ARCHAEOLOGY | HERITAGE | OUTREACH | CONSERVATION

Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment
New Municipal Office
260 Concession Road 8 East
Township of Tiny
Part of Lot 10, Concession 8
Geographic Township of Tiny
Simcoe County, Ontario

Prepared for
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PIF #P007-1574-2024
ARA File #2024-0165

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Original Report

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Under a contract awarded in April 2024, Archaeological Research Associates Ltd. carried out a Stage 1 assessment of lands with the potential to be impacted by the construction of a new municipal office at 260 Concession Road 8 East in the Township of Tiny, Simcoe County, Ontario. It is anticipated that the new office will be approximately 2,790 m^2. The assessment had no legislative trigger and was carried out as part of the proponent's due diligence process. This report documents the background research and potential modelling involved in the investigation and presents conclusions and recommendations pertaining to archaeological concerns.

The Stage 1 assessment was conducted in June 2024 under Project Information Form #P007-1574-2024. The investigation encompassed the entire study area. Legal permission to enter and conduct all necessary fieldwork activities was granted by the property owner. At the time of assessment, the study area consisted of extant water system structures, a driveway and parking lot, abandoned farmland and various other grassed, overgrown and wooded lands. Endangered Forked Three-awned Grass (*Aristida basiramea*) may also be located within the study area.

The Stage 1 assessment determined that the study area comprises a mixture of areas of archaeological potential and areas of no archaeological potential. It is recommended that all areas of archaeological potential that could be impacted by the project be subject to a Stage 2 property assessment in accordance with Section 2.1 of the 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (*S&Gs*). If endangered grasses are found that require relocation, it is recommended that all removal activities be subject to Stage 2 monitoring in accordance with Section 2.1.7 Standard 4 of the 2011 *S&Gs*. The property survey could then proceed within the associated areas to determine whether any archaeological resources are present. The identified areas of no archaeological potential do not require any additional assessment.

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ABBREVIATIONS

ARA – Archaeological Research Associates Ltd.
CIF – Contract Information Form
MCM – Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism
PIF – Project Information Form
S&Gs – Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists

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1.0 PROJECT CONTEXT

1.1 Development Context

Under a contract awarded in April 2024, Archaeological Research Associates Ltd. (ARA) carried out a Stage 1 assessment of lands with the potential to be impacted by the construction of a new municipal office at 260 Concession Road 8 East in the Township of Tiny, Simcoe County, Ontario. It is anticipated that the new office will be approximately 2,790 m^2. The assessment had no legislative trigger and was carried out as part of the proponent's due diligence process. This report documents the background research and potential modelling involved in the investigation and presents conclusions and recommendations pertaining to archaeological concerns.

The study area consists of a rectilinear parcel of land with an area of 58.57 ha (Map 1). This parcel is generally bounded by Concession Road 9 East to the northwest, predominantly wooded lands to the northeast and southwest, and Concession Road 8 East to the southeast. In legal terms, the study area falls on part of Lot 10, Concession 8 in the Geographic Township of Tiny, Simcoe County. The Crown obtained these lands as part of the Lake Simcoe Purchase (Treaty 16) in 1815. The parcel falls within the treaty and shared traditional territories of the Williams Treaties First Nations, comprising the Mississauga communities of Alderville First Nation, Curve Lake First Nation, Hiawatha First Nation and Scugog Island First Nation and the Chippewa communities of Beausoleil First Nation, Georgina Island First Nation and Rama First Nation. The treaty harvesting rights of these First Nations were re-affirmed within this area as part of the Settlement Agreement in 2018. This area falls within the ancestral territory of the Huron-Wendat Nation and is also of interest to the Métis Nation of Ontario, Moose Deer Point First Nation and Wahta Mohawks.

The Stage 1 assessment was conducted in June 2024 under Project Information Form (PIF) #P007-1574-2024. The investigation encompassed the entire study area. Legal permission to enter and conduct all necessary fieldwork activities was granted by the property owner. As set out in Section 1.0 of the 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (*S&G*s), the investigation was carried out to achieve the following objectives:

- Provide information about geography, history and current land conditions;
- Determine whether any previous archaeological fieldwork has been completed;
- Evaluate in detail the study area's archaeological potential; and
- Recommend appropriate strategies for Stage 2 assessment, if necessary.

The Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM) is asked to review the results and recommendations presented herein and enter the report into the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports. A Record of Indigenous Engagement is included in the project report package in accordance with the requirements set out in Section 7.6.2 of the 2011 *S&Gs*.

1.2 Historical Context

After a century of archaeological work in southern Ontario, scholarly understanding of the historical usage of the area has become very well-developed. With occupation beginning in the Palaeo period approximately 11,000 years ago, the greater vicinity of the study area comprises a

complex chronology of Indigenous and Euro-Canadian histories. Section 1.2.1 summarizes the region's settlement history, Section 1.2.2 provides traditional knowledge and Section 1.2.3 documents past and present land uses. One previous archaeological report containing relevant background information was obtained during the research component of the study. This report is summarized in Section 1.3.3, and the reference appears in Section 7.0.

1.2.1 Settlement History

1.2.1.1 Pre-Contact

The Pre-Contact history of the region is lengthy and rich, and a variety of Indigenous groups inhabited the landscape. Archaeologists generally divide this history into three main periods: Palaeo, Archaic and Woodland. Each period comprises a range of sub-periods characterized by identifiable trends in material culture and settlement patterns, which are used to interpret past lifeways. The principal characteristics of these sub-periods are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1: Pre-Contact Settlement History
(Wright 1972; Ellis and Ferris 1990; Warrick 2000; Fox and Garrad 2004; Munson and Jamieson 2013)

Sub-Period	Timeframe	Characteristics
Early Palaeo	9000–8400 BC	Gainey, Barnes and Crowfield traditions; Small bands; Mobile hunters and gatherers; Utilization of seasonal resources and large territories; Fluted points
Late Palaeo	8400–7500 BC	Holcombe, Hi-Lo and Lanceolate biface traditions; Continuing mobility; Campsite/Way-Station sites; Smaller territories are utilized; Non-fluted points
Early Archaic	7500–6000 BC	Side-Notched, Corner-Notched (Nettling, Thebes) and Bifurcate traditions; Growing diversity of stone tool types; Heavy woodworking tools appear (e.g., ground stone axes and chisels)
Middle Archaic	6000–2500 BC	Stemmed (Kirk, Stanly/Neville), Brewerton Side- and Corner-Notched traditions; Reliance on local resources; Populations increasing; More ritual activities; Fully ground and polished tools; Net-sinkers common; Earliest copper tools
Late Archaic	2500–900 BC	Narrow Point (Lamoka), Broad Point (Genesee) and Small Point (Crawford Knoll) traditions; Less mobility; Use of fish-weirs; True cemeteries appear; Stone pipes emerge; Long-distance trade (marine shells and galena)
Early Woodland	900–400 BC	Meadowood tradition; Crude cord-roughened ceramics emerge; Meadowood cache blades and side-notched points; Bands of up to 35 people
Middle Woodland	400 BC–AD 600	Point Peninsula tradition; Vinette 2 ceramics appear; Small camp sites and seasonal village sites; Influences from northern Ontario and Hopewell area to the south; Hopewellian influence can be seen in continued use of burial mounds
Middle/Late Woodland Transition	AD 600–900	Gradual transition between Point Peninsula and later traditions; Princess Point tradition emerges elsewhere (i.e., in the vicinity of the Grand and Credit Rivers)
Late Woodland	AD 900–1600	Area occupied by Algonquian-speaking Anishinaabeg and Iroquoian-speaking peoples such as the Huron-Petun; Early focus on the latter linguistic group identified Glen Meyer, Uren, Middleport and later traditions and tended to emphasize a linear 'Iroquoian' developmental sequence; There was likely a close interaction sphere between the two groups, which may have resulted in shared material culture and even some cohabitation; Algonquian sites or shared sites possibly linked with more diverse raw materials and a greater reliance on quartz; Huron-Petun associated with large villages, hunting and fishing camps, cabin sites and hamlets; Fur trade begins ca. 1580; European trade goods appear

1.2.1.2 Post-Contact

The arrival of European explorers and traders at the beginning of the 17th century triggered widespread shifts in Indigenous lifeways and set the stage for the ensuing Euro-Canadian settlement process. Documentation for this period is abundant, ranging from the first sketches of Upper Canada and the written accounts of early explorers to detailed township maps and lengthy histories. The Post-Contact period can be effectively discussed in terms of major historical events, and the principal characteristics associated with these events are summarized in Table 2.

