

**Stage 1 Background Study for  
Part of Lot 12, Concession 1,  
Township of Uxbridge,  
Regional Municipality of Durham,  
(Formerly County of Ontario)**



Prepared by

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Project Information Number P052-0974-2019

**THE ARCHAEOLOGISTS INC.**

Original Report  
Report Dated: December 13, 2019

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Archaeologists Inc. was contracted to conduct a Stage 1 Background Study for Part of Lot 12, Concession 1, Township of Uxbridge, Regional Municipality of Durham, (Formerly County of Ontario). The assessment was triggered by the Planning Act and is being conducted in advance of a development application to the Town of Uxbridge.

A Stage 1 background study of the subject property was conducted to provide information about the property's geography, history, previous archaeological fieldwork and current land condition in order to evaluate and document in detail the property's archaeological potential and to recommend appropriate strategies for Stage 2 survey.

The Stage 1 background study and property inspection indicates that portions of the subject property retain the potential for archaeological resources and it is recommended that a Stage 2 archaeological assessment is required.

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## PROJECT PERSONNEL

Project Director:	Mr. Keith Powers (P052)
Field Director/Archaeologist:	Mr. Keith Powers
Report Preparation:	Mrs. Susan Dyer
Graphics	Mr. T. Keith Powers

## **INTRODUCTION**

The *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990 c. O.18, requires anyone wishing to carry out archaeological fieldwork in Ontario to have a license from the Ministry of Tourism, Culture & Sport (MTCS). All licensees are to file a report with the MTCS containing details of the fieldwork that has been done for each project. Following standards and guidelines set out by the MTCS is a condition of a licence to conduct archaeological fieldwork in Ontario. *The Archaeologists Inc.* confirms that this report meets ministry report requirements as set out in the *2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*, and is filed in fulfillment of the terms and conditions an archaeological license.

### **1.0 PROJECT CONTEXT**

#### **1.1 Development Context**

##### ***Section 7.5.6, Standard 1***

The Archaeologists Inc. was contracted to conduct a Stage 1 Background Study for Part of Lot 12, Concession 1, Township of Uxbridge, Regional Municipality of Durham, (Formerly County of Ontario). The assessment was triggered by the Planning Act and is being conducted in advance of a development application to the Town of Uxbridge.

##### ***Section 7.5.6, Standard 2***

There is no additional development-related information relevant to understanding the choice of fieldwork strategy or recommendations made in the report.

##### ***Section 7.5.6, Standard 3***

No property inspection was conducted. As such no permissions to access the study area was required.

#### **1.2 Historical Context**

##### ***Section 7.5.7, Standard 1***

The Stage 1 background study of the subject property was conducted in order to document the property archaeological and land use history and present condition. Several sources were referenced to determine if features or characteristics indicating archaeological potential for pre-contact and post-contact resources exist.

Characteristics indicating archaeological potential include the near-by presence of previously identified archaeological sites, primary and secondary water sources, features indicating past water sources, accessible or inaccessible shoreline, pockets of well-drained sandy soil, distinctive land formations that might have been special or spiritual places, such as waterfalls, rock outcrops, caverns, mounds, and promontories and their bases, resource areas, (including food or medicinal plants, scarce raw materials, early Euro-Canadian industry), areas of early Euro-Canadian settlement, early historical

transportation routes, property listed on a municipal register or designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act* or that is a federal, provincial or municipal historic landmark or site, and property that local histories or informants have identified with possible archaeological sites, historical events, activities, or occupations.

Archaeological potential can be determined not to be present for either the entire property or a part of it when the area under consideration has been subject to extensive and deep land alterations that have severely damaged the integrity of any archaeological resources. This is commonly referred to as ‘disturbed’ or ‘disturbance’, and may include: quarrying, major landscaping involving grading below topsoil, building footprints, and sewage and infrastructure development. Archaeological potential is not removed where there is documented potential for deeply buried intact archaeological resources beneath land alterations, or where it cannot be clearly demonstrated through background research and property inspection that there has been complete and intensive disturbance of an area. Where complete disturbance cannot be demonstrated in Stage 1, it will be necessary to undertake Stage 2 assessment.

