Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment

Original Report

2105 Headon Road

Part of Lot 17, Registered Plan 242, Part of Lot 12, Concession 1 S of Dundas St, (Former Township of Nelson, County of Halton), City of Burlington, Regional Municipality of Halton

Project Information

Archaeological License: P1024 (Sarah MacKinnon MSc.)
MCM PIF#: P1024-0343-2025
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Development Project Designation #: N/A

May 22nd, 2025

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

New Era Archaeology Inc. was contracted to complete the Stage 1-2 archaeological assessment of 2105 Headon Road, Part of Lot 17, Registered Plan 242, Part of Lot 12, Concession 1 S of Dundas St, (Former Township of Nelson, County of Halton), City of Burlington, Regional Municipality of Halton. Permission was given to access the property to conduct all required archaeological fieldwork activities, including the recovery of artifacts. The study was conducted under Professional Archaeological License P1024 issued by the Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (Ontario) to Sarah MacKinnon. The Stage 1-2 archaeological assessment was undertaken as a requirement under Ontario Regulation 544/06 under the Planning Act (RSO 1990) in support of a development plan application. This report describes the Stage 1-2 archaeological assessment and results of the assessment and confirms that all the work conducted as part of this assessment conforms to the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (S&Gs) (MCM 2011) and the *Ontario Heritage Act* (MCL 2005).

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

The Stage 1 archaeological assessment involved the review of historical records, historic maps, local knowledge, current aerials and project area inspection to confirm the current conditions of the project area. Both historic and current resources are consulted to identify areas of archaeological potential and previous activities conducted within the project area, which have removed potential. This information, together with a site visit, is used to determine if the project area has archaeological potential, note areas of no potential, and recommend appropriate Stage 2 strategies for areas of archaeological potential. The current conditions of the project area were confirmed during the site visit on April 15th, 2025.

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

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

The Stage 2 test pit survey was completed on April 15th, 2025, across the project area. As a result of the Stage 2 archaeological assessment no archaeological resources were encountered; consequently, it is recommended that no further archaeological assessment is required.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY **2**

1.0 PROJECT CONTEXT **6**
1.1 DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT 6
1.2 HISTORICAL CONTEXT 6
1.2.1 General Indigenous Overview *6*
1.2.2 Southern Ontario *8*
1.2.3 County of Halton *10*
1.2.4 Nelson Township *10*
1.2.5 Historical Mapping *12*
1.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT 13
1.3.1 Previously Registered Sites *13*
1.3.2 Current Land Use and Field Conditions *13*
1.3.3 Natural Environment *14*
1.3.4 Heritage Registry *14*
1.3.5 Plaques *14*

2.0 FIELD METHODS **15**
2.1 PROPERTY INSPECTION 15
2.2 TEST PIT SURVEY 15

3.0 RECORDS OF FINDS **16**
3.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES 16
3.2 DOCUMENTARY RECORD INVENTORY 16

4.0 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS **16**
4.1 STAGE 1 BACKGROUND RESULTS 16
4.2 STAGE 2 SURVEY RESULTS 17

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS **17**

6.0 ADVICE ON COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION **18**

7.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY **19**

8.0 MAPS **21**

9.0 PLATES **24**

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: General Indigenous History Throughout Ontario 6
Table 2: Historic Features within Proximity to Project Area Locations 13
Table 3: Documentary Record Inventory 16
Table 4: Summary of the Stage 1 Results 17

LIST OF MAPS

Map 1: Location of Project Area 21
Map 2: Historic Map Illustrating the Environment Surrounding the Project Area in 1858 21
Map 3: Historic Map Illustrating the Environment Surrounding the Project Area in 1877 22
Map 4: 1909 Topographic Map Illustrating the Environment Surrounding the Project Area 22
Map 5: Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment 23
Map 6: Concept Plan 23

LIST OF PLATES

Plate 1: Test Pit Survey Conditions; Existing Structures 24
Plate 2: Test Pit Survey Conditions 24
Plate 3: Disturbed Gravel Lane 24
Plate 4: Test Pit Survey Conditions 24
Plate 5: Test Pit Survey Conditions; Existing Structure 24
Plate 6: Disturbed Gravel Lane 24
Plate 7: Steep Slope 25
Plate 8: Test Pit Survey Conditions 25

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1.0 PROJECT CONTEXT

1.1 DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT

New Era Archaeology Inc. was contracted to complete the Stage 1-2 archaeological assessment of 2105 Headon Road, Part of Lot 17, Registered Plan 242, Part of Lot 12, Concession 1 S of Dundas St, (Former Township of Nelson, County of Halton), City of Burlington, Regional Municipality of Halton. Permission was given to access the property to conduct all required archaeological fieldwork activities, including the recovery of artifacts. The study was conducted under Professional Archaeological License P1024 issued by the Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (Ontario) to Sarah MacKinnon. The Stage 1-2 archaeological assessment was undertaken as a requirement under Ontario Regulation 544/06 under the Planning Act (RSO 1990) in support of a development plan application. This report describes the Stage 1-2 archaeological assessment and results of the assessment and confirms that all the work conducted as part of this assessment conforms to the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (S&Gs) (MCM 2011) and the *Ontario Heritage Act* (MCL 2005).
The proposed development includes a single row of 3-story townhouses accessed by a single lane with associated landscaping and infrastructure.

