



ACC

ARCHAEOLOGICAL
CONSULTANTS CANADA

Stage 1 & 2 Archaeological Assessment

Proposed Residential Development

9210 Union Road, Shedden, Part of Lot 16, Southeast of Talbot Road North
Branch, Township of Southwold, Elgin County, Ontario

Original Report

Prepared for:

Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism

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Project No. 160-12-25

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Archaeological Consultants Canada (ACC) was contracted by the Proponent to conduct a Stage 1 & 2 archaeological assessment, including background research and property survey, for a proposed residential development including townhouses, apartment buildings, parking areas and roads. An archaeological assessment was conducted during the pre-approval process and was required under the *Planning Act, R.S.O 1990*. The assessed area, or the “subject property”, is located at municipal address 9210 Union Road, in the hamlet of Shedden, on Part of Lot 16, Southeast of Talbot Road North Branch, in the Township of Southwold, Elgin County, Ontario. The subject property measures 4.41 hectares (ha). The Proponent verified the subject property limits as defined within this report and provided a Concept Plan confirming the boundaries (Figure 2). The Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM) assigned Project Information Form (PIF) number P066-0558-2025 to this project.

Stage 1 background research indicated that the subject property has general archaeological potential due to the following factors:

- The subject property is largely comprised of well-drained land that is suitable for human habitation.
- A farmstead is shown to the north of the subject property in 1877 historical atlas mapping.
- The subject property is located within 100 m of Union Road, an early historical transportation route.
- A tributary of Talbot Creek is located 130 m from the subject property.
- The subject property is located within 300 m of the historic limits of the community of Shedden.
- There is one registered archaeological site within one km of the subject property.

A visual property inspection determined that 0.82 ha of the subject property has been previously disturbed by modern construction activities and has low to no archaeological potential. 3.59 ha of the subject property retained archaeological potential and was recommended for Stage 2 assessment. 0.45 ha of the subject property consisted of maintained lawn and was assessed by test pit survey at 5 m intervals. 3.14 ha of the subject property consisted of agricultural field that was assessed by means of pedestrian survey at 5 m intervals. No artifacts or other archaeological resources were identified during the Stage 1 & 2 archaeological assessment.

The following recommendation is provided for consideration by the Proponent and by the MCM:

1. No artifacts or other archaeological resources were identified during the Stage 1 & 2 archaeological assessment. The subject property has now been fully assessed according to MCM’s 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*. No further archaeological assessment of the subject property is required.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

The following is a list of abbreviations and acronyms used throughout this report.

ACC	Archaeological Consultants Canada
CHVI	Cultural Heritage Value or Interest
cm	centimetre
ha	hectares
km	kilometre
m	metre
MCM	Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism
OASD	Ontario Archaeological Sites Database
OHA	Ontario Heritage Act
PIF	Project Information Form
%	percent



PROJECT PERSONNEL

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Field Director:	Kristy O’Neal, M.A., P066
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Stage 1 & 2 Archaeological Assessment

Proposed Residential Development

9210 Union Road, Shedden, Part of Lot 16, Southeast of Talbot Road
North Branch, Township of Southwold, Elgin County, Ontario

1.0 PROJECT CONTEXT

1.1 Development Context

Archaeological Consultants Canada (ACC) was contracted by the Proponent to conduct a Stage 1 & 2 archaeological assessment, including background research and property survey, for a proposed residential development including townhouses, apartment buildings, parking areas and roads. An archaeological assessment was conducted during the pre-approval process and was required under the *Planning Act, R.S.O 1990*. The assessed area, or the “subject property”, is located at municipal address 9210 Union Road, in the hamlet of Shedden, on Part of Lot 16, Southeast of Talbot Road North Branch, in the Township of Southwold, Elgin County, Ontario. The subject property measures 4.41 hectares (ha). The Proponent verified the subject property limits as defined within this report and provided a Concept Plan confirming the boundaries (Figure 2).

The objective of a Stage 1 background study is to provide information about the subject property’s geography, history, previous archaeological fieldwork, and current land conditions. A Stage 1 study evaluates the subject property’s archaeological potential in order to recommend appropriate strategies for the Stage 2 survey.

The objective of a Stage 2 property assessment is to document all archaeological resources present on the property and to make a determination about whether these resources, if present, have Cultural Heritage Value or Interest (CHVI). Archaeological resources consist of artifacts (Indigenous stone tools, pottery and subsistence remains as well as Euro-Canadian objects), subsurface settlement patterns and cultural features (post moulds, trash pits, privies, and wells), and sites (temporary camps and special purpose activity areas, plus more permanent settlements such as villages, homesteads, grist mills and industrial structures). If any archaeological resources are present that exhibit CHVI, a Stage 2 survey will determine whether these resources require further assessment and, if necessary, recommend appropriate Stage 3 strategies for identified archaeological sites.

The Stage 1 & 2 assessment was conducted under Professional Archaeological License P066, held by Kristy O’Neal, who also directed fieldwork. The Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM) assigned Project Information Form (PIF) number P066-0558-2025 to this project. The licensee of ACC received permission from the Proponent to access the property and to conduct all required archaeological fieldwork activities including the removal of artifacts, as necessary.

All fieldwork and reporting were completed using MCM's 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*. This report documents the research, the field methods and results, and the conclusions and recommendations based on the Stage 1 & 2 archaeological assessment. All documents and records related to this project will be curated at the offices of ACC, in accordance with subsection 66(1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act* (OHA).

1.2 Historical Context

1.2.1 Background Research

Stage 1 background research was conducted to determine the potential for finding and identifying archaeological resources including sites within the current subject property and to determine the necessity of conducting a Stage 2 survey. This is done by reviewing geographic, archaeological, and historical data for the property and the surrounding area. The background research was conducted to:

- amass all the readily available information on any previous archaeological surveys in the area.
- determine the locations of any registered and unregistered sites within and around the subject property.
- develop a historical framework for assigning levels of potential significance to any new sites discovered during fieldwork.

1.2.2 A Cultural Chronology for Southern Ontario

Over their thousands of years of occupation in the general region, Indigenous peoples have left behind, to a greater or lesser degree, physical evidence of their lifeway activities and settlements at many locations. Based upon a published synthesis of Indigenous cultural occupations (Wright, 1968). Table 1 is a general outline of the cultural history of southern Ontario that is applicable to the subject property. Ellis and Ferris (1990) provide greater detail of the distinctive characteristics of each time period and cultural group. This general outline uses longstanding labels that are used to describe the archaeological record in North America. Archaeological terms like Paleoindian, Archaic, and Woodland, are used here as a way to divide time and should be treated as such.

It is likely that Ontario was occupied soon after the retreat of the Ice Age glaciers. The earliest known human occupation in the area was during the Paleoindian period (between 12,000 and 9,500 years ago) wherein small groups of nomadic peoples hunted big game such as caribou in a cool sub-arctic climate. Sites are typically found near glacial features such as the shorelines of glacial lakes or kettle ponds which would have allowed access to the low-lying environments that were favoured by caribou and other wildlife. These people were few and their small, temporary campsites are relatively rare. Paleoindian sites are recognized by the presence of distinctive artifacts such as fluted projectile points, beaked scrapers, and graves and by the preference for light colored chert, such as Collingwood chert. The Paleoindian Period is divided into two sub-periods, Early Paleoindian, and Late Paleoindian.

