

# **Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment: Proposed Ramara Quarry**

6059 Pearl Carricks Road, Part of Lots 9 and 10, Concession C, Geographic Township of Rama, former  
County of Ontario, now Township of Ramara, County of Simcoe, Ontario

August 14, 2025

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**ORIGINAL REPORT**



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## **Executive Summary**

The Sarjeant Company Limited (the Client) retained Stantec Consulting Ltd. (Stantec) to undertake a Stage 1-2 archaeological assessment in support of a proposed quarry at 6059 Pearl Carricks Road (the Project) in the Township of Ramara, Simcoe County, Ontario. The Project is in part of Lots 9 and 10, Concession C, Geographic Township of Rama, formerly Ontario County. The study area encompasses approximately 43.55 hectares and includes a mix of woodlot, unevaluated wetlands, pastureland, and exposed bedrock (Figure 2).

This assessment has been completed in accordance with the requirements of the *Aggregate Resources Act* for a new quarry licence application (Government of Ontario 1990a).

The Stage 1-2 archaeological assessment was conducted between May 28, 2025, and June 6, 2025, under Project Information Form (PIF) number P390-0439-2025 issued to Ragavan Nithiyantham by the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM).

The Stage 1 archaeological assessment determined that the study area had archaeological potential to support the Stage 2 archaeological assessment. No archaeological resources were identified within the study area during the Stage 2 archaeological assessment, and no material culture was recovered.

Based on the findings presented in this report, Stantec recommends:

- 1. No further archaeological assessment for the study area.**

The MCM is asked to review the results presented and enter this report into the *Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports*.

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



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**Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment:  
Proposed Ramara Quarry  
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## **Acronyms / Abbreviations**

AMP	Archaeological Management Plan
ASI	Archaeological Services Inc.
BP	Before present
Ha	Hectares
MCM	Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism
n.d.	No date
Ph.D.	Doctor of Philosophy
PIF	Project Information From
Stantec	Stantec Consulting Ltd.
The Client	The Sarjeant Company Limited
The Planner	MHBC Planning Urban Design & Landscape Architecture



# 1 Project Context

## 1.1 Development Context

The Sarjeant Company Limited (the Client) retained Stantec Consulting Ltd. (Stantec) to undertake a Stage 1-2 archaeological assessment in support of a proposed quarry at 6059 Pearl Carricks Road (the Project) in the Township of Ramara, Simcoe County, Ontario (Figure 1). The Project is in part of Lots 9 and 10, Concession C, Geographic Township of Rama, formerly Ontario County. The study area encompasses approximately 43.55 hectares and includes a mix of woodlot, unevaluated wetlands, pastureland, and exposed bedrock (Figure 2).

This assessment has been completed in accordance with the requirements of the *Aggregate Resources Act* for a new quarry licence application (Government of Ontario 1990a).

### 1.1.1 Objectives

In compliance with the provincial standards and guidelines set out in the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism's (MCM) 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (Government of Ontario 2011), the objectives of the Stage 1 archaeological assessment are to:

- Provide information about the study area's geography, history, previous archaeological fieldwork, and current land conditions
- Evaluate the study area's archaeological potential, which will support recommendations for Stage 2 survey for all or parts of the property
- Recommend appropriate strategies for the Stage 2 survey

To meet these objectives, Stantec archaeologists:

- Reviewed relevant archaeological, historic, and environmental literature pertaining to the study area
- Reviewed the land use history, including pertinent historic maps
- Review of County of Simcoe's Archaeological Management Plan
- Examined the *Ontario Archaeological Sites Database* to determine the presence of registered archaeological sites in and around the study area
- Queried the *Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports* to identify previous archaeological assessments which have occurred within 50 metres of the study area

Further, in compliance with the provincial standards and guidelines set out in the MCM's 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (Government of Ontario 2011), the objectives of Stage 2 archaeological assessment are to:



- Document archaeological resources within the study area
- Determine whether the study area contains archaeological resources requiring further assessment
- Recommend appropriate Stage 3 assessment strategies for archaeological resources identified, if required

The Client provided Stantec with permission to access the study area for the purposes of the archaeological assessment.

## **1.2 Historical Context**

“Contact” is typically used as a chronological benchmark when discussing Indigenous archaeology in Canada and describes the interaction between Indigenous and European nations. There is no definitive moment of contact and the understanding of when Indigenous and European nations first began to influence one another is evolving with new study of archaeological and historical evidence, and from Indigenous oral tradition and history. Contact in what is now the Province of Ontario is broadly assigned to the 16<sup>th</sup> century (Loewen and Chapdelaine 2016).

### **1.2.1 Pre-Contact Indigenous Resources**

It has been demonstrated that Indigenous people began occupying southern Ontario as the Laurentide glacier receded, as early as 11,000 years ago (Ellis and Ferris 1990, 13). Much of what is understood about the lifeways of these Indigenous peoples comes from a combination of archaeological data and Indigenous oral traditions, both of which offer valuable insights into their history and culture. In Ontario, Indigenous culture prior to the period of contact with European peoples has been distinguished into cultural periods based on observed changes in material culture. These cultural periods are largely based on observed changes to formal lithic tools, and separated into the Early Paleo, Late Paleo, Early Archaic, Middle Archaic, Late Archaic, and Terminal Archaic periods. Following the advent of ceramic technology in the Indigenous archaeological record, cultural periods are separated into the Early Woodland, Middle Woodland, and Late Woodland periods, based primarily on observed changes in formal ceramic decoration.

It should be noted that these cultural periods do not necessarily represent specific cultural identities but are a useful paradigm for understanding changes in Indigenous culture through time. The current understanding of Indigenous archaeological culture is summarized in Table 1, based on Ellis and Ferris (1990). The provided periods are based on the “Before Present” (BP) calendar notation system, wherein BP stands for the years before the present. The “Present Year” is set in the calendar year 1950.



**Table 1 Generalized Cultural Chronology of the Study Area**

<b>Archaeological Period</b>	<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>Time Period</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Early Paleo	Fluted Projectiles	10,950 – 10,350 BP	Spruce parkland, caribou hunters
Late Paleo	Hi-Lo Projectiles	10,350 – 9,950 BP	Smaller but more numerous sites
Early Archaic	Kirk and Bifurcate Base Points	9,950 – 7,950 BP	Slow population growth
Middle Archaic	Brewerton-like points	7,950 – 4,450 BP	Environment similar to present
Late Archaic	Narrow Points	4,450 – 3,750 BP	Increasing site size
	Broad Points	3,750 – 3,450 BP	Large chipped lithic tools
	Small Points	3,450 – 3,050 BP	Introduction of bow hunting
Terminal Archaic	Hind Points	3,050 – 2,900 BP	Emergence of true cemeteries
Early Woodland	Meadowood Points	2,900 – 2,350 BP	Introduction of pottery
Middle Woodland	Dentate/Pseudo-Scallop Pottery	2,350 – 1,400 BP	Increased sedentism
	Princess Point	1,400 – 1,050 BP	Introduction of corn
Late Woodland	Early Late Woodland	1,050 – 650 BP	Emergence of agricultural villages
	Middle Late Woodland	650 – 550 BP	Long longhouses (100 metres +)
	Late Late Woodland	550 – 350 BP	Tribal warfare and displacement
Contact Indigenous	Various Algonkian Groups	350 – 75 BP	Early written records and treaties

Between 10,950 and 9,950 BP, Indigenous populations were sustained by hunting, fishing, and foraging and lived a relatively mobile existence across an extensive geographic territory. Despite these wide territories, social ties were maintained between groups. One method of maintaining social ties was through gift exchange, evident through exotic lithic material documented on many sites (Ellis 2013, 35-40).



By approximately 9,950 BP, evidence exists and becomes more common for producing ground-stone tools such as axes, chisels, and adzes. These tools themselves are believed to be indicative specifically of woodworking. This evidence can be extended to indicate an increased craft production and, arguably, craft specialization. This latter statement is also supported by evidence, dating to approximately 8,950 BP of ornately carved stone objects which would be laborious to produce and have explicit aesthetic qualities (Ellis 2013, 41). This is indirectly indicative of changes in the social organization which permitted individuals to devote time and effort to craft specialization. Since 9,950 BP, the Great Lakes basin has experienced a low-water phase, with shorelines significantly below current lake levels (Stewart 2013, Figure 1.1.C). It is presumed that the majority of human settlements would have been focused along these former shorelines. At approximately 8,450 BP, the climate had warmed considerably since the recession of the glaciers, and the environment had grown more similar to the present day. By approximately 6,450 BP, evidence exists from southern Ontario for the utilization of native copper, i.e., naturally occurring pure copper metal (Ellis 2013, 42). The known origin of this material along the north shore of Lake Superior indicates the existence of extensive exchange networks across the Great Lakes basin.

