# Stage 1&2 Archaeological Assessment for 216 & 226 Brock Street East, Part of Lot 30, Concession 7, Township of Uxbridge, Ontario County, Ontario



## Prepared by

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Project Information Number P052-0894-2018

# THE ARCHAEOLOGISTS INC.

Original Report Report Dated: July 31, 2018

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Archaeologists Inc. was contracted by Mr. Blair Boston to conduct a Stage 1 and 2 archaeological assessment for 216 & 226 Brock Street East, Part of Lot 30, Concession 7, Township of Uxbridge, Ontario County, Ontario. The subject property, which is comprised of approximately 6.45 acres, is located at Municipal address 216 and 226 Brock Street East, within the Township of Uxbridge.

A Stage 1 background study of the subject property was conducted to provide information about the property's geography, history, previous archaeological fieldwork and current land condition in order to evaluate and document in detail the property's archaeological potential and to recommend appropriate strategies for Stage 2 survey. A Stage 2 property assessment was conducted to document all archaeological resources on the property, to determine whether the property contains archaeological resources requiring further assessment, and to recommend next steps. The characteristics of the property dictated that the Stage 2 survey be conducted by test pit survey at a 5 metre interval.

The Stage 1 background study concluded that the property exhibits archaeological potential. The Stage 2 property assessment did not identify any archaeological resources within the subject property. The report recommends that no further archaeological assessment of the property is required.



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# PROJECT PERSONNEL

Project/Field Director: Mr. T. Keith Powers (P052)

Field Archaeologists Mr. T. Keith Powers

Ms. Karen Powers Mr. Sam Felipe Mrs. Susan Dyer

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Mrs. Susan Dyer Mrs. Karen Powers

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#### **INTRODUCTION**

The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990 c. O.18, requires anyone wishing to carry out archaeological fieldwork in Ontario to have a license from the Ministry of Tourism and Culture (MTC). All licensees are to file a report with the MTC containing details of the fieldwork that has been done for each project. Following standards and guidelines set out by the MTC is a condition of a licence to conduct archaeological fieldwork in Ontario. The Archaeologists Inc. confirms that this report meets ministry report requirements as set out in the 2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists, and is filed in fulfillment of the terms and conditions an archaeological license.

#### 1.0 PROJECT CONTEXT (Section 7.5.5)

This section of the report will provide the context for the archaeological fieldwork, including the development, historical and archaeological context.

#### 1.1 Development Context (Section 7.5.6, Standards 1-3)

#### Section 7.5.6, Standard 1

The Archaeologists Inc. was contracted by Mr. Blair Boston to conduct a Stage 1 and 2 archaeological assessment for 216 & 226 Brock Street East, Part of Lot 30, Concession 7, Township of Uxbridge, Ontario County, Ontario. The subject property, which is comprised of approximately 6.45 acres, is located at Municipal address 216 and 226 Brock Street East, within the Township of Uxbridge. The archaeological assessment was triggered by the Planning Act. This assessment report was conducted in due diligence in advance of a site plan proposal for development of a retirement facility.

#### Section 7.5.6, Standard 2

There is no additional development-related information relevant to understanding the choice of fieldwork strategy of recommendations made in the report.

#### Section 7.5.6, Standard 3

Permission to access the study area to conduct all required archaeological fieldwork activities, including the recovery of artifacts was given by the landowner and their representative.



#### 1.2 Historical Context (Section 7.5.7, Standards 1-2)

#### Section 7.5.7, Standard 1

In advance of the Stage 2 assessment, a Stage 1 background study of the subject property was conducted in order to document the property archaeological and land use history and present condition. Several sources were referenced to determine if features or characteristics indicating archaeological potential for pre-contact and post-contact resources exist.

