

Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment Original Report

430 Raglan Street

Part of Lot 41, Concession 7 and 8, (Geographic Township
of Nottawasaga), Town of Collingwood, County of Simcoe

Project Information

Archaeological License: P1024 (Sarah MacKinnon MSc.)

MCM PIF#: P1024-0371-2025

Corporate File #: 317-2025

Development Project Designation #: N/A

October 25th, 2025



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

New Era Archaeology Inc. was contracted to complete the Stage 1-2 archaeological assessment of 430 Raglan Street, Part of Lot 41, Concession 7 and 8, (Geographic Township of Nottawasaga), Town of Collingwood, County of Simcoe. The study was conducted under Professional Archaeological License P1024 issued by the Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (Ontario) to Sarah MacKinnon. The Stage 1-2 archaeological assessment was undertaken as a requirement under Ontario Regulation 544/06 under the Planning Act (RSO 1990) in support of a draft plan application. This report describes the Stage 1-2 archaeological assessment and results of the assessment and confirms that all the work conducted as part of this assessment conforms to the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (S&G) (MCM 2011) and the *Ontario Heritage Act* (MCL 2005).

The objective of the Stage 1 archaeological assessment is to determine if the project area has the potential to contain archaeological resources and to determine if any past use activities within the project area have removed areas of potential. The 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*, published by the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM 2011) outlines features and the buffers around these features within which there is potential for archaeological resources. There are two groups of features, one for Indigenous (pre-contact) potential and one for Euro-Canadian (post-contact) archaeological potential. The main feature, which indicates potential for Indigenous archaeological resources, is the proximity to a potable water source. Additional features include topography, soil type and proximity to previously identified archaeological sites. Historic potential is based on proximity to historic features such as structures, roads, railways, settlements and previously identified archaeological sites.

The Stage 1 archaeological assessment involved the review of historical records, historic maps, local knowledge, current aeriels and optional project area inspection to confirm the current conditions of the project area. Both historic and current resources are consulted to identify areas of archaeological potential and previous activities conducted within the project area, which have removed potential. This information, together with a site visit, is used to determine if the project area has archaeological potential, note areas of no potential, and recommend appropriate Stage 2 strategies. The current conditions of the project area were confirmed concurrently during the Stage 2 assessment.

The Stage 1 archaeological assessment determined that the project area has potential for Indigenous (pre-contact) archaeological resources and Euro-Canadian archaeological resources, and as a result Stage 2 test pit survey at a five-meter interval is recommended across the entire project area.

The objectives of Stage 2 archaeological assessment are to confirm if archaeological resources are present within the project area through physical assessment, recover and document any identified archaeological resources and determine if Stage 3 site-specific assessment is required and the strategies that it should follow.

The Stage 2 test pit survey at a five-meter interval was completed on September 25th and 30th, 2025, across the project area. As a result of the Stage 2 archaeological assessment, no archaeological resources were encountered; consequently, it is recommended that no further archaeological assessment is required.

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1.0 PROJECT CONTEXT

1.1 DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT

New Era Archaeology Inc. was contracted to complete the Stage 1-2 archaeological assessment of 430 Raglan Street, Part of Lot 41, Concession 7 and 8, (Geographic Township of Nottawasaga), Town of Collingwood, County of Simcoe. The study was conducted under Professional Archaeological License P1024 issued by the Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (Ontario) to Sarah MacKinnon. The Stage 1-2 archaeological assessment was undertaken as a requirement under Ontario Regulation 544/06 under the Planning Act (RSO 1990) in support of a draft plan application. This report describes the Stage 1-2 archaeological assessment and results of the assessment and confirms that all the work conducted as part of this assessment conforms to the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (S&G) (MCM 2011) and the *Ontario Heritage Act* (MCL 2005).

The proposed development includes a warehouse with supporting infrastructure.

1.2 HISTORICAL CONTEXT

1.2.1 General Indigenous Overview

Table 1: General Indigenous History Throughout Ontario

Period	Date Range	Diagnostic Material	Period Details
Paleo-Indian - ca. 9,000-7,000 B.C.			
Early	ca. 11,000-8,500 BC	Fluted projectile points	Nomadic hunters moved into Southern Ontario from the South-West.
Late	ca. 8,500-7,500 BC	Plano, Holxombe, Hi-Lo projectile points	
Archaic - 7,000-1,000 B.C.			
Early	ca. 7,000-6,000 BC	Bifurcate, netting projectile points	- Small nomadic hunter-gatherer bands slowly transition to small territorial camps. - There is an increase in the use of localized material and the re-purposing of stone tools. - Local and long distance trade networks appear leading to an influx of exotic material and goods, including natural copper and conch shells, often used as grave offering. - The bow and arrow is adopted towards the end of the period.
Middle	ca. 6,000-2,500 BC	Brewerton, Stanly, Side-notched projectile points	
Late	ca. 2,500-1000 BC	Lamoka, Adder Orchard, Genesee, Lamoka, Innes, Crawford Knoll, Innes, Hind projectile points	
Woodland - ca 1,000 B.C. - 1600 A.D.			
Early	ca. 1000-400 BC	Birdstones, Cache blades, Kramer, Meadowood projectile points	- Introduction of pottery. - Burial ceremonialism is also practiced.