1.2 HISTORICAL CONTEXT

1.2.1 General Indigenous Overview

Table 1: General Indigenous History Throughout Ontario

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

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

1.2.2 Southern Ontario

As the glaciers that covered southern Ontario began to retreat approximately 12,500 years ago, the area began to become habitable for the Paleo-Indian hunting bands arriving between 11,000 and 10,500 years ago, finding large meltwater lakes formed in the wake of the retreat. The lakes were accompanied by relatively barren tundra interspersed with areas of open boreal forest. The Paleo-Indian hunters focused on the large Pleistocene mammals, including mastodon, moose, elk, and especially herds of caribou that roamed the area after following the retreating glacier. Following the herds of animals, the Paleo-Indian groups travelled long distances and seldom stayed in one campsite for a significant length of time, leaving behind little material culture. Stone tools and by-products of their flaked stone industry are virtually all that remains. They manufactured large distinctive spear points that have a prominent channel or groove on each face. Campsites from this period are frequently found adjacent to remnant shorelines of large post-glacial lakes, indicating that camping sites were set up along the shores of lakes to intercept migrating herds. The water levels of the Lake Ontario basin fell in the early post-glacial period and subsequently rose again to modern levels, resulting in these campsites now being situated more than a kilometer into the lake (Ellis and Deller 1990).

The Archaic Period (7,000 B.C – 1,000 B.C) saw a mixed needle and broadleaf forest cover established in Ontario, and nomadic hunter-gatherers hunted deer, moose, as well as other animals, fished and gathered plant resources while moving relatively large distances over the landscape during the year. From the archaeological record, the technological and cultural change can be identified by a wide variety of tools produced, which resulted in shifts in hunting strategies to adjust to a constantly evolving environment. During the Late Archaic period, hunter-gatherer bands most likely settled into familiar hunting territories. Two types of sites evolved as a result of their hunting patterns, the small inland camps that were occupied by small groups of related families during the fall and winter where they could harvest nuts and hunt deer, and the larger spring and summer settlements that were located near river mouths where groups came together to trade, exploit spawning fish resources and to bury their dead. Many of the ground stone tools have both social and symbolic functions; they had a day-to-day use, but their inclusion in burials ascribes to them a sacred intent (Ellis and Deller 1990).

The Woodland Period (1,000 B.C – 1600 A.D.) is distinguished from the previous Archaic period with respect to settlement patterns and subsistence pursuits and is most specifically marked by the introduction of ceramics into Ontario. Though the appearance of these ceramics provides a temporal marker for archaeologists, their use does not seem to have profoundly changed the hunter-gatherer lifestyle of the previous period. The Iroquoian society flourished in the southern Great Lakes region in the Late Woodland Period. Increasingly sophisticated burial ceremonies and an increase in the trade of exotic items. As the population increased, so did the competition for resources. Trade with communities living south of the Great Lakes introduced maize and squash, creating a transition to food production that then reduced reliance on naturally occurring resources and led to less movement as people tended to their crops. As sites were more intensively occupied, the need for a greater degree of internal spatial organization came about, which can be seen in the archaeological record (Ellis and Deller 1990). The ancestors of the Neutral, Huron, and Petun resided along the central north shore of Lake Ontario, and the ancestral Iroquoians became the Five Nation Iroquois (Seneca, Cayuga, Onondaga, Oneida, and Mohawk) occupied the area south of Lake Ontario in what is now central New York State. Though there were most likely interactions between these Iroquoian-speaking groups, it was not until the mid to late 17th century that the Five Nation Iroquois inhabited the Toronto area. The focus on agricultural practices led to a more sedentary lifestyle, with larger communities coming together and forming alliances with separate villages. Some villages were fortified with palisade walls with land cleared around them for crops. By the time European explorers and missionaries arrived in Ontario at the beginning of the 17th century, the villages were under the direction of various chiefs elected from the principal clans and subsequently allied within powerful tribal confederacies (Ellis and Deller 1990).

By 1600, most of the Lake Ontario north shore communities had moved northward, joining communities in Simcoe County to form the Petun and Huron. Though the movement of these communities took place over many

generations, the conflict with the Five Nations Iroquois of New York State was the final impetus. The collapse and dispersal of the three Ontario Iroquoian confederacies (the Huron, the Petun, and the Neutral) during the first half of the 17th century was caused by intertribal warfare with the Five Nations Iroquois, in addition to disease and starvation (Ellis and Deller 1990).

Early explorers and missionaries, including Samuel de Champlain, who arrived in 1615, documented the First Nations they encountered on their journeys. Samuel de Champlain spent a fair bit of his time living and travelling with the Huron-Wendat, who were occupying villages within Simcoe County at that time but also noted other groups, including one occupying the area between the Huron-Wendat and the Five Nations and noticing their neutrality, leading to them being referred to as the Neutral. Like other First Nations, the Neutral occupied larger villages and practiced agriculture. Subsequently, the French continued to visit and trade with the Neutral, and 1626 marked the first documented visit among the Neutral by Joseph de la Roche Daillon, a Recollect missionary (Ellis and Deller 1990, Lennon and Fitzgerald 1990).

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

Pressure was exerted on the Ojibwa by the Five Nations Iroquois through the establishment of villages along major trade routes (Thwaites 1896). Although the population of the Ojibwa had also suffered losses from starvation, disease and hostilities, they were able to unite and push the Five Nation Iroquois out during the late 17th century (Rogers 1978). Peace negotiations were held in August 1701 in Montreal, where representatives of the Anishinaabek Nations and the Five Nations Iroquois gathered (Johnston 2004).

Additionally, increased interactions between Europeans and Indigenous groups during the expansion of the fur trade led to an increase in intermarriages between the two and the Metis culture was established. Metis communities were established throughout Ontario along major waterways.

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

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

The project area is located within the 1805 Treaty No. 13 lands. Treaty No. 13 forms part of the Toronto Purchase made with the Mississauga Nation. The original Toronto Purchase Treaty was signed in 1787 and later amended in 1805.

1.2.3 County of Halton

Halton County is oblong, measuring approximately twenty-four miles by fifteen miles. It is bound on the east by the County of Peel, on the North by Wellington County, on the west by Wentworth County and on the south by Lake Ontario. Running almost from south to north in the western part of the County is a range of the Burlington mountains. Halton is well watered with three major waterways, including the Credit River, Twelve-mile Creek and Sixteen-mile Creek, all of which provided suitable sites for mills and manufactories along their banks. The soil throughout the County was good for farming and raising livestock. Fruit and berry farms become prevalent in the County (Walker & Miles 1877).