Table 1: General Cultural Chronology for Southern Ontario

PERIOD	SUBDIVISION I	SUBDIVISION II	YEARS BEFORE PRESENT	COMMENTS
PALEOINDIAN	Early Paleoindian	Fluted Point Horizon	12,000-10,500	big game hunters
	Late Paleoindian	Holcombe & Hi-Lo Horizons	10,500-9,500	small nomadic groups
ARCHAIC	Early Archaic	Side Notched Horizon	10,000-9,700	nomadic hunters and gatherers
		Corner-Notched Horizon	9,700-8,900	
		Bifurcate Horizon	8,900-8,000	
	Middle Archaic	Middle Archaic I/Stemmed Horizon	8,000-5,500	territorial settlements
		Middle Archaic II	5,500-4,500	polished ground stone tools
	Late Archaic	Narrow Point Horizon	4,500-3,500	
		Broad Point Horizon	4,000-3,500	
		Small Point Horizon (including Haldimand and Glacial Kame Complexes)	3,500-2,800	burial ceremonialism
WOODLAND	Early Woodland	Meadowood Complex	2,900-2,400	introduction of pottery
		Middlesex Complex	2,500-2,000	
	Middle Woodland	SW Ontario: Saugeen	2,300-1,500	long distance trade networks
		Western Basin: Couture	2,300-1,500	
	Transitional Woodland	SW Ontario:		
		Princess Point	1,500/1,400-1,200	incipient agriculture
		Western Basin:		
	Late Woodland: Ontario Iroquois Tradition	Riviere au Vase	1500/1400-1200/1100	
		Early: Glen Meyer	1200/100-750/700	transition to village life
		Middle I: Uren	720/700-710/670	large villages with palisades
		Middle II: Middleport	710/670-670/600	wide distribution of ceramic styles
	Late Woodland: Western Basin Tradition	Late: Neutral	600-450	
		Younge Phase	1200/1100-800	
Springwells Phase		800-600		
HISTORIC	European Contact	Wolf Phase	600-450	
		Historic Neutral	450-350	tribal warfare
		Initial Contact	380-300	tribal displacement
		European Settlement	200 >	European settlement
		First Nations Resettlement	200 >	

(Compiled from Adams, 1994, Ellis *et al.*, 1990, Wright, 1968)

During the Archaic period (*circa* 10,000 to 2,800 years ago) people were still primarily nomadic hunters, but they adapted to a more temperate climate. Groups were dispersed during winter months and converged around watercourses from the spring to fall in large fishing campsites. The Archaic period is characterized by the appearance of ground stone tools, notched, or stemmed projectile points. The Archaic Period is divided into three sub-periods, Early, Middle, and Late Archaic. During the Archaic Period, groups began to establish territorial settlements



and introduce burial ceremonialism. There is a marked increase in the number and size of sites, especially during the Late Archaic period.

The Woodland period is distinguished by the introduction of pottery vessels for storage and cooking. Sites of the Woodland period (*circa* 3,000 to 400 years ago) are usually the most numerous because the population levels in southern Ontario had significantly increased, especially along the shores of Lakes Erie and Ontario. The Woodland Period is also marked by the establishment of complex long distance trading networks. The Woodland Period is divided into three sub-periods, Early, Middle and Late Woodland. During the Late Woodland Period, there was increasing sedentarism and the establishment of horticulture, a reliance on tribal warfare, and the introduction of semi-permanent villages with large protective palisades. The Late Woodland period also envelops the emergence of Iroquoian tribes and confederacies.

The historic period (from A.D. 1650 to 1900) begins with the arrival of Euro-Canadian groups. Sites of this period document European exploration, trade, and the displacement and devastation of native groups caused by warfare and infectious disease. The most common sites of this period include Euro-Canadian homesteads, industries, churches, schools, and cemeteries.

While North America had been visited by Europeans on an increasing scale since the end of the 15th century, the first European to venture into what would become southern Ontario was Étienne Brûlé. Brûlé was sent by Samuel de Champlain in the summer of 1610 to consolidate an emerging relationship between the French and the First Nations, and to learn their languages and customs. Other Europeans would subsequently be sent by the French to train as interpreters. These men played an essential role in communications with the First Nations (Gervais and Rothe, 2004:182).

The late 17th and early 18th centuries saw the growth and spread of the fur trade, with the establishment and maintenance of trading posts along the Great Lakes. In 1754, hostilities over trade and the territorial ambitions of the French and the British led to the Seven Years' War, which ended when the French surrendered in 1760 (Smith, 1987:22). In addition to cementing British control over the Province of Quebec, the British victory over the French also proved pivotal in catalyzing the Euro-Canadian settlement process.

During pre-contact and early contact times, the vicinity of the subject property would have contained a mixture of deciduous trees, coniferous trees, and open areas. In the early 19th century, Euro-Canadian settlers arrived via easily accessible colonization routes and began to clear the forests for agricultural purposes. In the 19th and early 20th centuries, the subject property and surrounding land were primarily used for agricultural purposes. Mixed farming was common, with wheat crops and beef cattle dominating the landscape (Chapman and Putnam, 1984:177).

The subject property was historically located on Part of Lot 16, Southeast of Talbot Road North Branch, in the Geographic Township of Southwold, Elgin County. In 1791, the provinces of Lower Canada and Upper Canada were created from the former province of Quebec by a British parliamentary act. Colonel John Graves Simcoe was appointed as the Lieutenant Governor of



Upper Canada and was tasked with governing and directing its settlement, as well as establishing a constitutional government based on Britain's model (Coyne et al, 1895:33).

Elgin County was originally part of Middlesex County. In 1852, Elgin was separated from Middlesex County and the area was named after Governor-General James Bruce, the Eighth Earl of Elgin (Mika & Mika, 1977). Early settlement in Elgin County was largely influenced by Colonel Thomas Talbot. Talbot was born in Dublin, Ireland in 1771, and was provided a Colonel's commission and made an Aide-de-Camp of Lieutenant Governor John Graves Simcoe in 1791 (Page, 1877). He became enamored with the area and settled in Dunwich Township in 1803, while encouraging others to do the same within what was called the Talbot Settlement, on lands along the north shore of Lake Erie. In 1852, Elgin County had a population of 25,818 (Carter, 1984).

Southwold Township was surveyed and in 1792 named after a town in Suffolk, England (On this Spot, 2025). The region's rich soils supported the growth of hamlets and villages in the 19th century, including Fingal, Talbotville, Iona, Shedden, and Paynes Mills. Today Southwold Township has a population of around 4,500 and retains its agricultural roots (On this Spot, 2025).

The nearest historical community was the dispersed rural community of Shedden, located directly north of the subject property. This community was first established by John Shedden, who purchased a large tract of land to develop into housing lots after learning that a branch of the Toronto and Nipissing Railway was to be built in the area (Township of Southwold, 2024). George Casey soon built a grain elevator, leading the growth of the grain industry within the town. By the mid-1800s, Shedden had two rail lines and two rail stations (Township of Southwold, 2024).

