



Stage 1 & 2 Archaeological Assessment

23 Fire Route 41
Part of Lot 2, Concession 12
Geographic Township of Harvey
Municipality of Trent Lakes
Peterborough County

Prepared for:
Silverstone Design Inc.

Licensee: Michael Golloher (P1037)
PIF: P1037-0323-2024
Original Report



Earthworks
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES INC.

Earthworks Archaeological Services Inc.
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November 6, 2024

Executive Summary

Earthworks Archaeological Services Inc. was retained to conduct a Stage 1 & 2 archaeological assessment of a 0.17 hectare property located at 23 Fire Route 41, part of Lot 2, Concession 12, Geographic Township of Harvey, now in the Municipality of Trent Lakes, County of Peterborough. The assessment is undertaken in support of a Zoning By-Law Amendment, which was conducted as part of the requirements defined in Section 5.2.3.3 of the *County of Peterborough Official Plan*, which states that development and site alteration shall only be permitted on lands containing archaeological resources or areas of archaeological potential if the significant archaeological resources have been conserved by removal and documentation, or by preservation on site

The study area contains evidence of archaeological potential. The location of the study area adjacent to Buckhorn Lake suggests the potential for locating Pre-Contact Indigenous archaeological material. In summary, a Stage 2 archaeological assessment was determined to be required in order to identify and document any archaeological material that may be present. The residential nature of the study area precluded the possibility of ploughing for a pedestrian survey, and as a result, a test pitting survey was determined to be required.

The Stage 2 archaeological assessment of the study area was conducted on September 30th, 2024, under the PIF#: P1037-0323-2024 issued to Michael Golloher, M.Sc. (P1037). The weather during the survey was sunny and warm. At no time were weather or lighting conditions detrimental to the observation or recovery of archaeological material.

Approximately 73% of the study area was assessed through a test pit survey, with the remaining area not assessed due to evidence of subsurface disturbance from the construction of the cottage and associated gravel driveway and sheds. Test pits were spaced at maximum intervals of five metres apart, and to within one metre of standing structures. Each test pit was excavated by hand to 30 centimetres in diameter and were excavated into the first five centimetres of subsoil, or until bedrock was encountered. Test pit depth varied between 10 and 20 centimetres. Each test pit was examined for stratigraphy, cultural features, or evidence of fill and all soil was screened through wire mesh of six-millimetre aperture. All test pits were backfilled. The soil stratigraphy consisted of a medium to dark brown sand topsoil horizon overlaying a dull orange sand subsoil.

No archaeological material was identified during the course of the survey.

Based on the results of the Stage 2 survey, the surveyed area is considered to be free of archaeological material. Therefore, no additional archaeological assessments are recommended.

The Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism is requested to review this report and provide a letter indicating their satisfaction that the fieldwork and reporting for this archaeological assessment are consistent with the Ministry's 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* and the terms and conditions for archaeological licenses, and to enter this report into the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports.

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1.0 Project Context

1.1 Development Context

Earthworks Archaeological Services Inc. (Earthworks) was retained to conduct a Stage 1 & 2 archaeological assessment of a 0.17 hectare property located at 23 Fire Route 41, part of Lot 2, Concession 12, Geographic Township of Harvey, now in the Municipality of Trent Lakes, County of Peterborough (Map 1). The assessment is undertaken in support of a Zoning By-Law Amendment (Map 2), which was conducted as part of the requirements defined in Section 5.2.3.3 of the *County of Peterborough Official Plan*, which states that development and site alteration shall only be permitted on lands containing archaeological resources or areas of archaeological potential if the significant archaeological resources have been conserved by removal and documentation, or by preservation on site (County of Peterborough 2019).

The objective of the Stage 1 & 2 archaeological assessment, as outlined by the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism's (MCM) *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (Government of Ontario 2011) are as follows:

- To provide information about the property's geography, history, previous archaeological fieldwork and current land condition
- To evaluate the property's archaeological potential
- To document archaeological resources located on the property
- To determine whether any identified archaeological resources require further assessment
- To recommend Stage 3 assessment strategies for any archaeological sites determined to require additional assessment

As part of this assessment, background research was conducted in Earthworks corporate library, the OnLand Registry Database and the Federal Canadian Census located online at Library and Archives Canada.

Permission to access the property was provided by the proponent.

1.2 Historic Context

1.2.1 Pre-Contact Indigenous History

The evidence presented suggests that Algonquin-speaking groups occupied this area for millennia prior to the arrival of Iroquoian agriculturalists, and that they continued to reside in the area... it is suggested that the conundrum of their “invisibility” in the archaeological record is due to a shared material culture with their Iroquoian neighbours but that their presence can be detected when a range of archaeological evidence is considered beyond a stereotypical perception of Algonquian culture...

[Fox and Garrad 2004:121]

1.2.1.1 The Palaeo Period (11,000-10,000)

The first evidence of human settlement in the area dates back to 11,000 BC. Following the retreat of the glacial ice from the last Ice Age, small groups gradually moved north. The people who lived during the palaeo period were nomadic hunter-gatherers. Campsites were moved frequently to follow large game migration patterns and the size of the groups would vary based on the availability of food (Ellis and Deller 1990). The archaeological record indicates that a variety of stone tools were used during this period. Some of these tools include fluted projectile points, scrapers, burins, and gravers. Archaeological evidence of these sites is rare; however, there is a documented presence around 12.8 ka cal. BP along the Lake Iroquois strandline, only 40 kilometres south of Rice Lake (Jackson et al., 2000). A biface resembling Gainey typology was found along the north shore of Stony Lake with an assumed date of 12.0 ka cal. BP (Jamieson 2002). The rarity of Palaeo sites within the region is due to the warm Holocene period, which lowered water levels within the Great Lakes, including Rice Lake. Therefore, these sites are now inundated as the water-levels have risen, making sites difficult to find and excavate.

1.2.1.2 The Archaic Period (10,000-2950)

Environmental conditions played a large part in the transition from the Palaeo to the Archaic period. The weather approached more modern conditions and as glacial lakes dried more land was available (Ellis et al. 1990). The Archaic is split temporally into Early, Middle, and Late periods. This period is generally marked by the differences in artifacts between the tools used in the Archaic period and the period of time prior to the use and heavy reliance of ceramics in the Woodland period (Ellis et al. 1990). During the Archaic, population sizes increased, lifestyle changed from a hunter-gatherer society to a more sedentary life, rituals and ceremonies concerning death became prominent, and exchange and trade systems were established. Alongside cultural and lifestyle changes, the natural environment changed as well. The weather warmed and vegetation transitioned to mixed coniferous and deciduous forest (Ellis et al. 1990). This prompted populations to focus subsistence strategies on plant foods, fishing and small game hunting within a smaller area. Significant sites dating to the Archaic period have been found within the Peterborough and Kawartha Lakes region in the Trent River Valley, Balsam Lake and Haliburton areas.

Evidence of the Early Archaic spreads from the Lake Huron Basin to Rice Lake, therefore, covering the majority of southwestern Ontario. The Rice Lake region had substantial Early to Middle Archaic occupation based on regional surveys from the 1980's and site excavation data from the 1970's (Jackson and Krist 2019:2). Documentation from 14 sites near Rice Lake and

the Trent River provides two projectile point horizons, one being within the Early Archaic and the other within the Middle Archaic. The late Early Archaic bifurcate base horizon is seen typically on small triangular blades with corner-notched points and deep basal concavity.

On a broader spectrum for the region, there are three horizons that fall within the Archaic period. These are designated by projectile point types and categorized as the Side-Notched (ca. 8,000-7,700 BC), Corner-Notched (ca. 7,700-6,900 BC), and Bifurcated (ca. 6,900-6,000 BC) (Ellis et al 1990). The archaeological record also shows the presence of axes, adzes, gouges, and other ground stone tools. These tools were likely used for woodworking, including dug-out canoe construction and processing seeds and nuts.

Rice Lake and the Trent River Valley hold archaeological evidence that there was substantial occupation during the Middle Archaic. Some characteristics of this period include; fully ground and polished stone tools, banner stones, net-sinkers, and the use of local and non-chert type materials for lithic tool manufacturing (Ellis et al 1990). As aforementioned, the second projectile point horizon consists of an early Middle Archaic corner-notched or stemmed horizon on small, triangular points with corner-notched to straight stemmed and eared points that lack base bifurcation (Jackson and Krist 2019:2).

