

ORIGINAL REPORT

Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment

Proposed Matheson and Rosedale Subdivision, Part of Lot 20, Concession 3, Montague Township, Lanark County, Ontario

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PIF Number: P311-0349-2024

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11 July 2024



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Report Abbreviations

TNAS True North Archaeological Services Inc.

MCM Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism

PIF Project Information Form issued by the MCM

ASDB Archaeological Sites Database maintained by the MCM

CHVI Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

BP Years Before Present

ha Hectare

km Kilometre

m Metre



Executive Summary

The Executive Summary highlights key points from the report only; for complete information and findings, as well as the limitations, the reader should examine the complete report.

True North Archaeological Services Inc. (TNAS) was retained by EFI Engineering (EFI) to undertake a Stage 1 archaeological assessment in support of a draft plan approval submission for the Matheson and Rosedale Subdivision. The study area measures approximately 23.5 hectares (ha) in area and is in part of Lot 20, Concession 3, Montague Township, Lanark County Ontario (Maps 1 and 2). This archaeological assessment was triggered by the requirements of the Planning Act, 1990, in accordance with the Ontario Heritage Act, 1990. The assessment was carried out in accordance with the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism's (MCM) *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (MCM 2011).

The primary objectives of this Stage 1 archaeological assessment were to identify known archaeological resources within and in the vicinity of the study area, to provide information on previous archaeological investigations conducted in the area, to assess the archaeological potential of the study area and to provide recommendations as to whether any additional archaeological investigations are required.

Background research indicates that Lot 20, Concession 3 of Montague Township was first deeded to Euro-Canadian settlers in 1803. Historical plans show that during the mid-19th century, there were two farmsteads located along the western boundary of the study area along Rosedale Road South. The study area appears to have remained primarily agricultural fields up until the present day. There are no registered archaeological sites located within 300 m of the study area (MCM 2024).

A visual property inspection was conducted on 3 July 2024 under PIF P311-0349-2024. Although there are small areas of disturbance resulting from recent house construction and ditching along Rosedale Road South, the majority of the study area contains archaeological potential due to its proximity to historical farmsteads, historical transportation routes (Rosedale Road South and Matheson Drive), and water sources. The areas retaining archaeological potential within the study area are recommended for Stage 2 archaeological assessment through a combination of pedestrian and test pit survey at 5 m intervals.

This Stage 1 archaeological assessment has provided the basis for the following recommendations:

- The portions of the study area identified as having archaeological potential in Map 9 are recommended for Stage 2 archaeological assessment prior to development impacts. The portions of the study area recommended for pedestrian survey should be ploughed and weathered followed by pedestrian survey at 5 m intervals following the standards outlined in Section 2.1.1 of the MCM's (2011) Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists.
- 2) The portions of the study area recommended for Stage 2 test pit survey in Map 9 should be assessed through hand excavated shovel test pits at 5 m intervals following the standards outlined in Section 2.1.2 of the MCM's (2011) Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists.
- 3) The portions of the study area identified as disturbed or permanently wet in Map 9 are recommended for no additional archaeological assessment.
- 4) Should ground disturbance extend beyond the area shown in Map 9, additional archaeological assessment may be required.



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1.0 Project Context

1.1 Development Context

True North Archaeological Services Inc. (TNAS) was retained by EFI Engineering (EFI) to undertake a Stage 1 archaeological assessment in support of a draft plan approval submission for the Matheson and Rosedale Subdivision. The study area measures approximately 23.5 hectares (ha) in area and is in part of Lot 20, Concession 3, Montague Township, Lanark County, Ontario (Maps 1 and 2). This archaeological assessment was triggered by the requirements of the Planning Act, 1990, in accordance with the Ontario Heritage Act, 1990. The assessment was carried out in accordance with the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism's (MCM) *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (MCM 2011).

Permission to access the study area was provided by EFI Engineering, with no limitations or restrictions.

1.2 Objectives

This Stage 1 archaeological assessment was completed to identify known archaeological resources on, or in the vicinity of, the project area as well as to assess the archaeological potential of the study area. The objectives of a Stage 1 archaeological assessment are based on principals outlined in the *Ontario Heritage Act* (consolidated 2007) and the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism's (MCM) *Standards and Guidelines for Consulting Archaeologists* (2011). More specifically, this Stage 1 archaeological assessment was completed with the following objectives:

- To provide information about the study area's geography, environment, cultural history, previous archaeological fieldwork and current land condition.
- To evaluate in detail the study area's archaeological potential, which will support recommendations for Stage 2 survey for all or parts of the property.
- To recommend appropriate strategies for Stage 2 field survey.

1.3 Historical Context

1.3.1 Regional Indigenous Context

The following historical narrative is intended to provide a general overview of the interpreted land use during the "Pre-Contact and Post-Contact Periods" within the vicinity of the current study area. This historical overview generally reflects inferences and interpretations based on archaeological and historical interpretations primarily made by non-Indigenous representatives.

This section is intended to provide a general historical overview that can be referenced when determining the potential for archaeological resources within the current project study area. The text and comments below, including the cited references, may reflect archaeological literature within general publications, but may not represent the opinions of those Indigenous communities whose history it is purported to reflect.

Paleo Period (11,000 – 9,000 BP)

The Paleo Period represents a temporal classification developed by archaeologists and may not necessarily reflect the current world view of Indigenous Peoples. Based on archaeological research, human occupation of eastern Ontario dates back approximately 11,000 years before present (BP) depending on the sources that are reviewed. This time period is commonly referred to by archaeologists



as the Paleo Period. The former shores of the vast glacial lakes, such as Lake Algonquin in the area that is now southern Georgian Bay, and along the north shore of present day Lake Ontario, contain remnants of some of these early Paleo sites. Isolated finds of the distinctive, parallel-flaked Paleo Indigenous Period spear points have been recorded in the Rideau Lakes and north of Kingston (Watson 1982). Given the paucity of sites within Ontario compared to later Periods, and the lack of organic remains, minimal tangible remains have been recovered to provide insights into past human practices during this period. However, it is suggested contemporary populations were highly mobile hunters and gatherers relying on caribou, small game, fish and wild plants found in the sub-arctic environment (Ellis and Deller 1990; Ellis 2013).

The early beach ridges and old shorelines, drumlins and eskers, of the Champlain Sea and early St. Lawrence River channels would be areas most likely to contain evidence of Paleo Period land use in this region. The majority of the Paleo Period sites that have been identified within southern and eastern Ontario are typically quite small, consisting of scatters of lithic debitage from stone tool maintenance and manufacturing. As the majority of the material remains collected from Paleo sites are typically manufactured from stone, representative diagnostic materials include finely crafted lanceolate type projectile points that typically exhibit parallel flake scars and as well as flutes for easier hafting (Ellis and Deller 1990).

One potential Paleo Period site has been documented within Lanark County. The BeBg-18 site is a findspot consisting of a single point interpreted to date to the Late Paleo Period (MCM 2024). The site is located in North Burgess Township, to the west of the present study area.

Archaic Period (9,000 – 2,950 BP)

During the Early Archaic Period (9,000 - 8,000 BP), a gradual increase in atmospheric humidity in conjunction with warmer summers influenced the environmental landscape within the general study area vicinity. Fossil pollen and spore identification from sedimentation cores lifted from Lovesick Lake provided evidence of climate change, with jack pine forests becoming dominant during the beginning of the Early Archaic Period (Teichroeb 2007).