Halton was originally part of the Home District, and under the Home District umbrella, Halton, together with Wentworth County, comprised the Gore District. Wentworth was comprised of eight townships, including Ancaster, Barton, Binbrook, Brantford, Glanford, Onondaga, Tuscarora and Saltfleet. Halton was comprised of nine townships, including Beverley, Dumfries, Esquesing, Flamboro West, Flamboro East, Nassagaweya, Nelson and Trafalgar. The District was first settled ca. 1783, and by 1817 there were 6,684 inhabitants, four places of worship, forty-one sawmills, eighteen grist mills and three medical practitioners. The first settlers were almost exclusively U.E. Loyalists. As new municipalities were established, the boundary of Halton changed, and after separating from Wentworth County in 1853, Halton only had four townships, including Equesing, Trafalgar, Nelson and Nassagaweya (Walker & Miles 1877).

The first County Council meeting was held in the Village of Milton in July 1853 at Thompson's Inn. By 1857, the municipalities of the Town of Milton and the Town of Oakville were added, and they sent their own representatives to the County Council meetings. Beginning in 1865, the Village of Georgetown sent representatives and starting in 1874, the Villages of Burlington and Acton also sent representatives (Walker & Miles 1877).

Halton was fortunate to have four different railways open throughout the County, including the Grand Trunk Railway, the Great Western Railway, the Hamilton and North-Western Railway and the Credit Valley Railway. The railway was a major boost to the market centers and the economy of the County's increasing growth. The railway also kickstarted the tourism industry, bringing people even for the day to enjoy a relaxing day away from the big city. People and families from as far as Texas came to escape the hot summers (Walker & Miles 1877).

1.2.4 Nelson Township

Nelson Township is located in the southwest corner of the County and is rectangular in shape. Due in part to its location, it was the earliest settled part of the County. The first family said to have settled in Nelson Township was the Bates, noted to have settled in 1800. They were followed by the Davis, Shant and Hern families. Settlement was slow until 1807, when there was an influx of settlers and by 1817, about 476 inhabitants were residing in 68 homes. Five mills had been established by this time, including 2 grist and 3 sawmills (Walker & Miles 1877).

After holding services in family homes and barns, the first church, a Presbyterian church, was built in 1822, followed soon after by the first Methodist church. The Methodist church was built where the Nelson Village would soon grow. Sent by the Irish Church Mission Society in 1832, Rev. Thomas Green finally had an Episcopalian

church built in 1835 at Port Nelson. This church is thought to be the first Episcopalian church built in the County (Walker & Miles 1877).

Twelve-Mile Creek flows through the Township and attracted many settlers to its banks. Several lumber mills, grist mills as well as factories were established along the Creek. Nelson Township was once timbered with numerous pine forests, which were decimated by the lumber industry.

Many manufacturers and factories set up business in the Township, including the Canada Powder Company in the little Village of Dakota. The company was located on Twelve-Mile Creek and was run by Mr. E. Corlett. It grew into a large, successful business. The Canada Powder Company produced gunpowder and charcoal, among other things and shipped them all over. The Township also included furniture, wagon, carriage, wire and agricultural implement factories (Walker & Miles 1877).

Nelson Township is also thought to have the second-largest swing bridge in America as of 1877.. Built by the Hamilton Tool Co. in the Trapezoidal Truss style, the bridge spans 172 feet over the Burlington Canal. The bridge could be easily seen by tourists staying at the Brant House (Walker & Miles 1877).

Several villages have grown up throughout the Township, including Burlington, Nelson, Zimmerman, Lowville, Cumminsville and Kilbride. Some of which flourished more than others. By 1871, the population of Cumminsville and Kileride had only reached 200. The size and proximity of these two villages enabled them to share a school. The Village of Zimmerman, named after its founder, H.P. Zimmerman, Esq., who had established a grist mill at this location along Twelve-Mile Creek, had a population of about 100 by 1871 (Walker & Miles 1877).

The Village of Lowville, located along Twelve-Mile Creek, had a population of about 150 by 1871. A manufacturer of agricultural implements was established here, which manufactured large quantities of implements. The grist mill also did good business here, taking advantage of the Creek by running three stones and selling flour locally as well as shipping it out. The Village also had two churches, a school, a Temperance lodge, a foundry, a general store, a hotel, a harness shop, a shoe store, a post and telegraph office as well as manufacturers of carriages, wagons, and furniture (Walker & Miles 1877).

The Village of Nelson is situated along Dundas Street at almost equal distance between Hamilton and Milton. The Village benefited from its location along Dundas Street and did a fair business in trade. The Village had a public hall, brick schoolhouse, drill shed, hotel, two sawmills, a general store, telegraph office, three churches, a wagon manufacturer and a harness shop. The name of the Village was changed from Hannahsville when the post office was opened. Unfortunately, the Hamilton and North Western Railway station is located two miles away, therefore, the Village did not benefit from the railway as much as other villages which had a station (Walker & Miles 1877).

The largest village in the Township was the Village of Burlington. The Village of Burlington was formed with the passing of the joint petition for incorporation of Port Nelson and Wellington Square in 1873. Burlington is ideally located on the banks of Lake Ontario in a section of the Township known as Brant's Block. Col. Joseph Brant received a large land grant in 1778 for his service and loyalty to the Crown. In 1810, James Gage purchased 338.5 acres of the grant land from Augustus Jones and Catherine Brant, trustees of Joseph Brant's will. Gages described the 338.5 acres as being in the northeast corner of the Brant Military Tract. Gage established Wellington Square on a portion of the land he purchased. The Village got its name from its general square shape and after the Duke of Wellington. The Village flourished early. Gage established a large steam and flour mill with a wharf and warehouse, making the Village a large grain market center. A large chunk of the Village, including the mill and wharf, but excluding some Town Lots sold previously, was purchased by Messrs Torrance & Co., merchants from Montreal. Being well-established merchants, they increased the grain business, making Wellington Square one of the biggest grain markets in the province. At times, the number of shipments out of Wellington Square even overshadowed

those of Hamilton. Their business started to decline with the opening of the railway after the Crimean War. The lumber industry, however, took off (Walker & Miles 1877).