Historical records and mapping were examined for evidence of early Euro-Canadian occupation within and near the subject property in the mid- to late-19th century. Tremaine's 1864 *Map of Elgin County, Canada West* lists Abraham Waugh as the owner of Lot 16, Southeast of Talbot Road North Branch (Figure 3). There are no structures within the subject property; however, a schoolhouse is illustrated at the north end of the lot approximately 350 metres (m) from the subject property. A small creek is shown approximately 600 m to the southeast of the subject property. The subject property is located approximately 70 m to the east of Union Road, an early concession road.

Census records from 1861 list William Waugh as a 73-year-old Scottish farmer who lived on the property with his wife Letitia, age 53, and their six children: Marvin, age 24, Sarah, age 22, Matthew, age 21, Abraham, age 18, William, age 15, and Alexander, age 13. Also part of the household was Henry Bacchus, listed as not a member of the family (Library and Archives Canada, 2025).

H. R. Page & Co's 1877 map of Southwold Township in the *Illustrated historical atlas of the county of Elgin, Ontario*, lists Abraham Waugh as the owner of the western half of Lot 16, including the subject property (Figure 4). A farmstead and orchard are illustrated approximately 100 m to the northwest of the subject property and a creek is shown approximately 600 m to the

southeast. Union Road is 70 m to the west, and there is a mill located to the west of the road. Shedden Station, with the Corsley post office are shown to the north by this time.

It should be noted that while no structures are illustrated within the subject property on the historical atlas maps, it does not necessarily mean that one or more structures were not present at that time, earlier or later. Not all features of interest were mapped systematically on the Ontario series of historical maps and atlases, given that they were financed by subscription, and subscribers were given preference regarding the level of detail provided on the maps (Caston, 1977:100). Given that the subject property is within 100 m of a historic concession road there is the potential for 19th century buildings to be present, depending on the level of disturbance.

1.3 Archaeological Context

1.3.1 Natural Environment

The subject property is located within the Ekfrid Clay Plain physiographic region of Ontario (Chapman and Putnam, 1984:113). This region lies to the south of the Caradoc Sand Plain and consists of stratified pale greyish brown clays with knolls of sand and gravel. Aside from gullies near the Sydenham and Thames Rivers, the surface is generally level. Silty sediment beds are found in the Fingal area (Chapman and Putnam, 1984:146-147). The dominant physiographic landform within the subject property is clay plain (Ministry of Northern Development and Mines, 2007).

The *Soils Survey of Elgin County* (Hoffman and Richards, 1990) indicates that there is one dominant surface soil type within the subject property, Tuscola silt loam and loam. This soil is a dark greyish-brown clay loam that is characterized by few stones, smooth, gently sloping topography, and imperfect drainage.

Water has been identified as the major determinant of site selection, and the presence of potable water is the single most important resource necessary for any extended human occupation or settlement. Primary water sources include, among others, lakes, rivers, creeks, and streams. Secondary water sources include intermittent streams, creeks, springs, marshes, and swamps. Past water sources, such as raised beach ridges, relic water channels, and glacial shorelines are also considered to have archaeological potential. Swamps and marshes are also important as resource extraction areas, and any resource areas are considered to have archaeological potential. The nearest water source is a tributary of Talbot Creek which runs 130 m to the west of the subject property. Talbot Creek itself runs to the south and east of the subject property. The closest point is 330 m southeast of the subject property.

1.3.2 Recent Land Use

Figure 6 provides the current land use of the subject property. The imagery shows that the subject property is agricultural field in the south and maintained lawn in the north, separated by Fairground Street. At the time of the assessment a section of the subject property to the north of Fairground Street had topsoil removed and stockpiled. Gravel and sand were also stockpiled as well as sewer pipes and a trailer as part of storage for sewer construction taking place on nearby Union Road. As part of the construction an emergency road made of gravel was also constructed

along the western edge of the subject property as an access for fire trucks and other emergency vehicles during the closure of Union Road for construction.

Lands to the east of the subject property are agricultural field. To the south are community soccer fields, to the west are residential homes fronting Union Road, across from which is the Township of Southwold Fire Station. To the north are maintained lawns and a community centre, library, horse paddock, and park.

Figure 7 provides aerial imagery of the subject property and surrounding area in 1954. At that time the subject property and surrounding areas were all agricultural, with a horse track to the east. No residences were present to the west.

Fieldwork for the project was conducted on June 2 and June 4, 2025.

1.3.3 Previous Archaeological Investigations

1.3.3.1 Registered Archaeological Sites

Previously registered archaeological sites can be used to indicate archaeological potential. To determine if any previous assessments have yielded archaeological sites, either within or surrounding the current subject property, two main sources were consulted. These include the *Ontario Archaeological Sites Database* (OASD) and the *Public Register of Archaeological Reports*, both of which are maintained by MCM.

The OASD contains archaeological sites registered within the Borden system (Borden, 1952). The Borden system divides Canada into 13 km by 18.5 km blocks based on longitude and latitude. Each Borden block is designated with a four-letter label and sites identified within the block are numbered sequentially as they are registered. The subject property is located within the *AeHi* Borden block.

According to the OASD, no archaeological sites have been registered within the subject property; however, one site has been registered within one km of the subject property (MCM, 2025a). This site, AeHi-60, is a Late Archaic Indigenous projectile point that was documented during Stage 2 pedestrian survey. This isolated findspot has no further CHVI (MCM, 2025a). The site is located approximately 400 m from the subject property.

The absence of additional registered sites may not necessarily be an accurate indication of cultural occupation, but rather it may reflect the lack of systematic archaeological surveys in the area.

CHVI is a term used by MCM and consultant archaeologists to describe archaeological resources that meet one or more criteria that recommend further fieldwork in MCM's *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*. Under the OHA and its regulations, archaeological resources that have been determined to possess CHVI are protected as archaeological sites under Section 48 of the act.

Information concerning specific site locations is protected by provincial policy and is not fully subject to the *Freedom of Information Act*. The release of such information in the past has led to

looting or various forms of illegally conducted site destruction. Confidentiality extends to all media capable of conveying location, including maps, drawings, or textual descriptions of a site location. MCM will provide information concerning site location to the party or an agent of the party holding title to a property, or to a licensed archaeologist with relevant cultural resource management interests.

1.3.3.2 Previous Archaeological Reports

A review of archaeological reports within the *Public Register of Archaeological Reports* indicated that no reports detailing previous archaeological fieldwork within the subject property have been entered into MCM's register at the time this report was written (MCM, 2025b). There are no reports detailing previous fieldwork within 50 m of the subject property within the register. Reports were searched based on registered site information, historic lots and concessions, and nearby streets.

