

**THE STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT
OF THE CRAIGLEITH COMMUNITY PROPERTY,
TOWN OF BLUE MOUNTAINS, COUNTY OF GREY**



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Submitted to

Terrasas Corporation

and

The Ministry of Culture

Prepared by

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SUMMARY

This report details the rationale, methods and results of the Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of the Craigeith Community Property, Town of Blue Mountains, County of Grey. The purpose of the assessment was to determine the archaeological potential of the subject property prior to its development. The assessment was undertaken on behalf of Terrasan Corporation.

The 63 acre subject property consists of low lying imperfectly drained forested lands and scrublands situated on the shore of Nottawasaga Bay. Some sections of the property have been disturbed by previous residential and commercial development.

The results of the Stage 1 archaeological assessment indicate that some small sections of the property do have a moderate to high potential for archaeological resources. Some sections of the subject property have a moderate to high archaeological potential because they consist of well drained undisturbed lands. The subject property is also located within the area inhabited by the Petun, an Iroquoian tribal group who occupied this region in the 16th and 17th centuries. Finally, there is some potential for mid to late 19th century Euro-Canadian homesteads within the subject lands. Other sections of the subject lands have a low potential for archaeological resources due to poor drainage, or disturbance caused by previous residential and commercial development.

Given the moderate to high archaeological potential of some sections of the subject property, it is recommended that a Stage 2 archaeological assessment should be conducted prior to the development of any of these lands. It is recommended that the conditions of approval for the development of this property should include a requirement for a Stage 2 archaeological assessment prior to any soil disturbance.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report details the rationale, methods and results of the Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of the Craigleith Community Property, Town of Blue Mountains, County of Grey. The purpose of the assessment was to determine the archaeological potential of the subject property prior to its development. The assessment was undertaken on behalf of Terrasan Corporation.

The assessment was conducted under archaeological consulting licence No. PO-13 issued to the firm of Archaeological Assessments Ltd. The assessment was conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Ontario Heritage Act (Government of Ontario 1980), the technical guidelines for archaeological assessments formulated by the Ministry of Culture (MCL 1993), and the Ministry's educational primer and comprehensive guide for non-specialists (1997). Archaeological Assessments Ltd. accepts responsibility for the long term curation of any documents produced as a result of this assessment.

2.0 LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The 63 acre subject property is located on the north side of Highway 26 in the Village of Craigleith, west of Collingwood. It is bordered to the west by Blue Mountain Drive, to the north by Nottawasaga Bay, to the east by Long Point Road and to the south by Highway 26. The property is bisected by Brophy's Lane which runs north-south through the centre of the property (Figure 1 and 2).

