



ACC

ARCHAEOLOGICAL
CONSULTANTS CANADA

Stage 1 & 2 Archaeological Assessment

Proposed Erin Mills Town Centre Redevelopment

5100 Erin Mills Parkway, Part of Block 1, All of Block 20, All of Blocks 4 and 6,
Part of Blocks 5, 17, and 18, Registered Plan 43M-823 and Part of Lot 2
Registrar's Compiled Plan 1003, City of Mississauga, Regional Municipality of
Peel, Part of Lot 1, Concession 6 West of Hurontario Street, Former Geographic
Township of Toronto, Peel County, Ontario

Original Report

Prepared for:

Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism

Prepared by:

Archaeological Licensee: Kristy O'Neal, M.A., P066

Archaeological Consultants Canada

PO Box 81045 Ancaster, RPO Fiddlers Green

Hamilton, ON L9G 4X1

www.onarch.ca

info@onarch.ca

289.683.7844

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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 the proposed redevelopment of the Erin Mills Town Centre. An archaeological assessment was conducted as part of the pre-approval process as required under the *Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990*. The area of assessment, or the “subject property”, is located at the Erin Mills Town Centre, municipal address 5100 Erin Mills Parkway, in the City of Mississauga, Regional Municipality of Peel, Ontario (Figure 1). The property is legally described as Part of Block 1, All of Block 20, All of Blocks 4 and 6, Part of Blocks 5, 17, and 18, Registered Plan 43M-823 and Part of Lot 2 Registrar’s Compiled Plan 1003, City of Mississauga, Regional Municipality of Peel. Historically the property was located on Part of Lot 1, Concession 6 West of Hurontario Street (formerly Centre Road), in the Geographic Township of Toronto, Peel County, Ontario. The subject property measures 34.80 hectares (“ha”) in size.

The Stage 1 & 2 assessment was conducted under Professional Archaeological License P066, held by Kristy O’Neal. Fieldwork was directed by Michelle Volpe (R1241). The Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (“MCM”) assigned Project Information Form (“PIF”) number P066-0333-2024 (Stage 1 & 2) to this project. The property was accessed on June 27, 2024.

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

- The presence of a farmstead within the subject property (Walker & Miles, 1877).
- The subject property is fronted by Erin Mills Parkway and Eglington Avenue West, two early historical transportation routes.
- The presence of a tributary of Credit River within 30 m of the subject property and the historic presence of a tributary of Credit River within 300 m of the subject property.
- There are 38 registered archaeological sites within 1 km of the subject property.

A visual property inspection determined that areas of low to no archaeological potential include 27.26 ha of land that had been previously disturbed during construction of commercial buildings, asphalt parking areas, underground servicing, and roadways.

The remainder of the subject property, 7.54 ha, was determined to retain archaeological potential and require Stage 2 assessment. As these lands consisted of manicured greenspace within an urban area, the Stage 2 assessment was conducted by test pit survey at 5 m intervals. No artifacts or other archaeological resources were identified during the Stage 2 property 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 property is required.

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PROJECT PERSONNEL

Project Manager:	Matthew Muttart, M.A., P1208
Professional License:	Kristy O’Neal, M.A., P066
Field Director:	Michelle Volpe, M.L.I.S. (R1241)
Field Technicians:	Melanie Chan, B.A. Nicole Cholewka Max Goranson Madelyn Eley Elise MacDonald Brianna McDonald, B.A. Matthew Muttart, M.A., P1208 Donny Vongphakdy, B.Sc.
Report Preparation:	Brianna McDonald, B.A.
Graphics:	Brianna McDonald, B.A.



Stage 1 & 2 Archaeological Assessment

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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 the proposed redevelopment of the Erin Mills Town Centre. An archaeological assessment was conducted as part of the pre-approval process as required under the *Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990*. The area of assessment, or the “subject property”, is located at the Erin Mills Town Centre, municipal address 5100 Erin Mills Parkway, in the City of Mississauga, Regional Municipality of Peel, Ontario (Figure 1). The property is legally described as Part of Block 1, All of Block 20, All of Blocks 4 and 6, Part of Blocks 5, 17, and 18, Registered Plan 43M-823 and Part of Lot 2 Registrar's Compiled Plan 1003, City of Mississauga, Regional Municipality of Peel. Historically the property was located on Part of Lot 1, Concession 6 West of Hurontario Street (formerly Centre Road), in the Geographic Township of Toronto, Peel County, Ontario. The subject property measures 34.80 hectares (“ha”) in size. The Proponent provided a plan of survey showing the limits of the subject property (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. 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 Cultural Heritage Value or Interest, 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. Fieldwork was directed by Michelle Volpe (R1241). The Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (“MCM”) assigned Project Information Form (“PIF”) number P066-0333-2024 (Stage 1 & 2) 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. The property was accessed on June 27, 2024.

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*.

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 an 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.

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 the 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 graters and by the preference for light colored cherts, 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	SW Ontario Iroquois	Wolf Phase	600-450	
		Historic Neutral	450-350	tribal warfare
	European Contact	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)

People during the Archaic period (*circa* 10,000 to 500 years ago) 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* 3000 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 is 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. While North America had been visited by Europeans on an increasing scale since the end of the fifteenth century, it was not until the voyages of Jacques Cartier in the 1530s that Europeans visited Ontario Iroquoians in their home territories. 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.