The background study determined that the following features or characteristics indicate archaeological potential for the subject property:

- The 1877 Atlas indicates the subject property is located adjacent to an historic transportation route (i.e. modern day York Durham Line).
- There are 7 known archaeological sites within a one-kilometre radius of the subject property.
- The 1877 Atlas depicts four structures within the Lot, three of which appear to be within the boundaries of the subject property.
- The historic Toronto and Nipissing Railroad is located adjacent to the subject property.

### ***Lot 12, Concession 1***

The 1860 Tremaine Map of the County of Ontario, and the 1877 Illustrated Historical Atlas of the Township of Uxbridge was reviewed in order to document and define the setting of the subject property within the nineteenth and twentieth century context.

The 1860 Tremaine Map indicates that Lot 12, Concession 1 has two owners. The east half of the Lot belongs to Andrew Graham, and the west half of the Lot belongs to John French. No structures are illustrated within the Lot. Two small tributaries are illustrated within the Lot.

The 1877 Atlas indicates that J. Johnston owns the Lot. Four structures are illustrated within the Lot, three of which appear to be within the boundaries of the subject property. The Toronto and Nipissing Railroad runs through the Lot. Two small tributaries are illustrated within the Lot.

It must be noted that not all features of interest today would have been considered within the scope of the Atlas at the time of publication. Nevertheless, the Atlas is considered one

source for the assessment of archaeological potential. It can therefore be concluded, based on the above features, that the study area has potential for the identification of potentially significant historic archaeological remains.

### 1.3 Archaeological Context

#### **Section 7.5.8, Standard 1**

In order that an inventory of archaeological resources could be compiled for the study area, three sources of information were consulted: the site forms for registered sites housed at the Ministry of Tourism and Culture; published and unpublished documentary sources; and the files of *The Archaeologists Inc.*

In Ontario, information concerning archaeological sites is stored in the Ontario Archaeological Sites Database (O.A.S.D.), an inventory of the documented archaeological record in Ontario. According to MTCS records there are no known archaeological sites within the subject property but there are 7 known sites within a one-kilometre radius of the subject property (Table 1).

**TABLE 1: Known Archaeological Sites Within 1-km of the Study Area**

Borden #	Site Name	Cultural Affiliation	Site Type	Researcher(s)
BaGt-25				1999, Fisher
BaGt-26		Post-Contact		1999, Stewart
BaGt-27	Granite Golf Club H4	Post-Contact		1999, Stewart
BaGt-28		Pre-Contact		1999, Fisher
BaGt-30	McAlpine	Post-Contact	Homestead	2004, Sutton
BaGt-33		Pre-Contact		2010, Sutton
BaGt-42		Archaic, Late	Findspot	2011, Murray

#### **Section 7.5.8, Standard 2**

The study area is situated in the Oak Ridges Moraine physiographic region, which is considered a typical end moraine consisting of a hilly surface with a knob and basin relief (Chapman and Putnam 1973). The Oak Ridges Moraine, which is largely a belt of sand and gravel, extends 160 kilometres between the Niagara Escarpment and the Trent River, subsequently dividing the Lake Ontario drainage basin from the Georgian Bay/Trent River basin (Chapman and Putnam 1984).

The subject property is located on York Durham Line, just south of Bloomington Road in the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville. It is bound on the west by York Durham Line, on the southeast corner by a railway track, and on all other sides by agricultural lands. The subject property currently consists of agricultural fields, a residential house, and two small areas of standing water.

#### **Section 7.5.8, Standard 3**

Not applicable as no property inspection was undertaken.

#### **Section 7.5.8, Standard 4**

No previous archaeological fieldwork has taken place within the limits of the project area. The Archaeologists Inc. is unaware of any previous archaeological fieldwork carried out immediately adjacent (i.e. 50m) to the project area.

***Section 7.5.8, Standard 5***

We are unaware of previous findings and recommendations relevant to the current stage of work.

