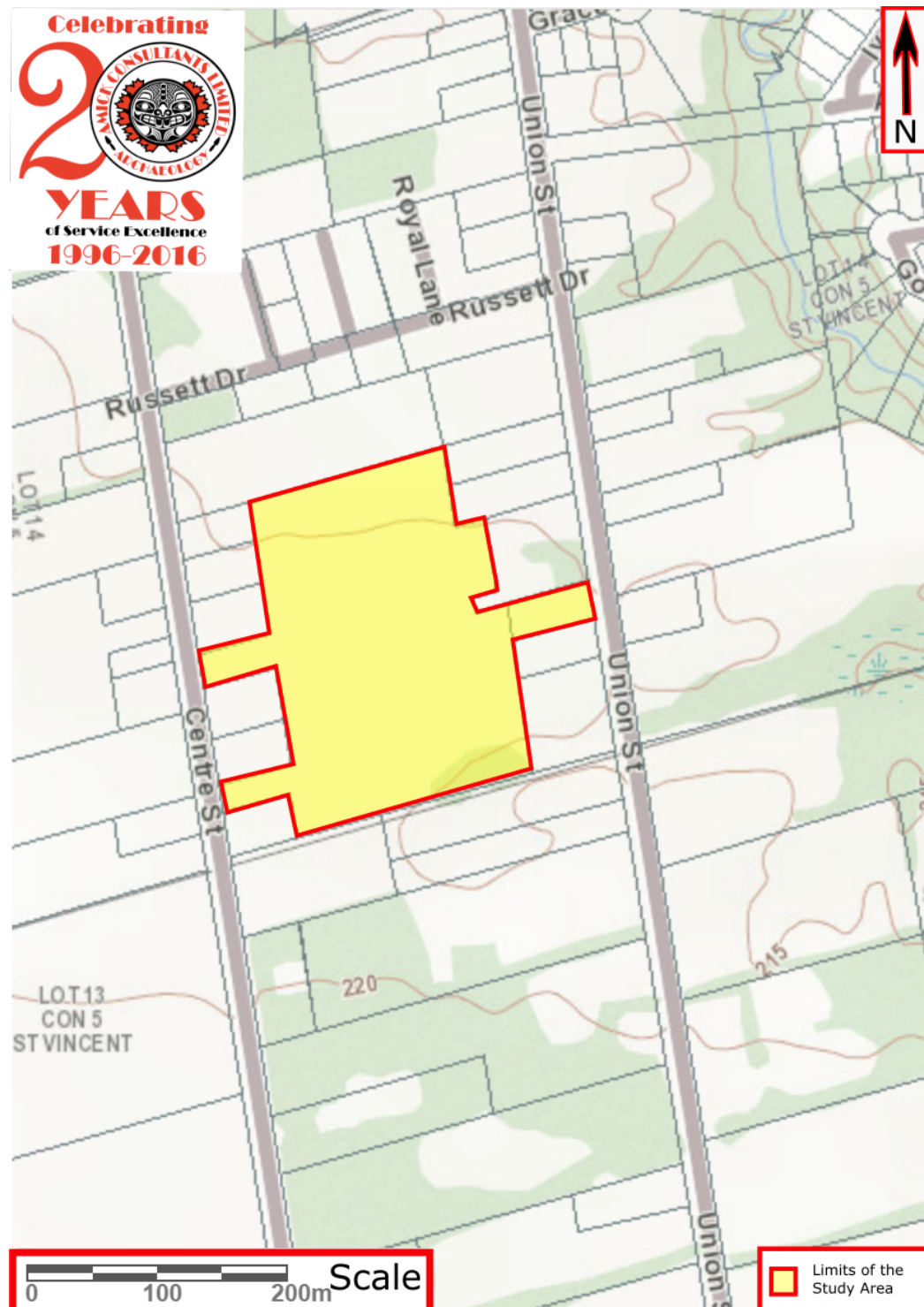
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**ORIGINAL 21 May 2021 Stage 2 Archaeological Property Assessment of Part of Lot 14, Concession 5
(Geographic Township of St. Vincent), Municipality of Meaford, County of Grey
(AMICK File #2021-264/MHSTCI File #P038-1027-2021)**