Middle	ca. 400 BC - AD 500	Vanport, Snyder, Saugeen projectile points, Pseudo-scallop shell Pottery	- Increased sedentism and seasonal site reuse and emergence of horticulture. - More intricate burial ceremonialism adopted from Hopewell culture to the south, including the use of burial mounds. - More pottery decorative techniques appear including stamped and scalloped techniques. - Items from the Ohio Valley also start to appear including stone platform pipes, copper ear spools and copper panpipes.
Transitional	ca. AD 500 - 900	Princess Point pottery, Triangular projectile points	- First Appearance of Corn. - Princess Point pottery decorative techniques included cord-wrapped stick and punctuates. - Some of the largest burial mounds were also created by the Laurel.
Late - Early	ca. AD 900 - 1300	Glen Meyer Tanged-Triangular projectile point	- Small single-family houses change to larger multi-family longhouses within small village sites with the appearance of palisades at some. - Increase in corn agriculture. - Pottery vessels are thinner walled with improved manufacturing. - There is a switch in burial ceremonialism to the use of burial pits, a precursor to large ossuaries.
Late - Middle	ca. AD 1300 - 1400	Middleport projectile points	- Increase in village size and reliance on agriculture including corn, beans and squash. - Decrease in decorated pottery vessels and an increase in decorative pipes including effigy pipes. - Some sites still included a palisade.
Late - Late	ca. AD 1400 - 1600	Nanticoke, Daniels Triangular projectile points	- Village size increased and locations were strategically pick, to ensure enough arable land, with diets heavily dependent on agriculture, proximity to wood for both heating and building, proximity to water and a location which would be easily defensible. - Emergence of tribes and territories, which led to an increase in warfare. - Dogs were domesticated - Large ossuaries become common. - Towards the end of the period the first Europeans goods appear periodically in Ontario through trade networks with groups further east who were in contact with the first French explorers who had reach the St. Lawrence.
Contact-Historic ca. 1600-1700 A.D.			
European Contact	AD 1600-1650	Minimal European items	- Establishment of the fur trade. - Increased warfare resulted in tribal dispersal leaving much of the area between Lake Ontario and Lake Simcoe with no permanent large villages. - The French arrive in Ontario with an increase in Jesuit missionaries and European goods.
Late	AD 1650- ca. 1800	Mixture of Indigenous and European items	- Iroquois used their conquered land of Southern Ontario as mainly hunting grounds with a few settlements located along the shoreline of Lake Ontario. - The Iroquois were then challenged and pushed out of the region by the Anishinaabeg (Ojibway, Chippewa, Odawa). - Trade with both English and French. - Numerous migrations and resettlements. - The end of this period there saw an influx of European and American settlers transitioning to the historic period.

1.2.2 County of Simcoe

Before the Europeans came, Simcoe County was traversed by different Indigenous Nations and was at one time home to the Huron. The name Huron was initially not widely used and would only later become a term used for Wendat tribes who resided in Huronia. As was Native custom, Champlain referred to the first band he met in Quebec by their chief's name. This custom reduces the generalization of groups of people. However, "in Huronia, Champlain used the name of the Huron Bear Tribe, *Attigouautan*, or *Atignouaatitan*, for all of the Huron people, and also for Georgian Bay" (Garraad 2014).

The confederation, comprised of four Wendat Nations (Bear, Cord, Rock & White Ears/Deer), became more frequently referred to as Huron around 1623, but it was not until 1632 that it was popularized as a result of its use in Gabriel Sagard's book. The confederation occupied an area north of Lake Ontario known as Huronia, was well organized and included several smaller dependent communities. The organizational system at the time the French arrived, which connected the Nations, each varying in size and status, included three phratries, two moieties and eight clans; the number of each was not necessarily constant and could change based on the growing numbers of a clan. The adoption of new groups or families to a Nation would increase their numbers and authority, as did the allegiance of new Nations to Nations already residing in Huronia. Of the four Nations, Bear was the largest. The Huron culture is now known to have been fluid, changing and evolving over time and between the four Nations, who had come together at different times and from different origins. The early Jesuits observed different dialects between the Nations, a likely reflection of their different origins (Garraad 2014).

It is believed that the Huron "evolved in situ from ancestors [Wendat] who had entered Algonkian territory during Uren-Middleport times..." over 200 years prior to the arrival of the French from the north shore of Lake Ontario north to the Georgian Bay and Lake Simcoe area (Garraad 2014). It is thought that the Cord and Bear bands travelled along the north shore of Lake Ontario, up the Humber Valley to Huronia, adopting other bands along their way. A second route suggests that Middleport period sites were being established further in a northern trend away from Lake Huron towards Huronia. The Cord and Bear were well received into the Algonkian territory, noted by the appearance of Middleport Huron pottery types on Algonkian sites. The algonkianisation of these bands was limited and thought in part to be a result of the continued immigration and adoption of peoples to the area, including the recorded immigration of around 600 Wenros to the area in 1638 (Garraad 2014).

The *Arendahronons* (Rock) were the next Nation to immigrate to the area ca. 1589. Their immigration to Huronia was not immediate; they first settled in the Trent River system. This allowed them easy access to the St. Lawrence Valley, from where they had come, in order to maintain their presence there and their already established role in the fur trade. It was in the St. Lawrence Valley that they met Champlain in 1608. The Nation then proceeded to move further north and were closer to the Petun, which resulted in a closer trade relationship with one another and with the Neutral via the Petun. The Rock then moved into Huronia, trading with the Neutral via the Petun, and continued until around 1623; however, the control of the route to the St. Lawrence was taken over by the Bear Nation. Unlike the Rock Nation, which increased its numbers closer to that of the Bear Nation, the *Tohontaenrat* (White Ears/Deer) Nation was small in size, comprising only one village and was the last to arrive in Huronia ca. 1609. It is speculated that they, too, may have originated in the St. Lawrence area (Garraad 2014).