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 nineteenth century, Euro-Canadian settlers arrived via easily accessible colonization routes from York and began to clear the forests for agricultural purposes. In the nineteenth and early twentieth 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 within Part of Lot 1, Concession 6 West of Centre Road (now Hurontario Street), in the Geographic Township of Toronto, Peel County. The first European to venture into what would become southern Ontario was Étienne Brûlé who was sent by Samuel de Champlain in the summer of 1610 to consolidate an emerging friendship 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, 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.

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).

Formerly part of the Home District, Peel County was formed in 1854, and was named after British Parliamentarian Sir Robert Peel (Mika & Mika, 1983:177). With increased pressure for settlement lands, the British Crown purchased what is referred to as the Mississauga Tract in 1805, from the Mississaugas. In 1818 the remainder of the Mississauga Tract was purchased, extending the northern boundary of Peel County to include what are now the Townships of Albion, Caledon and Chinguacousy. Settlement of the area began in the early 1800s but came to a standstill during the War of 1812. In 1819, an influx of Irish immigrants arrived and from then on, settlement continued to grow at a steady pace. Peel County became the Regional Municipality of Peel on October 15th, 1973 (Mika & Mika, 1983:180).

The Township of Toronto was first opened for settlement in 1806. The first settlers were United Empire Loyalists who had been brought by ferry to Port Credit (Middleton, 1927). Settlement occurred steadily until it was stunted by the War of 1812. A boom of Irish settlers emigrated to the area in 1819 (Middleton, 1927). Communities began to emerge along the Credit River which runs throughout the township as river manufacturing industries flourished in the area. One of these communities is Streetsville, named after Timothy Street, who built a grist mill and sawmill along the Credit River (Mika and Mika, 1983). Railway construction in the last half of the 19th century moved key transportation routes away from the area, and settlement began to decline and did not recover until the middle of the next century (Mika and Mika, 1983).

Historical records and mapping were examined for evidence of early Euro-Canadian occupation within and near the subject property. Figures 3 and 4 represent the Euro-Canadian settlement in and around the current subject property in the late 19th century. Tremaine's 1859 *Map of Peel County, Canada West* lists William Devine as the owner of the entirety of Lot 1 (Figure 3). There are no structures illustrated within the subject property, though a farmstead is shown in the southwest corner of the lot. The lot is also listed as being for sale. The nearest settlement is Streetsville, approximately 2 kilometres ("km") north. There are two historical roads depicted along the northeast and southeast boundaries of the subject property.

Walker & Miles' 1877 map of the Township of Toronto in the *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Peel* lists the owner for the eastern half of Lot 1 as John S. Hanna (Figure 4). A farmhouse and driveway are now depicted fronting Eglinton Avenue. There is a spring and farmstead depicted in the neighboring property, within the western half of Lot 1. The town of Streetsville is depicted in the same location. The historical roads are depicted in the same location.

While there is one structure illustrated within the subject property on the historical atlas mapping, this does not necessarily mean that one or more additional 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 fronts two historic roads and a structure is depicted on

the later map, 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 within the South Slope physiographic region of Ontario (Chapman and Putnam 1984: 113). This region includes the southern strip of the Peel Plain and the southern slope of the Oak Ridges Moraine (Chapman and Putnam 1984:172). The South Slope lies across limestone made up of the Verulam and Lindsay Formations and shales made up of the Georgian Bay and Queenston Formations. The region contains a variety of soils, some of which are excellent for agriculture.

The *Soil Survey of Peel County* (Hoffman and Richards, 1953) indicates that there are two dominant surface soil types within the subject property; Chinguacousy clay loam and Oneida clay loam (Figure 5). Chinguacousy clay loam is a dark greyish-brown soil that is characterized by few stones, smooth, gently sloping topography, and imperfect drainage Oneida clay is a dark greyish-brown soil that is characterized by good drainage, smooth to moderately sloping topography and few stones.

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 Credit River that runs just northeast of the subject property. Prior to development of the area, a second tributary ran to the south and west (see Figure 5). Credit River is located 1.90 km to the east of the subject property.

1.3.2 Current Land Use

Figure 5 shows the current land use of the subject property. The subject property is currently being used as a shopping plaza, with multiple buildings, asphalt parking areas, and roadways. There is manicured green space between the parking areas and roadways. The subject property is located within a residential and commercial area of the City of Mississauga. Erin Mills Parkway is located to the northeast, Eglinton Avenue West is located to the southeast, Erin Centre Boulevard is located to the northwest, and Glen Erin Drive is located to the southwest of the subject property.

Fieldwork for the project was completed on June 27, 2024.

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 *AjGw* Borden block.

According to the OASD, no archaeological sites have been registered within the subject property, however, 38 sites have been registered within 1 km of the subject property (MCM, 2024a). None of these sites are within 50 m of the current subject property, however, three are within 300 m of the current subject property. These sites, all findspots, are discussed in further detail below. Ten sites are of Euro-Canadian cultural affiliation and include cabins, homesteads, middens, and dumps. Fifteen sites are of Indigenous cultural affiliation and include campsites, findspots. Thirteen sites are of unknown cultural affiliation.

Table 2 lists the sites within 1 km along with the current Cultural Heritage Value or Interest (“CHVI”) for each site. 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 *Ontario Heritage Act* and its regulations, archaeological resources that have been determined to possess CHVI are protected as archaeological sites under Section 48 of the act. Information in Table 2 is provided by MCM through the OASD (MCM, 2024a).