Concurrent with the environmental evolution were notable diagnostic technological changes including the appearance of side and corner-notched project points used for hunting. Other significant innovations included the introduction of ground stone tools such as celts and axes, which may reflect an emerging woodworking industry.

As more land became accessible following the retreat of the glacial lakes and the warming climate, Archaic Period populations continued as hunter-gatherers; however, they appear to have focused more on local food resources, abandoning the highly mobile lifestyle of their predecessors. It is during the Archaic Period that there is also a distinct shift in technology with Archaic Peoples beginning to grind stones such as slate, granite, schist and limestone (Ellis 2013). In addition, the fine craftsmanship observed on Paleo Indigenous Period projectile points is no longer as prevalent and is replaced by smaller projectile points that are either stemmed or corner notched. This technological shift observed in the projectile points is related to a shift from using spears as a primary hunting tool to atlatls (Ellis et al 1990). Although Paleo Indigenous Period workmanship of stone tools had transitioned by the Archaic Period, the overall tool kit became more diversified, reflecting the change to a temperate forest environment. Ground stone tools such as adzes and gouges first appeared and may indicate the construction of dug-out canoes or other heavy wood working activities.



Trade connections across vast territories continued through the Archaic Period, with Late Archaic Period sites documented in greater numbers compared to Early and Middle Archaic Period sites, suggesting the local population was rapidly expanding.

A search of the MCM's archaeological site database indicates that there are 19 sites dating to the Archaic Period registered within Lanark County (MCM 2024). A total of 13 sites have been interpreted to date to the general Archaic Period, three sites date to the Early Archaic Period, one site to the Middle Archaic Period, and two sites to the Late Archaic Period, representing a general continuous land use within the region.

Woodland Period (2,950 – 500 BP)

The Early Woodland Period (2,950 – 2,200 BP) is distinguished from the Late Archaic Period primarily by the introduction of ceramic technology. The first pots were thick walled and friable, suggesting they may have been primarily used in the processing of nut oils by boiling crushed nut fragments in water and skimming off the oil (Spence et al. 1990). These early vessels were not easily portable, and their fragile nature suggests they may have required regular replacement. There have also been numerous Early Woodland Period sites identified where ceramics were absent from the recovered assemblage, suggesting ceramic vessels may not have been completely integrated within the daily lives of Early Woodland Period populations.

Besides the addition of ceramic technology, the cultural affinity of Early Woodland Period inhabitants shows a great deal of continuity with the preceding Late Archaic Period. For instance, birdstones continued to be manufactured, although the Early Woodland Period varieties have "pop-eyes" that protrude from the sides of their heads (Spence et al. 1990). Another example of general continuity from the terminal segment of the Archaic Period is represented by the thin, well-made projectile points, although the Early Woodland Period variants were side-notched rather than corner-notched, giving them a slightly altered and distinctive appearance (Spence et al. 1990).

The Early Woodland Period can be further sub-divided into the Meadowood and Middlesex complexes. Meadowood sites are typically found in southern Ontario while Middlesex complex sites are generally found within eastern Ontario. During the Early Woodland Period groups continued to live primarily as hunters, gatherers and fishers in much the same way as the earlier Archaic Period populations had done with the exception of what appears to be more complex ceremonial and burial practices (Spence et al. 1990). Extensive trade networks are evidenced by the inclusion of funerary objects made from exotic and non-local materials. Specifically, for the Middlesex Complex in Ontario, it appears that they were heavily influenced by groups to the south, particularly the Adena people of the Ohio Valley as well as Early Woodland populations within modern-day New York State. Significant Middlesex Complex sites within eastern Ontario include the Morrison's Island-2 site located on Morrison's Island in the Ottawa River, the Long Sault Island Mounds in the St. Lawrence River, and the Mound Site located on Tremont Park Island in the St. Lawrence River (Spence et al. 1990).

There are two registered Early Woodland Period archaeological sites within Lanark County. The Paint Bowl Site (BeGd-2), located within South Sherbrooke Township, is the remains of a campsite. The Meadowood Find Spot (BgFx-2), located within Beckwith Township, is an isolated find of a Meadowood projectile point.



The transition from the Early to Middle Woodland Period (*ca.* 2,400 to 1,100 BP) is not well defined but can be characterized by an overall increase in decorative styles found on ceramic pots. It is also during this period that regional variants slowly begin to become more evident with three distinct Complexes. Within southern Ontario, the Saugeen and Couture Complexes are predominant while in eastern and south-central Ontario, Point Peninsula is the predominant Complex. Sites associated with the Point Peninsula Complex are typically found between Algonquin Park area east to the St. Lawrence River (Spence et al. 1990).

Due to an increase in overall sites documented within eastern and south-central Ontario, archaeologists have developed a better understanding of how Woodland Period inhabitants utilized the land, which generally reflected more seasonal rounds of hunting and gathering exploiting local flora and fauna within defined territories. During the late fall and winter, small groups would utilize inland "family" hunting areas while in the spring, these dispersed families would congregate at specific lakeshore sites to fish and hunt in the surrounding forest, and socialize. This gathering would last through to the late summer when large quantities of food would be stored for the approaching winter. Within the archaeological record, there's an overall increase in the number of archaeological sites dating to the Middle Woodland Period compared to the Archaic and Early Woodland Periods (Spence et al. 1990). This increase has been attributed to an overall increase in the Middle Woodland Period population. There are several Middle Woodland Period sites documented in the South Nation Drainage Basin near Casselman and further south near Winchester and along the Ottawa and St. Lawrence Rivers including the northwest end of Ottawa at Marshall's and Sawdust Bays (Daechsel 1980; Daechsel 1981), as well as at Leamy Lake and along the Rideau River. Five Middle Woodland Period archaeological sites have been registered within Lanark County (MCM 2024). The nearest to the study area is the Hayes Shores Site (BgGa-8) located west of Carleton Place and represents the remains of a campsite.

Food sources such as tree nuts and a proliferation of plant greens and seeds were also utilized during the Middle Woodland Period. The seasonal variety and relative dependability of these foods encouraged population growth in many areas. The land use patterns reflected from archaeological investigations of Middle Woodland Period sites generally reflect densely occupied locations that appear on the valley floor of major rivers, often producing sites with significant artifact deposits. Unlike earlier seasonally utilized locations, many Middle Woodland Period sites appear to have functioned as base camps, occupied periodically over the course of the year and situated to take advantage of the greatest number of resources. There are also numerous small upland Middle Woodland Period sites, many of which can be interpreted as special purpose camps where localized natural resources were exploited (MCR 1981).

Ceramics within the Point Peninsula Complex are commonly associated with the Vinette 2 series and are constructed with conoidal or sub-conoidal bases, with slightly flaring rims. Exterior surfaces tend to be smoothed or brushed while the interiors are combed. There is also evidence of modified bone and antler tools consisting of harpoons, combs, fish hooks, and various other tools. Typical lithic assemblages during this complex consist of scrapers, axes, adzes, as well as corner and side notched projectile points, as well as un-notched points (Spence et al. 1990).

