

**Stage 1 Archaeological Background Assessment and
Stage 2 Archaeological Property Assessment at
Wellington Road 109, Lot 36, Concession 1,
Geographic Township of West Garafraxa, Township
of Wellington North, County of Wellington**

Submitted to:

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and

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Prepared by:



Report Type: Original
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Executive Summary

Bluestone Research was retained by Van Harten Surveying Inc. to complete a Stage 1 Archaeological Background Assessment and Stage 2 Archaeological Property Assessment at Wellington Road 109, Lot 36, Concession 1, Geographic Township of West Garafraxa, Township of Wellington North, County of Wellington. The assessment was necessary to meet the application submission requirements for an official plan amendment set out by the Township of Wellington North, County of Wellington. The study area is irregular and measures approximately 431.61 metres west to east and 409.76 metres north to south. It totals approximately 10.2 hectares in size.

This assessment was triggered by the Provincial Policy Statement that is informed by the *Planning Act* (Government of Ontario 1990a), which states that decisions affecting planning matters must be consistent with the policies outlined in the larger *Ontario Heritage Act* (1990b). According to Section 2.6.2 of the PPS, “*development and site alteration shall not be permitted on lands containing archaeological resources or areas of archaeological potential unless significant archaeological resources have been conserved.*”

In accordance with Section 1.3.1 of the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM) 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (Government of Ontario 2011), the Stage 1 archaeological assessment of the study area has determined that the study area exhibits high potential for the identification and recovery of archaeological resources and a Stage 2 archaeological assessment is recommended.

The Stage 2 assessment was conducted on 20 and 27 May and 4 July 2025 under archaeological consulting license P229 issued to Allan Morton, of Bluestone by the MCM. The assessment consisted of a pedestrian survey at 5-metre intervals on a previously cultivated agricultural field that had been ploughed for 81.07% of the study area (8.27 hectares). Portions of the study area (18.92%, 1.91 hectares) could not be ploughed because they are either forested or not previously cultivated agricultural land. Portions of the unploughed area (1.2%, 0.13 hectares) were disturbed by a single dwelling, gravel driveway, agricultural building, trash piles, and farm equipment and could not be assessed by a shovel test pit survey due to obstruction of the area and ground disturbance. The yard surrounding the dwelling, totaling 4.5% (0.46 hectares) of the study area was disturbed by extensive landscaping. Accordingly, that portion of the study area was assessed with shovel test pit survey at 10-metre intervals to confirm disturbance. The undisturbed portions of the study area, totaling 12.94% (1.32 hectares) of the study area were assessed using shovel test pits at 5-metre intervals. No archaeological resources were identified during the Stage 2 archaeological assessment of the study area, and as such **no further archaeological assessment of the property is recommended.**

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

Project Personnel

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1.0 PROJECT CONTEXT

1.1 DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT

Bluestone Research was retained by Van Harten Surveying Inc. to complete a Stage 1 Archaeological Background Assessment and Stage 2 Archaeological Property Assessment at Wellington Road 109, Lot 36, Concession 1, Geographic Township of West Garafraxa, Township of Wellington North, County of Wellington. The assessment was necessary to meet the application submission requirements for a draft plan of subdivision redline revision set out by the Town of West Garafraxa. The study area is irregular and measures approximately 431.61 metres west to east and 409.76 metres north to south. It totals approximately 10.21 hectares in size.

This assessment was triggered by the Provincial Policy Statement that is informed by the *Planning Act* (Government of Ontario 1990a), which states that decisions affecting planning matters must be consistent with the policies outlined in the larger *Ontario Heritage Act* (1990b). According to Section 2.6.2 of the PPS, “*development and site alteration shall not be permitted on lands containing archaeological resources or areas of archaeological potential unless significant archaeological resources have been conserved.*”

1.1.1 Objectives

In compliance with the provincial standards and guidelines set out in the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM) 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (Government of Ontario 2011), the objectives of the Stage 1 Archaeological Overview/Background Study are as follows:

- To provide information about the study area’s geography, history, previous archaeological fieldwork, and current land conditions;

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- To evaluate in detail the study area's archaeological potential which will support recommendations for Stage 2 survey for all or parts of the property; and
- To recommend appropriate strategies for Stage 2 survey. To meet these objectives Bluestone archaeologists employed the following research strategies:
 - A review of relevant archaeological, historic and environmental literature pertaining to the study area;
 - A review of the land use history, including pertinent historic maps;
 - An examination of the Ontario Archaeological Sites Database (ASDB) to determine the presence of known archaeological sites in and around the project area.

The objective of the Stage 2 assessment was to provide an overview of archaeological resources on the property and to determine whether any of the resources might be archaeological sites with cultural heritage value or interest and to provide specific direction for the protection, management and/or recovery of these resources. In compliance with the provincial standards and guidelines set out in the MCM' 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (Government of Ontario 2011), the objectives of the Stage 2 Property Assessment are as follows:

- To document all archaeological resources within the study area;
- To determine whether the study area contains archaeological resources requiring further

assessment; and

- To recommend appropriate Stage 3 assessment strategies for archaeological sites identified.

1.2 HISTORICAL CONTEXT

The study area consists of a previously cultivated agricultural field that had been ploughed for 81.07% of the study area (8.27 hectares). Forested areas make up 18.92% (1.91 hectares) of the study area. Portions of the unploughed area (1.2%, 0.13 hectares) contained a single dwelling, gravel driveway, agricultural building, trash piles, and farm equipment and could not be assessed by a shovel test pit survey due to obstruction of the area and ground disturbance. There is a yard surrounding the dwelling, totaling 4.5% (0.46 hectares). Historic mapping was reviewed, including the 1861 Tremaine Map of Wellington County, the 1877 Illustrated Atlas of Wellington County, topographic and soil maps, and aerial photography. Crown patent plans were also reviewed, as well as land registry documents and Canada Census records.

Pre and early Post-contact Aboriginal Resources

Our knowledge of past First Peoples settlement and land use in Southern Ontario is incomplete. Nonetheless, using province-wide (MCM) and region-specific archaeological data, a generalized cultural chronology for native settlement in the area can be proposed. The following paragraphs provide a basic textual summary of the known general cultural trends and a tabular summary appears in Table 1.

The Paleoindian Period

The first human populations to inhabit Ontario came to the region between 12,000 and 10,000 years ago, coincident with the end of the last period of glaciation. Climate and environmental conditions were significantly different then they are today; local environs would not have been welcoming to anything but short-term settlement. Termed Paleoindians by archaeologists, Ontario first peoples would have crossed the landscape in small groups (i.e., bands or family units) searching for food, particularly migratory game species. In the area, caribou may have provided the staple of the Paleoindian diet, supplemented by wild plants, small game, birds and fish. Given the low density of populations on the landscape at this time and their mobile nature, Paleoindian sites are

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small and ephemeral. They are usually identified by the presence of fluted projectile points and other finely made stone tools.