1.3.4 Historical Plaques and Monuments

MCM's *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (MCM, 2011:17) stipulates that areas of early Euro-Canadian settlement (including places of early military pioneer settlement, pioneer homesteads, isolated cabins, farmstead complexes, early wharf or dock complexes, pioneer churches, and early cemeteries) are considered to have archaeological potential. There may be commemorative markers of their history, such as local, provincial, or federal monuments, plaques, cairns, or heritage parks. Early historical transportation routes (trails, passes, roads, railways, portage routes), properties listed on a municipal register or designated under the OHA or a federal, provincial, or municipal historic landmark or site, and properties that local histories or informants have identified with possible archaeological sites, historical events, activities, or occupations are also considered to have archaeological potential.

There are no plaques or commemorative markers within or near the subject property (Ontario Provincial Plaques, 2025).

1.3.5 Archaeological Master Plans

Archaeological site predictive models and master plans are tools used to assist in determining the probability of encountering archaeological sites. Probability models are created using consideration of variables such as distance to water, soil type, drainage, physiographic region, degree of slope, proximity to registered archaeological sites, and degree of disturbance.

While Elgin County does not have an archaeological master plan or potential model, it does have an official plan that provides a comprehensive framework for managing growth and land use, including policies related to archaeological resources and heritage conservation. The plan aims to ensure orderly development while respecting the county's natural environment and cultural heritage, including archaeological sites. It includes provisions for managing archaeological potential, addressing unexpected discoveries, and engaging with Indigenous communities. (Elgin County, 2024).

1.3.6 Cemeteries

A search of the subject property and surrounding area determined that there were no cemeteries located within or near the subject property. The Bereavement Authority of Ontario's Public Register does not list any cemeteries within or near the subject property (Bereavement Authority of Ontario, 2025). The nearest cemetery to the property is Shedden Cemetery, located 500 m to the west.



2.0 FIELD METHODS

The subject property measures 4.41 ha. The Stage 1 & 2 assessment were conducted concurrently on June 2 and June 4, 2025, with advance permission to enter the subject property obtained from the Proponent. Weather conditions during the assessment were excellent, with clear skies and maximum daily high temperature of 28 degrees Celsius. Table 2 provides detailed weather conditions for each day of the assessment.

Table 2: Daily Fieldwork Conditions

DATE	WEATHER CONDITIONS	FIELD DIRECTOR
June 2, 2025	23°C, clear skies	Kristy O'Neal, P066
June 4, 2025	28°C, mix of sun and clouds	Kristy O'Neal, P066

The Stage 1 assessment of the subject property began with an on-site property inspection to gain first-hand knowledge of the geography, topography, and current condition of the property. The entirety of the subject property was accessible and was inspected. Appropriate photographic documentation was taken during the visual inspection. The Stage 1 property inspection took place when the ground was fully visible, and under conditions that allowed for full viewing of archaeological potential. Coverage of the property was sufficient to identify the presence or absence of features of archaeological potential, meeting the requirements of Section 1.2 Standard 1 of the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*.

Areas of low to no archaeological potential include lands that have been previously disturbed, lands that have steeply sloping topography, and lands that are low-lying and permanently wet. There were no areas of steeply sloping topography or low-lying and permanently wet areas within the subject property. 0.82 ha, 19 percent (%), of the subject property has been previously disturbed by intensive and extensive modern soil alterations, including for construction of Fairground Street and an emergency access road, and for use as stockpiling during nearby construction. These areas have been graded to below subsoil and have low to no archaeological potential.

The remainder of the subject property, totaling 3.59 ha, 81%, was determined to retain archaeological potential and require Stage 2 archaeological assessment. 0.45 ha, 10%, of the subject property consists of maintained lawn surrounding the construction area that could not be ploughed. As these lands could not be ploughed, Stage 2 archaeological assessment was conducted by test pit survey at 5 m intervals in accordance with Section 2.1.2 of the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*. Each test pit was dug by hand and was 30 centimetres (cm) in diameter and was dug to at least 5 cm into the subsoil. Test pits were examined for stratigraphy, cultural features, or evidence of fill. Test pits were dug to within one m of all disturbances and other areas of low archaeological potential. All soil was screened through 6-millimetre mesh to maximize the potential for artifact recovery. Appropriate photographic documentation was taken, and all test pits were backfilled upon completion. As no artifacts were observed during the test pit assessment no intensified survey was conducted.



3.14 ha, 71%, of the subject property, consisted of agricultural field that was assessed by means of pedestrian survey at 5 m intervals. The fields had been recently ploughed, with direction provided to the contractor undertaking the ploughing that the ploughing should be deep enough to provide total topsoil exposure, but not deeper than previous ploughing. The ploughed lands were well-weathered by several light rains to improve the visibility of archaeological resources. At least 80% of the ground surface was visible. As such, the pedestrian survey met Section 2.1.1 of the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* in terms of field preparation and visibility. As no artifacts were observed during the pedestrian survey no intensified survey was conducted.

The ground was not saturated during the assessment. There were no weather, ground, or lighting conditions detrimental to the recovery of artifacts. As such, it is confirmed that the Stage 2 assessment met Section 2.1 Standard 3 of the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* regarding weather and lighting.

The entirety of the subject property was assessed. The results of the Stage 1 & 2 assessment are shown in Figures 8 and 9. Images of the assessment are provided in Section 9.0.



3.0 RECORD OF FINDS

3.1 Soils

The surface soils within the ploughed agricultural fields consisted of medium brown clay loam. Test pits contained approximately 20 to 35 cm of medium brown sandy loam topsoil above yellow to light brown sandy loam subsoil.

3.2 Archaeological Resources

No artifacts or other archaeological resources were observed during the Stage 1 & 2 assessment of the subject property.

3.3 Documentary Record

All fieldwork-related activities were documented and kept, including field notes and observations and detailed maps. Appropriate photographic records were kept of the assessment, and all image descriptions were recorded in a photo log.

A detailed list of field records is presented in Table 3. All digital items have been duplicated, and all paper items have been scanned and stored as digital documents. All items are housed in the corporate offices of ACC.

Under Section 6 of Regulation 881 of the OHA, ACC will keep in safekeeping all objects of archaeological significance that are found under the authority of the license and all field records that are made in the course of the work authorized by the license, except where the objects and records are donated to His Majesty the King in right of Ontario or are directed to be deposited in a public institution under subsection 66 (1) of the Act.

Table 3: Inventory of Documentary and Material Records

PROJECT INFORMATION		
ACC project number	160-12-25	
Licensee	Kristy O'Neal	
MCM PIF numbers	P066-0558-2025	
DOCUMENT/MATERIAL	NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
field notes & photo logs	2	pages (paper, with digital copies)
maps	1	aerial imagery of subject property
	1	concept plan of the subject property
photographs	12	digital colour photographs



4.0 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS

4.1 Assessing Potential for Archaeological Resources

Archaeological potential is defined as the likelihood of finding archaeological sites within a subject area. For planning purposes, determining archaeological potential provides a preliminary indication that significant sites might be found within the subject area, and consequently, that it may be necessary to allocate time and resources for archaeological survey and mitigation.