At approximately 5,450 BP, the isostatic rebound of the North American plate following the melt of the Laurentide glacier had reached a point that significantly affected the Great Lakes basin watershed. Prior to this, the Upper Great Lakes had drained down the Ottawa Valley via the French-Mattawa River valleys. Following this shift in the watershed, the drainage course of the Great Lakes basin changed to its present course. This also prompted a significant increase in water-level to approximately current levels (with a brief high-water period); this change in water levels is believed to have occurred catastrophically (Stewart 2013, 28-30). This change in geography coincides with the earliest evidence for cemeteries (Ellis 2013, 46). By 4,450 BP, the earliest evidence exists for the construction of fishing weirs (Ellis et al. 1990, Figure 4.1). Construction of these weirs would have required a large amount of communal labour and are indicative of the continued development of the social organization and communal identity. The large-scale procurement of food at a single location also has significant implications for the permanence of settlement within the landscape. This period is also marked by further population increase; by 3,450 BP, evidence exists for substantial permanent structures (Ellis 2013, 45-46).

By approximately 2,900 BP, the earliest evidence exists for populations using ceramics. Populations are understood to have continued to exploit natural resources seasonally. This advent of ceramic technology correlated, however, with the intensive exploitation of seed foods such as goosefoot and knotweed as well as mast such as nuts (Williamson 2013, 48). The use of ceramics implies changes in the social organization of food storage as well as in the cooking of food and changes in diet. Fish also continued to be an important facet of the economy. Evidence continues to exist for the expansion of social organization (including hierarchy), group identity, ceremonialism (particularly in burial), interregional exchange throughout the Great Lakes basin and beyond, and craft production (Williamson 2013, 48-54).



By approximately 1,400 BP, evidence emerged for the introduction of maize into southern Ontario. This crop would have initially only supplemented Indigenous people's diet and economy (Birch and Williamson 2013, 13-14). Maize-based agriculture gradually became more important to societies. By approximately 1,050 BP, permanent communities emerged which are primarily focused on agriculture and the storage of crops, with satellite locations oriented toward procuring other resources such as hunting, fishing, and foraging. By approximately 700 BP, evidence exists for the common cultivation of historical Indigenous cultigens, including maize, beans, squash, sunflower, and tobacco. The extant archaeological record demonstrates many cultural traits similar to historical Indigenous nations (Williamson 2013, 55).

### **1.2.2 Post-Contact Indigenous Resources**

During the early post-contact period, the north shore of Lake Ontario was occupied by two distinct peoples with different cultural traditions: the Michi Saagiig Nishnaabeg (Mississauga Anishinaabeg) and the Huron-Wendat. Archaeologists have long understood that before the 16<sup>th</sup> century, the north shore of Lake Ontario was occupied by Iroquoian-speaking populations (Birch and Williamson 2013; Birch 2015; Dermarker et al. 2016). The direct correlation in Ontario between archaeology and ethnicity, especially regional identity, has recently been questioned (cf. Fox 2015, 23; Gaudreau and Lesage 2016, 9-12; Ramsden 2016, 124). Recent considerations of Indigenous sources on cultural history have led to the understanding that prior to the 16<sup>th</sup> century, the north shore of Lake Ontario was co-habited by Iroquoian and more mobile Anishinaabeg populations (Kapyrka 2018), the latter of whom have not been represented in previous analyses of the archaeological record and most likely left a more ephemeral archaeological record than that of more densely populated agricultural settlements. The apparent void of semi-permanent village settlement along the north shore of Lake Ontario continued through the first half of the 17<sup>th</sup> century; however, this does not preclude the occupation of the region by mobile Anishinaabeg peoples. Huron-Wendat and Mississauga's traditional history indicates that the Huron-Wendat and Mississauga cohabited the region (Kapyrka 2018).

The Mississauga traditional homeland stretched along the north shore of Lake Ontario and its tributary rivers from present-day Gananoque in the east to Long Point on Lake Erie in the west. In the winter, the communities dispersed into smaller groups and travelled inland to the north, around present-day Bancroft and the Haliburton Highlands. Mississauga's oral history relates that their ancestors occupied this part of southern Ontario from the time of the last deglaciation and continued to occupy it until the start of the Contact period (Migizi 2018, 119-123).

The Mississauga traditional territory was located between two powerful confederacies: the Three Fires Confederacy (consisting of the Odawa, Ojibwa, and Pottawatomi) located to the north and west and the Haudenosaunee (Five Nations Iroquois) Confederacy on the south shore of Lake Ontario in present-day New York State. In this geopolitical context, the Mississauga acted as peacekeepers among the various Indigenous communities and nations, as negotiators and emissaries (Migizi 2018, 29).



The spatial distribution and mobility of the Huron-Wendat have been the subject of extensive scholarly debate, with interpretations evolving as new archaeological data have become available. Traditional ethnohistoric records and research by scholars such as Trigger (1976) and Heidenreich (1971) describe the Huron-Wendat as a highly mobile group with a vast territory stretching from the Gaspé Peninsula in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, along both sides of the Saint Lawrence River, and throughout the Great Lakes region. According to this view, the Huron-Wendat were intimately connected to the Saint Lawrence River and its estuary, which served as the main route for their activities, facilitating trade, communication, and cultural exchange.

In contrast, recent archaeological research has offered an alternative perspective on Huron-Wendat mobility and settlement patterns. Radiocarbon studies by Manning (2018) and subsequent publications indicate that the Huron-Wendat may have been more geographically constrained than previously believed. This view is supported by Jackson (2004), who suggests that the Huron-Wendat were primarily sedentary, residing within a more defined region known as "Huronnia"—the area between Lake Simcoe and Georgian Bay. Archaeological evidence from these studies indicates that the Huron-Wendat established large horticultural villages, often occupied for 20 to 25 years, with limited long-distance travel compared to other Indigenous groups, such as the Mississauga.

These contrasting interpretations reflect the dynamic and complex nature of Huron-Wendat lifeways. While traditional views emphasize a broader territorial reach and significant mobility, recent research highlights a more localized, horticulturally focused settlement pattern. Both perspectives contribute to a deeper understanding of Huron-Wendat cultural adaptation and underscore the importance of integrating ethnohistoric records with modern archaeological data for a more comprehensive view.

In 1649, the Seneca and the Mohawk led a campaign to the north shore of Lake Ontario and dispersed the Huron-Wendat, Tionontati (Petun) and Atawandaron (Neutral) nations (Trigger 1978, 354-356). At this time the semi-permanent settlements associated with the Huron-Wendat (the Huron) were abandoned. The Mississauga retreated from the area along the north shore of Lake Ontario into the hinterlands of their territory, waiting until the conflicts had ended and the political situation had stabilized before returning (Heidenreich 1990; Migizi 2018, 122-123; Ramsden 1990).

After 1650 the Five Nations Iroquois established a series of villages along the north shore of Lake Ontario; the inhabitants of these villages were identified by the early French missionaries, explorers and inhabitants as the "Iroquois du Nord" (Williamson 2023, 1). These villages stretched from Napanee Bay in the east to the portage between Lake Ontario and the Grand River in the west (Williamson 2023, 1). The closest of these Iroquois du Nord settlements to the study areas was the Cayuga village of Kenté (or Kent-He, from which we get Quinte), located approximately 10 kilometres southeast of the study area (von Bitter et al. 2023). The next closest village was the Onedia village of Ganneious, located approximately 44 kilometres to the east on Hay Bay (Konrad 1982). Travel along the north shore of Lake Ontario and the connecting rivers occurred frequently.



In 1667, surviving Huron-Wendat warriors joined in alliance with the French-allied Ojibwa and Mississaugas to counterattack the Iroquois who had settled along the north shore of Lake Ontario. By 1690, Ojibwa (Anishinaabe) speaking people returned south into the lower Great Lakes basin (see Section 1.2.2.1 for the oral history of the Michi Saagiig from Gidtiga Migizi) (Konrad 1981; Rogers 1978). Mississauga oral traditions, as told by Chief Robert Paudash and recorded in 1905, indicate that after the Mississauga defeat of the Mohawk Nation, the Mohawk retreated to their homeland south of Lake Ontario, and a peace treaty was negotiated between those groups around 1695 (Paudash 1905). Upon the Mississaugas' return, they re-settled in southern Ontario and began to reestablish their role as peacekeepers in the region, extending that to include the incoming Euro-Canadian settlers (Curve Lake First Nation no date [n.d.]; Migizi and Kapyrka 2018). The Huron-Wendat permanently left the region, moving to the east in Quebec and the southwest in the present-day United States.

By 1718, a community of Mississauga was settled at Matchedash Bay, north of the study area, and by 1736, this settlement is estimated to have had a population of approximately 150 people (Rogers 1978, 762). Since the turn of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the Indigenous economy has focused on fishing and the fur trade, supplemented by agriculture and hunting.

In addition to archaeological and colonial records, oral histories from Indigenous Nations offer critical insight into the experiences, relationships, and events that shaped the region following European contact. The following accounts, provided by the Chippewas of Rama First Nation and Alderville First Nation (on behalf of the Michi Saagiig Anishinaabeg), present their perspectives on territorial occupation, conflict, diplomacy, and dispossession.

### **Chippewas of Rama First Nation Oral History**

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 18<sup>th</sup> 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 unceded 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.

(Chippewas of Rama First Nation, n.d)

### **Michi Saagiig Anishinaabeg (Alderville First Nation) Oral History**

The traditional homelands of the Michi Saagiig (Mississauga Anishinaabeg) encompass a vast area of what is now known as southern Ontario. The Michi Saagiig are known as “the people of the big river mouths” and were also known as the “Salmon People” who occupied and fished the north shore of Lake Ontario where the various tributaries emptied into the lake. Their territories extended north into and beyond the Kawarthas as winter hunting grounds on which they would break off into smaller social groups for the season, hunting and trapping on these lands, then returning to the lakeshore in spring for the summer months.