Table 1: Cultural Chronology for Native Settlement within Southern Ontario

Period			Time Range (circa)	Diagnostic Features	Complexes
Paleoindian	Early		9000 – 8400 B.C.	fluted projectile points	Gainey, Barnes, Crowfield
	Late		8400 – 8000 B.C.	non-fluted and lanceolate points	Holcombe, Hi-Lo, Lanceolate
Archaic	Early		8000 – 6000 B.C.	serrated, notched, bifurcate base points	Nettling, Bifurcate Base Horizon
	Middle		6000 – 2500 B.C.	stemmed, side & corner notched points	Brewerton, Otter Creek, Stanly/Neville
	Late		2000 – 1800 B.C.	narrow points	Lamoka
			1800 – 1500 B.C.	broad points	Genesee, Adder Orchard, Perkiomen
			1500 – 1100 B.C.	small points	Crawford Knoll
	Terminal		1100 – 850 B.C.	first true cemeteries	Hind
Woodland	Early		800 – 400 B.C.	expanding stemmed points, Vinette pottery	Meadowood
	Middle		400 B.C. – A.D. 600	thick coiled pottery, notched rims; cord marked	Couture
	Late	Western Basin	A.D. 600 – 900	Wayne ware, vertical cord marked ceramics	Riviere au Vase-Algonquin
			A.D. 900 – 1200	first corn; ceramics with multiple band impressions	Young- Algonquin
			A.D. 1200 – 1400	longhouses; bag shaped pots, ribbed paddle	Springwells-Algonquin
			A.D. 1400-1600	villages with earthworks; Parker Festoon pots	Wolf- Algonquin

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Contact		Aboriginal	A.D. 1600 – 1700	early historic native settlements	Neutral Huron, Odawa, Wenro
		Euro-Canadian	A.D. 1700-1760	fur trade, missionization, early military establishments	French
			A.D. 1760-1900	Military 1.5 establishments, pioneer settlement	British colonials, UELs

Archaic

The archaeological record of early native life in Southern Ontario indicates a change in lifeways beginning circa 10,000 years ago at the start of what archaeologists call the Archaic Period. The Archaic populations are better known than their Paleoindian predecessors, with numerous sites found throughout the area. The characteristic projectile points of early Archaic populations appear similar in some respects to early varieties and are likely a continuation of early trends. Archaic populations continued to rely heavily on game, particularly caribou, but diversified their diet and exploitation patterns with changing environmental conditions. A seasonal pattern of warm season riverine or lakeshore settlements and interior cold weather occupations has been documented in the archaeological record. Since the large cold weather mammal species that formed the basis of the Paleoindian subsistence pattern became extinct or moved northward with the onset of warmer climate, Archaic populations had a more varied diet, exploiting a range of plant, bird, mammal and fish species. Reliance on specific food resources like fish, deer and nuts becomes more pronounced through time and the presence of more hospitable environs and resource abundance led to the expansion of band and family sizes. In the archaeological record, this is evident in the presence of larger sites and aggregation camps, where several families or bands would come together in times of resource abundance. The change to more preferable environmental circumstances led to a rise in population density. As a result, Archaic sites are more abundant than those from the earlier period. Artifacts typical of these occupations include a variety of stemmed and notched projectile points, chipped stone scrapers, ground stone

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tools (e.g. celts, adzes) and ornaments (e.g. bannerstones, gorgets), bifaces or tool blanks, animal bone and waste flakes, a by-product of the tool making process.

Woodland Period

Significant changes in cultural and environmental patterns are witnessed in the Woodland Period (circa 950 B.C to historic times). The coniferous forests of earlier times were replaced by stands of mixed and deciduous species. Occupations became increasingly more permanent in this period, culminating in major semi-permanent villages by 1,000 years ago. Archaeologically, the most significant changes by Woodland times are the appearance of artifacts manufactured from modeled clay and the construction of house structures. The Woodland Period is often defined by the occurrence of pottery, storage facilities and residential areas similar to those that define the incipient agricultural or Neolithic period in Europe. The earliest pottery was rather crudely made by the coiling method and house structures were simple enclosures.

Iroquoian Period

The primary Late Woodland occupants of the area were the Neutral Nation, an Iroquoian speaking population described by European missionaries. Like other known Iroquoian groups including the Huron (Wendat) and Petun, the Neutral practiced a system of intensive horticulture based on three primary subsistence crops (corn, beans and squash). Neutral villages incorporated a number of longhouses, multi-family dwellings that contained several families related through the female line. The Jesuit Relations describe several Neutral centers in existence in the 17th century, including a number of sites where missions were later established. While precontact Neutral sites may be identified by a predominance of well-made pottery decorated with various simple and geometric motifs, triangular stone projectile points, clay pipes and ground stone implements, sites post-dating European contact are recognized through the appearance of various items of European manufacture. The latter include materials acquired by trade (e.g., glass beads, copper/brass kettles, iron axes, knives and other metal implements)

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in addition to the personal items of European visitors and Jesuit priests (e.g., finger rings, stoneware, rosaries, glassware). The Neutral were dispersed and their population decimated by the arrival of epidemic European diseases and inter-tribal warfare.

1.2.1 Historical Context

In 1784, an agreement between General Haldimand and the Six Nations of the Grand River granted six miles of land on both sides of the Grand River “from its source to its mouth”. However, at the time, the source of the Grand River was unknown to everyone in the area. In 1792, the Crown signed an agreement with the Mississauga First Nation, which sparked the first survey that would reach West Garafraxa. The survey was authorized by the Simcoe administration, which employed Augustus Jones to survey an area now known as the Jones Baseline. This baseline now “forms one of the boundaries of Puslinch, Guelph, Nichol, Peel, West Garafraxa and Eramosa Townships, and the Town of Fergus”. While surveying the Speed River, Jones encountered the area that is now the First Concession of West Grafraxa (Thorning, 1995).

The study area lies within the boundaries of Treaty 45 ½, also known as the Saugeen Tract Purchase of 1836. The treaty, which was signed by representatives of the Crown and some Anishinaabe peoples, covers approximately 1.5 million acres of land (Ministry of Indigenous Affairs and First Nations Economic Reconciliation, 2024). The township of Garafraxa was plotted in the 1840s and was originally not divided into east and west halves. However, the township was eventually split into East and West Garafraxa, with the eastern part becoming a township of Dufferin County and the western part becoming part of the township of Centre Wellington in Wellington County (Easterbrook, 1995).

A search of the land registry records for West Garafraxa was conducted. As seen in the 1877 West Garafraxa County Atlas Map, Lot 36 was divided into two parts: Lot 36 West and Lot 36 East. The study area is located in Lot 36 East. The land registry records for Lot 36 West are extensive, beginning in 1836. However, the land registry records for Lot 36 East begins in 1973 and ends in 1977, providing no historical information regarding

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the study area. On the 1861 Tremaine Map of West Garafraxa County, the entirety of Lot 36 is recorded as “Non Res”. The 1877 West Garafraxa County Atlas Map shows that the Eastern portion of Lot 36 is owned by “S. Farrell”.

A search of the 1871 Canada Census shows that Stephen Farrel was residing in West Garafraxa. In the 1881 Census, Stephen Farrel’s name is listed as “Joseph”, which is his middle name. The 1881 census shows that the family all inhabited a single house. There is also a discrepancy between the 1871 census, 1881 census, and online genealogical sources on Stephen Joseph Farrel’s date of birth and spelling of his surname. The 1871 census and Ancestry.ca spells his surname “Farrel”, whereas the 1877 West Garafaxa County Atlas Map, the 1881 Census, and Find a Grave (findagrave.com) list it as “Farrell”. Additionally, the 1871 census, Canadian Birth Records, Find a Grave and Ancestry list his date of birth as 26 December 1834, whereas the 1881 census incorrectly places his date of birth between 1840 and 1841.

