

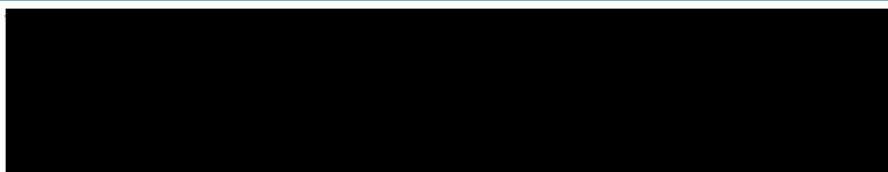
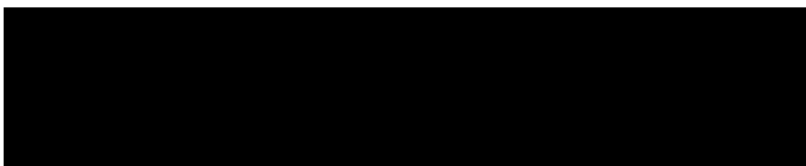
Stage 1  
Archaeological Assessment Report

772082 Highway 10  
Lot 237 & Part of Lot 236, Range 1 West of Toronto & Sydenham Road  
Township of Southgate  
Grey County  
Historic Township of Proton  
Historic County of Grey

February 18, 2026

Prepared for: The Proponent

Prepared by: Irvin Heritage Inc.



## Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment

### Executive Summary

Irvin Heritage Inc. was contracted by the proponent to conduct a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment in support of a Development Application involving Residential development within an overall Study Area which is approximately 31.37 Ha in size.

The Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment report indicates that no previous archaeological assessments have occurred within the Study Area and there are currently no registered archaeological sites within or directly adjacent to the Study Area. It is clear that the Study Area retains archaeological potential owing to the presence of one or more indicators of archaeological potential. Based on this analysis, it is concluded that a Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment Survey is required of the Study Area.

Given the results and conclusions of the completed Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment, a Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment is recommended of the Study Area and must conform to the following methodologies:

- Lands which can be subject to agricultural ploughing must be prepared via ploughing to ensure a minimum 80% of soil visibility. Prepared lands must be allowed to weather under a significant rainfall event, or several lighter rains. A visual survey must be undertaken along 5 m survey intervals.
- Lands which are not viable to plough must be subject to a test pit survey with the following conditions:
  - ▶ All test pits are to be excavated by hand at 5 m intervals along 5 m transects
  - ▶ Test pits must be excavated to within 1 m of all extant and/or ruined structures when present
  - ▶ All test pits must be 30 cm in diameter and be excavated into the first 5 cm of subsoil
  - ▶ All test pits must be examined for evidence of fill, stratigraphy or cultural features
  - ▶ All excavated soils must be screened through 6 mm wire mesh to facilitate artifact recovery
  - ▶ All artifacts recovered must be retained via their associated test pit
  - ▶ All test pits are to be backfilled unless instructed otherwise by the landowner
- Notwithstanding the above recommendations, the provided Advice On Compliance With Legislation shall take precedent over any recommendations of this report should deeply buried archaeological resources or human remains be found during any future earthworks within the Study Area.

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Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment

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**Archaeological Resources Reported On Herein (Bordenized & Non-Bordenized)**

Resource Name	Borden	Affinity	Type	CHVI	Notes
-	-	-	-	-	-

## 1. ASSESSMENT CONTEXT

### 1.1. Development Context

Irvin Heritage Inc. was retained by the proponent to conduct a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of their property (the Study Area) located at 772082 Highway 10, Lot 237 and Part of Lot 236, Range 1 West of Toronto & Sydenham Road, Township of Southgate, Grey County, Historic Township of Proton in the Historic County of Grey (Map 1).

The requirement for an Archaeological Assessment was triggered by the Approval Authority in response to an Application under the Planning Act for Residential development. The assessment reported on herein was undertaken after direction by the Approval Authority and before formal application submission.

The Archaeological Assessment reported on was undertaken for the entirety of the approximately 31.37 Ha Study Area. Permission without limitation was provided by the proponent to survey, assess, and document the archaeological potential and resources if present of the Study Area.

### 1.2. Environmental Setting

The Study Area is approximately 31.37 Ha in size and is predominantly agricultural lands, scrubland, treed lines and lots. The Study Area also appears to include an unknown extant structure (Maps 2 & 3).

The Study Area is situated within the McNabb Drainage Works - Grand River Watershed which drains into the Upper Grand River (OMNRF 2026).

The Study Area contains multiple watercourses associated with the Grand River (Map 2).

The Study Area is situated within the Dundalk Till Plain (7) physiographic region of Southern Ontario. The soils within the Study Area are described as stone-poor, sandy silt to silty sand-textured till on Paleozoic terrain as well as river deposits composed of delta topset facies and sandy deposits (Chapman & Putnam 1984).

## 2. INDIGENOUS CONTEXT

### 2.1. Indigenous Peoples Archaeological Context

A search was conducted within the Sites Module of the provincial PastPort System for all Indigenous registered archaeological sites within a 5 km radius of the Study Area. The Sites Module is the online registry of all known and registered archaeological sites and is maintained by the Archaeology Program Unit of the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM). This determined that a total of 1 such sites have been registered as of the date noted above.

