# Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment of 138 Robert Street East, Part 1, Plan 51R-43212, Parts of Lots 114 and 115, Concession 1 East of Penetanguishene Road, Township of Tay, Simcoe County, Town of Penetanguishene

#### **Original Report**

Prepared for:

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Project Information File: P449-0597-2022

Archaeological Services Inc. File: 21PL-417

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# **Executive Summary**

Archaeological Services Inc. was contracted by Matti Decent Homes to conduct a Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment of 138 Robert Street, Part 1, Plan 51R-43212, Part of Lots 114 and 115, Concession 1 East of Penetanguishene Road, Township of Tay, Simcoe County, now in the Town of Penetanguishene. The subject property is approximately 32 hectares in size.

The Stage 1 background research entailed consideration of the proximity of previously registered and unregistered archaeological sites and the original environmental setting of the property, along with nineteenth- and twentieth-century settlement trends. The work for this assessment was also guided by the *Archaeological Management Plan for Simcoe County* (Archaeological Services Inc., 2019), which provides further refinement with regard to buffers established around features or landscape attributes that may affect the definition of archaeological potential. This research suggested that there was potential of encountering both Indigenous and Euro-Canadian archaeological sites within the subject property.

The Stage 2 field assessment was conducted over May 16-20, June 6-10 and July 4-8, 2022, by means of a combined test pit and pedestrian survey across the entire property. Despite careful scrutiny, no archaeological resources were encountered during the course of the survey. As such, it is recommended that no further archaeological assessment of the property be required.



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## 1.0 Project Context

Archaeological Services Inc. was contracted by Matti Decent Homes to conduct a Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment of 138 Robert Street East, Part 1, Plan 51R-43212, Part of Lots 114 and 115, Concession 1 East of Penetanguishene Road, Township of Tay, Simcoe County, now in the Town of Penetanguishene (Figure 1). The subject property is approximately 32 hectares in size.

## 1.1 Development Context

This assessment was conducted under the senior project management of Jennifer Ley (R376), and the project management and project direction of Robb Bhardwaj (P449), under Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (hereafter "the Ministry") Project Information File: P449-0597-2022. All activities carried out during this assessment were completed as part of a Draft Plan of Subdivision, as required by the Town of Penetanguishene and the *Planning Act* (Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, 1990). All work was completed in accordance with the *Ontario Heritage Act* (Ministry of Citizenship and Culture [now the Ministry], 1990) and the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (hereafter "the Standards") (Ministry of Tourism and Culture [now the Ministry], 2011).

All work carried out for this assessment was also guided by the *Archaeological Management Plan for Simcoe County* (Archaeological Services Inc. 2019), which provides further refinement regarding buffers surrounding any noted features or landscape characteristics which affect archaeological potential.

Permission to access the subject property and to carry out all activities necessary for the completion of the assessment was granted by the proponent on December 14, 2021. Buried utility locates were obtained prior to fieldwork.

#### 1.2 Historical Context

The purpose of this section is to describe the past and present land use and settlement history, and any other relevant historical information gathered through the Stage 1 background research. This includes a summary of the current



understanding of Indigenous land use of the subject property, and a review of historical Euro-Canadian settlement trends.

Historically, the subject property is located in Parts of Lots 114 and 115, Concession 1 East of Penetanguishene, in the former Township of Tay, Simcoe County. Currently, the subject property comprises a large wood lot and open greenspace in the Town of Penetanguishene.

#### 1.2.1 Pre-Contact Settlement

Southern Ontario has been occupied by human populations since the retreat of the Laurentide glacier approximately 13,000 years Before Present. Populations at this time would have been highly mobile, inhabiting a boreal-parkland similar to the modern sub-arctic. By approximately 10,000 Before Present., the environment had progressively warmed (Edwards and Fritz, 1988) and populations now occupied less extensive territories (Ellis and Deller, 1990).

Between approximately 10,000-5,500 Before Present, the Great Lakes basins experienced low-water levels, and many sites which would have been located on those former shorelines are now submerged. This period produced the earliest evidence of heavy wood working tools, an indication of greater investment of labour in felling trees for fuel, to build shelter, and watercraft production. These activities suggest prolonged seasonal residency at occupation sites. Polished stone and native copper implements were being produced by approximately 8,000 Before Present; the latter was acquired from the north shore of Lake Superior, evidence of extensive exchange networks throughout the Great Lakes region. The earliest evidence for cemeteries dates to approximately 4,500-3,000 Before Present and is indicative of increased social organization, investment of labour into social infrastructure, and the establishment of socially prescribed territories (Ellis *et al.*, 1990; Ellis *et al.*, 2009; Brown, 1995:13).

Between 3,000-2,500 Before Present, populations continued to practice residential mobility and to harvest seasonally available resources, including spawning fish. The Woodland period begins around 2,500 Before Present and exchange and interaction networks broaden at this time (Spence *et al.*, 1990:136, 138) and by approximately 2,000 Before Present, evidence exists for macro-band



camps, focusing on the seasonal harvesting of resources (Spence et al., 1990, pp. 155, 164). By 1,500 Before Present there is macro botanical evidence for maize in southern Ontario, and it is thought that maize only supplemented people's diet. There is earlier phytolithic evidence for maize in central New York State by 2,300 Before Present - it is likely that once similar analyses are conducted on Ontario ceramic vessels of the same period, the same evidence will be found (Birch and Williamson, 2013:13–15). Bands likely retreated to interior camps during the winter. It is generally understood that these populations were Algonquianspeakers during these millennia of settlement and land use.

From the beginning of the Late Woodland period at approximately 1,000 Before Present, lifeways became more similar to that described in early historical documents. Between approximately 1000-1300 Common Era, the communal site is replaced by the village focused on horticulture. Seasonal disintegration of the community for the exploitation of a wider territory and more varied resource base was still the norm (Williamson, 1990:317). By 1300-1450 Common Era, this episodic community disintegration was no longer a pattern and populations now communally occupied sites throughout the year (Dodd *et al.*, 1990:343). From 1450-1649 Common Era. this process continued with the coalescence of these small villages into larger communities (Birch and Williamson, 2013).

It was also around this same time that certain small communities inhabiting the region along the north shore of Lake Ontario began to migrate northwards into what is now Simcoe County. Because of extensive surveys of southern Simcoe County, by Gary Warrick, Jamie Hunter, Richard Sutton, and others, clusters of late thirteenth- and fourteenth-century sites have been found on upland locations to the west of Kempenfelt Bay.

Over time, population increased across Iroquoia and even larger communities emerged, probably as the result of inter-community hostilities (Birch and Williamson, 2013). Through this process, the socio-political organization of the First Nations, as described historically by the French and English explorers who first visited southern Ontario, was developed.

