

**Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism, and
Culture Industries**

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**Ministère des Industries du patrimoine, du sport, du
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Jan 5, 2022

Benjamin Mortimer (P369)
Paterson Group
73 Moore Richmond ON K0A2Z0

**RE: Review and Entry into the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports:
Archaeological Assessment Report Entitled, "Stage 2 and 3 Archaeological
Assessments: Part 1 Plan 4R-7867, Part 5/6/7/8/9 Plan 4R-30711 Concession 3, Part
Lots 13 and 14, Geographic Township of March City of Ottawa, Ontario ", Dated
Dec 1, 2021, Filed with MHSTCI Toronto Office on Dec 2, 2021, MHSTCI Project
Information Form Number P369-0075-2018, P369-0091-2019, P369-0090-2019,
MHSTCI File Number 06PD015**

Dear Mr. Mortimer:

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 8 and Supplementary Documentation Maps 1-12 of the above titled report and recommends the following:

Based on the results of the Stage 3 Archaeological Assessments, it is recommended that:

1. That a partial clearance of the development area be granted, except for the Lahey Site (BiFx-24) area and a 10 m protective no-go buffer zone as shown on Supp. Doc. Map 1, 2, and 8.
2. That the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport provide a letter confirming that there are no further concerns with regard to alterations to archaeological sites for the partially cleared areas of the property.

For the Morgan Site (BiFx-23)

3. No further archaeological study is required for the Morgan Site (BiFx-23), as shown in Supp. Doc. Maps 2-4.

For the Lahey Site (BiFx-24)

4. The Lahey Site (BiFx-24) possesses CHVI, and the following approach is recommended:

a. A Stage 4 Mitigation of Development Impacts be conducted by a licensed archaeologist. The site consists of several discrete nodes which should be subject to different methodologies as part of this assessment.

b. The site contains a large and complex structural feature as defined by Section 4.2.7 in the form of the extant foundations of a building. The structure should be excavated following the standards for complex stratified archaeological sites (Section 4.2.8). As the structure has already been sampled using 1 x 1 m excavation units during Stage 3 assessment, methodology for the Stage 4 excavation should consist of block quadrants measuring 5 x 5 m centred on the structural foundations (as shown in Supp. Doc. Map 8). This would allow for documentation of the structural deposits in addition to a buffer of approximately 1.5 m outside the structure. The remainder of the site area can then be stripped, as per recommendation 4.c.

c. As the site post-dates 1830 and has been subject to ploughing for many years (Sections 4.2.3 and 4.2.7) (MHSTCI 2011), mechanical topsoil stripping should be undertaken in the core site area, as shown in Supp. Doc. Map 8. Exposed subsoil surfaces should then be cleaned to document subsurface features, which should be excavated and recorded following the standards outlined in Section 4. Topsoil stripping should continue to a minimum of 10 m beyond uncovered cultural features (Standards and Guidelines Table 4.1). Further hand excavation in the majority of the ploughzone area (as shown in Supp. Doc. Map 8) is not deemed necessary, given the post-1830 date, lack of contextual deposits, and existing sample collected during Stage 3.

d. No further hand excavation is recommended for the downslope node area as outlined in Supp. Doc. Map 8. The area has been sufficiently sampled during Stage 3 excavations, which uncovered a very small and contained refuse deposit dating to the terminal occupation of the site and its subsequent abandonment in the 20th century. This deposit overlies the ploughzone encountered elsewhere on the site. Given the primarily 20th-century date this deposit does not meet the criteria for hand excavation outlined in Section 4.2.7 Standard 2 (MHSTCI 2011). Additionally, topsoil stripping in this area is not feasible. First, it lies in the bed area of a tributary to Shirley's Brook below steep slopes which make it impractical to access without extensive grading with heavy equipment. Secondly, and more importantly, the Community Design Plan and the associated Environmental Management Plan for the larger urban area, approved by Ottawa City Council in 2016 through an Official Plan Amendment, establishes a corridor of vegetated habitat, which is to be retained and/or enhanced surrounding the tributaries of Shirley's Brook. After Stage 3 assessment the area was included under the regulatory limit of the tributary as managed by the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority; thus, mechanical excavation within this limit is not environmentally appropriate in light of the high environmental significance and low CHVI of this area.

5. Should deeply buried archaeological material be found on the property during construction activities, the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries should be notified immediately.

6. If human remains are encountered during construction, the proponent should immediately contact local police service, followed by both the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries and the Registrar or Deputy Registrar of the Cemeteries Regulation Unit of the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations, (416) 326-8404.

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
Greg Winters, Novatech Engineering
TBD TBD, City of Ottawa

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.*