This baseline review was conducted to place the specific Study Area within the known archaeological landscape of the surrounding area, in specific relation to inferred land use patterns by Indigenous Peoples. A 5 km radius was chosen, by the licensee, to sample the registered archaeological landscape in which the Study Area is situated by reviewing sites identified as 'Pre-Contact' and/or 'Indigenous'. It should be noted that low numbers, or an absence of registered archaeological sites, is directly tied to the degree of archaeological survey conducted within the search area. Further, absence or productivity of sites may not accurately reflect the land use patterns of Indigenous Peoples within the landscape.

Generally the archaeological understanding of Ontario's history is broken down into 7 periods.

TABLE 1: PERIODS OF ONTARIO

<b>Common Period Name in Ontario</b>	<b>Time Period</b>
Paleo Period	10,000 - 8,000 BCE
Early Archaic Period	8,000 - 6,000 BCE
Middle Archaic Period	6,000 - 2,500 BCE
Late Archaic Period	2,500 - 1,000 BCE
Early Woodland Period	1,000 - 200 BCE
Middle Woodland Period	200 BCE - 600 CE
Late Woodland Period	800 - 1650 CE

The data reviewed within this sample presented evidence of Indigenous landscape interaction from a large range of time periods both Pre-Contact and Post-Contact.

Within the data reviewed for this assessment, only 1 site was identified as Indigenous. This site

## Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment

Pre-Contact site of no specified context. This site demonstrate that Indigenous people were present within the landscape but the archaeological record has not been sufficient in capturing the frequency, density, or context of this interaction within the greater landscape. When the search radius around the Study was expanded to 10 km the sample remained very small. Expanding the search radius to 15 km and subsequently 20 km around the Study Area yielded a wider breadth of identified Indigenous sites from as early as the Paleo period. Additionally, more examples of interaction with the landscape could be observed such as long term habitation, resources procurement, and meaningful landscape alteration.

Therefore, the landscape in which the Study Area is situated was inhabited, travelled, and utilized by a variety of Indigenous peoples and cultures from the Paleo period through to the arrival of Europeans. However, the archaeological record within a 5 km buffer of the Study Area is under surveyed. In order to better understand the archaeological impact of Indigenous Peoples amid this landscape further and more widespread testing would need to occur throughout this area of Ontario.

TABLE 2: REGISTERED INDIGENOUS SITES WITHIN 5 KM RADIUS OF STUDY AREA

Site Periods & Types	# of Registered Sites
Pre-Contact	1
Aboriginal	1
(blank)	1

*It should be noted that this list contains site types and designations created in the 20th/21st century and may not accurately reflect the true nature or purpose of the identified sites.*

### 3. INDIGENOUS PEOPLES CULTURAL HISTORIES

#### 3.1. Saugeen Ojibway Nation

The Saugeen Ojibway Nation provided mapping in their publication *Conducting Archaeology within the Traditional Territory of the Saugeen Ojibway Nation: Process and Standards for Approval Authorities, Development Proponents and Consultant Archaeologists* that includes the lands of the Study Area within their Traditional Territory. A history has not yet been provided by the Saugeen Ojibway Nation to be included in archaeological assessment reports within their Traditional Territory. This excerpt has been taken from their above publication:

*The Saugeen Ojibway Nation (“SON”) consists of the Saugeen Ojibway First Nation and the Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation. The people of SON reside in the SON Traditional Territory (“SONTT”), known to SON as **Anishnaabekiing**, and the*

*identity of the people of SON grows out their relationship with the land and waters in the SONTT. (SON 2011)*

### 3.2. Nation Huronne-Wendat

The following Indigenous history was written and provided by Nation Huronne-Wendat:

*As an ancient people, traditionally, the Huron-Wendat, a great Iroquoian civilization of farmers and fishermen-hunter-gatherers and also the masters of trade and diplomacy, represented several thousand individuals. They lived in a territory stretching from the Gaspé Peninsula in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence and up along the Saint Lawrence Valley on both sides of the Saint Lawrence River all the way to the Great Lakes. Huronia, included in Wendake South, represents a part of the ancestral territory of the Huron-Wendat Nation in Ontario. It extends from Lake Nipissing in the North to Lake Ontario in the South and Île Perrot in the East to around Owen Sound in the West. This territory is today marked by several hundred archaeological sites, listed to date, testifying to this strong occupation of the territory by the Nation. It is an invaluable heritage for the Huron-Wendat Nation and the largest archaeological heritage related to a First Nation in Canada.*

*According to our own traditions and customs, the Huron-Wendat are intimately linked to the Saint Lawrence River and its estuary, which is the main route of its activities and way of life. The Huron-Wendat formed alliances and traded goods with other First Nations among the networks that stretched across the continent.*

*Today, the population of the Huron-Wendat Nation is composed of more than 4000 members distributed on-reserve and off-reserve.*

*The Huron-Wendat Nation band council (CNHW) is headquartered in Wendake, the oldest First Nations community in Canada, located on the outskirts of Quebec City (20 km north of the city) on the banks of the Saint Charles River. There is only one Huron-Wendat community, whose ancestral territory is called the Nionwentsio, which translates to "our beautiful land" in the Wendat language.*

*The Huron-Wendat Nation is also the only authority that have the authority and rights to protect and take care of her ancestral sites in Wendake South.*

*(NHW 2024)*

### 3.3. Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation

The following Indigenous history was written and provided by the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation:

*Prior to European contact, the ancestors of the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation occupied the lands north of Lake Superior and the area around Georgian Bay. The Mississaugas lived lightly on the lands they occupied and purposefully moved about the landscape harvesting resources as they became available.*