The Village of Burlington benefited from both the Hamilton & North Western and Great Western railways having stations in the Village. This meant that products could be shipped in all directions. Although ideally located for shipping by land and water, there weren't as many manufacturers early on. The Village had a wagon and carriage factory which produced excellent products and the wireworks of Crooker Bros. & Co. Having invented and patented the wire they produced themselves, this was thought to be the only factory of its kind anywhere. They produced all kinds of different wirework, including turned baskets (Walker & Miles 1877).

The Village of Burlington also benefited from an influx of travellers coming to the market center and later as seasonal tourists escaping the hot City to the shores of Lake Ontario. Tourists stayed in one of the three large hotels, the Zimmerman House, the Burlington or the Lake View. A fourth hotel, the Brant House, was located in a suburb just outside the Village. The Brant House was a summer resort located on the banks of Brant's Pond. The building itself incorporated a portion of Joseph Brant's original log home, made of red cedars brought from the Thousand Isles and was thought to be the largest building in the County at one time. Travellers could come to the hotel by way of steamer or train. A wharf was built in front of the hotel, and steamers ran at all hours from Hamilton. A platform was also built along the Hamilton and North Western Railway, which ran only a few hundred feet from the hotel (Walker & Miles 1877).

The population of Burlington increased to about 1400 by 1871, but also had a couple of hundred more from an influx of seasonal visitors and railway employees working in the Village (Walker & Miles 1877). The Village continued to grow and attract new businesses and manufacturers.

1.2.5 Historical Mapping

1.2.5.1 Nineteenth Century

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

Tremaine's map (Map 2) of the Township of Nelson illustrates the location of the project area and environs as of 1858. The project area is located within the southern half of Lot 12, Concession 1 S of Dundas St to the southeast of the Village of Nelson. The Lot is noted to be owned by Gilbert Bastedo. A single structure is noted within the Lot, a Church, illustrated within the northwest corner. Two watercourses flow through Lot 12, one at either end. This map shows owners for the surrounding lots but does not include residential structures within the lots. The Village of Nelson extends along Dundas St, and a second Church is illustrated to the west of the Village.

Similarly, the 1877 (Map 3) historic atlas map illustrates the project area in a similar rural environment to the 1858 map. The 1877 map, however, includes more residential settlement structures. Settlement is concentrated along Dundas St, including within Lot 12. The Church, illustrated on the 1858 map as well as a house and orchard, are illustrated in the northern portion along Dundas St. The Village of Nelson has grown since 1858, expanding along

and slightly back from Dundas St. More watercourses are illustrated on this map, showing how well watered the area was, with several watercourses feeding into Lake Ontario. Tuck Creek is illustrated further east, flowing through the southern portion of the project area.

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

Table 2: Historic Features within Proximity to Project Area Locations

1860 Map Features	1878 Map Features	Historic Archaeological Potential
• None	• None	No

The project area is not located within close proximity of historic features, suggesting no potential for Euro-Canadian occupations within the project area.

1.2.5.2 Twentieth Century

National Topography Series (NTS) maps were consulted to provide more information on identified historic features on the nineteenth-century maps and provide additional information on the natural environment and development around the project area. The 1909 (Map 4) illustrates the project area in a similar rural environment to that of the nineteenth-century maps. The project area is located within a mixed wood forested area, surrounded by numerous watercourses. Settlement remains concentrated along Dundas St to the northwest of the project area. The survey provides more information on the topography and natural environment. Additional watercourses are included on this map, flowing down the sloping landscape into Lake Ontario.

1.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

1.3.1 Previously Registered Sites

According to the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism's Archaeological Site Database (ASD), there are two sites located within 1km of the project area, AiGw-201an Early Woodland findspot and the Tuck site (AiGw-123). Neither site is located within 300 meters of the project area. A search of the ASD resulted in the identification of no previous reports documenting archaeological fieldwork conducted within or adjacent to the project area.

1.3.2 Current Land Use and Field Conditions

The project area is approximately 0.4 hectares and consists of a wooded residential lot with a single house, garage, accessed by a gravel lane off Headon Road and two sheds. The project area is bounded on the northeast and southeast by woodlot, on the southwest by Headon Road and on the northwest by residential and CH Norton Public School. Map 5 illustrates the current land use.

1.3.3 Natural Environment

1.3.3.1 Physiographic Region

The project area is situated within the South Slope physiographic region. The South Slope is mainly the southern slope of the Oak Ridges Moraine, covering an approximate area of 940 square miles extending from the Niagara Escarpment to the Trent River. The South Slope descends in elevation from approximately 250-300 meters above sea level to approximately 120-180 meters above sea level, meeting the Iroquois Lake Plain. Varying sizes of drumlins are scattered throughout the region along with streams, which have cut through the region, some of which are being diverted by larger drumlins. The soil varies throughout the region, being sandier in the east and heavier clay in the west and includes soil excellent for agricultural use (Chapman and Putnam 1984).

The project area is located within a till plain with till surficial geology.

The project area sits above Tuck Creek, marked by an area of steep slope in the southeast corner of the project area.

1.3.3.2 Soil

The 1971 Ontario Soil Survey did not include Burlington due to the past development and land used and classified as “Urban Land” (Gillespie et al 1971).

1.3.3.3 Water Resources

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

Tuck Creek is located just south of the project area. Although not within close proximity the former Glacial shoreline of Lake Ontario is located approximately 2.5km southeast of the project area.