The transition from the Middle to Late Woodland Period is marked by the introduction of triangular projectile point styles and cord-wrapped stick decorated ceramics, which are associated with the Princess Point Complex (Martin 2004; Crawford et al. 1997; Bursey 1995; Ferris and Spence 1995; Spence et al. 1990; Williamson 1990; Ritchie 1971), although these attributes may not always reflect diagnostic components of specific Nations as many interacted and shared cultural traits.



Many of the villages maintained by Indigenous People who established agricultural economies during the Late Woodland Period included palisades that enclosed community longhouses (Fox 1990; Smith 1990; Williamson 1990), with the villages often surrounded by gardens and field crops, which were worked by the clan families of the village (Hill 2017).

The High Falls Portage Site (BfGd-1), located within Dalhousie Township, is the only registered Late Woodland Period archaeological site within Lanark County. The site consisted of a complete ceramic vessel, projectile points, and lithic debitage.

Early contact with European settlers at the end of the Late Woodland Period resulted in changes to the traditional lifestyles of many Indigenous populations, influencing settlement size, population distribution, and material culture. The introduction of European-borne diseases also significantly increased mortality rates, resulting in a drastic decrease in population size (Warrick 2000).

1.3.2 European Contact and Post-Contact Period

The Algonquin Nation had long been established along the Ottawa River and its tributary valleys when the French arrived in the area. Samuel de Champlain met with several Algonquin representatives in 1603 shortly after he established the first permanent French settlement on the St. Lawrence River at Tadoussac (AOO 2013), with Étienne Brûlé generally acknowledged as the first European to pass through what is now the Ottawa Valley area when he portaged at the Rideau Falls in 1610 and with the aid of Algonquin guides proceeded to explore the interior of Canada (AOO 2013).

Another French expedition led by Nicholas de Vignau traveled along the Ottawa River through the Ottawa Valley area in 1611 (Pendergast 1999), followed by Samuel de Champlain in 1613 who led the French voyageurs from Montreal to Morrison Island along the Ottawa River (Croft 2006), which was commonly known as the Grand River (*Kichi Sibi* in Algonquin) or the River of the Algoumequin (Pilon 2005). Champlain again encountered Algonquin community members in the Ottawa Valley area in 1615, with many living in regional groups around the Madawaska River, Muskrat Lake, along the Ottawa River above and below Morrison Island, and also along the Mattawa River to Lake Nipissing (AOO 2013).

The French established a relationship with the Algonquin communities around the Ottawa Valley that provided an opportunity to monopolize the early fur trade as the two groups developed close relations throughout the 17th century (Trigger and Day 1994). The colonial economic wealth stimulated by the French fur trade in the early 17th century promoted the rapid expansion northward, with the Ottawa River providing the opportunity to transport goods to the western trading posts on the lakes by canoe, which could not be accomplished by the larger sailing vessels operating on Lake Ontario (Adney and Chapelle 2014).

Competition for furs increased existing tensions between the Algonquin communities and their Indigenous neighbours including the Haudenosaunee Nations, residing to the south around the St. Lawrence River and Lake Ontario areas. The 17th century saw a long period of conflict known as the Beaver Wars between the Algonquin and the Haudenosaunee communities that resulted in the significant disruption of trade. Mohawk raids against Algonquin villages in the Upper Ottawa and St. Lawrence Valleys resulted in the abandonment or destruction of many Algonquin villages (Trigger and Day 1994). Some Algonquin's found refuge in French settlements such as Trois-Rivieres, Quebec City, Sillery, and Montreal while others may have relocated to interior locations along the Ottawa River's tributaries, including the Rideau River (Holmes 1993). At the end of the 17th century, the Haudenosaunee were driven out of much of



southern Ontario by the Mississauga though they continued to occupy areas within eastern Ontario on a seasonal basis.

In 1701, representatives from the Haudenosaunee and more than 20 Anishinaabeg Nations assembled in Montreal to participate in the Great Peace negotiations, sponsored by the French Governor Calliere (Johnston 2004; Johnston 2006). A peace treaty between the Anishinaabeg and the Kanien'kehá:ka (Mohawk) was agreed to once again share in the bounty of the territory as partners (One Dish, One Spoon), although this partnership was strained by the "Great Imbalance" represented by the fur trade with European capitalists (Monague 2022).

The resulting treaty document signed at Montreal was not the only record made of the Peace between the Anishinaabeg and the Haudenosaunee. At a council held at Lake Superior, the Haudenosaunee secured peace by delivering a wampum belt to the Anishinaabeg. This belt was carried by successive generations of leaders who were charged with remembering the meaning of symbols worked upon the shell beads and each generation had a responsibility to renew the peace forged by their ancestors (Johnston 2006).

Between 1712-1716, Algonquin communities continued to utilize the Ottawa Valley and were also observed along the Gatineau River with the primary Haudenosaunee occupation located south of the St. Lawrence River (Holmes 1993).

Following the Seven Years' War in the mid-18th century, the defeat of the French, Algonquin, and their allies by the British and the Haudenosaunee resulted in the further loss of Algonquin hunting territories in southern Quebec and eastern Ontario as the British seized former French colonies. Shortly after the French abandonment around the Great Lakes, English merchant Alexander Henry ventured into the Great Lakes area where he communicated with Anishinaabeg leader Minavanana in September 1761. Henry was informed that the English would suffer retaliation for Anishinaabeg war losses unless the English King made peace with them, with many of the former French forts in the Great Lakes region within Anishinaabeg control. In response, King George III issued a Royal Proclamation on 7 October 1763 acknowledging that Indigenous Nations residing on all lands outside the boundaries of the settled colonies "not having been ceded to or purchased by Us, are reserved to them, or any of them, as their Hunting Grounds" (Reimer 2019, p. 38). The territory reserved for Indigenous Nations encompassed the entire Great Lakes region and peace was secured following discussions between the British and more than 1,500 Anishinaabeg leaders at Niagara Falls in July 1764 where the alliance was sealed by two magnificent wampum belts (Johnston 2006).

The extension of Quebec's boundaries in 1774 through the Quebec Act and the use of the Ottawa River as the boundary between Upper and Lower Canada following the 1791 Constitution Act separated the traditional Algonquin lands between two colonial government administrations (AOP 2012). This legislative act does not seem to have negatively influenced trade between the British and local Indigenous communities as the recovery of European trade goods (e.g., iron axes, copper kettle fragments and glass beads) from Indigenous sites throughout the Ottawa River drainage basin provides evidence of the extent of contact between the Indigenous communities and the European explorers traversing the Ottawa River during this period.

Land Treaties

Britain's colonial policy differed from the French, with the British much more interested in securing land surrenders from the Indigenous populations for settlement by Europeans rather than establishing communal relationships. The Royal Proclamation of 1763 issued by King George III enabled the Crown to



monopolize the purchase of Indigenous lands west of Quebec and although the proclamation recognized Indigenous rights to their land and hunting grounds, it also included stipulations where these rights could be taken away (Surtees 1994).