The Michi Saagiig were a highly mobile people, travelling vast distances to procure subsistence for their people. They were also known as the “Peacekeepers” among Indigenous nations. The Michi Saagiig homelands were located directly between two very powerful Confederacies: The Three Fires Confederacy to the north and the Haudenosaunee Confederacy to the south. The Michi Saagiig were the negotiators, the messengers, the diplomats, and they successfully mediated peace throughout this area of Ontario for countless generations.

Michi Saagiig oral histories speak to their people being in this area of Ontario for thousands of years. These stories recount the “Old Ones” who spoke an ancient Algonquian dialect. The histories explain that the current Ojibwa phonology is the 5th transformation of this language, demonstrating a linguistic connection that spans back into deep time. The Michi Saagiig of today are the descendants of the ancient peoples who lived in Ontario during the Archaic and Paleo-Indian periods. They are the original inhabitants of southern Ontario, and they are still here today.

The traditional territories of the Michi Saagiig span from Gananoque in the east, all along the north shore of Lake Ontario, west to the north shore of Lake Erie at Long Point. The territory spreads as far north as the tributaries that flow into these lakes, from Bancroft and north of the Haliburton highlands. This also includes all the tributaries that flow from the height of land north of Toronto like the Oak Ridges Moraine, and all of the rivers that flow into Lake Ontario (the Rideau, the Salmon, the Ganaraska, the Moira, the Trent, the Don, the Rouge, the Etobicoke, the Humber, and the Credit, as well as Wilmot and 16 Mile Creeks) through Burlington Bay and the Niagara region including the Welland and Niagara Rivers, and beyond. The western side of the Michi Saagiig Nation was located around the Grand River which was used as a portage route as the Niagara portage was too dangerous. The Michi Saagiig would portage from present-day Burlington to the Grand River and travel south to the open water on Lake Erie.

Michi Saagiig oral histories also speak to the occurrence of people coming into their territories sometime between 500-1000 A.D. seeking to establish villages and a corn growing economy – these newcomers included peoples that would later be known as the Huron-Wendat, Neutral, Petun/Tobacco Nations. The Michi Saagiig made Treaties with these newcomers and granted



them permission to stay with the understanding that they were visitors in these lands. Wampum was made to record these contracts, ceremonies would have bound each nation to their respective responsibilities within the political relationship, and these contracts would have been renewed annually (see Gitiga Migizi and Kapyrka 2015). These visitors were extremely successful as their corn economy grew as well as their populations. However, it was understood by all nations involved that this area of Ontario were the homeland territories of the Michi Saagiig.

The Odawa Nation worked with the Michi Saagiig to meet with the Huron-Wendat, the Petun, and Neutral Nations to continue the amicable political and economic relationship that existed – a symbiotic relationship that was mainly policed and enforced by the Odawa people.

Problems arose for the Michi Saagiig in the 1600s when the European way of life was introduced into southern Ontario. Also, around the same time, the Haudenosaunee were given firearms by the colonial governments in New York and Albany which ultimately made an expansion possible for them into Michi Saagiig territories. There began skirmishes with the various nations living in Ontario at the time. The Haudenosaunee engaged in fighting with the Huron-Wendat and between that and the onslaught of European diseases, the Iroquoian speaking peoples in Ontario were decimated.

The onset of colonial settlement and missionary involvement severely disrupted the original relationships between these Indigenous nations. Disease and warfare had a devastating impact upon the Indigenous peoples of Ontario, especially the large sedentary villages, which mostly included Iroquoian speaking peoples. The Michi Saagiig were largely able to avoid the devastation caused by these processes by retreating to their wintering grounds to the north, essentially waiting for the smoke to clear.

Michi Saagiig Elder Gitiga Migizi (2017) recounts:

“We weren’t affected as much as the larger villages because we learned to paddle away for several years until everything settled down. And we came back and tried to bury the bones of the Huron but it was overwhelming, it was all over, there were bones all over – that is our story.

There is a misnomer here, that this area of Ontario is not our traditional territory and that we came in here after the Huron-Wendat left or were defeated, but that is not true. That is a big misconception of our history that needs to be corrected. We are the traditional people, we are the ones that signed treaties with the Crown. We are recognized as the ones who signed these treaties and we are the ones to be dealt with officially in any matters concerning territory in southern Ontario.

We had peacemakers go to the Haudenosaunee and live amongst them in order to change their ways. We had also diplomatically dealt with some of the strong chiefs to the north and tried to make peace as much as possible. So we are very important in terms of keeping the balance of relationships in harmony.



Some of the old leaders recognized that it became increasingly difficult to keep the peace after the Europeans introduced guns. But we still continued to meet, and we still continued to have some wampum, which doesn't mean we negated our territory or gave up our territory – we did not do that. We still consider ourselves a sovereign nation despite legal challenges against that. We still view ourselves as a nation and the government must negotiate from that basis.”

Often times, southern Ontario is described as being “vacant” after the dispersal of the Huron-Wendat peoples in 1649 (who fled east to Quebec and south to the United States). This is misleading as these territories remained the homelands of the Michi Saagiig Nation.

The Michi Saagiig participated in eighteen treaties from 1781 to 1923 to allow the growing number of European settlers to establish in Ontario. Pressures from increased settlement forced the Michi Saagiig to slowly move into small family groups around the present day communities: Curve Lake First Nation, Hiawatha First Nation, Alderville First Nation, Scugog Island First Nation, New Credit First Nation, and Mississauga First Nation.

The Michi Saagiig have been in Ontario for thousands of years, and they remain here to this day.

(Migizi and Kapyrka 2015)

Since contact with European explorers and immigrants and, later, with the establishment of provincial and federal governments (the Crown), the lands within Ontario and the Geographic Township of Innisfil have been included in various treaties, land claims, and land cessions. Though not an exhaustive list, Morris (1943) provides a general outline of some treaties within the Province of Ontario from 1783 to 1923. Based on Morris (1943), the study area is situated within the described limits of Treaty Number 20, or the Rice Lake Treaty. Treaty Number 20 was signed by the Principal Chiefs of the Chippewa Nation and the Crown on November 5, 1818. This treaty covers the lands described as follows:

A tract of land situate between the western boundary line of the Home District, and extending northerly to a bay at the northern entrance of Lake Simcoe, in the Home District, commencing in the western division line of the Midland District at the north-west angle of the Township of Rawdon; then north sixteen degrees west thirty-three miles, or until it strikes the line forty-five; then along said line to a bay at the northern entrance of Lake Simcoe; then southerly along the water's edge to the entrance of Talbot River; then up Talbot River to the eastern boundary line of the Home District; then along said boundary line south sixteen degrees east to the townships of Darlington, Clark, Hope and Hamilton to the Rice Lake; then along the southern shore of the said lake and of the River Trent to the western division line of the Midland District; then north sixteen degrees west to the place of beginning, containing about one million nine hundred and fifty-one thousand acres.

(Government of Canada 2016)



While Treaty 20 is a pre-Confederation treaty, its interpretation and legal standing were historically overshadowed by the later 1923 Williams Treaties. In 2018, the Williams Treaties Settlement Agreement was reached between the Williams Treaties First Nations, the Government of Canada, and the Province of Ontario. This modern agreement provided financial compensation and recognized the harvesting rights of the Williams Treaties First Nations. Critically, it re-affirmed only the pre-Confederation treaties, such as Treaty 20, as the legitimate basis of the treaty relationship. The 1923 Williams Treaties were not reaffirmed. Instead, the settlement corrected the historical record and re-established the original intent and standing of the pre-Confederation treaties.

The nature of Indigenous settlement size, population distribution, and material culture shifted as European settlers encroached upon Indigenous territory. However, despite this shift, “written accounts of material life and livelihood, the correlation of historically recorded villages to their archaeological manifestations, and the similarities of those sites to more ancient sites have revealed an antiquity to documented cultural expressions that confirms a deep historical continuity to...systems of ideology and thought” (Ferris 2009, 114). As a result, Indigenous peoples have left behind archaeological resources throughout the region which show continuity with past peoples, even if they have not been explicitly recorded in Euro-Canadian documentation.

### **1.2.3 Euro-Canadian Resources**

In 1791, the Provinces of Upper Canada and Lower Canada were created from the former Province of Quebec by an act of British Parliament. At this time, Colonel John Graves Simcoe was appointed as the Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada and was tasked with governing the new province, directing its settlement, and establishing a constitutional government modelled after that of Britain. In 1792, Simcoe divided Upper Canada into 19 counties consisting of previously settled lands, new lands opened for settlement and lands not yet acquired by the Crown. These new counties stretched from Essex in the west to Glengarry in the east.

#### **1.2.3.1 Ontario County**

Ontario County was enclosed by the shores of Lake Ontario on the south, by York County and Lake Simcoe on the west, Durham and Victoria counties on the east, and by the District of Muskoka on the north. Initially attached to York and Peel Counties for municipal and judicial purposes, Ontario County separated in 1852. The original townships that existed in Ontario County include Brock, Mara, Pickering, Rama, Reach, Scott, Thorah, Uxbridge, and Whitby. Settlement began in the county in the late 1700s but remained sparse, with only a few families arriving in the area. However, following the War of 1812, there was a period of increased settlement and immigration to the region (Mika and Mika 1983, 112).