The proximity of water to the project area suggests the potential for Indigenous occupation and land use in the area in the past.

1.3.4 Heritage Registry

A search of the City of Burlington’s Heritage Registry did not identify any registered properties within or within 50 meters of the project area. A search of the Ontario Heritage Registry also concluded with the same results.

1.3.5 Plaques

As part of the background study, no plaques were identified within or within 50 meters of the project area.

2.0 FIELD METHODS

2.1 PROPERTY INSPECTION

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

The entire project area and its periphery were visually inspected systematically in accordance with *2011 S&G Section 1.2* during ideal weather and lighting conditions on April 15th, 2025. Previously identified features were observed and documented, and no additional features of archaeological potential were observed during the visual inspection. During the property inspection, features that will affect the Stage 2 assessment strategy were identified. The existing structures, gravel lane and steep slope will affect the systematic assessment methodology. The current conditions of the property were photographed and are illustrated on Map 5.

2.2 TEST PIT SURVEY

No portion of the project area was viable to be ploughed therefore, the project area was subject to Stage 2 test pit survey on April 15th, 2025, in accordance with *2011 S&G Section 2.1*. The test pit survey was completed at a five-meter interval and within one meter of all structures. The systematic test pit survey was not affected by the two smaller sheds located to the rear of the house and garage. All fieldwork activities were undertaken during ideal conditions under sunny skies.

All test pits measured 30cm in diameter and were excavated by hand into the first 5cm of subsoil and their profiles were examined for stratigraphy, cultural features, or fill before being filled back in to grade. All excavated soil was screened through mesh with an aperture no larger than six millimeters and examined for any artifacts. The soil throughout the project area was medium brown clay loam. The depth of the topsoil averaged 15cm deep throughout the project area. The shallower topsoil is typical of forested areas where there has been limited earthworks in the past.

Approximately 75% of the project area was subject to test pit survey at a five-meter interval, approximately 25% was not viable to assess due to the presence of existing structures, gravel lane or steep slope. Map 5 illustrates the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment results.

3.0 RECORDS OF FINDS

3.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

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

3.2 DOCUMENTARY RECORD INVENTORY

Table 3: Documentary Record Inventory

Type of Documentation	Description
Field Notes	1 digital file field notes describing the daily site activities, weather, personal
Maps	1 digital map showing the project activities
Photographs	13 digital photographs showing the current conditions encountered during the field work, crew and work, all types of activities undertaken as part of the field work, and all notable features
Weather	Ideal for archaeological assessment

4.0 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS

4.1 STAGE 1 BACKGROUND RESULTS

The *2011 S&G Section 1.3* outlines the features indicating archaeological potential and features which have removed archaeological potential. The features which indicate archaeological potential include:

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

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

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

Minor ground-altering activities such as gardening, landscaping and agricultural cultivation do not necessarily affect or remove archaeological potential. Major landscaping associated with the construction of the gravel lane and the existing house and garage was identified during the site visit.

Additionally, low-lying and wet areas and areas of steep slope do not retain archaeological potential as per the *2011 S&G Section 2.1* and do not require further assessment. An area of steep slope was identified during the site visit.

Table 4 provides a summary of the features within or within close proximity to the project area that indicate archaeological potential, features which have removed archaeological potential and features which do not retain archaeological potential. All of the other features indicating archaeological potential not included in the table are not located within close proximity.

Table 4: Summary of the Stage 1 Results

Features Indicating Archaeological Potential	Features Indicating Archaeological Potential Has been Removed	Features Not Retaining Archaeological Potential	Potential Remaining
Historic Potential • None **Indigenous Potential** • Water • Elevated topography above Tuck Creek	Major Landscaping: • Building footprint • Gravel lane	• Steep Slope	Indigenous

As a result of the Stage 1 archaeological assessment, the project area has been determined to have potential for Indigenous archaeological resources.

4.2 STAGE 2 SURVEY RESULTS

As a result of the Stage 2 archaeological assessment, no archaeological resources were encountered.

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

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

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

6.0 ADVICE ON COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION

a. This report is submitted to the Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism as a condition of licensing in accordance with Part VI of the *Ontario Heritage Act,* R.S.O. 1990, c 0.18. The report is reviewed to ensure that it complies with the standards and guidelines that are issued by the Minister, and that the archaeological fieldwork and report recommendations ensure the conservation, protection and preservation of the cultural heritage of Ontario. When all matters relating to archaeological sites within the project area of a development proposal have been addressed to the satisfaction of the Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, a letter will be issued by the ministry stating that there are no further concerns with regard to alterations to archaeological sites by the proposed development.

b. It is an offence under Sections 48 and 69 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* for any party other than a licensed archaeologist to make any alteration to a known archaeological site or to remove any artifact or other physical evidence of past human use or activity from the site, until such time as a licensed archaeologist has completed archaeological fieldwork on the site, submitted a report to the Minister stating that the site has no further cultural heritage value or interest, and the report has been filed in the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports referred to in Section 65.1 of the *Ontario Heritage Act.*

c. Should previously undocumented archaeological resources be discovered, they may be a new archaeological site and therefore subject to Section 48(1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act.* The proponent or person discovering the archaeological resources must cease alteration of the site immediately and engage a licensed consultant archaeologist to carry out archaeological fieldwork, in compliance with Section 48(1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act.*

d. The *Cemeteries Act,* R.S.O. 1990 c. C.4 and the *Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act,* 2002, S.O. 2002, c.33 (when proclaimed in force) require that any person discovering human remains must notify the police or coroner and the Registrar of Cemeteries at the Ministry of Consumer Services.

e. Archaeological sites recommended for further archaeological fieldwork or protection remain subject to Section 48 (1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act* and may not be altered, or have artifacts removed from them, except by a person holding an archaeological license.