A search was done in the 1891 Census of Garafraxa West for Stephen and Joseph Farrell, including spelling variations, and he could not be located.

According to Find a Grave (findagrave.com) and Ancestry.ca, Stephen Joseph Farrell was born on 26 December, 1834 in Eramosa Township, Wellington County, Ontario, Canada to parents James Farrell (1803 – 1871) and Ellen Callaghan (1806 – 1891). He married an Irish woman named Margaret Balfe (1845 – 1911). Together they had at least seven children. Stephen Joseph Farrell died on 4 May 1925 at the age of 90 in West Garafaxa Township, Wellington County, Ontario. He is buried at Saint John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Cemetery in Arthur, Wellington County, Ontario, Canada.

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Table 2: Canada Census Records

Canada Census 1871					
Name	Occupation	Birth Place	Religion	Age	Note
Stephen Farrel	Farmer	Ontario	Roman Catholic	33	Married
Margaret Farrel		Ireland	Roman Catholic	24	Married
John Farrel		Ontario	Roman Catholic	2	
Canada Census 1881					
Name	Occupation	Birth Place	Religion	Age	Note
Joseph Farrell	Farmer	Ontario	Catholic	40	Married
Margaret Farrell		Ireland	Catholic	33	Married
John Farrell		Ontario	Catholic	11	Going to school
Sarah Farrell		Ontario	Catholic	9	Going to school
Mary Farrell		Ontario	Catholic	7	Going to school
Thomas Farrell		Ontario	Catholic	5	
James Farrell		Ontario	Catholic	3	
Stephen Farrell		Ontario	Catholic	1	

The historical maps do not indicate the presence of structures within the study area. A Crown patent map does not exist for this location, but land registry documents were reviewed for land use information. A crown patent map could not be located.

1.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

The study area consists of a previously cultivated agricultural field that had been ploughed for 81.07% of the study area (8.27 hectares). Forested areas make up 18.92% (1.91 hectares) of the study area. Portions of the unploughed area (1.2%, 0.13 hectares) contained a single dwelling, gravel driveway, agricultural building, trash piles, and farm equipment and could not be assessed by a shovel test pit survey due to obstruction of the area and ground disturbance. There is a yard surrounding the dwelling, totaling 4.5%

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(0.46 hectares). Historic mapping was reviewed, including the Illustrated map of 1860, the Illustrated Atlas of 1877, topographic and soil maps, aerial photography. Crown patent plans were also reviewed as well as land registry documents and Canada Census records. It is bounded on the north by Wellington Road 109, on the south and west by agricultural fields and on the east by a residential property.

1.3.1 The Natural Environment

The study area is located within the Guelph Drumlin Fields, a physiographic region of elongated hills formed by westward moving ice. This region is composed mostly of sandy Wentworth Till. Wentworth Till usually has a pink tint. The other commonly found soil in the Guelph Drumlin Field is Catfish Creek Till, an olive-buff till usually found in valleys under clayey till. Wentworth Till is composed, on average, of 18% clay, 33% silt and 49% sand (Pleistocene Geology of the Guelph Area Southern Ontario; Ontario Geological Survey, Geological Report 61, p. 8 - 29) (Chapman & Putnam, 1984). The soil within the study area was identified as being well-drained Huron Loam (Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, 2025).

“The soil parent material [of Huron Loam] is grayish brown calcareous clay or silty clay loam composition. The topography is generally gently rolling with steep slopes occurring along the sides of the larger creeks and rivers. Slopes are short and irregular. The Huron soils are moderately well drained. The surface soil is usually loam in texture; hence in some areas, Huron soils have a thin silt loam surface deposit. The surface horizon is underlain by a yellowish brown clay loam Ae horizon that becomes very pale brown to light gray when the soil is dry. This horizon is not as thick as it is in the coarser textured soils nor is it as easily subdivided into two layers on the basis of colour. The browner upper part of this horizon is either thin or entirely lacking. A dark brown blocky B horizon containing more clay than the layers above occurs below the Ae horizon. The blocky aggregates and their natural fracture lines probably make the soil more permeable than would be expected in clay or clay loam materials. The Huron soils belong to

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the Grey-Brown Podzolic Great Group of soils. The soil profile is well developed and has an average thickness of 20 inches.” (Soil Survey of Dufferin County, 1964).

Well-drained, sandy soils are considered suitable for pre-contact Aboriginal agriculture. The soil types are shown in Figure 6.

Potable water is the single most important resource for any extended human occupation or settlement and since water sources in southwestern Ontario have remained relatively stable over time, proximity to drinkable water is regarded as a useful index for the evaluation of archaeological site potential. In fact, distance to water is one of the most commonly used variables for predictive modeling of archaeological site location in Ontario. The nearest source of potable water to the study area is an unnamed tributary of Luther Lake, which flows north-south 119 meters to the west of the northwestern corner of the study area.

1.3.2 Previously Known Archaeological Sites and Surveys

In order to compile an inventory of archaeological resources, the registered archaeological site records kept by the MCM were consulted. In Ontario, information concerning archaeological sites stored in the ASDB is maintained by the MCM. This database contains archaeological sites registered according to the Borden system. Under the Borden system, Canada is divided into grid blocks based on latitude and longitude. A Borden Block is approximately 13 kilometres east to west and approximately 18.5 kilometres north to south. Each Borden Block is referenced by a four-letter designator and sites within a block are numbered sequentially as they are found. The study area under review is within Borden Block AIHd.

Information concerning specific site locations is protected by provincial policy, and is not fully subject to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. The release of such information in the past has led to looting or various forms of illegally conducted site destruction. Confidentiality extends to all media capable of conveying location, including

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maps, drawings, or textual descriptions of a site location. The MCM will provide information concerning site location to the party or an agent of the party holding title to a property, or to a licensed archaeologist with relevant cultural resource management interests.

An examination of the ASDB has shown that there are seven archaeological sites registered within a one-kilometre radius of the study area (Sites Data Search, 20 May 2025; Government Ontario n.d.). Table 2 summarizes the registered archaeological site within one-kilometre of the study area. The listed site does not fall within the study area.

Table 3: Registered Archaeological Sites within One Kilometre of the Study Area

Borden Number	Site Name	Time Period	Affinity	Site Type	Note
AlHk-4		Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	Homestead	
AlHd-2		Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	Midden	
AlHd-1	Bell's Bulls	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	Unknown	
AkHd-3		Other		Corduroy Road	Further CHVI
AkHd-2		Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	Unknown	Further CHVI
AkHd-1	Peter Farley				
AkHc-18	Springwood 1	Woodland	Aboriginal	Unknown	

1.3.3 Summary of Past Archaeological Investigations within 50m

There have been no documented archaeological investigations within 50 metres of the subject property. It should be noted that the MCM currently does not provide an inventory of archaeological assessments carried out within 50 metres of a property, so a complete inventory of assessments on lands adjacent to the subject property cannot be provided.

1.3.4 Archaeological Potential

Archaeological potential is established by determining the likelihood that archaeological resources may be present on a subject property. Bluestone Research applied archaeological potential criteria commonly used by MCM (Government of Ontario 2011)

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to determine areas of archaeological potential within the region under study. These variables include proximity to previously identified archaeological sites, distance to various types of water sources, soil texture and drainage, glacial geomorphology, elevated topography and the general topographic variability of the area.