The ethnohistoric record of historic Wendake (northern Simcoe County) suggests that initial Huron-Wendat alliance building and confederacy formation occurred



during the mid-fifteenth century, some 200 years before the arrival of Europeans (Thwaites 1896:16:227). Attignawantan (Bear) and Attigneenongnahac (Cord) were the original co-founders of the Wendat confederacy, since both had been resident in Wendake for at least 200 years (Thwaites 1896:16:227-229). Settled by the mid-fourteenth century, Attignwantan villages were located in western Wendake and across the Penetang Peninsula, while Attigneenongnahac villages were clustered to the southeast. Later additions to the confederacy were Arendahronon (Rock), who moved into Wendake *circa* Anno Domini 1590, and Tahontaenrat (Deer), who joined *circa* Anno Domini 1610. The subject property is located in the traditional territory of the Attignawantan (Bear) Nation.

In the 1640s, the traditional enmity between the Haudenosaunee<sup>1</sup> and the Huron-Wendat (and their Algonquian allies such as the Nippissing and Odawa) led to the dispersal of the Huron-Wendat.

Shortly after dispersal of the Wendat and their Algonquian allies, Ojibwa began to expand into southern Ontario and Michigan from along the east shore of Georgian Bay, west along the north shore of Lake Huron, and along the northeast shore of Lake Superior and onto the Upper Peninsula of Michigan (Rogers, 1978:760–762). This history of the Ojibwa homeland and population movement, published in 1978 in the *Smithsonian Handbook of North American Indians, Northeast Volume*, was constructed by Rogers using both Anishinaabek oral tradition and the European documentary record. Rogers notes that this migration included those populations that were later known as the Chippewa, Ojibwa, Mississauga, and Saulteaux or "Southeastern Ojibwa" groups. He also noted linguistic differences between those groups split between Central Ojibwa-Odawa, spoken primarily by the Odawas of Manitoulin Island and Michigan and some Ojibwas (or Chippewas) of the Lower Peninsula of Michigan and that part of southwestern Ontario lying west of a north-south line drawn through the base of the Bruce peninsula east of which is spoken the second major dialect, spoken by

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Haudenosaunee are also known as the New York Iroquois or Five Nations Iroquois and after 1722, the Six Nations Iroquois. They were a confederation of five distinct but related Iroquoian—speaking groups – the Seneca, Onondaga, Cayuga, Oneida, and Mohawk. Each lived in individual territories in what is now known as the Finger Lakes district of Upper New York. In 1722, the Tuscarora joined the confederacy.



Ojibwa (or Chippewa) and Mississauga. There is also sub-dialectical variation within each major dialect, and some groups and individuals whose speech is fundamentally of one type use certain forms characteristic of the other.

Ojibwa were first encountered by Samuel de Champlain in 1615 along the eastern shores of Georgian Bay. While he probably met Odawa, Etienne Brule later encountered other groups and by 1641, Jesuits had journeyed to Sault Sainte Marie (Thwaites, 1896:11:279) and opened the Mission of Saint Peter in 1648 for the occupants of Manitoulin Island and the northeast shore of Lake Huron. The Jesuits reported that these Algonquian peoples lived "solely by hunting and fishing and roam as far as the "Northern sea" to trade for "Furs and Beavers, which are found there in abundance" (Thwaites, 1896, 33:67), and "all of these Tribes are nomads, and have no fixed residence, except at certain seasons of the year, when fish are plentiful, and this compels them to remain on the spot" (Thwaites, 1896: 33:153). The locations of both Iroquoian and Algonquian groups at the time of first contact are well-documented. The Nipissing lived near Lake Nipissing, which was on the historic route between Quebec and the Wendat country; some wintered with the Wendat (Thwaites, 1896:14:7; 18:229; 21:239; 23:227; 33:153). Other Algonquian-speaking groups who wintered with the Wendat included the Algonquin led by Captain Yroquet in 1615-16 (Biggar, 1971: 3:94); the Tontthrataronons (an Algonquin tribe), about fifteen cabins of which were wintering near the mission of Saint Jean Baptiste to the Arendaehronons in the Relation of 1640-41 (Thwaites, 1896: 21: 247); some Island Algonquins noted in the Relation of 1643-44 (Thwaites, 1896:26:301); and a village of the Atontrataronnon Algonquins, who abandoned their country on the shores of the St. Lawrence because of attacks from the Haudenosaunee to live in safety near the village of Saint Jean Baptiste as noted in the Relation of 1643-44 (Thwaites, 1896:27:37).

Other Algonquian groups were recorded along the northern and eastern shores and islands of Lake Huron and Georgian Bay - the "Ouasouarini" [Chippewa], the "Outchougai" [Outchougai], the "Atchiligouan" [Achiligouan] near the mouth of the French River and north of Manitoulin Island the "Amikouai, or the nation of the Beaver" [Amikwa; Algonquian] and the "Oumisagai" [Missisauga; Chippewa] (Thwaites, 1896:18:229, 231). Father Louys André was put in charge of the



Mission of Saint Simon on the Lake of the Hurons (Thwaite,s 1896:55:133-155). At the end of the summer 1670, he began his mission work among the Mississagué, who were located on the banks of a river that empties into Lake Huron approximately 30 leagues from the Sault. These observations were further supported by the maps attributed to Brébeuf (1631/1651) and Bressani (1657). Bréhant de Galinée also created a map of his 1669-70 travels, which provides the location of populations, individual villages, missions and forts, and interesting landscape features and marks the location of the Mississagué and the Amikwa on the north shore of Lake Huron, "the Saulteaux, or in Algonkin Waoüitiköungka Entaöuakk or Ojibways" at Sault Ste Marie (Coyne, 1903:73).