***Section 7.5.8, Standard 6 – n/a***

***Section 7.5.8, Standard 7***

There is no additional archaeological information that may be relevant to understanding the choice of fieldwork techniques or the recommendations of this report.



## **2.0 BACKGROUND STUDY**

The background study determined that the following features or characteristics indicate archaeological potential for the subject property.

- The 1877 Atlas indicates the subject property is located adjacent to an historic transportation route (i.e. modern day York Durham Line).
- There are 7 known archaeological sites within a one-kilometre radius of the subject property.
- The 1877 Atlas depicts four structures within the Lot, three of which appear to be within the boundaries of the subject property.
- The historic Toronto and Nipissing Railroad is located adjacent to the subject property.

A review of recent aerial photography indicates that the entire subject property exhibits archaeological potential.

In summary, the Stage 1 background study indicates that there is potential for the recovery of pre-contact Aboriginal and post-contact Euro-Canadian archaeological resources within the subject property.

## **3.0 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS**

### ***Section 7.7.3, Standard 1***

There are areas of archaeological potential remaining within the subject property. These consist of the agricultural fields and residential grassed and manicured lawns.

### ***Section 7.7.3, Standard 2***

The Stage 1 background study did not identify any areas of previously disturbed lands within the subject property that have severely damaged the integrity of archaeological resources and have removed archaeological potential with the exception of an existing structure, and areas of standing water.

#### **4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS (Section 7.7.4, Standards 1-2)**

Based on the background research the report recommends that portions of the subject property have archaeological potential and that it be subject to a Stage 2 archaeological assessment.

The Stage 1 background study has provided the basis for the following recommendations:

- 1) A Stage 2 archaeological assessment will be conducted by a licensed consultant archaeologist using the pedestrian survey and test pit survey method at 5 m intervals in all areas of potential as identified on Map 4 of this report.

## **5.0 ADVICE ON COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION (Section 7.5.9, Standards 1-2)**

### ***Section 7.5.9, Standard 1a***

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

### ***Section 7.5.9, Standard 1b***

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*.

### ***Section 7.5.9, Standard 1c***

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*.

### ***Section 7.5.9, Standard 1d***

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.

### ***Section 7.5.9, Standard 2***

Not applicable

## **6.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY AND SOURCES** (Section 7.5.10, Standards 1)

Chapman, L.J. and F. Putnam

1984 *The Physiography of Southern Ontario, Ontario Geological Survey Special Volume 2.* Toronto: Government of Ontario, Ministry of Natural Resources.

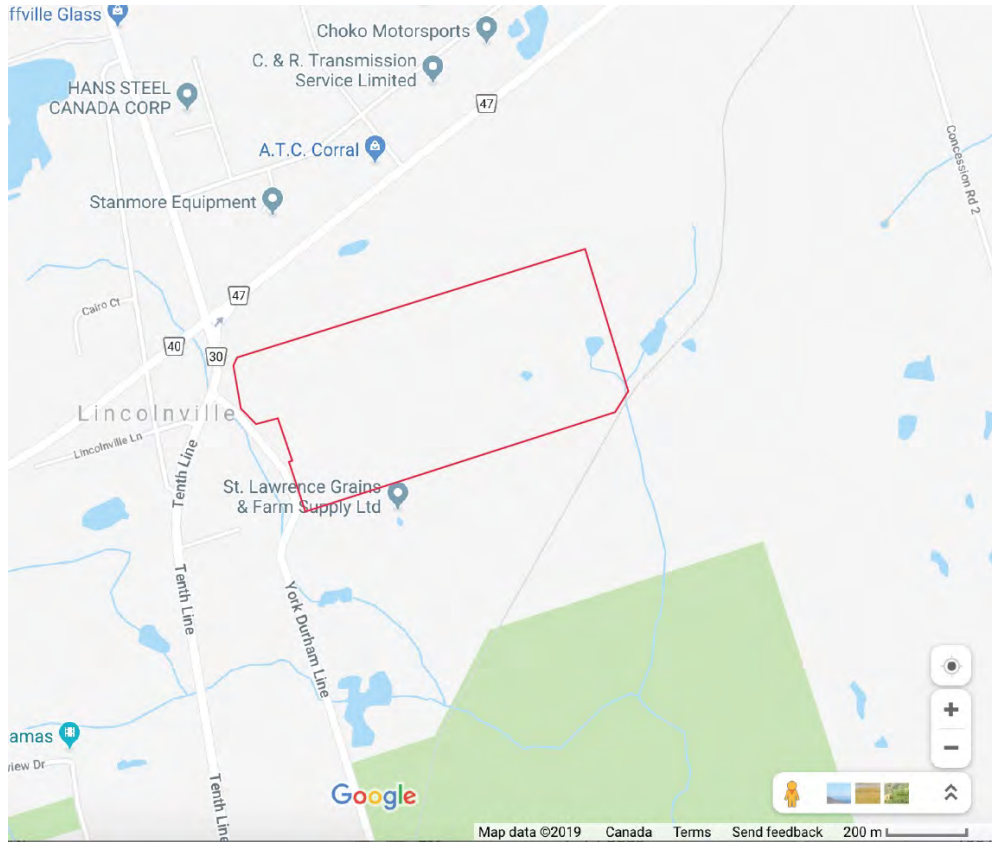
*Illustrated Historical Atlas of Wentworth County, Ontario.*