Distance to modern or ancient water sources is generally accepted as the most important determinant of past human settlement patterns and, considered alone, may result in a determination of archaeological potential. However, any combination of two or more other criteria, such as well-drained soils or topographic variability, may also indicate archaeological potential. Finally, extensive land disturbance can eradicate archaeological potential (Wilson and Horne 1995).

As discussed above, distance to water is an essential factor in archaeological potential modeling. When evaluating distance to water it is important to distinguish between water and shoreline, as well as natural and artificial water sources, as these features affect sites locations and types to varying degrees. The MCM categorizes water sources in the following manner:

- Primary water sources: lakes, rivers, streams, creeks;
- Secondary water sources: intermittent streams and creeks, springs, marshes and swamps;
- Past water sources: glacial lake shorelines, relic river or stream channels, cobble beaches, shorelines of drained lakes or marshes; and
- Accessible or inaccessible shorelines: high bluffs, swamp or marshy lake edges, sandbars stretching into marsh.

Soil texture can be an important determinant of past settlement, usually in combination with other factors such as topography. As indicated previously, the soils within the study

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area are well-drained. Sections of the study area would be ideal for pre-contact Aboriginal agriculture.

An examination of the ASDB has shown that there are seven archaeological sites registered within a one-kilometre radius of the study area. They are all located outside of the study area.

A review of historical land use records was undertaken that included historical maps, land registry records, genealogy records, and census records. The land use consists of an agricultural field, an agricultural structure, a residential house, a landscaped grass lawn, a gravel driveway, and push piles of farming equipment.

Thus, in accordance with Section 1.3.1 of the MCM's 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (Government of Ontario 2011), the Stage 1 archaeological assessment of the study area has determined that the study area exhibits potential for the identification and recovery of archaeological resources and a Stage 2 archaeological assessment is recommended.

2.0 FIELD METHODS

The Stage 2 assessment of the property located at Wellington Road 109, Lot 36, Concession 1, Geographic Township of West Garafraxa, Township of Wellington North, County of Wellington was conducted on 20 and 27 May and 4 July 2025 under PIF P229-0163-2025 issued to Allan Morton (P229), of Bluestone by the MCM. The study area is irregular and measures approximately 431.61 metres west to east and 409.76 metres north to south. It totals approximately 10.21 hectares in size. The study area consists of a previously cultivated agricultural field that had been ploughed to facilitate a pedestrian survey for 81.07% of the study area (8.27 hectares). Forested areas make up 18.92% (1.91 hectares) of the study area, which was subject to shovel test pit survey at intervals of 5 metres in accordance with Section 2.1.2 of the MCM 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (Government of Ontario 2011). Portions of the unploughed

STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND ASSESSMENT AND STAGE 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AT WELLINGTON ROAD 109, LOT 36, CONCESSION 1, GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIP OF WEST GARAFRAXA, TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH, COUNTY OF WELLINGTON

area (1.2%, 0.13 hectares) contained a single dwelling, gravel driveway, agricultural building, trash piles, and farm equipment and could not be assessed by a shovel test pit survey due to obstruction of the area and ground disturbance. There is a yard surrounding the dwelling, totaling 4.5% (0.46 hectares), which was subject to shovel test pit survey at intervals of 10 metres to confirm disturbance.

All areas subject to a pedestrian survey were recently cultivated agricultural lands. Areas subject to pedestrian survey were plowed and weathered to ensure adequate rainfall to improve the visibility of archaeological resources. More than 80% of the ploughed surface was visible, and topsoil was completely exposed. The transects of pedestrian surveys were spaced at intervals of 5 meters, ensuring the recommended 20 survey transects per hectare (Section 2.1.1, Standards, 1-6).

Each shovel test pit was approximately 30 centimeters in diameter and excavated five centimeters into sterile subsoil. The soils and test pits were then examined for stratigraphy, cultural features, or evidence of fill. All soil was screened through six millimeter (mm) mesh hardware cloth to facilitate the recovery of small artifacts and then used to backfill the pit. The shovel test pits were excavated to within 1 metre of structures – where applicable.

Figure 10 provides an illustration of the Stage 2 assessment strategies. Photograph locations and directions are shown in Figure 11. No further archaeological methods were employed since no artifacts were recovered during the test pit survey.

During the Stage 2 survey, assessment conditions were appropriate for fieldwork and at no time were the field, weather, or lighting conditions detrimental to the recovery of archaeological material (Table 4). Except for the disturbed areas, a pedestrian survey and shovel test pitting at 5-meter intervals was employed throughout the area of archaeological potential illustrated in Figure 10. In disturbed areas that could be surveyed, the survey consisted of shovel test pit surveys at 10-metre intervals to confirm disturbance. Photos 1 to 28 confirm that field conditions met the requirements for a Stage

STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND ASSESSMENT AND STAGE 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AT WELLINGTON ROAD 109, LOT 36, CONCESSION 1, GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIP OF WEST GARAFRAXA, TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH, COUNTY OF WELLINGTON

2 archaeological assessment, as per the MCM 2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (Section 7.8.6 Standard 1a; Government of Ontario 2011).

Table 4: Field and Weather Conditions

Date	Activity	Weather	Field Conditions
20 May 2025	Shovel Test Pit Survey and Pedestrian Survey	Hot, sunny	Dry Soil
27 May 2025	Shovel Test Pit Survey	Hot, sunny	Dry Soil
4 July 2025	Shovel Test Pit Survey	Hot, sunny	Dry Soil

3.0 RECORD OF FINDS

The Stage 2 archaeological assessment was conducted employing the methods described in Section 2.0. An inventory of the documentary record generated by fieldwork is provided in Table 5 below. No archaeological resources were identified during the Stage 2 archaeological assessment of the study area.

Table 5: Inventory of Documentary Record

Document Type	Current Location of Document Type	Additional Comments
1 Page of field notes	Bluestone office, York Region	In original field book and photocopied in project file
1 Hand drawn map	Bluestone office, York Region	In original field book and photocopied in project file
1 map provided by Client	Bluestone office, York Region	Hard and digital copies in project file
Digital photographs	Bluestone office, York Region	Stored digitally in project file

4.0 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS

The study area is irregular and measures approximately 431.61 metres west to east and 409.76 metres north to south. It totals approximately 10.21 hectares in size. The study area consists of a previously cultivated agricultural field that had been ploughed to facilitate a pedestrian survey for 81.07% of the study area (8.27 hectares). Forested areas make up 18.92% (1.91 hectares) of the study area which was subject to shovel test pit survey at intervals of 5 metres in accordance with Section 2.1.2 of the MCM 2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (Government of Ontario 2011). Portions of the unploughed area (1.2%, 0.13 hectares) contained a single dwelling, gravel driveway, agricultural building, trash piles, and farm equipment and could not be assessed by a shovel test pit survey due to obstruction of the area and ground disturbance. There is a yard surrounding the dwelling, totalling 4.5% (0.46 hectares), which was subject to shovel test pit survey at intervals of 10 metres to confirm disturbance.

No archaeological resources were identified during the Stage 2 archaeological assessment of the study area, and as such **no further archaeological assessment of the property is recommended.**

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

All work met provincial standards and no archaeological sites were identified during the Stage 2 assessment. If construction plans change to incorporate new areas that were not subject to a Stage 2 field survey, these must be assessed prior to the initiation of construction. In keeping with legislative stipulations, all construction and demolition-related impacts (including, for example, machine travel, material storage and stockpiling, earth moving) must be restricted to the areas that were archaeologically assessed and cleared by the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism through acceptance of the assessment report into the provincial register.