Middle Archaic period artifact assemblages have also been discovered in at least 15 sites near Balsam Lake. These sites have produced artifacts such as ground stone tools and native copper of the Laurentian tradition and also include gouges, ulus, spear points, and plummets. Four of the sites within the area show evidence of long-term camp sites as they consist of more artifacts, including those listed above as well as flint drills, a ground slate spear point, copper spatula, copper spear point, and crescentic copper knife blade (Ramsden 1998:142). The Curry Site is located on Drag Lake, which is in close proximity to Haliburton. This is a multi-component site with a 19th century component and Archaic component. The artifact assemblage from this site is also of Laurentian tradition consisting of a polished slate gouge, polished slate semi-lunar knife blade, ground adzes and celts, chipped spear points, and a copper awl and spatula. The presence of these sites along the Trent-Gull River system suggests that there was a long westerly arm of the eastern Laurentian province during the Middle Archaic (Ramsden 1998:143).

The Late Archaic is more well documented than the previous periods due to the abundance of sites in southern Ontario. This is likely due to population increase and perhaps more sedentary lifestyle. Traits within this period include evidence of true cemeteries, narrow and small point traditions, tool recycling to make serrated flakes, perforators, gravers, micro-perforators, and piercers. Sandstone and quartz become more popular in this period for use as hammerstones, net-sinkers, anvils, and cobble spalls. Bone and antler tools are also used for fishing and personal adornment. The end of this period is signalled by the introduction of ceramics in the area.

1.2.1.3 The Woodland Period (2950-1450)

The Early Woodland period is marked mainly by the use of ceramics. This is the only main difference between the Late Archaic period, as evidence suggests that people in this period used seasonal camps and relied heavily on natural resources (Spence et al. 1990). Although lifestyles remained essentially the same, regional populations continued to grow and extensive trade networks were established. There is archaeological evidence for differentiation in social status within burials, therefore, indicating that social structure becomes more complex in this period. The Meadowood Complex (the term given to classify the first people to adopt ceramics

in southern Ontario) is characterized by distinctive biface preforms, side-notched points, and Vinette 1 ceramics (Spence et al 1990). Within the Kawartha Lake area, the number of sites began to decline due to the return of cooler and wetter periods, known as a neoglacial period (Gajewski, Viau, & Sawada 2007). The reduction in sites may also be attributed to the transition to more nomadic living away from lakes and rivers due to the increased rain levels during this time.

The Middle Woodland period shows evidence of large sites with structures and large middens. These sites exhibit a lean towards macro-band occupations that focussed on fishing and re-use of these sites in recurring years (Spence et al. 1990). These macro-bands of people would occur through spring and summer along shorelines and marshes to benefit from the spawning season. During the fall, the groups would move inland to follow large game and split into smaller bands to increase survival rates over winter (Spence et al. 1990). This period is also known for distinctive ceramic traditions throughout parts of Ontario. Within southern and central parts of Ontario, the appearance of a thinner-walled and finer grit temper ceramic vessel became prominent with dentate or pseudo-scalloped impressions. This decoration type is defined as the Point Peninsula Complex (Spence et al 1990). Mound burials start to become evident within some groups during this period. As the end of the Middle Woodland approached, some groups began to experiment with horticulture; although these sites are still typically found in the west and did not extend into the Kawartha Lakes at this time (Fox 1990). During this period, an increase in the number and density of sites as compared to decrease in the Early Woodland is seen. These sites are typically found along lakeshores again and subsistence strategies rely on fishing, small game hunting, and gathering. Evidence of several multifamily longhouses are also seen during this period within the Kawarthas (Munson & Jamieson 2013).

The beginning of the Late Woodland period is largely defined by the transition from a nomadic to a more sedentary lifestyle by the way of settled villages and an increase in agriculture (Fox 1990). Corn plays a large part in this transition as it was introduced during this period, although it was not relied on as heavily as it would be hundreds of years later. Other crops of importance during this time were beans, squash, sunflower, and tobacco. Sites from this period are mostly located in uplands; rather than along rivers and creeks. These sites are also relatively small and had camps and hamlets located nearby for hunting and gathering. Due to the increased longevity of these sites, structures such as longhouses were erected as groups did not move as frequently; likely every 12 to 20 years when firewood and fertile soil became scarce. As villages grew, so did political systems and communication. This can be seen in the difference in ceramic types, likely due to increasing integration and communication between communities. Larger fortified village sites are seen by the beginning of the fourteenth century and include large cleared areas as the reliance on horticulture increased. Longhouses also increased in size until 1450 AD when they began to decrease; likely as a result of the arrival of Europeans and their ensuing diseases. Evidence of fortified villages also points towards hostilities between other groups within the area. Burial practices also changed during this period. Individual graves were dug within and a larger cemetery was located outside of the village. When groups left their settlement, villagers would exhume the remains and rebury them in large communal burials or ossuaries.

1.2.2 Oral History

The following is an excerpt from a collated oral history of the region, as recounted by Gitiga

Migizi, a respected Elder and Knowledge Keeper of the Michi Saagiig Nation and provided to Earthworks by Dr. Julie Kapyrka of Curve Lake First Nation:

The traditional homelands of the Michi Saagiig (Mississauga Anishinaabeg) encompass a vast area of what is now known as southern Ontario. The Michi Saagiig are known as “the people of the big river mouths” and were also known as the “Salmon People” who occupied and fished the north shore of Lake Ontario where the various tributaries emptied into the lake. Their territories extended north into and beyond the Kawarthas as winter hunting grounds on which they would break off into smaller social groups for the season, hunting and trapping on these lands, then returning to the lakeshore in spring for the summer months.

The Michi Saagiig were a highly mobile people, travelling vast distances to procure subsistence for their people. They were also known as the “Peacekeepers” among Indigenous nations. The Michi Saagiig homelands were located directly between two very powerful Confederacies: The Three Fires Confederacy to the north and the Haudenosaunee Confederacy to the south. The Michi Saagiig were the negotiators, the messengers, the diplomats, and they successfully mediated peace throughout this area of Ontario for countless generations.

Michi Saagiig oral histories speak to their people being in this area of Ontario for thousands of years. These stories recount the “Old Ones” who spoke an ancient Algonquian dialect. The histories explain that the current Ojibwa phonology is the 5th transformation of this language, demonstrating a linguistic connection that spans back into deep time. The Michi Saagiig of today are the descendants of the ancient peoples who lived in Ontario during the Archaic and Paleo-Indian periods. They are the original inhabitants of southern Ontario, and they are still here today.

The traditional territories of the Michi Saagiig span from Gananoque in the east, all along the north shore of Lake Ontario, west to the north shore of Lake Erie at Long Point. The territory spreads as far north as the tributaries that flow into these lakes, from Bancroft and north of the Haliburton highlands. This also includes all the tributaries that flow from the height of land north of Toronto like the Oak Ridges Moraine, and all of the rivers that flow into Lake Ontario (the Rideau, the Salmon, the Ganaraska, the Moira, the Trent, the Don, the Rouge, the Etobicoke, the Humber, and the Credit, as well as Wilmot and 16 Mile Creeks) through Burlington Bay and the Niagara region including the Welland and Niagara Rivers, and beyond.

Michi Saagiig oral histories also speak to the occurrence of people coming into their territories sometime between 500-1000 A.D. seeking to establish villages and a corn growing economy – these newcomers included peoples that would later be known as the Huron-Wendat, Neutral, Petun/Tobacco Nations. The Michi Saagiig made Treaties with these newcomers and granted them permission to stay with the understanding that they were visitors in these lands. Wampum was made to record these contracts, ceremonies would have bound each nation to their respective responsibilities within the political relationship, and these contracts would have been renewed annually (see Gitiga Migizi and Kapyrka 2015). These visitors were extremely successful as their corn economy grew as well as their populations. However, it was understood by all nations involved that this area of Ontario were the homeland territories of the Michi Saagiig.

Problems arose for the Michi Saagiig in the 1600’s when the European way of life was introduced into southern Ontario. Also, around the same time, the Haudenosaunee were given firearms by the colonial governments in New York and Albany which ultimately

made an expansion possible for them into Michi Saagiig territories. There began skirmishes with the various nations living in Ontario at the time. The Haudenosaunee engaged in fighting with the Huron-Wendat and between that and the onslaught of European diseases, the Iroquoian speaking peoples in Ontario were decimated.

The onset of colonial settlement and missionary involvement severely disrupted the original relationships between these Indigenous nations. Disease and warfare had a devastating impact upon the Indigenous peoples of Ontario, especially the large sedentary villages, which mostly included Iroquoian speaking peoples. The Michi Saagiig were largely able to avoid the devastation caused by these processes by retreating to their wintering grounds to the north, essentially waiting for the smoke to clear.

Michi Saagiig Elder Gitiga Migizi (2017) recounts:

“We weren’t affected as much as the larger villages because we learned to paddle away for several years until everything settled down. And we came back and tried to bury the bones of the Huron but it was overwhelming, it was all over, there were bones all over – that is our story.

There is a misnomer here, that this area of Ontario is not our traditional territory and that we came in here after the Huron-Wendat left or were defeated, but that is not true. That is a big misconception of our history that needs to be corrected. We are the traditional people; we are the ones that signed treaties with the Crown. We are recognized as the ones who signed these treaties and we are the ones to be dealt with officially in any matters concerning territory in southern Ontario.

