



**Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment: Section of the
Orangeville Rail Corridor, Formerly Part Lot 11,
Concession 3 WHS, Township of Toronto, Peel
County, now Part 1-2 PIN 14085-1815 (LT), Plan
43R-18372, in the City of Mississauga, Region of
Peel, Ontario**

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Executive Summary

Parslow Heritage Consultancy Inc. (PHC) was retained by the City of Mississauga to conduct a Stage 1 archaeological background assessment for a section of the Orangeville Rail Corridor, located on Part Lot 11, Concession 3 WHS, Township of Toronto, Peel County, now Parts 1-2 PIN 14085-1815 (LT), Plan 43R-18372, in the City of Mississauga, Region of Peel, Ontario. The study area is approximately 7.67 acres in size (3.10 hectares) and currently consists of a decommissioned section of the Orangeville Brampton Railway corridor and associated right of way running south of Waldorf Way to an unopened road allowance between Concessions 3 and 4 WHS, just north of Old Derry Road. (**Map 1 and 2**). This assessment is required under the *Planning Act*, prior to the study area's redevelopment into a recreational trail.

The objectives of the Stage 1 archaeological background assessment are to gather information about the project location's geography, history, current land conditions as well as any previous archaeological research and listed archaeological sites on or within the vicinity. Methods to achieve these objectives include:

- ▶ Review of relevant historic and environmental literature pertaining to the study area;
- ▶ Review of an updated listing of archaeological sites within 1 km from the MCM Archaeological Sites Database;
- ▶ Review of all archaeological assessments within 50 m of the study area;
- ▶ Consultation with individuals knowledgeable about the study area;
- ▶ Review of historic maps and aerial imagery of the study area

The Stage 1 research showed that the study area displays several high indicators of archaeological potential, namely: presence of registered archaeological sites and water sources within 300 metres, as well as the study area following an early Euro-Canadian transportation corridor. The study area is therefore recommended to undergo Stage 2 property assessment per Section 2.1.2 of the MCM *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (2011). The Stage 2 assessment should start with a property inspection to determine areas of disturbance or slope, followed by test pit survey at 5 metre intervals across the portions of the study area confirmed to retain archaeological potential.

Project Personnel

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Acknowledgements

Taral Shukla, City of Mississauga

Project Context

This section of the report provides the context for the archaeological assessment and covers three areas: development context, historical context, and archaeological context.

Development Context

Parslow Heritage Consultancy Inc. (PHC) was retained by the City of Mississauga to conduct a Stage 1 archaeological background assessment for a section of the Orangeville Rail Corridor, located on Part Lots 12 and 13, Concession 3 WHS, Township of Toronto, Peel County, now Parts 1-5 PIN 14085-1814 (LT), and Part 2, Plan 43R-18372, in the City of Mississauga, Region of Peel, Ontario. The study area is approximately 4.64 acres in size (1.88 hectares) and currently consists of a decommissioned section of the Orangeville Brampton Railway corridor from the Mississauga/Brampton border, across the Credit River, past Derry Road, into a residential area (**Map 1 and 2**). This assessment is required under the *Planning Act*, prior to the study area's redevelopment into a recreational trail.

The objectives of the Stage 1 archaeological background assessment are to gather information about the project location's geography, history, current land conditions as well as any previous archaeological research and listed archaeological sites on or within the vicinity. Methods to achieve these objectives include:

- ▶ Review of relevant historic and environmental literature pertaining to the study area;
- ▶ Review of an updated listing of archaeological sites within 1 km from the MCM Archaeological Sites Database;
- ▶ Review of all archaeological assessments within 50 m of the study area;
- ▶ Consultation with individuals knowledgeable about the study area;
- ▶ Review of historic maps and aerial imagery of the study area; and

All archaeological work documented in this report was completed under the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism's (MCM) *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*.

Historical Context

This section describes the past and present land use and settlement history of the property, and any other relevant historical information gathered through the background research (MCM Section 7.5.7 Standard 1).

Indigenous History

Indigenous peoples of southern Ontario have left behind archaeologically significant resources throughout the province that show continuity with past peoples even if they were not recorded in historic Euro-Canadian documents. Table 1 illustrates this continuity and demonstrates over 11,000 years of Indigenous occupation of southern Ontario (Ellis and Ferris 1990).

TABLE 1: OVERVIEW OF THE CULTURAL CHRONOLOGY OF SOUTHERN ONTARIO

Period	Characteristics	Time	Comments
Early Paleo	Fluted Points	9,000 – 8,400 BC	Caribou hunters
Late Paleo	Hi-Lo Points	8,400 – 8,000 BC	Smaller but more numerous sites
Early Archaic	Kirk, Nettling, and Bifurcate Base Points	8,000 – 6,000 BC	Slow population growth
Middle Archaic I	Stanley/Neville, Stemmed Points	6,000 – 4,000 BC	Environment similar to present
Middle Archaic II	Thebes, Otter Creek Points	4,000 – 3,000 BC	
Middle Archaic III	Brewerton Side and Corner Notched Points	3,000 – 2,000 BC	
Late Archaic I	Narrow Point (Lamoka, Normanskill)	2,000 – 1,800 BC	Increasing site size
	Broad Point (Genesee, Adder Orchard)	1,800 – 1,500 BC	Large chipped lithic tools Introduction of bow hunting

Period	Characteristics	Time	Comments
	Small Point (Crawford Knoll, Innes, Ace-of-Spades)	1,500 – 1,100 BC	
Terminal Archaic	Hind Points	1,100 – 950 BC	Emergence of true cemeteries
Early Woodland	Meadowood Points	950 – 400 BC	Introduction of pottery
Middle Woodland	Dentate/Pseudo-Scallop Pottery	400 BC – AD 500	Increased sedentism
	Princess Point	AD 550 – 900	Introduction of corn
Late Woodland	Early Ontario	AD 900 – 1,300	Emergence of agricultural villages
	Middle Ontario	AD 1,300 – 1,400	Large longhouses (100m+)
	Late Ontario (Neutral)	AD 1,400 – 1,650	Tribal warfare and displacement
Contact	Various Algonkian and Iroquoian Groups	AD 1,700 – 1,875	Early written records and treaties

Most of the archaeological record found in Ontario – the tools, animals, plants, structures, soils and contexts recovered from the landscape – are the direct heritage of the Indigenous Communities that currently reside in south-central Ontario and adjacent provinces and states. Archaeology is but one means of reconstructing this ancient past thus, understanding the lives and histories of these early people is both a challenge and a responsibility. Every new site identified and documented provides a unique opportunity to learn more about the 13,000-year history in Ontario. In archaeology, sites are identified by periods of time whereby there was a consistency in livelihood and technology among various Indigenous populations. In southern Ontario, there are three

archaeological periods of time that give insight into the ancient past: Paleo, Archaic and Woodland.

Paleo and Archaic Time Periods

According to the archaeological record, we first see remnants of human settlement in Ontario approximately 13,000 years ago, just after the end of the Wisconsin Glacial Period, when this area was settled by Indigenous populations. The period for these first inhabitants is known as the Paleo, a time in which it is theorized that bands of small hunter gatherer followed a pattern of seasonal mobility extending across wide-ranging territories shaped extensively by the advancing and retreating of glaciers.

The term Archaic designates preagricultural sites lacking in pottery and other specific artefact forms and are primarily distinguished from Paleo sites by a significantly greater degree of artefact diversity and regional variety. Archaic people began to make stone tools out of coarser raw material by laboriously grinding the rock into the desired shape. The introduction of ground stone tools such as celts and axes, suggests the beginnings of a simple woodworking industry and an increased use of localized stone sources indicates that Archaic populations may have been less nomadic than their Paleo ancestors. It is likely that gradual infilling of the landscape resulting from rising water levels and population growth necessitated the development of strategies to support more people from smaller areas of livable land.