After the Huron had been dispersed, the Haudenosaunee began to exert pressure on Ojibwa within their homeland to the north. While their numbers had been reduced through warfare, starvation, and European diseases, the coalescence of various Anishinnabeg groups led to enhanced social and political strength (Thwaites, 1896:52:133) and Sault Sainte Marie was a focal point for people who inhabited adjacent areas both to the east and to the northwest as well as for the Saulteaux, who considered it their home (Thwaites, 1896:54:129-131). The Haudenosaunee established a series of settlements at strategic locations along the trade routes inland from the north shore of Lake Ontario. From east to west, these villages consisted of Ganneious, on Napanee Bay, an arm of the Bay of Quinte; Quinte, near the isthmus of the Quinte Peninsula; Ganaraske, at the mouth of the Ganaraska River; Quintio, at the mouth of the Trent River on the north shore of Rice Lake; Ganatsekwyagon (or Ganestiquiagon), near the mouth of the Rouge River; Teyaiagon, near the mouth of the Humber River; and Quinaouatoua, on the portage between the western end of Lake Ontario and the Grand River (Konrad, 1981:135). Their locations near the mouths of the Humber and Rouge Rivers, two branches of the Toronto Carrying Place, strategically linked these settlements with the upper Great Lakes through Lake Simcoe. The inhabitants of these villages were agriculturalists, growing maize, pumpkins and squash, but their central roles were that of portage starting points and trading centres for Iroquois travel to the upper Great Lakes for the annual beaver hunt (Konrad, 1974; Williamson et al., 2008:50-52). Ganatsekwyagon, Teyaiagon, and Quinaouatoua were primarily Seneca; Ganaraske, Quinte and Quintio were likely Cayuga, and Ganneious was Oneida, but judging from accounts of Teyaiagon, all



of the villages might have contained peoples from a number of the Iroquois constituencies.

During the 1690s, some Ojibwe began moving south into extreme southern Ontario and soon replaced, it appears by force, the Haudenosaunee who had settled after 1650 along the north shores of Lakes Erie and Ontario. By the first decade of the eighteenth century, the Michi Saagiig Nishnaabeg (Mississauga Anishinaabeg) had settled at the mouth of the Humber, near Fort Frontenac at the east end of Lake Ontario and the Niagara region and within decades were well established to the south of their former homeland. In 1736, the French estimated there were 60 men at Lake Saint Clair and 150 among small settlements at Quinte, the head of Lake Ontario, the Humber River, and Matchedash (Rogers, 1978:761).

The history of Anishinaabek movement from along the north shore of Lake Huron and their military actions against the Haudenosaunee is based almost entirely on Anishinaabek oral tradition provided by elders such as George Copway, or Kahgegagahbowh or Robert Paudash. George Copway was born among the Mississauga in 1818 and followed a traditional lifestyle until his family converted to Christianity. He became a Methodist missionary in Canada and the US, including to the Saugeen Mission for a period, and later a popular author and lecturer (MacLeod, 1992:197; Smith, 2000).

According to Copway, the objectives of campaigns against the Haudenosaunee were to create a safe trade route between the French and the Ojibway, to regain the land abandoned by the Wendat and "drive the Iroquois wholly from the peninsula." Copway describes more than 700 canoes meeting near Sault Ste Marie and splitting into three parties for a three-pronged attack via the Ottawa River, Lake Simcoe and along the Trent River, and the St. Clair River, and all of which had fierce engagements with the Haudenosaunee. While various editions of Copway's book have these battles occurring in the mid-seventeenth century, common to all is a statement that the battles occurred around 40 years after the dispersal of the Huron (Copway, 1850:88; 1851:91; 1858:91). Various scholars agree with this timeline ranging from 1687, in conjunction with Denonville's attack on Seneca villages (Johnson, 1986:48; Schmalz, 1991:21–22) to around the



mid- to late-1690s leading up to the Great Peace of 1701 (Bowman, 1975:20; Schmalz, 1977:7; Smith, 1975:215; Tanner, 1987:33; Von Gernet, 2002:7–8).

Robert Paudash's 1905 account of Mississauga origins is like that of Copway's and relies on oral history. It came from Paudash's father, who died at the age of 75 in 1893, and was the last hereditary chief of the Mississauga at Rice Lake. His account in turn came from his father Cheneebeesh, who died in 1869 at the age of 104, and was the last sachem or Head Chief of all the Mississaugas. He also relates a story of origin on the north shore of Lake Huron near the river that gave them their name having been founded by a party of Shawnee (Paudash, 1905:7–8) and later, after the dispersal of the Wendat, carrying out coordinated attacks against the Haudenosaunee.

Francis Assikinack (1858:308–309) provides similar details on battles with the Haudenosaunee. Francis Assikinack (b. 1824) was an Ojibwa of Manitoulin Island. He enrolled at Upper Canada College when he was 16 and after graduation, worked for the Indian Department as an interpreter, clerk, and teacher.

Peace was achieved between the Haudenosaunee and the Anishinaabek Nations in August of 1701 when representatives of more than twenty Anishinaabek Nations assembled in Montreal to participate in peace negotiations (Johnston, 2004:10). During these negotiations captives were exchanged and the Iroquois and Anishinaabek agreed to live together in peace. Peace between these nations was confirmed again at council held at Lake Superior when the Iroquois delivered a wampum belt to the Anishinaabek Nations. From the beginning of the eighteenth century to the assertion of British sovereignty in 1763, there is no interruption to Anishinaabek control and use of southern Ontario. While hunting in the territory was shared, and subject to the permission of the various nations for access to their lands, its occupation was by Anishinaabek until the assertion of British sovereignty, the British thereafter negotiating treaties with them. Eventually, with British sovereignty, tribal designations changed (Smith, 1975: 221–222; Surtees, 1985:20–21). The word "Saulteux," for example, was gradually substituted by "Chippewa" while the north shore of Lake Ontario groups became known as "Mississauga," although some observers, like John Graves Simcoe, described them as a branch of the "Chippewa" and the two terms were often



used as synonyms. The nineteenth-century Mississauga also called themselves "Ojibwa," especially when addressing an English-speaking audience (Jones, 1861:31).

According to Rogers (1978), by the twentieth century, the Department of Indian Affairs had divided the "Anishinaubag" into three different tribes, despite the fact that by the early eighteenth century, this large Algonquian-speaking group, who shared the same cultural background, "stretched over a thousand miles from the St. Lawrence River to the Lake of the Woods." With British land purchases and treaties, the bands at Beausoleil Island, Cape Croker, Christian Island, Georgina and Snake Islands, Rama, Sarnia, Saugeen, the Thames, and Walpole, became known as "Chippewa" while the bands at Alderville, New Credit, Mud Lake, Rice Lake, and Scugog, became known as "Mississauga." The northern groups on Lakes Huron and Superior, who signed the Robinson Treaty in 1850, appeared and remained as "Ojibbewas" in historical documents.

In 1763, following the fall of Quebec, New France was transferred to British control at the Treaty of Paris. The British government began to pursue major land purchases to the north of Lake Ontario in the early nineteenth century, the Crown acknowledged the Mississaugas as the owners of the lands between Georgian Bay and Lake Simcoe and entered into negotiations for additional tracts of land as the need arose to facilitate European settlement.