We had peacemakers go to the Haudenosaunee and live amongst them in order to change their ways. We had also diplomatically dealt with some of the strong chiefs to the north and tried to make peace as much as possible. So, we are very important in terms of keeping the balance of relationships in harmony.

Some of the old leaders recognized that it became increasingly difficult to keep the peace after the Europeans introduced guns. But we still continued to meet, and we still continued to have some wampum, which doesn’t mean we negated our territory or gave up our territory – we did not do that. We still consider ourselves a sovereign nation despite legal challenges against that. We still view ourselves as a nation and the government must negotiate from that basis.”

Often times, southern Ontario is described as being “vacant” after the dispersal of the Huron-Wendat peoples in 1649 (who fled east to Quebec and south to the United States). This is misleading as these territories remained the homelands of the Michi Saagiig Nation.

The Michi Saagiig participated in eighteen treaties from 1781 to 1923 to allow the growing number of European settlers to establish in Ontario. Pressures from increased settlement forced the Michi Saagiig to slowly move into small family groups around the present day communities: Curve Lake First Nation, Hiawatha First Nation, Alderville First Nation, Scugog Island First Nation, New Credit First Nation, and Mississauga First Nation.



The Michi Saagiig have been in Ontario for thousands of years, and they remain here to this day.

1.2.3 Post-Contact History

The study area enters the historic record in 1615, when Samuel de Champlain travelled through the area with soldiers on the way to attack the Onondaga tribe of the Five Nations Iroquois on the southern shore of Lake Ontario (Brunger 1985:95). Early accounts by European explorers suggest the study area was considered part of a loosely defined hunting territory associated with the Huron Confederacy (Trigger 1994). Contemporary oral histories indicate the region was shared with the Huron by Anishinaabe people who oversaw the territory through the Odawa-led Three Fires Confederacy (Williams 2018:36-37). European influence in the region was generally restricted to the beaver pelt trade, and Indigenous groups practiced a way of life that did not differ significantly from the Pre-Contact period. By the 1640's, the increasing scarcity of beaver pelts prompted the invasion of Huronia by the League of Five Nations Iroquois, and by 1649 five Huron villages were destroyed and the remainder abandoned, resulting in the complete disintegration of the Huron Confederacy and the migration of their members into the Petun, Neutral and other groups (Stone and Chaput 1978). The Michi Saagiig retreated to the upper Great Lakes region during this period until the outbreaks of disease and violence subsided (Williams 2018:41). The study area became part of a virtually unpopulated hunting territory for the succeeding fifty years, while the Iroquois established a series of villages along the north shore of Lake Ontario to take advantage of trade with Europeans (Robinson 1933). The Michi Saagiig returned to the region at the end of the seventeenth century, forcing the Iroquois to retreat to New York State following a short period of warfare (Williams 2018:42-44).

Following the defeat of the French at the Battle of the Plains of Abraham in 1759, the British began purchasing large tracts of land in Ontario through treaties with the Indigenous communities in the region. The Royal Proclamation of 1763 asserted British sovereignty over the region while declaring the land to be in possession of the Indigenous people who occupied it while establishing the policies for Crown purchases of these lands (Surtees 1994:93). These purchasing efforts were intensified following the conclusion of the American Revolutionary War in 1783 and the War of 1812, which saw successive waves of migration of United Empire Loyalists and British settlers into Upper Canada. The current study area forms part of Treaty 20, also known as the Rice Lake Purchase, which ceded possession of nearly one million hectares of land from the Rice Lake Mississauga at Smith's Creek to the British Government in 1818 (Surtees 1993:113).

European settlement had significant impacts on ecology, food, and cultural heritage for the Michi Saagiig; however, it is evident that they did not lose their rights and sovereignty over local waterways and traditional harvesting practices (Williams 2018). Around the late 18th and early 19th century, there were approximately 500 people living at three reserves between Alwick, Rice Lake, and Mud Lake, now Alderville, Hiawatha, and Curve Lake (Jackson 2018:17). During this time, the reliance on wild rice beds as part of a cultural lifestyle was extremely well known based on European colonial records (Jackson 2018:23).

The study area is located in Harvey Township, which was first surveyed by Andrew Miller in 1822 following the signing of Treaty 20 (Winearls 1991:509-510). John Hall, the first settler, arrived in 1827. He bought the government mill on the Buckhorn River, in partnership with Moore Lee. In 1828, he built a dam across the river and in 1830 built a saw and grist mill at Buckhorn Falls (Blackett 1884). In 1832, a group of English gentlemen, mostly Napoleonic War veterans and naval officers, attempted to establish a settlement in the southwest corner of the township. Robert Dennistoun, Captain Wallis, Matthew Warner and their fellow officers however,

were ill-equipped to make a living as pioneer farmers. The distance from markets and bad roads, combined with their lack of agricultural knowledge resulted in the failure of the settlement and within ten years all the original inhabitants had left (Cole 1975).

Growth remained slow for many years. In 1839, Harvey's population was 50, a year later it had risen to 69. Lumbering was the chief industry and non-resident lumber merchants owned much of the land. In the 1860's, a number of mills were built including William Henry's sawmill on Buckhorn Lake in 1858. The Buckhorn sawmill made squared timbers, ship's masts, shingles and barrels. With the building of mills and roads, including Bobcaygeon Road along the western boundary of Buckhorn Road to the northern townships of the Canada Land and Emigration Company in 1864, Harvey became much more attractive to potential settlers. A new wave of settlers arrived in the 1860's, with many moving in from adjacent townships. By 1867, the population had risen to 438, and the township had three shinglemakers, a plasterer, and a civil engineer. By 1875, there were 817 inhabitants.

For many years Harvey was united with Smith Township for municipal purposes. It became independent in 1865 and W.A. Scott served as the first reeve. The first school to serve the township's children was School Section No. 10, built in 1860 to educate the children of both Smith and Harvey Townships. Barbara Ryan was the first teacher. By 1866, a school had been erected at Buckhorn and three new schools were opened by 1867. By the late 19th century, Harvey had eight schools.

The region remained as a cottage and resort destination throughout the 20th century, and by 1998 Harvey Township was merged with the Township of Galway Cavendish and subsequently renamed the Municipality of Trent Lakes in 2013.

1.2.4 Land Use History of Study Area

The study area is located within part of Lot 2, Concession 12 in the historic Geographic Township of Harvey. The Crown patent for the entirety of the lot was issued in 1840 from the Crown to Daniel Doran. Doran sold the lot to George Burnham in 1853. Historic mapping does not show an owner of the lot or any structures located within the study area, and census data from the nineteenth century do not list a resident on Lot 2 (Map 3).

George Burnham and J. Butcher sold the lot to A. McKenty in 1898. The lot stayed in the McKenty family until the mid 19th century. Historic topographic maps indicate the study area remained vacant until at least 1971 when it was converted into a cottage lot.

1.2.5 Historic Plaques

As per Section 1, Standard 1.1 of the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*, Earthworks consulted local historic plaques in order to inform archaeological potential and assessment strategies. No local plaques were found which related to the history of the current study area.

1.3 Archaeological Context

1.3.1 Current Conditions

The property consists of a cottage lot with a gravel driveway that enters the study area from Fire Route 41, and consists of a one story vinyl cottage with associated garage and three sheds, facing Chemong Lake on the eastern border (Images 1 thru 9).

1.3.2 Natural Environment

The study area is situated within a till moraine within the Dummer Moraines Physiographic Region of Southern Ontario (Map 5), which is described as:

“...an area of rough stony land bordering the Canadian Shield from the Kawartha Lakes eastward...The moraines of this area are characterized by angular fragments and blocks of limestone with may Precambrian rocks also present. The surface is extremely rough even though the morainic ridges are quite low. Bordering the escarpment, and here and there among the moraines area areas of shallow drift and even bare limestone.”

(Chapman and Putnam 1984:185).

Surficial geology mapping indicates the study area consists of glacial deposits of silty sand (Map 6), and the soil mapping of the area situates the study area on Dummer sandy loam (Map 7), a well draining orthic melanic brunisol (Gillespie and Acton 1981:17).

The study area is located adjacent to Buckhorn Lake, which is connected to the Trent-Severn Waterway. This system is within an area that comprises 7,710 square kilometres that drains into the Bay of Quinte approximately 79 kilometres to the southeast (Chapman and Putnam 1984:104).

The study area is located within the Havelock District of the Lake Simcoe-Rideau Ecoregion, which itself is situated within the Mixedwood Plains Ecozone. This region encompasses 6,311,957 hectares, and contains a diverse array of flora and fauna. It is characterized by diverse hardwood forests dominated by sugar maple, American beech, white ash, eastern hemlock, and numerous other species are found where substrates are well developed on upland sites. Lowlands, including rich floodplain forests, contain green ash, silver maple, red maple, eastern white cedar, yellow birch, balsam fir, and black ash. Peatlands (some quite large) occur along the northern edge and in the eastern portion of the ecoregion, and these contain fens, and rarely bogs, with black spruce and tamarack.