During the Late Archaic Period, it is theorized that there is a trend towards decreased territory size, a broadening subsistence base, population growth and increasing sedentism. Living in a time before farming or pottery, early hunter gatherers hunted, fished, and travelled in a land that was dynamic, ever-changing, and far removed from modern or historic ways of life.

Woodland Time Period

The Early Woodland Period is distinguished from the Late Archaic Period primarily by the gradual adoption of ceramic technology. and it is not until the Middle Woodland (around 2,300 years ago) that there is an evident shift in settlement and subsistence patterns towards a sedentary way of life. Middle Woodland peoples relied much more extensively on ceramic technology and vessels were often heavily decorated with hastily impressed designs covering the entire exterior surface and upper portion of the vessel interior. The Middle Woodland provides a major point of departure from the Archaic and Early Woodland; fish was becoming an increasingly important part of diets and sites along the margins of major lakes and rivers appear to have functioned as base camps instead of seasonally utilized locations, indicating a greater degree of sedentism and reliance on fishing technology.

The Late Woodland Period is widely accepted as the beginning of a truly agricultural way of life in s Ontario. Researchers have suggested that a warming trend during this

period may have encouraged the spread of maize into southern Ontario by providing a greater number of frost-free days. The presence of carbonized corn kernels and cob fragments recovered from sub-floor storage pits indicates that agriculture was becoming a vital part of the Early Iroquoian economy.

The Late Woodland Period witnessed several interesting developments in terms of settlement patterns and artefact assemblages. The size of villages and houses increased dramatically, with house lengths almost doubling to an average of 30m. Possible explanations for these shifts involve changes in economic and socio-political organization; small villages may have amalgamated to form larger communities for mutual defense. These large villages were often heavily defended with numerous rows of wooden palisades, suggesting that defense may have been one of the rationales for smaller groups banding together.

By the late 1400s major villages covered as many as four to five hectares and would have contained over 2,000 individuals each. A change in the orientation of longhouses at this time may indicate the initial development of the tribes and nations which were a characteristic of the historically known Iroquoian peoples. Four Hundred years ago Ontario was home to about 75,000 Indigenous people, divided into two major cultural groups – Algonquians and Iroquoians.

After AD 1450, house lengths begin to decrease, with houses dating between AD 1500-1580 averaging a mere 30m in length. The even shorter houses witnessed on Historical Period sites can be at least partially attributed to the population reductions associated with the introduction of European diseases such as smallpox which, in the span of a few years, had reduced the population to a mere 30,000 people. The nature of the settlement sizes, population distribution, and material culture shifted as European settlers encroached upon their territory. Despite this shift, written accounts of material life and livelihood, the correlation of historically recorded villages to their archaeological manifestations, and the similarities of those sites to more ancient sites have revealed an antiquity to documented cultural expressions that confirms a deep historical continuity to Indigenous systems of ideology and thought (Ferris 2009:114). As a result, Indigenous peoples of southern Ontario have left behind archaeologically significant resources throughout the province which show continuity with past peoples, even if they were not recorded in historic Euro-Canadian documents.

Colonial History

Colonialism in Canada

The Canada we see today is one that was built on the principles of *Settler Colonialism*. This is a specific kind of colonialism whereby the purpose or goal is to replace an indigenous population with an invasive settler population that over time will develop its own identity and sovereignty. It is important to understand that there are three main features of settler colonialism that had a profound impact on the Indigenous population of Canada.

The first feature is that settler colonizers, unlike other forms of colonization, intend to permanently occupy and assert control over Indigenous lands. Second, settler colonialism is a structure, not an event and continues to the present day in Canada. Third, settler colonialism “seeks its own end” in that the goal is to form a homogenous society that is over-arching and unchallenged.

With this knowledge, we see now that initial attempts at settlement and colonization occur in 1534 with Jacques Cartier who traveled across the Atlantic Ocean and entered the Gulf of the St. Lawrence whereby he landed on the shores of what is now Gaspé, Quebec. However, Cartier’s attempts to establish a permanent settlement failed and it was not until 1603, with Samuel de Champlain, did settler colonialism start in Canada with the establishment of New France.

The French and British colonizers, who encountered Indigenous populations, thought them to be inferior to themselves and saw the Indigenous populations as a source of cheap labour for the fur trade, soldiers for the battlefield, or even household slaves. When Indigenous populations resisted, the Europeans would often wage war against them. As the European powers sought to secure greater control over North America, threats of violence were used to force Indigenous leaders to sign *treaties* that surrendered political control of their land in exchange for meager financial compensation or dubious promises of protection and safety.

At the time of first contact with the French, in 1615 AD, the traditional territory of the Huron-Wendat, known as Wendake, roughly stretched between the Canadian Shield, Lake Ontario and the Niagara Escarpment; it has been suggested the Huron-Wendat population at this time was approximately 30,000 individuals (Warrick 2008; Heidenreich 1978).

In the 1640s the Haudenosaunee, whose territory was located south of the lower Great Lakes, invaded Huron-Wendat territory, largely due to the decrease of available beaver pelts. The majority of the Huron-Wendat population sought sanctuary within the communities of the Petun, Neutral and other neighbouring groups, after numerous Huron-Wendat village were destroyed (Stone and Chaput 1978). Commencing in the 1660s, the Haudenosaunee controlled most of southern Ontario (Schmalz 1991; Williamson 2013).

During the mid-17th century, several Algonquin-speaking linguistic and cultural groups within the Anishinaabeg (or Anishinaabe) began to challenge the Haudenosaunee dominance in the region (Johnston 2004; Gibson 2006). Prior to this, the Anishinaabeg were located primarily inland from the north shore of Lake Huron (MCFN nd). From 1653 to 1662, following a series of attacks against the Haudenosaunee by groups within the Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaunee dominance in the region began to fail (Warrick 2008; Schmalz 1991). By the 1690s, Haudenosaunee settlements along the northern shores of Lake Ontario were abandoned (Williamson 2013). Following a few

battles throughout southern Ontario, the Anishinaabeg replaced the Haudenosaunee in area at the start of the 18th century (Gibson 2006; Schmalz 1991).

European Treaties and Deeds

Map 3 situates the study area within lands encompassed by Treaty 13A, signed between several Mississauga Nations and representatives of the Crown on August 2nd, 1805. The text of the treaty is as follows:

“Commencing at the eastern bank of the mouth of the River Etobicoke, being in the limit of the western boundary line of the Toronto Purchase, in the year 1787; then north twenty-two degrees west, six miles; thence south 38 degrees west, twenty-six miles more or less, until it intersects a line on the course north 45 degrees west, produced from the outlet of Burlington Bay; then along the said produced line, one mile more or less to the lands granted to Captain Brant; then north 45 degrees east, one mile and a half; then south 45 degrees east, three miles and a half more or less to Lake Ontario; then north easterly along the waters edge of Lake Ontario to the eastern bank of the River Etobicoke being the place of the beginning.”

Reserving to Ourselves and Mississague Nation the sole right of the Fisheries in the Twelve Mile Creek, the Sixteen Mile Creek, the Etobicoke River, together with the flats or low grounds on said creeks and rivere which we have heretofore, cultivated and where have our camps and also the sole right of the Fishery in the River Credit with one mile on each side of said river.

This treaty comprises the fronts of the Townships of Toronto, Trafalgar and Nelson, except the 3,450 acres granted to Chief Brant in 1797.

(Morris 1943:22)

Euro-Canadian Settler History

Settlement History

Following the Toronto Purchase, the Province of Quebec (which then included Ontario) was divided into four political districts: Lunenburg, Mechlenburg, Nassau, and Hesse. When the Province of Upper Canada was formed in 1791, the names of the four districts were changed to Eastern, Midland, Home, and Western, respectively. The study area fell within the Home District.

The Home District originally included all lands between an arbitrary line on the west running from Long Point on Lake Erie to Georgian bay and a line on the east running north from Presqu'ile Point on Lake Ontario to the Ottawa River. In 1792, John Graves Simcoe, the first Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada, then further subdivided each district into counties and townships. The study area is in the former County of Peel, former township of Toronto, now within the City of Brampton and City of Mississauga.

