Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Elephant Lake Waterfront Residence Development, Parts or Whole of Lots 32 and 33, Concession 12, Lots 27-31, Concession 11, Lots 27-31, Concession 10, Lots 27-33, Concession 9, and Lots 27-31, Concession 8, Harcourt Township, County of Haliburton, Municipality of Dysart et al, Ontario

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Project Information Number P124-0049-2021

ORIGINAL REPORT
Report Dated: May 3, 2021

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

AS&G Archaeological Consulting was contracted to conduct a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment for the proposed Elephant Lake Waterfront Residence Development, in Dysart, Ontario. The study area is located in Part of Lots 27-31, Concession 8, Part of Lots 27-29, Concession 9, Part of Lots 27 and 28 Concession 10, and Part of Lot 27, Concession 11, former geographic Township of Harcourt, Dysart, Haliburton County, Ontario. The archaeological assessment was triggered by the Planning Act and the archaeological assessment was done in advance of a subdivision application.

Stage 1 archaeological background study established potential for the recovery of archaeologically significant materials within the study area. To determine if the archaeological potential classification of the study area is relevant, a desktop review of ground conditions was undertaken using historical mapping and satellite imagery. The desktop review identified parts of the study area as having archaeological potential removed and parts of the study area as having no or low archaeological potential. The remaining balance of the study area was identified as retaining archaeological potential.

The Stage 1 background study concluded that portions of the property exhibit archaeological potential. Where required by the local governing and approval authority for the project, Stage 2 archaeological assessment is recommended for all areas of proposed soil disturbances. Large areas of forest, where no disturbance or development is proposed, will not require Stage 2 archaeological assessment.

The report recommends that portions of the property be subject to a Stage 2 archaeological assessment.

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PROJECT PERSONNEL

Project Manager:	Dr. Helen R. Haines (P124)
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Report Preparation:	Mr. Norbert Stanchly (R149) Mr. Pete Demarte (R1073)
Graphics:	Mr. Pete Demarte (R1073)

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 Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI). All licensees are to file a report with the MHSTCI containing details of the fieldwork that has been done for each project. Following standards and guidelines set out by the MHSTCI is a condition of a licence to conduct archaeological fieldwork in Ontario. **AS&G Archaeological Consulting** 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

This section of the report will provide the context for the archaeological fieldwork, including the development context, the historical context, and the archaeological context.

1.1 Development Context

AS&G Archaeological Consulting was contracted to conduct a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment for the proposed Elephant Lake Waterfront Residence Development, in Dysart, Ontario. The study area is located in Part of Lots 27-31, Concession 8, Part of Lots 27-29, Concession 9, Part of Lots 27 and 28 Concession 10, and Part of Lot 27, Concession 11, former geographic Township of Harcourt, Dysart, Haliburton County, Ontario. The archaeological assessment was triggered by the Planning Act and the archaeological assessment was done in advance of a subdivision application. To facilitate the proposed development, a Zoning Bylaw Amendment (ZBA) will be applied. It is proposed to change the zoning for the development land to WL4 or WR4L.

The proponent plans to develop the property to build 55 residential lots for waterfront cottages. The total lot area is 789.137 hectares of which 283.623 hectares are for residential development.

1.2 Historical Context

Several sources were referenced to determine if features or characteristics indicating archaeological potential for pre-contact and post-contact resources exist within the project area. These include contemporary and historic maps, and the archaeological sites database.

1.3 Archaeological Context

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.

Summary information on the known archaeological sites in the vicinity of the study area was obtained from the MHSTCI site database. There are no known archaeological sites within the subject property, however, there is one registered site within a one-kilometre radius of the subject property (Table 1).