Table 2: Post-Contact Settlement History
(Smith 1846; Coyne 1895; Hunter 1909a, 1909b; Lajeunesse 1960; Cumming 1975; Ellis and Ferris 1990; Surtees 1994; AO 2024)

Historical Event	Timeframe	Characteristics
Early Exploration	Early 17th century	Brûlé explores southern Ontario in 1610/11; Champlain travels through in 1613 and 1615/1616, making contact with a number of Indigenous groups (including the Algonquin, Huron-Wendat and other First Nations); European trade goods become increasingly common and begin to put pressure on traditional industries
Increased Contact and Conflict	Mid- to late 17th century	Conflicts between various First Nations during the Beaver Wars result in numerous population shifts; European explorers continue to document the area, and many Indigenous groups trade directly with the French and English; 'The Great Peace of Montreal' treaty established between roughly 39 different First Nations and New France in 1701
Fur Trade Development	Early to mid-18th century	Growth and spread of the fur trade; Peace between the French and English with the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713; Ethnogenesis of the Métis; Hostilities between French and British lead to the Seven Years' War in 1754; French surrender in 1760
British Control	Mid- to late 18th century	*Royal Proclamation* of 1763 recognizes the title of the First Nations to the land; Numerous treaties subsequently arranged by the Crown; First land cession under the new protocols is the Seneca surrender of the west side of the Niagara River in 1764; The Niagara Purchase (Treaty 381) in 1781 included this area
Loyalist Influx	Late 18th century	United Empire Loyalist influx after the American Revolutionary War (1775–1783); British develop interior communication routes and acquire additional lands; J. Collins acquires the northern part of the Toronto Carrying Place in 1785 (subject to a confirmatory surrender as part of the Williams Treaties in 1923); *Constitutional Act* of 1791 creates Upper and Lower Canada
County Development	Late 18th to early 19th century	Nominally became part of Kent County in 1792 and Simcoe County in 1798; Additional land cessions included the Penetanguishene Purchase (Treaty 5) in 1798, Lake Simcoe Purchase (Treaty 16) in 1815 and Nottawasaga Purchase (Treaty 18) in 1818; All townships surveyed by the mid-1830s; Townships ceded to Waterloo County in 1837 and York County in 1838; Simcoe County independent after the abolition of the district system in 1849
Township Formation	Early 19th century	W. Dunlop opened the Penetanguishene Road ca. 1814; Penetanguishene was developed as a military and naval depot in 1818, and retired soldiers settled sporadically along the military road; Tiny was surveyed by J. Goessman in 1821/22; Settlement largely occurred after the migration of a French-Canadian contingent from Drummond Island to Penetanguishene in 1828; Some of these settlers took up larger farms in what became the Lafontaine Settlement in the northwest; L. DesCheneaux built the first house ca. 1830, and several others had settled there by 1836; The 'King's Mills' erected at Tiny Beach ca. 1832
Township Development	Mid-19th to early 20th century	Population reached 230 by 1842 (mainly French and Indigenous beyond Penetanguishene); Three schools were in operation by 1843; 3,336 ha taken up by 1846, with 361 ha under cultivation; Tiny and Tay were separated in 1869; Traversed by the North Simcoe Railway (1878) and the Grand Trunk Railway's Tay Cutoff (1911); Communities at Gibson, Lafontaine, Penetanguishene, Perkinsfield, Waverly, Wyebridge and Wyevale

1.2.2 Traditional Knowledge

The study area occupies lands that fall within the treaty, traditional and/or ancestral territories of numerous Indigenous peoples and communities. Indeed, this area was used and shared by many groups over the millennia; each with their own traditions as to how they arrived, how they lived and the major events that punctuated their time there. At the time of writing, the Chippewas of Rama First Nation and Huron-Wendat Nation have provided traditional knowledge for inclusion in archaeological reports. These contributions are reproduced in Table 3–Table 4 (ordered alphabetically). It should be noted that one group's traditional knowledge does not necessarily reflect the views of other groups, or the consultant archaeologist.

Table 3: Chippewas of Rama First Nation History
(Provided by Chippewas of Rama First Nation)

Rama First Nation History
The Chippewas of Rama First Nation are an Anishinaabe (Ojibway) community located at Rama First Nation, ON. Our history began with a great migration from the East Coast of Canada into the Great Lakes region. Throughout a period of several hundred years, our direct ancestors again migrated to the north and eastern shores of Lake Huron and Georgian Bay. Our Elders say that we made room in our territory for our allies, the Huron-Wendat Nation, during their times of war with the Haudenosaunee. Following the dispersal of the Huron-Wendat Nation from the region in the mid-1600s, our stories say that we again migrated to our territories in what today is known as Muskoka and Simcoe County. Several major battles with the Haundenosaunee culminated in peace being agreed between the Anishinaabe and the Haudenosaunee, after which the Haudenosaunee agreed to leave the region and remain in southern Ontario. Thus, since the early 18th century, much of central Ontario into the lower parts of northern Ontario has been Anishinaabe territory. The more recent history of Rama First Nation begins with the creation of the "Coldwater Narrows" reserve, one of the first reserves in Canada. The Crown intended to relocate our ancestors to the Coldwater reserve and ultimately assimilate our ancestors into Euro-Canadian culture. Underlying the attempts to assimilate our ancestors were the plans to take possession of our vast hunting and harvesting territories. Feeling the impacts of increasingly widespread settlement, many of our ancestors moved to the Coldwater reserve in the early 1830s. Our ancestors built homes, mills, and farmsteads along the old portage route which ran through the reserve, connecting Lake Simcoe to Georgian Bay (this route is now called "Highway 12"). After a short period of approximately six years, the Crown had a change of plans. Frustrated at our ancestors continued exploiting of hunting territories (spanning roughly from Newmarket to the south, Kawartha Lakes to the east, Meaford to the west, and Lake Nipissing to the north), as well as unsuccessful assimilation attempts, the Crown reneged on the promise of reserve land. Three of our Chiefs, including Chief Yellowhead, went to York under the impression they were signing documents affirming their ownership of land and buildings. The Chiefs were misled, and inadvertently allegedly surrendered the Coldwater reserve back to the Crown. Our ancestors, then known as the Chippewas of Lakes Simcoe and Huron, were left landless. Earlier treaties, such as Treaty 16 and Treaty 18, had already resulted in nearly 2,000,000 acres being allegedly surrendered to the Crown. The Chippewas made the decision to split into three groups. The first followed Chief Snake to Snake Island and Georgina Island (today known as the Chippewas of Georgina Island). The second group followed Chief Aissance to Beausoleil Island, and later to Christian Island (Beausoleil First Nation). The third group, led by Chief Yellowhead, moved to the Narrows between Lakes Simcoe and Couchiching and eventually, Rama (Chippewas of Rama First Nation). A series of purchases, using Rama's own funds, resulted in Yellowhead purchasing approximately 1,600 acres of abandoned farmland in Rama Township. This land makes up the core of the Rama Reserve today, and we have called it home since the early 1840's. Our ancestors began developing our community, clearing fields for farming and building homes. They continued to hunt and harvest in their traditional territories, especially within the Muskoka region, up until the early 1920's. In 1923, the Williams Treaties were signed, surrendering 12,000,000 acres of previously unceded land to the Crown. Once again, our ancestors were misled, and they were informed that in surrendering the land, they gave up their right to access their seasonal traditional hunting and harvesting territories. With accessing territories difficult, our ancestors turned to other ways to survive. Many men guided tourists around their former family hunting territories in Muskoka, showing them places to fish and hunt. Others worked in lumber camps and mills. Our grandmothers made crafts such as porcupine quill baskets and black ash baskets, and sold them to tourists visiting Simcoe and Muskoka. The children were forced into Indian Day School, and some were taken away to Residential Schools. Church on the reserve began to indoctrinate our ancestors. Our community, along with every other First Nation in Canada,

Rama First Nation History
entered a dark period of attempted genocide at the hands of Canada and the Crown. Somehow, our ancestors persevered, and they kept our culture, language, and community alive. Today, our community has grown into a bustling place, and is home to approximately 1,100 people. We are a proud and progressive First Nations community.

Table 4: Huron-Wendat Nation History
(Provided by Huron-Wendat Nation)

History of the Nation Huronne-Wendat
As an ancient people, traditionally, the Huron-Wendat, a great Iroquoian civilization of farmers and fishermen-hunter-gatherers and also the masters of trade and diplomacy, represented several thousand individuals. They lived in a territory stretching from the Gaspé Peninsula in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence and up along the Saint Lawrence Valley on both sides of the Saint Lawrence River all the way to the Great Lakes. Huronia, included in Wendake South, represents a part of the ancestral territory of the Huron-Wendat Nation in Ontario. It extends from Lake Nipissing in the North to Lake Ontario in the South and Île Perrot in the East to around Owen Sound in the West. This territory is today marked by several hundred archaeological sites, listed to date, testifying to this strong occupation of the territory by the Nation. It is an invaluable heritage for the Huron-Wendat Nation and the largest archaeological heritage related to a First Nation in Canada. According to our own traditions and customs, the Huron-Wendat are intimately linked to the Saint Lawrence River and its estuary, which is the main route of its activities and way of life. The Huron-Wendat formed alliances and traded goods with other First Nations among the networks that stretched across the continent. Today, the population of the Huron-Wendat Nation is composed of more than 4000 members distributed on-reserve and off-reserve. The Huron-Wendat Nation band council (CNHW) is headquartered in Wendake, the oldest First Nations community in Canada, located on the outskirts of Quebec City (20 km north of the city) on the banks of the Saint Charles River. There is only one Huron-Wendat community, whose ancestral territory is called the Nionwentsïo, which translates to “our beautiful land” in the Wendat language. The Huron-Wendat Nation is also the only authority that have the authority and rights to protect and take care of her ancestral sites in Wendake South.

1.2.3 Past and Present Land Use

1.2.3.1 Overview

During Pre-Contact and Early Contact times, the vicinity of the study area would have comprised a mixture of coniferous trees, deciduous trees and open areas. Indigenous communities actively utilized the land and its resources well into Post-Contact times, and they would have managed the landscape to varying degrees (e.g., establishing clearings for campsites, plant cultivation, etc.). Numerous villages, ‘bonepits’ (ossuaries) and forest trails were documented within or adjacent to the Geographic Township of Tiny by A.F. Hunter in the late 19th century (Hunter 1899). Although none of these features were located within or immediately adjacent to the study area, a forest trail and several villages were recorded to the northeast (Map 2). During the early 19th century, Euro-Canadian settlers arrived in the area and began to clear the forests for agricultural and settlement purposes. The study area was located southeast of the historical limits of Perkinsfield. The land use at the time of assessment can be classified as mixture of infrastructural and green space.

1.2.3.2 Mapping and Imagery Analysis

In order to gain a general understanding of the study area's past land uses, two historical settlement maps, one topographic map and five aerial images were examined during the research component of the study. Specifically, the following resources were consulted:

- *Hogg's Map of the County of Simcoe* (1871) (OHCMP 2019);
- *Simcoe Supplement in Illustrated Atlas of the Dominion of Canada* (1881) (MU 2001);
- A topographic map from 1950 (OCUL 2024); and
- Aerial images from 1954, 1978, 1989, 1997 and 2002 (Simcoe County 2024; U of T 2024).