County of Peel

The County of Peel was initially occupied by the Mississaugas and various Iroquoian groups including the Haudenosaunee. After the American Revolution, British Loyalists denied their holdings in the new United States of America began looking for new settlement opportunities in Upper Canada. In the 1780s Peel County belonged to an extensive area called the Nassau District, which was later renamed the Home District. In 1792 Lieutenant Governor John Graves Simcoe legislated the formation of 19 counties, of which York, which stretched from Durham to Peel Counties, was one. By 1798 there was already a government inn (The Government House) at the mouth of the Credit River, and in 1805 a treaty between the Crown and some Mississauga peoples, known as the Mississauga Tract, transferred all the land south of what Eglinton Street between Etobicoke Creek to the east and Burlington Bay to the west to the British government, with the exception of one mile on either side of the Credit River retained as Indigenous territory. Samuel Street Wilmot surveyed Toronto Township in 1806 and small settlements began to proliferate, although immigration slowed during the War of 1812 (PAMA n.d.).

By 1818 the colonial need for more land was apparent, and the Crown negotiated with some Mississauga groups for a further 648,000 acres, including the remaining mile-wide buffer on either side of the Credit River. Surveys of the remainder of Toronto Township and the entirety of Chinguacousy Township were completed in 1819, and by the following year the rest of the townships in Peel County (Albion, Gore of Toronto, and Caledon) were opened for settlement (Pope 1877). Centre Road (Hurontario Street), which ran from Port Credit on Lake Ontario to Collingwood, encouraged settlement and by 1821 vacant land in the southern Peel townships was rare (Corporation of the County of Peel 1977). However, the relative isolation of the northern townships often led to disruptions in transportation and the growing importance of small villages and hamlets in order to serve rural residents. By 1837, most of the land in Peel County was occupied, mostly by white European settlers. The townships themselves were administered by a Justice of the Peace in the Home District Court located in York (Toronto), and local officials had little power until 1850 when the District Courts were dissolved in favour of county government. Peel was initially grouped with the United Counties of York, Peel, and Ontario, but eventually severed itself from York in 1866 to become a separate entity (Pope 1877).

Peel County emerged as an agricultural economy, where self-sufficient farmers relied on rural crossroad settlements for anything they could not make or grown on their own. Cattle and sheep were the main livestock, and wheat flourished (Corporation of the County of Peel 1967). The proliferation of rivers, creeks and streams allowed the foundation of many mills, which in turn encouraged community growth around these small points of industry. These frontier settlements often consisted of a tavern, church,

general store, and school, and the more prosperous communities likely also had several mills, a hotel, and/or a community hall (Halton-Peel OGS n.d.). The county relied heavily on grain production, which led to the expansion of road networks linking the rural agricultural settlements with larger towns. Most settlement was located along the Dundas Road, along with other major thoroughfares like Hurontario/Centre and the Lakeshore Roads. Larger towns such as Streeetville, Brampton, Cooksville, Summerville, and Dixie had residents that numbered into the hundreds, while smaller villages such as Caledon East, Bolton, Alton, and Mono Mills served the rural communities of the northern townships (Corporation of the County of Peel 1977).

After 1850, Peel County saw unprecedented prosperity as railroads were built across the region, beginning with the completion of the Great Western Railway in 1855 and the Grand Trunk Railway slightly after, which opened the county to the markets in Toronto and the greater world. Many of the smaller rural hamlets began to disappear as residents moved to more industrial towns along the rail lines, and cities like Port Credit, Clarkson, and Brampton directly benefitted from the rail system whereas smaller villages such as Streeetville and Cooksville were bypassed, leading to their decline. Even with the addition of the Port Credit and Toronto Grey & Bruce Railways many smaller villages were unable to keep up with the rapid pace of industrialization and disappeared after 1880 (Halton-Peel OGS n.d). The nature of agricultural life also changed with the introduction of rail travel; rivers and roads were less important for moving goods, and farmers could participate directly in the economy by moving their products by rail, which in turn led to more farmers combining their holdings to form specialized units. With greater access to worldwide markets, brick farmhouses began to become more ubiquitous as farmers with more capital began rejecting log construction in favour of more durable materials (Corporation of County of Peel 1967).

By the early twentieth century, the County of Peel had become increasingly industrialized; in 1911 more than 70% of the workers in Peel were employed in manufacturing or industrial settings (Corporation of County of Peel 1967). The proximity of Peel to Toronto meant that the needs of urban citizens subsumed the former agrarian economy of the region, and farmers were increasingly forced to rely on intensive, industrialized cultivation, such as greenhouses, and large-scale dairy farming (PAMA n.d). After the Second World War, Peel became a popular suburban destination, with planned communities linked to urban centers like Toronto and Brampton by arterial roads. Peel's explosive growth, especially in the southern townships, put increasing pressure on the county's government with a clear need for reorganization (Corporation of the County of Peel 1977). Inspired by the amalgamation of Toronto in 1953, officials encouraged a more "regional government" model, in which costly projects and planning initiatives would be undertaken by the regional government and more localized services would be delegated to three municipalities: Mississauga, Brampton, and Caledon (PAMA, n.d.). In 1974 this reorganization was finalized, and the County of Peel officially

became Peel Region. In the subsequent years, Peel Region continued to be a popular area for commuters and immigrants, with the population now well over a million people.

Toronto Township

The township was originally surveyed by the Deputy Surveyor Mr. Wilmot in 1806. By 1808 the entirety of the population consisted of seven families, all residing along Dundas Street. The population steadily increased throughout the area, until the War of 1812, which caused a substantial slowing in population growth. Following the end of the War of 1812, a secondary survey was done in the area, known as the New Survey, which comprised a rear part of Toronto Township – a large portion of this New Survey land would later be gifted to a group of Irish settlers from New York City.

The Credit River runs through the western side of Toronto Township, and became an important source of income and industry to these early settlers, as mills were capable of being constructed all along its banks. Another increase of wealth to the region came when the Hamilton and Toronto Railway finished its Lakeshore Line in 1855. By 1871 the Hamilton and Toronto Railway became the Great Western Railway, later the Grand Trunk in 1882, and again changed in 1923, becoming part of the Canadian National Railway (Brown, 2013).

The Township saw the creation and growth of several villages along the crossroads and Credit River, which included Britannia, Fraser's Corners, Mt. Charles, Derry, Palestine, Grahamsville, Streetsville, Meadowvale, Churchville, and Malton.

Meadowvale Village

Following the War of 1812, 29 Irish families moved from New York into what would become Meadowvale Village. There are four individuals often credited as being the founders of Meadowvale, John Beatty, James Crawford, John Simpson, and Francis Silverthorn. The area was initially focused on agriculture due to the agreeable quality of the soil, but would soon switch to the lumber trade, specifically the trade of white pine, which was sent downriver to Port Credit where it was in heavy demand for ship masts and barrels, this demand increased to a boon by 1830 and the village and surrounding areas along the Credit River saw the expansion and construction of saw and grist mills along its banks. In 1836 Meadowvale was given the title of Village. The economy was further increased following the alcohol distillery company Gooderham and Worts taking an interest and further expanding mills in the area and adding a general store along the Credit. In 1968 Meadowvale Village together with the other villages within Toronto Township came to form the Town of Mississauga, it also became Ontario's first Heritage Conservation District in 1980, due to its well-preserved historic buildings and character (Heritage Mississauga, 2023).