The eighteenth century saw the ethnogenesis in Ontario of the Métis, when Métis people began to identify as a separate group, rather than as extensions of their typically maternal First Nations and paternal European ancestry (Métis National Council, no date). Métis populations were predominantly located north and west of Lake Superior, however, communities were located throughout Ontario (Métis National Council, no date b; Stone and Chaput, 1978:607,608). During the early nineteenth century, many Métis families moved towards locales around southern Lake Huron and Georgian Bay, including Kincardine, Owen Sound, Penetanguishene, and Parry Sound (Métis National Council no date a). Recent decisions by the Supreme Court of Canada (*R. versus Powley*, 2003; *Daniels versus Canada (Indian Affairs and Northern Development)*, 2016) have reaffirmed that



Métis people have full rights as one of the Indigenous people of Canada under subsection 91(24) of the Constitution Act, 1867.

#### 1.2.2 Post-Contact Settlement

#### Penetanguishene Purchase – Treaty 5

The subject property is within Treaty 5, known as the Penetanguishene Purchase, signed on May 22, 1798, by certain Anishinaabe peoples and representatives of the Crown for a portion of land which today includes Penetanguishene and Awenda Provincial Park. This treaty was conducted as a result of the desire of Lieutenant Governor John Simcoe to acquire a harbour for British vessels on Lake Huron (Ministry of Indigenous Affairs, 2020).

#### **Simcoe County**

The area within what is now Simcoe County was inhabited by the ancestral Huron-Wendat at the time of European contact. European goods reached the area before 1600 and missionaries and Jesuits arrived soon after. Sainte Marie was established in 1639 and became the first European settlement in Upper Canada. In 1798, the County of Simcoe was formed as part of the "Home District". The boundaries of the county were refined in 1821. Almost 20 years later, in 1843, the area was declared a separate district, attaining county status in 1850, with Barrie as the county seat. At this time Simcoe County included portions of Grey and Dufferin Counties, and Muskoka and Parry Sound Districts. In 1881, the borders of Simcoe County were again redefined and the present townships of Tiny, Tay, Matchedash, Flos, Medonte, Orillia, Nottawasaga, Sunnidale, Vespra, Oro, Tosorontio, Essa, Innisfil, Adjala, Tecumseth, and West Gwillimbury were contained within. As of the late twentieth century, Simcoe County had two cities, seven towns, and eight villages (Mika and Mika, 1983:394-398).

#### Penetanguishene

Penetanguishene is located on Penetang Harbour (also known as Penetanguishene Harbour) in Georgian Bay, it is the terminus of both the Penetanguishene Road and a Canadian National Railway line. In the Ojibwe



language, Penetanguishene meant "Place of the White Rolling Sands", from a bank of sand on the west side of the harbour (Ontario Historical Society, 1913). The settlement of the area was slow until the construction in 1818 of a military establishment. The fortification was intended to replace Fort Nottawasaga and although begun in the final stages of the War of 1812, its completion was carried out as a necessary precaution against a renewal of hostilities. As the threat of American invasion declined, the regular soldiers were recalled to England and replaced by half-pay officers. They brought their families with them and supplemented their pensions by farming part-time, and made up the early population for Penetanguishene, including fur traders, fishermen, and farmers. The fort was transferred to the Canadian government after the 1837 Rebellion, and in 1859, the Provincial government acquired the lands and established a reformatory there. In 1875, the settlement was incorporated into a village and in 1882, it became a town (Mika and Mika, 1983:187–190).

The construction of the Penetanguishene Road was proposed by Lieutenant Governor John Graves Simcoe as early as 1793, as a route to connect Lake Ontario with Georgian Bay, and to provide access to the harbour at Penetanguishene. Part of the road appears to have been opened prior to or during the War of 1812, and the North West Company improved the road in exchange for being permitted to use it for transporting their goods. This provided a safe route, particularly during the hostilities of the war years. Additional road construction was undertaken by Dr. William "Tiger" Dunlop in December 1814. At first the road was little more than a track through the wilderness, but it was regularly used by settlers thereafter and improved (Hunter, 1909). To the south of Highway 12, Highway 93 was first assumed by the Department of Highways on April 13, 1938, serving as an alternate route for Highway 27 (Department of Highways Ontario, 1939). This portion of Highway 93, as well as the section to the north of Highway 12, were later transferred to Simcoe County and are now known as Simcoe County Road 93 (Ministry of Transportation, 1997).

#### **Georgian Bay**

Georgian Bay and the many islands and points/peninsulas within it, has had many different place names over the years, including those long-embedded in local



Indigenous tradition and those later assigned by nineteenth-century surveyors. Bayfield was the first to survey Lake Huron (1819-1822) and he gave the name Georgian Bay, based upon George IV being the King of Great Britain at the time, and also gave the names 'Gloucester Bay' and 'Gloucester Point' based upon a British relative, who was the Duke of Gloucester (Figure 2) (Ontario Historical Society, 1913). Gloucester Bay was later known as Midland Bay, and Gloucester Point also known as Sucker Creek Point, is now known as Midland Point.

### 1.2.3 Review of Map Sources

A review of nineteenth- and early twentieth-century mapping was completed to determine if these sources depict any nineteenth-century Euro-Canadian settlement features that may represent potential historical archaeological sites within or adjacent to the subject property. Historical map sources are used to reconstruct/predict the location of former features within the modern landscape by cross-referencing points between the various sources and then georeferencing them in order to provide the most accurate determination of the location of any property from historical mapping sources. The results can be imprecise (or even contradictory) as various sources, such as the vagaries of map production, differences in scale or resolution, and distortions caused by the reproduction of the sources, introduce error into the process. The impacts of this error are dependent on the size of the feature in question, the constancy of reference points on mapping, the distances between them, and the consistency with which both are depicted on historic mapping.

In addition, not all settlement features were depicted systematically in the compilation of these historical map sources, given that they were financed by subscription, and subscribers were given preference with regards to the level of detail provided. Thus, not every feature of interest from the perspective of archaeological resource management would have been within the scope of these sources.

The 1828 Bayfield's Map of Lake Huron illustrates the position of the subject property in the larger context of Georgian Bay, located on a peninsula named by Bayfield as 'Gloucester Point', now Midland Point, with Penetanguishene Harbour to the west and 'Gloucester Bay', now Midland Bay, to the west (Bayfield, 1828)



(Figure 2). While there are no settlement features within the subject property, an inlet from Lake Huron, running alongside Penetanguishene Harbour, not shown in later mapping, is illustrated approximately 250 metres to the west of the subject property.

The 1853 *Gibbard's Map of the County of Simcoe* illustrates the layout of concessions and lots in and around the Town of Penetanguishene. The subject property overlays two lots, and is depicted approximately one-kilometre east from Penetanguishene Harbour (Gibbard, 1853) (Figure 3). The Penetanguishene Road, present-day Main Street, an important transport route that connected Lake Ontario with Georgian Bay, is also now illustrated, to the west of the subject property. No structures or watercourses are depicted within or in the immediate vicinity of the subject property.