#### *Mississauga Territory*

*The ancestors of the Mississaugas of the Credit migrated into Southern Ontario by means of military conquest. After the Iroquois had expelled the Huron from Southern Ontario in 1649-50, they continued their attacks northward into the territories occupied by the Mississaugas and their allies. By the end of the 17th century, the Mississaugas and their allies had succeeded in driving the Iroquois back into their homelands south of Lake Ontario. At the conclusion of the conflict, many Mississaugas settled at the eastern end of Lake Ontario; other Mississaugas settled at the western end of the lake with their primary location at the mouth of the Credit River. The Mississaugas of the Credit occupied, controlled and exercised stewardship over approximately 3.9 million acres of lands, waters, and resources in Southern Ontario. Their territory extended from the Rouge River Valley westward across to the headwaters of the Thames River, down to Long Point on Lake Erie and then followed the shoreline of Lake Erie, the Niagara River, and Lake Ontario until arriving back at the Rouge River Valley. From the time of the conquest of New France in 1760, the British Crown recognized the inherent rights of First Nations and their ownership of the lands they occupied. The Royal Proclamation of 1763 confirmed First Nations' sovereignty over their lands and prevented anyone, other than the Crown, from purchasing that land. The Crown, needing First Nations' land for military purposes or for settlement, would first have to purchase it from its Indigenous occupants. (MCFN 2023)*

## 4. HISTORICAL CONTEXT

### 4.1. Treaty History

The Study Area is located within the limits of the Nottawasaga Purchases or Treaty 18. This Treaty was signed by representatives of the Anishinaabe Peoples as well as the Crown in 1818. It is bordered to the West by the Saugeen Treaty. These Treaties meet roughly at what is today St Vincent - Sydenham Townline and runs South to modern Arthur, Ontario. The Southern border of Treaty 18 then runs slightly northeast through Orangeville directly to

Newmarket. Encompassing the Holland River, the Eastern boundary of Treaty 18 then heads North into Cook's Bay where it follows the shoreline. It follows the water into Kempenfelt Bay through Barrie then northwest to Edmore Beach and following the shoreline of Georgian Bay back to its meeting point close to St Vincent - Sydenham Townline. This treaty equals about 645000 Ha in exchange for 1200 pounds in goods paid yearly at the Montreal Price (MIA 2023).

#### 4.2. County History

Grey County is located in Northern Southwestern Ontario within the Georgian Triangle. It encompasses the land on the southwest shore of Georgian Bay south to Wellington and Dufferin Counties. It is bordered on the east by Simcoe County and on the west by Bruce County.

Before it became a County the land of Grey was administratively within the Hesse District of 1788, renamed the Western District in 1792, though it remained unceded until 1836 (MIA 2022) (MOPBSD 2022). The land was first surveyed in 1830 with colonial settlement slowly trickling up to the available land 3 to 4 years later (H. Belden & Co. 1880). In 1837, the Garafraxa Road, now Highway 6, was laid out from Fergus to Sydenham, modernly known as Owen Sound, with free land grants and promises of infrastructure to entice settlement in the area. By 1841, much of the road was settled but the promised infrastructure did not come to fruition for the central part of the road consequently referred to as "forty mile swamp" due to its difficult conditions and lack of adequate bridges (Marsh 1931)(H. Belden & Co 1880). More roads were built better connecting these lands to Toronto, Collingwood, Guelph and other important places and more settlers arrived. Grey County was established in 1852 with the County Seat at Sydenham, now Owen Sound and 16 Townships: Artemesi, Bentinck, Collingwood, Derby, Egremont, Euphrasio, Gleneig, Holland, Melanchthon, Normanby, Osprey, Proton, Saint Vincent, Sullivan, and Sydenham. It was administratively attached to Wellington County until 1854 (Marsh 1931)(H. Belden & Co 1880). Roads continued to be improved upon and gravelled during the late 1850s and despite the County investing in a railway to Owen Sound the endeavour never manifested and instead the Northern Railway went to Collingwood, leaving Grey County without rail access until the early 1870s (Marsh 1931)(H. Belden & Co 1880). Around this time agriculture was the primary industry with manufacturing also holding a prominent place in the economy of the County (H. Belden & Co 1880). In 1881, the Township of Melanchthon was transferred to Dufferin County (March 1931). Grey County had a large restructuring in 2001 resulting in a reduction in its municipalities to 9: the City of Owen Sound;

the Towns of Hanover and Blue Mountains; the Townships of Chatsworth, Georgian Bluffs, and Southgate; and the Municipalities of Grey Highlands, Meaford, and West Grey. Modernly Grey County's economy is led by healthcare, retail, manufacturing and construction (Statistics Canada 2016).

#### 4.3. Study Area History

A review of historical resources resulted in the following data relevant to the Study Area:

##### **Map 4: Tackabury's Map of Canada West (Tackabury 1863)**

The Study Area is situated within Lot 237 and Part of Lot 236, Range 1 West of Toronto & Sydenham Road. The land containing the Study Area is listed under no specific ownership. There are no structures within or directly adjacent to the Study Area. The Study Area is adjacent to an unnamed historic road.

##### **Map 5: "Township of Proton" (H. Belden 1880)**

The Study Area is situated within Lot 237 and Part of Lot 236, Range 1 West of Toronto & Sydenham Road. The land containing the Study Area is listed under no specific ownership. There are no structures within or directly adjacent to the Study Area. The Study Area is adjacent to Sydenham Road on the north-eastern limit.