Past Uses of Part Lot 11 Concession 3 West of Hurontario Street

To examine the potential for Euro-Canadian archaeological resources within the study area, several historical maps were examined including the 1859 Tremaine Map of Peel County (**Map 4**), as well as the 1877 Illustrated Atlas of Peel County (**Map 5**). The 1859 Tremaine Map shows Matthew Ludlow as the landowner for the western half of Lot 11 which the majority of the study area falls within and, Daniel Johnston being the landowner for the eastern half of the Lot which the northernmost section of the study area falls within – Meadowvale Village itself is within the eastern half of the Lot, but outside of the study area. The Tremaine Map does not depict any structures within the Lot, but this is not unusual given this was a subscription-based service and owners had to pay to have their properties fully depicted on these maps. The 1877 Atlas depicts the landowner as Matthew Laidlaw, however by this time the Laidlaw homestead and orchard are depicted within the Lot (though outside of the study area), and the Credit Valley Railway is depicted in its location running through the Lot in the same alignment as the current study area. The spelling Ludlow on the Tremaine Map is likely an error; Matthew Laidlaw arrived in Meadowvale from Yorkshire in 1834, with his parents and younger brothers following in 1837. The family received a Crown grant of 100 acres of Lot 8, Concession 4 WHS on November 9, 1844, selling it in 1865 for £400. In September of 1848, he purchased the Western 67 acres of Lot 11, Concession 3 WHS for £235 from William Neeland, who himself had purchased it from the original grantee John Beatty in 1845. In 1852, Laidlaw built a two and a half storey, red brick, Neo-classical inspired hotel – known as the Commercial Hotel in Meadowvale Village which still stands today (Hicks, 2004).

Credit Valley Railway History

The Credit Valley Railway begun construction in 1870's and added a stop in Meadowvale Village, as can be seen on **Map 5**. It soon became owned by the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1883 which ran through to Toronto and north to Owen Sound by connecting the tracks to the Toronto, Grey, and Bruce County line. The trains, along with the stop in Meadowvale, allowed for greater ease of travel to and from important political and business areas like Toronto, and also brought tourists into the area, through a greater ease of access (Hicks, 2004). The use of the line for passengers was halted in sections between 1970-1995, although the tracks dedicated to servicing Orangeville to Mississauga were purchased by the Town of Orangeville in order to preserve and continue its use. By 2018 the line was largely used for cargo freight operations, and in 2021 the Orangeville Brampton Rail Access Group decided to terminate service of the line. The corridor is currently closed to the public following the acquisition by the Region of Peel, City of Caledon, City of Brampton, and City of Mississauga acquiring roughly 51km of the line on July 15th, 2022 (including the entirety of the study area) for future use as a trail, with the intention of linking the Trans Canada Trail system (Town of Caledon, 2022).

Current Use and Condition of the Study Area

Map 6 illustrates the study area on an aerial image from 1954, showing the rail corridor in operation at that time, and the right of way either side being occupied primarily by agricultural fields or small brush and woodlots.

At the time of assessment (2024), the study area currently consists of a decommissioned rail corridor with associated right of way on either side, extending from just south of Waldorf Way, to south of Inuit Trail, ending just north of a rail bridge over a small tributary of the Credit River. An at grade crossing of Atwood Lane bisects the study area, being the only portion that is completely paved. The area to the east and west of the corridor and ROW consists primarily of residential subdivisions built in the 1990s, with the southernmost portion of the study area being bordered by undeveloped parklands to the east and west.

Archaeological Context

Archaeological Sites

The registered archaeological site records kept by the MCM were consulted so that an inventory of archaeological resources could be compiled. In Ontario, information concerning archaeological sites is stored in the Ontario Archaeological Sites Database maintained by the MCM. This database contains archaeological sites registered according to the Borden system. Under the Borden system, Canada is divided into grid blocks based on latitude and longitude. A Borden block is approximately 13km east to west and approximately 18.5km north to south. Each Borden block is referenced by a four-letter designator, and sites within a block are numbered sequentially as they are found. The study area is located within Borden block *AjGw*.

According to Section 7.5.8, Standard 1 of the Standards and Guidelines, all registered or known archaeological sites within a minimum one-kilometre distance from the subject property must be listed. As shown below in **Table 2**, eighty-five archaeological sites were listed in the OASD within one kilometre of the study area, with thirty-eight being within 300 metres.

TABLE 2: REGISTERED ARCHAEOLOGY SITES WITHIN 1KM OF THE STUDY AREA

Borden Number	Site Name	Time Period	Affinity	Site Type	Current Development Review Status
AjGw-99*	Birdsall 2	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead	

AjGw-98	Birdsall 1	Post-Contact, Pre-Contact	Aboriginal, Euro-Canadian	findspot, homestead	
AjGw-75		Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	Othercamp/campsite	
AjGw-74	-	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	findspot	
AjGw-73	-	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	Othercamp/campsite	
AjGw-72	Bob	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	findspot	
AjGw-678	H1	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead	Further CHVI
AjGw-663		Pre-Contact		scatter	Further CHVI
AjGw-662		Woodland, Middle		findspot	Further CHVI
AjGw-661		Pre-Contact		scatter	Further CHVI
AjGw-660		Pre-Contact		scatter	Further CHVI
AjGw-66	Pengilley	Woodland		burial, village	Further CHVI
AjGw-659		Archaic, Early		scatter	Further CHVI
AjGw-657		Woodland, Late		findspot	Further CHVI
AjGw-656		Archaic, Middle		scatter	No Further CHVI
AjGw-655		Pre-Contact		scatter	Further CHVI
AjGw-654		Pre-Contact		scatter	No Further CHVI
AjGw-653		Archaic, Early		scatter	Further CHVI
AjGw-652		Pre-Contact		scatter	No Further CHVI
AjGw-651		Pre-Contact		scatter	Further CHVI
AjGw-650		Archaic, Early		scatter	Further CHVI

AjGw-65	Levi's	Archaic, Late	Aboriginal	Othercamp/campsite	
AjGw-649		Pre-Contact		scatter	No Further CHVI
AjGw-648	McCracken	Post-Contact, Pre-Contact	Aboriginal, Euro-Canadian	homestead, scatter	Further CHVI
AjGw-647	Credit Meadows South	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	scatter	Further CHVI
AjGw-646*		Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	Unknown	Further CHVI
AjGw-645	P67	Archaic, Late		camp / campsite	Further CHVI
AjGw-64	John Beatty	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	midden	
AjGw-637		Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	Unknown	No Further CHVI
AjGw-632	P1	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	scatter	Further CHVI
AjGw-630	P1	Archaic, Early, Archaic, Late, Woodland, Woodland, Early		camp / campsite	No Further CHVI
AjGw-612*	Simpson 8	Post-Contact		homestead	No Further CHVI
AjGw-611*	Simpson 7	Post-Contact, Pre-Contact	Euro-Canadian, Unknown	Unknown, house, midden	No Further CHVI
AjGw-610*	Simpson 6	Post-Contact, Pre-Contact	Euro-Canadian	Unknown, dump	No Further CHVI
AjGw-609*	Simpson 5	Post-Contact, Pre-Contact	Aboriginal, Euro-Canadian	Unknown, dump	No Further CHVI

AjGw-608*	Simpson 4	Post-Contact, Pre-Contact	Aboriginal, Euro-Canadian	Unknown, dump	No Further CHVI
AjGw-607*		Pre-Contact		scatter	No Further CHVI
AjGw-606*		Pre-Contact		scatter	No Further CHVI
AjGw-605*		Pre-Contact		scatter	No Further CHVI
AjGw-604*		Pre-Contact		scatter	No Further CHVI
AjGw-603*		Pre-Contact		scatter	No Further CHVI
AjGw-602*		Pre-Contact		scatter	Further CHVI
AjGw-601*		Archaic, Middle		OtherResource procurement, short term	No Further CHVI
AjGw-600*		Woodland, Late		scatter	No Further CHVI
AjGw-599*		Pre-Contact		scatter	No Further CHVI
AjGw-598*		Woodland, Late		scatter	Further CHVI
AjGw-597*	Simpson 3	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	Unknown	Further CHVI
AjGw-596*	Simpson 2 (AjGw-596)	Post-Contact		homestead	Further CHVI
AjGw-595*		Pre-Contact		scatter	Further CHVI
AjGw-594		Pre-Contact		scatter	No Further CHVI
AjGw-593		Pre-Contact		scatter	No Further CHVI
AjGw-592		Pre-Contact		scatter	Further CHVI
AjGw-591*		Pre-Contact		scatter	Further CHVI
AjGw-590*		Pre-Contact		scatter	Further CHVI
AjGw-589*		Pre-Contact		scatter	Further CHVI