The limits of the study area are shown on georeferenced versions of the consulted historical resources in Map 3–Map 10.

Hogg's Map of the County of Simcoe (1871) does not identify any occupants or farmsteads within the study area (Map 3). Given that this map does not depict any residential structures, the absence of buildings should not be taken as evidence that the parcel was unimproved. Concession Road 9 East and Concession Road 8 East appear to the northwest and southeast, respectively. The *Simcoe Supplement in Illustrated Atlas of the Dominion of Canada* (1881) similarly provides no insights regarding past occupants or land uses (Map 4). Since this publication only included information for its subscribers, these omissions are not particularly significant.

The topographic map from 1950 suggests that the study area comprised a mixture of agricultural and wooded lands, and a house is shown along Concession Road 8 East to the southeast (Map 5). The aerial images from 1954–1989 confirm this land use pattern (Map 6–Map 8), but the aerial image from 1997 indicates that the fields were no longer being cultivated (Map 9). The extant water system structures are visible in the aerial image from 2002 (Map 10).

1.3 Archaeological Context

The Stage 1 assessment (property inspection) was conducted on June 14, 2024 under PIF #P007-1574-2024. ARA utilized an Apple iPhone SE with a built-in GPS/GNSS receiver during the investigation (UTM17/NAD83). The limits of the study area were confirmed using project-specific GIS data translated into GPS points for reference in the field, in combination with aerial imagery showing physical features in relation to the subject lands.

The archaeological context of any given study area must be informed by 1) the condition of the property as found (Section 1.3.1), 2) a summary of registered or known archaeological sites located within a minimum 1 km radius (Section 1.3.2) and 3) descriptions of previous archaeological fieldwork carried out within the limits of, or immediately adjacent to the property (Section 1.3.3).

1.3.1 Condition of the Property

The study area lies within the Great Lakes–St. Lawrence forest region, which is a transitional zone between the southern deciduous forest and the northern boreal forest. This region extends along the St. Lawrence River across central Ontario to Lake Huron and west of Lake Superior along the border with Minnesota, and its southern portion extends into the more populated areas of Ontario.

It is dominated by hardwood forests, although coniferous trees such as white pine, red pine, hemlock and white cedar commonly mix with deciduous broad-leaved species like yellow birch, sugar and red maples, basswood and red oak (MNRF 2024). The study area may also contain Forked Three-awned Grass (*Aristida basiramea*), which is an endangered species. This grass, also known as Ice Age grass, is of significance to the Beausoleil First Nation people.

In terms of local physiography, the subject lands fall within the Simcoe Uplands. This region consists of a series of broad, rolling till plains separated by steep-sided valleys with flat floors. The uplands are encircled by numerous shorelines, indicating that they were islands in Lake Algonquin. A range of sand hills stands above the general level in northern Oro-Medonte, and the uplands on the Penetang Peninsula were submerged by Lake Algonquin and have boulder pavement, sand and silt on the surface (Chapman and Putnam 1984:182–184). According to the Ontario Soil Survey, the study area consists primarily of Tioga sandy loam with small areas of Sargent gravelly sandy loam and Wyevale gravelly sandy loam in the north and northwest. The characteristics of these soil types are summarized in Table 5 (Hoffman et al. 1962).

Table 5: Soil Types

Soil Type	Great Soil Group	Soil Materials	Drainage	Topography	Surface Stoniness
Sargent gravelly sandy loam	Brown Forest	Pale brown, calcareous outwash gravel	Good	Smooth, gently sloping	Stonefree
Tioga sandy loam	Podzol	Grey, calcareous outwash sand	Good	Smooth, gently to irregular, steeply sloping	Stonefree to moderately stony
Wyevale gravelly sandy loam	Podzol	Grey, non-calcareous gravel outwash	Good	Smooth, gently sloping	Moderately stony

The subject lands fall within the Wye River and Copeland Creek drainage basins, both of which are under the jurisdiction of the Severn Sound Environmental Association (SSEA 2024). Specifically, the study area is located 68 m west of a tributary of Mud Lake, 995 m northeast of a tributary of Georgian Bay, 4.6 km east of the Georgian Bay and 4.7 km west of Mud Lake. At the time of assessment, the study area consisted of extant water system structures, a driveway and parking lot, abandoned farmland and various other grassed, overgrown and wooded lands. Soil conditions were ideal for the activities conducted. No unusual physical features were encountered that affected the results of the Stage 1 assessment.

1.3.2 Registered or Known Archaeological Sites

The Ontario Archaeological Sites Database and the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports were consulted to determine whether any registered or known archaeological resources occur within a 1 km radius of the study area. The available search facility returned three registered sites located within at least a 1 km radius (the facility returns sites in a rectangular area, rather than a radius, potentially resulting in results beyond the specified distance). No unregistered sites were identified within a 1 km radius of the study area. The sites are summarized in Table 6.

Table 6: Registered or Known Archaeological Sites

Borden No. / ID No.	Site Name / Identifier	Time Period	Affinity	Site Type	Distance from Study Area
BeGx-10	Crawford	Unspecified	Unspecified	Unspecified	> 1 km
BeGx-29	Herman Wright	Woodland, Late	Indigenous, Lalonde	Village	> 1 km
BeGx-42	Hunter's Tiny No. 29	Woodland, Early, Woodland, Late	Indigenous, Lalonde	Unknown	300 m—1 km

None of these previously identified sites are located within or immediately adjacent to the subject lands; accordingly, they have no potential to traverse the study area. All of the sites are located over 300 m away and represent distant archaeological resources.

1.3.3 Previous Archaeological Work

A review of available archaeological management plans and/or other archaeological potential mapping was undertaken to inform the assessment process. Specifically, Simcoe County's *Archaeological Potential* GIS Layer was examined for information that could influence the choice of fieldwork techniques or recommendations. The associated mapping indicates that the entire study area has archaeological potential, save for pockets in the northeast and northwest (Map 11).

Reports documenting assessments conducted within the subject lands and assessments that resulted in the discovery of sites within adjacent lands were sought during the research component of the study. In order to ensure that all relevant past work was identified, an investigation was launched to identify reports involving assessments within 50 m of the study area. The investigation determined that there is one available report documenting previous archaeological fieldwork within the specified distance. The relevant results and recommendations are summarized below as required by Section 7.5.8 Standards 4–5 of the 2011 *S&Gs*.

1.3.3.1 Perkinsfield Area Water System (Stage 1–2)

In May 1999, Stage 1 and 2 assessments were carried out the Perkinsfield Area Water System under Contract Information Form (CIF) #1999-049-019 (AI 1999). The assessed area traverses the east-central and southern parts of the study area. The investigation did not result in the discovery of any archaeological materials, and it was recommended that no further assessment be required (AI 2009:8). Although the overlapping area appears to have been appropriately assessed using either the pedestrian survey method or test pit survey method at an interval of 5 m, the mapping is somewhat generalized and the area of overlap should be re-evaluated to confirm the past results (AI 1999:Figure 3). This area is therefore of further archaeological concern.

2.0 STAGE 1 BACKGROUND STUDY

2.1 Background

The Stage 1 assessment involved background research to document the geography, history, previous archaeological fieldwork and current land condition of the study area. This desktop examination included research from archival sources, archaeological publications and online databases. It also included the analysis of a variety of historical maps and aerial imagery. The results of the research conducted for the background study are summarized below.

With occupation beginning approximately 11,000 years ago, the greater vicinity of the study area comprises a complex chronology of Pre-Contact and Post-Contact histories (Section 1.2.1). Artifacts associated with Palaeo, Archaic, Woodland and Early Contact traditions are well-attested in the Simcoe County, and Euro-Canadian archaeological sites dating to pre-1900 and post-1900 contexts are likewise common. The presence of three previously identified sites in the surrounding area demonstrates the desirability of this locality for early settlement (Section 1.3.2). The investigation confirmed that none of these sites extend into the subject lands. Background research identified one area of previous assessment within the study area (Section 1.3.3).

The natural environment of the study area would have been attractive to both Indigenous and Euro-Canadian populations as a result of proximity to various tributaries of Mud Lake. The areas of Tioga sandy loam would have been ideal for agriculture, and the diverse local vegetation would also have encouraged settlement throughout Ontario's lengthy history. Euro-Canadian populations would have been particularly drawn to the nearby historical thoroughfares.

In summary, the background study included an up-to-date listing of sites from the Ontario Archaeological Sites Database (within at least a 1 km radius), the consideration of previous local archaeological fieldwork (within at least a 50 m radius), the analysis of historical maps (at the most detailed scale available) and the study of aerial imagery. A review of an archaeological management plan was also carried out. ARA therefore confirms that the standards for background research set out in Section 1.1 of the 2011 *S&Gs* were met.

2.2 Field Methods (Property Inspection)

In order to gain first-hand knowledge of the geography, topography and current condition of the study area, a property inspection was conducted on June 14, 2024. Environmental conditions were ideal during the inspection, with clear to overcast skies, bright lighting and a temperature of 24 °C. ARA therefore confirms that fieldwork was carried out under weather and lighting conditions that met the requirements set out in Section 1.2 Standard 2 of the 2011 *S&Gs*.

The study area and its periphery were subjected to random spot-checking, beginning in the vicinity of the structures in the southeast and continuing from north to south across the remaining lands in a roughly east-west pattern. The inspection confirmed that all surficial features of archaeological potential were present where they were previously identified and did not result in the identification of any additional features of archaeological potential not visible on mapping (e.g., relic water channels, patches of well-drained soils, etc.).

The inspection determined that several parts of the study area were disturbed by past construction activities. The study area may also contain Forked Three-awned Grass (*Aristida basiramea*), which is an endangered species and would likely require relocation prior to any invasive survey activity. No other natural features (e.g., permanently wet lands, sloped lands, overgrown heavier soils than expected, etc.) or significant built features (e.g., heritage structures, landscapes, plaques, monuments, cemeteries, etc.) that would affect assessment strategies were identified.