On October 9, 1783, through negotiations led by Captain William Crawford with both the Algonquin and Iroquois Nations, the Crawford Agreement was signed. The purchase of the land within the Crawford Agreement was to make available lands for the incoming Loyalist settlers who had fought on behalf of the British during the American revolutionary war. The study area is situated within the lands associated the Crawford Purchase, which extends from the north shore of Lake Ontario, east along the St. Lawrence River to the Quebec border (Surtees 1994).

Land cession agreements between Indigenous groups and the Crown increased following the War of 1812 as a new wave of settlers arrived in Upper Canada primarily from Britain. The British implemented annuity systems in the purchase of lands from Indigenous peoples where the interest payments of settlers on the land were intended to cover the cost of the annuity rather than pay a one-time lump sum.

1.3.3 Post-Contact Period – Montague Township History

In 1783 survey parties were sent out to explore the Rideau River from military headquarters at Quebec and Montreal. Lieutenant Gershom French, of Colonel Jessup's Corps led a survey party to investigate the Ottawa, Rideau and Gananoque Rivers down to the St-Lawrence which included the area that would later be Montague Township. The township was named after Sir George Montague who attained the rank of Captain during the American Revolution and aided in the blockade of Marblehead and Salem in Massachusetts. By the time the township was named after him he was Vice Admiral of the American navy (Lockwood 1996).

The first settler, Roger Stevens, arrived before lots had even been laid out for settlers in the mid 1780s. Stevens settled along the river in the future village of Merrickville from his property in Vermont which had boasted three thousand acres and three mills before the revolution. When Stevens arrived he quickly erected a mill in the area referred to as the Great Falls on the Rideau. Unfortunately he was not able to enjoy the success of his mill for very long as he drowned in 1793 which left his young wife and family destitute and homeless. Between the years of 1788 and 1801 William Merrick arrived on the Rideau River and purchased Stevens mill prior to his passing and later added two more mills to create a robust milling complex. The village would eventually be named after Merrick who managed to profit greatly from the previously established mill while maintaining his farm south of the river in Elizabethtown Township (Lockwood 1996). The court would dispute Merrick's claim of having purchased the land before Stevens death and did not award him full title of the mill until 1810 (Watson 2007). Merrick would eventually reside full time in Montague and build a stone house which overlooked his mills (Parks Canada 2021).

In 1792 Samuel Stafford of Saratoga County, New York, petitioned for land along the Rideau River. Stafford had managed to recruit several non-loyalist settlers as his party numbered 24 including his wife and the family of his brother in law, Samuel McCrea. For his efforts, Stafford was afforded the largest land claim in Montague Township, however the land was mistakenly given to McCrea and it took until 1807 for the issue to be settled. The McCrea's grew to be a prominent family themselves, Samuel's brother Thomas was himself granted 1100 acres which was spread across several lots and concessions in the township (Lockwood 1996).

Montague Township was slow to grow in population in large part due to land granted to absentee loyalist owners. This began to change after the War of 1812 when military settlements like Perth and Richmond



were established. In 1816 John McCrea cut a road from Montague to Perth opening up the village of Merrickville to commerce with the settlements to the north (Lockwood 1996). The War of 1812 also necessitated the construction of an alternate route to connect Kingston to Montreal that bypassed the St-Lawrence River and the American guns which lined it. In 1826 Colonel John By was appointed Superintending Engineer and not long after construction arrived in Merrickville for the Rideau Canal which would become the largest construction project in township history (Watson 2007). The construction of the canal was quite costly both in human life and monetarily which often caused issue of Colonel By. A Mr. Stevens was contracted to hire workers for Nicholsons, Clowes and Merricks locks (Lockwood 1996).

An important stipulation for the construction of the canal through Merrickville was that it would not impact the commercial viability of Merrick's mills. The Merrickville blockhouse, built to accommodate a garrison of 50 men, was the largest of four blockhouses constructed on the canal. Many workers chose to remain in the area following the conclusion of construction on the canal. As such the 1841 census of Montague Township reflected this skyrocketing of the Irish population in the area as they were the primary construction workers on the canal (Lockwood 1996). The end of the community's growth, however was closely related to the decline in the commercial phase of the canal in the 1860s. Merrickville was eventually displaced by Smiths Falls.

Smiths Falls is named for Thomas Smyth who was granted 400 acres in Montague Township in 1786 and who built a sawmill at a series of falls on the Rideau River. Smyth defaulted on his mortgage payments and lost ownership of his lands in 1824 and Smyth's property was purchased by Abel Ward. The construction of the Rideau Canal brought economic opportunity and Ward along with James Simpson built grist and sawmills, homes, and a store (Mika and Mika 1977, p. 407). By the time of the opening of the Canal, Smiths Falls had developed into a small settlement. Smith Falls was incorporated as a village in 1854 and in the late 19th century, the village developed as a railway hub as several lines passed through it. In 1882, a direct line from Montreal to Smith's Falls was constructed which brought further economic development and industry into the 20th century.

1.3.4 Contextual Study Area History

Land registry records for Lot 20, Concession 3 of Montague Township indicate a deed was first issued by the Crown to Joel Stone in 1801. In 1816, part of Lot 20 was willed by the estate of Jonathan Black to a grantee listed only as Will. This may be William Black who is listed in 1820 as transferring the deed to Joseph Black. In 1842, John L. MacDonald and Charlotte MacDonald sold all of Lot 20 to William S. MacDonald. William S. MacDonald and Isabella MacDonald then sold their property to John Giff in 1853. In the same year, John and Elanor Giff are listed as selling part of Lot 20, Concession 3 to George Davis. George and Sophia Davis then sold part of Lot 20 to Adam Ballantyne in 1860. Adam Ballantyne appears to have had little time to use the property as his estate willed the property to George Davis and Mary Ballantyne in 1861.

A plan of Montague Township from 1862 shows the study area during the mid-19th century (Map 3). Two structures associated with the names J. Balentine and Mrs. Murphy are shown along the western boundary of the study area. A schoolhouse is depicted near the southwest corner of Lot 20, Concession 3 approximately 300 m to the south of the study area. Another structure associated with the name J. Dillabough is shown near the southern boundary of Lot 20. Historical roads following the alignment of the present Matheson Drive and Rosedale Road South are located to the north and west of the study area.



The Mrs. Murphy depicted on the 1862 plan of Montague Township may be Mary Murphy who is listed in the Canada Census records for 1861 as a 46 year old widow from Ireland living in a one-storey log home. At the time of the Census, she was living with her six teenaged children. No members of the Ballantyne family could be found in the 1861 Canada Census records under either the Ballantyne or Balentine spelling.

In 1870, the land registry records list Robert Ballantyne as granting Francis Ballantyne part of Lot 20 through power of attorney. In 1871 Francis Ballantyne and other members of the Ballantyne family sold their property to Henry Warren. Henry and Margaret Warren sold their property to Matthew Warren in 1874. In 1880, Mary Ann and James Brown sold a part of Lot 20 to George Edwards. John Giff sold his portion of Lot 20 to Thomas Giff in 1885. A legal feud took place between Thomas Giff and James McCreary in which ended with James Griff being deeded a portion of Lot 20. Griff then sold part of Lot 20 back to James McCreary for \$3,100. In 1890, another legal feud occurred between John Giff and Edward Giff which resulted in John Giff being granted another portion of Lot 20. In 1891, the estate of Mathew Warren is listed as willing his property to Jane Warren and his children. In 1892, Matthew and Jane Warren sold a portion of Lot 20 to the Municipal Council of the Township of Montague for \$80. In 1897, John Giff sold part of Lot 20 to Albert E. Giff for \$1. He would also sell two other portions of his property to Edmund Giff for \$1 each in 1902.

