

Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM)

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Ministère des Affaires civiques et du Multiculturalisme (MCM)

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May 2, 2023

Shane McCartney (P321)
Earthworks Archaeological Services
162 Catharine Hamilton ON L8N 2J8

RE: Review and Entry into the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports: Archaeological Assessment Report Entitled, "Stage 1 & 2 Archaeological Assessment 9451, 9517, 9569, 9579, 9593, & 9867 Dickenson Road Part of Lots 1, 2, & 3, Concession 3 Geographic Township of Glanford City of Hamilton", Dated Sep 19, 2021, Filed with MCM Toronto Office on Apr 28, 2022, MCM Project Information Form Number P321-0228-2020, MCM File Number 0013533

Dear Mr. McCartney:

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 of the study area as depicted in Map 7 and Tiles 1-2 of the above titled report and recommends the following:

Based on the results of the Stage 1 background investigation and the subsequent Stage 2 archaeological assessment, the study area contains 13 archaeological sites that have further cultural heritage value and interest. Therefore, a Stage 3 site specific assessment is recommended for AhGx-855, AhGx-859, AhGx-860, AhGx-862, AhGx-863, AhGx-865, AhGx-866, AhGx-869, AhGx-872, AhGx-873, AhGx-876, AhGx-878, AhGx-879, and AhGx-880.

The Stage 3 site-specific assessment of AhGx-860, AhGx-862, AhGx-863, AhGx-865, AhGx-866, AhGx-872, and AhGx-873 will follow site standards set out for plough-disturbed, large lithic scatters as defined by Table 3.1 of the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*. Excavations shall consist of the establishment of multiple grids over areas of artifact concentration, and the excavation of one metre square test units across those grids at five metre intervals. The grids shall be based on a permanent datum to at least the accuracy of transit and tape measurements. Placing test units in unmeasured, estimated locations will not be acceptable. Additional test units, amounting to 20% of the initial grid unit total shall be placed and excavated between the areas of concentration to document areas of lower concentration. A further

10% of the initial grid unit total shall be placed and excavated on the periphery of the surface scatter to determine the site extent and sample the site periphery.

The Stage 3 site-specific assessments of AhGx-855, AhGx-859, AhGx-869, AhGx-878, AhGx-879, and AhGx-880 will consist of the excavation of one metre test units placed on a 5 metre grid established over the sites, and based on a permanent datum to at least the accuracy of transit and tape measurements. Placing test units in unmeasured, estimated locations will not be acceptable. Additional test units, amounting to 20% of the grid unit total will be placed and excavated, focusing on areas of interest within the site extent.

The Stage 3 site-specific assessments of AhGx-876 will consist of the excavation of one metre test units placed on a 10 metre grid established over the sites, and based on a permanent datum to at least the accuracy of transit and tape measurements. Placing test units in unmeasured, estimated locations will not be acceptable. Additional test units, amounting to 40% of the grid unit total will be placed and excavated, focusing on areas of interest within the site extent.

Test units will be excavated by hand, in systematic levels into the first 5 centimetres of the subsoil layer, unless excavation uncovers a cultural feature. If test excavation uncovers a feature, the feature's plan will be recorded, and geotextile fabric will be placed over the unit floor prior to backfilling the test unit.

All excavated soil will be screened through mesh with an aperture of no greater than 6 millimetres, and all artifacts will be collected and recorded according to their corresponding grid unit designation. As per Section 3.2.2 Standard 7 of the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists, 20% of the total number of units required for AhGx-863 will need to be screened through wire mesh of 3 millimetre width. No further archaeological assessments are recommended the remaining 21 archaeological locations documented in the report.

No soil disturbances or removal of vegetation shall take place within the archaeological sites identified as AhGx-855, AhGx-859, AhGx-860, AhGx-862, AhGx-863, AhGx-865, AhGx-866, AhGx-869, AhGx-872, AhGx-873, AhGx-876, AhGx-878, AhGx-879, and AhGx-880 within this Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment report, or within the area enclosed within a 20 metre buffer surrounding the sites prior to the acceptance of the MHSTCI of a report recommending that all archaeological concerns for the sites have been addressed and that there is no further cultural heritage value or interest.

Prior to pre-grading, servicing or registration, the owner shall erect and maintain a temporary high visibility construction fence to be maintained through the course of all construction activities at a 20 metre buffer around the archaeological sites recommended for Stage 3 archaeological assessment within this Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment report to ensure that construction activities do not impact archaeological sites unless under the direct supervision of a consulting archaeologist licensed in Ontario by the Minister of Heritage, Sport Tourism and Culture Industries and as a part of the ongoing archaeological investigations of the 13 sites.

The high visibility fence will be installed at the outer limit of the 20 metre wide Protective Buffer surrounding the sites as illustrated in the accompanying mapping within the Supplementary Report Package of this report filed with MHSTCI prior to the commencement of any development activity anywhere within the proposed development.

A 50 metre construction monitoring zone shall be observed surrounding the 20 metre wide protective buffer areas, and no construction or soil disturbance may be conducted unless under the direct supervision of a licensed archaeologist within this monitoring zone. The licenced archaeologist supervising any work conducted within the 50 metre wide Monitoring Buffer has the authority to order a halt to any activity which in his or her view may result in adverse impacts to archaeological resources.

The 50 metre wide Monitoring Buffer will remain in effect until a Stage 3 archaeological assessment report for the sites, identified within this Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment report, is entered into the Provincial Registry of Archaeological Reports by the MHSTCI.

Written instructions will be provided to all persons permitted to enter the property for the purposes of undertaking work associated with the development that no work is permitted to occur within the 20 metre protective buffer zone and all work occurring within the 50 metre wide Monitoring Buffer will occur under direct supervision of a licenced archaeologist, and that the licensed archaeologist has the authority to halt any construction work if impacts to archaeological resources are identified.

It is anticipated that the fieldwork and reporting of the Stage 4 Mitigation of Development Impacts (if required) will be completed in 2022 and it is not anticipated that any development activity will be necessary within the 50 metre wide Monitoring Buffers prior to the Spring of 2022.

A letter agreeing to these provisions by the proponent is provided in the Supplementary Documentation.

The area outside of the site areas and 20 metre buffer zones are clear of further archaeological concerns, and it is recommended that development can proceed, subject to the above noted provisions.

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,

Melissa Wallace
Archaeology Review Officer

cc. Archaeology Licensing Officer
Andrew Sgro, Broccolini
Miranda Brunton, City of Hamilton

¹ In 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.