

**Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment
of Grandview Resort
Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1, Township of Chaffey,
Town of Huntsville,
District Municipality of Muskoka
P387-0042-2021**

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Executive Summary

This report describes the methodology and results of the Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of the proposed Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1, Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka(**Maps 1 & 2**). This study was triggered by the Planning Act, and conducted under the Professional Archaeological Consulting License P-387 issued to Victoria Brooks-Elder by the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI).

Hogback Heritage was engaged by the proponent to undertake a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of the study area and was granted permission to carry out archaeological fieldwork by the proponent's representative. The study area was subject to a Stage 1 site inspection on May 29th, 2021. As per Section 1.1.2 of the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologist the mapping provided by the proponent represents the best available (MHSTCI 2011).

While its situation on the shores of Fairy Lake, would classify the property as possessing high archaeological potential, the Grandview Resort property has undergone extensive land disturbance and development, contains low archaeological potential, and requires no further assessment.

Based upon the background research and the results of the property inspection, it is recommended that:

- 1) The Grandview Resorts project area is of low archaeological potential, and should be cleared of further archaeological concerns and requires no further assessment.

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	a
Table of Contents	i
List of Figures	ii
List of Maps	ii
Project Personnel	ii
1 Project Context	1
1.1 Introduction	1
1.2 Development Context	1
1.3 Historical Context	2
1.3.1 Heritage Documentation	2
1.3.2 Pre-Contact History	2
1.3.3 Post-Contact History	8
1.3.4 Study Area Specific Area	10
1.3.4.1 Maps	11
1.3.5 Summary of Historical Context	11
1.4 Archaeological Context	11
1.4.1 Current Conditions	11
1.4.2 Physiography	12
1.4.3 Previous Archaeological Assessments	12
1.4.4 Registered Archaeological Sites	13
2. Field Methods	13
3. Analysis	15
3.1 Features Indicating Archaeological Potential	15
3.2 Conclusions	15
4. Recommendations	15
5. Advice on Compliance with Legislation	16
6. Bibliography	17
7. Images	20
8. Maps	27

**Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1,
Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka**

List of Figures

1	Muskoka Segment of Alexander Sheriff's Map of 1831	20
2	Barn at North Border of Project Area	20
3	Driving Shed, North Border of Project Area	21
4	Driveway Accessing Barn and Driving Shed	21
5	Grandview Project Area from Barn/	22
6	Steep Slope towards Fairy Lake	23
7	Golf Course Clubhouse and Parking Lot	23
8	Steep Slope along Shore of Cookson Bay	24
9	Grandview Resort, Cookson Bay, Steep Slope and Condominiums	24
10	Artificial Pond	25
11	Project Area from Southeast Border, Looking towards Grandview Drive	25
12	Low-Lying and Wet Terrain along South and Southeastern Project Boundaries	26

List of Maps

Map 1:	Grandview Resort Project Area Location	27
Map 2:	Grandview Resort Development Map	28
Map 3:	1870 Crown Lands Map of Chaffey Township	29
Map 4:	Segment of 1870 Crown Lands Map of Chaffey Township	30
Map 5:	Hamilton's Map of Chaffey Township	31
Map 6:	Segment of Hamilton's Map of Chaffey Township	32
Map 7:	Grandview Resort, Results of Stage 1 Site Inspection	33
Map 8:	Grandview Resort, Image Location and Direction Mentioned in Text	34

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Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1, Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka

1.0 Project Context

1.1 Objectives

The objectives of a Stage 1 archaeological assessment, as outlined by the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (2011), are as follows:

- 1) To provide information about the property's geography, history, previous archaeological fieldwork and current land conditions
- 2) To evaluate in detail the property's archaeological potential, which will support recommendations for Stage 2 survey for all or parts of the property
- 3) To recommend appropriate strategies for Stage 2 survey

1.2 Development Context

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All records, documentation, field notes and photographs related to the conduct and findings of these investigations are held by the licensee until such time that they can be transferred to an agency or institution approved by the Ontario Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries on behalf of the government and citizens of Ontario.

**Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1,
Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka**

1.3 Historical Context

1.3.1 Heritage Documentation

The District of Muskoka deals with archaeological resources in multiple places in its Official Plan (District of Muskoka Planning and Economic Development Department 2014). In Section F4.e, the Plan encourages “the protection, maintenance, conservation and interpretation of heritage resources including: archaeological sites; buildings and structures of historic and architectural value; and those waterfront, rural and community landscapes which reflect special traditional aspects of Muskoka as contained in this Section of the Plan (specifically as detailed in those sections on wetlands, narrow waterbodies, biological constraints and significant heritage areas).”