Table 2: Registered Archaeological Sites within 1 km of the Subject Property

BORDEN #	NAME	TIME PERIOD	CULTURAL AFFILIATION	SITE TYPE	STATUS
AjGw-39	Farmington	Archaic	Indigenous	camp/campsite	unknown
AjGw-40	Marchesse	Paleo-Indian	Indigenous	camp/campsite	unknown
AjGw-76	-	Archaic, Early	Indigenous	findspot	unknown
AjGw-77	-	Other	unknown	findspot	unknown
AjGw-78	-	Other	unknown	camp/campsite	unknown
AjGw-79	Peter Douglas Home Farm	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	cabin, homestead	unknown
AjGw-129	-	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	unknown	unknown
AjGw-130	-	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	unknown	unknown
AjGw-131	-	Other	unknown	findspot	unknown
AjGw-132	-	Other	unknown	findspot	unknown
AjGw-133	-	Other	unknown	findspot	unknown
AjGw-134	-	Post- Contact	Euro-Canadian	unknown	unknown
AjGw-135	-	Other	unknown	findspot	unknown
AjGw-136	-	Post- Contact	Euro-Canadian	findspot	unknown
AjGw-137	-	Woodland, Late	Iroquoian	findspot	unknown
AjGw-138	-	Post- Contact	Euro-Canadian	findspot	unknown
AjGw-153	-	Woodland, Late	Iroquoian	findspot	unknown

BORDEN #	NAME	TIME PERIOD	CULTURAL AFFILIATION	SITE TYPE	STATUS
AjGw-154	-	Other	unknown	findspot	unknown
AjGw-155	-	Other	unknown	findspot	unknown
AjGw-156	-	Other	unknown	findspot	unknown
AjGw-229	-	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	findspot	unknown
AjGw-232	Churchill Meadows 1	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	findspot	unknown
AjGw-233	Churchill Meadows 2	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	camp/campsite	unknown
AjGw-234	Churchill Meadows 3	Woodland, Early	Indigenous	findspot	unknown
AjGw-235	Churchill Meadows 4	Post- Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead	unknown
AjGw-238	Churchill Meadows 7	Pre- Contact	Indigenous	findspot	unknown
AjGw-239	Churchill Meadows 8	Pre- Contact	Indigenous	findspot	unknown
AjGw-243	Churchill Meadows 12	Woodland, Early	Indigenous	findspot	unknown
AjGw-244	Churchill Meadows 13	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead	unknown
AjGw-245	Churchill Meadows 14	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	findspot	unknown
AjGw-246	Churchill Meadows 15	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	findspot	unknown
AjGw-289	Woodlot 14E Churchill Meadows	Post- Contact	Euro-Canadian	dump	unknown
AjGw-301	Dunn Park	Post- Contact	Euro-Canadian	building, homestead, midden	unknown
AjGw-358	-	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead	No Further CHVI
AjGw-433	-	Post- Contact	unknown	unknown	No Further CHVI
AjGw-434	-	Post- Contact	unknown	homestead	Further CHVI
AjGw-435	-	Post-Contact	unknown	dump	No Further CHVI
AjGw-436	-	Pre- Contact	unknown	findspot	No Further CHVI

Three registered archaeological sites are located within 300 m of the subject property (MCM, 2024a). A summary of each of these sites is provided below.

- Archaeological site AjGw-155 is located approximately 220 m from the subject property. The site was documented in 1988 by the Museum of Indian Archaeology (“MIA”). Two flakes found 6 m apart were observed at the site during pedestrian survey (MIA, 1988, MCM, 2024a).
- Archaeological site AjGw-156 is located 250 m from the current subject property. The site was documented in 1988 by MIA. One uniface was found during pedestrian survey (MIA, 1988, MCM, 2024a).
- Archaeological site AjGw-154 is located approximately 230 m from the subject property. The site was documented in 1988 by MIA. One side scraper fragment, one flake and one banded ceramic sherd were found during pedestrian survey (MIA, 1988, MCM, 2024a).

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 archaeological reports detailing previous archaeological fieldwork within the subject property have been entered into the register at the time this report was written. There were no additional reports detailing fieldwork within 50 m of the subject property filed with the MCM at the time this report was written. Reports were searched based on registered site information, historic lots and concessions, and nearby streets.

1.3.4 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 *Ontario Heritage Act* 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.

Several factors can be used to assess the potential for recovery of Euro-Canadian archaeological resources on a property. The subject property is comprised of land that is suitable for human habitation and agriculture. According to 1859 and 1877 historical maps the subject property fronted Erin Mills Parkway and Eglington Avenue West, both early historical transportation routes. The 1877 map illustrates a farmstead within the subject property. There are 10 registered sites of Euro-Canadian cultural affiliation located within 1 km of the subject property.

Several factors can be used to assess the potential for recovery of Indigenous archaeological resources on a property. The subject property is comprised of land that is suitable for human habitation. A tributary of Credit River is located 50 m to the northeast of the subject property and prior to development a second tributary ran within 300 m to the west of the subject property. There are 15 registered sites of Indigenous cultural affiliation located within 1 km of the subject property.

Given the above, background archival research indicates that the subject property exhibits general archaeological potential for the discovery of Euro-Canadian and Indigenous archaeological resources and, therefore, Stage 2 archaeological assessment is recommended for the subject property.



2.0 FIELD METHODS

The subject property measures 34.80 ha. A Stage 1 visual inspection and Stage 2 property assessment were conducted concurrently on June 27, 2024, with advance permission to enter the subject property obtained from the Proponent. Weather conditions during the assessment consisted of mostly sunny skies with a maximum daily temperature of 22 degrees Celsius.

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. 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. No areas of low-lying and permanently wet or steeply sloping topography were observed. 27.26 ha, 78 percent (“%”) of the subject property, has been previously disturbed by intensive and extensive modern soil alterations, including for construction of a multiple commercial buildings, asphalt parking areas, underground sewers and servicing, and roadways.