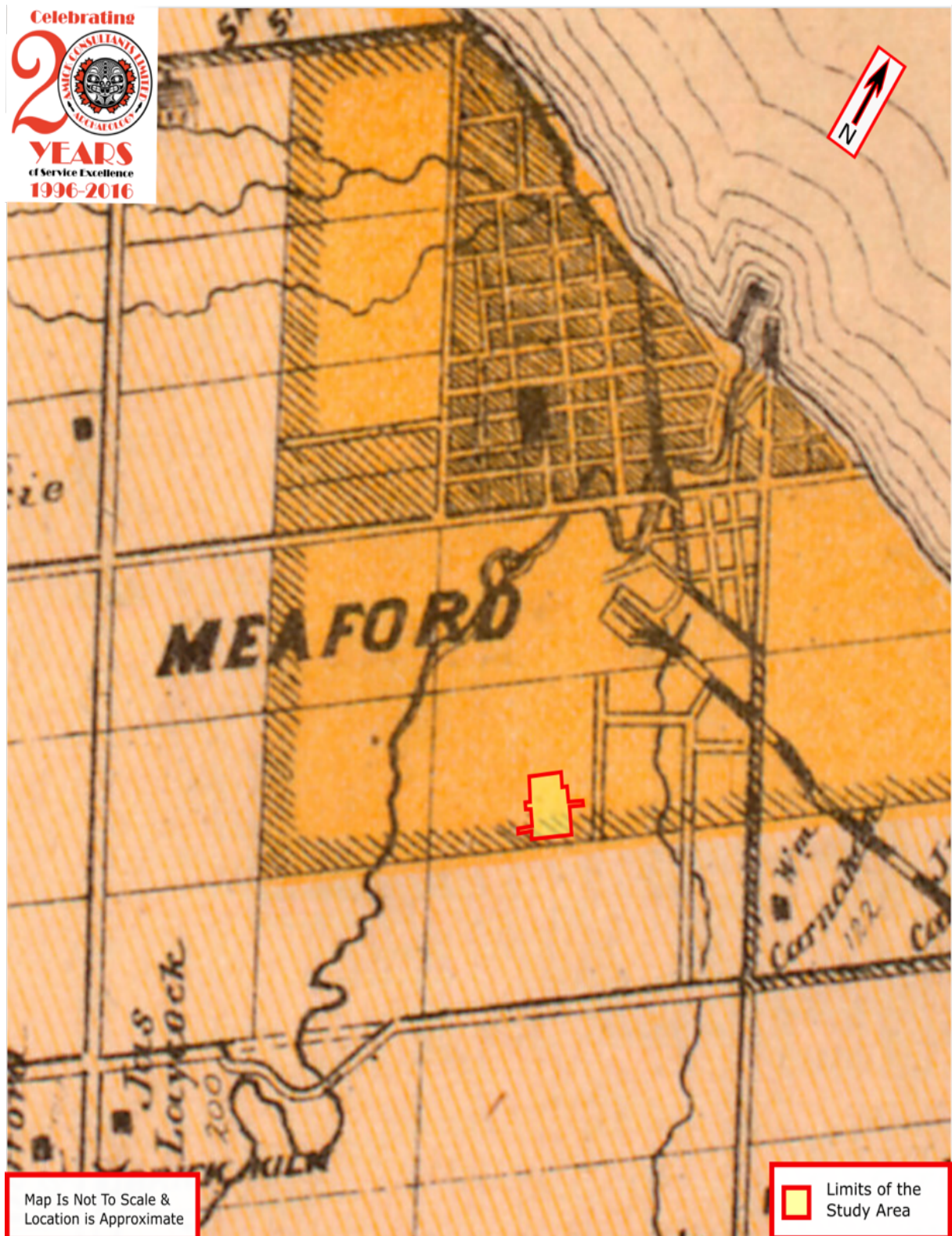
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11.0 MAPS



MAP 1 LOCATION OF THE STUDY AREA (ESRI 2020)