Archaeological evidence from the Balsam Lake (upper Trent River valley) region suggests that, in addition to a group of ancestral Algonquian people and a group of ancestral Huron-Wendat, and then later in the early to mid-sixteenth century, an additional group of ancestral Huron-Wendat with ties to the St. Lawrence River valley, with St. Lawrence Iroquoian people among them, migrated to the arrived. By the mid-sixteenth century, within the Balsam Lake area, three distinct groups of Iroquoian people had come together to live. First – the descendants of the fifteenth-century Huron-Wendat colonizers of the area, second – the later, early sixteenth-century Huron-Wendat immigrants, and Third – the refugee St. Lawrence Iroquoians who arrived to escape the turbulent events happening within the St. Lawrence River valley, who embedded themselves within the early sixteenth-century

Huron-Wendat. Throughout this time, the northern part of the Balsam Lake area continued to be inhabited by the Algonquians and over the second half of the sixteenth century, the uniquely individual ethnic and linguistic groups worked together to adjust to new ways of living together while forming new political and social structures that ultimately created a new common identity, the Arendahronon. After immigrating to the Huronia area, the Arendahronon were adopted into the Wendat confederacy around 1590, presenting themselves with a common identity rather than as traditional or progressive Trent River valley Huron-Wendat or St. Lawrence Iroquoian, or Algonquian (Ramsden 2016).

The dispersal of the Huron-Wendat from southern Ontario is most notable between 1649 and 1651. The abandonment of villages and their traditional territories did not occur all at once, but rather over several years and after moving to different locations within the territory. Villages could not simply be relocated; great effort would have gone into finding, clearing and building a new village. Villages were moved for different reasons and not strictly because of hostilities. Villages were moved to more fertile areas for successful crops, away from disease, as well as safety and security from hostilities. The increase in hostilities from other Nations often coincided with disease. Many lives were lost due to disease, and in order to increase the population, warring parties would be sent out to other villages to capture people who would then be adopted. This adoption tactic was also used by the Huron-Wendat and likely caused increased tensions with other Nations. In particular, the Iroquois to the south became more hostile, eventually pushing the Huron-Wendat out of their traditional territories in southern Ontario, sending a portion to the east in the Quebec area and a second group to the west and then south into what is now the United States (Garrad 2014). During this dispersal, it is suggested that some Huron-Wendat could have been returning to their ancestors' homeland within the St. Lawrence River area (Williamson 2016). While the Huron-Wendat were dispersed from Southern Ontario, the Nation as a whole did not disappear and is still an independent Nation to this day.

The dispersal of the Huron, the Petun, and the Neutral by 1650 and the limited settlement of the Five Nations Iroquois into Southern Ontario saw Ojibwa groups beginning to migrate south, taking advantage of the hunting grounds (Rogers 1978). Samuel de Champlain was the first to encounter the Odawa, who occupied an area along the northeastern shore of Georgian Bay in 1615. Later, Jesuit missionaries would also document the Algonquian groups they encountered, noting their highly nomadic lifestyle, travelling great distances for trade items like furs. A mission was established at Sault Sainte Marie in 1648 for the Algonquian groups of Manitoulin Island and those of the northeastern shore of Lake Huron. Mission work among groups like the Mississauga continued in the late 17th century (Thwaites 1896). One of the groups that moved into Southern Ontario was the Chippewas of Rama, who became the caretakers of the Atherly Narrows fishing weirs. A history of the Chippewas of Rama First Nation is included in Appendix 1.

The traditional territory of the Peoples of the Three Fires, including the Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation and the Saugeen First Nation (Saugeen Ojibway Nation/SON), known as Anishnaabekiing, encompasses an expansive area, which extends beyond the limits of Bruce County today. Their traditional territory includes the Saugeen Peninsula, the waters and islands of Lake Huron and Georgian Bay, extending to the Maitland River to the south and the Nottawasaga River to the east. Their territory includes an estimated two million acres of diverse landscapes, which provided plentiful hunting, fishing and natural resources. Seasonal camps and permanent settlements were often established along rivers, including at the outlet of the Saugeen River. Vast distances were often travelled for trading, communication and following animal migration for food. The rivers were often used for travel, as it was an easier and quicker way to travel great distances. The People of the Three Fires shared their territory with other Nations, including the Wendat Nation, with whom they traded and allied themselves. Their trade network extended beyond their territory as did their allies; however, at times hostilities increased, in particular with the Iroquois to the south, leading to fierce battles, which resulted in loss of life as well as land. Unlike some of the other Nations, which were forced to relocate as a result of hostilities, many of the SON Nation still reside in their traditional territory to this day.

After the Seven Years War between Britain and France ended in 1763, the overall control of the lands that now comprise Ontario and Quebec were ceded by France to the British, who continued to maintain forts at Kingston and Niagara. The influx of settlers after the American Revolution and the subsequent migration of Loyalist settlers convinced the British Crown to formally acquire new lands for settlement through a series of land purchases from Indigenous groups. Between 1783 and 1818, tracts of land within Ontario were purchased and surveyed for settlement (Rogers 1978).

The Anishinaabeg communities had created numerous villages throughout all of southern Ontario, establishing their control of the area and in doing so, it was with the Anishinaabeg that the British negotiated treaties (Smith 1975, Surtees 1985). As a result of the treaty process, the British grouped the Anishinaabeg into three main groups the Chippewa (Beausoleil Island, Rama, Saugeen, Cape Croker, Christian Island, Georgina Island, Snake Island, Thames and Walpole groups), the Ojibwas (northern groups) and the Mississaugas (Alderville, Scugog, New Credit, Mud Lake and Rive Lake groups) (Rogers 1978). A history of the Chippewas of Rama First Nation is included in Appendix 1. Discrepancies and differing interpretations of the treaties led to the signing of additional treaties, and others are still contested to this day.

The route between Lake Huron and the Bay of Quinte via Lake Simcoe was surveyed in 1785 by Deputy Surveyor General John Collins (Hunter 1909). Although the area of what would become Simcoe County was known and travel routes across it were mapped, this part of the Home District did not come into existence until 1798, and then only on paper. The original intent for creating it was for military purposes (Cranston, Herbert 1979).

