

Archaeological Assessment Highlights

Stage 1 and 2 archaeological assessments were conducted in May 2018 in the area proposed for the Shantz Station Pit as well as for some adjacent lands. The study area included agricultural fields, woodlots, the home on the property along with adjacent buildings, the gravel driveway, grassed laneways and the western land edge of Hopewell Creek.

During the assessment, artifacts were found in 10 locations (or sites). Most of these artifacts were from Euro-Canadian settlements dating back to the mid-1800s, and included nails and broken pieces of glass and ceramics. A small quantity of Indigenous artifacts was also found, and these consisted of small pieces of chipped stone that were created from tool production and use.

Three areas within the boundary of the proposed pit were not investigated due to poor weather and field conditions.

These areas will be studied in the spring of 2019. In addition, two or three of the 10 sites identified as having artifacts will undergo a Stage 3 archaeological assessment if the pit application is approved.

A Stage 3 assessment is needed when identified archaeological sites are determined to have further cultural heritage value or interest. Investigators will excavate one-metre by one-metre square test units to search for and document any additional archaeological materials.

The Stage 1 and 2 report will be updated with the results of the three additional Stage 1 and 2 assessments carried out in the spring of 2019. The areas to undergo Stage 3 assessments will remain undisturbed until this work is completed.



Among the artifacts found on the site were broken pieces of ceramics (left) and fragments of chipped stone created from tool production and use.



Members of the archaeology team walked across the property and sifted soil from test pits in their search for artifacts.

For more information about archaeological assessments, visit: http://www.mtc.gov.on.ca/en/archaeology/archaeology_assessments.shtml#a6