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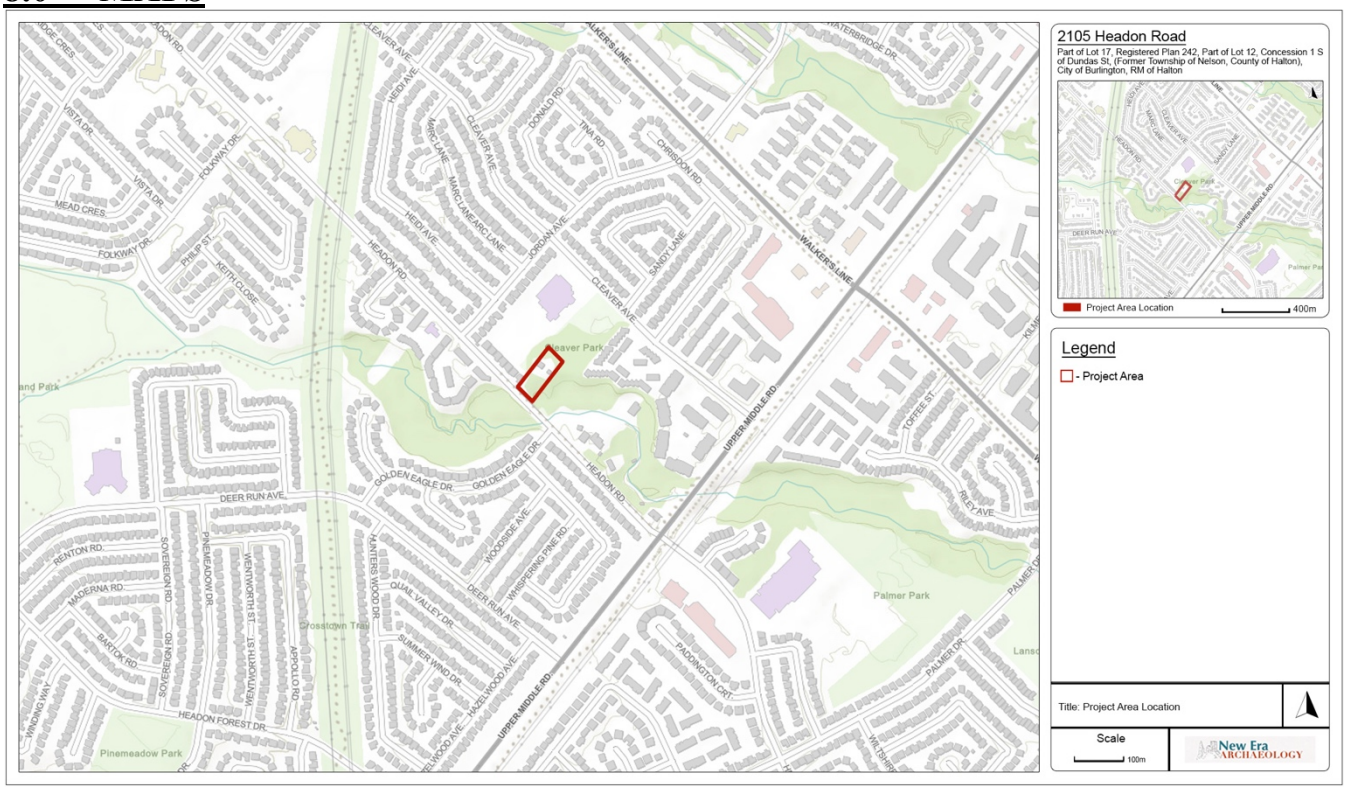
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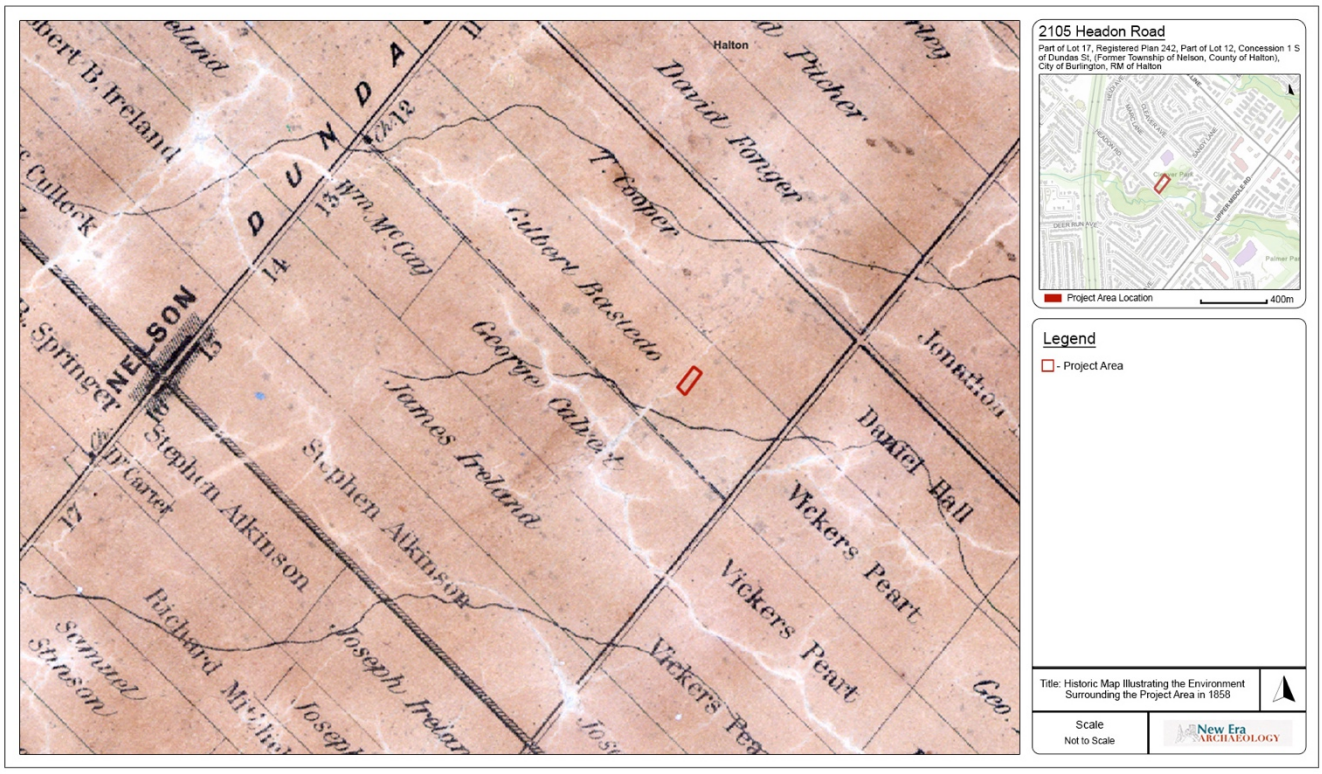
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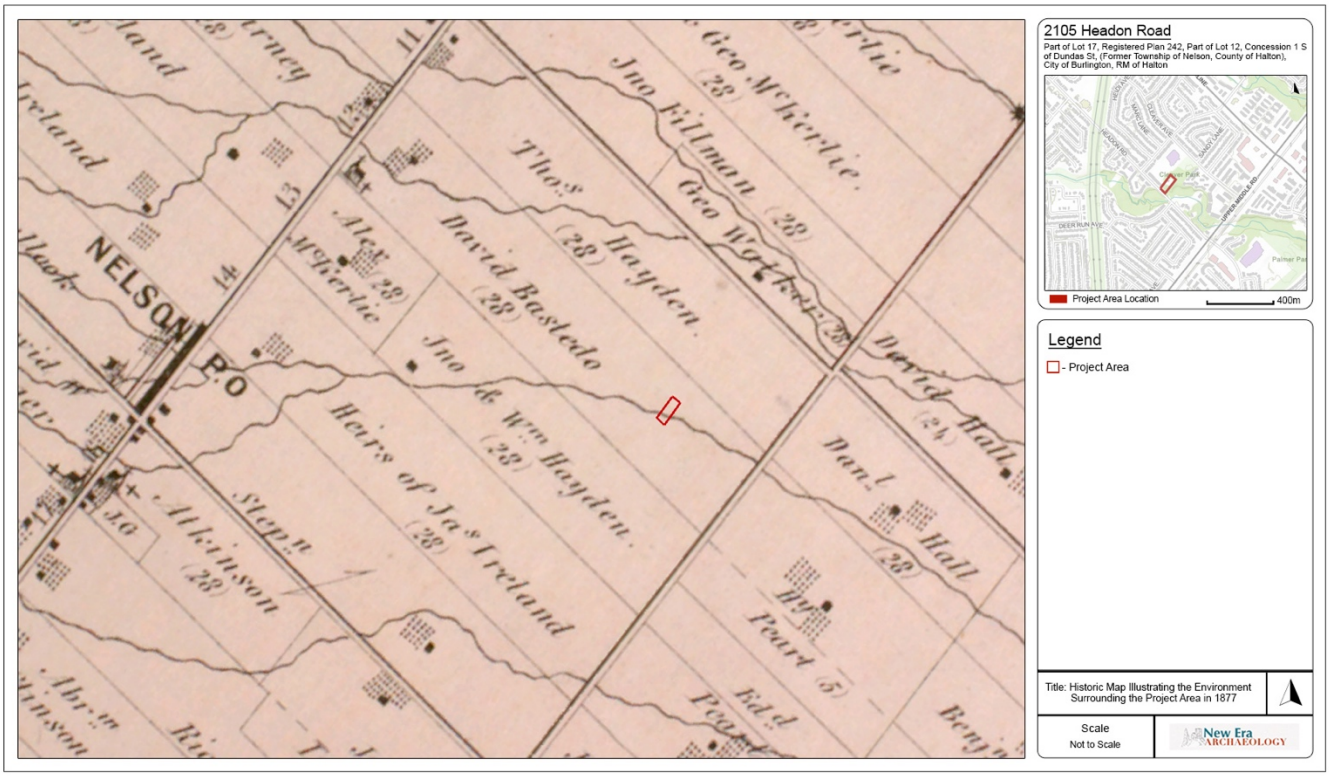
8.0 MAPS