Between the mid-seventeenth century and the early nineteenth century, before Loyalist and European settlement began, Simcoe County was a popular area for fur traders. Simcoe County was rich with fur-bearing animals, not just the beaver. Trading posts were established throughout the County with two popular spots, one at the Narrows between Lake Simcoe and Lake Couchiching and one at what would become Penetanguishene. Many Indigenous groups frequented the area of the Narrows, as they had done long before the trading posts were established there, attracting many traders, including the Hudson's Bay Company, who in 1862 established a trading post at the Narrows. However, the earliest trading post at the Narrows is thought to have been established sixty years before the Hudson's Bay Company, around 1802. Trading at Penetanguishene increased, ultimately making it a well-known headquarters. Indigenous groups would come annually from all over Georgian Bay, including the Dokis from Lake Nipissing. These annual visits would become big events for the locals. Wives and children of the Indigenous men would also come. Beaver pelts and other animal skins were exchanged for food and clothing (Cranston, Herbert 1979, Hunter 1909).

Lieutenant-Governor John Graves Simcoe was interested in establishing a military naval base on Georgian Bay and opening a road to it from York (later Toronto) for defensive purposes and to ensure supplies were not cut off to the north and west. The future site of Penetanguishene was selected for the base; however, the road from York was not completed, but rather a road from Lake Simcoe to the base known as Penetanguishene Road (Cranston, Herbert 1979). A second base was established at the mouth of the Nottawasaga River as a result of the growing hostilities between Britain and America (Hunter 1909). Few European settlers could be found in the County before 1815 and the termination of the Anglo-American War. After 1815, an influx of settlement began along the Penetanguishene Road.

Seven additional settlement roads were surveyed by the Government, including the Nine Mile Portage route, which followed the trail used by Indigenous groups between Kempenfelt Bay and the Nottawasaga River. The trail was widened to allow military supplies to be transported. This route was used until the opening of the Northern Railway to Collingwood in 1855. A road was opened between Lake Couchiching and Coldwater, which also followed an Indian trail. Sunnidale Road, first surveyed in 1825, ran from Kempenfelt Bay to the Nottawasaga River and on to the Nottawasaga Bay. Ridge Road ran along the shoreline of Kempenfelt Bay between Shanty Bay and Barrie. Hurontario Street was surveyed in 1837. Gloucester Road was opened from Penetanguishene Road at Hillsdale to

Gloucester Bay. Finally, Hawkestone Trail followed an old Indigenous trail, also a known deer trail, along the west side of Hawkestone Creek (Hunter 1909). Many of the Indigenous trails were used by the early settlers on their way to their new home or on their way to mills or markets.

Most of the Townships were surveyed by 1821, and for their services, surveyors were often paid with land, acquiring several hundred acres (Cranston, Herbert 1979, Anderson et al 1987). Settlement was slow to expand beyond the Penetanguishene Road area, and when it did, settlements were concentrated closer to Lake Simcoe. The population grew to 838 in 1824. Naturally, as new roads were opened and businesses were established, specifically mills, making life and travel easier, the population started to grow. After 1835, the County saw an influx of settlers each year, resulting in a population of 10,825 by 1837 (H. Belden, 1881). That same year, Simcoe became its own district, having previously been part of the Home District. Simcoe originally included a larger area until the surrounding Counties were formed and Townships such as Collingwood were added to the neighbouring Counties (Murdock et al 2005, Cranston, Herbert, 1979)

The influx of settlers slowed during the early 1840s and then picked up again with technological advances making life easier, including the plough, resulting in a population of 27,166 in 1851/1852. During this time, men began to establish themselves in specific occupations, as the requirement to clear land and build a home with the limited resources at hand was no longer there. The population continued to flourish, and in 1871, the population was noted as 77,548 (H. Belden, 1881). Several villages within the County appeared, some of which flourished and became Towns. The opening of the railway brought an influx of settlers and goods to the County, making life easier and, for the first time, making it easier to travel for pleasure. The first railway in the County was the Ontario, Simcoe and Huron Railway, which opened from Toronto to Allandale in 1853 and then on to Collingwood in 1855. It was the first line to be opened in Canada, which offered both freight and passenger service (Cranston, Herbert 1979). As road construction and maintenance improved, the rail system started to decline. This did not affect the County as it continued to prosper and grow.

1.2.3 Nottawasaga Township

Nottawasaga Township is located in the northwestern corner of Simcoe County. The geography of the Township is rolling with a rapid succession of hills and dales and little level ground. The Township also includes a number of rivers, including the Mad, the Batteau and the Pretty. Both the Batteau and Pretty Rivers, as well as some minor creeks, flow through the Township directly into the Bay, whereas others, like the Mad River, flow eastwardly through the Township (H. Belden 1881).

Thomas Kelly, a government surveyor, laid out the Township in 1833, and in the following year, settlers from European Countries began to take up land. Settlement within the Township first began in the south and west. In the late fall of 1834, several five-acre lots were laid out at Bomore (now Duntroon) and given as free grants to settlers. The first settlement here consisted of twenty-one families, and in the following years, additional families settled in the area and expanded further into the Township. These first settlers of Bomore were to start clearing the land for the Government to attract settlers, and were paid in provisions, which at times they had to go to Barrie to collect. Early life in the Township was difficult; the land had to be prepared for farming and the crops well-tended to, to ensure successful growth. Once crops were established, the closest mill to take their grain was Horning's Mills, 21 miles away or to Barrie, 36 miles away, over trails through the forests and swamps. The early settlement at Bomore did not fare well in the coming years, leading to many of the settlers moving to farm lots in the surrounding area in 1840. It was also during this year that a Government road was built from Barrie to Bomore, over the hills to Meaford and Owen Sound (H. Belden 1881).