The remainder of the subject property, totaling 7.54 ha or 22%, retained archaeological potential and was recommended for Stage 2 archaeological assessment. 7.54 ha, 22 %, of the subject property consists of manicured greenspace that required Stage 2 assessment by test pit survey. Ploughing of these areas was not possible due to existing infrastructure within a developed commercial area meeting the requirements of Section 2.1.2 1e of the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*, that ploughing or cultivation is not viable. The manicured greenspace was subject to test pit survey at 5 m intervals. Each test pit was dug by hand and was 30 centimetres (“cm”) in diameter and was dug to at least five 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. Moderate soil disturbance was observed throughout the property; however, as the disturbance was irregular, 5 m survey intervals were maintained throughout the assessment. All soil was screened through 6-millimetre (“mm”) 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.

There were no weather, ground, or lighting conditions detrimental to the recovery of artifacts. As such, it is confirmed that the 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 Stage 1 & 2 assessment are shown in Figures 7 and 8. Images of the assessment are shown in Section 8.0.



3.0 RECORD OF FINDS

3.1 Soils

Test pits contained approximately 5 to 35 cm of medium light to medium brown sandy loam topsoil above yellow brown sandy loam subsoil. Some soil disturbance such as gravel fill inclusions and mottled soils were observed throughout the subject property; however, disturbance was irregular and test pit survey was still conducted at 5 m intervals to ensure full survey coverage.

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 *Ontario Heritage Act*, 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	250-12-24	
Licensee	Kristy O'Neal	
MCM PIF number	P066-0333-2024	
DOCUMENT/MATERIAL	NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
field notes & photo logs	4	pages (paper, with digital copies)
maps	1	aerial imagery of the subject property
	1	plan of survey of the subject property
photos	8	digital format



4.0 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS

Section 1.3.1 of the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (MCM, 2011) lists criteria indicative of archaeological potential. Stage 1 background research indicated that the subject property has general archaeological potential due to the following factors:

- The presence of a farmstead within the subject property (Walker & Miles, 1877).
- The subject property is fronted by Erin Mills Parkway and Eglington Avenue West, two early historical transportation routes.
- The presence of a tributary of Credit River within 30 m of the subject property and the historic presence of a tributary of Credit River within 300 m of the subject property.
- There are 38 registered archaeological sites within 1 km of the subject property.

A visual property inspection determined that areas of low to no archaeological potential include 27.26 ha of land that had been previously disturbed during construction of commercial buildings, asphalt parking areas, underground servicing, and roadways.

The remainder of the subject property, 7.54 ha, was determined to retain archaeological potential and require Stage 2 assessment. As these lands consisted of manicured greenspace within an urban area, the Stage 2 assessment was conducted by test pit survey at 5 m intervals.

No artifacts or other archaeological resources were identified during the Stage 2 property assessment. According to the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (MCM, 2011), the subject property has now been completely assessed and does not require any additional fieldwork.

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*.

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 the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism's 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*. No further archaeological assessment of the 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 IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 2005, 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 requires that any person discovering human remains must notify the local police or coroner and the Registrar, Burials Unit, at the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery.
- e. It is an offence to destroy or alter an archaeological site without approval from the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism. 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.

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8.0 IMAGES





Image 1: Subject property in southeast corner, showing manicured lawn area. Facing southwest.



Image 2: Northern portion of subject property showing manicured lawn area. Facing southeast.



Image 3: Sidewalk and walkways, west edge of subject property, facing northeast.



Image 4: Western portion of subject property showing manicured lawn, facing northeast.



Image 5: Asphalt parking lot, facing east.



Image 6: Subject property, facing northeast toward parking lot.