AjGw-588*		Pre-Contact		scatter	Further CHVI
AjGw-587*		Pre-Contact		scatter	Further CHVI
AjGw-586*		Pre-Contact		scatter	No Further CHVI
AjGw-562*	Simpson	Post-Contact		homestead	Further CHVI
AjGw-561	Pearson-Harris	Post-Contact, Woodland	Aboriginal, Euro-Canadian	camp / campsite, residential	Further CHVI
AjGw-539		Pre-Contact		Unknown	No Further CHVI
AjGw-538		Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	Unknown	Further CHVI
AjGw-523*	Meadowvale Mill Complex	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	mill	Further CHVI
AjGw-512	Zhishodewe	Archaic, Late	Aboriginal	camp / campsite	Further CHVI
AjGw-493*	Ornstock P3				
AjGw-46*	Tree Plantation	Post-Contact, Woodland	Aboriginal, Euro-Canadian	findspot	
AjGw-452		Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian		
AjGw-4	Davidson	Woodland, Late	Iroquoian	Othercamp/campsite	
AjGw-38*	Olesen	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal		
AjGw-37*	Pachnowski	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	Unknown	
AjGw-36	Wilson	Archaic, Post-Contact, Woodland	Aboriginal, Euro-Canadian, Mississauga	Othercamp/campsite, village	
AjGw-3	C. Stewart	Archaic	Aboriginal	Othercamp/campsite	
AjGw-262		Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	findspot	
AjGw-259	Rose Villa	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead	

AjGw-258	Ulsterman	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead	
AjGw-257	Gooderham	Archaic, Middle	Aboriginal	findspot	
AjGw-256	Meadowvale	Woodland, Late	Aboriginal	findspot	
AjGw-247	GWG	Paleo-Indian, Late	Aboriginal	Othercamp/campsite	
AjGw-2	G. and K. Wilson	Woodland		Othercamp/campsite	
AjGw-169		Woodland, Late	Aboriginal	findspot	
AjGw-168		Woodland, Late	Aboriginal		
AjGw-167		Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian		
AjGw-127*	McClure III	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	findspot	
AjGw-100		Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead	
AjGw-1*	Rowancroft	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	Othercamp/campsite	

* Indicates the site to be within 300 meters of the study area.

Previous Archaeological Assessments within 50m or Adjacent to the Study Area

According to Section 7.5.8, Standard 4 of the Standards and Guidelines, previous archaeological fieldwork carried out within the limits of, or immediately adjacent to the project's area or reports that document archaeological sites are to be documented in this report.

A search on MCM's PastPortal information system indicates that there is one known archaeological assessment previously completed within, adjacent to, or within 50 m of the study area – PHC's previous Stage 1 assessment for the section of Orangeville Rail Trail corridor immediately north of the current study area under P1153-0113-2023. This assessment included the portion of the rail corridor and ROW from the Mississauga-Brampton border, south to Waldorf Way and concluded that the study area retained archaeological potential and should be subject to Stage 2 assessment beginning with a property assessment to photo document areas of slope and previous disturbance, followed by test pit survey at 5 metre intervals of areas found to retain archaeological potential.

The Natural and Physical Environment

The study area is situated within the “Iroquois Plains” physiographic region (Chapman and Putnam 1984: 190, Map 11). When the last glacier was receding but still occupied the St. Lawrence Valley, the lowlands bordering Lake Ontario was inundated by a body of water known as Lake Iroquois. This left behind a lake bottom smoothed by waves, known as the Iroquois Plains. This area extends around the western part of Lake Ontario from the Niagara River to the Trent River as well as some of the inland areas of the Trent River Valley. Conditions within this physiographic region vary greatly and are subdivided into a number of different sections (Chapman and Putnam 1984: 190). The study area falls within the section from Scarborough to Newcastle.

This section of the Iroquois plain extends eastward from the Scarborough Bluffs to Newcastle, and across the Region of Durham the plain has a fairly constant pattern. The old shoreline of Lake Iroquois is marked by bluffs or gravel bars above strips of boulder pavement and sandy offshore deposits (Chapman and Putnam 1984: 193). These areas of sandy deposits are typically level and consists of poorly drained coarse sandy soil that is not very agriculturally productive and mostly covered in cedar thicket.

The rest of the plain in this section are a mix of till plains, drumlins, and areas of silty lacustrine deposits. Predominantly used for agriculture up until the 1930’s these soils were best suited for canning crops however were generally considered poor for farming (Chapman and Putnam 1984: 194). The physiography of the area provided attractive grades for the railways and highways that linked the many urban settlements which saw rapid industrial and urban growth. Over time this area became more urban than rural as these settlements expanded and the sprawl from Toronto encroached to the west.

Record of Documentation

The purpose of this section is to document all finds according to the standards (MCM Section 7.8.2). An inventory of the documentary record generated by the property Inspection is provided in Table 2 (MCM Section 7.8.2 Standard 2).

TABLE 3: RECORD OF DOCUMENTATION

Document Type	Location of Document	Additional Comments	Quantity
Field Notes	PHC Office	1 lined sheet stored in project file	1 page
Maps Provided by Client	PHC Office	In project file (Site Map)	1 map

Analysis and Conclusion

Archaeological Potential

Archaeological Potential for the Study Area

Archaeological potential is established by determining the likelihood that archaeological resources may be present on a subject property. In accordance with the MCM's 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* the following are features or characteristics that indicate archaeological potential:

- ▶ Previously identified archaeological sites;
- ▶ Water sources:
 - Primary water sources (lakes, rivers, streams, creeks);
 - Secondary water sources (intermittent streams and creeks; springs; marshes; swamps);
 - Features indicating past water sources (e.g. glacial lake shorelines indicated by the presence of raised gravel, sand, or beach ridges; relic river or stream channels indicated by clear dip or swale in the topography; shorelines of drained lakes or marshes; and cobble beaches);
 - Accessible or inaccessible shoreline (e.g. high bluffs, swamps or marsh fields by the edge of a lake; sandbars stretching into marsh);
- ▶ Elevated topography (eskers, drumlins, large knolls, plateaux);
- ▶ Pockets of well drained sandy soil, especially near areas of heavy soil or rocky ground; Distinctive land formations that might have been special or spiritual places, such as waterfalls, rock outcrops, caverns, mounds, and promontories and their bases (there may be physical indicators of their use, such as burials, structures, offerings, rock paintings or carvings);
- ▶ Resource areas including:
 - Food or medicinal plants;
 - Scarce raw minerals (e.g. quartz, copper, ochre or outcrops of chert);
 - Early Euro-Canadian industry (fur trade, mining, logging);
- ▶ Areas of Euro-Canadian settlement; and,
- ▶ Early historical transportation routes.

In recommending a Stage 2 property survey based on determining archaeological potential for a study area, MCM stipulates the following:

- ▶ No areas within 300 metres 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 metres of early transportation routes can be recommended for exemption from further assessment; and,
- ▶ No areas within the property containing an elevated topography; pockets of well-drained sandy soil; distinctive land formations; or resource areas can be recommended for exemption from further assessment.

Archaeological Integrity

A negative indicator of archaeological potential is extensive land disturbance. This includes widespread earth movement activities that would have eradicated or relocated any cultural material to such a degree that the information potential and cultural heritage value or interest has been lost.

Section 1.3.2 of the MCM 2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists states that:

Archaeological potential can be determined not to be present for either the entire property or a part(s) 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 (MCM 2011:18)

The types of disturbance referred to above include, but are not restricted to, quarrying, sewage and infrastructure development, building footprints, and major landscaping involving grading below topsoil.