Characteristic mammals include white-tailed deer, Northern raccoon, striped skunk, and woodchuck. Wetland habitats are used by many species of water birds and shorebirds, including wood duck, great blue heron, and Wilson’s snipe. Open upland habitats are used by species such as field sparrow, grasshopper sparrow, and eastern meadowlark. Upland forests support populations of species such as hairy woodpecker, wood thrush, scarlet tanager, and rose-breasted grosbeak. Reptiles and amphibians found in this ecosystem include American bullfrog, northern leopard frog, spring peeper, red-spotted newt, snapping turtle, eastern gartersnake, and common watersnake. Characteristic fish species in the ecoregion include the white sucker, smallmouth bass, walleye, northern pike, yellow perch, rainbow darter, emerald shiner, and pearl dace.

(Crins et al. 2009:48-49)

1.3.3 Known Archaeological Sites

A search of registered archaeological sites within the MCM Archaeological Sites Database was conducted. No sites were found to be within a one-kilometre radius of the study area.

1.3.4 Adjacent Archaeological Assessments

A search of registered archaeological assessments within the MCM Database was conducted. No registered archaeological assessments have been previously conducted adjacent to the study area.

1.4 Summary

As documented in Section 1.0, the study area contains evidence of archaeological potential. The location of the study area adjacent to Buckhorn Lake suggests the potential for locating Pre-Contact Indigenous archaeological material. In summary, a Stage 2 archaeological assessment was determined to be required in order to identify and document any archaeological material that may be present. The residential nature of the study area precluded the possibility of ploughing for a pedestrian survey, and as a result, a test pitting survey was determined to be required.



2.0 Field Methods

The Stage 2 archaeological assessment of the study area was conducted on September 30th, 2024, under the PIF#: P1037-0323-2024 issued to Michael Golloher, M.Sc. (P1037). The weather during the survey was sunny and warm. At no time were weather or lighting conditions detrimental to the observation or recovery of archaeological material.

Approximately 73% of the study area was assessed through a test pit survey, with the remaining area not assessed due to evidence of subsurface disturbance from the construction of the cottage and associated gravel driveway and sheds. Test pits were spaced at maximum intervals of five metres apart, and to within one metre of standing structures. Each test pit was excavated by hand to 30 centimetres in diameter and were excavated into the first five centimetres of subsoil, or until bedrock was encountered. Test pit depth varied between 10 and 20 centimetres. Each test pit was examined for stratigraphy, cultural features, or evidence of fill and all soil was screened through wire mesh of six-millimetre aperture. All test pits were backfilled. The soil stratigraphy consisted of a medium to dark brown sand topsoil horizon overlaying a dull orange sand subsoil (Image 10).

No archaeological material was identified during the course of the survey.

The results of the Stage 2 archaeological survey are presented in Maps 8 and 9.



3.0 Record of Finds

Table 1 provides an inventory of the documentary record generated in the field.

Table 1: Information Inventory of Documentary Record

Document	Location	Description
Field Notes	Earthworks Office Project File	1 Page of Notes
Photographs	Earthworks Office Project File	19 Digital Photographs
Field Map	Earthworks Office Project File	1 Page



4.0 Analysis & Conclusions

A Stage 1 & 2 Archaeological Assessment was conducted on a 0.17 hectare property located at 23 Fire Route 41, part of Lot 2, Concession 12, Geographic Township of Harvey, now in the Municipality of Trent Lakes, County of Peterborough. A Stage 2 test pit survey was conducted between September 30th, 2024.

The Stage 2 archaeological survey did not yield any evidence of archaeological material. As a result, no additional archaeological assessments are required.



5.0 Recommendations

Based on the results of the Stage 1 background investigation and the subsequent Stage 2 test pit survey, the study area is considered to be free of archaeological material. Therefore, no additional archaeological assessments are required.

The MCM is requested to review this report and provide a letter indicating their satisfaction that the fieldwork and reporting for this archaeological assessment are consistent with the Ministry's 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* and the terms and conditions for archaeological licenses, and to enter this report into the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports.



6.0 Advice on Compliance with Legislation

This report is submitted to the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism as a condition of licensing in accordance with Part VI of the Ontario Heritage Act, 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 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 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 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 Archaeology Reports referred to in Section 65.1 of the Ontario Heritage Act.

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

The Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002, S.O. 2002, c.33 (when proclaimed in force) require that any person discovering human remains must notify the police or coroner and the Registrar of Cemeteries at the Ministry of Consumer Services.

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8.0 Images



Image 1: Study Area Conditions. Facing East.



Image 2: Study Area Conditions. Facing East.

**Earthworks Archaeological Services Inc.
Stage 1 & 2 Archaeological Assessment
23 Fire Route 41
Trent Lakes**



Image 3: Study Area Conditions. Facing East.



Image 4: Study Area Conditions. Facing North.

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23 Fire Route 41
Trent Lakes



Image 5: Study Area Conditions. Facing West.



Image 6: Study Area Conditions. Facing South.

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Stage 1 & 2 Archaeological Assessment
23 Fire Route 41
Trent Lakes



Image 7: Study Area Conditions. Facing West.



Image 8: Study Area Conditions. Facing South.





Image 9: Study Area Conditions. Facing East.

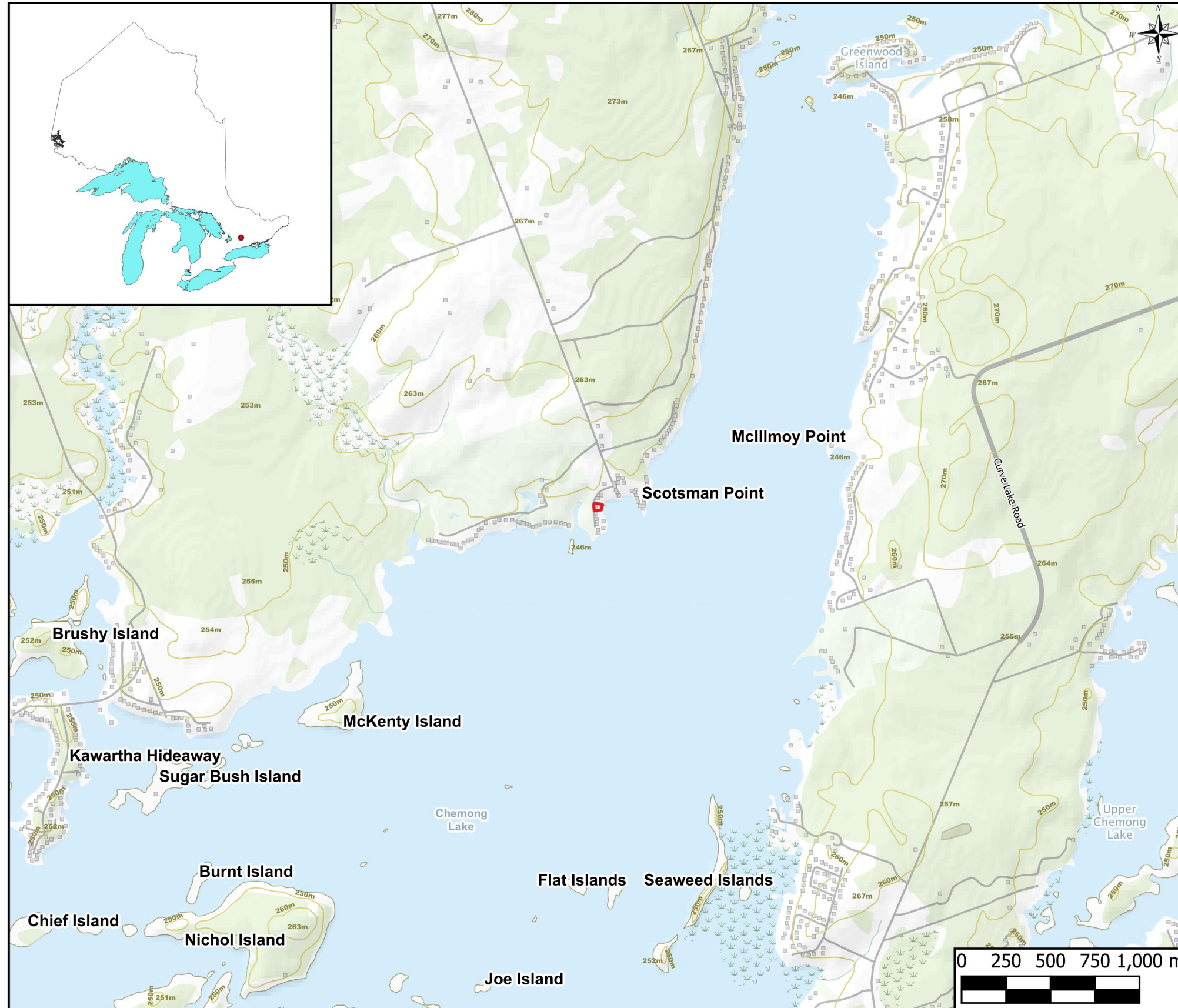


Image 10: Open Test Pit showing Subsurface Stratigraphy.