*ORIGINAL 21 may 2021 Stage 2 Archaeological Property Assessment of Part of Lot 14, Concession 5
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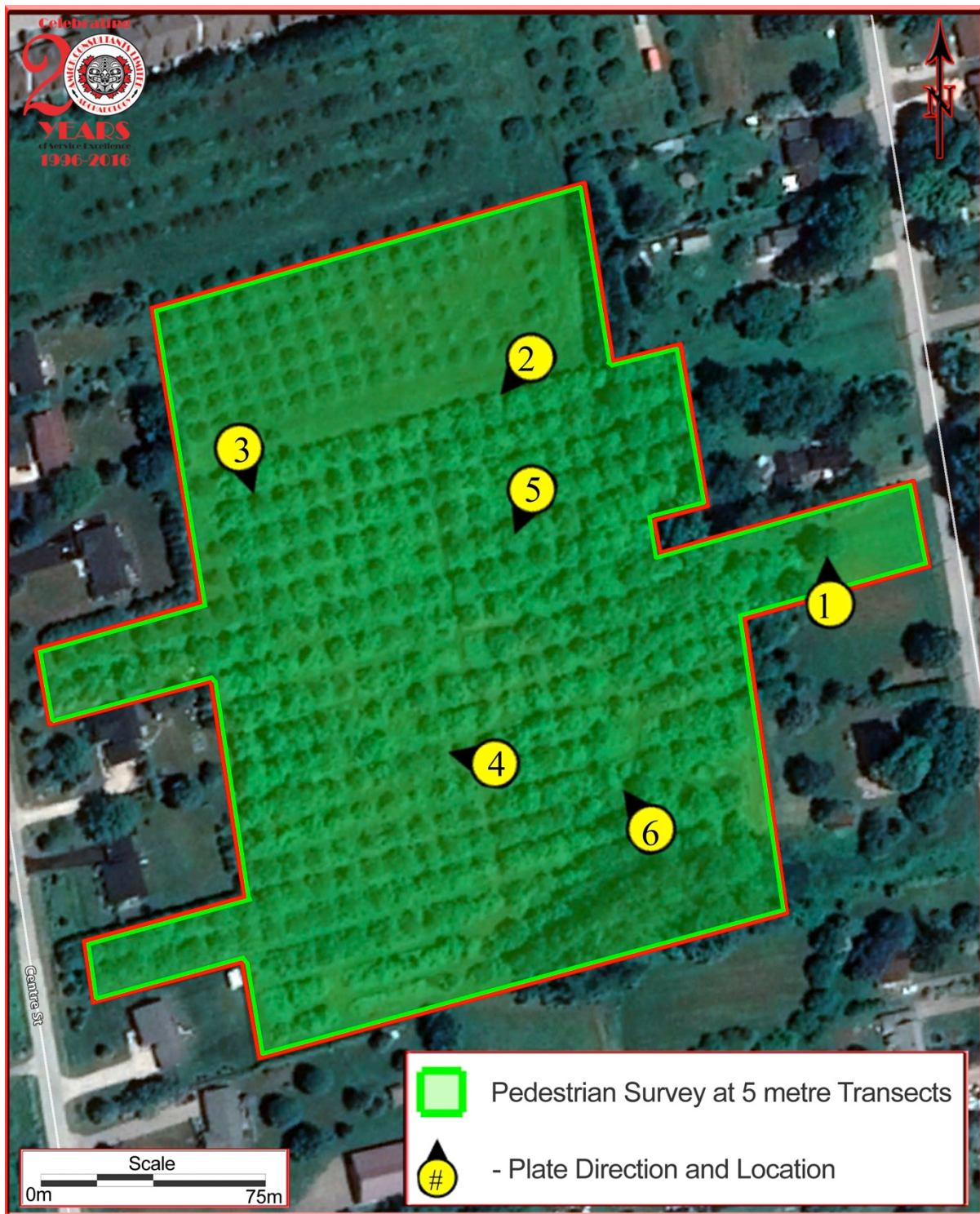
**MAP 2 FACSIMILE SEGMENT OF GREY SUPPLEMENT IN ILLUSTRATED ATLAS OF THE
DOMINION OF CANADA (H. BELDEN & CO. 1880)**