Potential for Archaeological Resources

Following the criteria outlined above to determine archaeological potential, there are numerous factors to be considered. It is noted that the study area is adjacent to a tributary of the Credit River along its most southern border. This would have provided a stable, potable water source for Indigenous and Settler populations in the area. Additionally, the soils of the study area would have been suitable for Indigenous and Euro-Canadian agricultural practices. The study area also follows an early Euro-Canadian transportation corridor.

The study area also exists within an area of early Euro-Canadian industry and transportation, by way of the milling activities as well as the early pine lumber trade that occurred along the Credit River and later the Credit River Valley Railway, which forms the majority of the study area. The lots of land on which the railway corridor exists also constitutes areas of early Euro-Canadian settlement, with multiple early founders being

proven to have resided and worked the land surrounding the study area, as well as being immediately north of an early Euro-Canadian settlement: Meadowvale Village. Furthermore, there is a registered archaeological site within 100 metres of the study area.

Results and Conclusion of the Stage 1 Background Assessment

The Stage 1 research showed that the study area displays several high indicators of archaeological potential, namely: presence of registered archaeological sites and water sources within 300 metres, as well as the study area following an early Euro-Canadian transportation corridor. However, construction and maintenance of the rail line itself has likely led to the removal of archaeological potential from portions of the study area due to extensive and deep land alterations during the construction and maintenance processes. The study area is recommended to undergo Stage 2 archaeological assessment, starting with a property inspection to photo document and map areas of previous disturbance and slope, followed by test pit survey at 5 metre intervals per MCM Standards and Guidelines Section 2.1.2.

Recommendations

The study area is recommended to undergo Stage 2 property assessment following Section 2.1.2 of the MCM *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (2011). The Stage 2 assessment should start with a property inspection to determine areas of disturbance or slope, followed by test pit survey at 5 metre intervals across the portions of the study area confirmed to retain archaeological potential.

It is requested that this report be entered into the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports, as provided for in Section 65.1 of the Ontario Heritage Act.

Advice on Compliance with Legislation

Advice on the compliance with legislation is not part of the archaeological record. However, for the benefit of the proponent and approval authority in the land use planning and development process, the report must include the following standard statements:

- ▶ This report is submitted to the Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Cultural Industries 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 Tourism, Culture and Sport, a letter will be issued by the ministry stating that there are no further concerns with regards 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 licenced 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 licenced archaeologist has completed archaeological fieldwork on the site, submitted a report to the Minister stating 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 representative of a new archaeological site or sites and therefore subject to Section 48(1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. The proponent or person discovering the archaeological resources must cease alteration of the site immediately and engage a licensed consultant archaeologist to carry out archaeological fieldwork, in compliance with Section 48(1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
- ▶ The Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002, S.O. 2002, c.33, requires that any person discovering or having knowledge of a burial site shall immediately notify the police or coroner. It is recommended that the Registrar of Cemeteries at the Ministry of Consumer Services is also immediately notified.

- ▶ **STUDY LIMITATIONS:** All information, recommendations and opinions provided in this report are for the sole benefit of the Client. No other party may use or rely on this report or any portion thereof without the Client's or PHC's express written consent. Unless otherwise stated, the suggestions, recommendations and opinions given in this report are intended only for the guidance of the Client in the design of the specific project. Special risks occur whenever archaeological investigations are applied to identify subsurface conditions and even a comprehensive investigation, sampling and testing program may fail to detect all or certain archaeological resources. The sampling strategies incorporated in this study, if any, comply with those identified in the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism's 2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists.

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Parslow Heritage Consultancy

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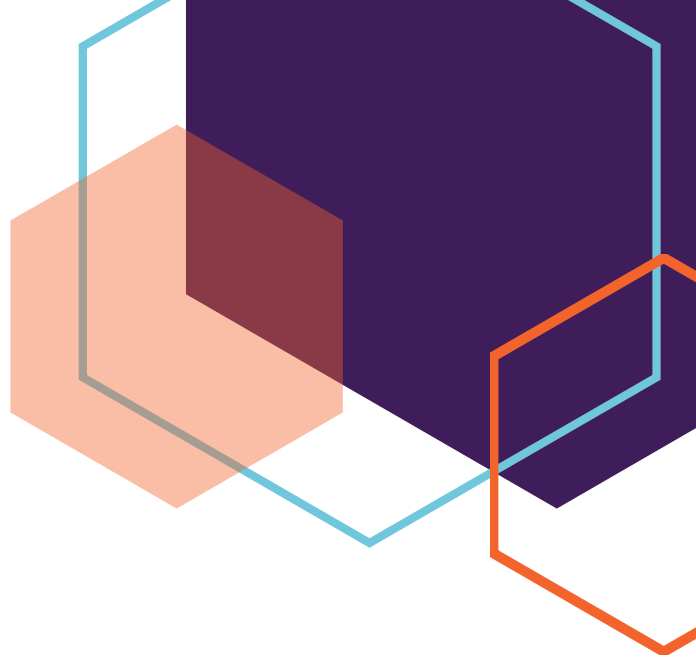
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Appendix A



Maps



Legend

Study Area



Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment - Orangeville Rail Trail, Mississauga

Map 1: Study Area on Topographic Map

Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N

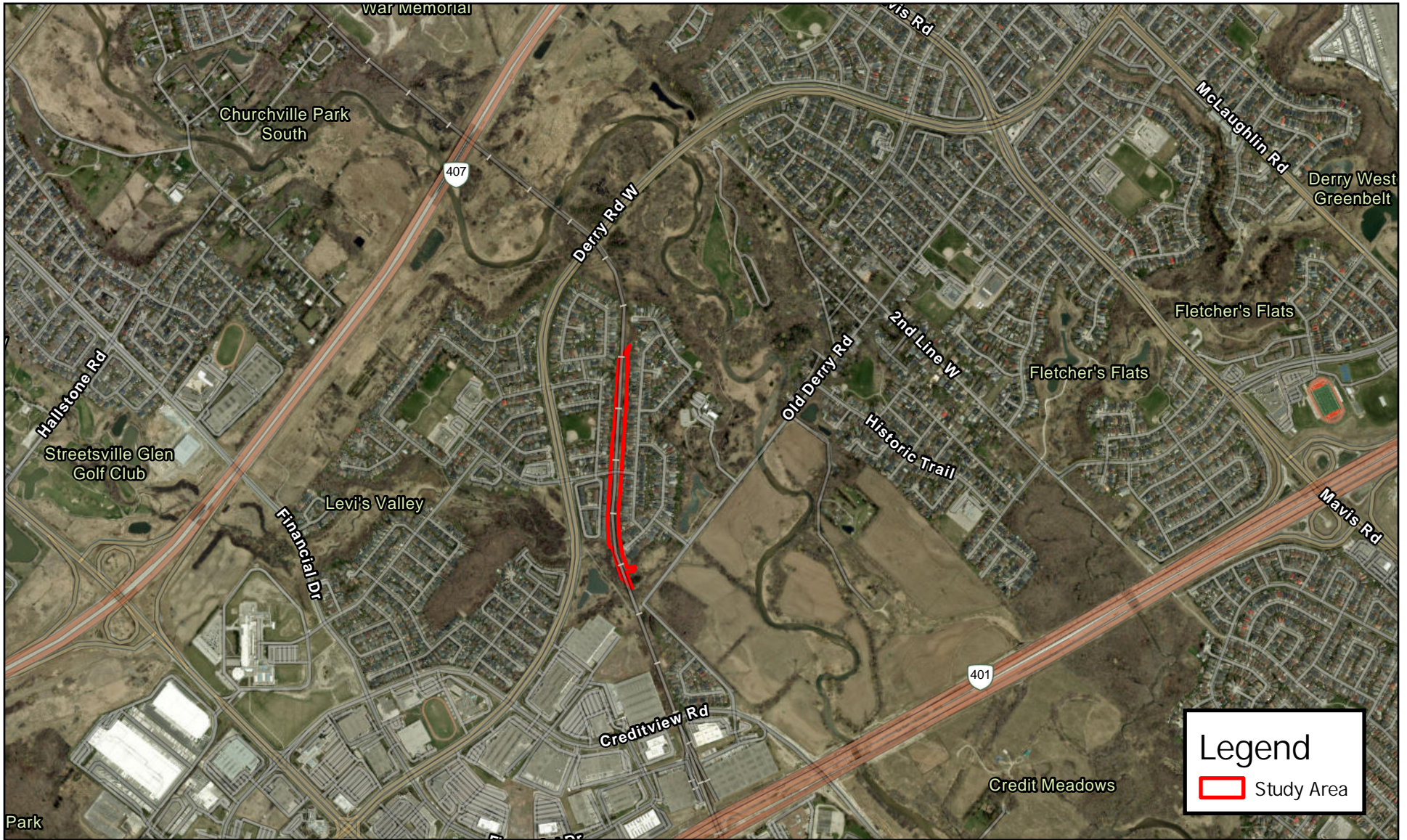
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N