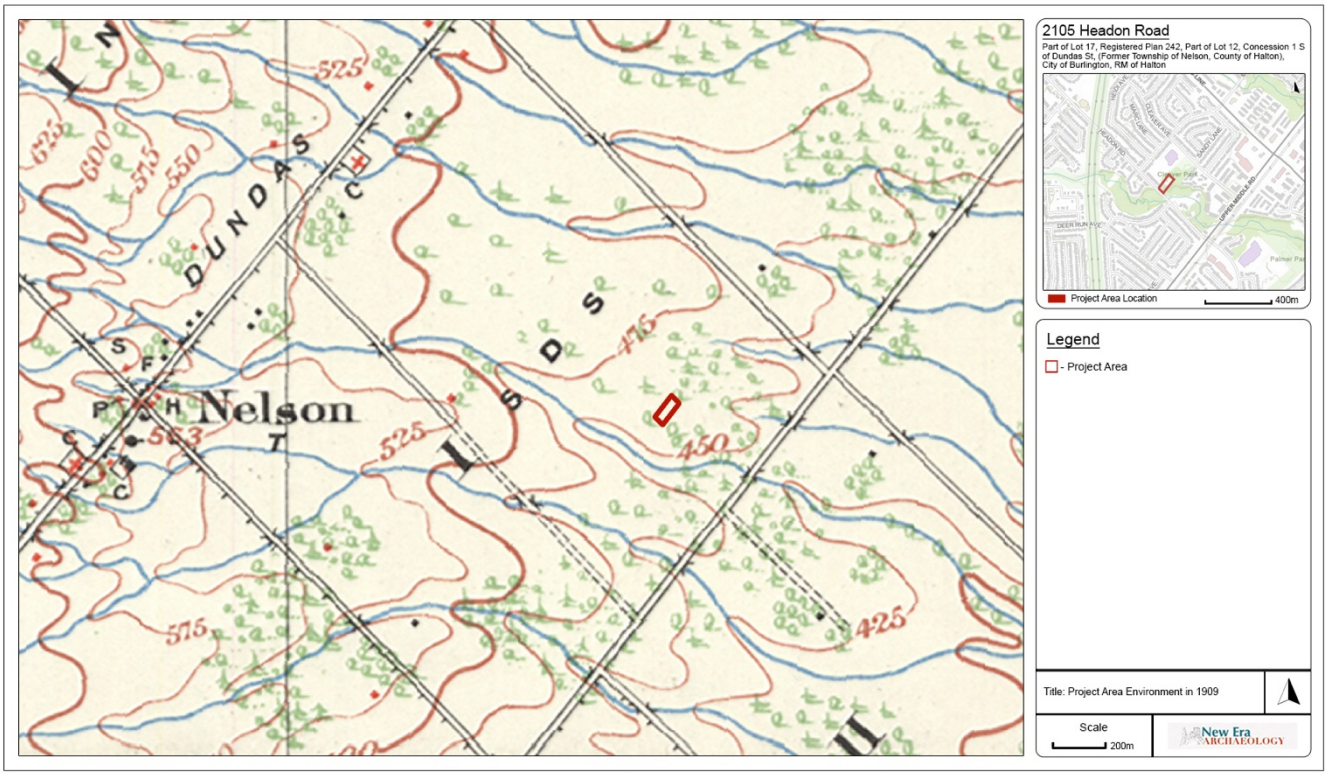
Map 1: Location of Project Area (City of Burlington)