Sections F110 and F111 deal with development on or near archaeological resources. Section F.110 states “Application for development adjacent to or on significant archaeological sites shall be reviewed in consultation with the Ministry of Culture and Communications to ensure the impact of development is minimized, and Section F.111 follows with “Development adjacent to or on significant archaeological sites may be permitted to proceed subject to consideration and appropriate utilization of the following development controls, addressing among other matters: increased lot sizes, location of buildings and structures, restriction of the removal of vegetation or artifacts, parkland dedication to protect and preserve the significant feature.”

Section K12, states that the District itself may require an archaeological assessment in instances where other acts and laws do not.

1.3.2 Pre-Contact Period

Palaeo-Indian sites date 10,000 to 5,000 B.C. , and inhabited a tundra like environment as the glaciers retreated northward. In such an environment, fruits, nuts and other sources of food harvested from trees or other plants are rare, and it is thought that the Palaeo-Inidans subsisted largely by hunting, trapping and fishing (Ellis 2013: 36). Palaeo-Indian sites are most often located on relic beach ridges associated with glacial lakeshores (Stork 1984). They have also been located at ancient river crossings, places where modern caribou hunters often assemble as the animals my slow and file through a narrow area making them easier to hunt (Ellis 2013: 36). The predominance of sites being located on ancient strandlines may be more indicative of the survey methodology employed to find them rather than an actual preference for site situation on the part of the Palaeo-Indian peoples of Ontario, as a number of sites have been recovered away from ancient shorelines (Ellis & Deller 1990: 50)

Most Palaeo-Indian sites are small, indicating campsites that were inhabited briefly as its

**Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1,
Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka**

occupants followed the seasonal routes and cycles of their prey. Larger sites seem to be associated with animal migration routes, primarily at river crossing as mentioned above (Ellis 2013: 35-6).

Large, fluted spear points define an Early Palaeo-Indian site. While one of the earliest artefacts in North America, they are also one of the most technologically advanced stone tools on the continent (Ellis 2013: 37-8). Other artefacts encountered include hammerstones, and large choppers, knives / cutting tools, lunate bifaces, and piece esquillee's, possibly employed as wedges for wood or bone working, unifacial triangular end scrapers, beaked scrapers, spokeshaves, burins or gravers (Ellis & Deller 1990: 43, 47-9).

Late Palaeo-Indian points do not exhibit the same fluting that is present on Earlier assemblages. Two point types are found on Late Palaeo-Indian sites, one group having a concave base with either rounded or pointed ears, and the other group comprising lanceolate forms (Ellis 1990: 57-8). Most of the lithic tool kit continues from the Early Palaeo-Indian Period, however there are a few new forms or tools that appeared, including: drills, and small thumbnail or fan shaped end scrapers replace the unifacial triangular end scraper (Ellis & Deller 1990: 59).

The toolstone recovered from Palaeo-Indian sites in Ontario has been sourced to have been quarried from sites up to 200 km away. The tool stone was likely at least roughed out at the quarry site and carried to the site on seasonal routes. Other sources originated further afield from sources in Ohio or Michigan, and were likely obtained through trade (Ellis & Deller 1990: 43).

The Archaic peoples were still nomadic hunter-gatherers, however the greater range of tools has caused some to hypothesise that this indicated a shift from exploiting large-game over a large area to a more extensive, localised range (Ellis et al 1990: 67). This could also be a factor of preservation of perishable materials, which is also a factor from the earlier Palaeo-Indian period.. There is also evidence, through presence of imported / exotic cherts, that great distances were still covered during seasonal rounds (Ellis et al 1990: 78).

In southern Ontario, the Archaic is subdivided into Early, Middle, and Late periods, which in turn are further subdivided into horizons based upon point types (Ellis et al 1990). In northern Ontario, there is no such subdivision and the entire period is known as the Shield Archaic (Wright 1972, Hamilton 2013). Areas around the north shore of the Great Lakes, and along the southern border between northwestern Ontario and Minnesota could possibly have been part of the Middle Archaic “Laurentian Archaic” group found in southern Ontario (Hamilton 2013, Ellis et al 1990).