The following should be noted in regard to the review of historic maps:

- Study Area placement within historic maps is only approximate.
- Many historic maps were subscriber based, meaning only individuals who paid a fee would have their property details mapped.

## 5. ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

### 5.1. Registered Archaeological Sites

A search of the Ontario Sites Database conducted using a Study Area centroid of 17T E 550180 N 4890762 indicated that there is 1 registered archaeological sites within a 1 km radius of the Study Area. No registered archaeological sites are within the Study Area nor are any within a 50 m buffer which would suggest encroachment of archaeological resources into the Study Area.

TABLE 3: SITES WITHIN 1 KM

Borden #	Site Name	Time Period	Affinity	Site Type
BaHc-3	Kerr	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	house, log

5.2. Related and/or Adjacent Archaeological Assessments

A review of Archaeological Assessment reports currently accepted into the provincial register of archaeological reports indicates that no reports have been completed within a 50 m buffer of the Study Area.

5.3. Archaeological Assessments & Registered Sites Analysis

There are no archaeological reports or sites with limits within 50 m of the Study Area.

5.4. Cemeteries & Burials

As per a cursory search conducted there are no known or registered cemeteries or burials within or directly adjacent to the Study Area.

5.5. Archaeological Management/Master Plan

The Study Area is not situated within the limits of a known or approved Archaeological Management/Master Plan.

5.6. Historic Plaques

There are no historic plaques within a 100 m radius of the Study Area (Ontario Heritage Trust 2021).

5.7. Study Area Archaeological Potential

The Study Area retains the following criteria of indicating archaeological potential:

- Present or past water sources within 300 m of the Study Area: Grand River Watercourse
- Historic transportation routes within 100 m of the Study Area: Toronto & Sydenham Road
- The Study Area is situated within a landscape suitable for resource procurement, transit and habitation by both pre and post-contact Indigenous Peoples.

The Study Area is situated within a landscape that would have been appropriate for both resource procurement and habitation by both Indigenous and Euro-Canadian Peoples.

## 6. STAGE 1 ANALYSIS & CONCLUSIONS

The Study Area retains archaeological potential owing to the presence of one or more indicators of archaeological potential. Based on this analysis, it is concluded that a Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment Survey is recommended of the Study Area.

## 7. STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Given the results of the completed Stage 1 Analysis & Conclusions the Study Area retains archaeological potential and should be subject to a Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment Survey and should conform to the following:

- Lands which can be subject to agricultural ploughing must be prepared via ploughing to ensure a minimum 80% of soil visibility; the objective being to invert the soil column and ensure the exposed soils has minimal chaff. The use of chisel ploughs, harrow, or tined equipment are not archaeologically acceptable means of field preparation. Prepared lands must be allowed to weather under a significant rainfall event, or several lighter rains. A Pedestrian Survey must be undertaken along transects not greater than 5 m.
- Lands which are not viable to plough must be subject to a Test Pit Survey with the following conditions:
  - ▶ All test pits are to be excavated by hand at 5 m intervals along 5 m transects
  - ▶ Test pits must be excavated to within 1 m of all extant and/or ruined structures when present
  - ▶ All test pits must be 30 cm in diameter and be excavated into the first 5 cm of subsoil
  - ▶ All test pits must be examined for evidence of fill, stratigraphy or cultural features
  - ▶ All excavated soils must be screened through 6 mm wire mesh to facilitate artifact recovery
  - ▶ All artifacts recovered must be retained via their associated test pit
  - ▶ All test pits are to be backfilled unless instructed otherwise by the landowner
- Notwithstanding the above recommendations, the provided Advice On Compliance With Legislation shall take precedent over any recommendations of this report should deeply buried archaeological resources or human remains be found during any future earthworks within the Study Area.

## 8. ADVICE ON COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION

The Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists requires that the following standard statements be provided within all archaeological reports for the benefit of the proponent and approval authority in the land use planning and development process (MTC 2011:126):

This report is submitted to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport 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 MTCS, 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.