Characteristics indicating archaeological potential can include the near-by presence of previously identified archaeological sites, primary and secondary water sources, features indicating past water sources, accessible or inaccessible shoreline, pockets of well-drained sandy soil, distinctive land formations that might have been special or spiritual places, such as waterfalls, rock outcrops, caverns, mounds, and promontories and their bases, resource areas, (including food or medicinal plants, scarce raw materials, early Euro-Canadian industry), areas of early Euro-Canadian settlement, early historical transportation routes, property listed on a municipal register or designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act* or that is a federal, provincial or municipal historic landmark or site, and 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 a part 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, and sewage and infrastructure development. Archaeological potential is not removed where there is documented potential for deeply buried intact archaeological resources beneath land alterations, or where it cannot be clearly demonstrated through background research and property inspection that there has been complete and intensive disturbance of an area. Where complete disturbance cannot be demonstrated in Stage 1, it will be necessary to undertake Stage 2 assessment.

The background study determined that the following features or characteristics indicate archaeological potential for the subject property:

- The current google mapping shows a tributary of Wagner Lake draining into the subject property. This tributary however does not show up on any Historic mapping.
- The 1878 Illustrated Historical Atlas of Ontario County depicts that the property falls within the town plot.

The subject property contains an unnamed tributary that flows from Wagner Lake in the North. Portable water is arguably the single most important resource necessary for any extended human occupation or settlement. Since water sources have remained relatively stable in south central Ontario after the Pleistocene era, proximity to water can be



regarded as a useful index for the evaluation of archaeological site potential. Indeed, distance from water has been one of the most commonly used variable for predictive modeling of site location.

#### Lots 30, Concession 7

The 1878 Illustrated Historical Atlas of the Township of Uxbridge illustrates that a section of this lot is part of the Town Plot. This typically means it contains dwellings or businesses that are present at the time of the survey. The section of Lot 30, Concession 7 is owned by *J.P.Plank* 

It must be noted that not all features of interest today would have been considered within the scope of the Atlas at the time of publication. Nevertheless, the Atlas is considered one source for the assessment of archaeological potential. It can therefore be concluded based on the above features, that the study area has potential for the identification of potentially significant historical archaeological remains.

#### Section 7.5.7, Standard 2

The Stage 2 property assessment of the subject property will employ the strategy of test pit survey, following the standards listed in Section 2.1.2 and 2.1.8 of the *2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*. This is the appropriate strategy based on Stage 1 background study. To our knowledge there are no other reports containing relevant background information related to this development project.

# 1.3 Archaeological Context (Section 7.5.8, Standards 1-7)

#### Section 7.5.8, Standard 1

In Ontario, information concerning archaeological sites is stored in the Ontario Archaeological Sites Database (O.A.S.D.), an inventory of the documented archaeological record in Ontario. Information on the known archaeological sites in the vicinity of the study area was obtained from the Ministry of Tourism, Culture & Sport archaeological sites database. According to MTCS, there are no registered sites within the subject property, and no sites located within 1 kilometer of the subject property.

#### Section 7.5.8, Standard 2

The subject property is located at municipal addresses 216 & 226 Brock Street East in the Township of Uxbridge. The property currently consists of existing standing structures, areas of gravel/tarmac drives and areas of grass and trees.

The study area is located in the Peterborough Drumlin Field physiographic region of Southern Ontario. This region consists of several thousand drumlins in addition to numerous other drumlinoids generally composed of highly calcareous till. The area is mostly underlain by the Lindsay Formation, which is pale to medium gray nodular crystalline limestone in shaley and rubbley outcrops. In Victoria County, the bedrock is generally close to the surface and the till contains large quantities of angular limestone rubble. The drumlins are more scattered and not so



well formed as in other areas. Deposits of clay lie between the drumlins to create a "drumlin and clay flat" landscape (Chapman and Putnam 1984).

#### Section 7.5.8, Standard 3

The Stage 2 archaeological fieldwork of the subject property was undertaken on May 29, 2018 under sunny skies and favorable conditions for assessment.

#### Section 7.5.8, Standard 4

No previous archaeological fieldwork has taken place within the limits of the project area.

#### Section 7.5.8, Standard 5

We are unaware of previous findings and recommendations relevant to the current stage of work.