1875 Toronto: Miles & Co.

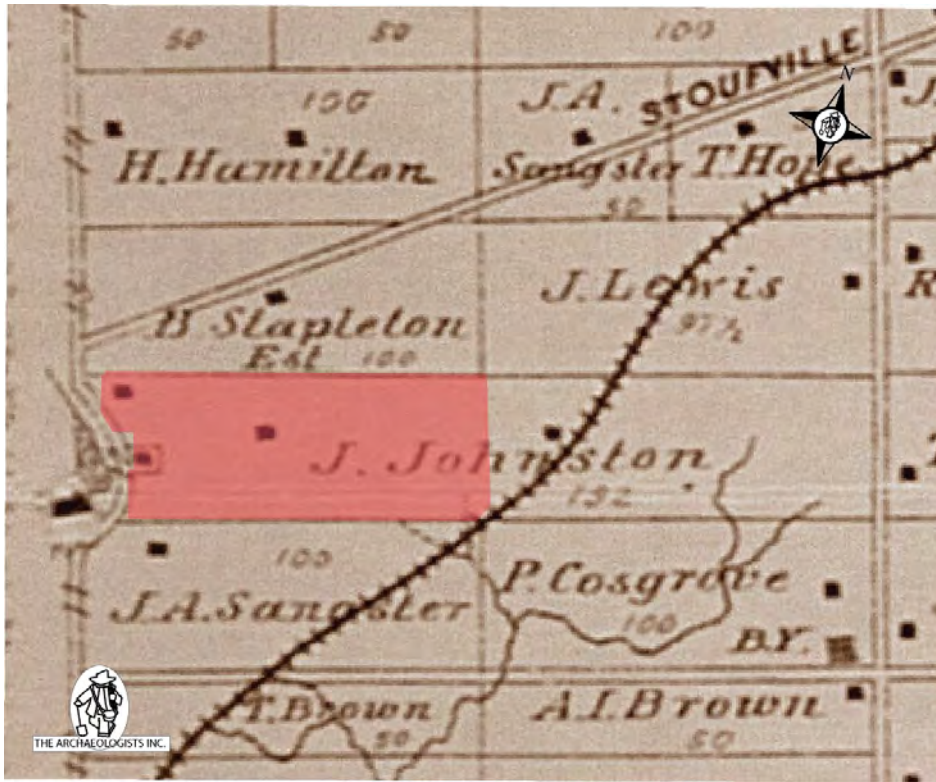
Ministry of Tourism, Sport and Culture

2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists.