2.3 Analysis and Conclusions

In addition to relevant historical sources and the results of past archaeological assessments, the archaeological potential of a property can be assessed using its soils, hydrology and landforms as considerations. Section 1.3.1 of the 2011 *S&Gs* recognizes the following features or characteristics as indicators of archaeological potential: previously identified sites, water sources (past and present), elevated topography, pockets of well-drained sandy soil, distinctive land formations, resource areas, areas of Euro-Canadian settlement, early transportation routes, listed or designated properties, historic landmarks or sites, and areas that local histories or informants have identified with possible sites, events, activities or occupations.

The Stage 1 assessment resulted in the identification of several features of archaeological potential in the vicinity of the study area (Map 12). The closest and most relevant indicators of archaeological potential (i.e., those that would affect survey interval requirements) include three primary water sources (tributaries of Mud Lake), multiple secondary water sources (unnamed wetlands) and two historical roadways (Concession Road 8 East and Concession Road 9 East). Background research did not identify any features indicating that the study area has potential for deeply buried archaeological resources.

Although proximity to a feature of archaeological potential is a significant factor in the potential modelling process, current land conditions must also be considered. Section 1.3.2 of the 2011 *S&Gs* emphasizes that 1) quarrying, 2) major landscaping involving grading below topsoil, 3) building footprints and 4) sewage/infrastructure development can result in the removal of archaeological potential, and Section 2.1 states that 1) permanently wet areas, 2) exposed bedrock and 3) steep slopes (> 20°) in areas unlikely to contain pictographs or petroglyphs can also be evaluated as having no or low archaeological potential. Areas previously assessed and not recommended for further work also require no further assessment.

Simcoe County's *Archaeological Potential* GIS Layer indicates that the entire study area has archaeological potential, save for pockets in the northeast and northwest (Map 11). However, this modelling was not the result of a property-specific assessment and therefore does not fully account for land use history and current conditions. Background research did not identify any previously assessed areas of no further concern within the study area. The overlapping area that was assessed under CIF #1999-049-019 should be re-evaluated to confirm the past results.

ARA's visual inspection, coupled with the analysis of historical sources and digital environmental data, resulted in the identification of several areas of no archaeological potential. Specifically, deep land alterations have resulted in the removal of archaeological potential from the extant building footprints, driveway and parking lot (Image 1–Image 3). These areas have clearly been impacted

by past earth-moving/construction activities, resulting in the disturbance of the original soils to a significant depth and severe damage to the integrity of any archaeological resources.

The remaining lands have potential for Indigenous and Euro-Canadian archaeological materials or require test pit survey to confirm that they have no archaeological potential. The areas of archaeological potential include the abandoned farmland and the various grassed, overgrown and wooded lands (Image 4–Image 10). It seems likely that the area southeast of the reservoir was previously impacted by subsurface infrastructure, but this could not be verified based on the inspection alone. Accordingly, these lands have been categorized as an area of archaeological potential and must be empirically tested to confirm that archaeological potential has been removed.

In summary, the Stage 1 assessment determined that the study area comprises a mixture of areas of archaeological potential and areas of no archaeological potential. The potential modelling results are presented in Map 13. The study area is depicted as a layer in this map.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

The Stage 1 assessment determined that the study area comprises a mixture of areas of archaeological potential and areas of no archaeological potential. It is recommended that all areas of archaeological potential that could be impacted by the project be subject to a Stage 2 property assessment in accordance with Section 2.1 of the 2011 *S&Gs*. If endangered grasses are found that require relocation, it is recommended that all removal activities be subject to Stage 2 monitoring in accordance with Section 2.1.7 Standard 4 of the 2011 *S&Gs*. The property survey could then proceed within the associated areas to determine whether any archaeological resources are present. The identified areas of no archaeological potential do not require any additional assessment.

The abandoned farmland contains heavy brush and weed growth, and ploughing does not appear to be possible or viable. Accordingly, the former fields and the other grassed, overgrown and wooded lands must be assessed using the test pit survey method. A survey interval of 5 m will be required due to the proximity of the lands to the identified features of archaeological potential. Given the likelihood that the area southeast of the reservoir was previously impacted, a combination of visual inspection and test pit survey should be utilized to confirm the extent of disturbance in accordance with Section 2.1.8 of the 2011 *S&Gs*. This will allow for the empirical evaluation of the integrity of the soils and the depth of any impacts. If these areas are determined to have archaeological potential, then a test pit survey interval of 5 m must be maintained.

Each test pit must be excavated into at least the first 5 cm of subsoil, and the resultant pits must be examined for stratigraphy, potential features and/or evidence of fill. The soil from each test pit must be screened through mesh with an aperture of no greater than 6 mm and examined for archaeological materials. If archaeological materials are encountered, all positive test pits must be documented, and intensification may be required.

4.0 ADVICE ON COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION

Section 7.5.9 of the 2011 *S&Gs* requires that the following information be provided for the benefit of the proponent and approval authority in the land use planning and development process:

- This report is submitted to the Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism as a condition of licensing in accordance with Part VI of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c 0.18. The report is reviewed to ensure that it complies with the standards and guidelines that are issued by the Minister, and that the archaeological fieldwork and report recommendations ensure the conservation, protection and preservation of the cultural heritage of Ontario. When all matters relating to archaeological sites within the project area of a development proposal have been addressed to the satisfaction of the MCM, 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 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 Archaeology 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 *Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act*, 2002, S.O. 2002, c.33 requires that any person discovering human remains must notify the police or coroner and the Registrar at the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery.

5.0 IMAGES

Image 1: Disturbed Lands
(June 14, 2024; Facing Northwest)

Image 2: Disturbed Lands
(June 14, 2024; Facing Northeast)

Image 3: Disturbed Lands
(June 14, 2024; Facing Northeast)

Image 4: Area of Potential
(June 14, 2024; Facing Southeast)

Image 5: Area of Potential
(June 14, 2024; Facing Southeast)

Image 6: Area of Potential
(June 14, 2024; Facing Southeast)

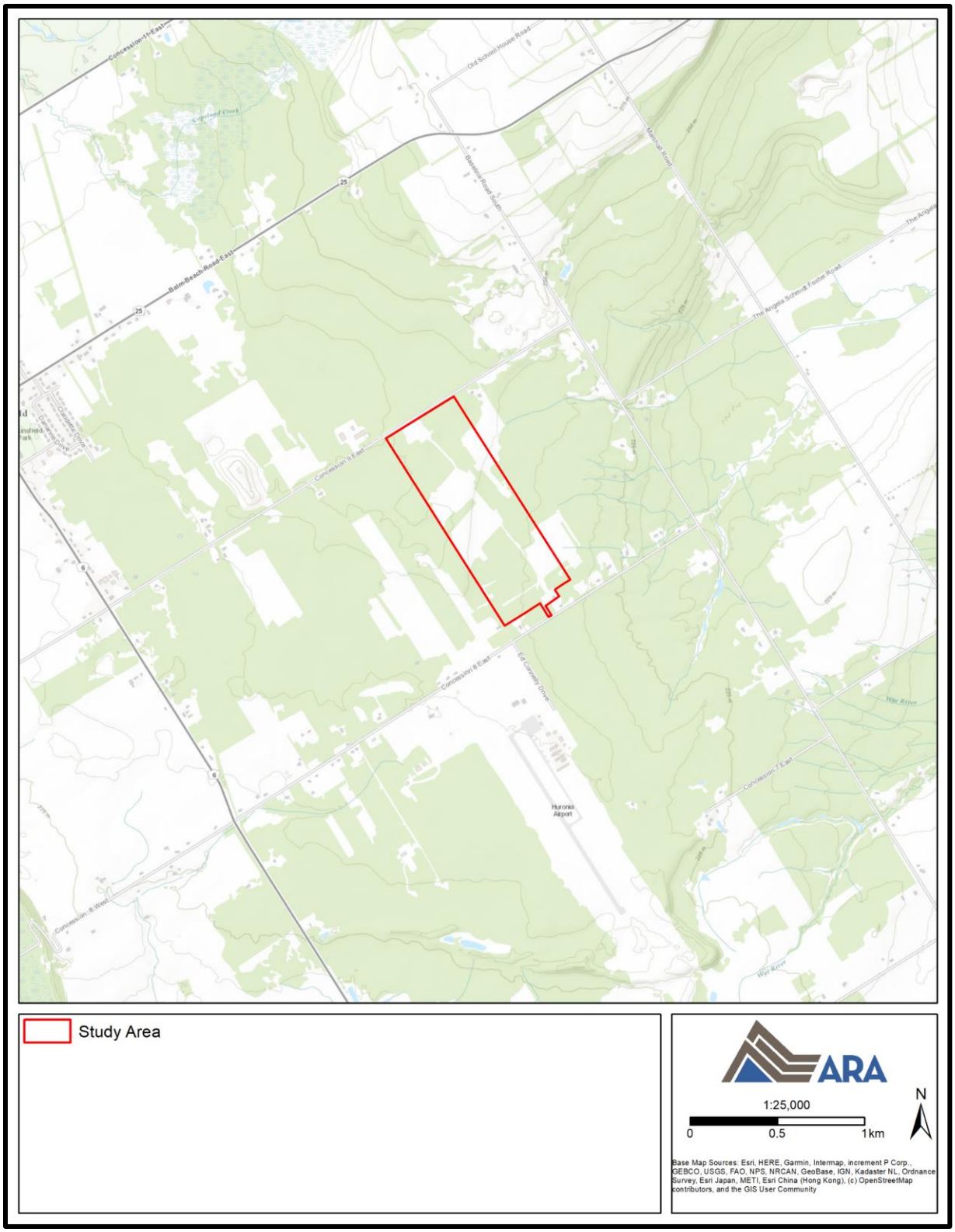
Image 7: Area of Potential
(June 14, 2024; Facing Northwest)

Image 8: Area of Potential
(June 14, 2024; Facing Southeast)