The population of the Township slowly grew, and by 1842 the population was 420, after which the population grew more rapidly, more than doubling in 1850 with 1,411 persons. The introduction of the railway through the Township brought an era of growth and prosperity to the Town of Collingwood and the villages of the Township. The railway provided better access to markets, encouraged new industries and brought goods to settlements. In 1850, the first Council of the Nottawasaga Township was elected, composed of five individuals, and by 1870, the Township had grown enough in population to send three representatives to the County Council. The population by 1880 was recorded as 2,374, showing continued growth (H. Belden 1881).

The two railway lines that crossed the Township include the Northern and the Hamilton and North-Western Railway lines, both of which lead to the harbour at Collingwood. Collingwood offered settlers a market for farm produce, as did Stayner. The Collingwood harbour connected the settlers to the larger global market. Similar to other townships, the lumber industry grew with the opening of the land for settlement and farming, leading to the erection of several mills. Lumber from these mills was brought to the market at Collingwood and shipped elsewhere. One of these mills was located at Bomore (Duntroon), which also had the Township Hall. Bomore benefitted from a railway station growing more rapidly than other settlements and had two telegraph offices, a schoolhouse, two churches, a Town Hall, Orange Hall, two taverns, a drill shed, two general stores and a number of mechanic shops by 1880 (H. Belden 1881).

Nottawa, established in 1851 in an area originally of dense woods, had only two families settled there by the following year. A hotel and mill were established in the following years; however, soon after, the settlement was just about all deserted. Settlers left for Hurontario, a more promising settlement, which later became part of Collingwood. There was still hope for the Nottawa settlement thanks to Melleville's Mill. Nottawa continued to grow, and by 1880, there were additional mills, machine shops, three taverns, two churches, a schoolhouse, a telegraph office, as well as other shops (H. Belden 1881).

Settlement within the Township was concentrated in areas around mills and railway stations. The entire Township continued to thrive and grow, expanding out from the original small settlements as life became easier for settlers (H. Belden 1881).

1.2.4 Historical Mapping

1.2.4.1 Nineteenth Century

Nineteenth-century maps were consulted to identify historic features within or within close proximity to the project area. While these maps can provide some insight into the presence of historic features and the historic environment, the information is limited to the level of detail and the data chosen to include on these maps. Often, these early maps were compiled based on subscription; therefore, the lack of information included on the map does not necessarily mean the absence of a historic feature in a given area. Additionally, the accuracy of the location of a historic feature is another concern, and its location is compared to later maps and aerial images using common points and features between all the maps. A site visit is also used to confirm the presence and location of any historic feature remaining today.

Hogg's map (Map 2) illustrates the location of the project area and environs as of 1871. The project area is located in a rural area southeast of the historic settlement of Collingwood and southwest of the Nottawasaga Bay. Lot 41 Concession 7 is shown to be owned by C. Gamon. Lot 42 Concession 8 is not shown to be owned. An unnamed road is illustrated running between the two concessions and through the project area. This road may more likely correspond to the current Raglan Street, which runs along the eastern boundary of the project area, avoiding Pretty

River. St. Mary's Cemetery, across the road from the project area, opened in 1879, would have required an access road. There are no settlement structures illustrated within either lot or the surrounding lots. Additionally, Pretty River is illustrated to the west of the project area not running through it. Also, to the west of the project area is the railway is shown running to the Collingwood port.

The *Historic Atlas* Map from 1881 (Map 3) shows how the settlement of Collingwood had grown, including the Town limits which now encompass the project area. Additional railway lines had also been opened by 1881 to the west and northwest of the project area. The owners of Lot 41 concessions 7 and 8 are not noted on this map, and no settlement structures are included within or surrounding the project area. Fewer owners of the surrounding lots are noted on this map compared to the 1871 map. Unlike the 1871 map, the 1881 map more accurately illustrates Pretty River flowing through the project area to the Bay. Within the surrounding area, small settlements have grown up, including Batteau and Nottawa to the south of the project area. The planned Town Plot of Sudbury is illustrated to the southeast of the project area, which was never opened. The unnamed road bisecting the project area on the 1871 map is not illustrated, possibly just overlooked, or because it was a minor roadway. As St. Mary's Cemetery had been opened in 1879, it can be assumed that a historic road was opened in the vicinity. St. Mary's Cemetery is not noted on this map, possibly because it is within the Town limits.

The project area is located within close proximity of specifically noted 19th-century historic features, a historic transportation route and a cemetery, suggesting potential for Euro-Canadian occupations within the project area. Though within the Town limits of Collingwood, the urban settlement had not expanded within close proximity of the project area.

Table 2 below provides a summary of the features which indicate historic post-contact archaeological potential within the project area.

Table 2: Historic Features within Proximity to Project Area

1871 Map Features	1881 Map Features	Historic Archaeological Potential
Historic Road	- St. Mary's Cemetery (Though not illustrated) - Historic Road (Though not illustrated)	Yes

1.2.4.2 Twentieth Century

National Topography Series (NTS) maps were consulted to provide more information on identified historic features on the nineteenth-century maps and provide additional information on the natural environment and development around the project area. The 1941 (Map 4) illustrates the project area in a rural environment like that of the nineteenth-century maps. However, the map does show St. Mary's Cemetery across the road from the project area. A structure is shown just north of the project area as well as a lane along the southern boundary leading to two additional structures. Pretty River remains in its historic alignment, flowing through the center of the project area. The project area is not noted as being wooded, but a number of wooded areas are located within the surrounding area.

Historic aerials were also gathered to provide information on the past conditions of the project area. The aerials from 1954 (Map 5), 1978 (Map 6) and 1989 (Map 7) show the realignment of Pretty River and the increased development surrounding the project area. Little change is observed on the 1954 aerial compared to the 1941 survey. The aerial from 1978 shows the realignment of Pretty River and increased commercial/industrial development to

the north of the project area. By 1989, residential development had expanded into the area just west of the project area.

1.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

1.3.1 Previously Registered Sites

According to the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism's Archaeological Site Database (ASD), there are three sites located within 1km of the project area, none of which are located within 300 meters. Table 3 below provides a summary of the sites within 1km of the project area.