Agriculture became one of the major industries in Ontario County, with the breeding and importing of cattle at its base. Apple growing in the southern areas of the county also brought commerce to the region. The Ontario lakeshore, bordering the southern edge of the county, provided for excellent harbours. These harbours facilitated greater access to trade and travel throughout the Great Lakes (Mika and Mika 1983, 113). On January 1, 1974, Ontario County was dissolved following the formation of the Regional Municipality of Durham and portions of the county were transferred to Simcoe County, including the Townships of Rama and Mara (Mika and Mika 1983, 114).

### **1.2.3.2 Rama Township**

Rama Township, the most northern township in the County of Ontario, was opened for Euro-Canadian settlement in 1820 and officially surveyed in 1834 and 1855 (Middleton and Landon 1927, 1179; Farewell 1973, 60). The first Euro-Canadian settlers in the area included Captain Garnet and other retired British officers around the region of Orilla (Middleton and Landon 1927, 1179). In 1839, Captain Allan McPherson opened a road through Rama to Orillia, and Rama post office was opened shortly after (between 1840 and 1847) (Farewell 1973, 60). In 1850, the population of Rama township included eight Euro-Canadian settlers (Farewell 1973, 60).

The first mill in the township was established in 1867, and the lumber industry continued to expand throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Farewell 1973, 60). Other industries included the manufacture of lime and other chemical products. By 1927, the population of the township reached 1,074 (Middleton and Landon 1927, 1179).

In 1994, the townships of Rama and Mara were amalgamated into the Township of Ramara. In 2011, the population was recorded at 9,275, which rose to 9,488 by 2016 (Simcoe County, 2020).

### **1.2.3.3 Study Area**

The study area is in part of Lots 9 and 10, Concession C, Geographic Township of Rama, former County of Ontario, now Township of Ramara, County of Simcoe, Ontario.

Lot 9 and Lot 10 were granted to Jonathan Cleavelly between 1901 and 1903 via a tax deed and patented to Cleavelly by the Crown on January 23, 1951. The property stayed within the Cleavelly (also spelt Cleaveley) family throughout the land records. The last records, from January 27, 1983, provide a quitclaim for both Lot 9 and Lot 10, from John R. Cleaveley to Joseph H. and Elsie M. Cleaveley for one dollar (ONLand 2025). No records after 1983 were identified.

Historical mapping from 1877 illustrates that J. Johnson occupied Lot 9; no name is indicated for Lot 10 (Figure 3) (Beers and Co. 1877). No structures are indicated within the vicinity of the study area, and no historical transportation routes are identified in proximity to the study area.



When examining 19<sup>th</sup> century historical mapping, it is important to note that numerous county atlases from that era were primarily created to identify the subscribers' factories, offices, residences, and landholdings who financially supported their production through subscription fees. Consequently, landowners who chose not to subscribe were often omitted from the maps, leading to their absence in the depicted information (Caston 1997, 100). As a result, the depiction and accuracy of structures on these maps are not always reliable (Gentilecore and Head 1984). Further, a review of historical mapping has inherent inaccuracy due to potential errors in georeferencing. Georeferencing is conducted by assigning spatial coordinates to fixed locations and using these points to reference the remainder of the map spatially. Due to changes in "fixed" locations over time (e.g., road intersections, road alignments, shorelines, etc.), errors/difficulties of scale and the relative idealism of the historical cartography, historical maps may not translate accurately into real space points. This may provide obvious inconsistencies during historical map review.

#### **1.2.3.4 Topographic Mapping**

Topographic mapping from the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries demonstrate no significant land use change (Figure 4) (Department of Militia and Defence 1916; Natural Resources Canada 1954; 1980; 2011). In 1916, laneways are indicated along the western and northern limits of the property, with a small structure located along the eastern edge. By 1954, the structure and road along the northern edge of the study area were no longer present. Few changes are noted within the study area by the 1980 topographic map, although by 2011 the road along the northern edge of the study area is visible once again. Further afield, additional structures are located northwest and southwest of the study area.

#### **1.2.3.5 Aerial Imagery**

Aerial photos from the County of Simcoe (2025) demonstrate the roads visible to the north and west of the study area (Figure 5). In the northwest portion of the study area, a large area of exposed bedrock is also visible. By 1997, no changes are noted in the study area, but west of the study area, evidence of quarry activities are visible, which extend significantly in 2002. By 2024, quarry activities east and southeast of the study area are also visible. No changes are noted in the study area during these periods.

#### **1.2.3.6 Heritage Properties**

No heritage properties were identified within 300 metres of the study area (Ontario Heritage Trust 2025).

### **1.3 Archaeological Context**

#### **1.3.1 Natural Environment**

The physiography of a landscape dictates elevation, drainage patterns, soil texture and chemistry and thus influences hydrology, local climate, and the movement and accumulation of materials across a landscape. Through these mechanisms, physiography influences the ecological patterns of the landscape. These conditions influence the types of vegetation, the availability of resources, and the suitability for habitation by animal and human populations.



The study area is situated within the “Carden Plain” physiographic region (Chapman and Putnam, 1984, 184-185).

Between the Kawartha Lakes and Lake Couchiching there is an area of 225 square miles [approximately 580 square kilometres] of limestone plain with very little overburden. It is named for Garden Township which occupies the central part of the area and where conditions are typical. While the physical conditions are much like those of the Napanee plain farther east, there are certain differences. This area was under Lake Algonquin and some beaches and offshore sand deposits are found. The original forest appears to have had some very good pine stands, but most of the present tree growth is of hardwoods...Ten percent of all farmland is reported as woodlot...a large part of this region was cleared for timber without any intention of making arable land...the land [is] being used mainly as range for beef cattle. It would seem reasonable that some sections should be reforested.

(Chapman & Putnam, 184-185.)

Elevated landforms such as eskers, drumlins, large knolls, and plateaux are typically considered indicators of archaeological potential. According to the *Surficial Geology of Southern Ontario* (Ontario Geological Survey 2003), the study area is within 300 metres of a drumlin and crossed by a beach ridge. The topography across the study area is generally flat at approximately 145 metres above sea level.

Potable water is an important resource for any extended human occupation or settlement, and since water sources in Ontario have remained relatively stable over time, proximity to drinkable water is regarded as a useful index for the evaluation of archaeological site potential. In fact, distance to water is one of the most used variables for predictive modelling of archaeological site location in Ontario. An unnamed tributary of the Head River passes through the study area.

Multiple soils were identified within the study area, summarized in Table 2. While Farmington Loam would be suitable for agricultural purposes, the frequency with which bedrock was exposed would prove difficult for farming equipment. Muck and Kenabeek Sandy Loam would not be suitable for agricultural purposes, although it may have improved following the installation of drainage measures.

**Table 2            Soils within the Study Area**

<b>Soil</b>	<b>Drainage</b>	<b>Topography</b>
Farmington Loam	Good to imperfect	Level to depressional and variable, bedrock frequently exposed
Muck	Very poor	Depressional and stone free
Kenabeek Sandy Loam	Poor	Depressional and stone free



### **1.3.2 Registered Archaeological Sites and Surveys**

In Canada, archaeological sites are registered within the Borden system, a national grid system designed by Charles Borden in 1952 (Borden 1952). The grid covers the entire surface area of Canada and is divided into major units containing an area that is two degrees in latitude by four degrees in longitude. Major units are designated by uppercase letters. Each major unit is subdivided into 288 basic unit areas, each containing an area of 10 minutes in latitude by 10 minutes in longitude. The width of basic units reduces due to the earth's curvature as one moves north. In southern Ontario, each basic unit measures approximately 13.5 kilometres east-west by 18.5 kilometres north-south. In northern Ontario, adjacent to Hudson Bay, each basic unit measures approximately 10.2 kilometres east-west by 18.5 kilometres north-south. Basic units are designated by lowercase letters. Individual sites are assigned a unique, sequential number as they are registered (Borden 1952). The MCM issues these sequential numbers and maintains the *Ontario Archaeological Sites Database*. The study area is located within Borden block BeGt.

Information concerning specific site locations is protected by provincial policy and is not fully subject to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (Government of Ontario 1990b). The release of such information in the past has led to looting or various forms of illegally conducted site destruction. Confidentiality extends to media capable of conveying location, including maps, drawings, or textual descriptions of a site location. The MCM will provide information concerning the site location to the party or an agent of the party holding title to a property or a licensed archaeologist with relevant cultural resource management interests.

An examination of the MCM's *Ontario Archaeological Sites Database* identified one registered archaeological site within one kilometre of the study area. BdGo-17 is a Euro-Canadian farmstead with no further cultural heritage value or interest. No sites were identified within 300 metres of the study area (Government of Ontario 2025a).

A query of the *Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports* did not identify any previous archaeological surveys within 50 metres of the study area (Government of Ontario 2025b).

#### **1.3.2.1 County of Simcoe's Archaeological Management Plan**

In 2019, the County of Simcoe finalized its Archaeological Management Plan (AMP). According to the County of Simcoe's AMP, portions of the study area retain potential for the identification of archaeological resources, particularly as it relates to Indigenous archaeological resources (County of Simcoe 2019).