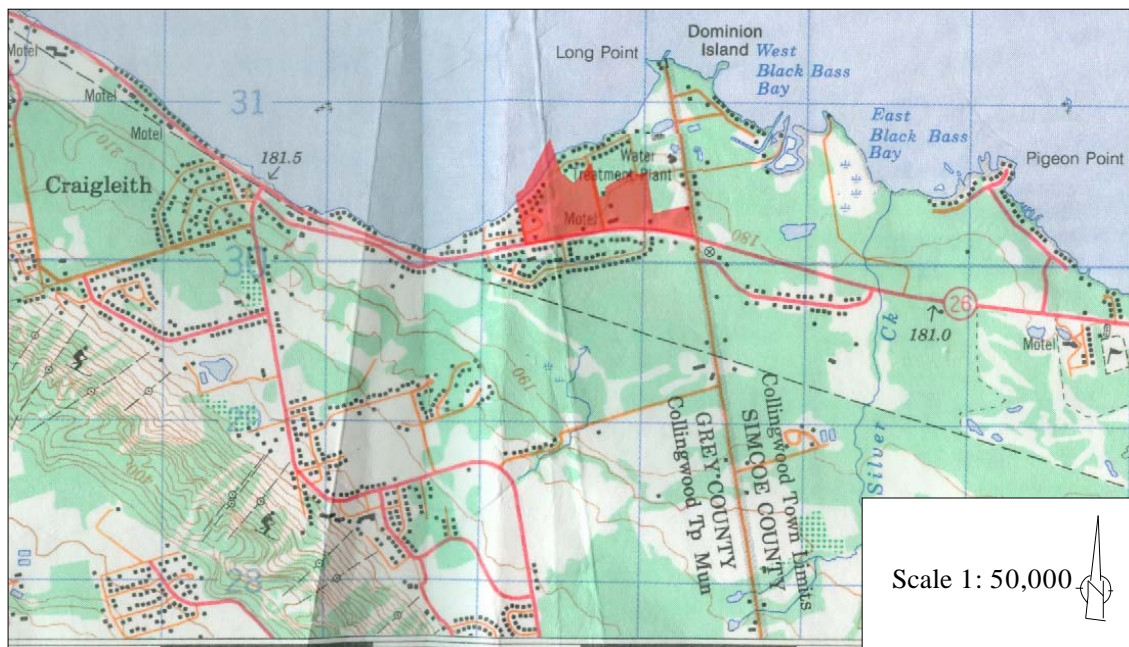


Figure 1. Location of the Subject Property



Figure 2. Aerial Photograph of the Subject Property

The subject property is situated on a low lying plain situated between the Niagara Escarpment and Nottawasaga Bay in the Simcoe Lowlands physiographic region (Chapman and Putnam 1984:176). The Simcoe Lowlands physiographic region consists of a series of steep sided, flat-floored valleys which were flooded by glacial Lake Algonquin. This area is bordered by beaches and bouldery terraces and is floored by sand, silt and clay.

The subject property was visited on April 7, 2008. The majority of the subject property consists of level, low lying ground that contains a number of seasonally wet areas separated in some places by small rises of land that run parallel to the Georgian Bay shoreline. The northwestern edge of the property consists of an overgrown beach area along the Nottawasaga Bay shoreline that is also low lying and poorly drained. The exceptions to the low lying, poorly drained lands are a large area along the western edge of the property, several small pockets in the central section, and an area in the southeastern corner of the property.

Vegetation in the low, wet areas include mixed deciduous, birch, cedar, fir trees and dogwood. The beach area in the northwestern corner of the property is overgrown with long grasses and bulrushes. The slightly higher area along the western section of the property has mature trees and a manicured lawn that are associated with an abandoned cottage park. The very southeastern section of the property is open scrub.

There are several disturbed areas on the property. The western edge of the property has approximately 20 buildings associated with what appears to be an abandoned cottage park. The buildings include small cottages, washrooms, a garage, a private residence and octagonal shaped building. Aside from the buildings there is a paved road, numerous paved pathways connecting the various buildings, a small amphitheatre, playground and an elevated platform for climbing. Two private residences are also present on the subject property including one in the southwest corner fronting onto Highway 26, and one in the central section fronting onto Brophy's Lane. Three businesses are also located on the subject property including a restaurant and old gas bar on the northwest corner of Highway 26 and Brophy's Lane, the Blue Mountain Lodge motel on the northeast corner of the same intersection, and the Alhorn Restaurant in the southeastern section of the property along Highway 26. A fairly large, stone lined drainage ditch runs north-south through the eastern section of the property.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE POTENTIAL

The Ontario Ministry of Culture has defined general guidelines for determining the archaeological potential of development properties. Evaluating the potential for a specific development property is based on determining its association with a wide range of geographic and cultural-historic features which would have directly influenced the settlement patterns of the past inhabitants of a region. The presence or absence of these features within or close to a particular parcel of land can serve as an indicator of past human use, and can serve as the screening criteria for determining the archaeological potential of the property (MCL 1997, 2004).

3.1 Known Archaeological Resources

There are currently no registered archaeological sites located on the subject property. No archaeological survey work has ever been conducted on the property. Information on archaeological sites located beyond the limits of the property provide context for the property, and provide an indication of the variety and nature of archaeological resources that may be present. A survey of the Ministry of Culture archaeological files located in Toronto indicates that there are five registered archaeological sites located within a 2 kilometre radius of the subject lands (Table 1). The closest registered site is the Plater-Martin Site (BdHd-1), a Contact Period Native Petun village site located 800 metres northeast of the subject property.

Four of the five registered archaeological sites located within a 2 kilometre radius of the subject property are affiliated with the Petun, an Iroquoian tribal group which occupied this region from ca. A.D. 1550-1650. The Petun occupied a number of villages, cabins and campsites in the Township of Clearview and the Town of the Blue Mountains in the area situated between the base of the Niagara Escarpment and the Nottawasaga Bay shoreline. This area contained well drained soils which were suitable for horticulture (Garrad and Heidenreich 1978).