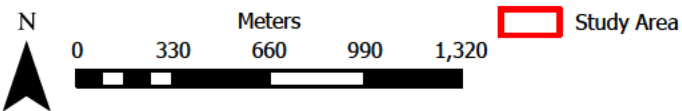
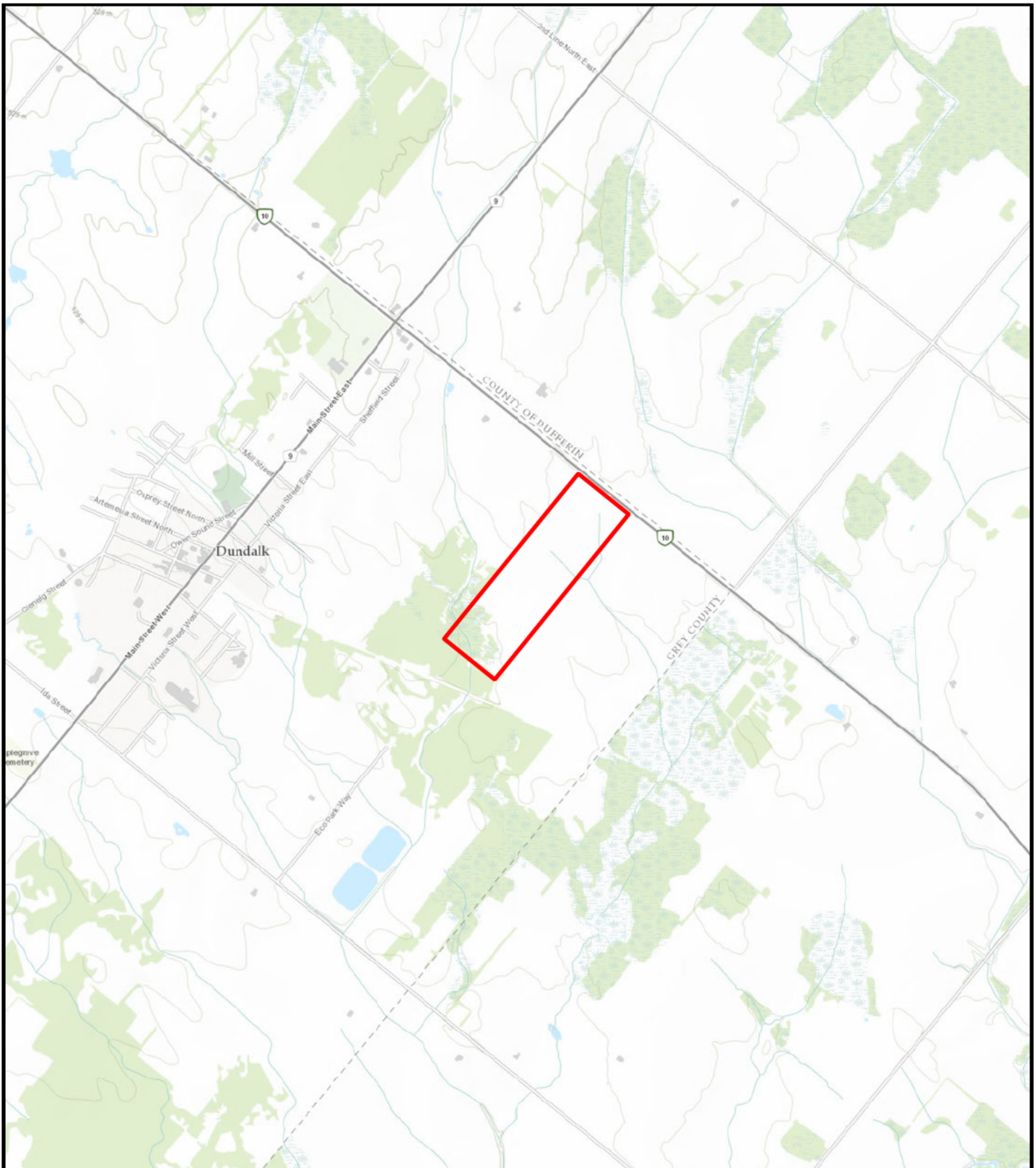
It is an offence under Sections 48 and 69 of the Ontario Heritage Act for any party other than a licensed archaeologist to make any alteration to a known archaeological site or to remove any artifact or other physical evidence of past human use or activity from the site, until such time as a licensed 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 Archaeological 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.

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.

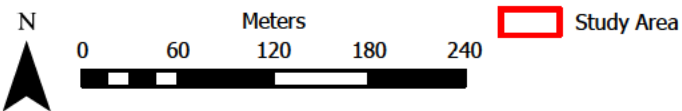
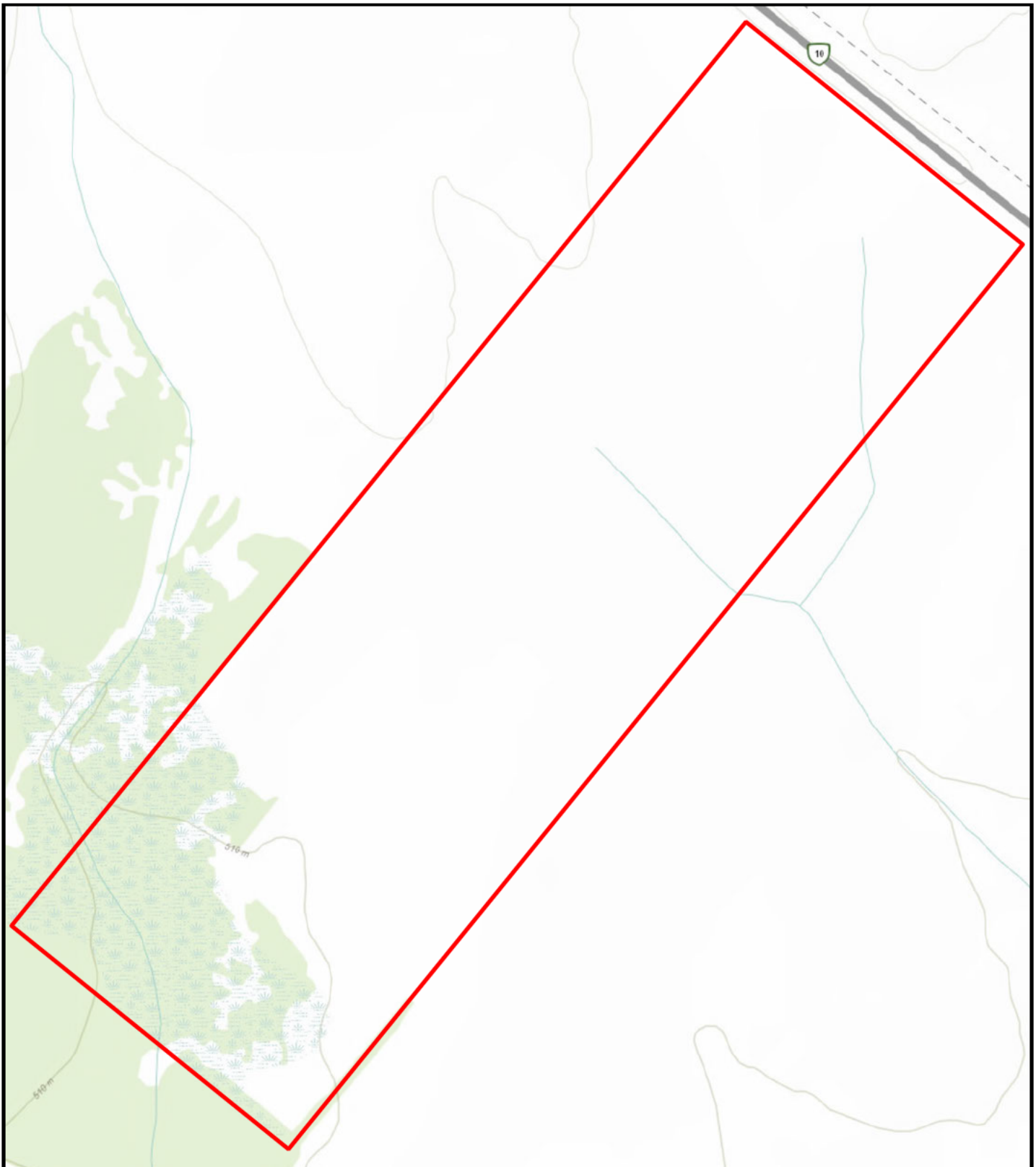
The Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002, S.O. 2002, c.33 requires that any person discovering human remains must notify the police or coroner and the Registrar of Cemeteries at the Ministry of Consumer Service.