On the 1871 *Hogg's Map of the County of Simcoe,* the subject property is within part of Lot 114 to the south, owned by A. Jeffery, and Lot 115 to the north, owned by E. Jeffrey (Hogg, 1871) (Figure 4). The subject property fronts a concession road to the north, now Robert Street East, and is located south of the community of Penetanguishene and the lands associated with the Military Reserve (see 1.2.2). Main Street is illustrated bounding both Lots 114 and 115, to the west of the subject property. No structures or watercourses are depicted in or within the immediate vicinity of the subject property.

The 1881 *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Simcoe* depicts the growth of the Town of Penetanguishene, with the shaded areas demonstrating the schematic limits of the town (Belden, 1881) (Figure 5). The northern portion of the subject property, Lot 115, now falls within the southern limits of the town. Lot 115 is also now depicted as being subdivided with the addition of multiple roads within the subject property limits. No structures are depicted in or within the immediate vicinity of the subject property. A tributary of Georgian Bay is depicted approximately 200 metres east of the subject property on this map.

Early topographic mapping was also reviewed for the presence of potential historical features. Land features, such as waterways, wetlands, woodlots, and elevation are clearly illustrated on this series of mapping, along with roads and structure locations. On the 1932 Orillia Topographic Sheet, the subject property is



located within an area of woods and open agricultural land (Department of the Interior, 1932) (Figure 6). Robert Street East aligns the north boundary, and no settlement features are located within the property limits. A power line traverses the west portion of the property, and the town limits are shown further to the west.

## 1.2.4 Review of Aerial Imagery

In order to further understand the previous land use of the subject property, twentieth-century aerial imagery and twenty-first century google imagery was reviewed (Google Earth Pro, 2021; Simcoe County, No Date) (Figures 7-8).

Aerial imagery from 1978 and 1989, shows the subject property consisting of a large wood and/or scrub lot and part of an agricultural field (Figure 7). Farm lanes traverse the southwest portion of the subject property and Thompsons Road has not yet been constructed in 1978. In 1978, the construction of Penetanguishene Secondary School to the immediate west is underway. By 1989, little has changed in the surrounding areas except that Thompsons Road is now present wrapping around the property along the east and south.

By 2013, there is little change within the subject property, with the exception of a slight area of overlapping disturbance from the immediately adjacent development to the southwest (Figure 8).

## 1.3 Archaeological Context

This section provides background research pertaining to previous archaeological fieldwork conducted within and in the vicinity of the subject property, its environment characteristics (including drainage, soils, surficial geology, topography, etc.), and current land use and field conditions.

#### 1.3.1 Registered and Unregistered Archaeological Sites

In order that an inventory of archaeological resources could be compiled for the subject property, three sources of information were consulted: the site record forms for registered sites housed at the Ministry, published and unpublished documentary sources, and the files of Archaeological Services Inc.



In Ontario, information concerning archaeological sites is stored in the Ontario Archaeological Sites Database which is maintained by the Ministry. This database contains archaeological sites registered within the Borden system. The Borden system was first proposed by Doctor Charles E. Borden and is based on a block of latitude and longitude. Each Borden block measures approximately 13 kilometres east-west by 18.5 kilometres north-south and is referenced by a four-letter designator. Sites within a block are numbered sequentially as they are found. The subject property is located in the BeGx Borden block.

No archaeological sites have been registered within the subject property or in the immediate vicinity. However, there are three sites registered within a one-kilometre radius (the Ministry, 2022: accessed June 11 2022). The closest of which is the Tecumseh site (BeGx-31), which is a Euro-Canadian shipwreck on the east shore of Penetang Harbour and is located approximately 950 metres west of the subject property. A detailed summary of nearby sites is available in Table 1.

Table 1 Registered Sites within a one-kilometre radius of the Subject Property

Borden Number	Site Name	Temporal/Cultural Affiliation	Site Type	Researcher
BeGx-28	Penetang Lake	Late Woodland	Village	O'Brien 1973, Archaeological Services Inc. 2021
BeGx-31	Tecumseh	Euro-Canadian	Wreck	Unknown, 1981
BeGx-44	Bellisle Heights	Late Woodland	Campsite	Archaeological Research Associates Limited, 1995

It is also important to note that additional unregistered archaeological sites have been recorded by Andrew F. Hunter within the surrounding area as part of this



work documenting Huron village sites within Simcoe County. Many of these sites have not been re-located and thus are not captured by the Ontario Archaeological Sites Database. Based on Hunter's map of Tiny Township, Site 19, the Pratt-Forbes site, a Late Woodland Village, is situated approximately within 450 metres to the east of the subject property and is recorded to have once included a "bone pit" (Hunter, 1904).

#### 1.3.2 Previous Assessments

During the course of the background research, it was determined that one archaeological assessment has been completed within 50 metres of the subject property.

In 2019, CRM Lab Archaeological Services completed a Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment of 123 Robert Street East under Project Information Form: P244-0153-2019 (CRM Lab Archaeological Services, 2019). The 1.4-hectare study area was located approximately 13 metres to the north of the subject property on the opposite side of Robert Street East. A test pit survey conducted at five metre intervals within the property did not identify any archaeological resources and the report concluded the study area was clear of any further archaeological concern.

## 1.3.3 Physiography

The subject property is located within the Sand Plains of the Simcoe Uplands physiographic region. The Simcoe Uplands consist of a series of broad rolling till plains which were islands in glacial Lake Algonquin. The upland till plains stand 60 metres above the adjoining Simcoe Lowlands Lake plains. The uplands are encircled by a series of bluffs, terraces and minor beaches which form steps down the hillsides (Chapman and Putnam, 1984).

Soil profiles within the subject property predominantly consisting of a stone poor, sandy silt to silty sand-textured till on Paleozoic terrain, with the north portion of the subject property consisting of coarse-textured glaciolacustrine deposits, sand, gravel, minor silt and clay foreshore basinal deposits (Ontario Geological Survey, 2000).



The subject property is located within a group of bays covering an area of approximately 130 square kilometres located on the southeast of Georgian Bay, Lake Huron known as Severn Sound (Severn Sound Environmental Association, 2022). The subject property is within the Severn Sound watershed. The closest body of water is Lake Penetang, approximately 1.3 kilometres to the southeast of the subject property.

## 1.3.4 Review of Indigenous Archaeological Potential

The Standards, Section 1.3.1, stipulates that primary water sources (lakes, rivers, streams, creeks), secondary water sources (intermittent streams and creeks, springs, marshes, swamps), ancient water sources (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), as well as accessible or inaccessible shorelines (high bluffs, swamp or marsh fields by the edge of a lake, sandbars stretching into marsh) are characteristics that indicate archaeological potential.