Table 3: Previously Registered Sites within 1km

Borden Number	Site Name	Time Period	Affinity	Site Type	Current Development Review Status
BcHb-60	Beverid	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead	
BcHb-54	Ainley	Woodland	Aboriginal	findspot	
BcHb-53	Pretty River Estates	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead	Further CHVI

1.3.2 Previous Archaeological Assessments

A search of the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism's Archaeological Report Database did not identify and previous assessments that have been completed within and adjacent to the project area (within 50 meters).

1.3.3 Current Land Use and Field Conditions

The project area is approximately 2.19 hectares and consists mainly of woodlot, both natural and planted. Pretty River, with its man-made steep bank, is now located along the western boundary of the project area. The historic path of Pretty River, which is now overgrown, was observed during the site visit. The project area is bound on the north by wooded rural residential, on the east by Raglan Street, on the south by a gravel lane and agricultural and on the west by the wooded west bank of Pretty River. Map 9 illustrates the current land use.

1.3.4 Natural Environment

1.3.4.1 Physiographic Region

The project area is situated within the physiographic region of the Simcoe Lowlands. The Simcoe Lowlands comprises the lowlands bordering Lake Simcoe and Georgian Bay. The region is divided into two major areas separated by the Simcoe Uplands and includes the Nottawasaga Basin and the Lake Simcoe Basin. Glacial Lake Algonquin flooded this region, and during the Lake Nipissing time, the Nottawasaga basin was flooded again. The

floor of the lowlands is generally comprised of either sand, silt, clay, or a combination. The Nottawasaga basin is drained by the Nottawasaga River and contains a number of bogs as well as areas of poor drainage. However, the Lake Simcoe basin has larger areas of bogs and wet sand, making it poorer for farming than the Nottawasaga basin. The Lake Simcoe basin also has a series of drumlins, some of which acted as islands in Lake Algonquin. To aid farming in this region, wet and boggy areas were drained (Chapman and Putnam 1984).

1.3.4.2 Water Resources

One of the main features which indicates the potential for archaeological resources is a project area's proximity to water. Portable water sources were essential for survival and larger watercourses and bodies of water were utilized for easier travel. Watercourses were also used as landmarks by Indigenous groups. Later, when Europeans arrived, watercourses were also well-utilized and essential to early settlement.

Pretty River historically flowed through the project area, emptying into the Nottawasaga Bay to the north. Although not underwater today, the project area was situated at the shoreline of the Glacial Lake during the late Nippising phase. The project would have been further into Glacial Lake Algonquin prior to that. A shorecliff is located within 200 meters south of the project area, and beach ridges are found in the surrounding area. The project area's proximity to both current and past water suggests potential for Indigenous occupation and land use in the area in the past.

1.3.4.3 Soil

A project area's soil can provide information on archaeological potential based on its texture and drainage. Sandier areas were chosen by later Indigenous groups for their agricultural capabilities and poorly drained areas would have been avoided for settlement.

The 1962 *Soil Survey of Simcoe County* classified the soil within the project area as Sargent gravelly sandy loam, which drains well (Hoffman et al 1962).

2.0 FIELD METHODS

2.1 PROPERTY INSPECTION

2011 S&G Section 1.2 outlines the standards for a property inspection. The property inspection provides an opportunity to better understand the current conditions and the geography of the project area. The property inspection also affords the opportunity to confirm previously identified features and to identify additional features of archaeological potential and areas where archaeological potential has been removed or features that will affect the assessment strategies. The property inspection is visual only there is no excavation or collection of archaeological resources. The entire property and its periphery are visually inspected by systematic or random spot-checking during ideal weather and lighting conditions to ensure the identification of archaeological potential.

The entire project area and its periphery were visually inspected systematically in accordance with *2011 S&G Section 1.2* during ideal weather and lighting conditions on September 25th and 30th, 2025. Previously identified features were observed and documented and no additional features of archaeological potential were observed during

the visual inspection. During the property inspection, Pretty River and its steep bank were identified as features that will affect the Stage 2 assessment strategy. The current conditions of the property were photographed and are illustrated on Map 9.

2.2 TEST PIT SURVEY

Given the wooded nature of the project area no portions were ploughable; therefore, the Stage 2 assessment was completed by test pit survey on September 25th and 30th, 2025, in accordance with the *2011 S&G Section 2.1* (MCM 2011). The test pit survey was completed at a five-meter interval. All fieldwork activities were undertaken during ideal conditions under sunny skies.

All test pits measured 30cm in diameter and were excavated by hand into the first 5cm of subsoil and their profiles were examined for stratigraphy, cultural features, or fill before being filled back in to grade. All excavated soil was screened through mesh with an aperture no larger than six millimeters and examined for any artifacts. The soil throughout the project area was medium brown sandy loam.

Approximately 90% of the project area was subject to test pit survey at a five-meter interval. The remaining 10% includes the disturbed new Pretty River alignment. The River is bounded by steep-sided banks. Given the steepness of the bank and the low-lying and wet nature of the River, this area was not viable to assess. Map 9 illustrates the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment results.

3.0 RECORDS OF FINDS

3.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

No archaeological resources were encountered during the Stage 2 test pit survey.