9. MAPS



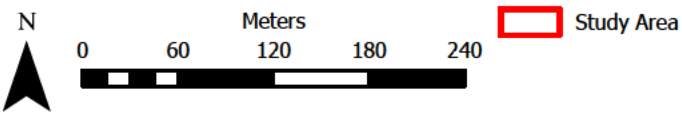
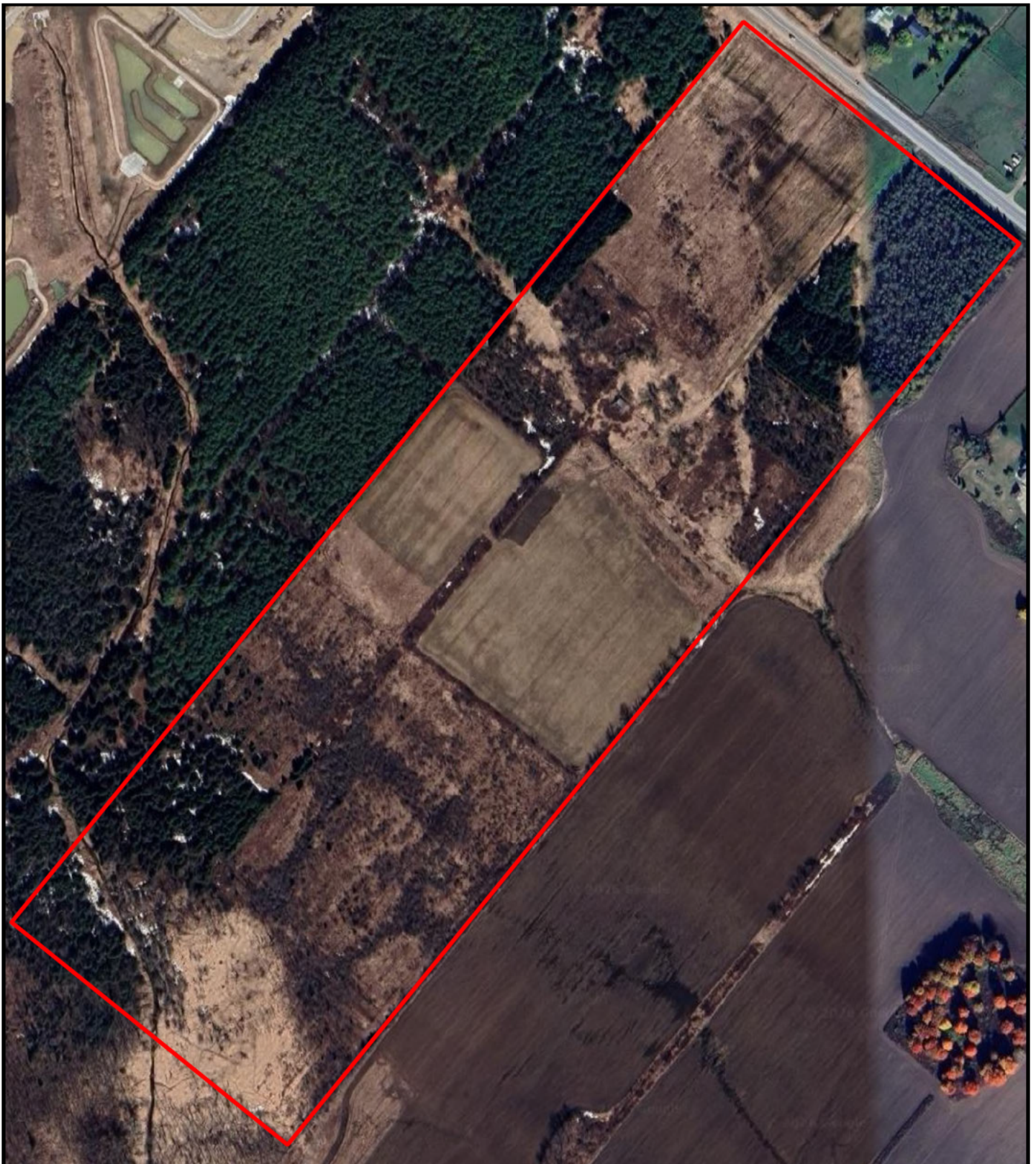
Source: County of Simcoe, Grey County, Province of Ontario, Ontario MNR, Esri Canada, Esri, HERE, Garmin, INCREMENT P, USGS, METI/NASA, EPA, USDA, AAFC, NRCan