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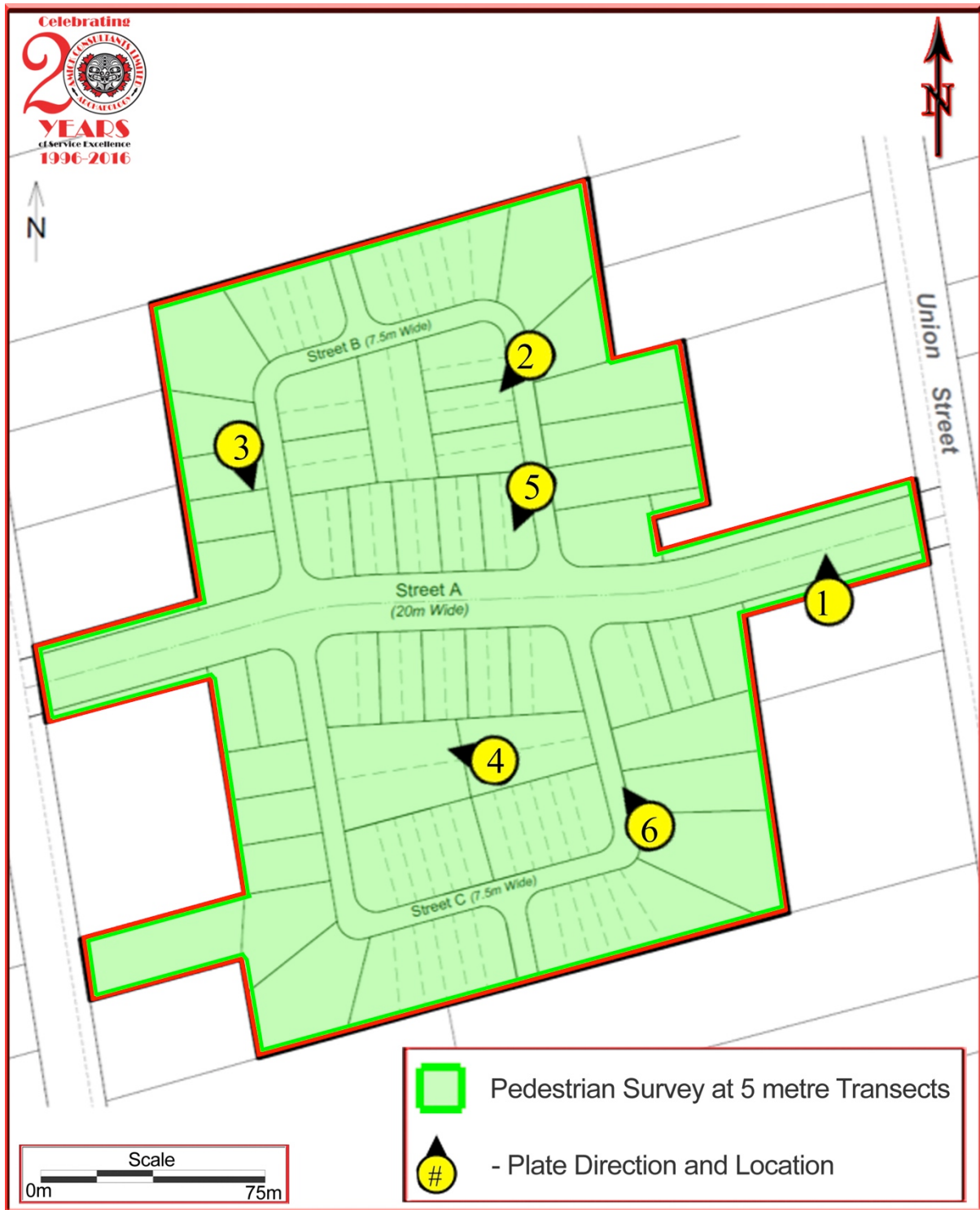


MAP 3 CONCEPT SITE PLAN OF SUBDIVISION (TRAVIS & ASSOCIATES 2020)

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MAP 4 AERIAL PHOTO OF THE STUDY AREA (GOOGLE EARTH 2021)



MAP 5 DETAILED PLAN OF THE STUDY AREA (TRAVIS & ASSOCIATES 2020)

12.0 IMAGES

	
IMAGE 1 SOIL CONDITIONS WITHIN STUDY AREA	IMAGE 2 PEDESTRIAN SURVEY CONDITIONS
	
IMAGE 3 PEDESTRIAN SURVEY CONDITIONS	IMAGE 4 PEDESTRIAN SURVEY CONDITIONS
	
IMAGE 5 PEDESTRIAN SURVEY CONDITIONS	