Table 1: Known Archaeological Sites within a 1-km Radius

Borden Number	Site Name	Time Period	Affinity	Site Type	Current Development Review Status
BhGm-1		Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	Logging	

The BhGm-1 Site is located approximately 500 metres west of the study area on the opposite shore of Benoir Lake. The site is identified as a Post-Contact logging site with a cultural affinity of 'Euro-Canadian'. The site was identified in 1997 during a Stage 1-3 archaeological assessment and resulted in the collection of 734 artifacts. The artifacts were listed as being related to historic period food consumption/preparation, agricultural, lumber, and clothing or sports/recreation activities. Although 36 indigenous period artifacts were also recovered, due to a lack of diagnostic items, a specific cultural affinity or temporal period was undefined for these artifacts.

The subject property consists of several vacant lots abutting existing residential lots along the shore of Benoir Lake, and undeveloped lands along the shore of Elephant Lake. The study area is bound on the west by existing residential properties along Benoir Lake Road and Benoir Lake itself, on the south by Elephant Lake, on the east by vacant undeveloped lots, and on the north by Elephant Lake Road. The subject property is approximately 160 hectares in size.

The study area is situated within the Canadian Shield physiographic region of southern Ontario, which consists of Precambrian rocks (Chapman and Putnam 1984). This region characteristically contains shallow till and bare rock ridges. The soils within the region are classed as dominantly coarse textured with Precambrian rock at 30 cm or less. The dominant soil family is listed as Rock - Monteagle, a sandy loam with hilly topography, good drainage, very strongly acidic surface reaction and excessively stony (Department of Agriculture 1960).

No previous archaeological assessments have been conducted on or within 50 metres of the study area.

There are no unusual physical features that may have affected fieldwork strategy decisions or the identification of artifacts or cultural features.

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 Stage 1 background study of the subject property was conducted in order to briefly 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 shorelines, 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:

- There is one (1) known archaeological site within a one-kilometre radius of the subject property (recorded as BhGm-1).
- The subject property is located in proximity to an early Euro-Canadian resource area (i.e. early Euro-Canadian logging site).
- The subject property is located in an area of early Euro-Canadian settlement.
- The subject property lies within the Canadian Shield physiographic region. The soils within the region are classed as dominantly coarse textured with Precambrian rock at 30 cm or less. The dominant soil family is listed as Rock - Monteagle, a sandy loam with hilly topography, good drainage, very strongly acidic surface reaction and excessively stony.
- The subject property contains examples of elevated topography.

- The subject property is located adjacent to primary water sources with accessible shorelines and contains primary water sources within its boundaries.

1.2.1 Pre-contact Period

The Precontact period began with the arrival of nomadic peoples with the gradual retreat of the glaciers approximately 12,000 years ago (Karrow and Warner 1990). Between 12,000 and 10,000 years before present, the Paleo-Indian period was characterized by people that lived in small family groups, subsisting on large game and other fauna associated with the cooler environments of the period (Ellis and Deller 1990).

Archaic Period (10,000 - 2800 BP) - As the climate in southern Ontario warmed, Aboriginal populations adapted to these new environments. New technologies and subsistence strategies were introduced and developed. Woodworking implements such as groundstone axes, adzes and gouges began to appear, as did net-sinkers (for fishing), numerous types of spear points and items made from native copper, which was mined from the Lake Superior region. The presence of native copper on archaeological sites in southern Ontario and adjacent areas suggests that Archaic groups were involved in long range exchange and interaction. The trade networks established at this time were to persist between Aboriginal groups until European contact. Archaic peoples became seasonal hunters and gatherers to exploit seasonably available resources in differing geographic areas. As the seasons changed, these bands split into smaller groups and moved inland to exploit other resources that were available during the fall and winter such as deer, rabbit, squirrel and bear, which thrived in the forested margins of these areas (Ellis et al. 1990).