Map 1: Study Area Location



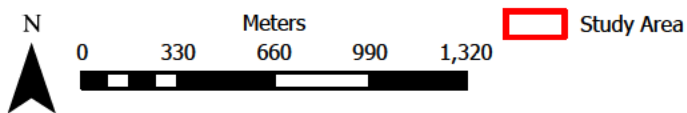
Source: County of Simcoe, Grey County, Province of Ontario, Ontario MNR, Esri Canada, Esri, HERE, Garmin, INCREMENT P, USGS, EPA, USDA, AAFC, NRCan

Map 2: Study Area Topographic Detail



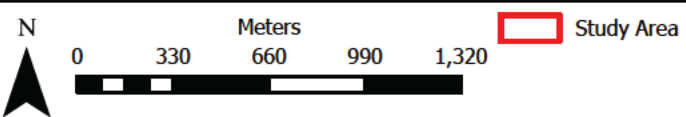
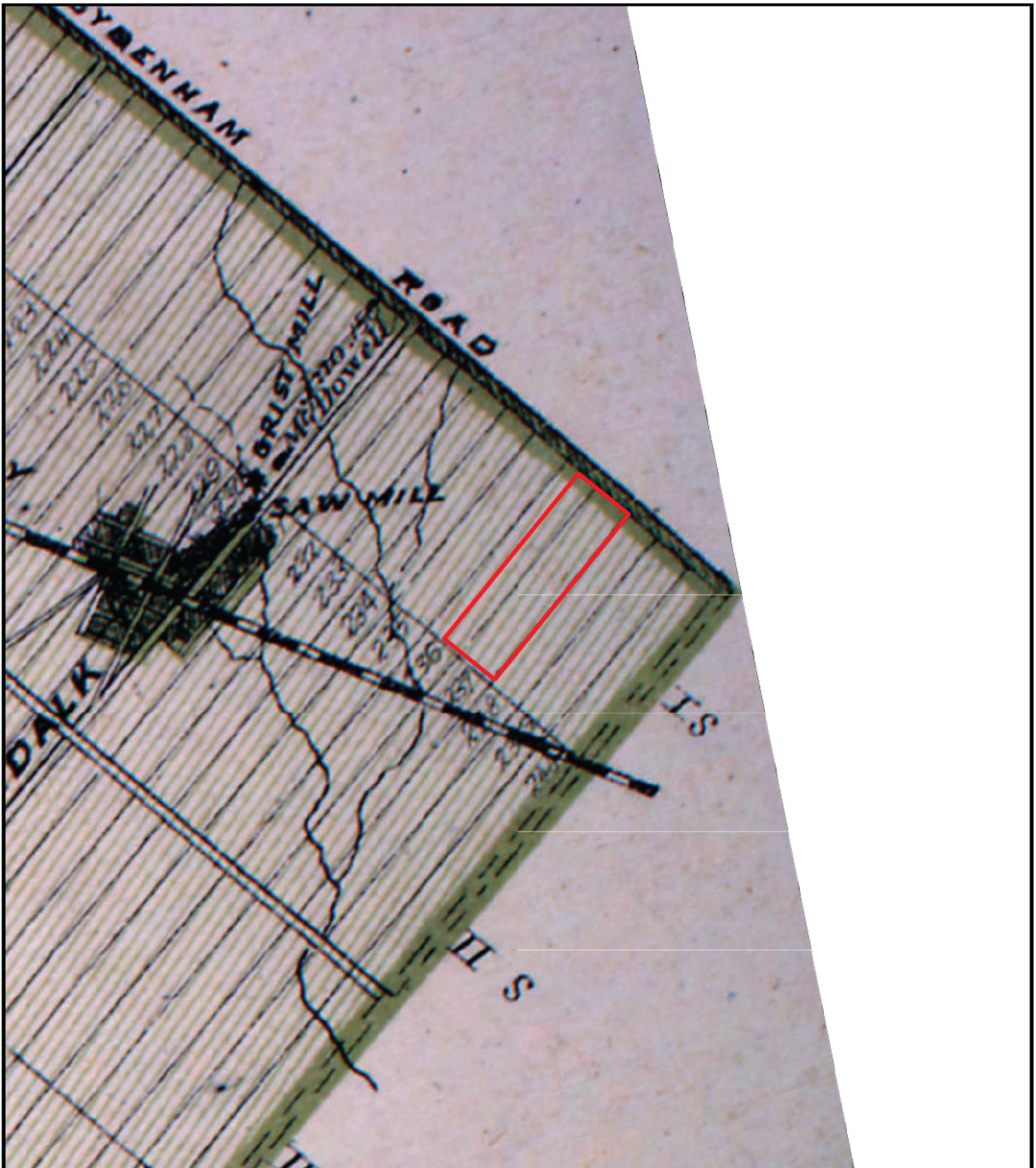
Source: © OpenStreetMap (and) contributors, CC-BY-SA