Table 1. Registered Archaeological Sites Located Within 2 km of the Subject Property

Borden Number	Site Name	Cultural/Temporal Affiliation	Site Type
BdHb-1	Plater-Martin	Contact Period Native Petun	village
BdHb-2	Plater-Fleming	Contact Period Native Petun	village
BdHb-3	Goodchild	Contact Period Native Petun	burial
BdHb-4	Gary Reid	Native Odawa/Petun	campsite?
BdHb-52	Kells	Late 19 th Century Euro-Canadian	homestead

Information on potential Euro-Canadian archaeological planning concerns was derived from an examination of the 1880 Illustrated Historical Atlas of Grey and Bruce Counties (Belden 1880: Figure 3). The subject property is comprised of Part of Lots 19, 20 & 21, Concession 1, formerly in the Township of Collingwood, now in the Town of Blue Mountains.

Unfortunately, the historical atlas map for this township only shows the location of a few of the many residences which were likely located in this area at this time. It should be noted that the historical atlas maps were produced by subscription and only the homes of wealthier land owners tended to be illustrated along with the principal roads and villages. Any early or mid 19th century homesteads that were abandoned before the 1880 atlas was produced, would also not have been illustrated.

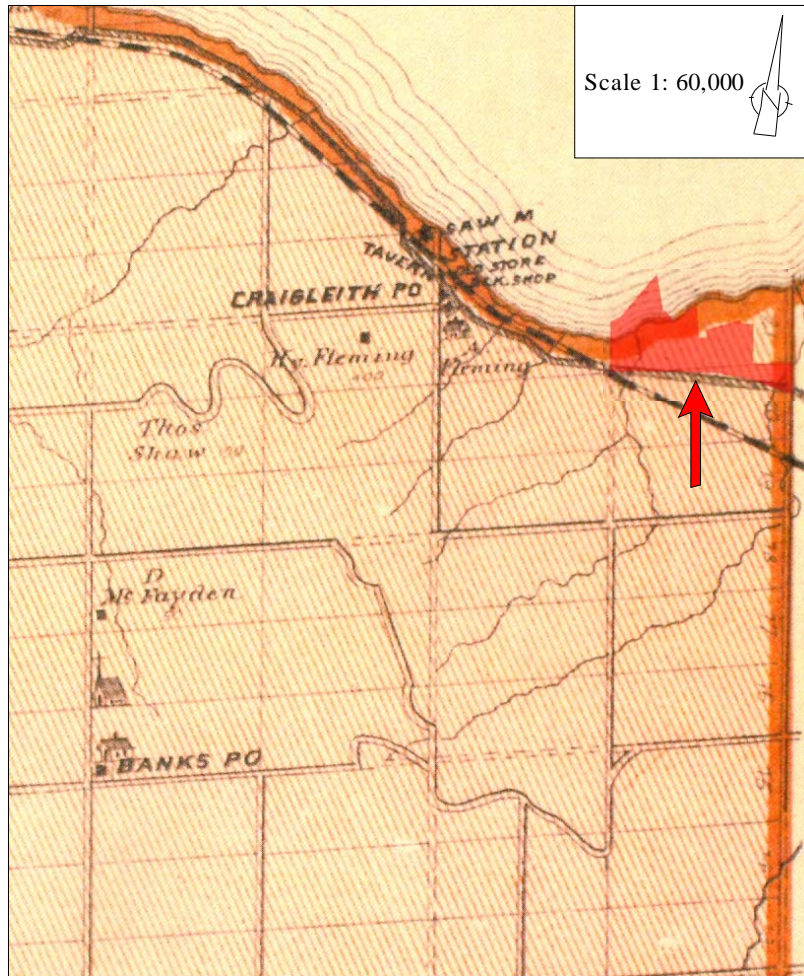


Figure 3. 1880 Historical Atlas Map of Collingwood Township Showing Location of the Subject Property

3.2 Physiographic Features

General physiographic features which must be considered when identifying areas of archaeological potential include distance to water, local topography, soil conditions, and other resource specific features. In general, lands located within 300 metres of major water courses (river, lakes and relict beach ridges) and located within 200 metres of smaller creeks, tributaries and wetland areas, are considered to be of high potential for prehistoric archaeological sites. Large sections of the subject property are located within 300 metres of the Nottawasaga Bay shoreline. In addition, the entire property is located within 200 metres of low lying poorly drained lands which may have functioned as wetland areas in the past. Consequently, the majority of the subject property has a high potential for archaeological resources due to its location along the shore of the lake and the presence of large poorly drained areas.