The Woodland Period (2800 BP to AD 750) saw the gradual establishment of technological and social changes, especially the appearance of clay pots (Spence et al. 1990). Population increases also led to the establishment of larger camps and villages with more permanent structures. Elaborate burial rituals and the interment of numerous exotic grave goods with the deceased began to take place. Increased trade and interaction between southern Ontario populations and groups as far away as the Atlantic coast and the Ohio Valley was also taking place. The Late Woodland period is marked by the introduction of maize to Southern Ontario, ca. AD 700. With the development of horticulture as the predominant subsistence base, the Late Woodland Period gave rise to a tremendous population increase and the establishment of permanent villages. Social changes were also taking place and distinct clustering of both longhouses within villages (clan development) and villages within a region (tribal development). The Late Woodland groups that inhabited the Toronto area eventually moved their villages northward toward Georgian Bay. It was these and other groups in southwest Ontario that eventually evolved into the Aboriginal nations who interacted with and were described by French missionaries and explorers during the early seventeenth century (Williamson 2013).

1.2.2. Post-Contact History of Haliburton County and Harcourt Township

Haliburton County was first formed in 1874, when an act was passed by the Legislative Assembly of Ontario setting off certain townships in the Counties of Peterborough and Victoria and establishing them as a provisional county (ontariogenology.com). The action was taken in response to the desire of the settlers in those townships who desired to grant a bonus of land to the proposed Victoria Railway, and the expectation that a more rapid development of their district would take place if they themselves could attain control of their local affairs. At that time, the Victoria Railway Company was seeking to obtain funds to build a railway from Lindsay to some favourable point in the territory to the north, and the company sought a large bonus of lands from the northern townships (ibid.). Therefore, in 1874 the settlers took action and requested separation from the County of Peterborough, which was granted by the Government of Ontario, and twenty townships in the County of Peterborough, and three townships in the County of Victoria were constituted as a separate municipality under the name of the Provisional County of Haliburton. The Village of Minden was named by the Lieutenant-Governor as the site of the registry office, and as the legal meeting place of the County Council.

The twenty-three townships forming the Provisional County of Haliburton included: Bruton, Cardiff, Clyde, Dudley, Eyre, Glamorgan, Harburn, McClintock, Harcourt, Havelock, Lawrence, Livingstone, Monmouth, Nightingale, Snowdon, Stanhope, Minden and Sherborne from Peterborough County; and, Anson, Hindon, and Lutterworth Townships from Victoria County (ibid.). At the time of the formation of the new county fifteen of these townships were already organized for municipal purposes, while eight were still unsettled and had no municipal organization. The six municipalities were those of: 1. Dysart, Dudley, Harcourt, Grutford, Harburn and Bruton; 2: Lutterworth, Anson and Hindon; 3. Minden; 4: Monmouth, Glamorgan and Cardiff; 5. Snowdon; and, 6. Stanhope. The Reeves of those six municipalities formed the County Council which held its first meeting on June 18, 1874.

Early settlement of the region was slow due to the isolation and shallow soils of the northern townships which made agricultural pursuits difficult, and therefore, the main industry of the county was primarily logging. The original townships were of the Canadian Land and Emigration Company. Modern-day Harcourt Township is part of the United Townships of Dysart, Dudley, Harcourt, Guilford, Harburn, Bruton, Havelock, Eyre and Clyde, commonly known as the Municipality of Dysart et al., in the County of Haliburton, Ontario.

1.2.3 Past Land Use of the Subject Property

The study area is a large, irregular-shaped plot measuring approximately 4,560 m north-south by 600 m east-west (~160 hectares total) within an undeveloped area. Historically, the study area is located in Part of Lots 27-31, Concession 8, Part of Lots 27-29, Concession 9, Part of Lots 27 and 28 Concession 10, and Part of Lot 27, Concession 11, former geographic Township of Harcourt, Dysart, Haliburton County, Ontario.

The subject property consists of several vacant lots abutting existing residential lots along the shore of Benoir Lake, and undeveloped lands along the shore of Elephant Lake. The study area is bound on the west by existing residential properties along Benoir Lake Road and Benoir Lake itself, on the south by Elephant Lake, on the east by vacant undeveloped lots, and on the north by Elephant Lake Road. The subject property is approximately 160 hectares in size.