#### Section 7.5.8, Standard 6

There are no unusual physical features that may have affected fieldwork strategy decisions or the identification of artifacts or cultural features.

#### Section 7.5.8, Standard 7

There is no additional archaeological information that may be relevant to understanding the choice of fieldwork techniques or the recommendations of this report.



#### 2.0 FIELD METHODS (Section 7.8.1, Standards 1-3)

This section of the report addresses Section 7.8.1 of the 2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists. It does not address Section 7.7.2 because no property inspection was done as a separate Stage 1.

#### Section 7.8.1, Standard 1

The entire project area was assessed, although portions of the project area could not be systematically surveyed due to previous disturbance.

#### Section 7.8.1, Standard 2

As relevant, we provide detailed and explicit descriptions addressing Standards 2a, b and c. Standard 2d is not relevant.

Section 7.8.1, Standard 2a - The general standards for property survey under Section 2.1 of the 2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists were addressed as follows:

- Section 2.1, S1 All of the subject property was assessed, although several areas of visible disturbance were not subject to systematic survey.
- Section 2.1, S2a (land of no or low potential due to physical features such as permanently wet areas, exposed bedrock, and steep slopes) n/a
- Section 2.1, S2b (no or low potential due to extensive and deep land alterations) Disturbance related to the existing standing structures and areas of gravel/tarmac drives were considered to have no or low potential due to extensive and deep land alterations.
- Section 2.1, S2c (lands recommended not to require Stage 2 assessment by a
  previous Stage 1 report where the ministry has accepted that Stage 1 into the
  register) n/a
- Section 2.1, S2d (lands designated for forest management activity w/o potential for impacts to archaeological sites, as determined through Stage 1 forest management plans process) n/a
- Section 2.1, S2e (lands formally prohibited from alterations) n/a
- Section 2.1, S2f (lands confirmed to be transferred to a public land holding body, etc) n/a
- Section 2.1, S3 The Stage 2 survey was conducted when weather and lighting conditions permitted excellent visibility of features.
- Section 2.1, S4 No GPS recordings were taken as no artifacts were found during the Stage 2 assessment.
- Section 2.1, S5 All field activities were mapped in reference to either fixed landmarks, survey stakes and development markers as appropriate. See report section 9.0 Maps.
- Section 2.1, S6 See report section 8.0 *Images* for photo documentation of examples of field conditions encountered.



• Section 2.1, S7 - n/a

#### Section 7.8.1, Standard 2b -

The subject property was subject to a systematic test pit survey appropriate to the characteristics of the property, except for those portions assessed as disturbed as noted above. These areas were not surveyed due to no or low archaeological potential.

The test pit survey of the property followed the standards within Section 2.1.2 of the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*. Test pit survey was only conducted where ploughing was not possible or viable, as per Standard 1. All test pits were 30cm in diameter. Test pits were excavated into subsoil where possible. Each test pit was excavated by hand, into the first five cm of subsoil and examined for stratigraphy, cultural features or evidence of fill. No stratigraphy or cultural features were noted. Test pits revealed imported gravel fills and topsoils indicating that those areas have been deeply and extensively disturbed during previous development related construction, and therefore, no longer displayed archaeological potential.

Section 7.8.1, Standard 2c – All areas of the subject property exhibiting moderate to high archaeological potential were surveyed at five metre intervals.

#### Section 7.8.1, Standard 3

A total of 85% of property was subject to test pit survey at 5 metre intervals. The remaining 15% of the subject property was assessed as disturbed due to existing standing structures and areas of gravel/tarmac drives.



#### 3.0 RECORD OF FINDS (Section 7.8.2, Standards 1-3)

This section documents all finds discovered as a result of the Stage 1 and 2 archaeological assessment of the subject property.

#### Section 7.8.2, Standard 1

No archaeological resources or sites were identified in the Stage 2.

#### Section 7.8.2, Standard 2

An inventory of the documentary record generated in the field is provided in Table 1.