Finally, soil and topographic conditions are another factor which must be considered in determining archaeological potential. Most native and Euro-Canadian sites tend to be located on tableland or upland areas containing well drained soils. The subject property is located on a lowland sand plain which has imperfect drainage. Although not an area of elevated topography, the presence of some pockets of slightly elevated areas containing well drained sandy soils on the property does give it some potential for containing archaeological sites.

3.3 Historic Cultural Features

This category addresses issues concerning the history of early Euro-Canadian settlement in the area of the subject property, as well as the property's possible association with early transportation corridors (trails, roads, portage routes).

The Township of Collingwood where the subject property is situated was first surveyed for settlement in 1833 (Beldon & Co. 1880). The earliest Euro-Canadian settlers in this region arrived in the mid 1830's and settled in the northern section of the township close to the lakeshore. Consequently, the subject property has some potential for containing Euro-Canadian homesteads dating back to the mid 19th century. The route followed by Highway 26 also represents one of the earliest overland transportation routes into the region, which was first cleared as a dirt track in the 1850's.

3.4 Features Specific to the Development Application or Study Area

This category refers to specific historical events or related issues that may be associated with the subject property, as well as the extent of areas of disturbance. There are no specific issues relating to the historic period occupation of the subject property that have not already been discussed in the other sections of this report. Over 75% of the subject property consists of forested lands which do not contain any extensive areas of disturbance (i.e. subdivision/commercial/industrial development). The archaeological potential of a large component of the subject property has not been impacted by previous development or related activities. Other sections of the subject lands have a low potential for archaeological resources due to poor drainage or disturbance caused by previous residential and commercial development (Figure 4).