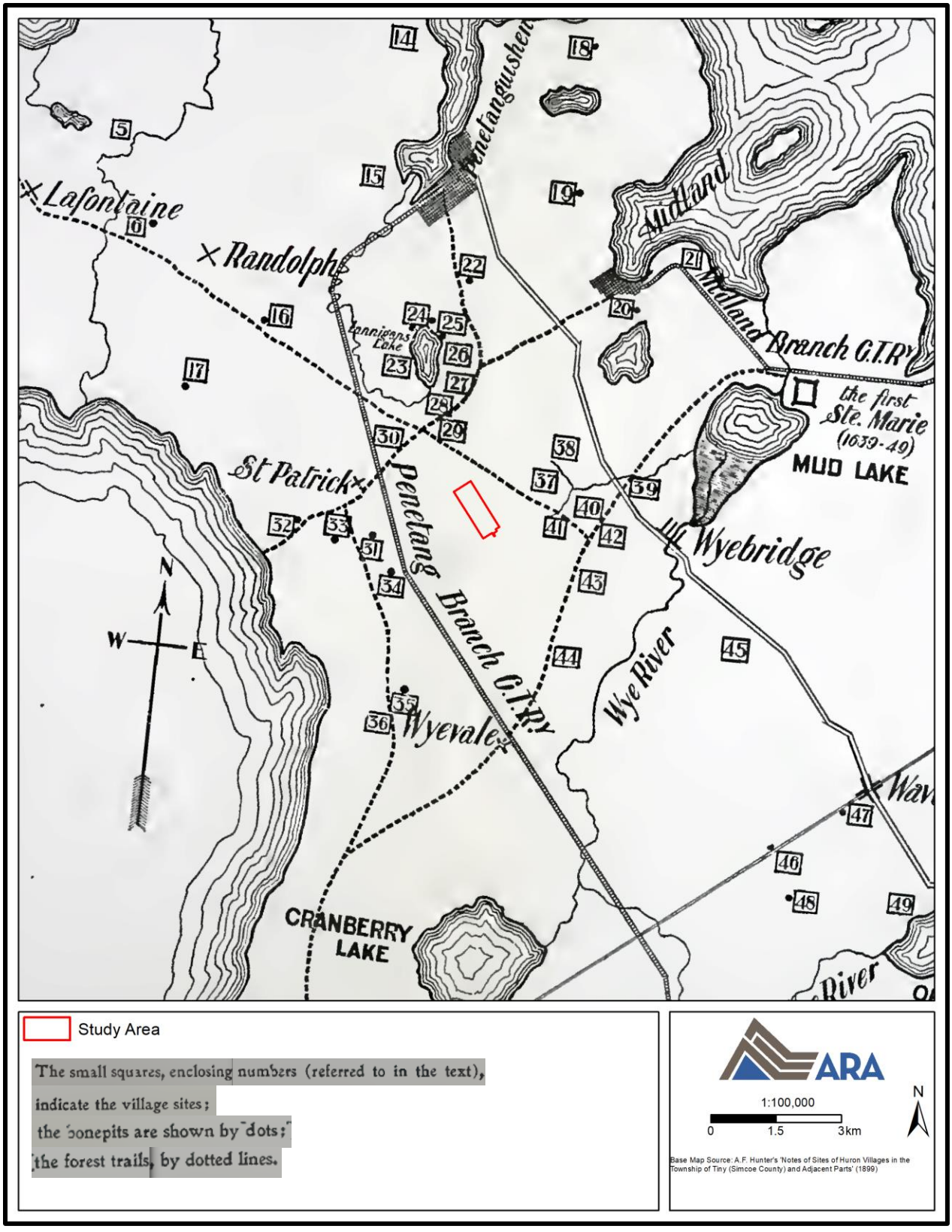
Image 9: Area of Potential
(June 14, 2024; Facing East)

Image 10: Area of Potential
(June 14, 2024; Facing Northeast)

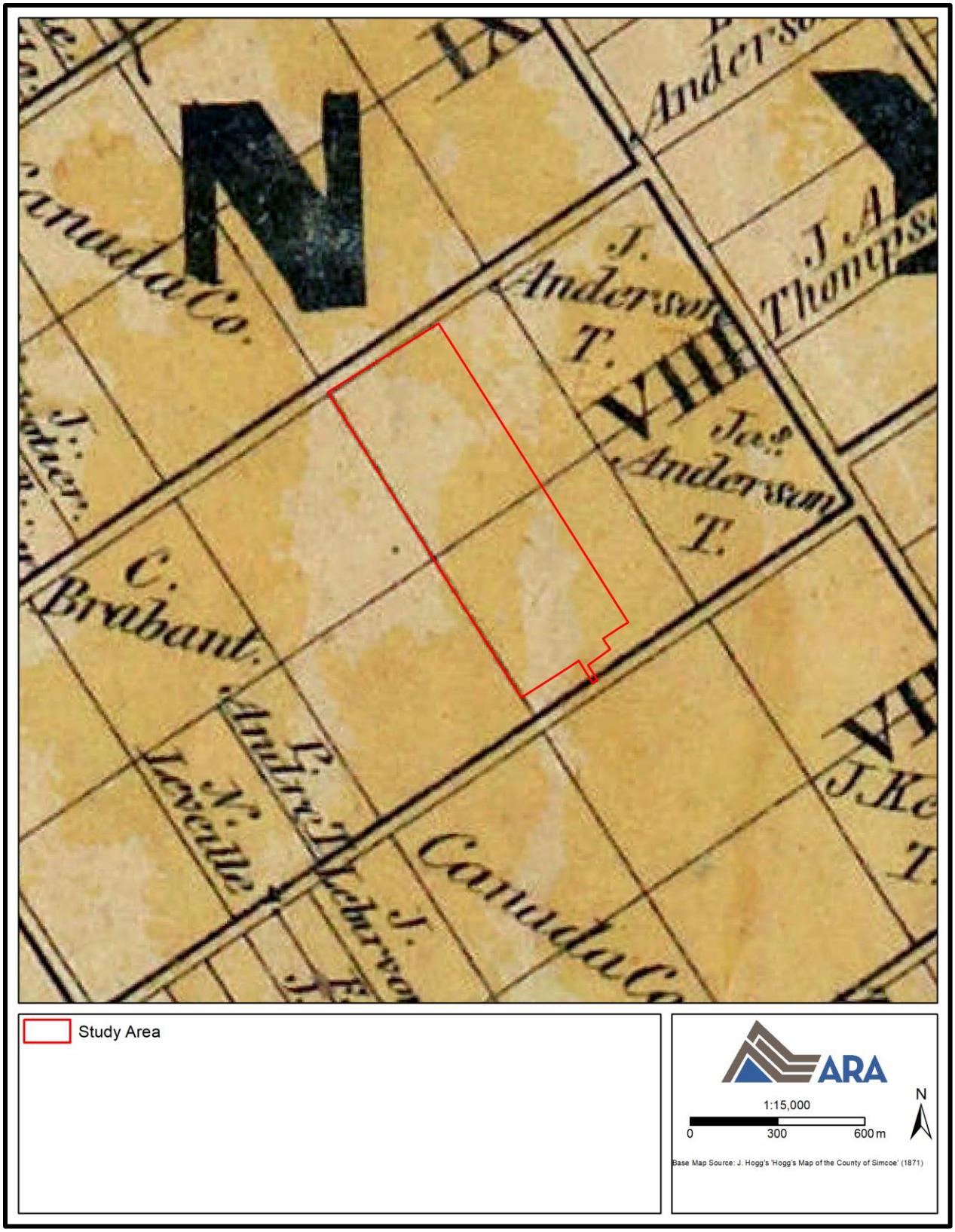
6.0 MAPS



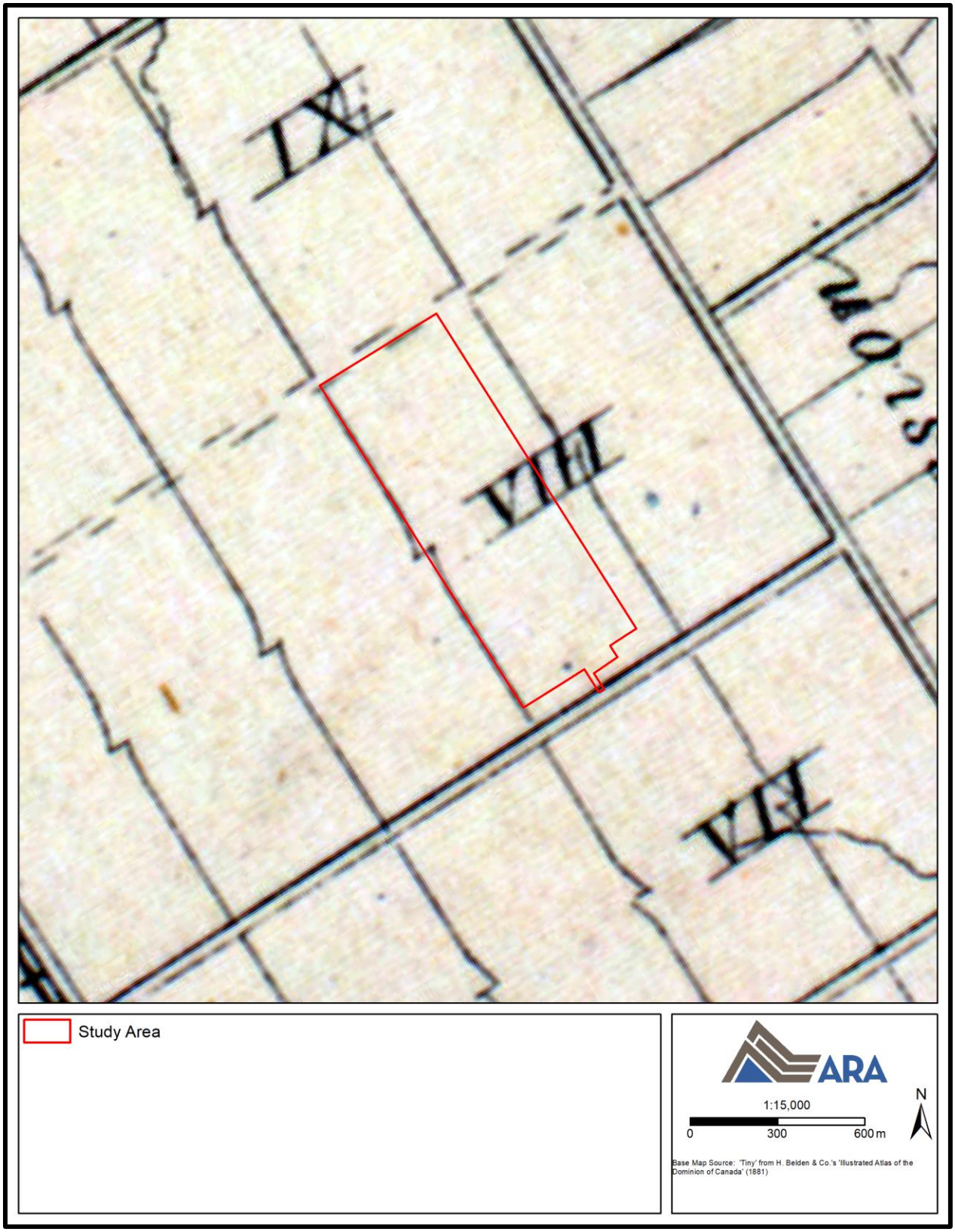
Map 1: Location of the Study Area
(Produced under licence using ArcGIS® software by Esri, © Esri)