A topographic map from 1906 shows the study area in the early 20th century (Map 4). One structure is shown along the southern boundary of the study area and another structure is shown at the south end of Lot 20, Concession 3. An unnamed creek is also shown within 300 m to the west.

An aerial photograph from 1953 shows the study area primarily consisted of agricultural field at the time (Map 5). None of the 19th century structures depicted in the 1862 plan are present on the 1965 aerial image. The closest structure is located on the adjacent lot to the east. The study area appears to have undergone minimal changes by 1991 (Map 5). Much of the study area remained under agricultural use. However, additional residential development has occurred with new houses visible along Matheson Drive to the north and Rosedale Road South to the west (Map 2).

1.4 Archaeological Context

1.4.1 Study Area Environment and Landscape

The study area is located within the Smith Falls Limestone Plain physiographic region, which is characterized by bogs in low-lying areas with old marine beaches found on higher parts of the plain (Chapman and Putnam 1984). The surficial geology of the study area consists primarily of Paleozoic bedrock on glacial till (Map 6). The northwest corner contains an area of glaciomarine deposits. The physiography consists primarily of limestone plains with the western boundary extending into clay plains (Map 7). Soils consist of Farmington series sandy loam and Grenville series loam (Map 8).

The Study Area is located within the Great Lakes – St. Lawrence Forest Region, more specifically the Upper St. Lawrence subregion. The boundary of this region is marked by the transition from predominantly deciduous forest to mixed deciduous and coniferous forest. Prior to European agricultural practices and the removal of woodlots for agricultural purposes, the forest cover would have consisted of sugar maple and beach, red maple, yellow birch, basswood, white ash, largetooth aspen, white elm and red and bur oaks (Rowe 1972).



1.4.2 Previously Completed Archaeological Assessments Within 50 Metres of Study Area

The primary source of information regarding previously completed archaeological studies is the MCM Past Portal database. This database was accessed on 25 June 2024 (MCM 2024). The only known archaeological assessment previously completed within 50 m of the study area is The Central Archaeology Group's (2021) Stage 1 and 2 archaeological assessment for a proposed reconstruction of Matheson Drive between Rosedale Road South and Rideau Avenue North. Although the report was not available on Past Portal, its summary indicates that it would have extended to within 50 m of the northwest corner of the study area. As Central Archaeology Group's archaeological assessment found no archaeological resources during the Stage 2 field program, no further archaeological assessments were recommended.

1.4.3 Registered Archaeological Sites Within One Kilometre of Study Area

The primary source of information regarding previously registered archaeological sites within the Province of Ontario is the MCM archaeological sites database (ASDB), which designates archaeological sites registered according to the Borden system. Under the Borden system, Canada is divided into grid blocks based on latitude and longitude. A Borden Block is approximately 13 km east to west and approximately 18.5 km north to south. Each Borden Block is referenced by a four-letter designator and sites within a block are numbered sequentially as they are found.

The ASDB was accessed on 25 June 2024 and a 1 km buffer was applied to the general limits of the Stage 1 study area. The search of the ASDB indicated no archaeological sites have been registered within 1 km of the Stage 1 study area.

The closest registered archaeological site is the Blinkhorn 2 Site (BfGa-20) located approximately 4 km to the west (MCM 2024). The site was an isolated find of a lithic projectile point. No information was available on the time period, but nonetheless shows an Indigenous presence in the general study area vicinity.

2.0 Field Methods

2.1 Property Inspection

A property inspection was completed on 4 July 2024 by Randy Hahn, PhD (P1107) under PIF P311-0349-2024 issued to Bradley Drouin, MA (P311). The site inspection was conducted following the Standards outlined in Section 1.2 of the MCM's (2011) *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*. The weather was partly cloudy with a high of 29° Celsius. At no time were the weather or lighting conditions detrimental to the assessment of features representing archaeological potential. Permission to access the study area was provided by EFI Engineering, with no restrictions or limitations. The results of the site inspection and the locations of all photos included in this report are shown in Map 9.

Much of the study area consists of agricultural fields (Images 1 to 7, pp. 19-22). The fields are divided by wood or post and wire fence lines that have overgrown with vegetation (Images 8 and 9, pp. 22-23). Some areas of disturbance are present along the northern boundary of the study area. These include the location of a pit measuring approximately 20 m x 30 m and the location of recent house construction. The location of the pit is visible in recent air photos, but has since been infilled. An approximately 40 m x 50 m



area for the house was graded during construction and has been filled to situate the new house on a small mound. Additionally, the area along Rosedale Road South is ditched and contains the remains of two former driveways (Image 11, p. 24).

The southeast corner of the study area consists of an area of shallow bedrock (Images 12 to 14, pp. 24-25). Given the shallow bedrock and that the historical air photos do not show this area being used for agricultural purposes, this portion of the study area likely cannot be ploughed. The area appears to have recently been used as a hunting camp and recent debris has been scattered around the southern end (Images 15 and 16, p. 26). A small wetland is located within the western portion (Image 17, p. 27). The wetland is visible in the 1953 air photo (Map 5) which suggests that it is not a result of recent alterations to the study area.

3.0 Analysis and Conclusions

Following Sections 1.3.1 and 1.4.1 of the MCM's (2011) *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*, a significant portion of the study area has archaeological potential due to its proximity to several features indicating the presence of archaeological potential. The historical plan of Montague Township indicates that there were several farmsteads located within 300 m of the study area by 1862 (Map 3). Most notably are those associated with the Balentine (Ballantyne) and Murphy families which border the western boundary of the study area. The study area is also located within 300 m of water sources including an unnamed creek located to the west and a small wetland within the study area. An additional source of archaeological potential are Rosedale Road South and Matheson Drive which follow the alignments of historical roads running along the western and northern boundary of Lot 20.

The archaeological potential of specific portions of the study area have been disturbed due to recent construction activity including ditching along Rosedale Road South and the construction of a house. However, the majority of the study area appears to retain archaeological potential. As such, portions of the study area are recommended for Stage 2 archaeological assessment through a combination of pedestrian and test pit survey at 5 m intervals (Map 9).

4.0 Recommendations

This Stage 1 archaeological assessment has provided the basis for the following recommendations:

- 1) The portions of the study area identified as having archaeological potential in Map 9 are recommended for Stage 2 archaeological assessment prior to development impacts. The portions of the study area recommended for pedestrian survey should be ploughed and weathered followed by pedestrian survey at 5 m intervals following the standards outlined in Section 2.1.1 of the MCM's (2011) Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists.
- 2) The portions of the study area recommended for Stage 2 test pit survey in Map 9 should be assessed through hand excavated shovel test pits at 5 m intervals following the standards outlined in Section 2.1.2 of the MCM's (2011) Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists.
- 3) The portions of the study area identified as disturbed or permanently wet in Map 9 are recommended for no additional archaeological assessment.
- 4) Should ground disturbance extend beyond the area shown in Map 9, additional archaeological assessment may be required.