The Archaic period also witnessed the rise of the “Old Copper” culture centred around Lake Superior.“Old Copper” culture is a name given to the people from this area who exploited the available copper veins or outcroppings, and not a distinct Archaic group separate from others

**Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1,
Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka**

based upon material culture, settlement patterns etc. Copper artefacts from this area have been recovered from sites in Southern Ontario, west to into Saskatchewan, and south of Lake Michigan into Illinois (Hamilton 2013: 89). Copper artefacts include spear points, knives, chisels, and celts (Dawson 1966). Most of these artefacts have been found by collectors or out of context and their role in society is open for debate.

A major change in the Archaic tool-kit from that of the Palaeo-Indian period is the appearance of smaller, notched points that replace the large lanceolate forms. This has been thought to indicate a technological advance; the adoption of the spear-thrower, or *atl atl*. Other artefacts typical of the Archaic period include those associated with wood-working such as axes, gouges and adzes (Ellis et al 1990: 65). These woodworking tools have been thought to indicate that the dug-out canoe was introduced during this period.

Archaic houses are rare, however the Davidson Site (AhHk-54) along the Ausable River inland from Lake Huron has revealed a number of features that have been identified as pit-houses, dating to the Late Archaic, predating 3000 BP based upon dates from carbonised remains found in flood deposits above the floor (Ellis et al 2010).

The house was circular, approximately 5 metres in diameter, had a sloping entrance, interior hearth, posts, and a bench surrounding the edges of the structure, and likely possessed a soil or sod roof. It was hypothesised that this structure was a cold weather domicile, owing to the greater insulating properties of pit-houses (Ellis et al 2010: 10). The labour involved in construction of such a house is also believed to indicate a more-or-less sedentary lifestyle, those occupying it relying on stored foodstuffs (Ellis et al 2010: 10).

Burials from southern Ontario date to the Late Archaic, and have been divided into two complexes, the Haldimand and Glacial Kame. While it has been hypothesised that the Haldimand Complex groups interred their dead in what could be the first cemeteries in the province, it is fairly certain that the Glacial Kame culture had deliberate cemeteries to bury their deceased, possibly in an annual ritual or celebration (Ellis et al 1990: 116-8). Haldimand Complex burials included projectile points, chert bifaces, red ochre, copper artefacts including beads and awls, and beaver incisor grave goods (Ellis et al 1990: 116). Glacial Kame burials were composed both of inhumations as well as cremations. Grave goods were rather elaborate, and included bannerstones, bird stones, stone pipes, copper artefacts including adzes, awls and beads, bear maxilla masks, exotic sea shells, and gorgets (Ellis et al 1990: 116-8).

In southern Ontario the Woodland, like the Archaic period, has been subdivided into three phases, Early, Middle and Late, dating between ca. 1000-900 BC to and AD 1650-1700. This period is marked by the introduction of pottery. The Late Woodland period begins ca. AD800 with the widespread adoption of agriculture.

**Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1,
Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka**

The Early Woodland people still maintained seasonal routes similar to those from the preceding period. The adoption of pottery seem to indicate an increasing exploitation of plant resources (Williamson 2013: 48). These seasonal rounds were likely focussed around watersheds with families living separately in autumn and winter, coming together in the spring and summer to exploit seasonal resources such as fish spawning. While these larger groups had their own territories, they were not isolated and did not isolate themselves.

Across most of southern Ontario, Quebec and western New York State the people of the Early Woodland shared a similar culture known as “Meadowood”. Common artefacts from this time period include: Vinette 1 ceramics, distinctive side-notched “Meadowood” projectile points, and the “Meadowood Cache Blades”, trapezoidal gorgets, and bar and expanded bodied pop-eyed birdstones. Also common on Meadowood sites are drills and scrapers made from Meadowood preforms, other gorget types, pendants, copper beads and awls, and fire making kits of iron pyrite. These artefacts are believed to have developed from the preceding Glacial Kame culture of the Late Archaic (Spence et al 1990: 128-9). This could be indicative of the extension or continuance of the Archaic period type lifeways into the Early Woodland in the region like has been hypothesised for other regions of northern Ontario.

Most of what is known about the Meadowood culture stems from cemeteries, domestic sites often yield little in the way of house plans, often only hearths and pits are recovered. People were buried in individual graves, often coated with imported red ochre with varying quantities and types of grave goods. Long-distance trade items recovered from both cemetery and domestic sites are numerous, but also less so compared to the preceding period (Spence et al 1990: 136).