Potable water is the single most important resource necessary for any extended human occupation or settlement. Since water sources have remained relatively stable in south central Ontario after the Pleistocene era, proximity to water can be regarded as a useful index for the evaluation of archaeological site potential. Indeed, distance from water has been one of the most commonly used variables for predictive modelling of site location.

The generic distance to water potential model has been refined for the *Archaeological Management Plan for the County of Simcoe* (Archaeological Services Inc. 2019). Undisturbed lands within 250 metres of all river and major stream segments (two-line rivers/streams), lakes, ponds and wetlands have potential for the presence of Indigenous archaeological sites. Historical mapping depicts a tributary draining into Georgian Bay approximately 200 metres east of the subject property (Figure 5).

Other geographic characteristics that can indicate pre-contact archaeological potential include elevated topography (eskers, drumlins, large knolls, plateaux), pockets of well-drained sandy soil, especially near areas of heavy soil or rocky



ground, and distinctive land formations that might have been special or spiritual places for indigenous populations, such as waterfalls, rock outcrops, caverns, mounds, and promontories and their bases. There may be physical indicators of their use by indigenous peoples, such as burials, structures, offerings, rock paintings or carvings. Resource areas, including food or medicinal plants (migratory routes, spawning areas, prairie), and scarce raw materials (quartz, copper, ochre, or outcrops of chert) are also considered characteristics that indicate pre-contact archaeological potential.

The landforms of the Simcoe Upland archipelago, in which the subject property is located, had a particular influence on Late Woodland agricultural communities, who established their settlements around the perimeters of the various Simcoe Upland features. These locations provided Late Woodland farmers with access to good quality farmland with good cold air drainage to avoid early or late frosts along with proximity to ecological topo-sequences downslope to provide for their other resource needs. These areas of increased biodiversity were accordingly buffered by 250 metres in the *Archaeological Management Plan for the County of Simcoe* (Archaeological Services Inc. 2019).

The Standards define a buffer of 300 metres around registered archaeological sites. The *Archaeological Management Plan for the County of Simcoe* (Archaeological Services Inc. 2019) refined this buffer and concluded that there was potential for Indigenous resources within 100 metres of registered Indigenous sites. There are no registered Indigenous sites within 100 metres of the subject property.

Given the property's location relative to a relic watercourse and according to the broad-scale mapping undertaken for the *Archaeological Management Plan for the County of Simcoe* (Archaeological Services Inc. 2019), the entire subject property is within an area of archaeological potential.

## 1.3.5 Review of Historical Archaeological Potential

The Standards, Section 1.3.1 stipulates that areas of early Euro-Canadian settlement, including places of early military pioneer settlement (pioneer homesteads, isolated cabins, farmstead complexes), early wharf or dock



complexes, pioneer churches, and early cemeteries, are considered to have archaeological potential. There may be commemorative markers of their history, such as local, provincial, or federal monuments or heritage parks. Early historical transportation routes (trails, passes, roads, railways, portage routes), properties listed on a municipal register or designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act* or a federal, provincial, or municipal historical landmark or site, and properties that local histories or informants have identified with possible archaeological sites, historical events, activities, or occupations are also considered to have archaeological potential.

For the Euro-Canadian period, the majority of early nineteenth century farmsteads (for example, those which are arguably the most potentially significant resources and whose locations are rarely recorded on nineteenth century maps) are likely to be captured by the basic proximity to the water model, since these occupations were subject to similar environmental constraints. An added factor, however, is the development of the network of concession roads and railroads through the course of the nineteenth century. These transportation routes frequently influenced the siting of farmsteads and businesses. Accordingly, undisturbed lands within 100 metres of an early historical transportation route are also considered to have potential for the presence of Euro-Canadian archaeological sites.

The Archaeological Management Plan for the County of Simcoe (Archaeological Services Inc. 2019) considers a similar suite of criteria or indicators and establishes a 100-metre buffer around settlement features and registered archaeological sites, and a 50 metre buffer from early railways.

Given the presence of Robert Street East and the location of the subject property within the southern limits of the Town of Penetanguishene on the 1881 historical mapping, there is potential for the presence of Euro-Canadian archaeological resources.

#### 1.3.6 Existing Conditions

The subject property is approximately 32 hectares and is located in a mixed-use commercial and residential area, on the outskirts of the Town of Penetanguishene



(Figure 9). It is bounded by Robert Street East to the north, Thompsons Road to the east and south, and residential and institutional developments to the west. The majority of the property comprises a large woodlot, while the southeast portion includes a fallow field with a low grassed mound. The low mound is likely a result of soil movement from the adjacent development.

## 2.0 Field Methods

The Stage 2 field assessment was conducted on May 16-20, June 6-10 and July 4-8, 2022, in order to inventory, identify, and describe any archaeological resources extant within the subject property prior to development. All fieldwork was conducted under the field direction of Poorya Kashani (P1113) and was carried out in accordance with the Standards. The weather conditions were appropriate for the completion of fieldwork, permitting good visibility of the land features.

Representative photos documenting the field conditions during the Stage 2 fieldwork are presented in Section 8.0 of this report, and photo locations and field observations have been compiled on project mapping (Images 1-7; Figure 10). Field observations and photographs were recorded with a Trimble Catalyst Global Navigation Satellite System unit using World Geodetic System 1984.

## 2.1 Test Pit Survey

The majority of the subject property consists of a large woodlot (Images 1-2) and a grassed low mound in the southwest corner (Images 3-4). In accordance with the Standards, Section 2.1.2, areas with closed surface visibility were assessed by means of a test pit survey (Figure 10). Test pits were hand excavated at least five centimetres into the subsoil and all soil was screened through six-mm mesh to facilitate artifact recovery. Test pits were examined for stratigraphy, cultural features, and evidence of fill. All test pits were at least 30 centimetres in diameter. Upon completion, all test pits were backfilled.

Approximately 75% of the subject property was tested at five metre intervals. Undisturbed test pit profiles were consistently observed throughout the woodlot. Typical test pit profiles consisted of approximately 20 centimetres of a very dark



grayish brown (10YR 3/2) sandy loam topsoil, overlying a dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) sand subsoil (Image 5).