In summary, the Stage 1 background study indicates that there is potential for the recovery of pre-contact and post-contact Euro-Canadian archaeological resources within the subject property. As it cannot be clearly demonstrated through the background study that there has been complete and intensive disturbance of the area, archaeological potential is not removed.

3.0 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS

Section 1.3.1 of the 2011 MHSTCI Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists outlines features and characteristics of a property which indicate archaeological potential. Based on the research outlined in the preceding sections of this report, these criteria are addressed as follows:

Previously identified archaeological sites: No previously identified archaeological sites are recorded within the MHSTCI Archaeological Sites Database within the subject property, however there is one registered site located within a one-kilometre radius (recorded as BhGm-1).

Water sources: The subject property is located adjacent to primary water sources with accessible shorelines and contains primary water sources within its boundaries.

Elevated topography: The study area contains examples of elevated topography.

Pockets of well-drained sandy soil: The study area lies within a region characterized by shallow, sandy tills.

Distinctive land formations: No distinctive land formations are identified within the study area.

Resource areas: No resource areas are identified within the study area, however, the BhGm-1 site, an early Euro-Canadian logging site, is located within a one kilometre radius of the subject lands.

Areas of early Euro-Canadian settlement: The subject property is within an area of early Euro-Canadian settlement.

Property that local histories or informants have identified with possible archaeological sites, historical events, activities, or occupations: We are not aware of any such property.

In summary, the archaeological potential of the subject property is supported by the following factors:

- There is one (1) known archaeological site within a one-kilometre radius of the subject property (recorded as BhGm-1).
- The subject property is located in proximity to an early Euro-Canadian resource area (i.e. early Euro-Canadian logging site).
- The subject property is located in an area of early Euro-Canadian settlement.
- The subject property lies within the Canadian Shield physiographic region. The soils within the region are classed as dominantly coarse textured with Precambrian rock at 30 cm or less. The dominant soil family is listed as Rock - Monteagle, a sandy loam with hilly topography, good drainage, very strongly acidic surface reaction and excessively stony.
- The subject property contains examples of elevated topography.
- The subject property is located adjacent to primary water sources with accessible shorelines and contains primary water sources within its boundaries.

Section 1.3.2 of the 2011 MHSTCI Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists outlines features that may indicate the removal or disturbance of archaeological potential. Such features may include quarrying, major landscaping involving grading below topsoil, building footprints, sewage and infrastructure development, etc.

The subject property contains features which indicate the removal or disturbance of archaeological potential. These include:

- The permanently wet soils/water sources (i.e. small ponds, creeks and wetlands),
- The existing gravel road.

These areas, outlined on Map 6, are excluded from further archaeological investigation.

In summary there are areas of archaeological potential remaining within the subject property. These consist of undeveloped wooded areas.

The Stage 1 background study and property inspection 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, other than those listed above.

4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

The report makes recommendations only regarding archaeological matters.

Areas within the subject property that have been identified as possessing archaeological potential and must be subject to Stage 2 archaeological assessment where development will impact those areas directly. As ploughing is not possible or viable within the subject property the recommended strategy is test pit survey at intervals of five meters.

The test pit strategy must follow standards as outlined in Section 2.1.2 of the 2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists. More specifically,

1) Test pits must be spaced at maximum intervals of 5 metres in areas less than 300 m from any feature of archaeological potential.
2) Test pit to within 1 metre of all built structures (both intact and ruins), or until test pits show evidence of recent ground disturbance.
3) Test pits must be at least 30 cm in diameter.
4) Each test pit must be excavated by hand, into the first 5 cm of subsoil and examine the pit for stratigraphy, cultural features, or evidence of fill.
5) Test pit soils must be screened through mesh no greater than 6 mm.
6) If artifacts are encountered, they must be collected according to their associated test pit.
7) If artifacts are encountered the consultant archaeologist must follow Section 2.1.3 of the 2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists to determine if a Stage 3 archaeological assessment is necessary.
8) All test pits will be backfilled unless instructed not to by the landowner.