The Early Woodland Middlesex Complex indicates increasing influence from Adena and Hopewell Complexes in the mid-west United States, what is now Ohio and Indiana. These include both finished artefacts and raw material that originate in this area. Burial mounds also appear on the Ontario landscape, and are also believed to be a result of influence or increasing contact from this region (Spence et al 1990: 138-42).

The Middle Woodland period in southern Ontario has revealed three separate complexes or cultures: the Couture in the southwest, the Saugeen in the northwestern portion of southwestern Ontario, and Point Peninsula in the central and eastern parts of southern Ontario. Owing to the still nomadic nature of these groups, ‘borders’ are not clearly defined, and within these groups there is still variability. There is also the possibility that there exist other complexes that owing to the lack of research that have so far been classified as belonging to Point Peninsula and Saugeen especially (Spence et al 1990: 143-8).

Common Middle Woodland artefacts include psuedo-scallop shell followed by dentate stamp decorated ceramics, and Vinette 2 ware. Other artefacts recovered from Middle Woodland sites include bone and antler harpoons, antler combs with incised decorations, antler hafted beaver

**Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1,
Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka**

incisors, bone fish hooks, and a wide variety of projectile point forms (Spence et al 1990: 158). The construction of burial mounds continued into the Middle Woodland period.

Settlement patterns indicate a gathering of family groups between the spring and autumn at or near river mouths to fish, then to harvest wild rice, hunt deer and gather nuts. In the winter, the groups would disperse and travel inland to each families' winter camping territory (Spence et al 1990: 164).

In northern Ontario, the Woodland period has been divided into 2 periods, known as Initial and Terminal Woodland. The Initial Woodland period coincides with the Middle Woodland of southern Ontario. Laurel Tradition artefacts define the Initial Woodland period in northern Ontario. Early and Late manifestations of this tradition have been identified, the early phase dating between 200 BC and 500 AD, and the late 500 to 1000 AD. The Laurel Tradition occupies nearly all of the northern parts of the province, save for the very far north, and as far south in Ontario as Lake Nipissing and the French River. The Laurel Tradition spans north and eastern Manitoba, and a small part of Saskatchewan in the west, and extends into northern Quebec to the east, and into northern Minnesota and Wisconsin. Initial Woodland sites are often located along river banks or on the shores of lakes.

Burial mounds were constructed in the Middle/Initial Woodland period throughout. The best known and most researched group is the Manitou Mounds near Rainy River. The mounds were constructed of relatively clean fill or sod over top of wooden cribbing or scaffold that contained the initial burials (Dawson 1981: 34, Wright 1986: 63-4). Remains of birch bark baskets have been recovered from the mound fill (Dawson 1981: 34, Wright 1986: 34). Subsequent burials, either primary inhumations or secondary burials, interred alone or in a mass burial have been recovered from the mound, and at its base (Wright 1986: 63). Some of the burials were coated with powdered red ochre, and grave goods included such items as lithic bifaces, ceramics, and exotic imports such as a monitor pipe, and an Ohio pipestone sucking tube (Dawson 1981:34, Wright 1986:64). Closer to the project area, a burial ground containing artefacts from the Meadowood Complex was excavated near Kilarney on the north shore of Lake Huron (ASI 1994: 8).

Laurel ceramics were produced from either a single lump of clay or by coil manufacture, grit tempered, a smoothed exterior, rims relatively straight with the lip either flattened or rounded (Wright 1967, Wilford Laboratory of Archaeology 2012). There are a variety of decorative techniques utilised on these vessels including a variety of incised, stamped, punctated, embossed, and cord-wrapped stick decorations (Wright 1967, Wilford Laboratory of Archaeology 2012).

Early in the Laurel sequence, projectile points continue to resemble the notched points of the Archaic period (Dawson 1981:3). These are later superceded by stemmed points (Dawson 1980: 55). Side scrapers dominate scraper types in the early phases, and end scrapers assume

**Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1,
Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka**

prominence in the later phases (Dawson 1980: 33). Other typical tools include stone biface blades, abraders, pottery decorating tools, and net sinkers, copper beads, awls, barbs, fragments, nuggets, pendants, projectile points, chisels, and bone awls, needles, knives which are usually manufactured from beaver incisors, pottery decorating tools, and beads (Wright 1967: 152, Dawson 1980:33, 1981: 34).