Table 1: Inventory of Documentary Record	
Document Type	Description
Field Notes	This report constitutes the field notes for this project
Photographs	14 digital photographs
Maps	• Figures represent all of the maps generated in the field.

#### Section 7.8.2, Standard 3

Information detailing exact site locations on the property is not submitted because no sites or archaeological resources were identified in the Stage 2 assessment.

#### 4.0 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS (Section 7.8.3, Standards 1-2)

#### Section 7.8.3, Standard 1

No archaeological sites were identified. Standard 2 is not addressed because no sites were identified.

## 5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS (Section 7.8.4, Standards 1-3)

#### Section 7.8.4, Standard 1

This standard is not applicable as no sites were identified.

#### Section 7.8.4, Standard 2

The report makes recommendations only regarding archaeological matters.

#### Section 7.8.4, Standard 3

The Stage 2 survey did not identify any archaeological sites requiring further assessment or mitigation of impacts and it is recommended that no further archaeological assessment of the property be required.



# 6.0 ADVICE ON COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION (Section 7.5.9, Standards 1-2)

#### Section 7.5.9, Standard 1a

This report is submitted to the Minister of Tourism and Culture 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 Tourism and Culture, a letter will be issued by the ministry stating that there are no further concerns with regard to alterations to archaeological sites by the proposed development.

#### Section 7.5.9, Standard 1b

It is an offence under Sections 48 and 69 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* for any party other than a licensed archaeologist to make any alteration to a known archaeological site or to remove any artifact or other physical evidence of past human use or activity from the site, until such time as a licensed archaeologist has completed archaeological fieldwork on the site, submitted a report to the Minister stating that the site has no further cultural heritage value or interest, and the report has been filed in the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports referred to in Section 65.1 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

#### Section 7.5.9, Standard 1c

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*.

#### Section 7.5.9, Standard 1d

The *Cemeteries Act*, R.S.O, 1990 c. C.4 and the *Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act*, 2002, S.O. 2002, c.33 (when proclaimed in force) require that any person discovering human remains must notify the police or coroner and the Registrar of Cemeteries at the Ministry of Consumer Services.

Section 7.5.9, Standard 2 Not applicable



#### 7.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY AND SOURCES (Section 7.5.10, Standards 1)

Chapman, L.J. and F. Putnam

1984 The Physiography of Southern Ontario, Ontario Geological Survey Special Volume 2. Toronto: Government of Ontario, Ministry of Natural Resources.

Ministry of Tourism and Culture

2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists.

Web Sites

 $http://old toron to maps.blog spot.ca/2013/02/1860-tremaines-map-of-county-of-york.html. \\ http://digital.library.mcgill.ca/countyatlas/searchmap frames.php$ 



# 8.0 IMAGES (Sections 7.5.11, 7.7.5, 7.8.6)



Plate 1 Shows area of gravel/tarmac drive.



Plate 2 Shows existing structure.





Plate 3 Shows existing structure.



Plate 4 Shows area of gravel/tarmac drive.





Plate 5 Shows existing structure.



Plate 6 Shows area subject to test pit survey.





Plate 7 Shows area assessed by test pit survey.



Plate 8 Shows area of gravel/tarmac drive.





Plate 9 Shows area assessed by test pit survey.



Plate 10 Shows area assessed by test pit survey and existing structure.





Plate 11 Shows area assessed by test pit survey and existing structure.



Plate 12 Shows area assessed by test pit survey.

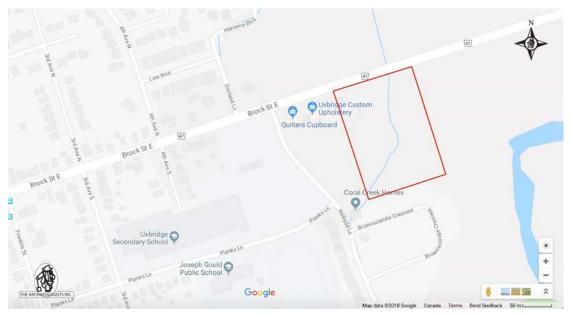




Plate 13 Shows area assessed by test pit survey and existing structure.