Image 7: Typical test pit



Image 8: Typical test pit



9.0 FIGURES



Figure 1: Location of the Subject Property on a 1:50,000 Scale Topographic Map

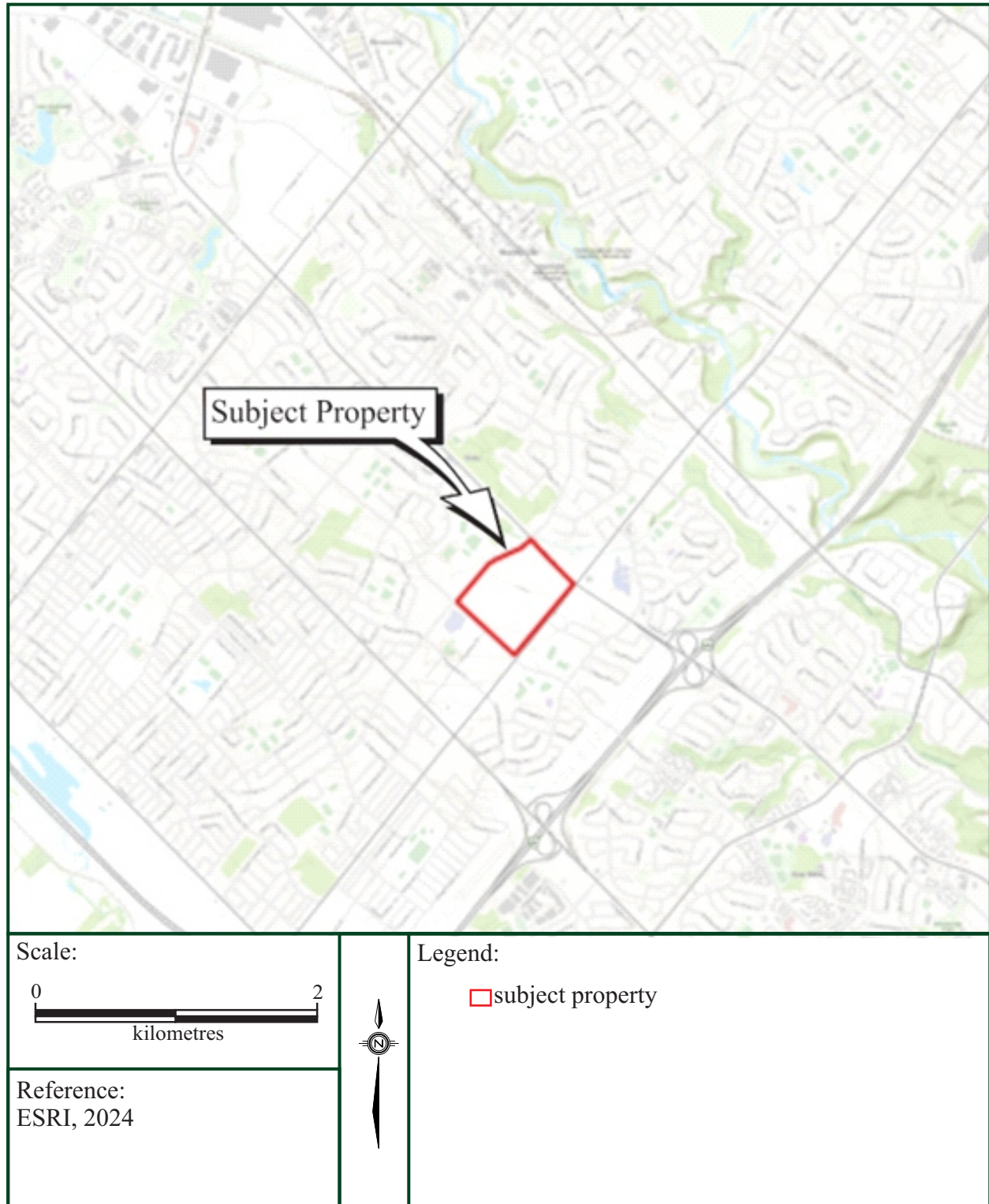


Figure 2: Plan of Survey of the Subject Property

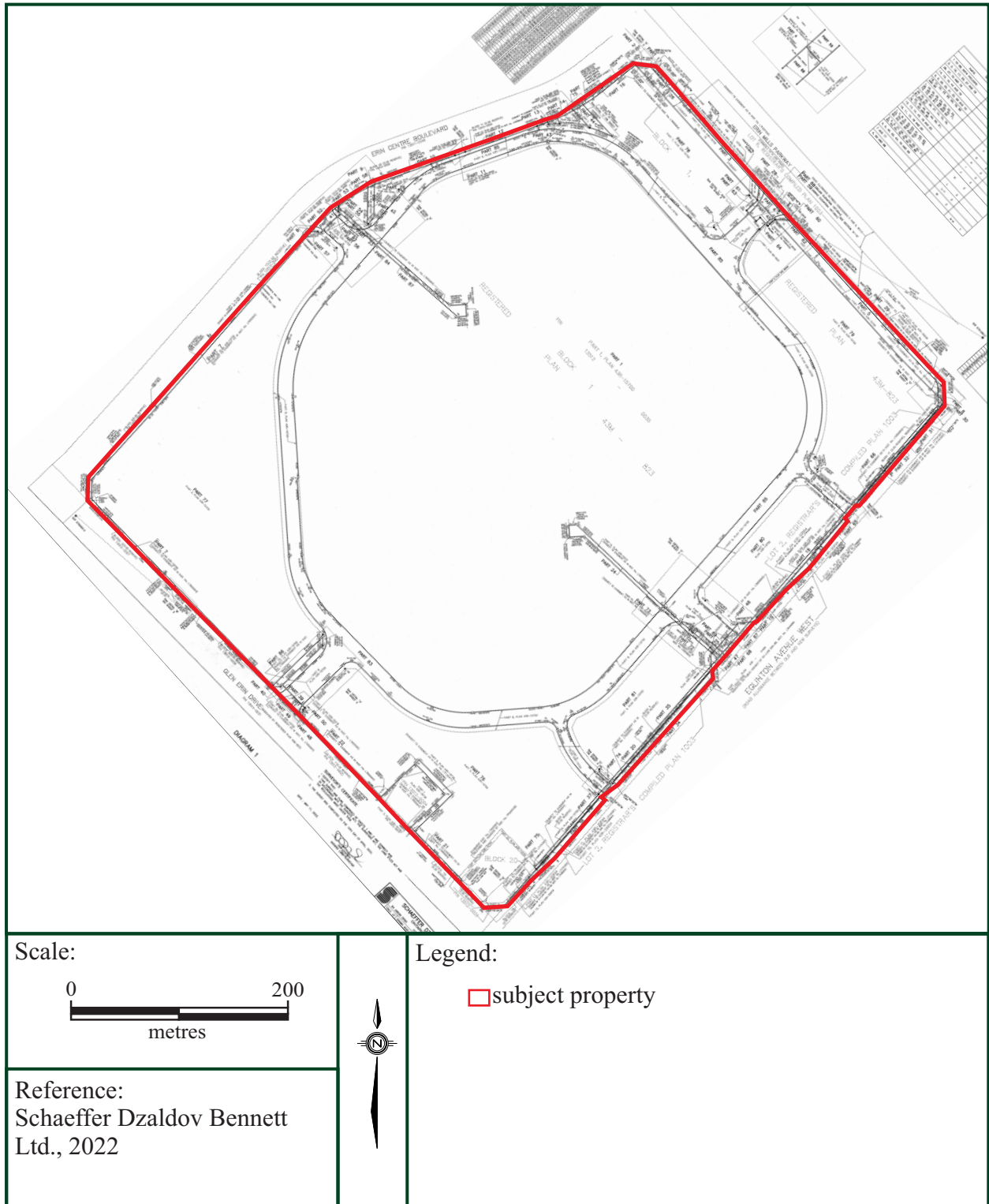


Figure 3: Location of the Subject Property on Tremaine's 1859 Map of Peel County, Canada, West