The Late Woodland period in southern Ontario saw the widespread adoption of agriculture and increasing sedentarisation. This period has numerous cultural and temporal subdivisions within it: commencing ca. AD 600 with the Princess Point complex, and culminating with the Huron, Neutral, Petun, Odawa and other groups encountered by explorers, missionaries and traders.

Settlement size increases in southern Ontario, especially in the later Late Woodland period, with people living in large palisaded villages in locations that may have been chosen with defence at least partly in mind. Ossuary burials become common, where the dead were communally interred in pits along with grave goods.

The Late (Terminal) Woodland in Northern Ontario is composed of numerous ceramic assemblages; Blackduck, Selkirk Composite, and the Sandy Lake /Psinomani Complex. The last two assemblages are restricted to areas of northwestern Ontario, and unlikely to be recovered in the study region. Blackduck, out of all the northern Ontario Terminal Woodland groups is the most likely to be found in Muskoka.

Blackduck ceramics are globular, and are more rounded than the other Late Woodland ceramics from northern Ontario, with a more constricted neck, and often have out-flaring rims. They are produced by the paddle and anvil technique, and tempered with grit. Decoration is usually limited to the interior and exterior of the rim, and the exterior neck. Decorative techniques include cord-wrapped stick stamping, “comb” stamping, punctuations of various kinds, and vertical brushing on the exterior rim surface. Distinctive of early Blackduck vessels is bossed decoration, a motif that appeared late in the Laurel sequence (Wilford Laboratory of Archaeology 2010, Wright 1967). Pottery of typical Blackduck manufacture but with Laurel design motifs have been recovered, and these have been dated to very early in the sequence, as early as 700 AD (Dawson 1982:32).

Non-ceramic artefacts considered typical of the Blackduck people include: clay pipes, stone oval and lunate chipped knives; side scrapers; trapezoidal, oval, and thumbnail end scrapers; tubular-shaped drills; steatite pipes; bone awls and needles; unilaterally barbed harpoon; spatulas antler flakers; beaver incisor knives; bear canine ornaments; and native copper fishhooks, gorges, and beads (Gibbon & Anfinson 2008).

Woodland period archaeology in the surrounding regions indicates that rather than be viewed as being part of a large homogeneous “Northern Ontario”, it would appear that the Late Woodland

**Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1,
Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka**

occupants of areas such as Muskoka, Haliburton, and Parry Sound Districts had a material culture more related to those from Southern Ontario. Pottery recovered from the Late Woodland Curtin Site (BfGp-2) in Haliburton could be classified as “Iroquoianesque”, with more traits connecting it to the Iroquoian Benson Site in Victoria County. Similar pottery displaying both Algonkian and Iroquoian traits was also recovered in the District of Muskoka, near the eastern shore of Georgian Bay at the mouth of the Severn River (Elder 2016).

Similar pottery has been recovered from sites in central and eastern Ontario (Ballantine 2008: 10). Research seems to indicate that sites on the Gull and Burnt River systems in Haliburton, which allow the easiest access to Victoria County possess the greatest amount of chert, while those to the northeast especially have the highest amounts of quartz or quartzite tools (Ballantine 1992: 88). It is possible that a similar distribution of artefacts would be present in Muskoka, with materials and influences from the south possibly decreasing as one moves northward.

1.3.3 Post-Contact

Various families of the Mnjikaning First Nations from Rama on Lake Couchiching, such as the Bigwin family, the Yellowhead family, the Menominee family, as well as members of the Muskoka band, and a number of families from Lake Rosseau lived and exploited resources in northern Muskoka in the 19th Century. The area was used for farming, trapping, trading, and red ochre was gathered from Paint Lake. Guides from Mnjikaning were in great demand for 19th and early 20th Century Euro-Canadian hunters, trappers, and tourists in Muskoka, owing to their familiarity with the area.

The Bigwin Family as part of their traditional seasonal rounds had a summer settlement and farmland at what is now Dorset and Bigwin Island on Lake of Bays southeast of the project area. Bigwin Island was also the site of a burial ground (ASI 1994b: 3-8, Table 1). They also had a sugar bush located in what is now Ridout Township (ASI 1994b: 11). The Yellowhead family exploited an area from Lake of Bays to Lake Muskoka, and had a settlement at Bracebridge (ASI 1994b: 8). The M'ngikaning family had a settlement around Paint Lake to the south of Lake of Bays which was also a source of red ochre (ASI 1994b: Figure 7).