The framework for assigning levels of potential archaeological significance is drawn from provincial guidelines found in the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (MCM, 2011: Sections 1.3.1 and 1.3.2). The following are features or characteristics that can indicate archaeological potential:

- previously identified archaeological sites
- water sources (It is important to distinguish types of water and shoreline, and to distinguish natural from artificial water sources, as these features affect site locations and types to varying degrees.)
 - primary water sources (e.g., lakes, rivers, streams, creeks)
 - secondary water sources (e.g., intermittent streams and creeks, springs, marshes, swamps)
 - features indicating past water sources (e.g., glacial lake shorelines indicated by the presence of raised sand or gravel beach ridges, relic river or stream channels indicated by clear dip or swale in the topography, shorelines of drained lakes or marshes, cobble beaches)
 - accessible or inaccessible shoreline (e.g., high bluffs, swamp or marsh fields by the edge of a lake, sandbars stretching into marsh)
- elevated topography (e.g., eskers, drumlins, large knolls, plateaus)
- pockets of well-drained sandy soil, especially near areas of heavy soil or rocky ground
- distinctive land formation that might have been special or spiritual places, such as waterfalls, rock outcrops, caverns, mounds, and promontories and their bases. There may be physical indicators of their use, such as burials, structures, offerings, rock paintings or carvings.
- resource areas, including:
 - food or medicinal plants (e.g., migratory routes, spawning areas, prairie)
 - scarce raw materials (e.g., quartz, copper, ochre or outcrops of chert)
 - early Euro-Canadian industry (e.g., fur trade, logging, prospecting, mining)



- areas of early Euro-Canadian settlement. These include places of early military or pioneer settlement (e.g., pioneer homesteads, isolated cabins, farmstead complexes), early wharf or dock complexes, pioneer churches and cemeteries. There may be commemorative markers of their history, such as local provincial, or federal monuments or heritage parks
- early historical transportation routes (e.g., trails, passes, roads, railways, portages)
- property listed on a municipal register or designated under the OHA or that is in a federal, provincial, or municipal historic landmark site
- property that local histories or informants have identified with possible archaeological sites, historical events, activities, or occupations

Archaeological potential can be determined not to be present for either the entire property or parts of it when the area under consideration has been subject to extensive and deep land alterations that have severely damaged the integrity of any archaeological resources. This is commonly referred to as “disturbed” or “disturbance” and may include:

- quarrying
- major landscaping involving grading below topsoil
- building footprints
- sewage and infrastructure development
- activities such as agricultural cultivation, gardening, minor grading, and landscaping do not necessarily affect archaeological potential.

4.2 Archaeological Potential for the Subject Property

Section 1.3.1 of the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (MCM, 2011) lists criteria indicative of archaeological potential. MCM stipulates the following requirements for Stage 2 property survey based on archaeological potential.

- No areas within 300 m of a previously identified site, water sources, areas of early Euro-Canadian settlement, or locations identified through local knowledge or informants can be recommended for exemption from further assessment.
- No areas within 100 m of early transportation routes can be recommended for exemption from further assessment.
- No areas within the property containing elevated topography, pockets of well-drained sandy soil, distinctive land formations, or resource areas can be recommended for exemption from further assessment.

Stage 1 background research indicated that the subject property has general archaeological potential due to the following factors:



- The subject property is largely comprised of well-drained land that is suitable for human habitation.
- A farmstead is shown to the north of the subject property in 1877 historical atlas mapping.
- The subject property is located within 100 m of Union Road, an early historical transportation route.
- A tributary of Talbot Creek is located 130 m from the subject property.
- The subject property is located within 300 m of the historic limits of the community of Shedden.
- There is one registered archaeological site within one km of the subject property.

Given the above criteria, background archival research indicated that the subject property exhibited general archaeological potential for the discovery of both pre/post-contact Indigenous and Euro-Canadian archaeological resources therefore, a Stage 2 archaeological assessment was required.

The subject property measures 4.41 ha. A visual property inspection determined that 0.82 ha of the subject property has been previously disturbed by modern construction activities and has low to no archaeological potential.

3.59 ha of the subject property retained archaeological potential and was recommended for Stage 2 assessment. 0.45 ha of the subject property consisted of maintained lawn and was assessed by test pit survey at 5 m intervals. 3.14 ha of the subject property consisted of agricultural field that was assessed by means of pedestrian survey at 5 m intervals.

No artifacts or other archaeological resources were identified during the Stage 1 & 2 archaeological assessment.



5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Subject to acceptance of the results and approval of the recommendations, MCM is requested to deem this report compliant with ministry requirements for archaeological fieldwork and reporting and to issue a letter accepting this report into the *Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports*, as provided for in Section 65.1 of the OHA.

The following recommendation is provided for consideration by the Proponent and by the MCM:

1. No artifacts or other archaeological resources were identified during the Stage 1 & 2 archaeological assessment. The subject property has now been fully assessed according to MCM's 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*. No further archaeological assessment of the subject property is required.



6.0 ADVICE ON COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION

The following advice on compliance with current legislation is provided for consideration:

- a. This report is submitted to the Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism as a condition of licensing in accordance with Part VI of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c O.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.
- 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 a 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 consultant archaeologist to carry out archaeological fieldwork, in compliance with Section 48 (1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
- d. The *Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act*, 2002, S.O. 2002, c.33 (when proclaimed in force) requires that any person discovering human remains must notify the police or coroner and the Registrar, Burials Unit, at the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and Procurement.
- 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 license.

7.0 CLOSURE

This report was prepared for the exclusive use of the Proponent, unless otherwise expressly stated in the report or contract. This report documents work that was performed in accordance with the accepted professional standards at the time and location in which the services were provided.

The report is based solely on data and information collected during the archaeological assessment as described in this report. All information received from the Proponent or third parties in the preparation of this report has been assumed by ACC to be factual and accurate. ACC assumes no responsibility for any deficiency, misstatement, or inaccuracy in information received from others. ACC disclaims any obligation to update this report for events or information that becomes available to ACC after the assessment has been completed.

Conclusions made within this report consist of ACC's professional opinion as of the time of the writing of this report and are based solely on the scope and extent of work described in the report, the limited data available, and the results of the work. The conclusions are based on the conditions encountered by ACC at the time the work was performed. Due to the nature of archaeological assessment, which consists of systematic sampling, it is possible that unforeseen and undiscovered archaeological resources may be present within the assessed area. ACC does not warrant against undiscovered environmental liabilities nor that the sampling results are indicative of the condition of the entire property. No other representations, warranties, or guarantees are made concerning the accuracy or completeness of the data or conclusions contained within this report, including no assurance that this work has uncovered all potential archaeological resources associated with the identified property.

Any use of this report by any third party is prohibited. This report is not to be given over to any third party, for any purpose whatsoever, without the written permission of ACC, which shall not be unreasonably withheld. Any use which a third party makes of this report, in whole or in part, or any reliance on or decisions to be made based on any information and conclusions in the report, are the responsibility of the third party. ACC assumes no responsibility for losses, damages, liabilities or claims of any kind whatsoever, howsoever arising, from third party use of this report.

ACC makes no other representations whatsoever, including those concerning the legal significance of the report's findings, or as to other legal matters touched on in this report, including, but not limited to, ownership of any property, or the application of any law to the facts set forth herein.