## 1.4 Archaeological Potential

Archaeological potential is established by determining the likelihood of archaeological resources on a subject property. Stantec applied archaeological potential criteria commonly used by the MCM (Government of Ontario 2011) to determine areas of archaeological potential within the study area. Features and characteristics that indicate the potential for archaeological resources are defined within Section 1.3.1 of the MCM's 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (Government of Ontario 2011, 17-18) and include:

- Previously identified archaeological sites.
- Water sources:
  - Primary water sources (lakes, rivers, streams, and creeks).
  - Secondary water sources (intermittent streams and creeks, springs, marshes, and swamps).
  - Features indicating past water sources (glacial lake shorelines indicated by the presence of raised gravel, sand, or beach ridges, relic river or stream channels indicated by a clear dip or swale in the topography, shorelines of drained lakes or marshes, and cobble beaches).
  - Accessible or inaccessible shoreline (high bluffs, swamps or marsh fields by the edge of a lake, and sandbars stretching into marsh).
- Elevated topography (eskers, drumlins, large knolls, and plateaus).
- Pockets of well-drained sandy soil, especially near areas of heavy soil or rocky ground.
- Distinctive land formations that might have been special or spiritual places, such as waterfalls, rock outcrops, caverns, mounds, and promontories and their bases (there may be physical indicators of their use, such as burials, structures, offerings, rock paintings, or carvings).
- Resource areas including:
  - Food or medicinal plants.
  - Scarce raw minerals (quartz, copper, ochre, or outcrops of chert).
  - Early Euro-Canadian industry (fur trade, mining, and logging).
- Areas of Euro-Canadian settlement. These include places of early military or pioneer settlements (pioneer homesteads, isolated cabins, and farmstead complexes), early wharf or dock complexes, pioneer churches and early cemeteries. There may be commemorative markers of their history, such as local, provincial, or federal monuments or heritage parks.
- Early historical transportation routes (trails, passes, roads, railways, and portage routes).
- Property listed on a municipal register or designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act* (Government of Ontario 1990c) or site.
- Property that local histories or informants have identified with possible archaeological sites, historical events, activities, or occupations.



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Many of the above features of archaeological potential have a buffer assigned to them, extending the zone of archaeological potential beyond the physical feature. Section 1.4 of the MCM's *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (Government of Ontario 2011, 20-21) employs the following buffers:

- 300-metre buffer for previously identified archaeological sites, water sources, areas of early Euro-Canadian settlement, or locations identified through local knowledge or informants
- 100-metre buffer for early historical transportation route

If no buffer is present, the potential is restricted to the physical limits or features, such as elevated topography, pockets of well-drained sandy soil, distinctive land formations, and resource areas.

An unnamed tributary of Head River crosses the study area, and Hand River is approximately three kilometres north of the study area. Additionally, Lake Simcoe is located approximately 15 kilometres south of the study area. Soils in the study area are identified as Farmington loam, muck, and Kenabeek sandy loam. While agricultural practices are possible, improper drainage and frequently exposed bedrock would prove difficult for agricultural management.

According to the *Surficial Geology of Southern Ontario* (Ontario Geological Survey 2003), the study area lies within 300 metres of a drumlin and is crossed by a beach ridge, both of which are considered elevated and distinctive topographic features known to attract past human activity.

An examination of the MCM's *Ontario Archaeological Sites Database* identified one registered archaeological site within one kilometre of the study area, a Euro-Canadian farmstead; no registered sites were identified within 300 metres of the study area (Government of Ontario 2025a).

An examination of historical mapping and land records indicates that, while the Township of Rama was opened for Euro-Canadian settlement in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, the study area was not occupied until the 20<sup>th</sup> century, when granted to Jonathan Cleavelly in 1901 via tax deed, and patented by the Crown in 1951. Additionally, topographic mapping and aerial imagery indicate that the study area has remained largely unaltered over the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries.

When the above-listed criteria are applied, the study area is evaluated to have archaeological potential.



## **1.5 Existing Conditions**

The study area encompasses approximately 43.55 hectares and is located at 6059 Pearl Carricks Road in the Township of Ramara, Ontario, approximately 17.3 kilometres northeast of Orillia and 8.8 kilometres west-northwest of Rama. The property is situated in a predominantly rural setting characterized by a mix of natural and resource-based land uses. The landscape consists of woodlot, unevaluated wetlands, pastureland, and areas of exposed bedrock. Vegetation across the study area varies from dense forested areas to open fields and early successional growth. A low-lying, meandering feature, likely associated with a wetland or seasonal watercourse, extends through the southern portion of the property, while the northern and western sections are more open and partially cleared. The site is bordered by active aggregate extraction operations to the east, west and southeast, with forested lands to the north. Access is provided via Pearl Carricks Road. There are no permanent structures in the study area.



## 2 Field Methods

The Stage 1-2 archaeological assessment was conducted between May 28, 2025 and June 6, 2025 (Table 3), under Project Information Form (PIF) number P390-0439-2025 issued to Ragavan Nithiyantham by the MCM.

Before the start of Stage 1-2 archaeological assessment, the Client provided mapping, which defined the limits of the study area. These files were geo-referenced by Stantec's Geographic Information Services (GIS) team, and a digital file (i.e., a shape file) was created for the study area. The digital file was uploaded to handheld devices for use in the field.

During the Stage 1-2 assessment, field, weather, and lighting conditions were suitable for the identification and recovery of archaeological resources. At no time was the archaeological assessment conducted when the field, weather, or lighting conditions were detrimental to the recovery of archaeological material. Photographic documentation in Section 8.1 of this report confirms that field conditions met the requirements for a Stage 2 archaeological assessment, as per Section 7.8.6 Standard 1.a. the MCM's 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (Government of Ontario 2011). Figure 6 illustrates the Stage 1-2 archaeological assessment methods, results, and photograph locations and directions.

**Table 3 Weather and Field Conditions**

Date	Field Director	Weather	Field Conditions
May 28, 2025	Brian Horeczy (R1346)	Partly cloudy, warm	Soil is dry and friable, screens well
May 29, 2025	Brian Horeczy (R1346)	Cloudy, warm	Soil is dry and friable, screens well
May 30, 2025	Brian Horeczy (R1346)	Partly cloudy, warm	Soil is dry and friable, screens well
June 2, 2025	Brian Horeczy (R1346)	Sunny, warm	Soil is dry and friable, screens well
June 3, 2025	Brian Horeczy (R1346)	Sunny, hot	Soil is dry and friable, screens well
June 4, 2025	Brian Horeczy (R1346)	Cloudy, warm	Soil is dry and friable, screens well
June 5, 2025	Brian Horeczy (R1346)	Overcast, warm	Soil is dry and friable, screens well
June 6, 2025	Brian Horeczy (R1346)	Cloudy, warm	Soil is dry and friable, screens well

Approximately 88.4% (38.48 ha) of the study area was comprised of wooded lots and scrubland that was not accessible for ploughing, and subject to test pit survey (Photo 1 to Photo 5). The test pit survey was conducted at a five-metre interval in accordance with Section 2.1.2 of the MCM's 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (Government of Ontario 2011). While occasional exposed bedrock was encountered, a five-metre interval was maintained across the study area. Each test pit was at least 30 centimetres in diameter and hand excavated by shovel and trowel. Test pits were excavated at least five centimetres into the subsoil where possible. Soil from all test pits was screened through a six-millimetre hardware mesh to facilitate the identification and recovery of archaeological resources. Test pits were examined for stratigraphy, cultural features, and evidence of fill. All test pits were backfilled.



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Approximately 3.7% (1.62 ha) was comprised of exposed bedrock (Photo 6). While not ploughed, this area was subject to pedestrian survey at five-metre intervals, to visually assess the exposed surface of the bedrock, to identify any archaeological resources (e.g., artifacts, pictographs, petroglyphs).

The remaining area, approximately 7.9% (3.46 ha), was identified as permanently low and wet (Photo 7 and Photo 8). While these areas were not surveyed, they were photographically documented to confirm that physical features affected the ability to survey portions of the study area in accordance with Section 7.8.6 Standard 1.b of the MCM's 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (Government of Ontario 2011).



### **3 Record of Finds**

An inventory of the documentary record generated by fieldwork is provided in Table 4 below.

**Table 4 Inventory of Documentary Record**

<b>Document Type</b>	<b>Inventory</b>	<b>Location</b>
Field notes	18 pages of field notes	Stored digitally on Stantec's network servers
Field maps	One digital map	Stored digitally on Stantec's network servers
Photographs	79 digital photographs	Stored digitally on Stantec's network servers

No archaeological resources were identified within the study area during the Stage 2 archaeological assessment, and no material culture was recovered. Consequently, no artifact collection or storage arrangements were required.



## **4 Analysis and Conclusions**

The Client retained Stantec to undertake a Stage 1-2 archaeological assessment in support of a proposed quarry at 6059 Pearl Carricks Road in the Township of Ramara, Simcoe County, Ontario. The Project is in part of Lots 9 and 10, Concession C, Geographic Township of Rama, formerly Ontario County. The study area encompasses approximately 43.55 hectares and includes a mix of woodlot, unevaluated wetlands, pastureland, and exposed bedrock.

The Stage 1 archaeological assessment determined that the study area had archaeological potential to support the Stage 2 archaeological assessment. No archaeological resources were identified within the study area during the Stage 2 archaeological assessment, and no material culture was recovered.