This report is submitted to the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism as a condition of licensing obligations in accordance with Part VI of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. 0.18. The report is reviewed to ensure that the licensed consultant archaeologist has met the terms and conditions of their archaeological license, and that the archaeological field work and report recommendations ensure the conservation, protection and preservation of the cultural heritage of Ontario.



5.0 Advice on Compliance with Legislation

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

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 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 Section 48 (1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

The Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002, S.O. 2002, c.33, requires that any person discovering or having knowledge of a burial site shall immediately notify the police or coroner. It is recommended that the Registrar of Cemeteries at the Ministry of Consumer Services is also immediately notified.

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 licence.



6.0 Important Information and Limitations of this Report

This report has been prepared for the specific site, development objective, and purpose as requested by the client and outlined in the original proposal, and subsequent agreed changes, for this project. The specific results, factual data, interpretations, and recommendations, outlined in this report are for the sole use of the client, and applicable only to this project and site location. No other warranty, expressed or implied, is made. No other party may rely on all, or portions, of this report without True North Archaeological Services Inc.'s express written consent. The Client and Approved Users may not give, lend, sell, or otherwise make available the report or any portion thereof to any other party without the express written permission of True North Archaeological Services Inc. The Client acknowledges the electronic media is susceptible to unauthorized modification, deterioration and incompatibility and therefore the Client can only rely upon the electronic media versions of this True North Archaeological Services Inc. report or other work products at their discretion.

True North Archaeological Services Inc. prepared this report in a manner consistent with the level of care and skill ordinarily exercised by other members of the archaeological consulting community currently practicing within the Province of Ontario, in accordance with the *Ontario Heritage Act* the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism's (MCM) 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*, and all the subsequent MCM bulletins.

There are special risks whenever an archaeological assessment is completed, whether they be solely desktop assessments or in-field assessments, and even a thorough background study, comprehensive field investigation or sampling and testing program may fail to detect all archaeological resources present within the project area. The desktop review, field strategies and subsequent interpretations utilized for this report comply with the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism's (MCM) 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*, and all the subsequent MCM bulletins.

All artifacts collected as part of this archaeological assessment, when applicable, will be housed and curated by True North Archaeological Services Inc. until such time that the collection may be transferred to an appropriate MCM approved repository or repatriated to an appropriate First Nation. As part of Licensing obligations, this report, along with pertinent written information will be uploaded to the MCM Past Portal website and reviewed for compliance with the 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*.



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8.0 Images



Image 1: View east of the southernmost agricultural field within the study area.



Image 2: Ditch aligning Dunrobin Road with utilities in the distance indicating disturbance, view southwest.





Image 3: View north of agricultural field in the central portion of the study area.



Image 4: Field conditions within the central portion of the study area, view east.



Image 5: Conditions within the northwestern portion of the study area, view east.



Image 6: Agricultural field in the northeast portion of the study area, view southeast.



Image 7: View northwest showing agricultural field within the northeast portion of the study area.



Image 8: Overgrown fence line consisting of both wood and post and wire fences, view north.



Image 9: Overgrown wood fence used to divide the agricultural fields located within the study area, view southeast.



Image 10: Recently constructed house located within the northern portion of the study area, view north. The mound the house has been built on corresponds to the location that was graded during construction.



Image 11: One of two old driveways built over drainage ditch along Rosedale Road, view east.



Image 12: View southeast of southeast portion of the study area which has not been used for agriculture.



Image 13: Shallow bedrock in southeastern portion of the study area, view east.



Image 14: View northwest from southeast corner of the study area.



Image 15: Discarded hunting stand among other modern debris within southeast portion of the study area, view southeast.



Image 16: Shed located near southeast corner of the study area, view east.

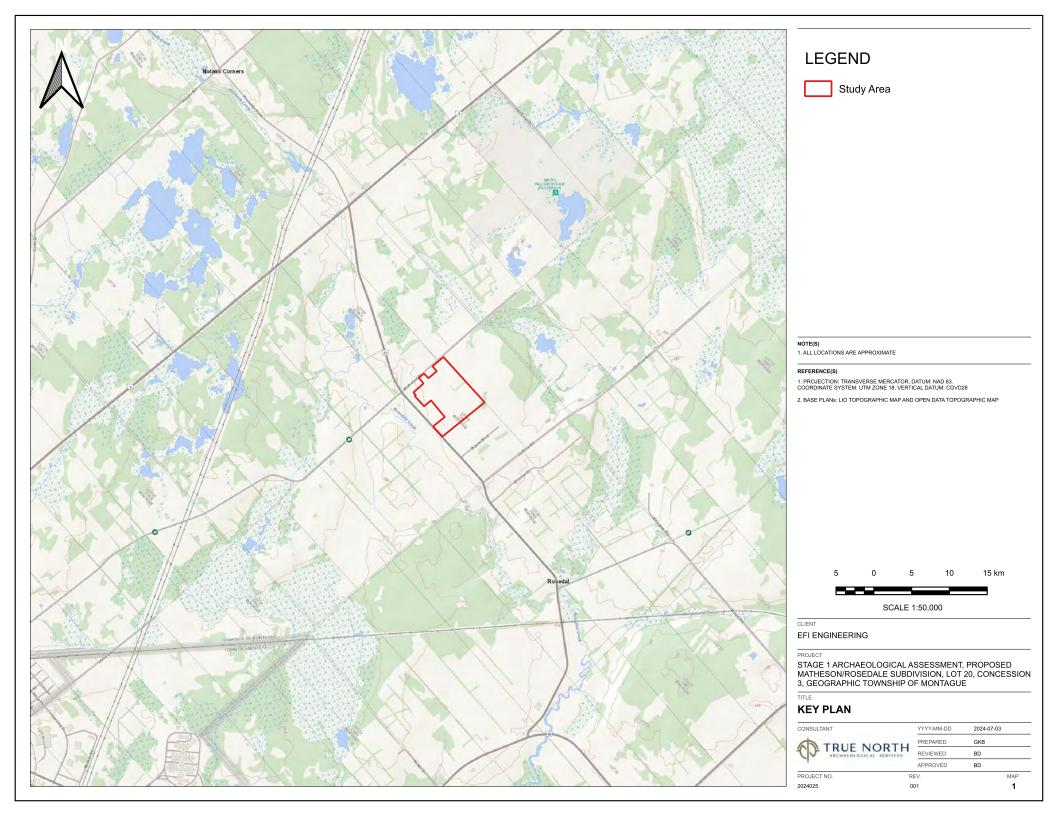


Image 17: Small wetland located within the study area, view east.