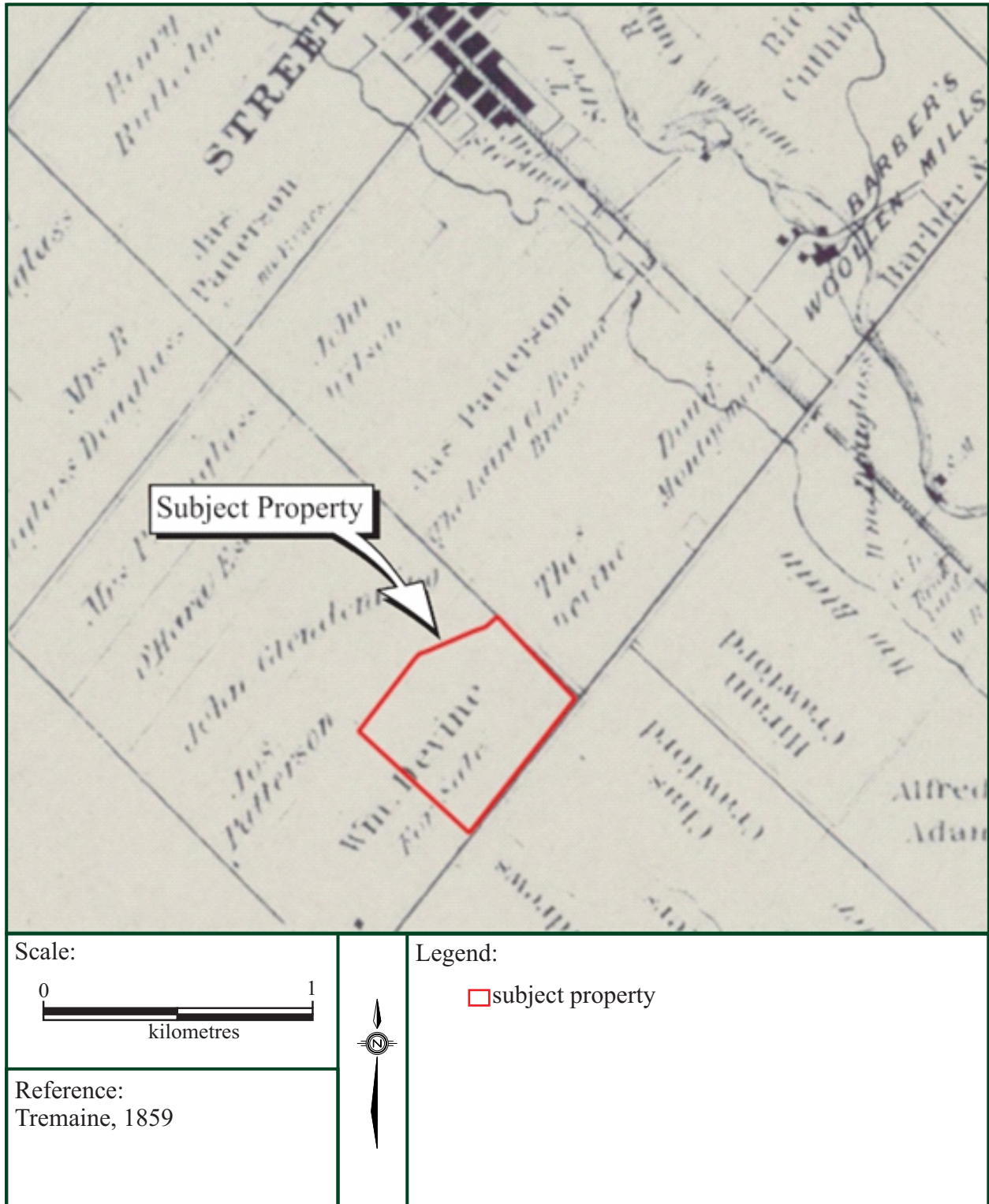


Figure 4: Location of the Subject Property on Walker & Miles' 1877 Illustrated Historical Atlas Map of Toronto Township, Peel County