Additionally, as the study area is located on Canadian Shield terrain, the test pit strategy must follow alternative strategies for special survey conditions standards as outlined in Section 2.1.5 of the 2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists. More specifically,

1) Test pits must be spaced at maximum intervals of 5 metres in areas where the identified feature of archaeological potential is a modern water source. Test pitting is required between 0 and 50 metres from the feature. Survey is not required beyond 50 metres.
2) For features of archaeological potential other than modern water sources (i.e. historic water sources), test pitting is required at maximum intervals of 5 metres between 0 and 50 metres of the feature of archaeological potential; test pitting is required at maximum intervals of 10 metres between 50 and 150 metres of the feature of archaeological potential; and, survey is not required beyond 150 metres.

5.0 ADVICE ON COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION

Section 7.5.9, Standard 1a
This report is submitted to the Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries 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 Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries, 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

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Online Sources

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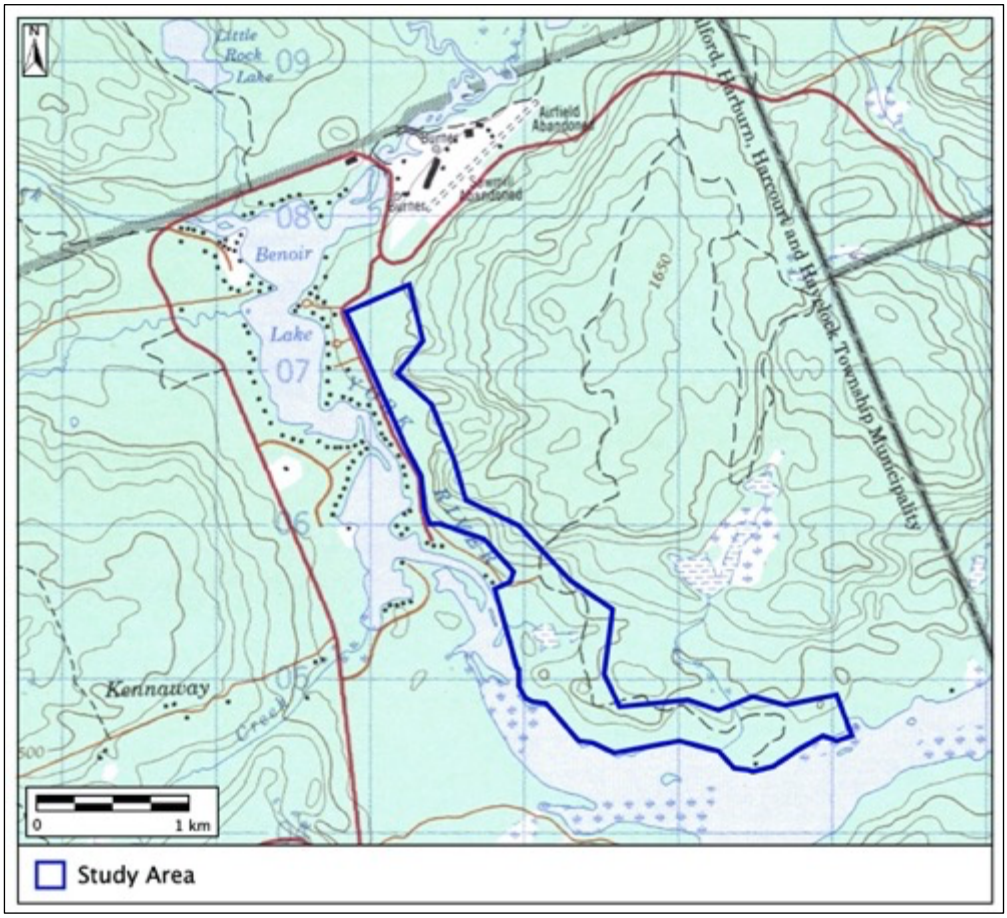
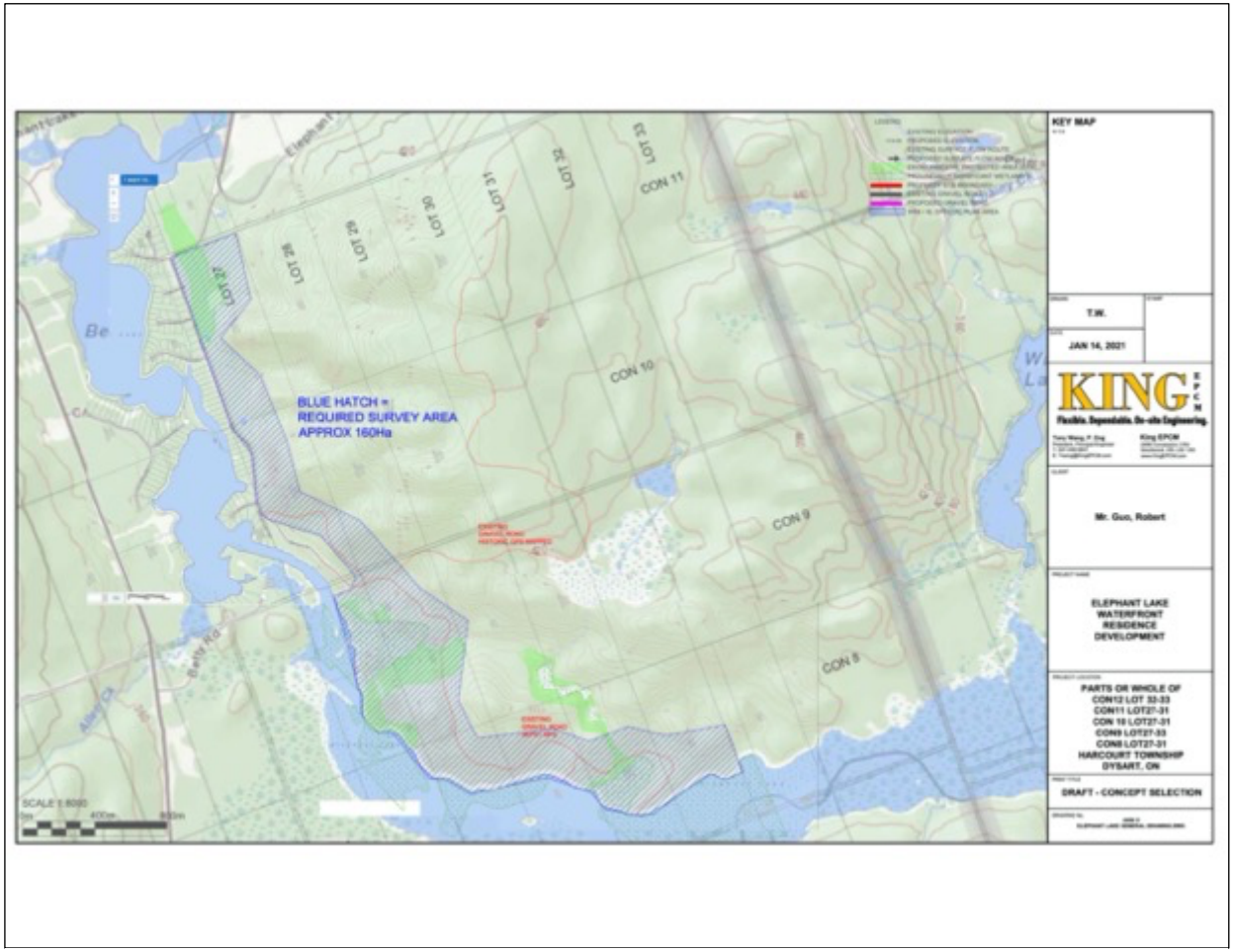
7.0 MAPS

Map 1: General Location of Study Area (MNRF 2021)