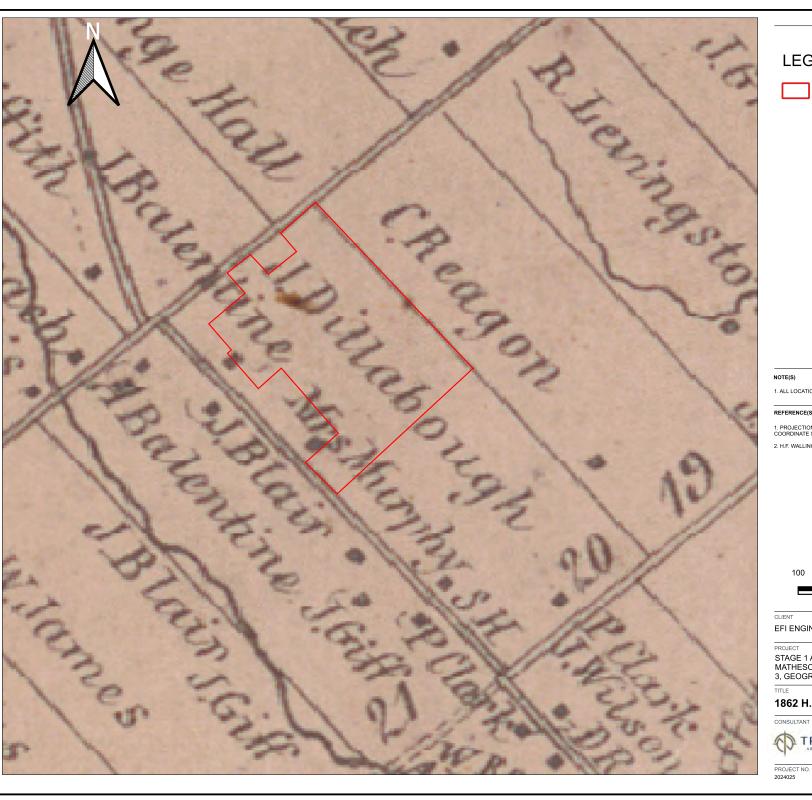


9.0 Maps









LEGEND



Study Area

1. ALL LOCATIONS ARE APPROXIMATE

REFERENCE(S)

1. PROJECTION: TRANSVERSE MERCATOR, DATUM: NAD 83. COORDINATE SYSTEM: UTM ZONE 18, VERTICAL DATUM: CGVD28

2. H.F. WALLING MAP OF LANARK COUNTY, 1862



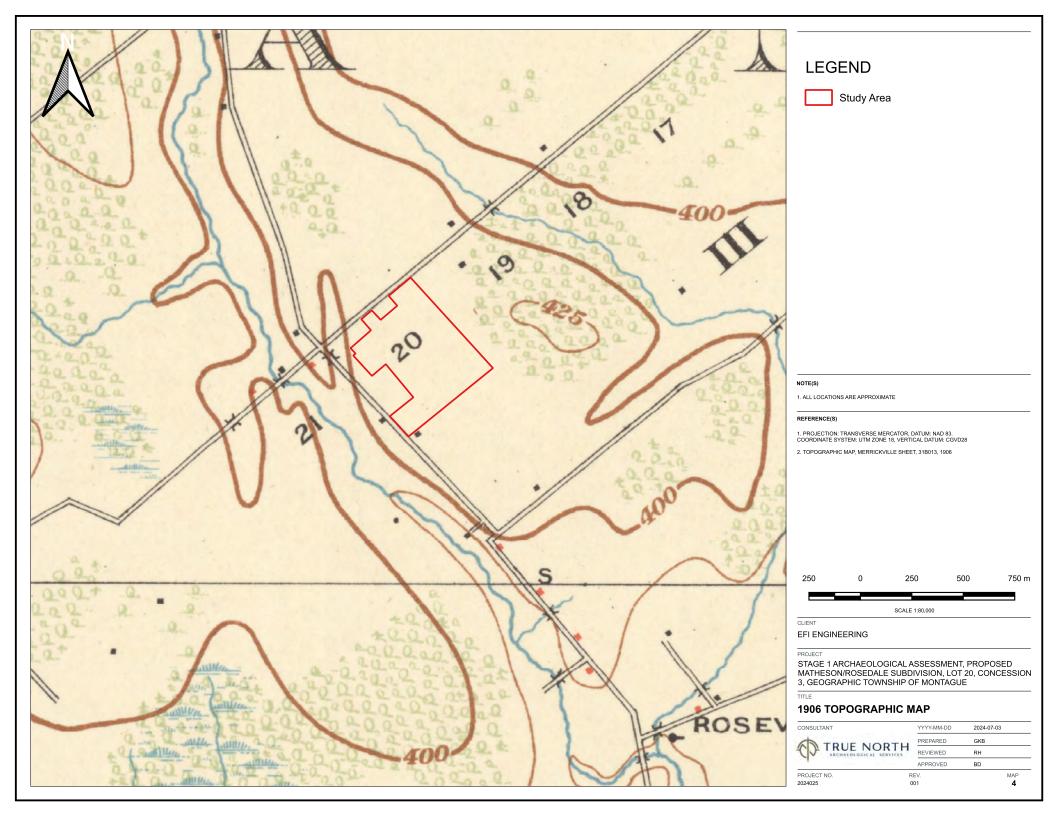
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STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT, PROPOSED MATHESON/ROSEDALE SUBDIVISION, LOT 20, CONCESSION 3, GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIP OF MONTAGUE

1862 H.F. WALLING MAP

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LEGEND

Study Area

NOTE(S)

1. ALL LOCATIONS ARE APPROXIMATE

REFERENCE(S)

1. PROJECTION: TRANSVERSE MERCATOR, DATUM: NAD 83. COORDINATE SYSTEM: UTM ZONE 18, VERTICAL DATUM: CGVD28

 $2.\,\mathrm{MINISTRY}$ OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND FORESTRY COLLECTION, IMAGE NUMBER 4442-0010-0034, 1953

3. MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND FORESTRY COLLECTION, IMAGE NUMBER 4462-0053-0154, 1991

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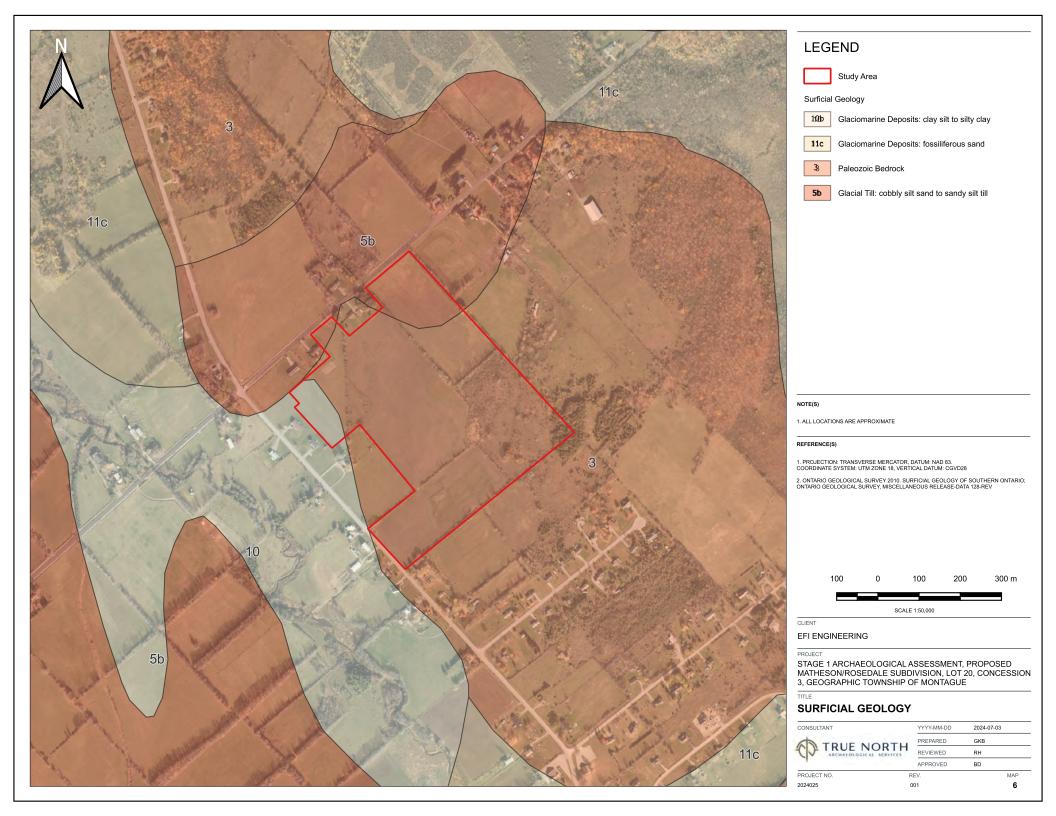
STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT, PROPOSED MATHESON/ROSEDALE SUBDIVISION, LOT 20, CONCESSION 3, GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIP OF MONTAGUE