Approximately 5% of the subject property was tested at 10 metre intervals in order to confirm disturbance atop the grassed low mound, in accordance with the Standards, Section 2.1.8. Typical disturbed test pit profiles consisted of approximately 30-40 centimetres of a dark grayish brown (10YR 4/2) mix of compact sand, gravel, and asphalt fill, over approximately 80-90 centimetres very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) sand mixed with gravel and dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) sand subsoil (Image 6). Excavation was halted once test pits reached a depth of 120 centimetres. Based on the results, it would appear that two separate fill deposits were used to create the low mound, likely during the construction of the adjacent developments (Figure 8)

## 2.2 Pedestrian Survey

The balance of the subject property, approximately 20%, consisted of a fallow field which was ploughed and assessed by means of a pedestrian survey at five metre intervals (Images 7-8; Figure 10). In accordance with Section 2.1.1 of the Standards, the field was ploughed and allowed to weather appropriately prior to survey, and ploughing was deep enough to provide total topsoil exposure but did not extend beyond the depth of previous ploughing. Visibility conditions were excellent at over 80% and the ploughzone soils consisted of predominantly sand with a high content of rocks and river stones.

## 3.0 Record of Finds

Despite scrutiny, no archaeological resources were found during the Stage 2 field assessment. Written field notes, annotated field maps, Global Positioning System logs, and other data related to the archaeological assessment of the subject property are located at Archaeological Services Inc.

The documentation and materials related to this project will be curated by Archaeological Services Inc. until such a time that arrangements for their ultimate transfer to Her Majesty the Queen in right of Ontario, or other public institution, can be made to the satisfaction of the project owner(s), the Ontario Ministry of



Heritage, Sport, Tourism, and Culture Industries, and any other legitimate interest groups.

# 4.0 Analysis and Conclusions

Archaeological Services Inc. was contracted by Matti Decent Homes to conduct a Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment of 138 Robert Street East, Part 1, Plan 51R-43212, Part of Lots 114 and 115, Concession 1 East of Penetanguishene Road, Township of Tay, Simcoe County, now in the Town of Penetanguishene (Figure 1). The subject property is approximately 32 hectares in size.

The Stage 1 background research entailed consideration of the proximity of previously registered and unregistered archaeological sites and the original environmental setting of the property, along with nineteenth- and twentieth-century settlement trends. The work for this assessment was also guided by the *Archaeological Management Plan for Simcoe County* (Archaeological Services Inc., 2019), which provides further refinement with regard to buffers established around features or landscape attributes that may affect the definition of archaeological potential. This research suggested that there was potential for encountering both Indigenous and Euro-Canadian archaeological sites within the subject property.

The Stage 2 field assessment was conducted on May 16-20, June 6-10 and July 4-8, 2022, by means of a combined test pit and pedestrian survey. Despite careful scrutiny, no archaeological resources were encountered during the course of the survey.

## 5.0 Recommendations

In light of these results, the following recommendation is made:

1. No further archaeological assessment of the property be required.

**NOTWITHSTANDING** the results and recommendations presented in this study, Archaeological Services Inc. notes that no archaeological assessment, no matter how thorough or carefully completed, can necessarily predict, account for, or



identify every form of isolated or deeply buried archaeological deposit. In the event that archaeological remains are found during subsequent construction activities, the consultant archaeologist, approval authority, and the Cultural Programs Unit of the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport must be immediately notified.

The above recommendations are subject to Ministry approval and it is an offence to alter any archaeological site without Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport concurrence. No grading or other activities that may result in the destruction or disturbance of any archaeological sites are permitted until notice of Ministry approval has been received.

# 6.0 Advice on Compliance with Legislation

Archaeological Services Inc. advises compliance with the following legislation:

- This report is submitted to the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport as a condition of licensing in accordance with Part VI of the Ontario Heritage Act, RSO 2005, c 0.18. The report is reviewed to ensure that it complies with the standards and guidelines that are issued by the Minister, and that the archaeological field work and report recommendations ensure the conservation, preservation and protection 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 Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries, 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 licensed archaeologist to make any alteration to a known archaeological site or to remove any artifact or other physical evidence of past human use or activity from the site, until such time as a licensed archaeologist has completed archaeological field work on the site, submitted a report to the Minister stating that the site has no further cultural heritage value or interest, and the report has been filed in the Ontario Public Register of Archaeology Reports referred to in Section 65.1 of the Ontario Heritage Act.



- Should previously undocumented archaeological resources be discovered, they may be a new archaeological site and therefore subject to Section 48

   (1) of the Ontario Heritage Act. The proponent or person discovering the archaeological resources must cease alteration of the site immediately and engage a licensed consultant archaeologist to carry out archaeological fieldwork, in compliance with sec. 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 Government and Consumer Services is also immediately notified.
- Archaeological sites recommended for further archaeological field work or protection remain subject to Section 48(1) of the Ontario Heritage Act and may not be altered, nor may artifacts be removed from them, except by a person holding an archaeological license.

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# 8.0 Images



Image 1: View of the woodlot.



Image 2: Field crew test pitting in the woodlot.





Image 3: View of low grassed mound in the southwest corner of the ploughed field.



Image 4: View of field crew test pitting on the grassed mound.





Image 5: Typical intact test pit within the woodlot.



Image 6: Typical disturbed test pit encountered on the low mound.





Image 7: View of excellent ploughed field conditions during survey.



Image 8: Field crew conducting a pedestrian survey at five metre intervals.