9.0 Maps



Earthworks Archaeological Services Inc.
 Stage 1 & 2 Archaeological Assessment
 23 Fire Route 41
 Trent Lakes



Legend

Study Area

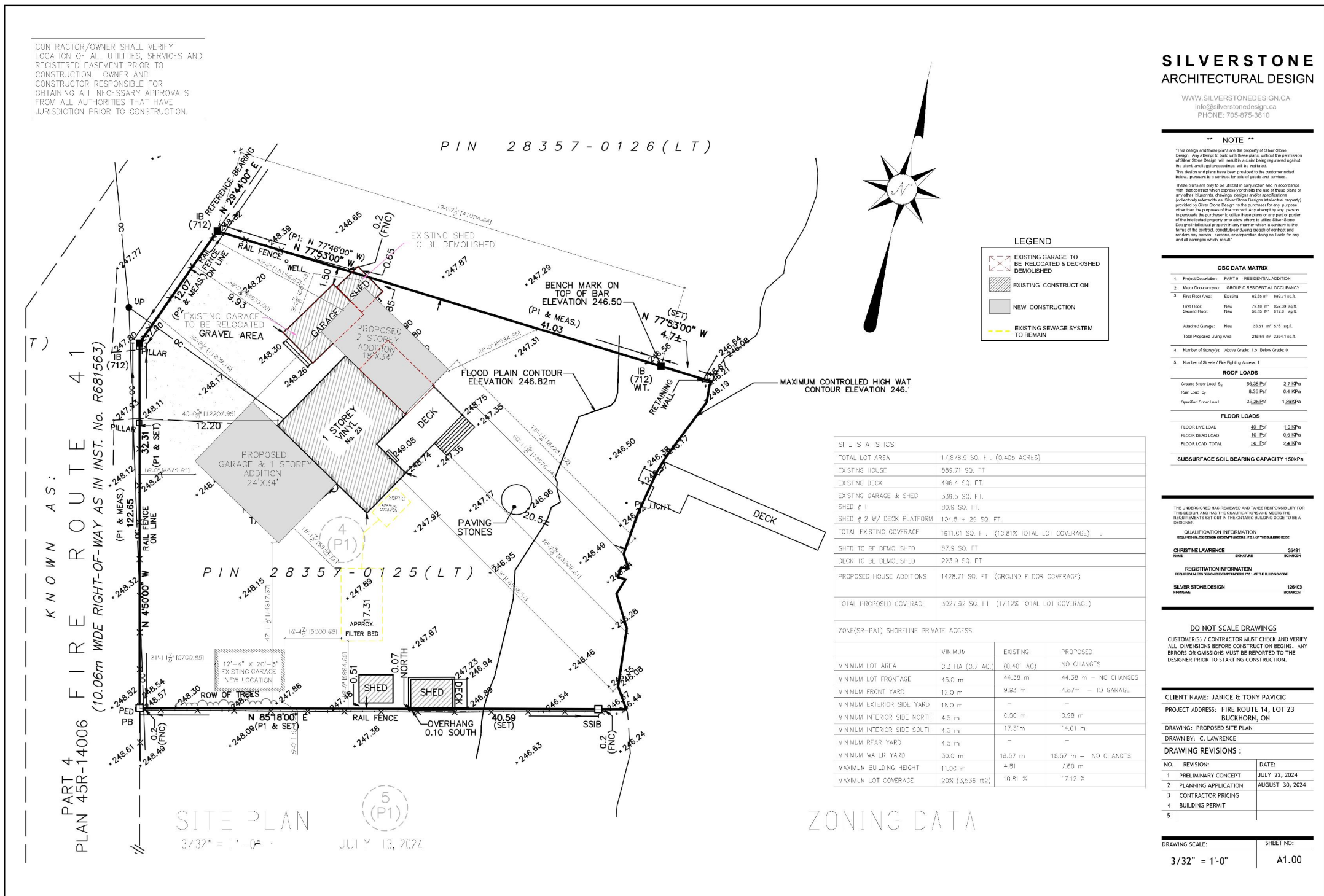
Reference:
 Canvec Data. Scale 1:50000
 Ontario Basic Mapping. Scale 1:10000
 Peterborough County 2023 Aerial Imagery

Map 1: Regional Map

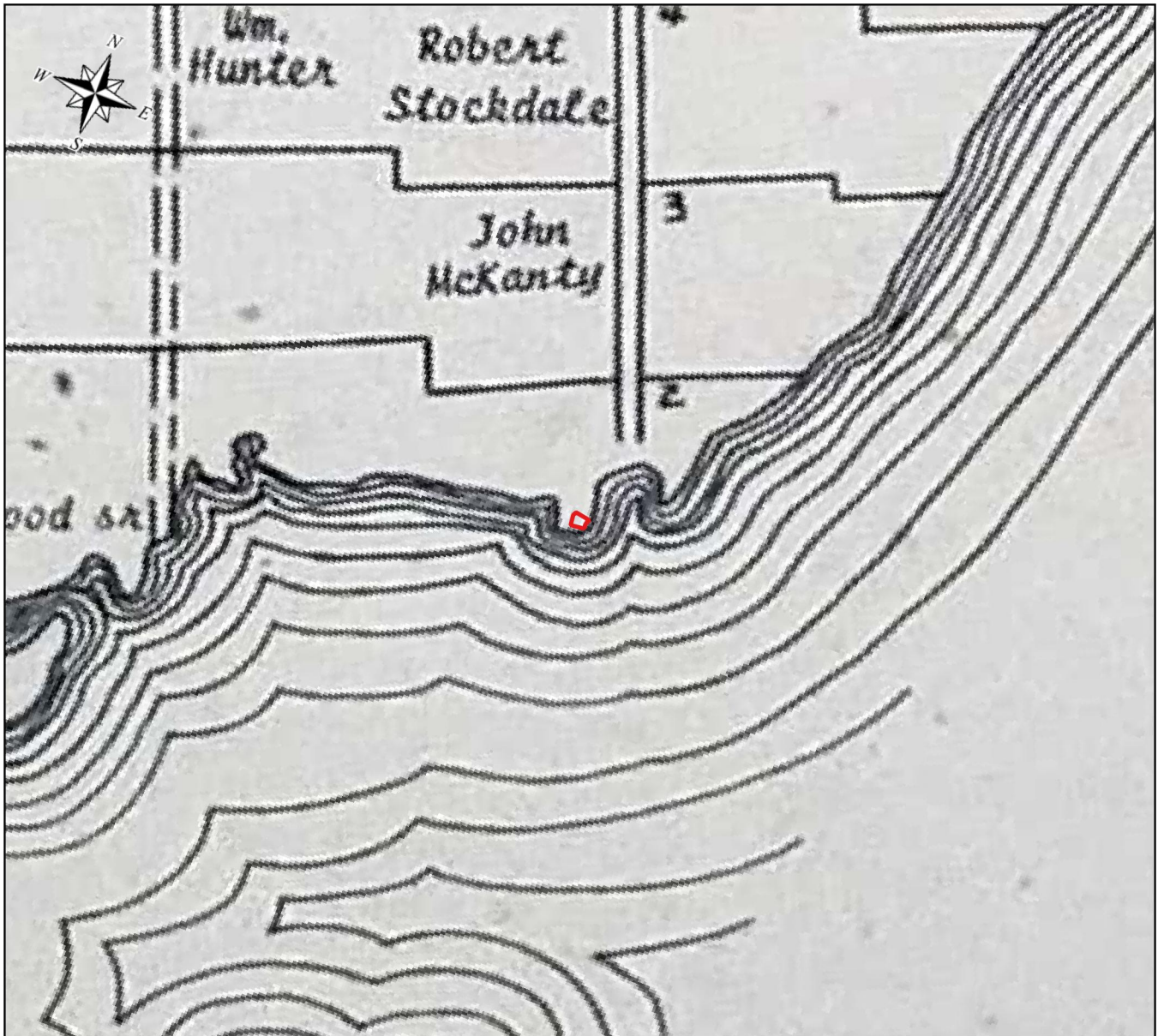
Earthworks Archaeological Services Inc.
 Stage 1 & 2 Archaeological Assessment
 23 Fire Route 41
 Trent Lakes

CONTRACTOR/OWNER SHALL VERIFY LOCATION OF ALL UTILITIES, SERVICES AND REGISTERED EASEMENTS PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION. OWNER AND CONSTRUCTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING ALL NECESSARY APPROVALS FROM ALL AUTHORITIES THAT HAVE JURISDICTION PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION.