As no archaeological resources were found on the subject property, no further archaeological assessment of the property is required.

Notwithstanding the results and recommendations presented in this study, Bluestone Research notes that no archaeological assessment, no matter how thorough or carefully completed, can necessarily predict, account for, or identify every form of isolated or deeply buried archaeological deposit. In the event that archaeological remains are found during subsequent construction activities, the consultant archaeologist, approval authority, and the Archaeology Programs Unit, Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism should be immediately notified.

6.0 ADVICE ON COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION

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

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

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

The *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.

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.

7.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY AND SOURCES

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8.0 IMAGES

STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND ASSESSMENT AND STAGE 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AT WELLINGTON ROAD 109, LOT 36, CONCESSION 1, GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIP OF WEST GARAFRAXA, TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH, COUNTY OF WELLINGTON



Plate 1: Overgrown grassy area and forest on the northwest edge of the study area. Forest and overgrown grassy area were subject to shovel test pit survey at 5-metre intervals. View to the northeast.



Plate 2: Forest on the northwest edge of the study area. The forested area was subject to shovel test pit survey at 5-metre intervals. View to the north.



Plate 3: Shovel test pit survey spaced at 5-metre intervals in progress in the overgrown grassy area in the northwest area of the study area. View to the northwest.



Plate 4: Mowed path through overgrown grassy area in the northwest of the study area, which was assessed by shovel test pit survey spaced at 5-metre intervals. View to the east.

STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND ASSESSMENT AND STAGE 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AT WELLINGTON ROAD 109, LOT 36, CONCESSION 1, GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIP OF WEST GARAFRAXA, TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH, COUNTY OF WELLINGTON



Plate 5: Overgrown grassy area to the west of the dwelling in the northwest area of the study area, which was assessed by shovel test pit survey spaced at 5-metre intervals. View to the east.



Plate 6: Wire fence going east-west in the northern area of the northwest forested area. The forested area was subject to shovel test pit survey at 5-metre intervals. View to the south.



Plate 7: Rusted metal pipe on the northern edge of the forested area in the northwest part of the study area. View to the north.



Plate 8: Forest abutting Wellington Road 109 in the north of the forested area in the northwest part of the study area. The forested area was subject to shovel test pit survey at 5-metre intervals. View to the north.

STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND ASSESSMENT AND STAGE 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AT WELLINGTON ROAD 109, LOT 36, CONCESSION 1, GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIP OF WEST GARAFRAXA, TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH, COUNTY OF WELLINGTON



Plate 9: View of the southern area of the field and forested edge that could not be ploughed. The area that could not be ploughed was subject to shovel test pit survey at intervals of 5 metres around the perimeter. The ploughed area was subject to pedestrian survey on transects of 5 metres. View to the southeast.



Plate 10: Shovel test pit in progress on the western edge of the forested area on the northwest part of the study area. The forested area was subject to shovel test pit survey at 5-metre intervals. View to the southwest.



Plate 11: Southern-central edge of the forested area on the northwest part of the study area. The forested area was subject to shovel test pit survey at 5-metre intervals. View to the south.



Plate 12: Southeastern edge of the forested area on the northwest part of the study area. The forested area was subject to shovel test pit survey at 5-metre intervals. View to the south.

STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND ASSESSMENT AND STAGE 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AT WELLINGTON ROAD 109, LOT 36, CONCESSION 1, GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIP OF WEST GARAFRAXA, TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH, COUNTY OF WELLINGTON



Plate 13: Typical shovel test pit in the northwestern corner of the study area. Metre stick shows north.



Plate 14: View of the southeastern corner of the field and forested edge that could not be ploughed. The area that could not be ploughed was subject to shovel test pit survey at intervals of 5 metres around the perimeter. The ploughed area was subject to pedestrian survey on transects of 5 metres. View to the north.



Plate 15: View of the center of the study area and the forested perimeter of the study area that could not be ploughed. The area that could not be ploughed was subject to shovel test pit survey at intervals of 5 metres around the perimeter. The ploughed area was subject to pedestrian survey on transects of 5 metres. View to the north.



Plate 16: Underground pipe that was exposed at the beginning of a shovel test pit. Located on the southern edge of the northwest forested area as the lawn northwest of the house transitions into forest.

STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND ASSESSMENT AND STAGE 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AT WELLINGTON ROAD 109, LOT 36, CONCESSION 1, GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIP OF WEST GARAFRAXA, TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH, COUNTY OF WELLINGTON



Plate 17: Shovel test pit in progress within 1 metre of a structure to the west of the agricultural structure to the south of the driveway. View to the east.



Plate 18: Grassy lawn, driveway, and forest to the north of the dwelling. The lawn was subject to shovel test pit survey at intervals of 10-metres to confirm disturbance. Forested area was subject to shovel test pit survey at intervals of 5 metres. View to the north.



Plate 19: Shovel test pit in progress on the grassy lawn to the east of the dwelling. The lawn was subject to shovel test pit survey at intervals of 10-metres to confirm disturbance. View to the southeast.



Plate 20: View of the grassy lawn to the northeast of the dwelling and driveway leading to Wellington Road 109. View to the northeast.

STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND ASSESSMENT AND STAGE 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AT WELLINGTON ROAD 109, LOT 36, CONCESSION 1, GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIP OF WEST GARAFRAXA, TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH, COUNTY OF WELLINGTON



Plate 21: Typical shovel test pit on the southeastern edge of the study area where ploughing was not possible. Metre stick shows north.



Plate 23: Typical shovel test pit on the northern edge of the study area where ploughing was not possible. The area was subject to shovel test pit survey at intervals of 5 metres. Metre stick shows north.



Plate 22: Shovel test pit survey in progress in the overgrown grassy area east of the agricultural building. The area was subject to shovel test pit survey at intervals of 5 metres. View to the east.



Plate 24: Shovel test pit survey in progress on the eastern edge of the study area. The area was subject to shovel test pit survey at intervals of 5 metres. View to the southeast.

STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND ASSESSMENT AND STAGE 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AT WELLINGTON ROAD 109, LOT 36, CONCESSION 1, GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIP OF WEST GARAFRAXA, TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH, COUNTY OF WELLINGTON



Plate 25: Typical shovel test pit to confirm disturbance in the grassy lawn to the north of the house. The area was subject to shovel test pit survey at intervals of 10 metres to confirm disturbance from landscaping. Metre stick shows north.



Plate 26. Shovel test pit survey in progress on the northeast corner area of the study area where ploughing was not possible. The area was subject to shovel test pit survey at intervals of five metres. View to the east.



Plate 27: Pile of wood on the unploughed northern edge of the study area, to the east of the driveway. Shovel test pit survey spaced at 5-metre intervals were conducted around the pile. View to the north.



Plate 28: Southwestern portion of the study area and forested perimeter that could not be ploughed. Unploughed areas were subject to shovel test pit survey at intervals of 5 metres. Ploughed areas were subject to pedestrian survey at transects of 5 metres. View to the north.

**STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND ASSESSMENT AND STAGE 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AT WELLINGTON ROAD 109, LOT 36, CONCESSION 1, GEOGRAPHIC
TOWNSHIP OF WEST GARAFRAXA, TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH, COUNTY OF WELLINGTON**

9.0 MAPS

All maps will follow on succeeding pages.

STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND ASSESSMENT AND STAGE 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AT WELLINGTON ROAD 109, LOT 36, CONCESSION 1, GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIP OF WEST GARAFRAXA, TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH, COUNTY OF WELLINGTON



Figure 1: Topographic Map of Study Area

STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND ASSESSMENT AND STAGE 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AT WELLINGTON ROAD 109, LOT 36, CONCESSION 1, GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIP OF WEST GARAFRAXA, TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH, COUNTY OF WELLINGTON

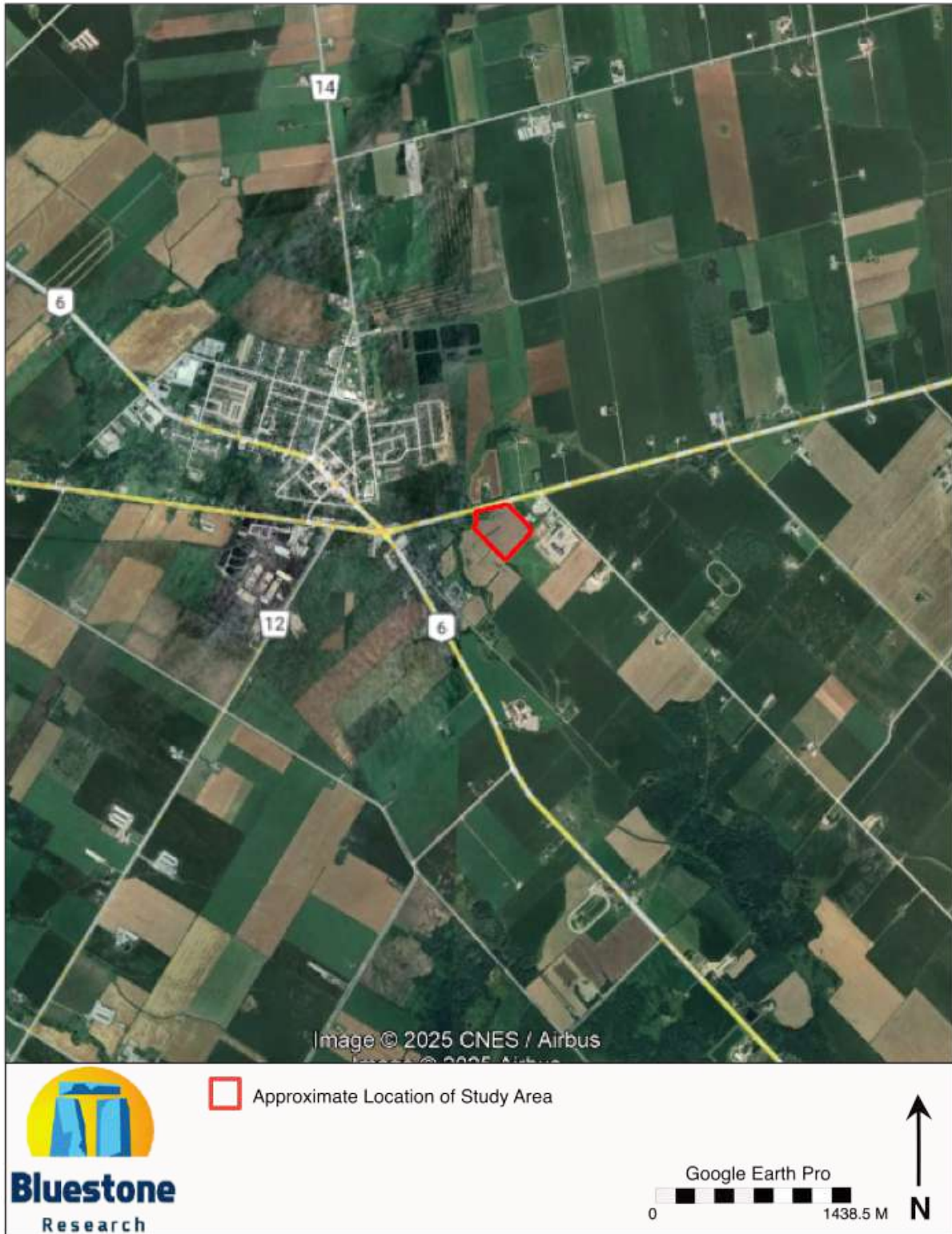


Figure 2: Study Area Location

STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND ASSESSMENT AND STAGE 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AT WELLINGTON ROAD 109, LOT 36, CONCESSION 1, GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIP OF WEST GARAFRAXA, TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH, COUNTY OF WELLINGTON



Figure 3: Study Area Location, Detailed

STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND ASSESSMENT AND STAGE 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AT WELLINGTON ROAD 109, LOT 36, CONCESSION 1, GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIP OF WEST GARAFRAXA, TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH, COUNTY OF WELLINGTON