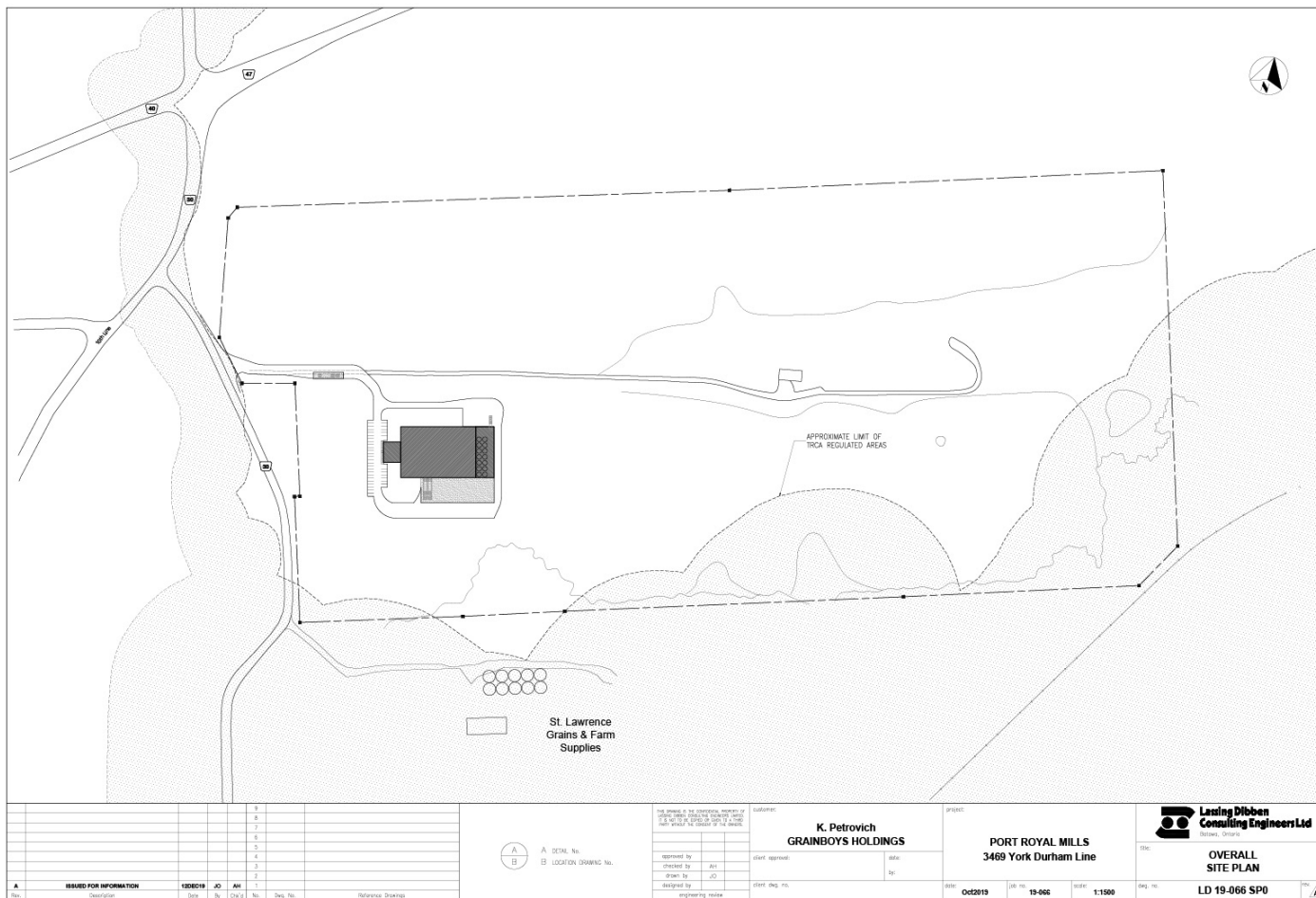
## 7.0 MAPS



Map 1 General location of subject property.