SILVERSTONE
 ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN
 WWW.SILVERSTONEDSIGN.CA
 info@silverstonedesign.ca
 PHONE: 705-875-3610



Map 2: Site Plan



Legend

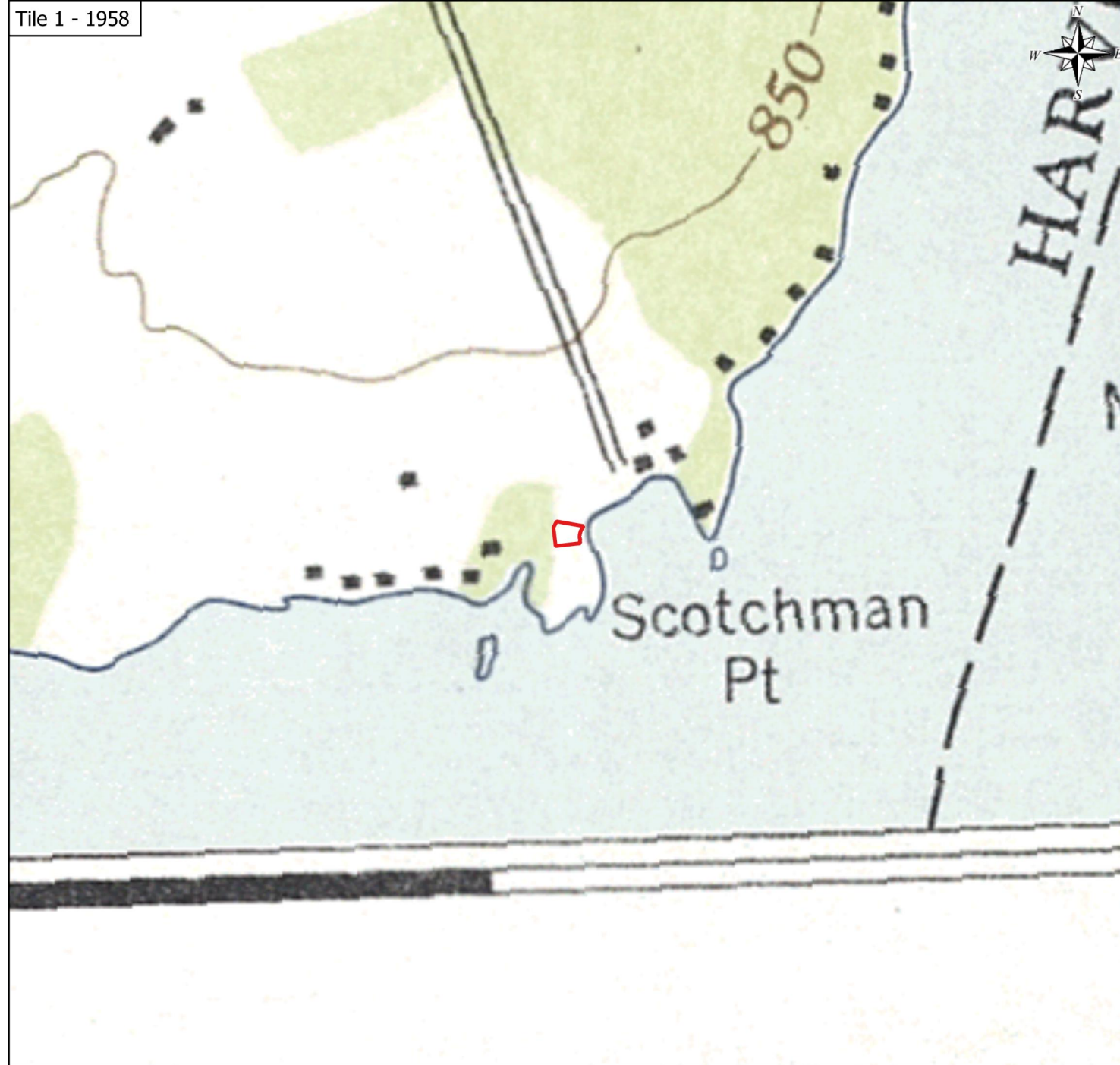
 Study Area

*Illustrated Historical Atlas of
Peterborough County 1825-1875.
Peterborough Historical Atlas
Foundation*

Not to Scale

Map 3: 1875 Map of Harvey Township





Legend

 Study Area

0 150 300 450 600 m

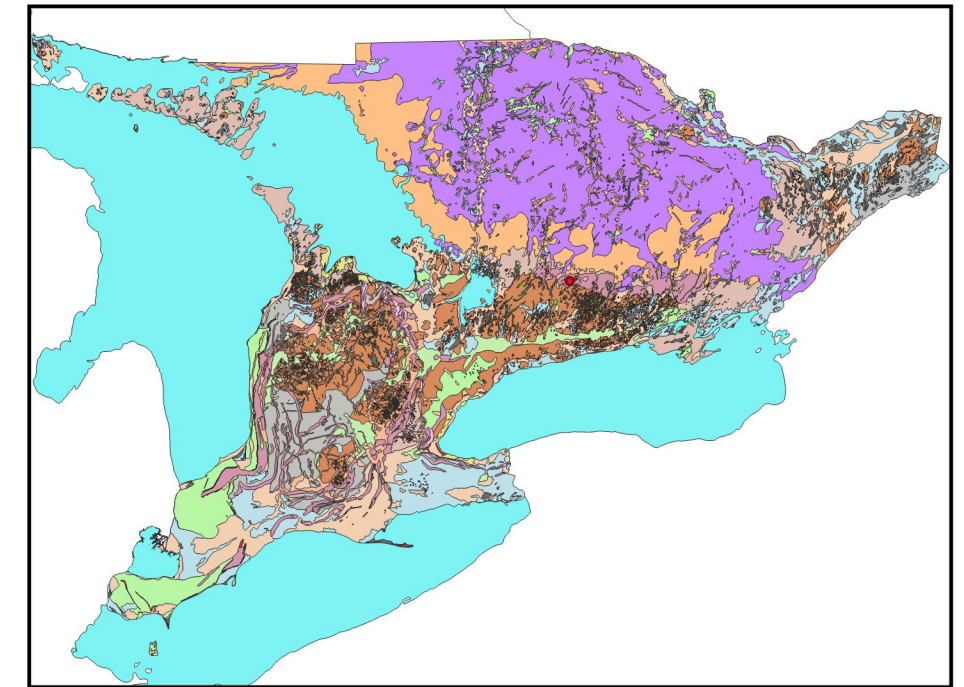
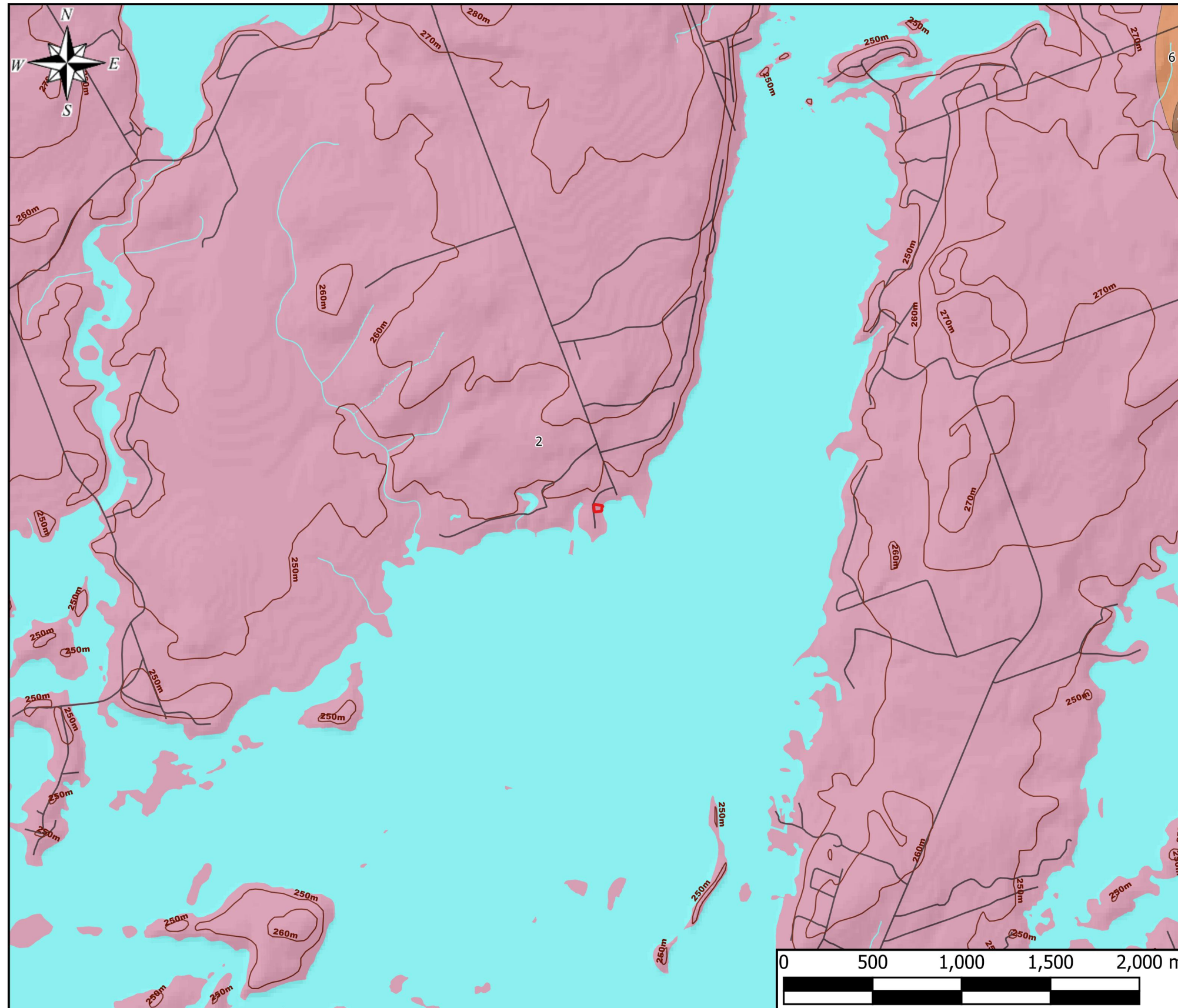