Map 3: Study Area Environmental Detail



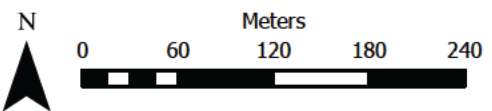
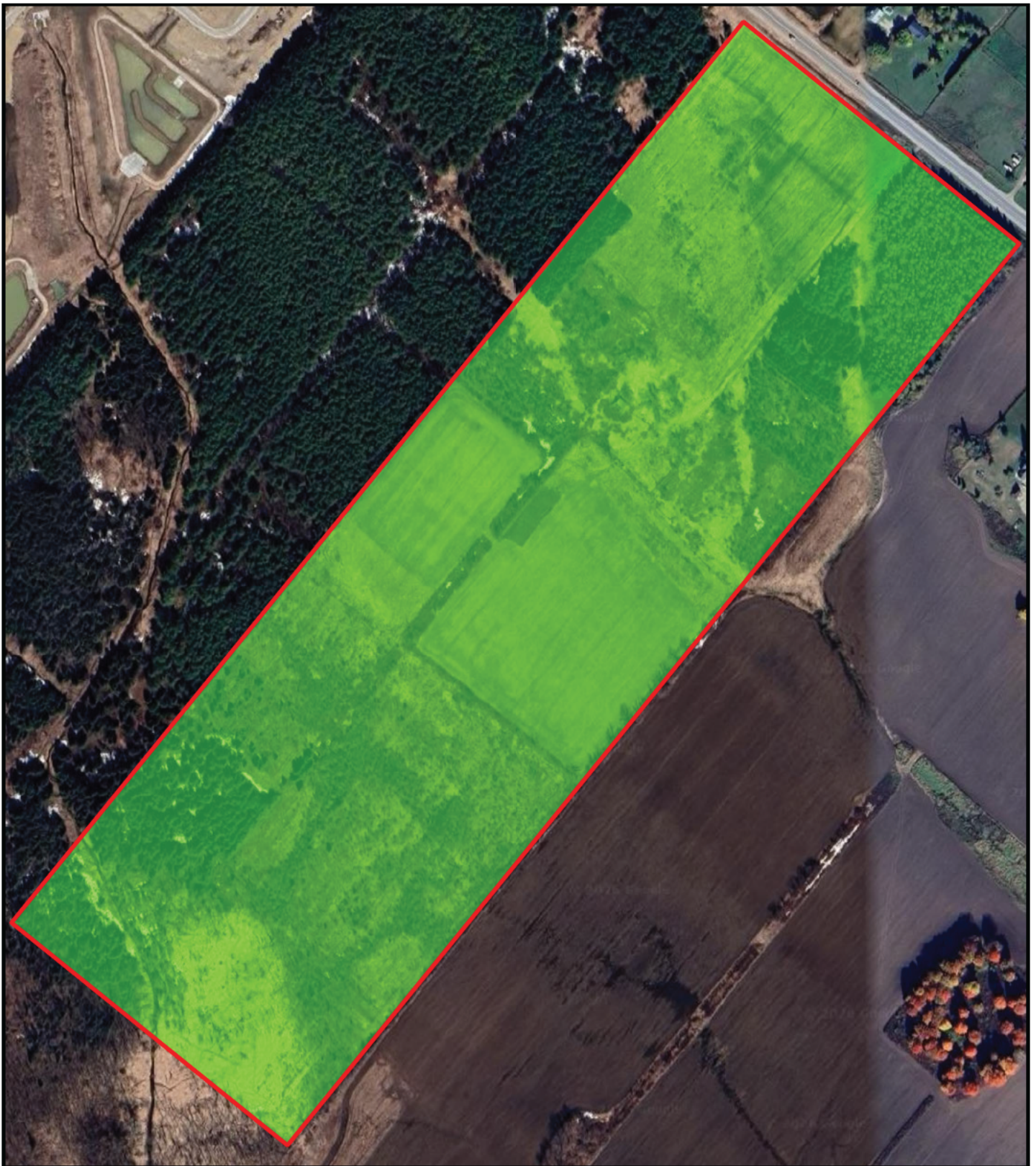
Source: Tackabury 1863



Map 4: Study Area Atop 1863 Map



Source: Belden 1880

Map 5: Study Area Atop 1880 Map



-  Study Area
-  Archaeological Potential: Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment Recommended

Source: © OpenStreetMap (and) contributors, CC-BY-SA

Map 6: Stage 1 Results & Recommendations

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## Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment

Saugeen Ojibway Nation (SON)

2011 *Conducting Archaeology within the Traditional Territory of the Saugeen Ojibway Nation: Process and Standards for Approval Authorities, Development Proponents and Consultant Archaeologists* [pdf document], Saugeen Ojibway Nation: Wiaarton.

Tackabury

1863 *Tackabury's Map of Canada West*. London, R.M. & G.N. Tackabury: London.