Lake Rosseau families considered Brunel Township south of the project area an important fall and winter hunting ground with 2 to 3 families living there during those seasons. They also utilised the area north of Fairy and Peninsula Lakes to hunt beaver, however there were no permanent settlements, as these were located at Obagawanung / Port Carling (ASI 1994b: 3-8, 14 Table 1).

The Menominee family lived and exploited an area that was bordered on the east by Lake of Bays, Mary Lake on the west, and Lakes Vernon, Fairy and Peninsula on the north. Menominee had a farm on Menominee Lake to the southwest of Lake of Bays. There was also a small

**Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1,
Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka**

settlement on Menominee Point, on the southeast corner of Lake Vernon. The territory was abandoned by the early 1870's and the family joined the Muskoka Band on Parry Island (ASI 1994b: 3-7, Table 1, Figure 10).

The first “settler” around Huntsville is believed to be William Cann, of Orillia. He hunted and trapped in the vicinity of the project area every winter from 1860 until 1869. He constructed a log cabin on the banks of the Vernon River. Upon survey of Chaffey Township, Cann had land on both sides of the River and constructed the area’s first hotel. Financial difficulties caused him to sell his hotel to Thomas Birtch, and all the land he had acquired in the township. His holdings on the east side of the River were sold to Captain George Hunt for \$50.00 in 1869. While Cann was the first settler, and the first business owner in town, and loaned the Municipal Council \$300.00 interest free until the first taxes came in, it is George Hunt that the town of Huntsville is named after (Rice 1964:6-7).

Hunt pushed for the extension of both roads and rail to Chaffey Township, and was responsible for the laying out of the town’s main street. Hunt was the Superintendent of Construction for the Colonization Road through the area. The town of Huntsville began to grow mostly on the western lands formerly owned by Cann, not on the land to the east belonging to Hunt, as he banned the sale of liquor on the lots he was offering for sale. Hunt was responsible for the construction of the first church in the town in 1872, built on land he donated, and the first school, and attracting a doctor to the new town as well (Rice 1964: 8-9).

While northern Muskoka was opened for settlement in 1869, and the Muskoka Colonization Road had reached Huntsville in 1870, large-scale growth did not occur until the arrival of the railroad in the late 1880's. The early roads were often impassable, and between 1873 and 1876, the Brunel locks were constructed to facilitate travel to the northern Muskoka Lakes, and by the next year, navigation was possible from Port Sydney to the west end of Lake Vernon. Other improvements were made to the transportation system in northern Muskoka, such as a canal to Peninsula Lake in 1888, and the Portage Railway, built between 1903 and 1904 which replaced stage coach service to Lake of Bays from Peninsula Lake near Huntsville (ASI 1994a: 96-105).

With the opening of land and water access to northern Muskoka, numerous saw mills were shortly in operation in the area. The arrival of the railway in 1886, caused an increase in size and scale of the lumber industry in the region. By 1900, however, timber stocks had been depleted, and the industry switched to hardwood processing, as well as hemlock harvesting for tanneries in Bracebridge, but even these could not prevent a steep decline, and most mills had closed by the beginning of World War I (ASI 1994a: 91-6).

By the 1890's Huntsville included a number of hotels, a hospital, dentists, printers, tailors, carpenters, photographers, carriage makers, jewellers, butchers, the Huntsville Planing and Handle Mills, the Hall Woolen Mill operated in Huntsville from the late 19th Century until 1907,

**Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1,
Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka**

and the Anglo-Canadian Leather Company was established in 1891 (Union Publishing Co. 1892: A56-A61, 1896: 72-4, ASI 1994a: 96).

Muskoka has been known for its holiday resorts, and cottage life almost from the beginning of Euro-Canadian settlement. The first resorts in Muskoka opened in the 1870's, focussing on Lakes Muskoka, Rosseau, and St. Joseph, and accessed via railway or steamship. Lack of access to northern Muskoka meant that the first resorts did not begin operation until nearly twenty years after, with the arrival of the railway. Deerhurst Resort on Lake of Bays, constructed in 1896 was the first large resort in northern Muskoka. While few new resorts were opened after World War I in southern Muskoka, a number of resorts on some smaller lakes north of Huntsville were built, focussed not on railways but rather on automobiles being used to access the resort properties (ASI 1994a: 107-8).