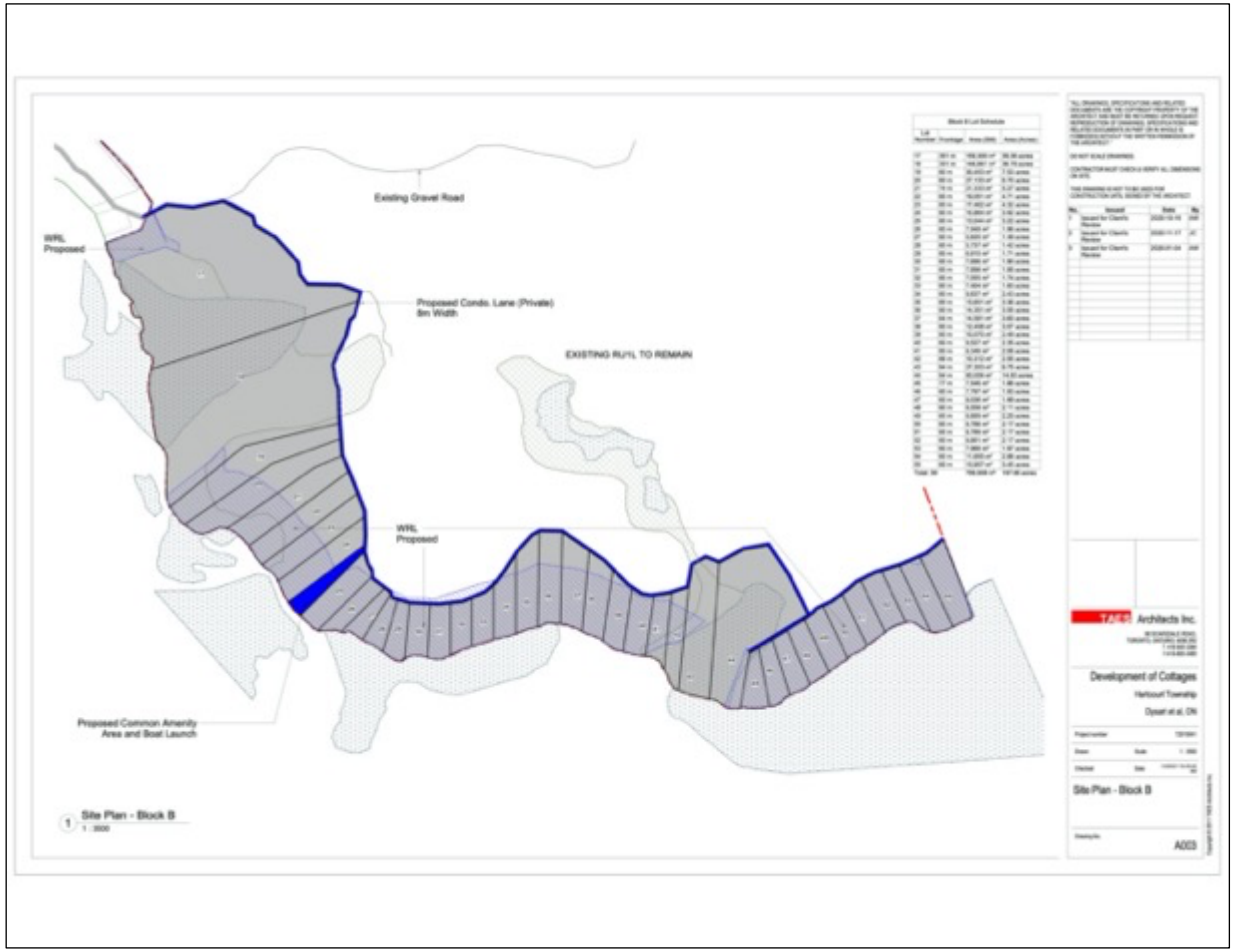
Map 2: 2019 Aerial of Study Area (MNRF 2021)