3.2 DOCUMENTARY RECORD INVENTORY

Table 4: Documentary Record Inventory

Type of Documentation	Description
Field Notes	The report constitutes the fieldnotes for this project
Maps	1 digital map showing the project activities
Photographs	40 digital photographs showing the current conditions encountered during the field work, crew and work, all types of activities undertaken as part of the field work, and all notable features
Weather	Ideal for archaeological assessment

4.0 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS

4.1 STAGE 1 BACKGROUND RESULTS

The S&G's Section 1.3 (MCM 2011) outlines the features indicating archaeological potential and features which have removed archaeological potential. The features which indicate archaeological potential include:

- Previously identified archaeological sites
- Water
- Elevated topography
- Pockets of well-drained sandy soil, especially near areas of heavy soil or rocky ground
- Distinctive land formations
- Resource areas
- Areas of early Euro-Canadian settlement
- Early historical transportation routes
- Properties listed on the Municipal Register or designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act*
- Local knowledge of possible archaeological sites, events, activities or occupations

Based on the background research and the property inspection, the project area meets three of the criteria for indicating Indigenous archaeological potential: its proximity to water, an early historic transportation route and a historic cemetery. None of the other features indicating archaeological potential are located within or within 300 meters of the project area.

The 2011 S&G also note features which indicate archaeological potential has been removed, including:

- Quarrying
- Major landscaping involving grading below topsoil
- Building footprints
- Sewage and infrastructure

Minor ground-altering activities such as gardening, landscaping and agricultural cultivation do not necessarily affect or remove archaeological potential. The project area has been subject to deep disturbance relating to the realignment of Pretty River. Potential for both historic and Indigenous archaeological resources remains for the project area.

4.2 STAGE 2 SURVEY RESULTS

No archaeological resources were encountered during the Stage 2 test pit survey.

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

No archaeological resources were encountered during the Stage 2 test pit survey; consequently, no further archaeological assessment is recommended.

The inherent nature of the Stage 2 systematic survey does not encapsulate 100% of the project area, no matter how thoroughly the assessment is completed. Isolated finds, burials and or deeply buried archaeological resources may not be identified as a result of the systematic survey; therefore, if any archaeological resources are identified during ground-altering earthworks, the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, the consultant archaeologist and project approval authority should be notified immediately.

6.0 ADVICE ON COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION

- a. This report is submitted to the Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism as a condition of licensing in accordance with Part VI of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c 0.18. The report is reviewed to ensure that it complies with the standards and guidelines that are issued by the Minister, and that the archaeological fieldwork and report recommendations ensure the conservation, protection and preservation of the cultural heritage of Ontario. When all matters relating to archaeological sites within the project area of a development proposal have been addressed to the satisfaction of the Minister 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 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 *Cemeteries Act*, R.S.O. 1990 c. C.4 and the *Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act*, 2002, S.O. 2002, c.33 (when proclaimed in force) require that any person discovering human remains must notify the police or coroner and the Registrar of Cemeteries at the Ministry of Consumer Services.
- e. Archaeological sites recommended for further archaeological fieldwork or protection remain subject to Section 48 (1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act* and may not be altered, or have artifacts removed from them, except by a person holding an archaeological license.

7.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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8.0 MAPS



Map 1: Location of Project Area (Simcoe County)



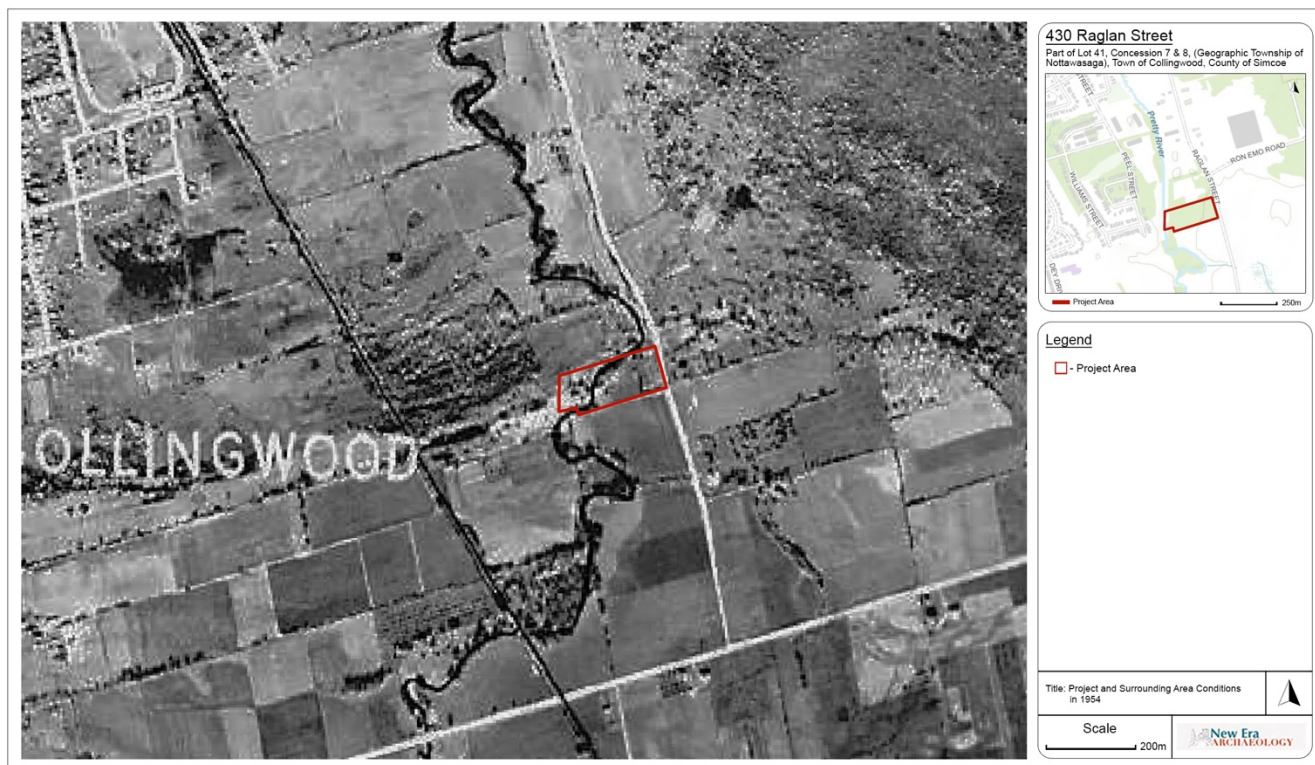
Map 2: Historic Map Illustrating the Environment Surrounding the Project Area in 1871 (Hogg, 1871)