Scale 1: 25,000

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0 0.47 0.95 Km

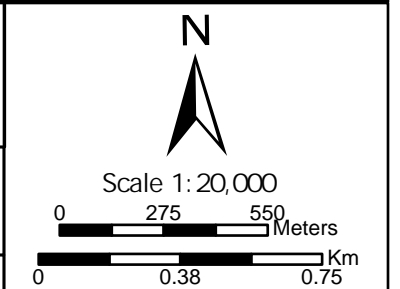


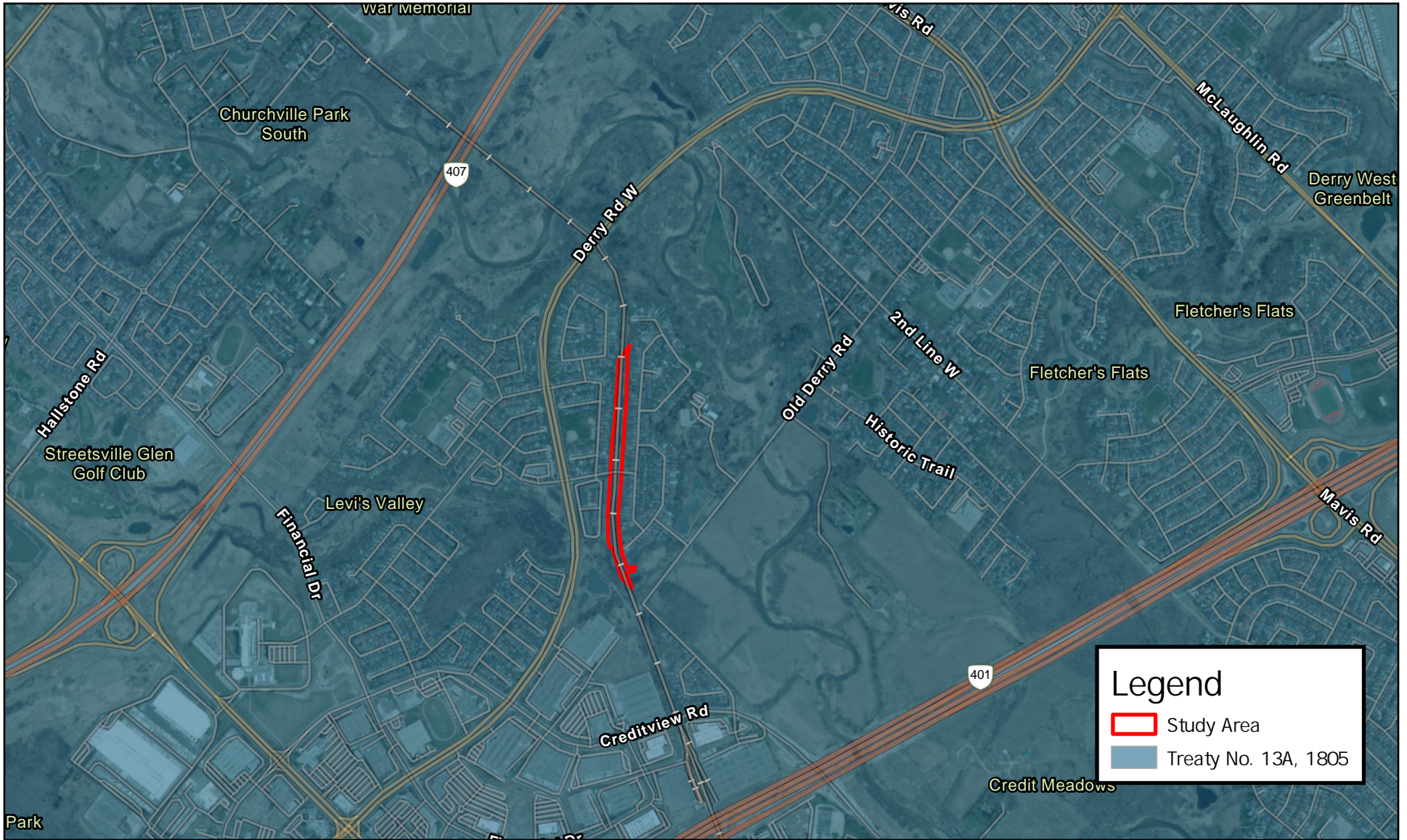
Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment - Orangeville Rail Trail, Mississauga

Map 2: Study Area on Modern Aerial Image

Province of Ontario, Esri Canada, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/ NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, NRCan, Parks Canada, Peel Region, Town of Oakville, Maxar

Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N



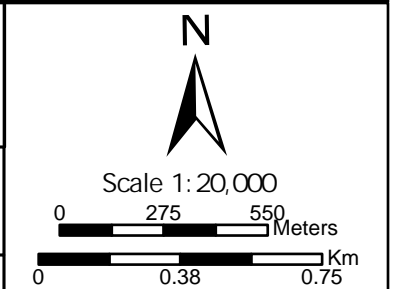


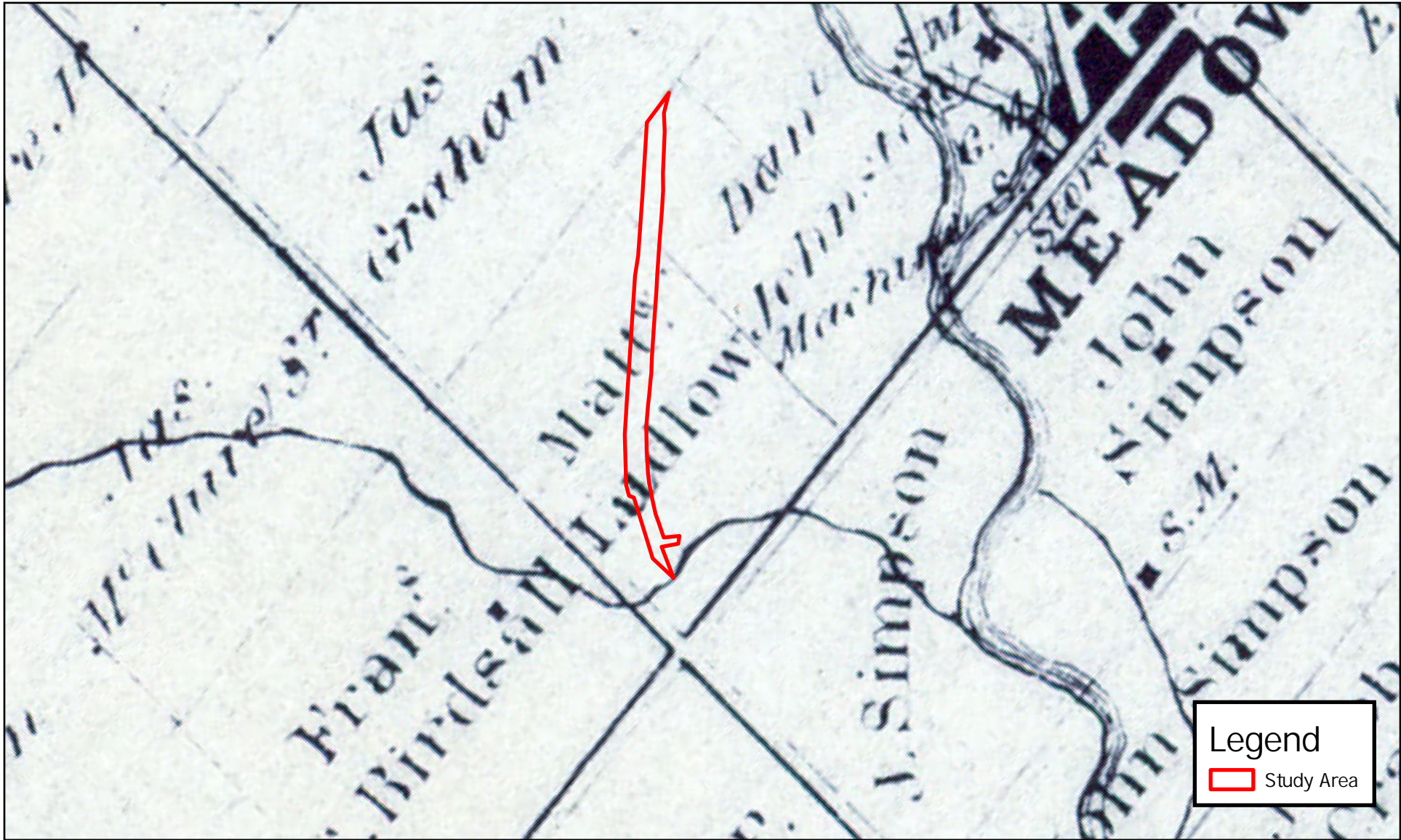
Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment - Orangeville Rail Trail, Mississauga