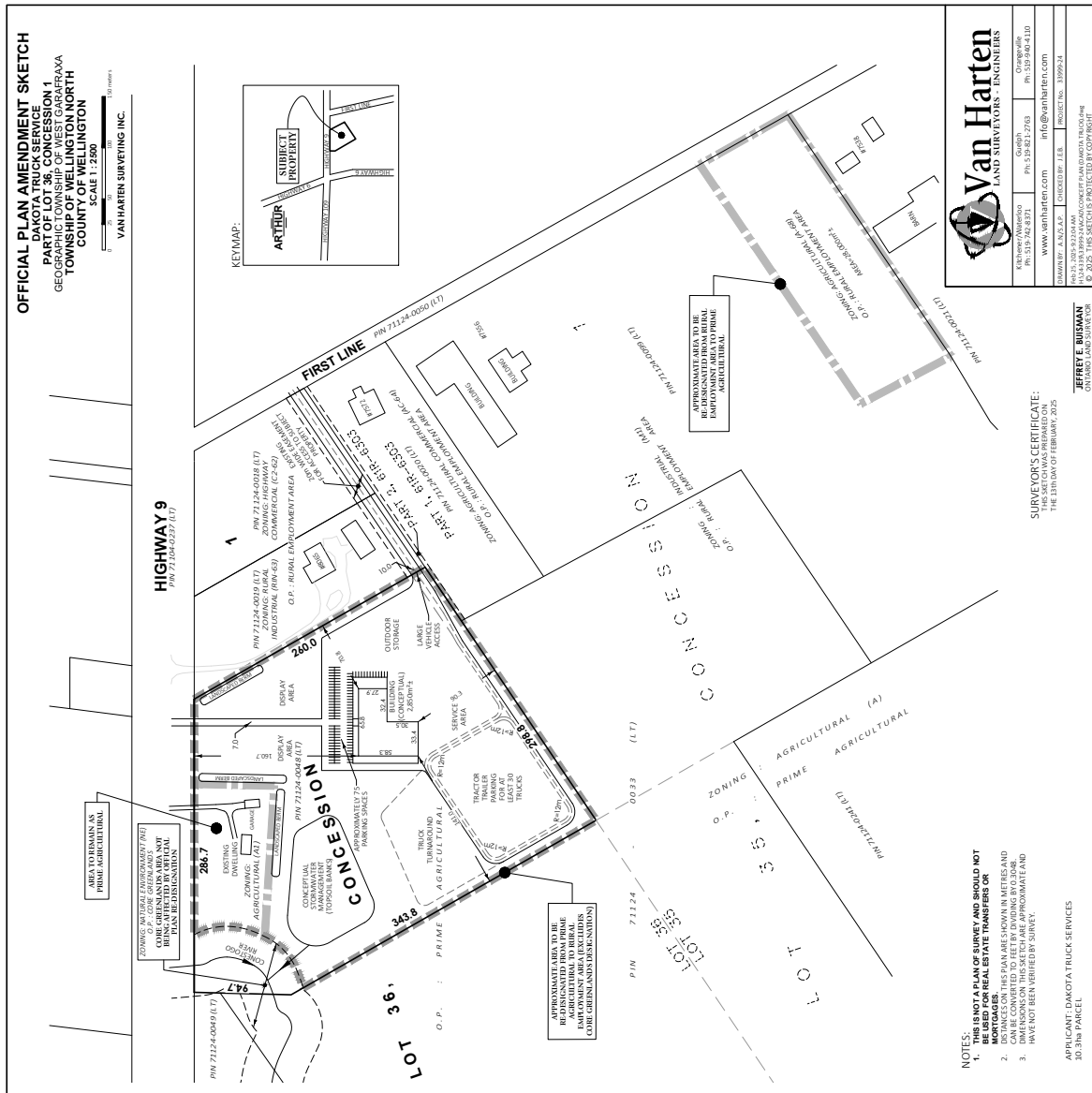


Figure 4: Development Plan

STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND ASSESSMENT AND STAGE 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AT WELLINGTON ROAD 109, LOT 36, CONCESSION 1, GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIP OF WEST GARAFRAXA, TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH, COUNTY OF WELLINGTON



Figure 5: Surficial Geology of the Study Area

STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND ASSESSMENT AND STAGE 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AT WELLINGTON ROAD 109, LOT 36, CONCESSION 1, GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIP OF WEST GARAFRAXA, TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH, COUNTY OF WELLINGTON



Figure 6: Soils within the Study Area

STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND ASSESSMENT AND STAGE 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AT WELLINGTON ROAD 109, LOT 36, CONCESSION 1, GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIP OF WEST GARAFRAXA, TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH, COUNTY OF WELLINGTON

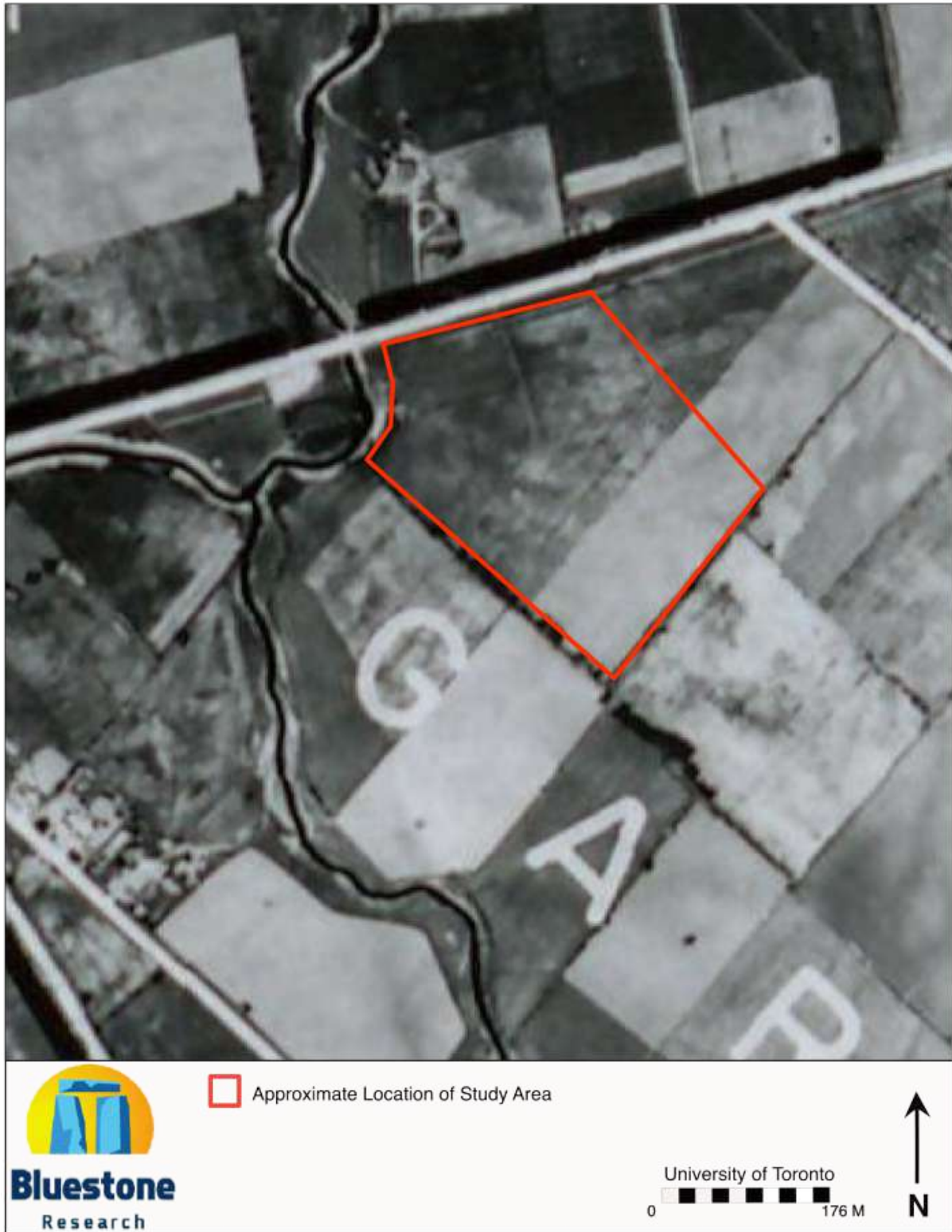


Figure 7: 1954 Air Photograph

STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND ASSESSMENT AND STAGE 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AT WELLINGTON ROAD 109, LOT 36, CONCESSION 1, GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIP OF WEST GARAFRAXA, TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH, COUNTY OF WELLINGTON