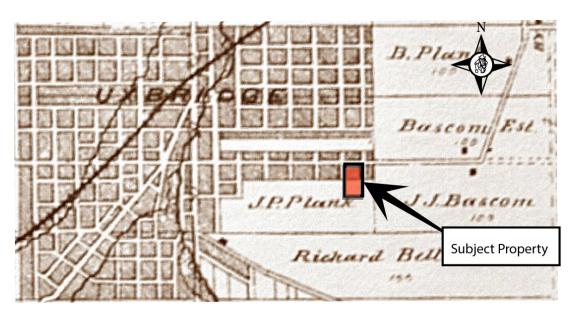


# 9.0 MAPS (Section 7.5.12, 7.7.6, 7.8.7)



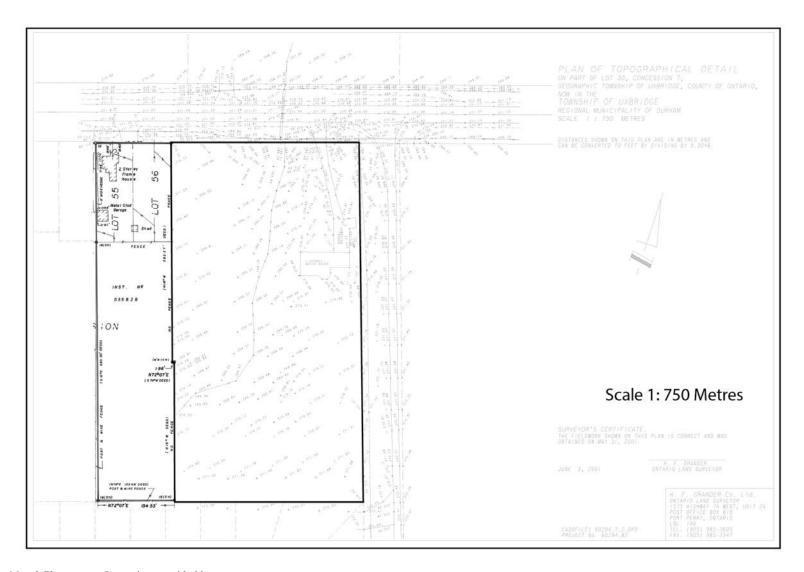
Map 1 General location of subject property.





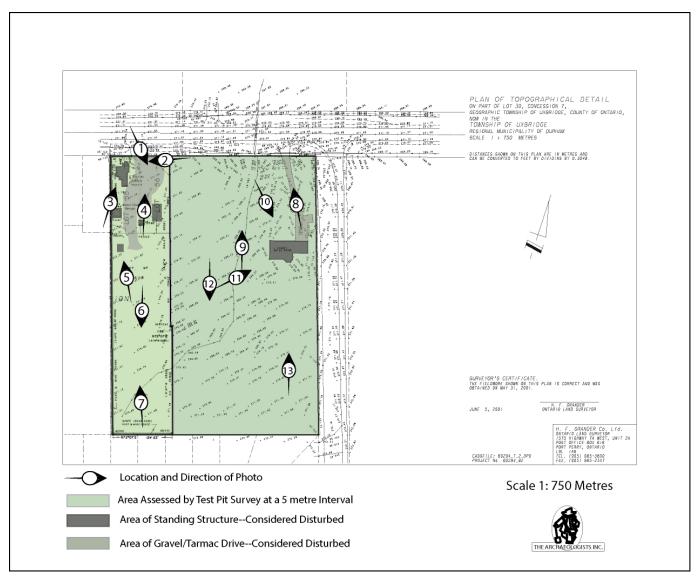
Map 2 Approximate location of subject property, overlaid in red, on 1877 Atlas.





Map 3 Clear copy of mapping provided by proponent.





Map 4 Results of Stage 2 archaeological assessment.