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9.0 IMAGES

See the following pages for images of the assessment. The location of each image within the subject property is provided in Figure 9, below.





Image 1: Soil stockpile and construction trailer, facing north.



Image 2: Fairground Street and soil stockpile area, facing southwest.



Image 3: Emergency access road, facing southeast.



Image 4: Fairground Street, facing northeast.



Image 5: Agricultural field, facing southeast.



Image 6: Agricultural field, facing north.



Image 7: Agricultural field, facing northwest.



Image 8: Typical ground visibility conditions for the pedestrian survey.



Image 9: Maintained lawn with construction stockpile area in background, facing south.



Image 10: Maintained lawn with construction stockpile area in background, facing southeast.



Image 11: Maintained lawn with construction stockpile area in background, facing southeast.



Image 12: Typical test pit.



10.0 FIGURES

See the following pages for detailed assessment mapping and figures.



Figure 1: Location of the Subject Property on a Topographic Map

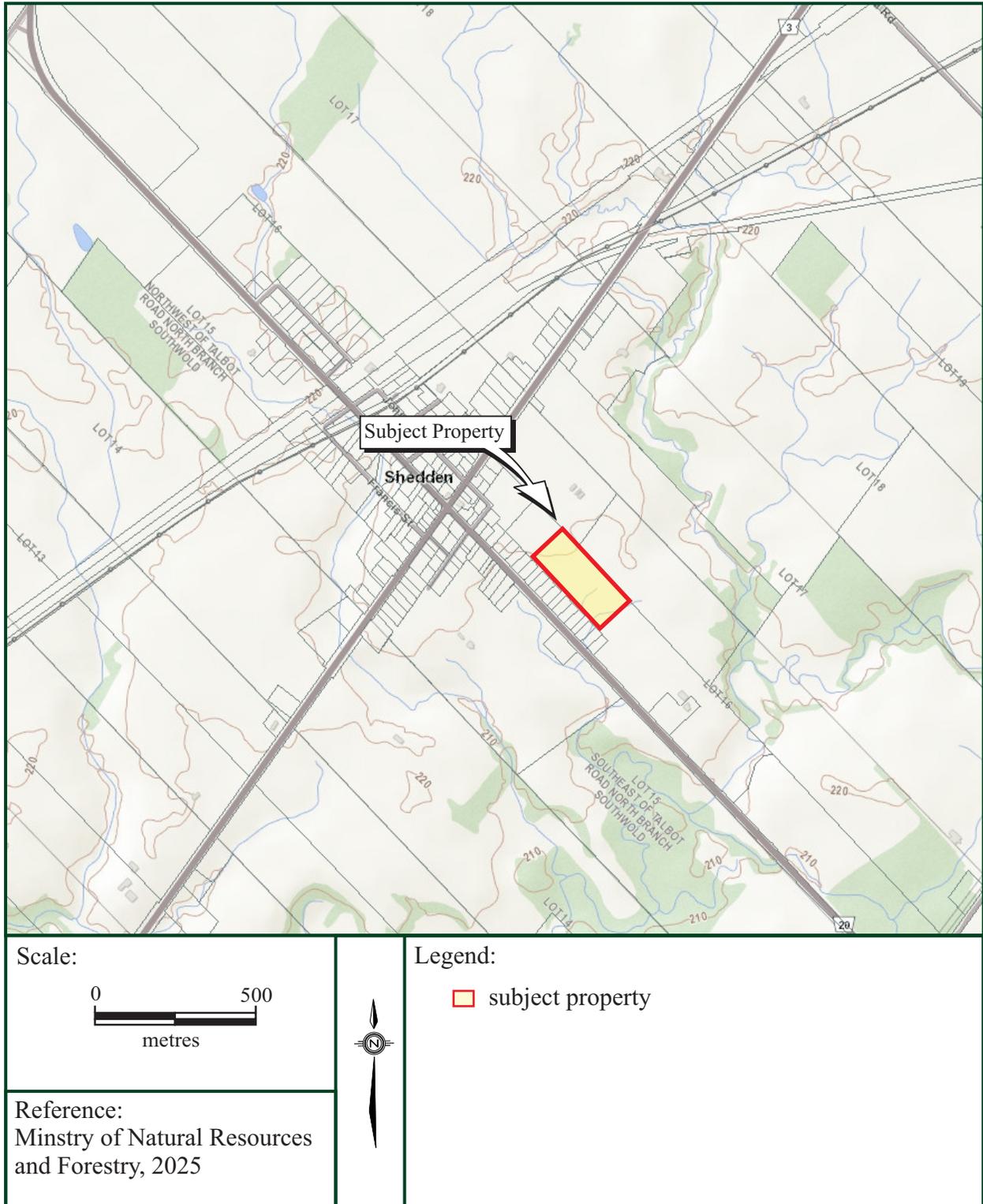
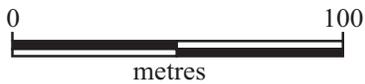


Figure 2: Concept Plan of the Subject Property



Scale:



Reference:

CJD Consulting Engineers,
 n.d.

Legend:

 subject property



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Figure 3: Location of the Subject Property on Tremaine's 1864 Map of the County of Elgin, Canada West



Figure 4: Location of the Subject Property on H. R. Page & Co.'s 1877 Illustrated Historical Atlas Map of Southwold Township, Elgin County