Tile 1 - Canada, Department of National Defence. Burleigh Falls West Half, Ontario. 1:50,000. Map Sheet 031D09, [ed. 1], 1958.






Tile 2 - Canada, Department of Energy, Mines and Resources [Natural Resources Canada]. Burleigh Falls, Ontario. 1:50,000. Map Sheet 031D09, [ed. 3], 1971.

Tile 3 - Canada, Department of Energy, Mines and Resources [Natural Resources Canada]. Burleigh Falls, Ontario. 1:50,000. Map Sheet 031D09, [ed. 5], 1994.

Map 4: Twentieth Century Topographic Maps

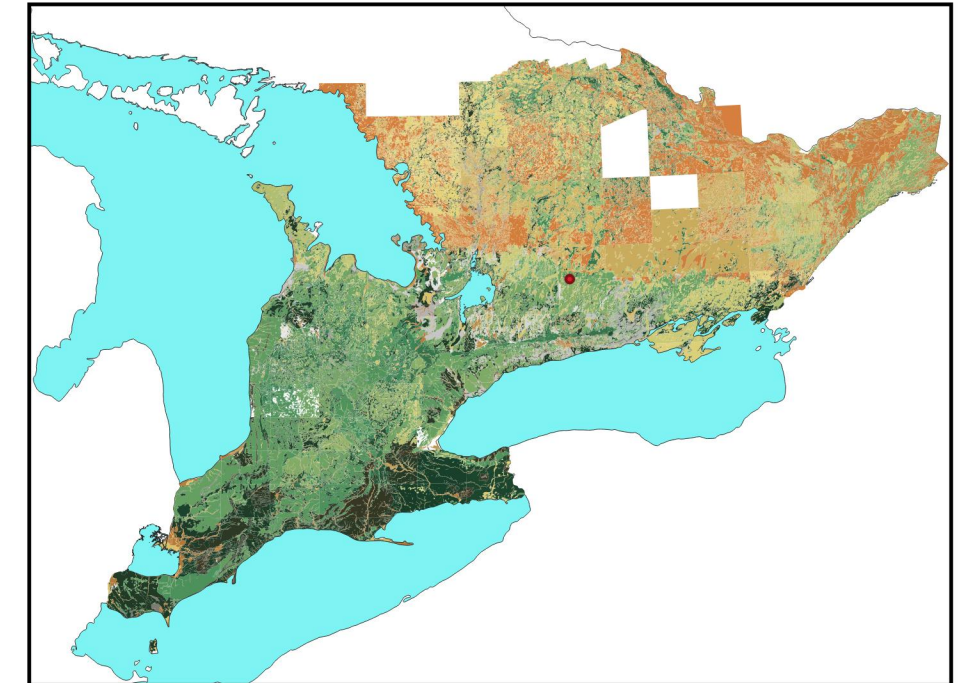
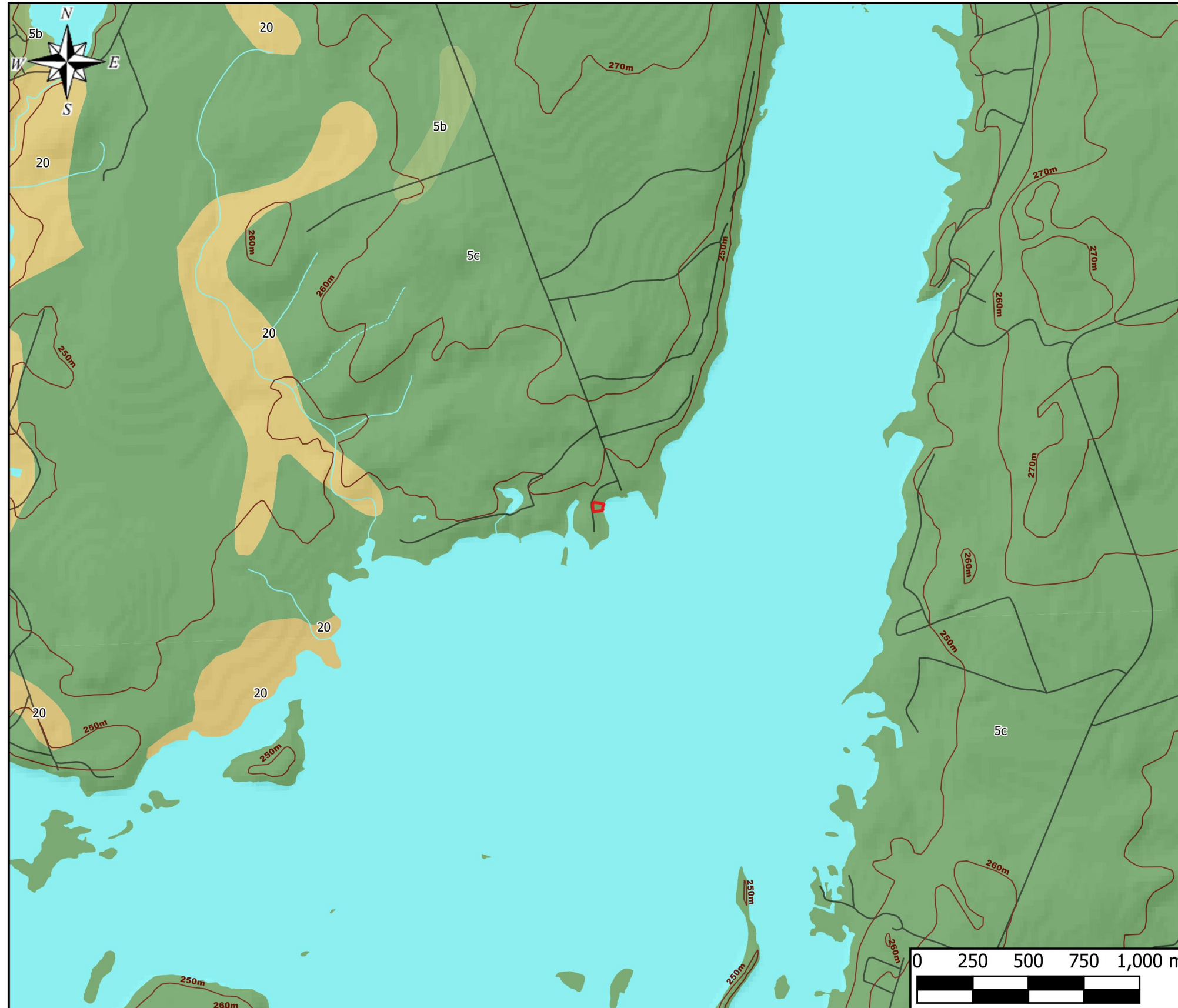


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





-  Study Area
-  Road Network
-  2 - Till Moraines
-  6 - Till Plains (Drumlinized)
-  7 - Drumlins

Base Data:
Chapman, L.J. and Putnam, D.F. 2007. Physiography of southern Ontario; Ontario Geological Survey, Miscellaneous Release—Data 228.

