

**Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM)**

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**Ministère des Affaires civiques et du Multiculturalisme (MCM)**

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Feb 2, 2023

Robb Bhardwaj (P449)  
ASI Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Services  
200-2321 Fairview Burlington ON L7R 2E3

**RE: Review and Entry into the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports: Archaeological Assessment Report Entitled, "Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment of 993 Fuller Avenue, Part of Lot 118, Military Reserve, Geographic Township of Tay, Simcoe County, now in the Town of Penetanguishene", Dated Oct 25, 2022, Filed with MCM Toronto Office on Oct 31, 2022, MCM Project Information Form Number P449-0491-2021, MCM File Number 0014640**

Dear Mr. Bhardwaj:

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.<sup>1</sup> 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 9 of the above titled report and SD Figure 2 of the associated supplementary Documentation and recommends the following:

1. The Penetang Lake site (BeGx-28) is a Late Wendat Village with further cultural heritage value and a Stage 3 Site-specific Assessment is recommended, in accordance with the 2011 S & G Table 3.1 Standards 10-12 in order to clarify the nature and extent of the cultural deposits, and to aid in the determination of a Stage 4 mitigation strategy.

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.

b) Following the S & G Table 3.1 Standards 10-12 for Stage 3 excavation of Woodland period village sites, a series of one metre by one metre units must be excavated at 5-m intervals across all areas of artifact concentrations, indicated by high artifact counts from the positive Stage 2 test pits. An equal number of additional test units must be excavated across the remainder of the identified site area, either in a systematic grid or in focused areas to recover a sample of intact (topsoil) deposits. The test units must be

excavated 5 cm into the sterile B-horizon and soil fills screened through 6 mm wire mesh to facilitate artifact recovery. The sterile B-horizon should be trowelled, and all soil profiles examined for undisturbed cultural deposits. Any subsurface features or settlement patterns should be recorded.

2. 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 Stage 4 mitigative options that will be necessary. The identification of the preferred mitigation options should be undertaken through consultation with First Nations and MHSTCI staff.

3. Prior to the initiation of the Stage 3 testing, it is requested that partial clearance be given to areas within the subject property where there are no further concerns for impacts to archaeological sites, provided the following conditions have been fulfilled to the satisfaction of the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Cultural Industries.

As stated in section 7.8.5, Standard 1.e.i, a map illustrating the site recommended for Stage 3 Site-Specific Assessment, as well as a 20-metre protective buffer and a further 50 metre construction buffer is provided within the supplementary documentation associated with this report.

It is therefore recommended that the limits of the 20-metre protective buffer of the site be fenced under the supervision of a licensed archaeologist prior to any on-site activity. Subsequent to the placement of the fence, the proponent is required to have a licensed archaeologist monitor all construction and earth moving activities within the 50-metre construction monitoring buffer. All earth moving activities within the 50-metre buffer should be conducted by a gradall or tract excavator with a smooth-edged bucket. Once the archaeological monitoring of the buffer has been completed, and assuming no archaeological deposits associated with the site are encountered, these areas may be considered free of further archaeological concern.

In order to prevent any impact to the archaeological site outside of abovementioned area, the fence delineating the limits of the 20-metre protective buffer must remain in place until the Stage 3 Site-Specific Assessment of site BeGx-28 has been completed.

NOTWITHSTANDING the results and recommendations presented in this study, ASI 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 Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries must be immediately notified.

The above recommendations are subject to Ministry approval, and it is an offence to alter any archaeological site without Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries concurrence. No grading or other activities that may result in the destruction or disturbance of any archaeological sites are permitted until notice of MHSTCI approval has been received.

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,

Jessica Marr  
Archaeology Review Officer

cc. Archaeology Licensing Officer  
Paul Geron, Homeowner  
Andrea Betty, Town of Penetanguishene

<sup>1</sup>*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.*