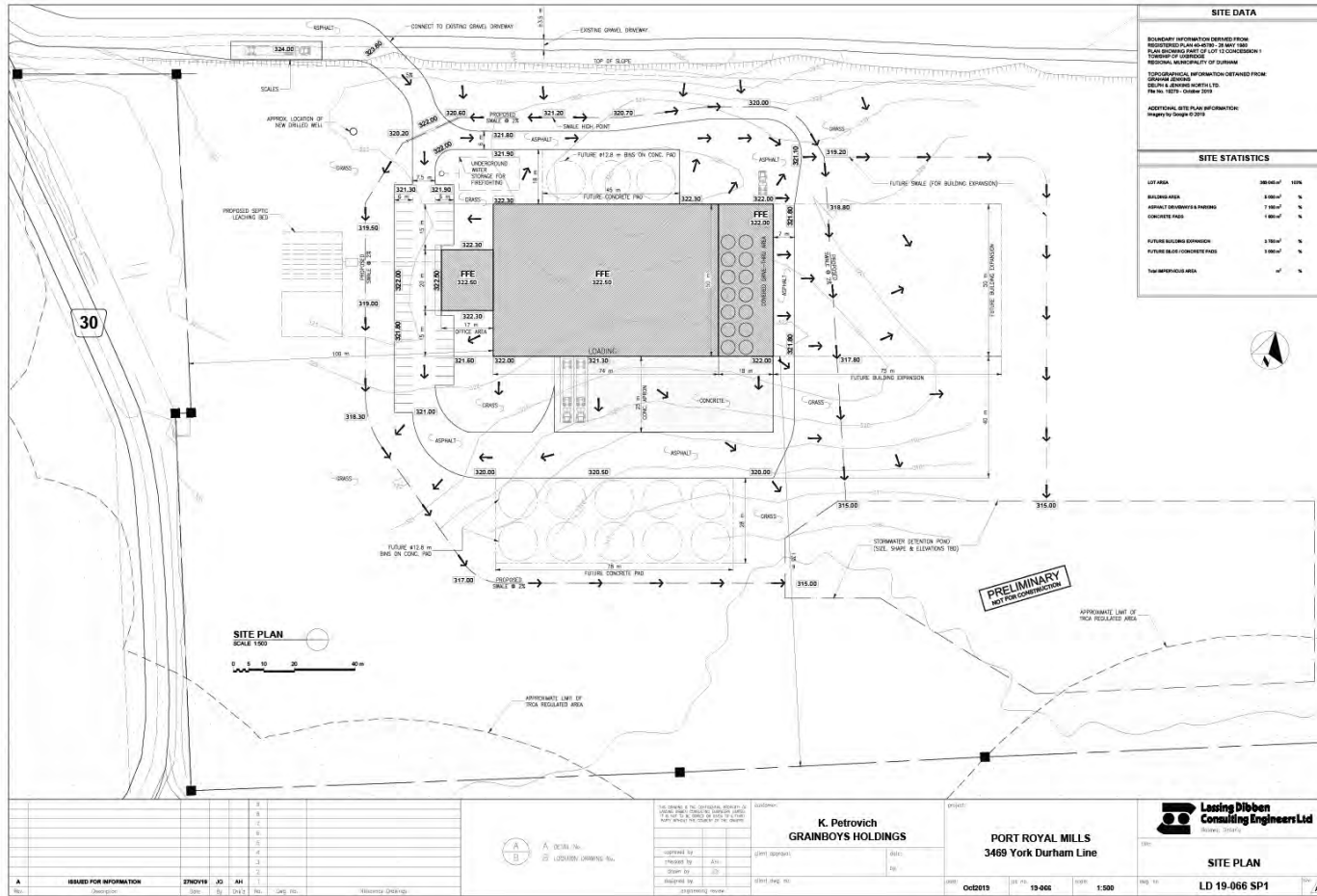


Map 2 Approximate location of subject property, overlaid in red, on 1877 Atlas.



Map 3 Clear copy of mapping provided by proponent.





Map 4 Clear copy of site plan provided by proponent, showing area to be developed.





Area of Potential --Stage 2 Required  
 Area of No- Potential--Standing Structure  
 Area of No- Potential--Standing Water  
 Map 5 Shows areas of archaeological potential and disturbed areas based on background research.