Map 3: Historic Map Illustrating the Environment Surrounding the Project Area in 1881 (H. Belden & Co., 1881)



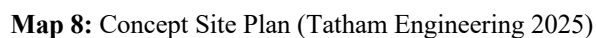
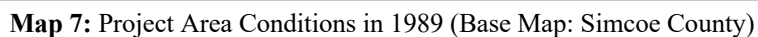
Map 4: 1941 Topographic Map Illustrating the Environment Surrounding the Project Area (National Resources Canada)



Map 5: Project Area Conditions in 1954 (Base Map: Simcoe County)



Map 6: Project Area Conditions in 1978 (Base Map: Simcoe County)





Map 9: Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment Results (Base Map: Simcoe County)

9.0 PLATES



Plate 1: Test Pit Survey Conditions



Plate 2: Test Pit Survey Conditions



Plate 3: Test Pit Survey Conditions



Plate 4: Test Pit Survey Conditions



Plate 5: Steep Slope Bank Along Pretty River



Plate 6: Pretty River



Plate 7: Test Pit Survey Conditions



Plate 8: Test Pit Example



Plate 9: Test Pit Survey Conditions



Plate 10: Test Pit Survey Conditions



Plate 11: Test Pit Survey Conditions



Plate 12: Test Pit Survey Conditions



Plate 13: Test Pit Survey Conditions



Plate 14: Test Pit Survey Conditions

10.0 APPENDIX 1

History provided by the Chippewas of Rama First Nation

The Chippewas of Rama First Nation are an Anishinaabe (Ojibway) community located at Rama First Nation, ON. Our history began with a great migration from the East Coast of Canada into the Great Lakes region. Throughout a period of several hundred years, our direct ancestors again migrated to the north and eastern shores of Lake Huron and Georgian Bay. Our Elders say that we made room in our territory for our allies, the Huron-Wendat Nation, during their times of war with the Haudenosaunee. Following the dispersal of the Huron-Wendat Nation from the region in the mid-1600s, our stories say that we again migrated to our territories in what today is known as Muskoka and Simcoe County. Several major battles with the Haudenosaunee culminated in peace being agreed between the Anishinaabe and the Haudenosaunee, after which the Haudenosaunee agreed to leave the region and remain in southern Ontario. Thus, since the early 18th century, much of central Ontario into the lower parts of northern Ontario has been Anishinaabe territory.

The more recent history of Rama First Nation begins with the creation of the “Coldwater Narrows” reserve, one of the first reserves in Canada. The Crown intended to relocate our ancestors to the Coldwater reserve and ultimately assimilate our ancestors into Euro-Canadian culture. Underlying the attempts to assimilate our ancestors were the plans to take possession of our vast hunting and harvesting territories. Feeling the impacts of increasingly widespread settlement, many of our ancestors moved to the Coldwater reserve in the early 1830s. Our ancestors built homes, mills, and farmsteads along the old portage route which ran through the reserve, connecting Lake Simcoe to Georgian Bay (this route is now called “Highway 12”). After a short period of approximately six years, the Crown had a change of plans. Frustrated at our ancestors continued exploiting of hunting territories (spanning roughly from Newmarket to the south, Kawartha Lakes to the east, Meaford to the west, and Lake Nipissing to the north), as well as unsuccessful assimilation attempts, the Crown reneged on the promise of reserve land. Three of our Chiefs, including Chief Yellowhead, went to York under the impression they were signing documents affirming their ownership of land and buildings. The Chiefs were misled, and inadvertently allegedly surrendered the Coldwater reserve back to the Crown.

Our ancestors, then known as the Chippewas of Lakes Simcoe and Huron, were left landless. Earlier treaties, such as Treaty 16 and Treaty 18, had already resulted in nearly 2,000,000 acres being allegedly surrendered to the Crown. The Chippewas made the decision to split into three groups. The first followed Chief Snake to Snake Island and Georgina Island (today known as the Chippewas of Georgina Island). The second group followed Chief Aissance to Beausoleil Island, and later to Christian Island (Beausoleil First Nation). The third group, led by Chief Yellowhead, moved to the Narrows between Lakes Simcoe and Couchiching and eventually, Rama (Chippewas of Rama First Nation).

A series of purchases, using Rama’s own funds, resulted in Yellowhead purchasing approximately 1,600 acres of abandoned farmland in Rama Township. This land makes up the core of the Rama Reserve today, and we have called it home since the early 1840’s. Our ancestors began developing our community, clearing fields for farming and building homes. They continued to hunt and harvest in their traditional territories, especially within the Muskoka region, up until the early 1920’s. In 1923, the Williams Treaties were signed, surrendering 12,000,000 acres of previously uncaded land to the Crown. Once again, our

ancestors were misled, and they were informed that in surrendering the land, they gave up their right to access their seasonal traditional hunting and harvesting territories.

With accessing territories difficult, our ancestors turned to other ways to survive. Many men guided tourists around their former family hunting territories in Muskoka, showing them places to fish and hunt. Others worked in lumber camps and mills. Our grandmothers made crafts such as porcupine quill baskets and black ash baskets, and sold them to tourists visiting Simcoe and Muskoka. The children were forced into Indian Day School, and some were taken away to Residential Schools. Church on the reserve began to indoctrinate our ancestors. Our community, along with every other First Nation in Canada, entered a dark period of attempted genocide at the hands of Canada and the Crown. Somehow, our ancestors persevered, and they kept our culture, language, and community alive.

Today, our community has grown into a bustling place, and is home to approximately 1,100 people. We are a proud and progressive First Nations community.