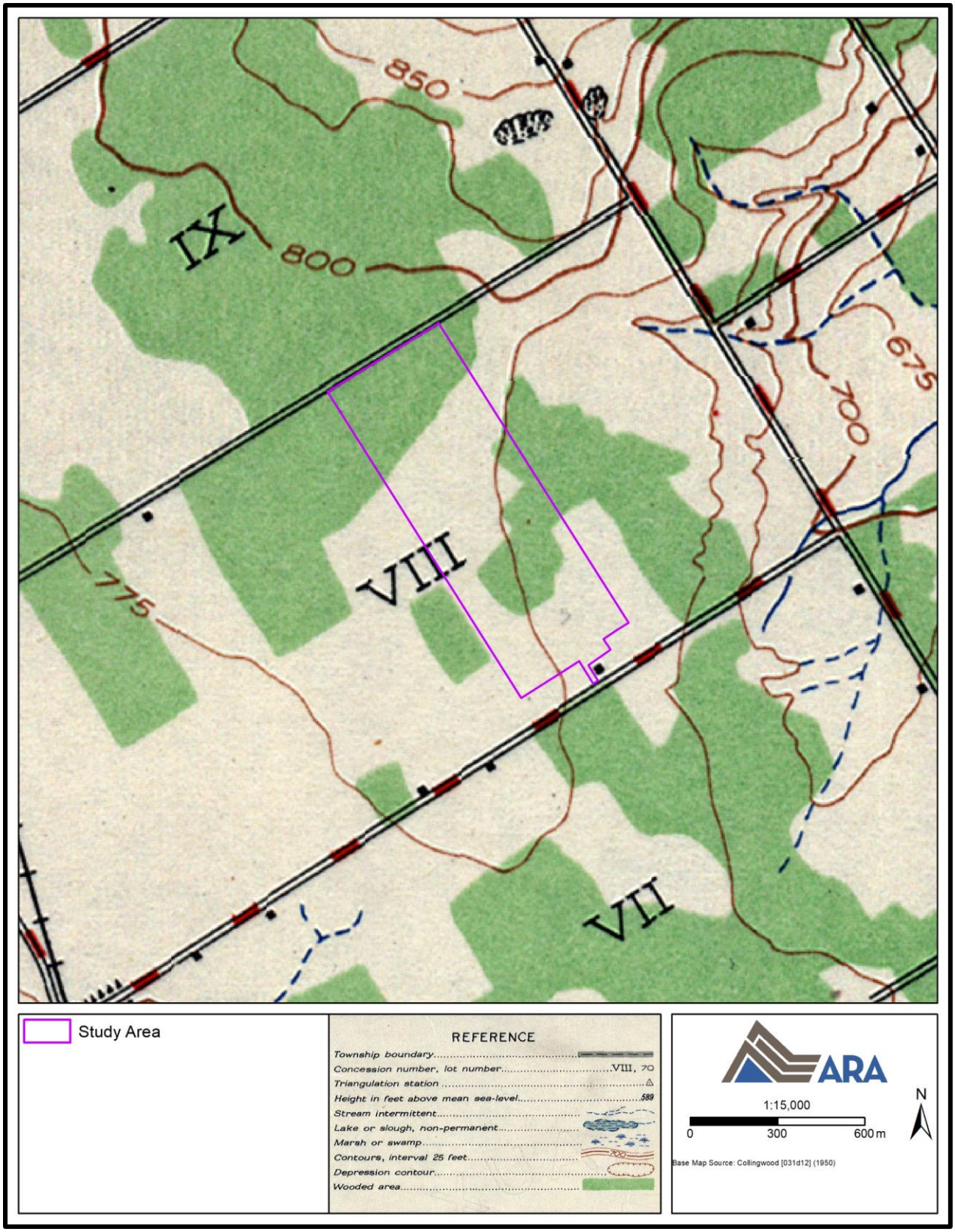
Map 2: Nearby Village Sites, Bone Pits and Forest Trails
(Produced under licence using ArcGIS® software by Esri, © Esri; Hunter 1999:2)



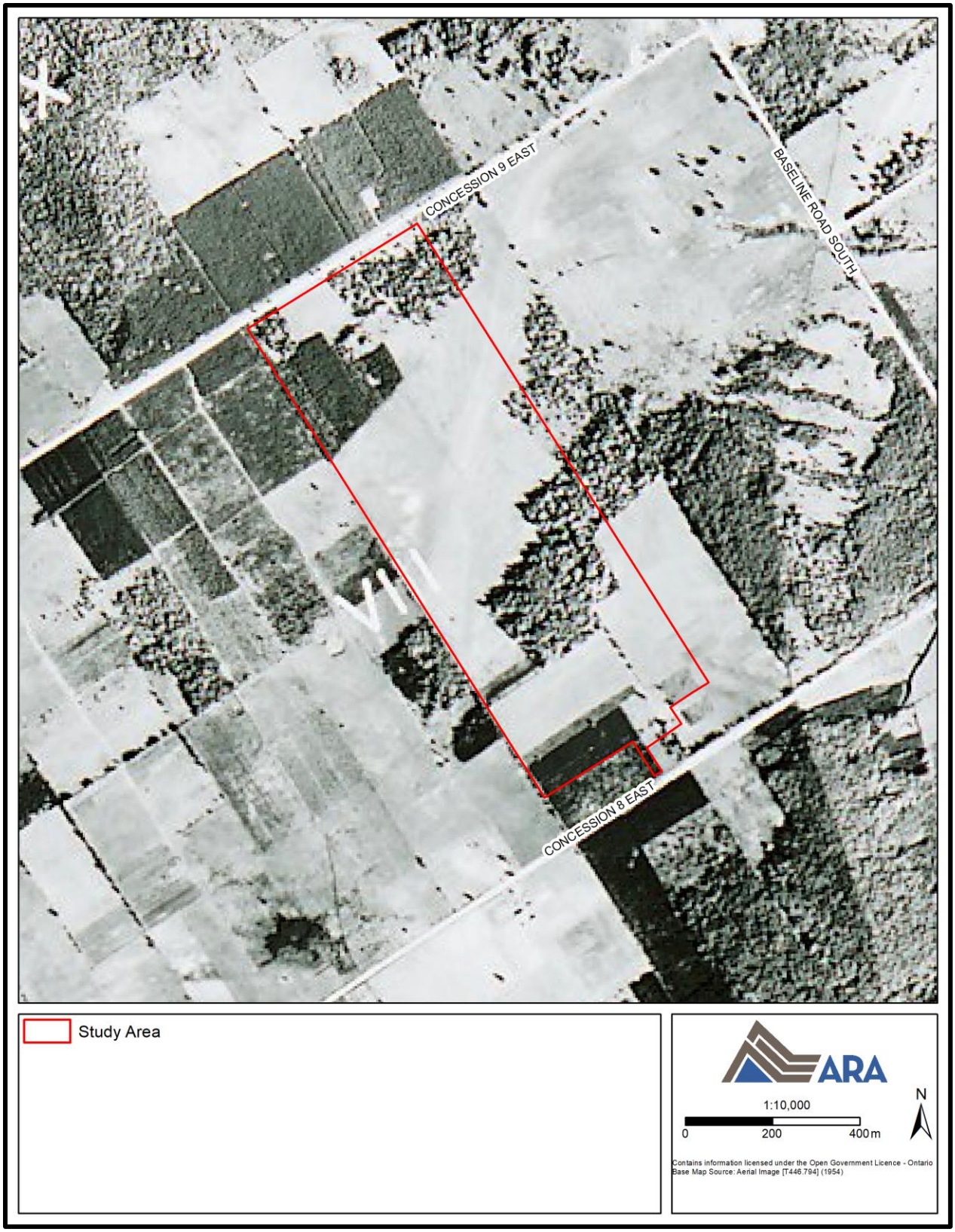
Map 3: *Hogg's Map of the County of Simcoe* (1871)
(Produced under licence using ArcGIS® software by Esri, © Esri; OHCMP 2019)