Map 2: Historic Map Illustrating the Environment Surrounding the Project Area in 1858 (Tremain 1858)



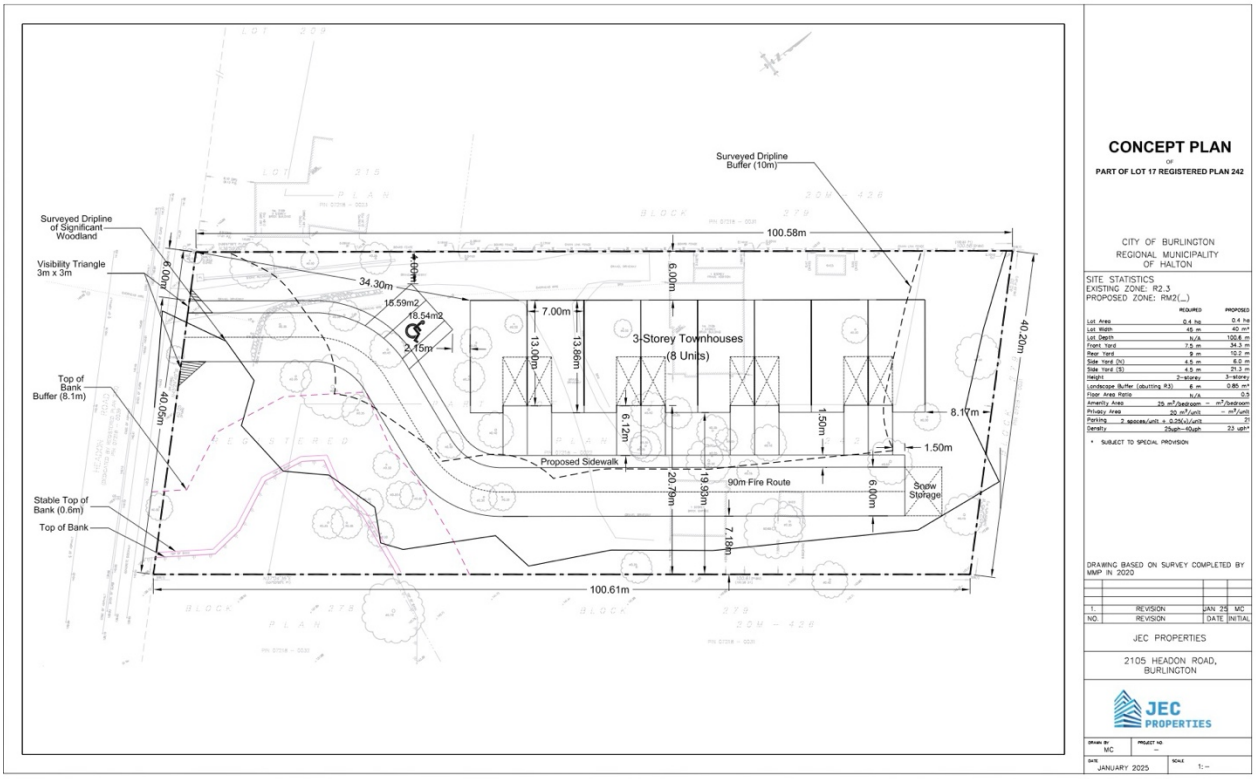
Map 3: Historic Map Illustrating the Environment Surrounding the Project Area in 1877 (Walker & Miles 1877)



Map 4: 1909 Topographic Map Illustrating the Environment Surrounding the Project Area (National Resources Canada)



Map 5: Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment (Base Map: City of Burlington)



Map 6: Concept Plan (JEC Properties 2025)

9.0 PLATES



Plate 1: Test Pit Survey Conditions; Existing Structures



Plate 2: Test Pit Survey Conditions



Plate 3: Disturbed Gravel Lane



Plate 4: Test Pit Survey Conditions



Plate 5: Test Pit Survey Conditions; Existing Structure



Plate 6: Disturbed Gravel Lane



Plate 7: Steep Slope



Plate 8: Test Pit Survey Conditions