## **5 Recommendations**

Based on the findings presented in this report, Stantec recommends:

1. No further archaeological assessment for the study area.

The MCM is asked to review the results presented and accept this report into the *Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports*.



## **6 Advice on Compliance with Legislation**

*In accordance with Section 7.5.9 of the MCM's 2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (Government of Ontario 2011), the following standard statements are a required component of archaeological reporting and are provided from the MCM's 2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (Government of Ontario 2011).*

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 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 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.

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 Public and Business Service Delivery and Procurement.

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.



## 7 Bibliography

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Proposed Ramara Quarry  
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August 14, 2025**

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## 8 Images

### 8.1 Photos

**Photo 1** Test pit survey at five-metre intervals, facing west



**Photo 2** Test pit survey at five-metre intervals, facing southeast



**Photo 3** Test pit survey at five-metre intervals, facing north



**Photo 4** Test pit survey at five-metre intervals, facing southeast



**Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment:  
Proposed Ramara Quarry  
Images**  
August 14, 2025

**Photo 5** Test pit survey at five-metre intervals, facing northwest



**Photo 6** Visual examination of exposed bedrock at five-metre intervals, facing northeast



**Photo 7** Low and wet, facing south-southwest



**Photo 8** Low and wet, facing northeast



## **9 Maps**

Maps detailing the Stage 1-2 archaeological assessment of the study area are on the following pages.

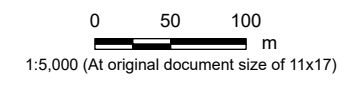






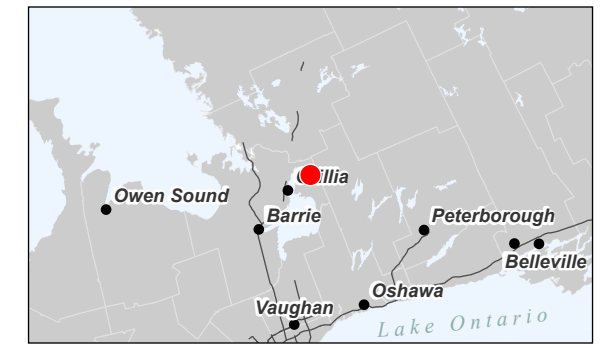
Legend

- Study Area
- Watercourse (Permanent)



Notes

1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N
2. Contains information licensed under the Open Government Licence – Ontario, and the Open Government Licence - Canada, accessed 2025.
3. Orthoimagery provided by Maxar.



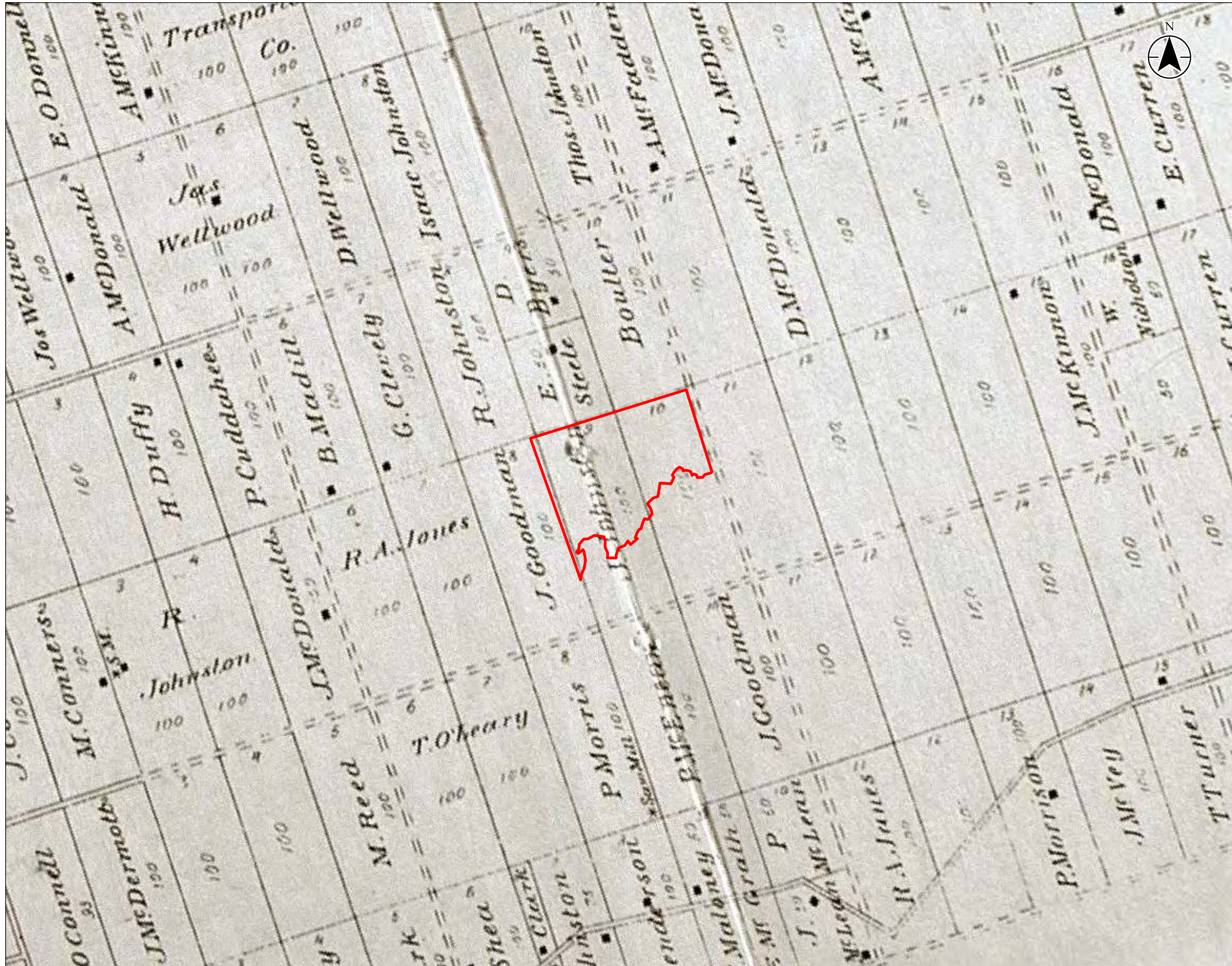
Project Location: Orillia, Ontario  
 Prepared by: pyelamolou on 2025-06-20  
 Technical Review by: JWH on 2025-06-20

Client/Project: STAGE 1-2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT: PROPOSED RAMARA QUARRY

Figure No. 2

Title: Study Area

\\ca0004-ppfs01\work\_group\01609\active\16094\1071\03\_data\gis\maps\archaeology\report\_figures\16094\1071\_s1\_2\_fig02\_StudyArea (orthophoto) Revised on 6/20/2025 4:38 AM by pyelamolou



Legend  
Study Area (Approximate)

NOT TO SCALE

Notes  
1. Reference: Beers, J. H. & Co. 1877. Illustrated historical atlas of the county of Ontario, Ontario. Toronto: J. H. Beers & Co.

Project Location 160941071 REVA  
Orilla, Ontario Prepared by PY on 2025-06-20  
Technical Review by JWH on 2025-06-20