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

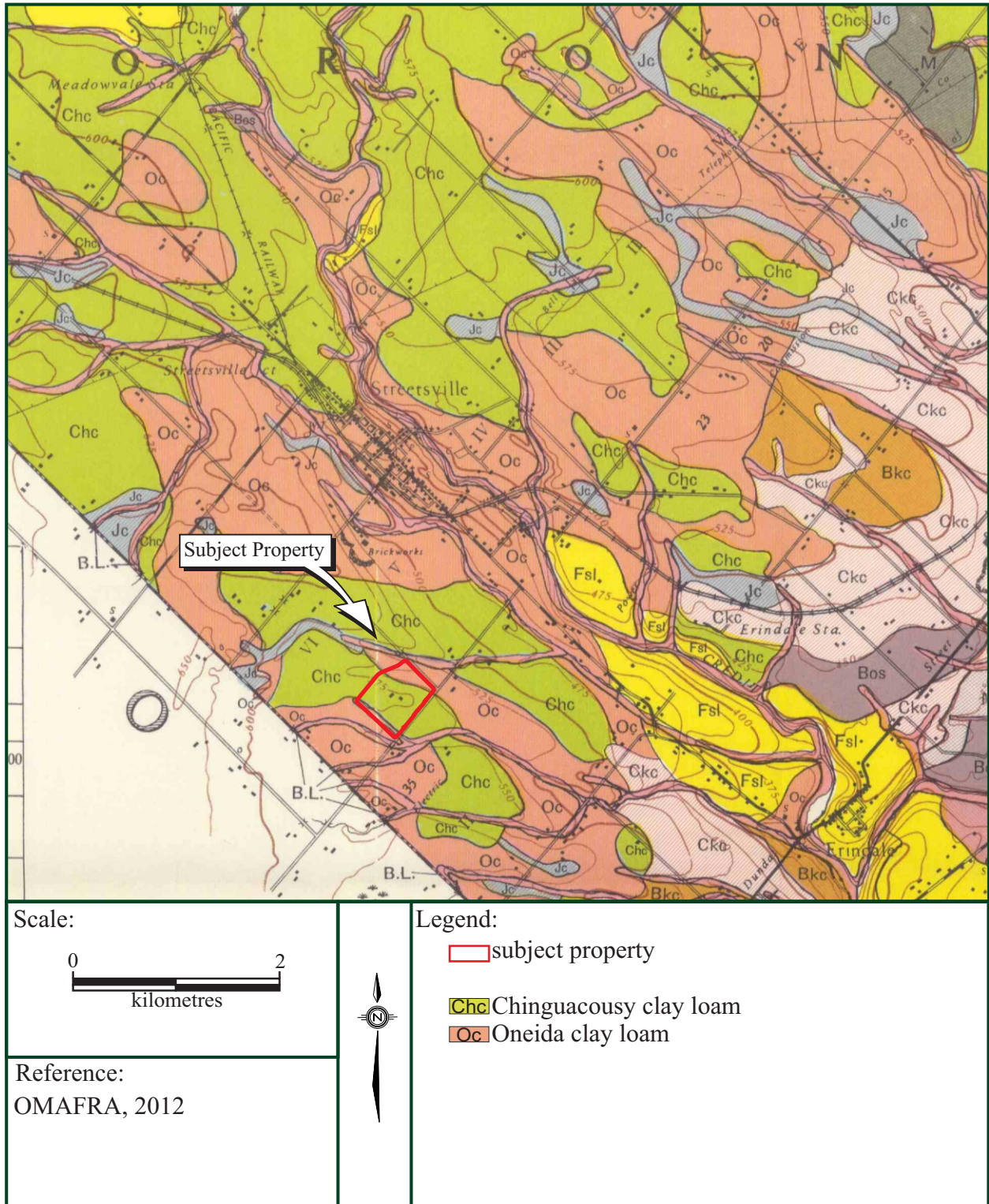


Figure 6: Current Land Use of the Subject Property

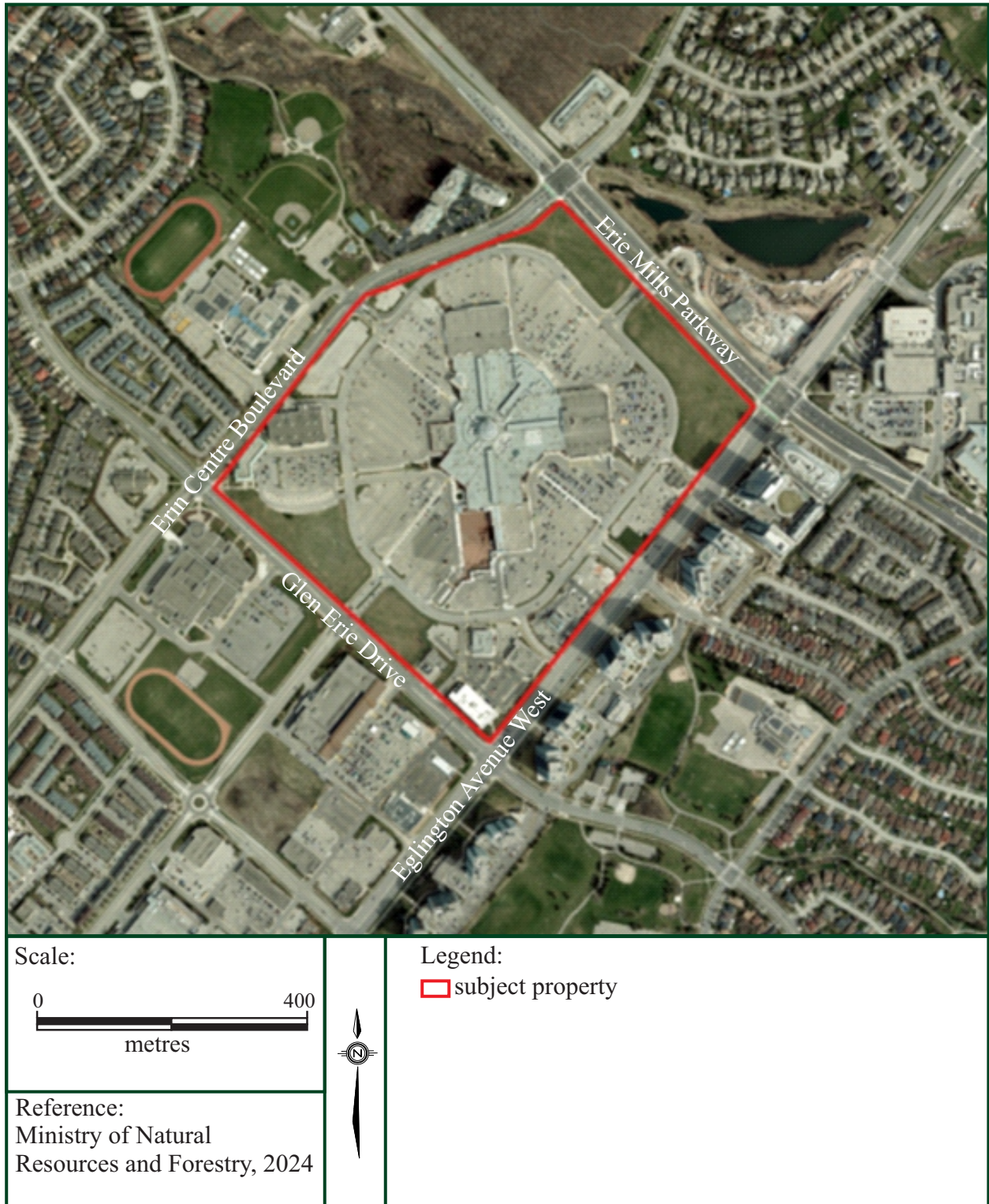


Figure 7: Aerial Imagery Showing the