

Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport

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Apr 14, 2015

Blake Williams (P383)
ASI Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Services
528 Bathurst Toronto ON M5S2P9

RE: Review and Entry into the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports: Archaeological Assessment Report Entitled, "STAGE 1 AND 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OF TRI-COUNTY AGGREGATES LTD., NODWELL PIT PART OF LOTS 2 AND 3, CONCESSION 18 TOWNSHIP OF EAST GARAFRAXA, COUNTY OF DUFFERIN", Dated Dec 18, 2014, Filed with MTCS Toronto Office on Jan 6, 2015, MTCS Project Information Form Number P383-0106-2013

Dear Mr Williams:

This office has reviewed the above-mentioned report, which has been submitted to this ministry as a condition of licensing in accordance with Part VI of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c 0.18.¹ This review has been carried out in order to determine whether the licensed professional consultant archaeologist has met the terms and conditions of their licence, that the licensee assessed the property and documented archaeological resources using a process that accords with the 2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists set by the ministry, and that the archaeological fieldwork and report recommendations are consistent with the conservation, protection and preservation of the cultural heritage of Ontario.

The report documents the assessment/mitigation of the study area as depicted in Figure 3 and Figure 1 (supplementary) of the above titled report and recommends the following:

In light of these considerations, the following recommendation is made:

1. Given the isolated and ephemeral nature of the pre-contact site AIHa-48, and given the isolated and undiagnostic nature of the pre-contact site AIHa-44, these locations do not exhibit cultural heritage value and may be considered free of any further archaeological concern.
2. The Euro-Canadian Donald and Duncan Crawford site (AIHa-45) represents a mid-to-late nineteenth century occupation of the property. As such, this site is considered to be archaeological resource of potential cultural heritage value for which it is unclear whether a Stage 4 mitigation strategy will be required. Therefore, it is recommended that the site be subject to comprehensive Stage 3 assessment, in accordance with the Ministry of Tourism and Culture's 2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists to define the site extent, gather representative sample of artifacts and aid in the determination of a Stage 4 mitigation strategy if one is required.

a) The Stage 3 archaeological assessment should commence with the creation of a recording grid on a fixed datum, the position of which has been recorded using a GPS. A series of one metre by one metre units will then be excavated across the site at five metre intervals within an established grid in order to determine the nature and extent of the cultural deposits. An additional 20% of the total number of units excavated on the grid will be strategically excavated at five metre intervals throughout the site, around units of high artifact counts or other significant areas of the site. The test units should be excavated five cm into the sterile subsoil and soil fills screened through six mm wire mesh to facilitate artifact recovery. The sterile subsoil should be troweled and all soil profiles examined for undisturbed cultural deposits.

c) The results of the Stage 3 assessment will be used to evaluate the significance of the site and to develop a series of recommendations concerning any further mitigative options that may be necessary.

3. The Euro-Canadian Alex Crawford site (AIHa-46) represents a mid-to-late nineteenth century occupation of the property. As such, this site represents an archaeological resource of cultural heritage value or interest warranting Stage 4 mitigation. Therefore, it is recommended that the site be subject to a Stage 3 archaeological assessment in order to more fully identify the character, extent and significance of the archaeological deposits, in accordance with the Ministry of Tourism and Culture's 2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists.

a) The Stage 3 archaeological assessment should commence with the creation of a recording grid on a fixed datum, the position of which has been recorded using a GPS. Then, a controlled surface collection must be conducted to precisely define the nature and extent of the site. This work will require that the site area be re-ploughed and allowed to weather for a least one substantial rainfall prior to commencing this work. The location of each artifact should be mapped with the aid of a tape measure and transit, and a surface map produced for the site.

b) A series of one metre by one metre units will then be excavated across the site at 10 metre intervals within an established grid in order to determine the nature and extent of the cultural deposits. An additional 40% of the total number of units excavated on the grid will be strategically excavated at five metre intervals throughout the site, around units of high artifact counts or other significant areas of the site. The test units should be excavated five cm into the sterile subsoil and soil fills screened through six mm wire mesh to facilitate artifact recovery. The sterile subsoil should be troweled and all soil profiles examined for undisturbed cultural deposits.

c) The results of the Stage 3 assessment will be used to evaluate the significance of the site and to develop a series of recommendations concerning any further mitigative options that may be necessary.

4. The Euro-Canadian Thomas Madill site (AIHb-13) represents a mid-to-late nineteenth century occupation of the property. As such, this site represents an archaeological resource of cultural heritage value or interest warranting Stage 4 mitigation. The site is only partially situated within the current study area, however, it is recommended that the portion of the site which will be subject to the proposed pit application be subject to a Stage 3 archaeological assessment in order to more fully identify the character, extent and significance of the archaeological deposits, in accordance with the Ministry of Tourism and Culture's 2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists.

a) The Stage 3 archaeological assessment should commence with the creation of a recording grid on a fixed datum, the position of which has been recorded using a GPS. Then, a controlled surface collection must be conducted to precisely define the nature and extent of the site. This work will require that the site area be re-ploughed and allowed to weather for a least one substantial rainfall prior to commencing this work. The location of each artifact should be mapped with the aid of a tape measure and transit, and a surface map produced for the site.

b) A series of one metre by one metre units will then be excavated across the site at 10 metre intervals within an established grid in order to determine the nature and extent of the cultural deposits. An additional 40% of the total number of units excavated on the grid will be strategically excavated at five metre intervals

throughout the site, around units of high artifact counts or other significant areas of the site. The test units should be excavated five cm into the sterile subsoil and soil fills screened through six mm wire mesh to facilitate artifact recovery. The sterile subsoil should be troweled and all soil profiles examined for undisturbed cultural deposits.

c) The results of the Stage 3 assessment will be used to evaluate the significance of the site and to develop a series of recommendations concerning any further mitigative options that may be necessary.

NOTWITHSTANDING the results and recommendations presented in this study, Archaeological Services Inc. 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 Cultural Programs Unit of the Ministry of Tourism Culture should be immediately notified.

The documentation related to this archaeological assessment will be curated by Archaeological Services Inc. until such a time that arrangements for their ultimate transfer to Her Majesty the Queen in right of Ontario, or other public institution, can be made to the satisfaction of the project owner(s), the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport, and any other legitimate interest groups.

Based on the information contained in the report, the ministry is satisfied that the fieldwork and reporting for the archaeological assessment are consistent with the ministry's 2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists and the terms and conditions for archaeological licences. This report has been entered into the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports. Please note that the ministry makes no representation or warranty as to the completeness, accuracy or quality of reports in the register.

Should you require any further information regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Meagan Brooks
Archaeology Review Officer

cc. Archaeology Licensing Officer
Bob Long, Long Environmental Consultants Inc.
Diane Schwier, Ministry of Natural Resources

¹In no way will the ministry be liable for any harm, damages, costs, expenses, losses, claims or actions that may result: (a) if the Report(s) or its recommendations are discovered to be inaccurate, incomplete, misleading or fraudulent; or (b) from the issuance of this letter. Further measures may need to be taken in the event that additional artifacts or archaeological sites are identified or the Report(s) is otherwise found to be inaccurate, incomplete, misleading or fraudulent.