Figure 5: Location of the Subject Property on a Map of Elgin County Soils

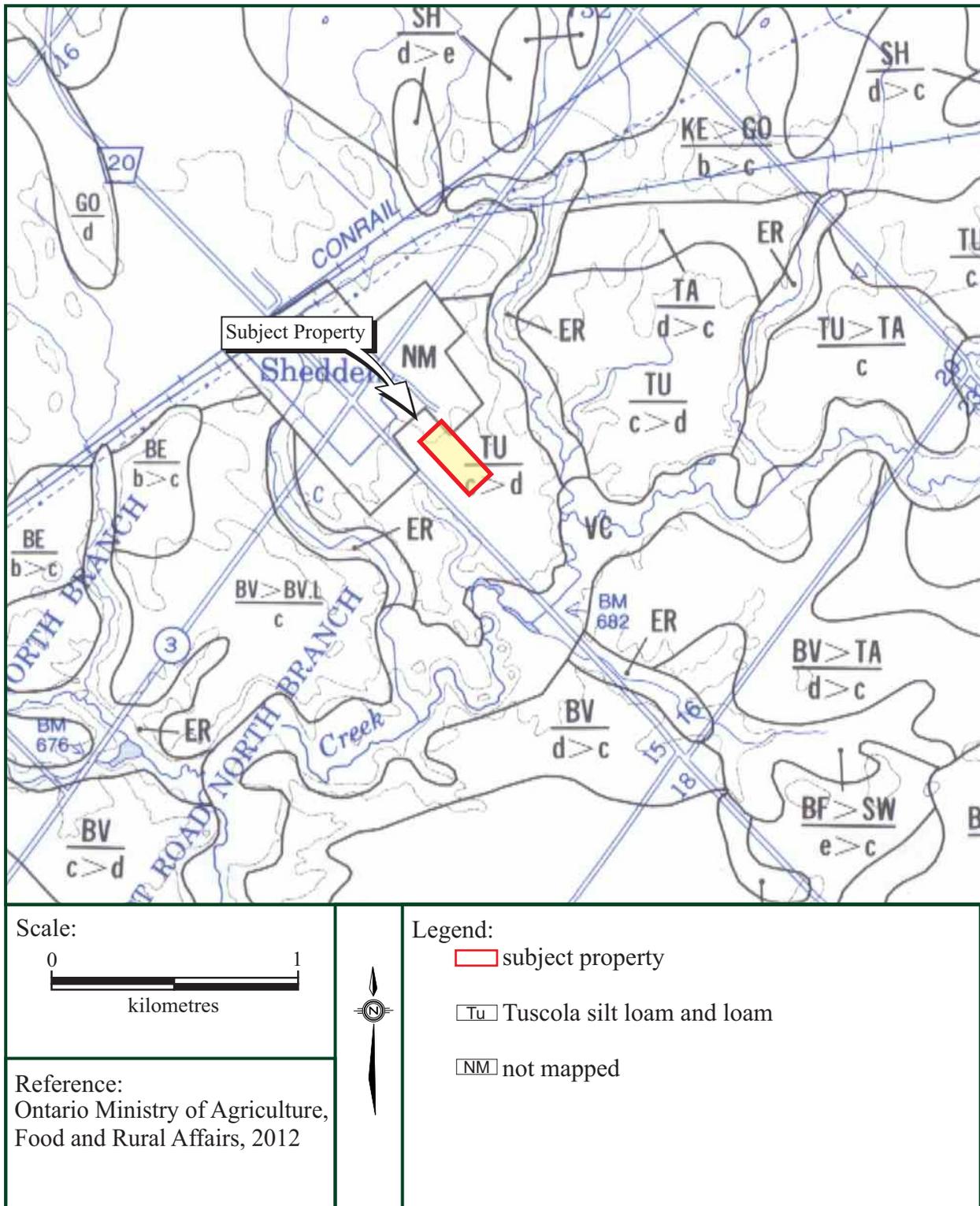


Figure 6: Current Land Use of the Subject Property

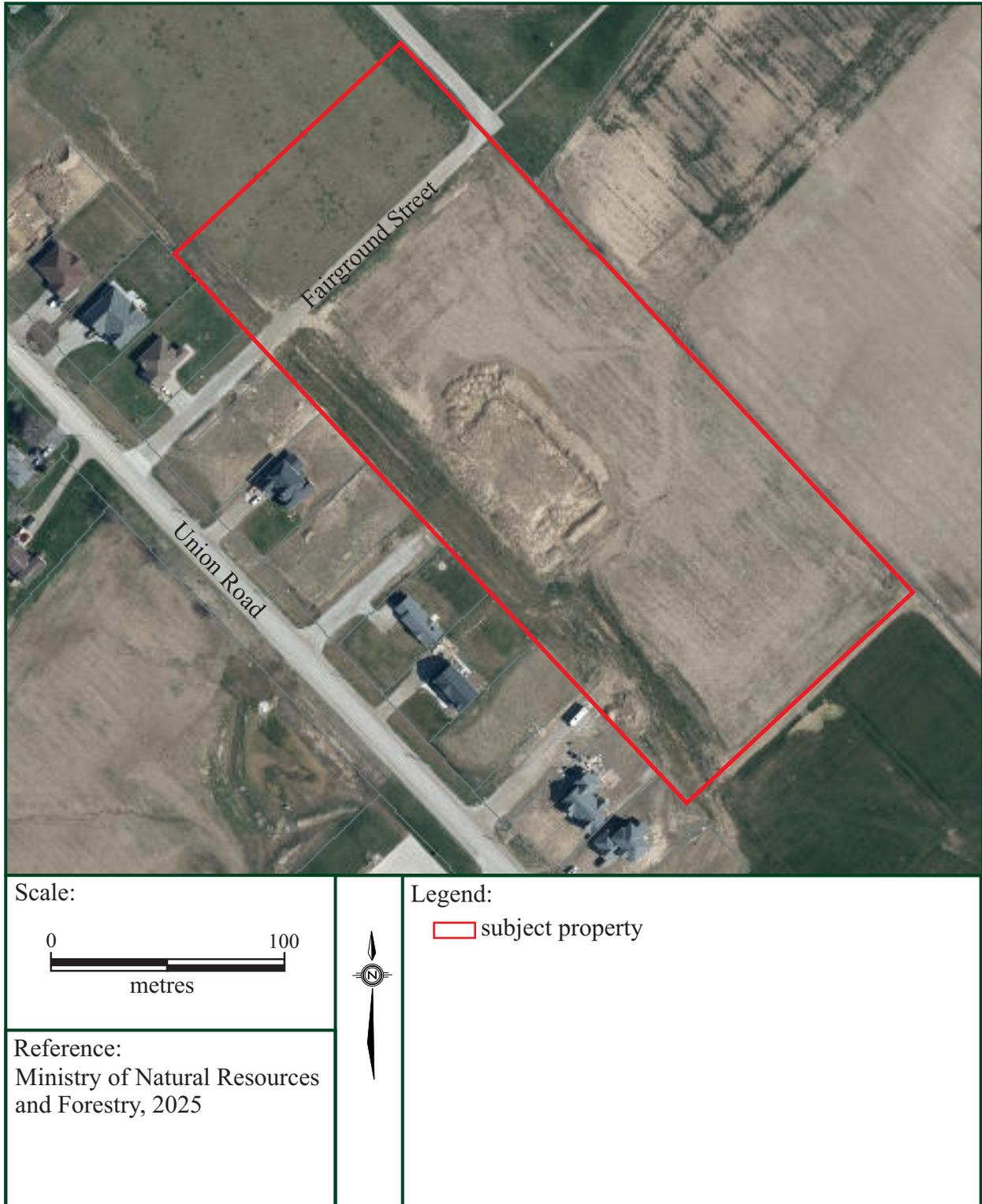
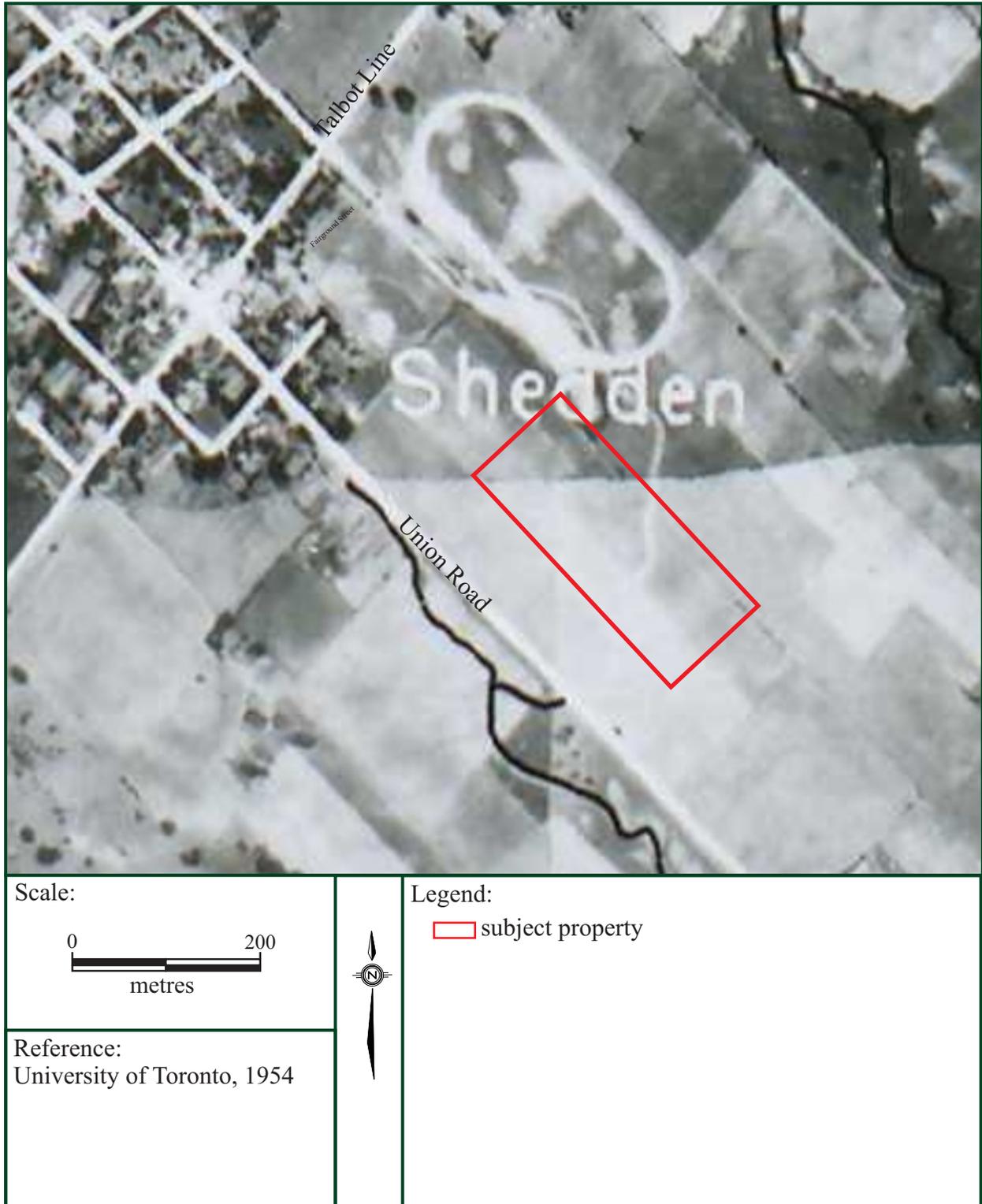