Results of the Stage 1 & 2 Archaeological Assessment of the Subject Property

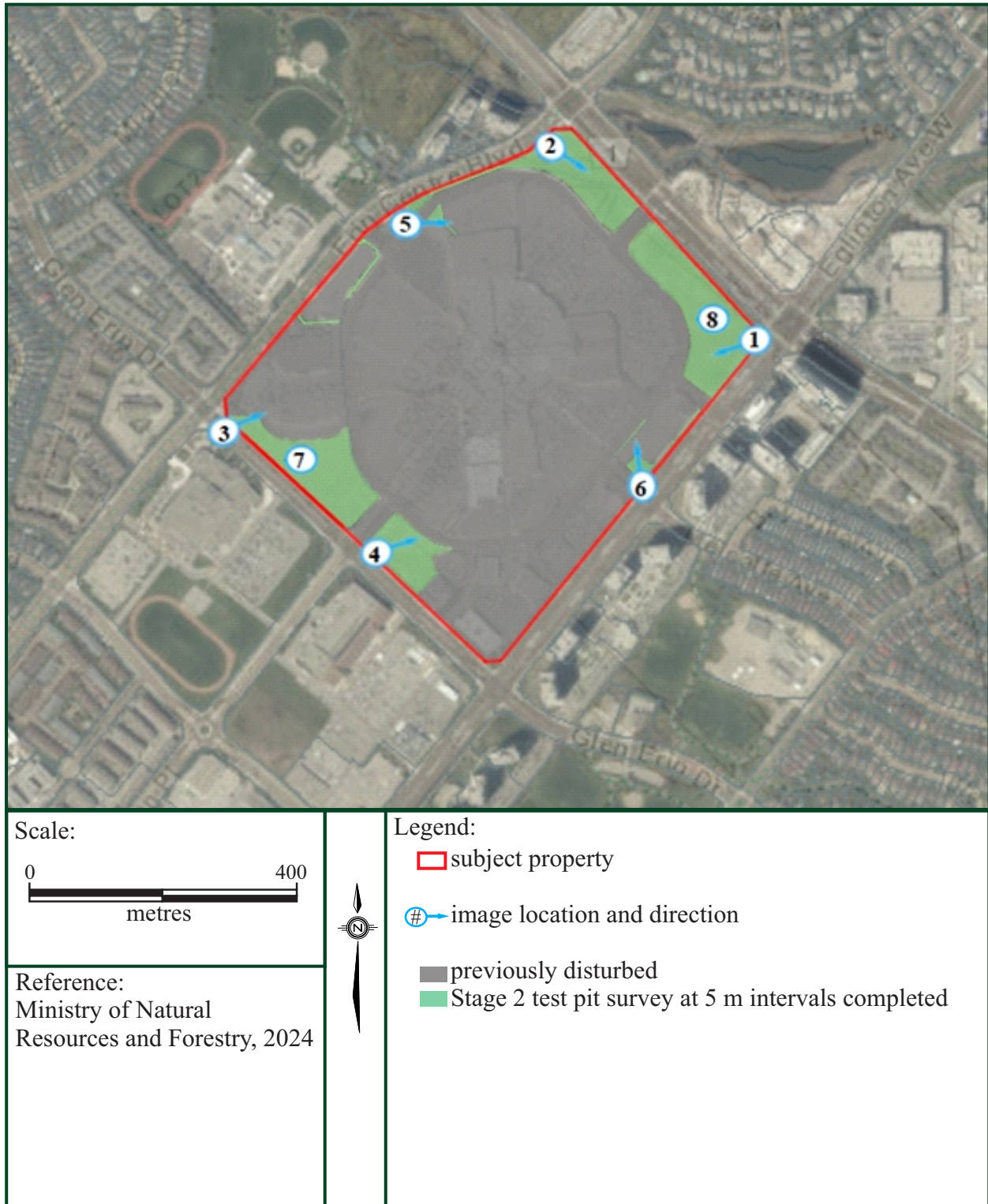


Figure 8: Plan of Survey Showing the Results of the Stage 1 & 2 Archaeological Assessment of the Subject Property