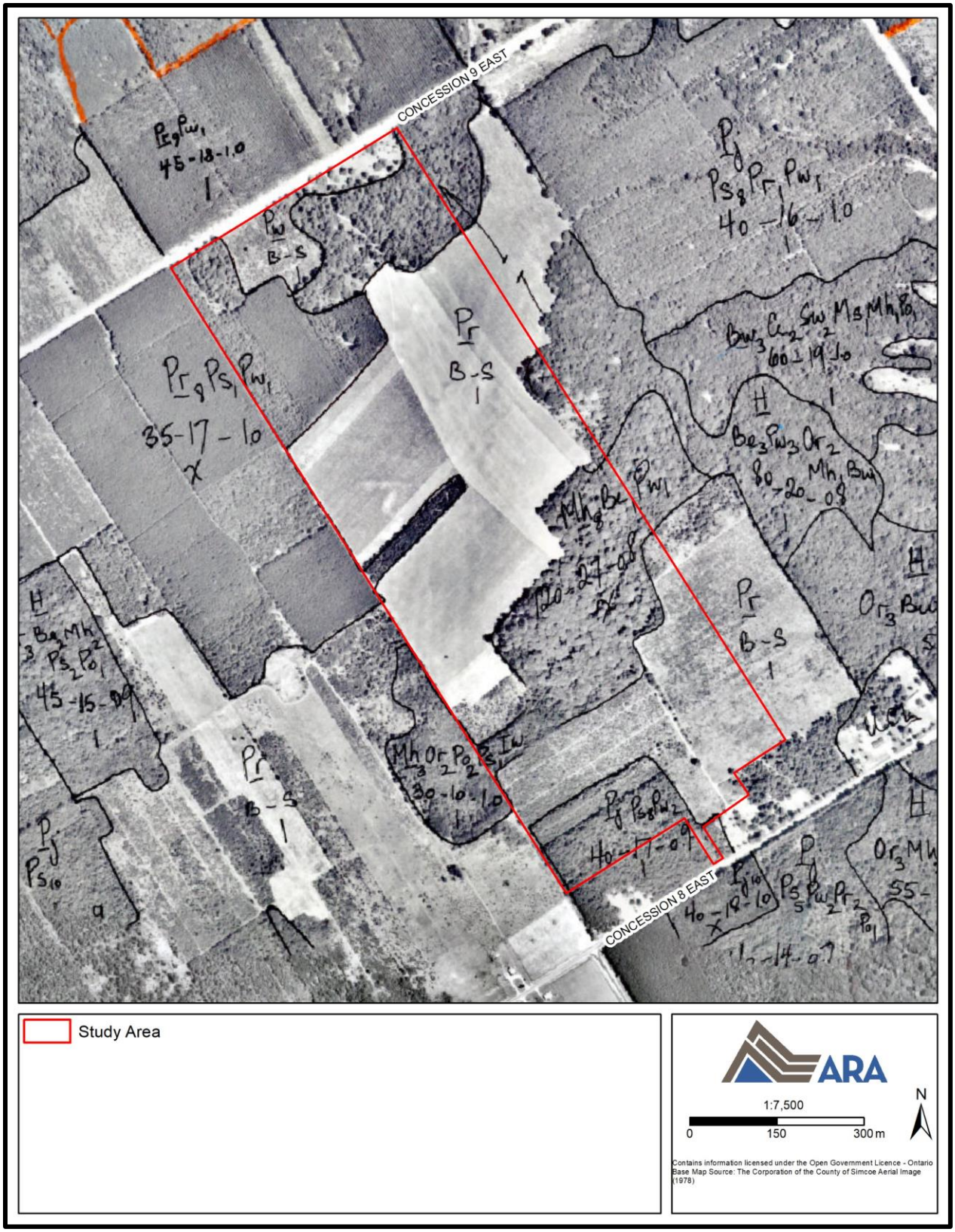
Map 4: *Simcoe Supplement in Illustrated Atlas of the Dominion of Canada* (1881)
(Produced under licence using ArcGIS® software by Esri, © Esri; MU 2001)



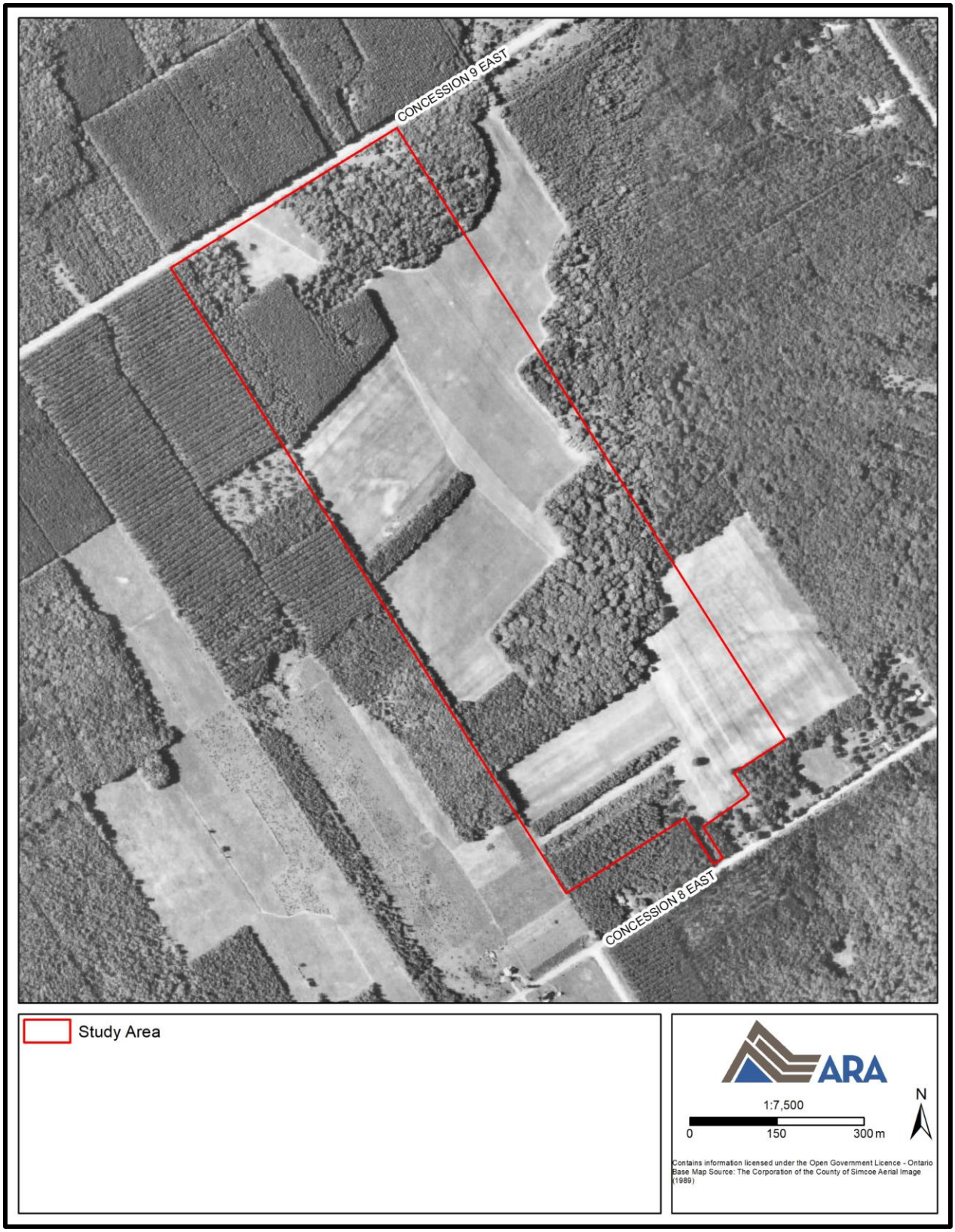
Map 5: Topographic Map (1950)
(Produced under licence using ArcGIS® software by Esri, © Esri; OCUL 2024)



Map 6: Aerial Image (1954)
(Produced under licence using ArcGIS® software by Esri, © Esri; U of T 2024)