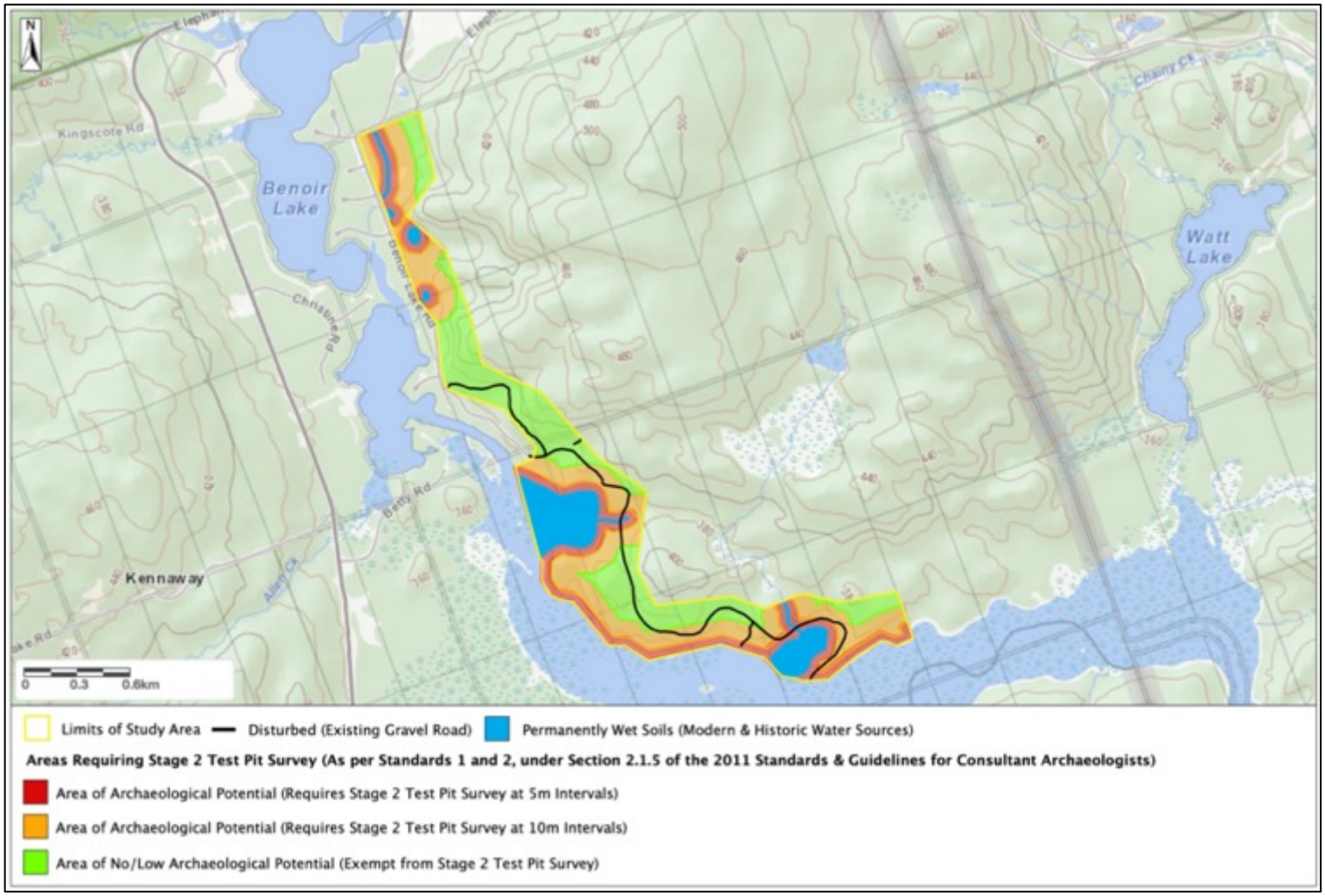
Map 3: Topography of Study Area (Natural Resources Canada 1996)



Map 4: Study Area Boundaries Map (Provided by Project Proponent)



Map 5: Development Plan of Study Area (Provided by Project Proponent)



Map 6: Results of the Stage 1 Background Study