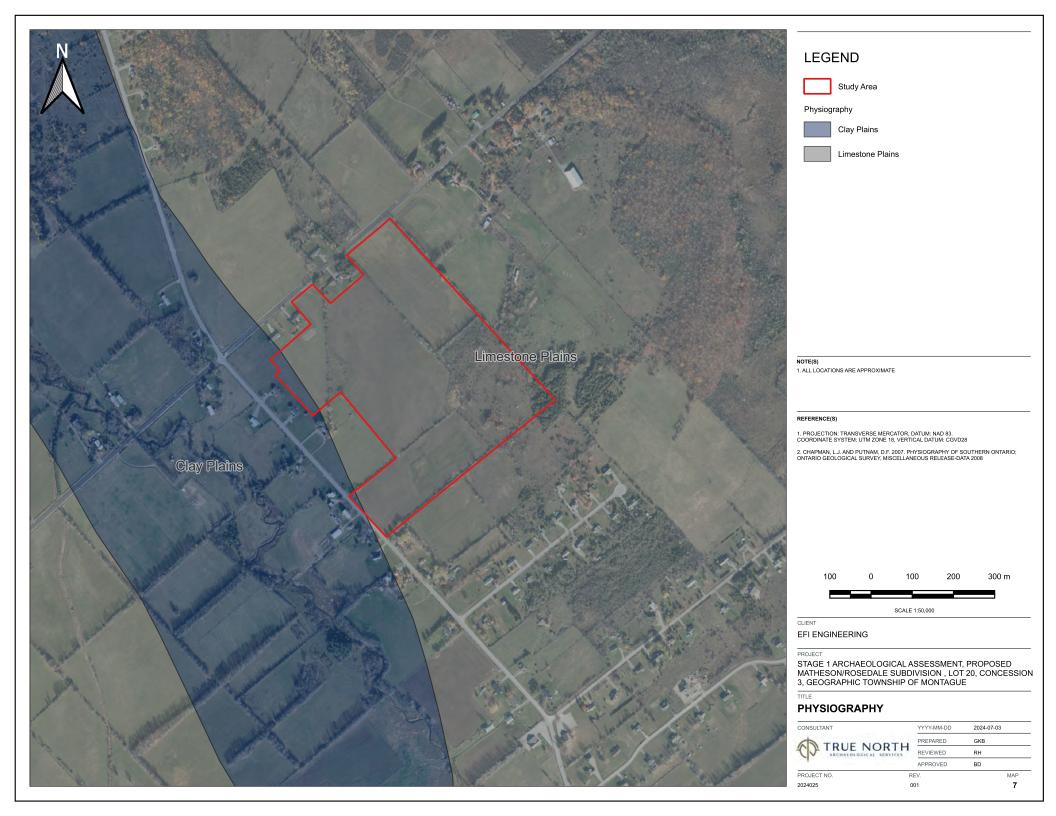
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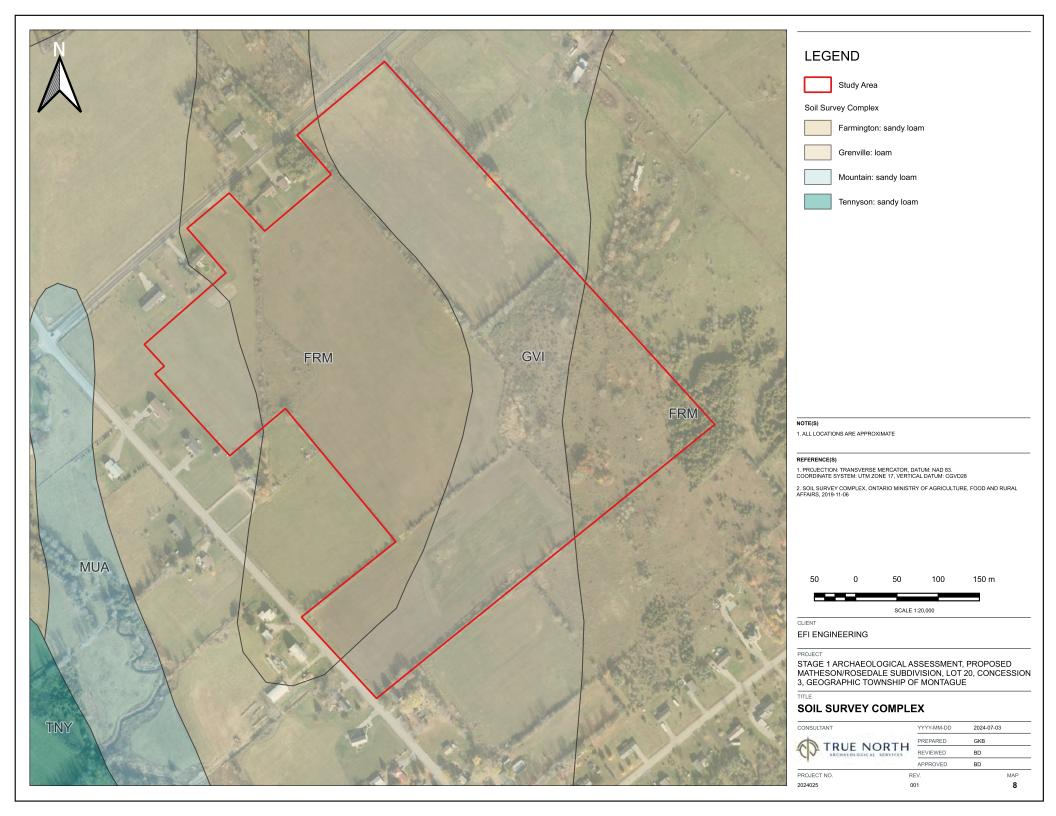
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10.0 Signature Page

We trust that this report meets with your current needs. If you have any questions, or if we may be of further assistances, please contact either of the undersigned.

TRUE NORTH ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES INC.

Randy Hahn, PhD

Project Archaeologist

Randy Hahn

Aaron Mior

Aaron Mior, MMA Principal, Senior Archaeologist