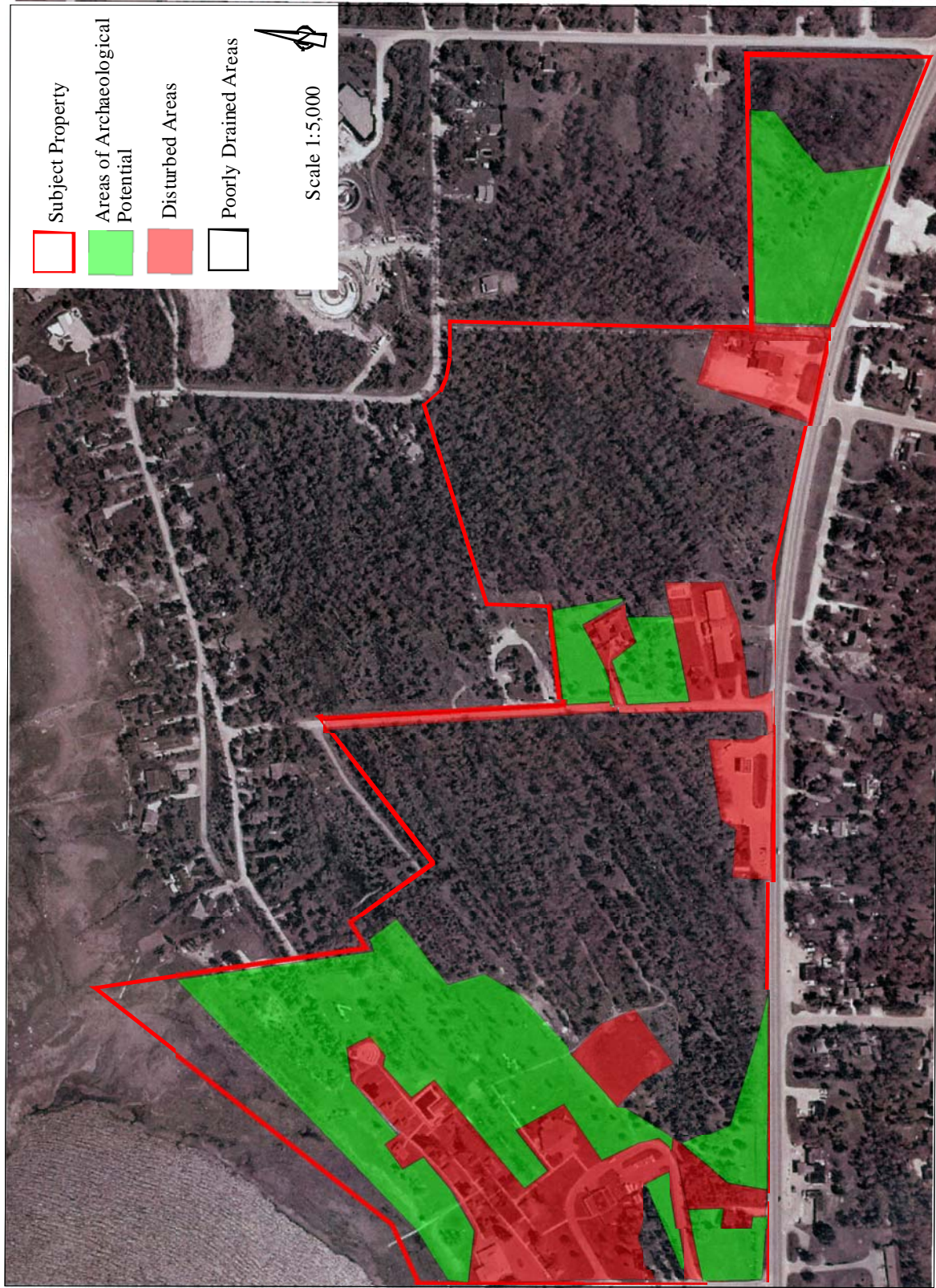


Figure 4. Aerial Photograph of Subject Property Showing Archaeological Potential

4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

The results of the Stage 1 archaeological assessment indicate that some sections of the subject lands have a moderate to high potential for archaeological resources. These areas have a moderate to high archaeological potential because they consist of well drained undisturbed lands associated with the shoreline of Nottawasaga Bay or overlooking poorly drained lands. The subject property is also located within the area inhabited by the Petun, an Iroquoian tribal group who occupied this region in the 16th and 17th centuries. Finally, there is some potential for mid to late 19th century Euro-Canadian homesteads within the subject lands. Other sections of the subject lands have a low potential for archaeological resources due to poor drainage or disturbance caused by previous residential and commercial development.

Given the moderate to high archaeological potential of some sections of the subject property, it is recommended that a Stage 2 archaeological assessment should be conducted prior to the development of any of these lands. It is recommended that the conditions of approval for the development of this property should include a requirement for a Stage 2 archaeological assessment prior to any soil disturbance.

5.0 REFERENCES CITED

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1997 **Conserving A Future For Our Past: Archaeology, Land Use Planning & Development In Ontario.** An Educational Primer And Comprehensive Guide For Non-Specialists. Cultural Programs Branch, Archaeology & Heritage Planning Unit, Ministry of Culture, Toronto.



Plate 1. Disturbed Lands, Northwestern Section of Property (view north)



Plate 2. Disturbed Lands, Southern Edge of Property (view north east)



Plate 3. Poorly Drained Area, Nottawasaga Bay Shoreline, Northwestern Section of Property (view northeast)



Plate 4. Poorly Drained Lands, Western Section of Property (view west)



Plate 5. Higher Ground With Archaeological Potential Overlooking Poorly Drained Area, Western Section of Property (view south)



Plate 6. Higher Ground With Archaeological Potential, Southeastern Section of Property (view east)

TABLE 2. CULTURAL CHRONOLOGY FOR SOUTHERN ONTARIO

PERIOD	GROUP	TIME RANGE	COMMENT
PALEO-INDIAN			
Early	Fluted	9000 - 8500 B.C.	Big Game Hunters and Small Nomadic Groups
Late	Non-fluted	8500 - 7500 B.C.	
ARCHAIC			
Early	Nettling	8000 - 7000 B.C.	Nomadic Hunters and Gatherers
	Bifurcate Based	7000 - 6000 B.C.	
Middle	Stemmed, Otter Creek and Brewerton	6000 - 2500 B.C.	Transition to Territorial Settlement
Late	Narrow Point	2500 - 1800 B.C.	More Diverse Resource Base
	Broad Point	1800 - 1500 B.C.	
	Small Point	1500 - 800 B.C.	
WOODLAND			
Early	Meadowood and Middlesex	1000 - 300 B.C.	Introduction of Pottery
Middle	Point Peninsula	300 B.C.- 700 A.D.	Long Distance Trade
Transitional	Princess Point	500 - 900 A.D.	Early Agriculture
Late	Early Iroquoian	900 - 1275 A.D.	Transition to Village Life
	Middle Iroquoian	1275 - 1400 A.D.	Large Villages and Dependence on Agriculture
	Late Iroquoian	1400 - 1650 A.D.	Tribal Development, Warfare, European Contact
HISTORIC			
Early	Odawa, Ojibwa, Mississauga	1700 - 1875 A.D.	Social Displacement
Late	Euro-Canadian	1800 A.D.-present	European Settlement