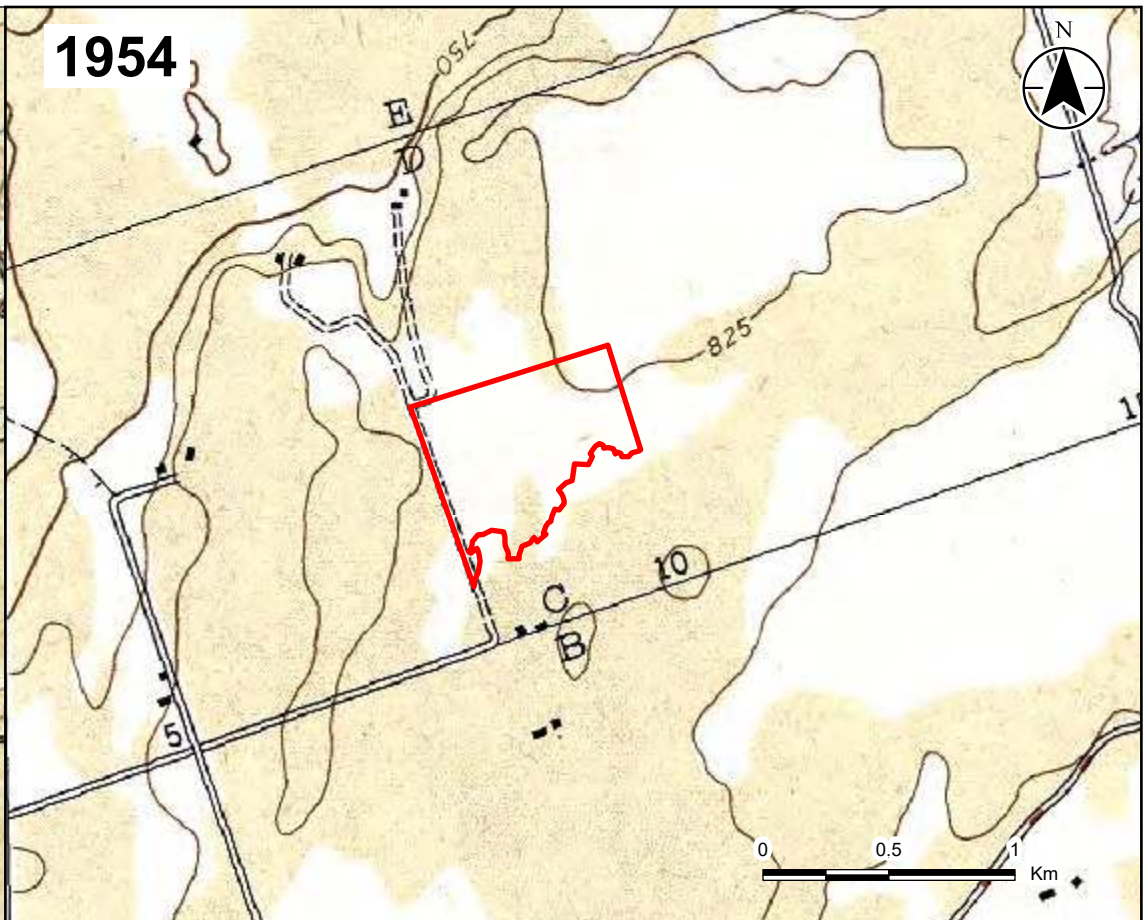
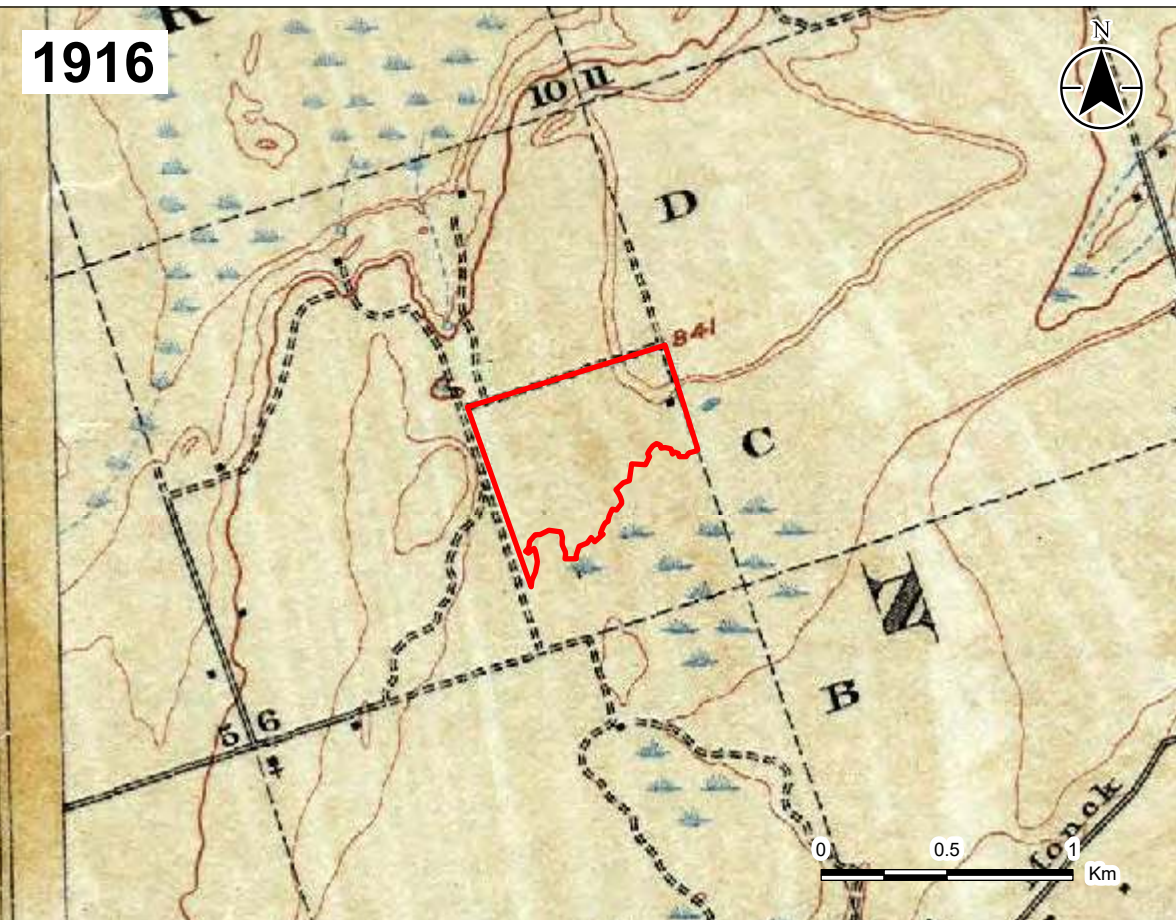
Client/Project  
STAGE 1-2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT:  
PROPOSED RAMARA QUARRY

Figure No.  
3

Title  
Portion of the 1877 Map of Rama  
Township

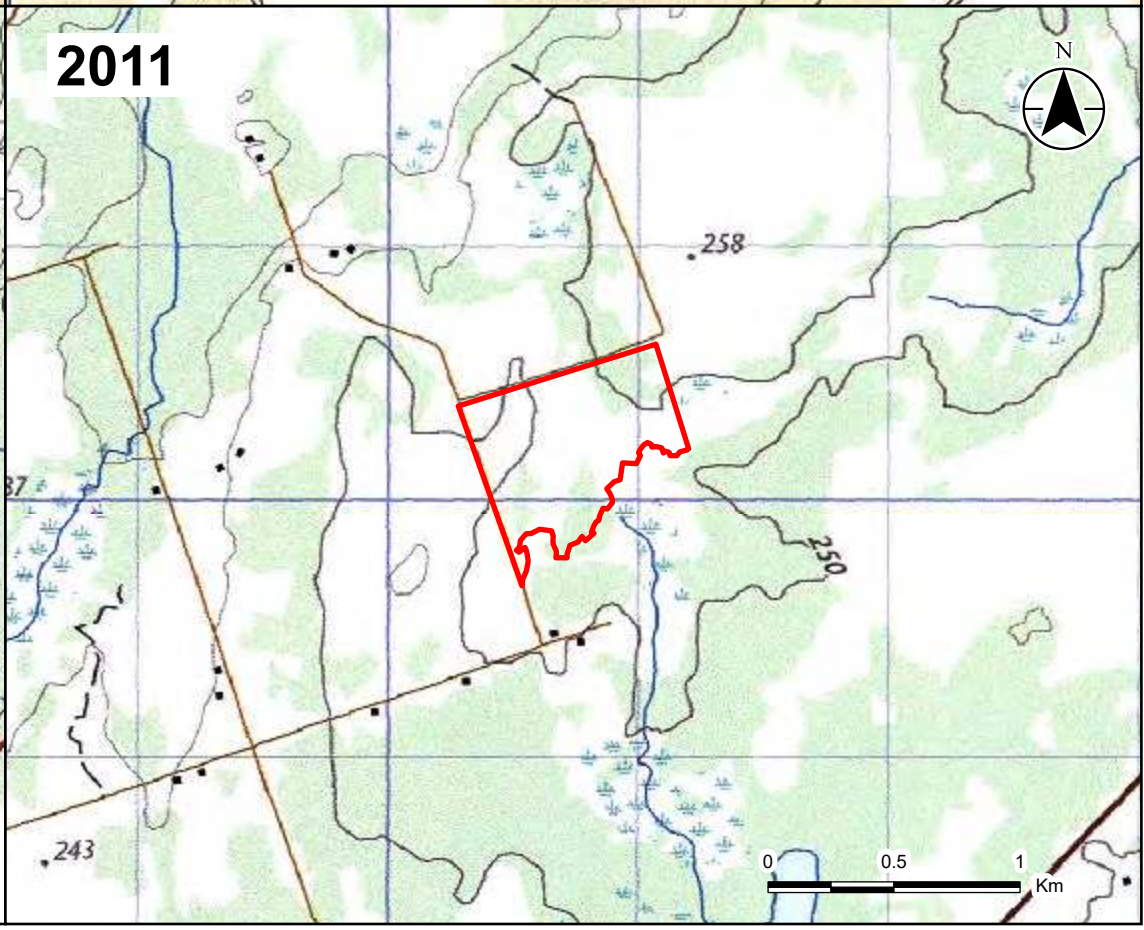
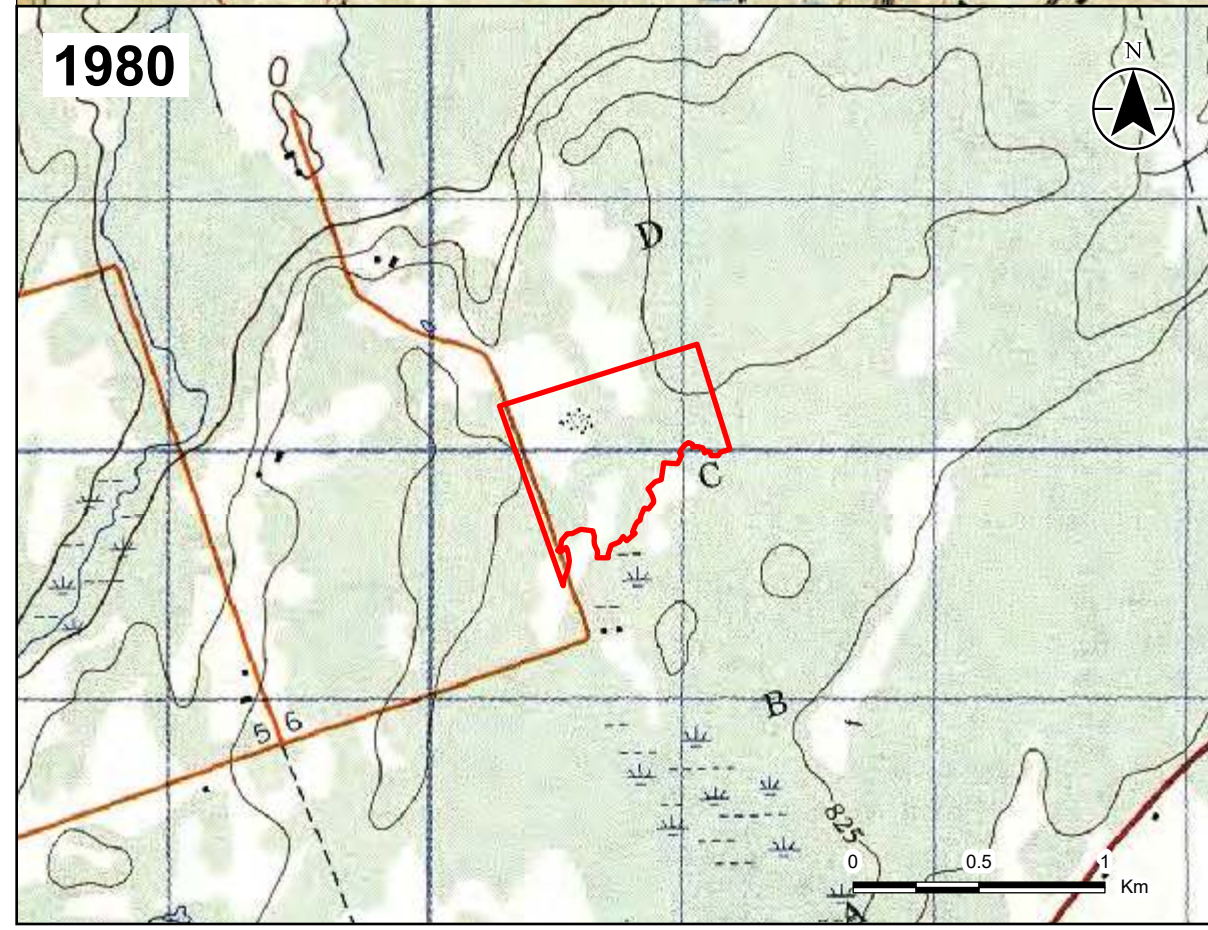
1916