Map 5: Physiographic Landforms

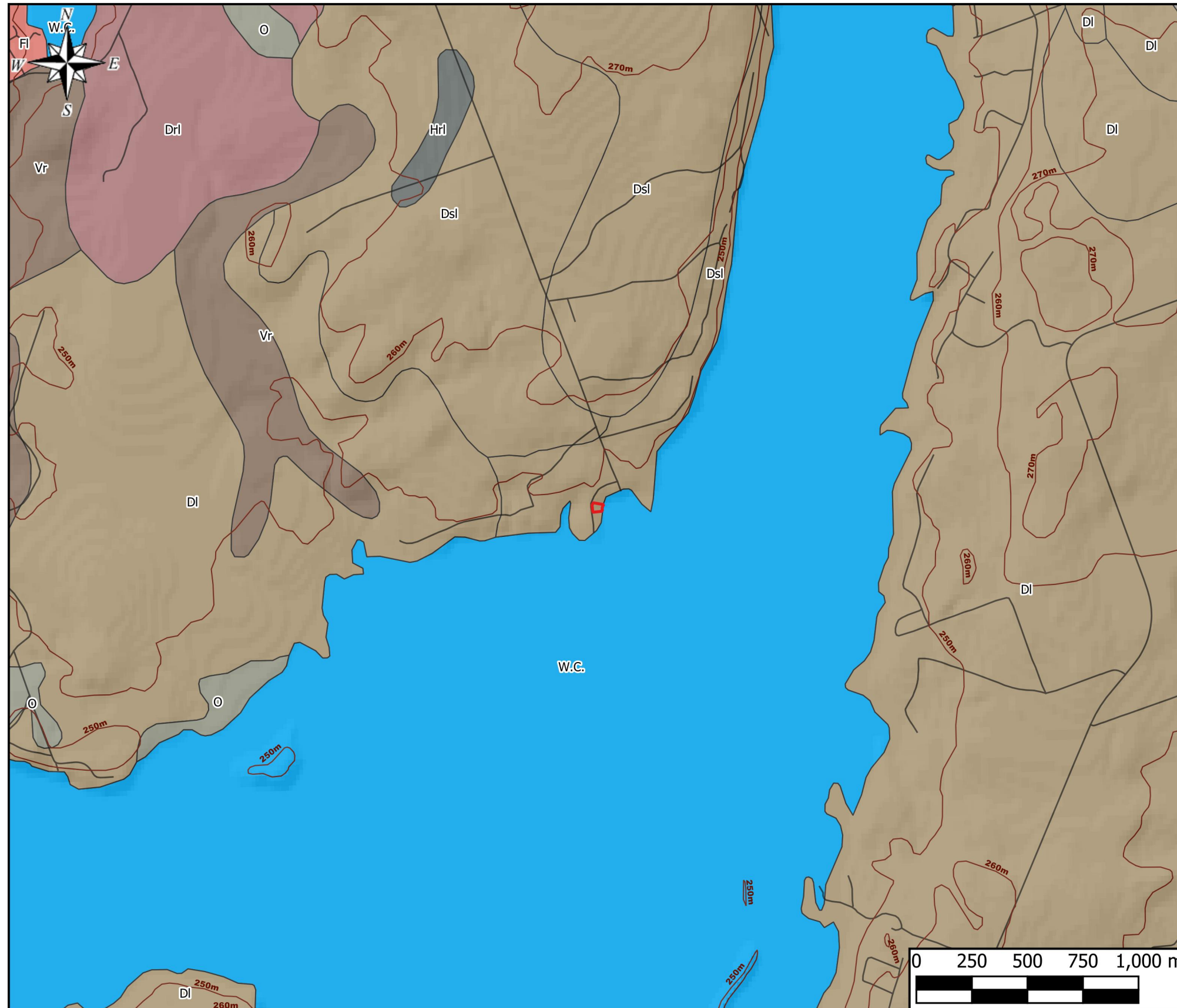


Legend

-  Study Area
-  Road Network
-  5b - Diamicton silty
-  5c - Diamicton sandy
-  5c - Till; Till And Stratified Sand And Gravel
-  20 - Diamicton sandy
-  20 - Muck
-  20 - Peat, muck

Base Data:
Ontario Geological Survey 2010. Surficial geology of Southern Ontario; Ontario Geological Survey, Miscellaneous Release--Data
128-REV ISBN 978-1-4435-2483-4

Map 6: Surficial Geology



Legend

- Study Area
- Road Network
- Drl - Douro Loam
- DI - Dummer Loam
- Dsl - Dummer Sandy Loam
- Fl - Farmington Loam
- Hrl - Harney Loam
- O - Organic
- Vr - Vespra Peat
- Wh - Washago Peat
- W.C. - Watercourse

Reference:
Soil Map of Peterborough County. Soil Survey Report No. 45. Scale 1:63,360

Map 7: Regional Soil Map

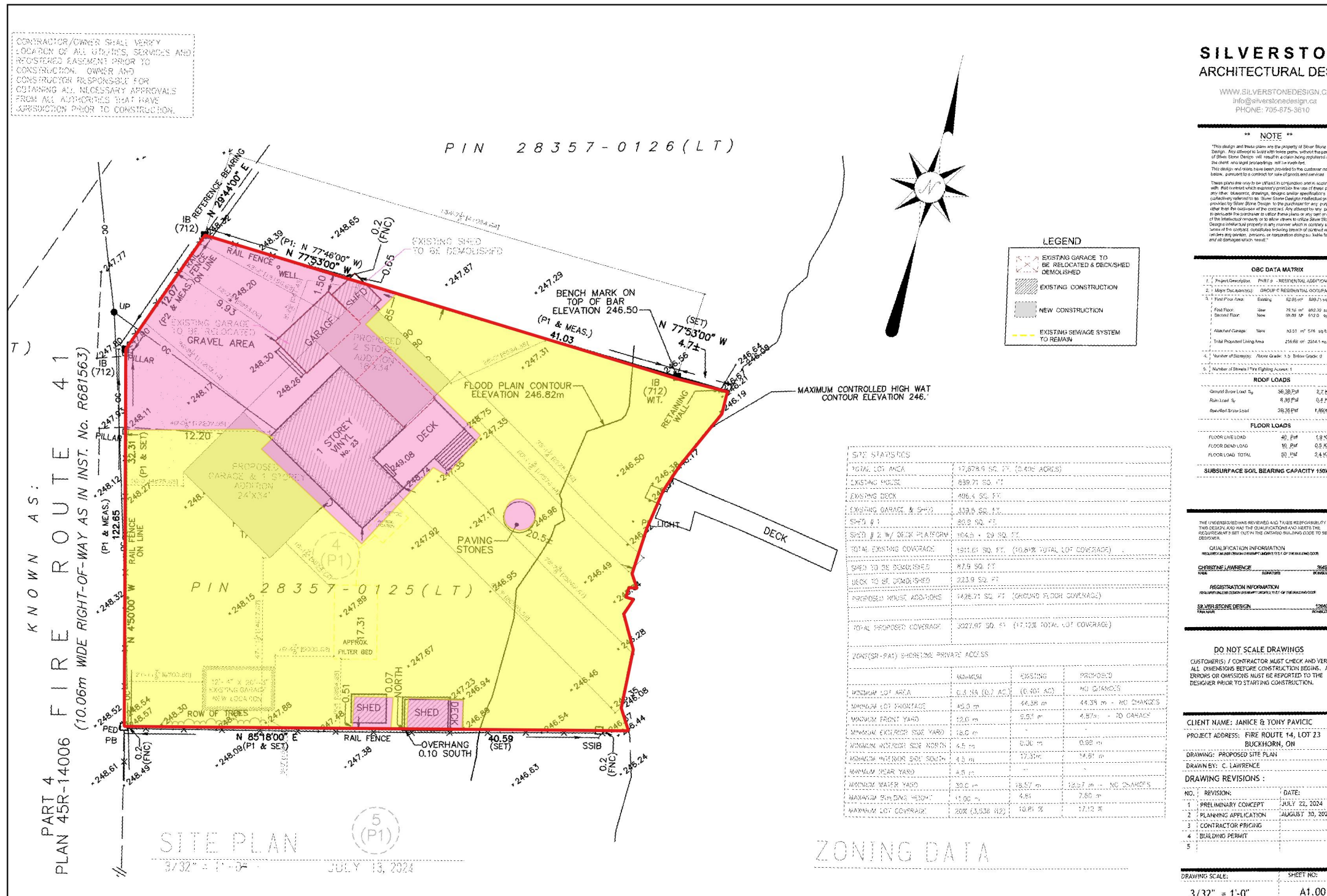


Legend

- Study Area
- Area Subject to Stage 2 Test Pit Survey at 5 metre intervals
- Area of Subsurface Disturbance - Not Assessed
- Photo Location and Direction

Reference:
Peterborough County 2023 Aerial Imagery

**Map 8: Stage 2
Assessment Results**



Map 9: Assessment Results over Development Plan