Figure 7: 1954 Aerial Imagery of the Subject Property



Scale:
0 200
metres

Reference:
University of Toronto, 1954

Legend:
[red rectangle] subject property



Figure 8: Aerial Imagery Showing the Results of the Stage 1 & 2 Archaeological Assessment of the Subject Property

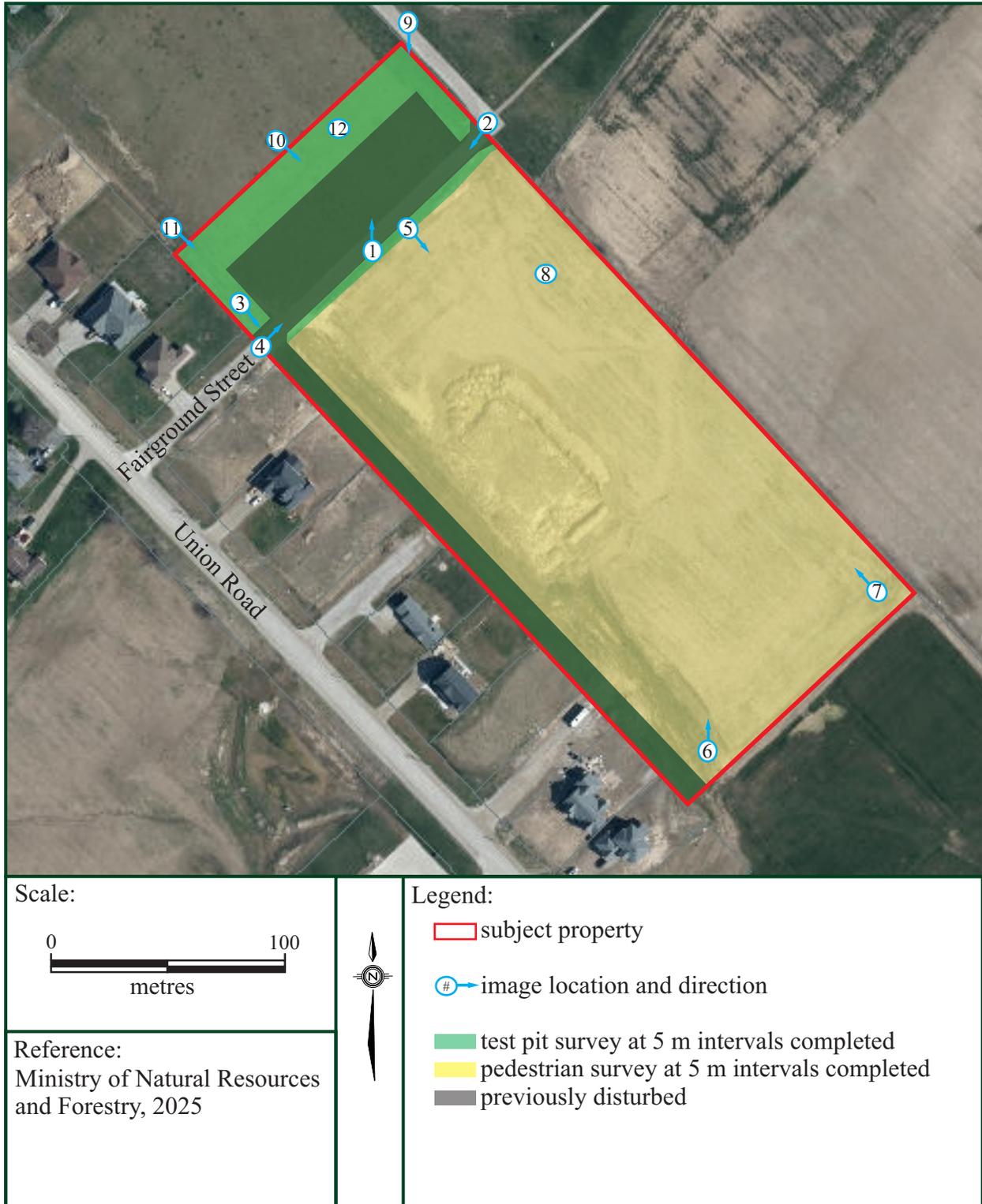


Figure 9: Concept Plan Showing the Results of the Stage 1 & 2 Archaeological Assessment of the Subject Property