1954



1980

2011



Legend  
 Study Area (Approximate)

- Notes**
1. Reference: Department of Militia and Defence. 1916. Brechin (East), Ontario. 1:63,360, Map Sheet 031D11, [ed.1], 1916. Ottawa: Survey Division, Department of Militia and Defence.
  2. Reference: Natural Resources Canada. 1954. Orillia (East), Ontario. 1:50,000, Map Sheet 031D11, ed. 2, 1954. Ottawa: Natural Resources Canada.
  3. Reference: Natural Resources Canada. 1980. Orillia, Ontario. 1:50,000, Map Sheet 031D11, ed. 4, 1980. Ottawa: Natural Resources Canada.
  4. Reference: Natural Resources Canada. 2011. Orillia, Ontario. 1:50,000, Map Sheet 031D11, ed. 7, 2011. Ottawa: Natural Resources Canada.

Project Location: Orillia, Ontario  
 160941071 REVA  
 Prepared by PY on 2025-06-20  
 Technical Review by JWH on 2025-06-20

Client/Project: STAGE 1-2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT: PROPOSED RAMARA QUARRY

Figure No. 4

Title: Topographic Mapping

1978



1997



2002



2024



Legend

Study Area (Approximate)

NOT TO SCALE

Notes  
1. Reference: <https://opengis.simcoe.ca/>

Using imagery from 1978, 1997, 2002, and 2024

Project Location: Orilla, Ontario  
160941071 REVA  
Prepared by PY on 2025-06-20  
Technical Review by JWH on 2025-06-20

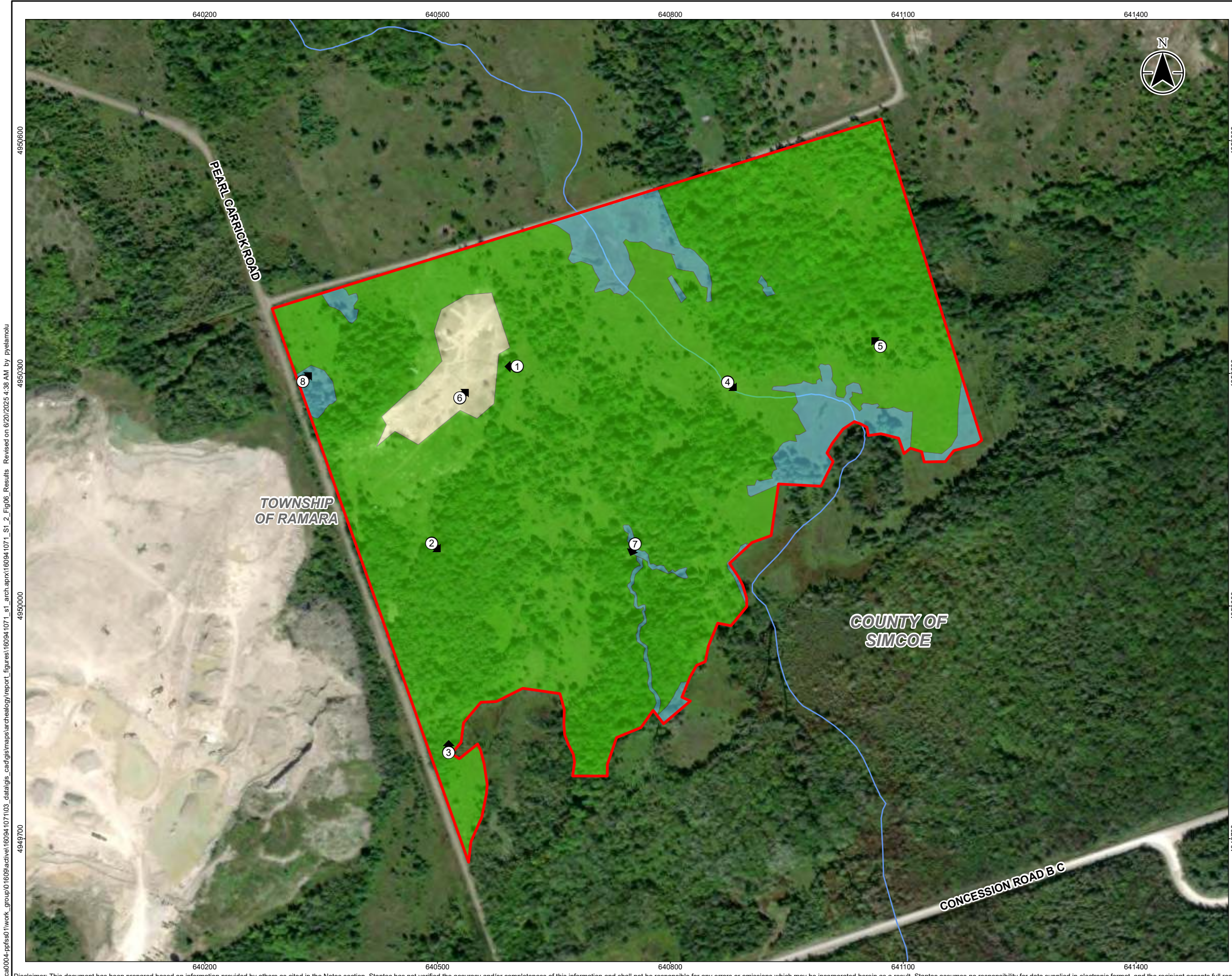
Client/Project: STAGE 1-2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT: PROPOSED RAMARA QUARRY

Figure No.

5

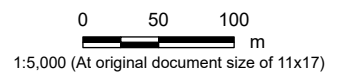
Title

Aerial Photographs



Legend

- Study Area
- Photo Location and Direction
- Low and Permanently Wet Area - No or Low Archaeological Potential - No Further Archaeological Assessment Recommended
- Pedestrian Surveyed, 5 m Intervals - No Further Archaeological Assessment Recommended
- Test Pit Surveyed, 5 m Intervals - No Further Archaeological Assessment Recommended
- Watercourse (Permanent)



- Notes**
1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N
  2. Contains information licensed under the Open Government Licence – Ontario, and the Open Government Licence - Canada, accessed 2025.
  3. Orthoimagery provided by Maxar. (accessed on 2025-06-11)

Project Location: Orilla, Ontario  
 Prepared by pyelamolou on 2025-06-20  
 Technical Review by JWH on 2025-06-20

Client/Project: STAGE 1-2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT: PROPOSED RAMARA QUARRY

Figure No. **6**

Title: **Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment Methods and Results**

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