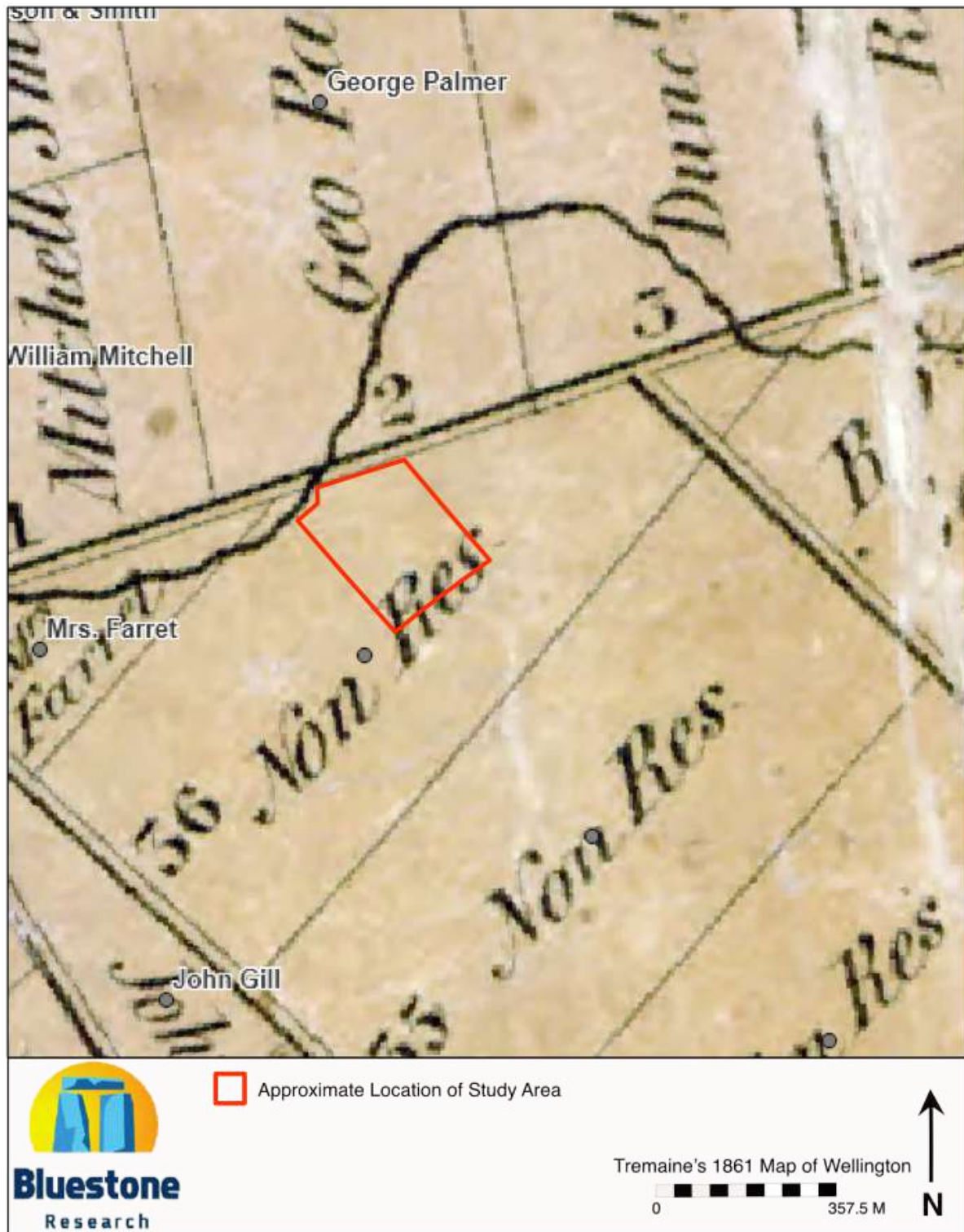


Figure 8: Part of the 1861 Tremaine Map of Wellington County

STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND ASSESSMENT AND STAGE 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AT WELLINGTON ROAD 109, LOT 36, CONCESSION 1, GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIP OF WEST GARAFRAXA, TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH, COUNTY OF WELLINGTON

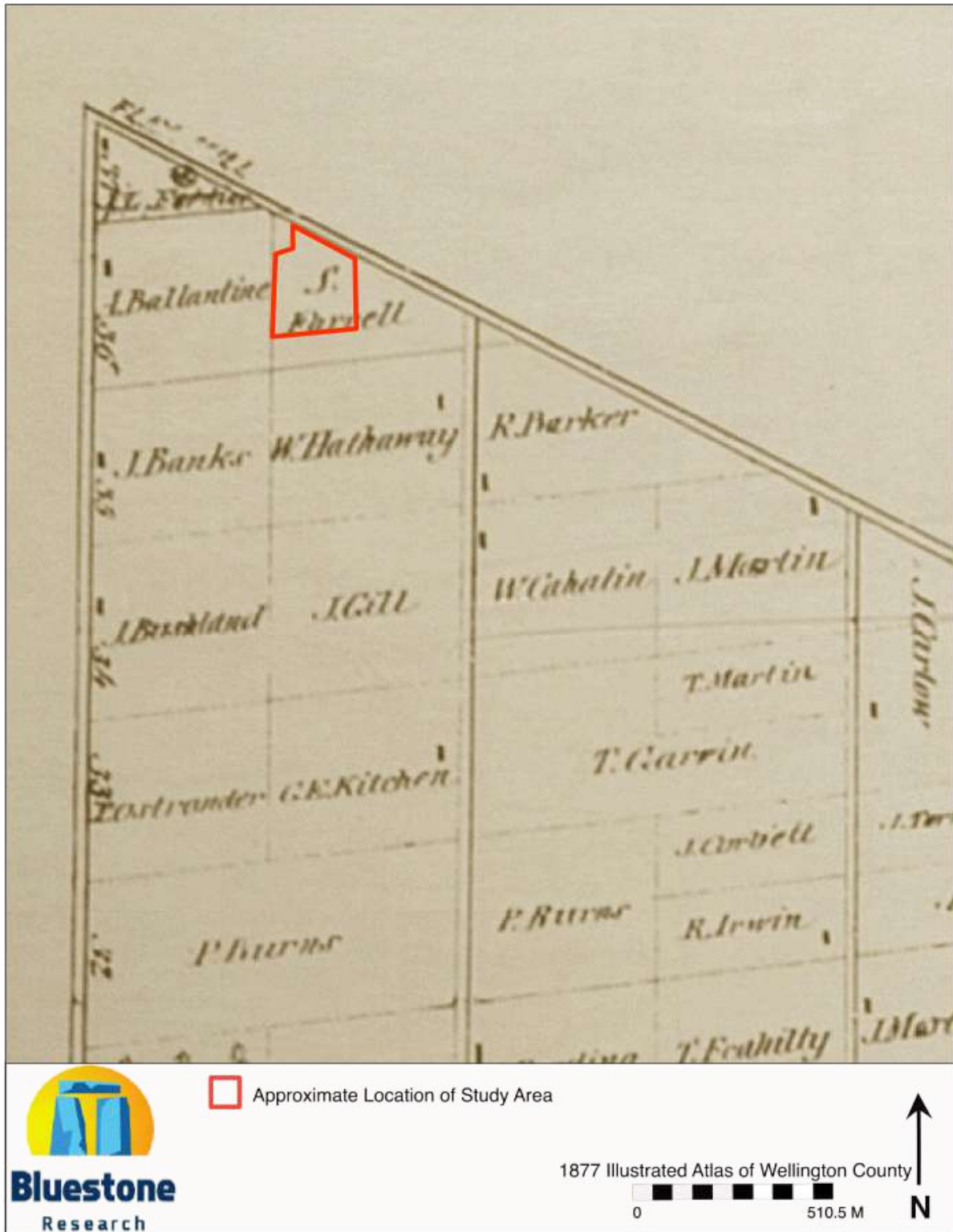


Figure 9: Part of the 1877 Illustrated Historical Atlas of Wellington County

STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND ASSESSMENT AND STAGE 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AT WELLINGTON ROAD 109, LOT 36, CONCESSION 1, GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIP OF WEST GARAFRAXA, TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH, COUNTY OF WELLINGTON



Figure 10: Assessment Strategies

STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND ASSESSMENT AND STAGE 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AT WELLINGTON ROAD 109, LOT 36, CONCESSION 1, GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIP OF WEST GARAFRAXA, TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH, COUNTY OF WELLINGTON



Figure 11: Photograph Number, Location and Direction