Map 3: Study Area on Treaties Map


Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N

Province of Ontario, Esri Canada, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/ NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, NRCan, Parks Canada, Peel Region, Town of Oakville, Maxar





Legend

 Study Area



Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment - Orangeville Rail Trail, Mississauga

Map 4: Study Area on 1859 Tremaine Map

Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS, FEMA, Esri Community Maps Contributors, Province of Ontario, Esri Canada, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, MET/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, NRCan, Parks Canada

Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N

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Scale 1:10,000

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Legend

Study Area

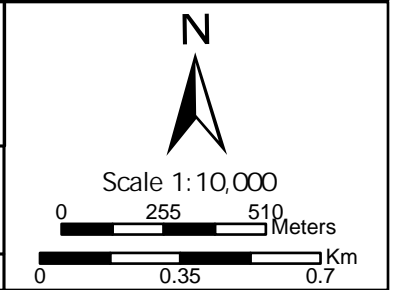


Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment - Orangeville Rail Trail, Mississauga

Map 5: Study Area on 1877 Illustrated Historical Atlas

Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS, FEMA, Province of Ontario, Esri Canada, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, NRCan, Parks Canada

Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N





Legend

Study Area



**Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment -
Orangeville Rail Trail, Mississauga**

Map 6: Study Area on 1954 Aerial Image

Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS, FEMA, Esri Community Maps Contributors, Province of Ontario, Esri Canada, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, NRCan, Parks Canada

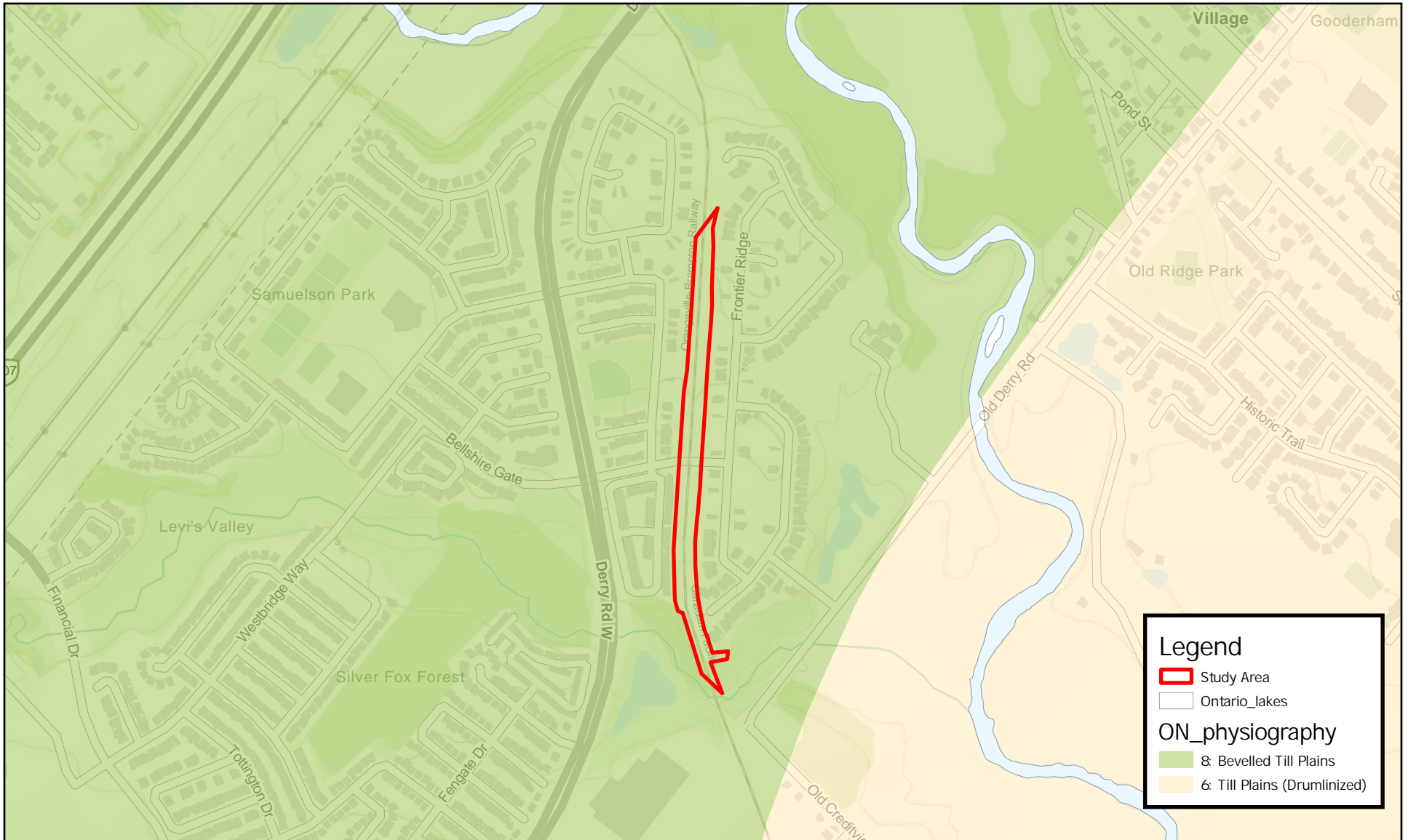
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Scale 1:8,000

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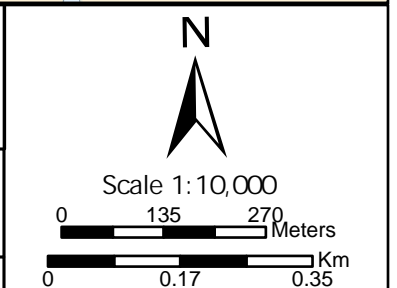


Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment - Orangeville Rail Trail, Mississauga

Map 7: Study Area on Physiographic Map

Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N

Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS, FEMA, Esri Community Maps Contributors, Province of Ontario, Esri Canada, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, MET/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, NRCAN, Parks Canada





Legend

Archaeological Potential-Stage 2 Recommended



Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment - Orangeville Rail Trail, Mississauga

Map 2: Stage 1 Results and Recommendations

Esri Community Maps Contributors, Province of Ontario, Esri Canada, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, NRCan, Parks Canada, Peel Region, Town of Oakville, Maxar

Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N

N

Scale 1:8,000

0 110 220 Meters

0 0.15 0.3 Km

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