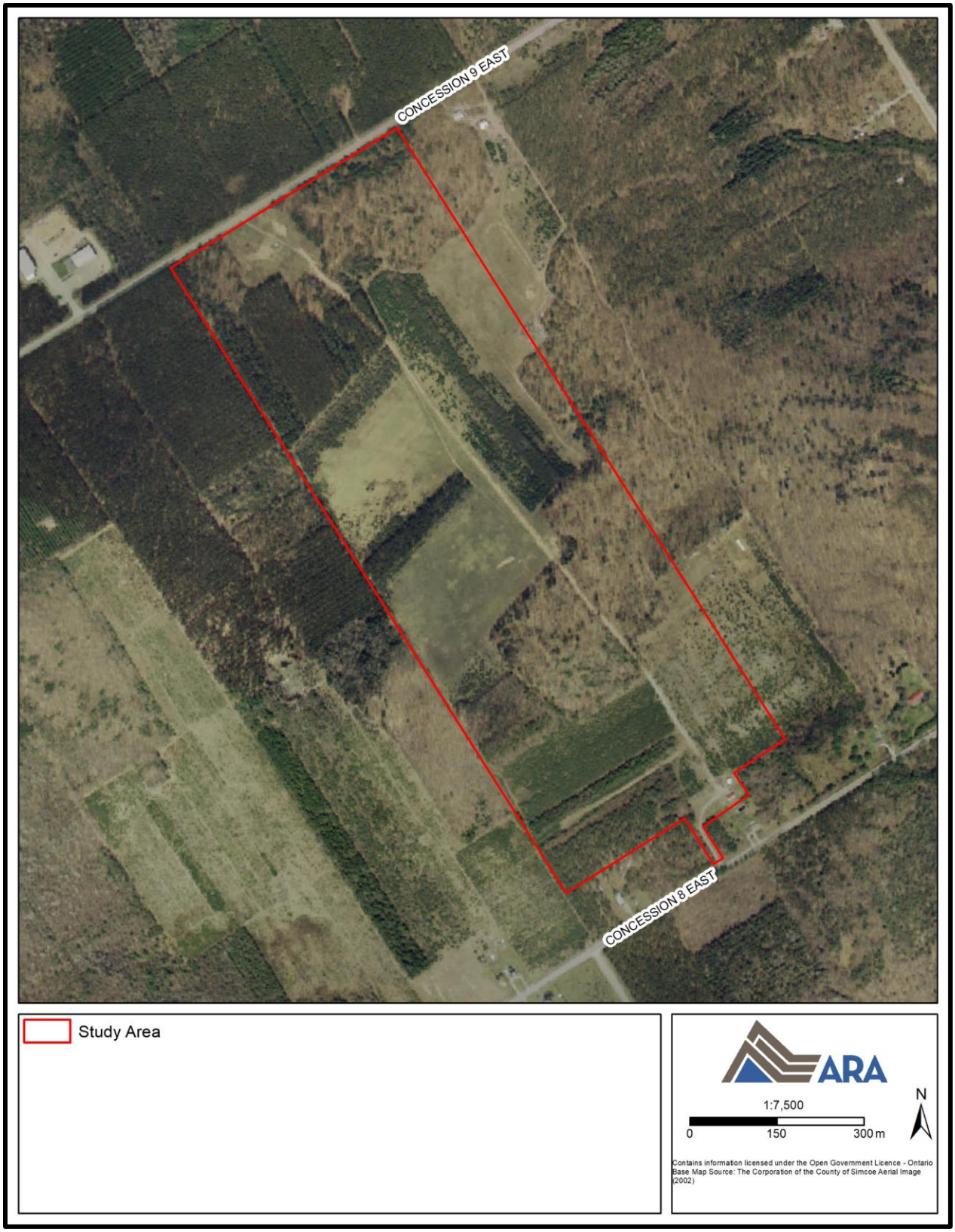


Map 7: Aerial Image (1978)
(Produced under licence using ArcGIS® software by Esri, © Esri; Simcoe County 2024)



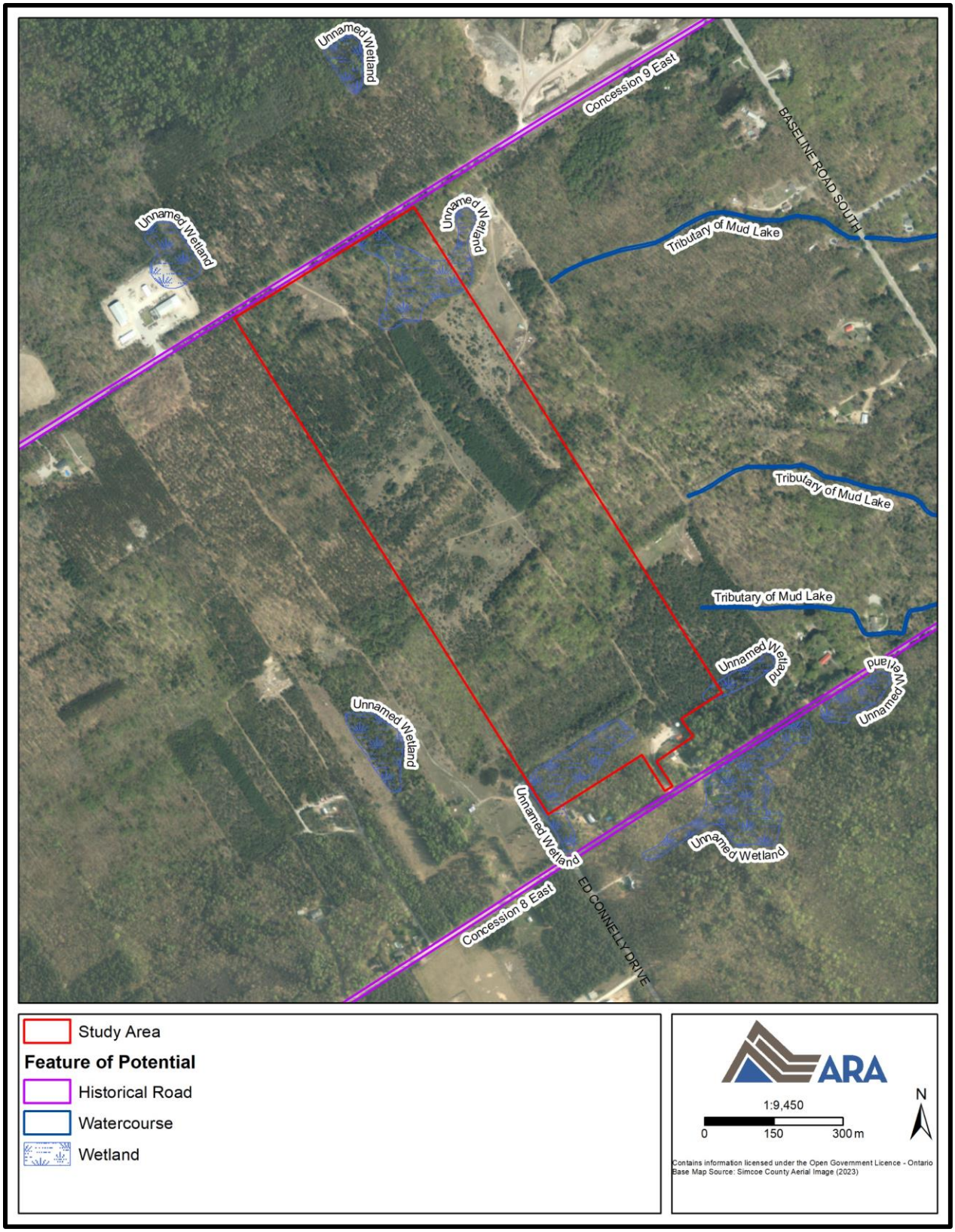
Map 8: Aerial Image (1989)
(Produced under licence using ArcGIS® software by Esri, © Esri; Simcoe County 2024)

Map 9: Aerial Image (1997)
(Produced under licence using ArcGIS® software by Esri, © Esri; Simcoe County 2024)

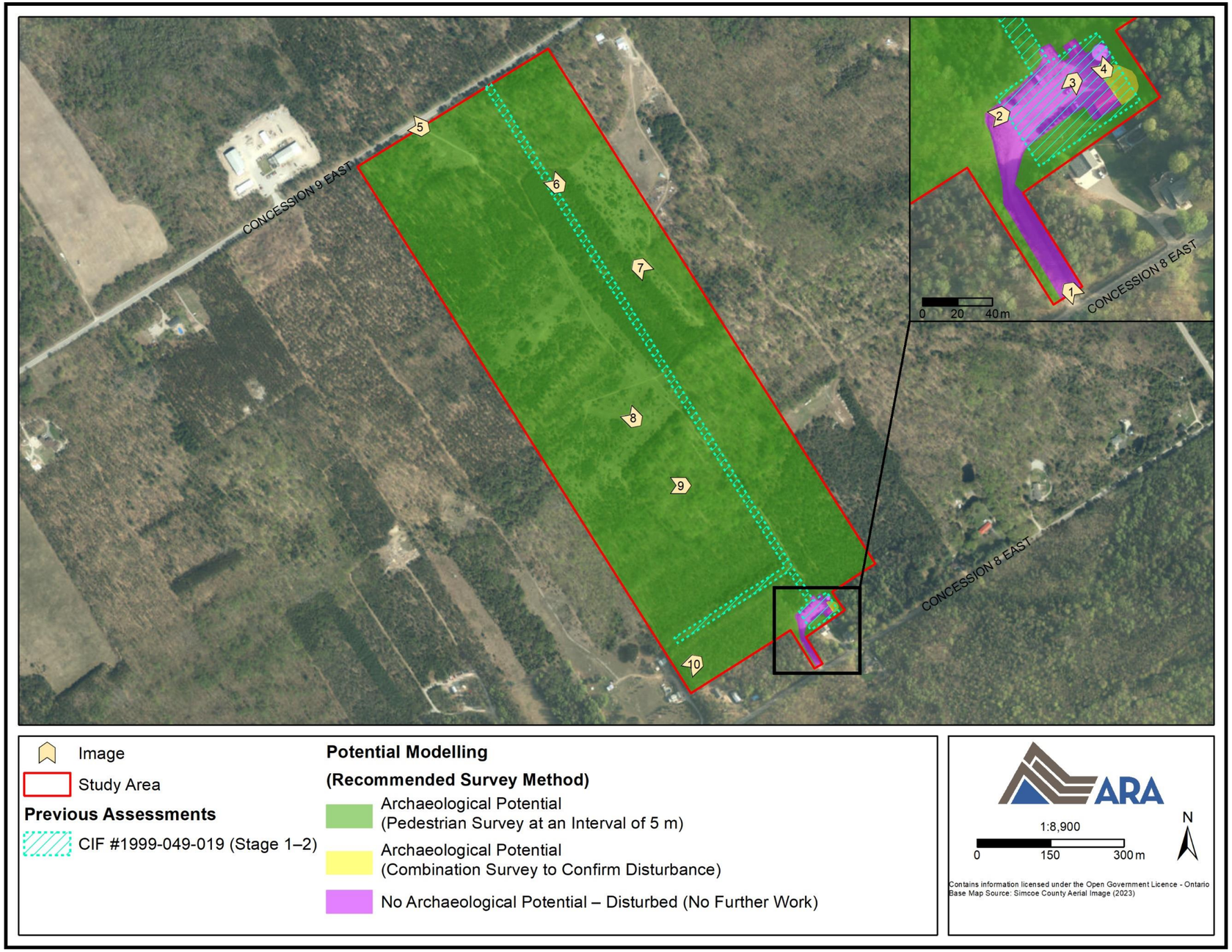


Map 10: Aerial Image (2002)
(Produced under licence using ArcGIS® software by Esri, © Esri; Simcoe County 2024)

Map 11: Simcoe County's *Archaeological Potential* GIS Layer
(Produced under licence using ArcGIS® software by Esri, © Esri; Simcoe County 2024)



Map 12: Features of Potential
(Produced under licence using ArcGIS® software by Esri, © Esri)



Map 13: Potential Modelling and Recommendations
(Produced under licence using ArcGIS® software by Esri, © Esri)

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