## **9.0** Maps

See following pages for detailed assessment mapping and figures





Figure 1: Location of Subject Property

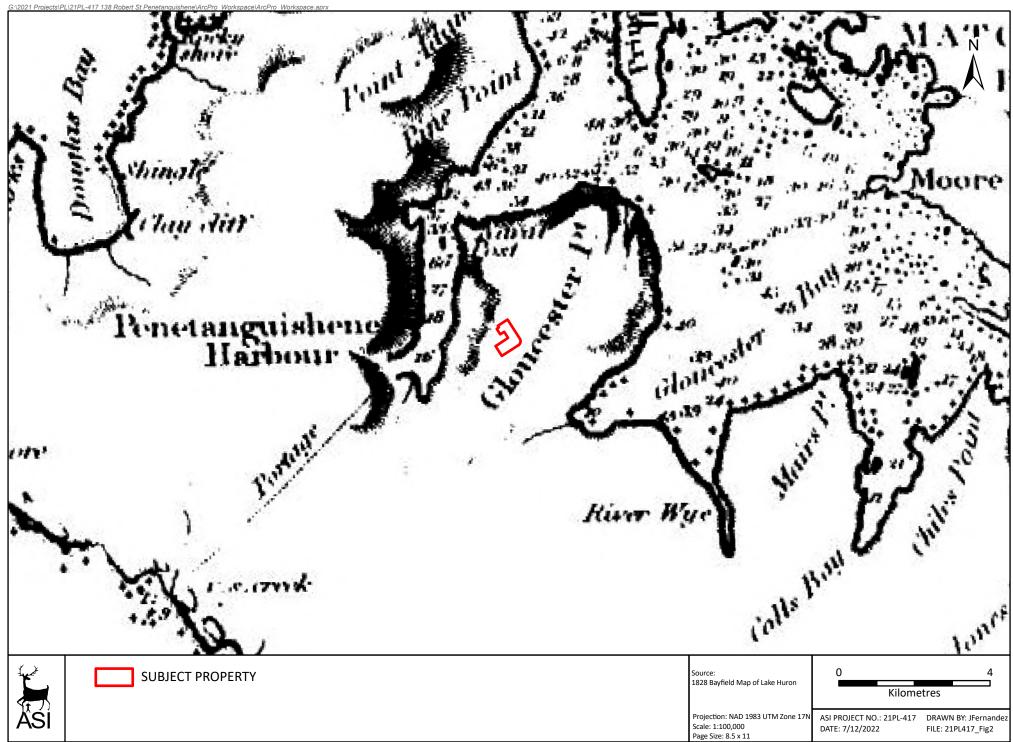


Figure 2: Subject Property located on the 1828 Bayfield's Map of Lake Huron



Figure 3: Subject Property located on the Gibbard's 1853 Map of the County of Simcoe



Figure 4: Subject Property located on the Hogg's 1871 Map of the County of Simcoe

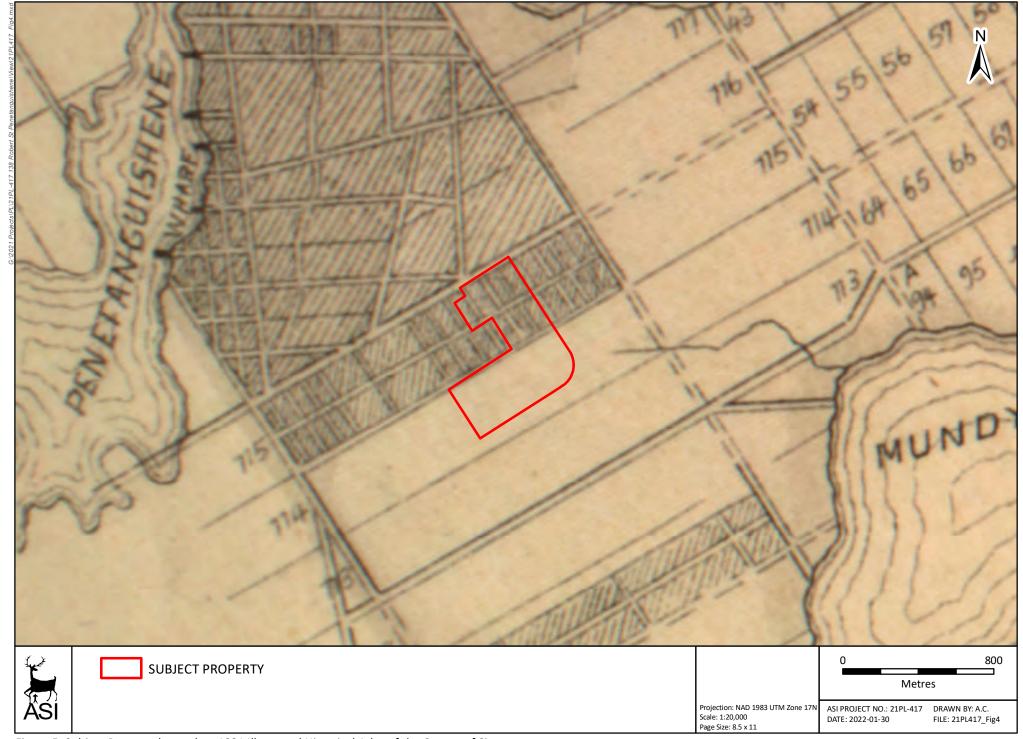


Figure 5: Subject Property located on 1881 Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Simcoe

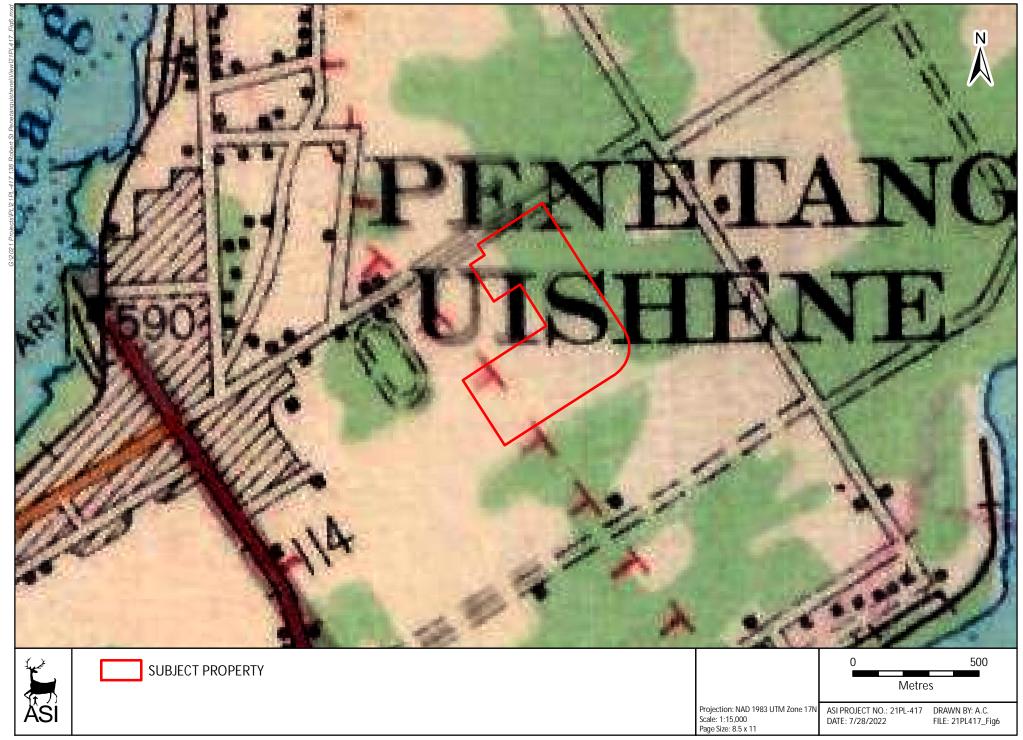


Figure 6: Subject Property located on the 1932 Orillia Topographic Sheet



Figure 7: Subject Property located on 1978 and 1989 Aerial Photography



Figure 8: Subject Property located on 2013 Satellite Imagery



Figure 9: Existing Conditions of Subject Property