While early descriptions of the land available for settlement presented the conditions for farming in glowing terms, many early settlers abandoned their agricultural pursuits first for jobs in the lumber industry, then for employment in the growing tourist trade.

1.3.4 Study Area Specific History

Chaffey Township was surveyed in 1869 by Walter Beatty. His notes indicate that while the topography was broken or hilly in many areas, he was particularly impressed by the quality of land and timber available in the township, with farmers requiring "a little larger area than in less broken localities (Kirwood & Murphy 1878:98)." The township rapidly obtained settlers under the Free Grants Act, and relatively prosperous farms were established in short order (McMurray 1879: 34). A seed crop of 2 lbs of potatoes yielded a crop of over 224 lbs, approximating 1100-1200 lbs per acre, which compared favourably with farms of Southern Ontario (McMurray 1879: 20).

The first inhabitant of Lot 26 Concession 1 was Jonathan Cookson, receiving the deed for the entire 89 acres of the lot, as well as 8 acres of Lot 25 in 1886. Cookson appears in the 1891 Census as a 35 year old farmer, married to Minnie, with 3 children, Nellie, aged 7, Rosie aged 4, and 2 year old Charles. According to land registry records, his family retained the property until the 1970's. Grandview Resorts purchased the property in 1984.

John Taylor received the patent for all 115 acres of Lot 27 in 1877. In the 1881 census Taylor was 37 years old, a farmer by occupation, married to Christina, and had four children: 10 year old Isabell, 8 year old Mary, Violet aged 6, and 4 year old Christine. He passed sometime between 1886 and 1891. Christine kept possession of the property until 1914, when she sold it to Hugh Taylor, her long time neighbour and brother-in-law, who almost immediately sold it to his (adopted) son Edward Winter. The land was divided up and sold to multiple parties starting in 1925.

**Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1,
Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka**

1.3.4.1 Maps

Early Maps do not depict Muskoka or the project area in any great detail. Alexander Sherrif's map of 1831 shows Lake Muskoka with the notation "Excellent Land" to the northeast, roughly corresponding to the location of project area. This land was also labelled as "Mississaga Country" (**Figure 1**).

The 1870 Department of Crown Lands Map of Chaffey Township, indicates Jonathan Cookson possessing Lot 26, and Johnathan Taylor on Lots 27 and 28 Concession 1 (**Maps 3, & 4**). An 1879 map from the Guidebook and Atlas of Muskoka and Parry Sound also depicts both men on those same lots (**Maps 5 & 6**). Two structures are shown on the properties of both men in the 1879 map. The structure depicted on the property belonging to Taylor is located well off the project area, however the location of the structure on Cookson's property could be located within the project area.

1.3.5 Summary of Historical Context

Northern Muskoka, including Chaffey Township was surveyed and opened for settlement in 1869. A Colonization Road arrived in 1870, and canals and locks enabled steamer navigation to the area shortly thereafter. The population of Chaffey Township and Huntsville grew rapidly after the opening of the Colonization Road, and the northern Muskoka Lakes to steamship navigation.

While agriculture was initially the main occupation, many abandoned their farms as principle sources of income for the lumber industry which boomed after the arrival of the railway in the late 1880's, as well as the tourism industry with the opening of large resorts in the late 1890's.

The first settlers on the project area were farmer Jonathan Cookson, and John Taylor and their families. The Cookson family retained possession of their property until the 1970's, while Taylor's property was sold to a relative in 1914. It was subdivided and sold to multiple parties shortly thereafter.

1.4 Archaeological Context

1.4.1 Current Conditions

The project area is located on Parts of Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1, Township of Chaffey, now part of the Town of Huntsville, District of Muskoka. The project area is bordered by Highway 60 along the north, Grandview Drive along the west, and Cookson Bay Crescent and a private driveway to the east. Cookson Bay and condominiums form the project's southern boundary. Along the north border of the project area are a barn, what likely served as a driving shed, and a paved driveway from Grandview Drive (**Figures 2-4**). South of the structures and east of

Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1, Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka

Grandview Drive the land steeply slopes down towards Fairy Lake (**Figures 5-6**). The southern and southeastern parts of the project area are occupied the golf course club house, out buildings and steeply sloping shore line (**Figures 7-9**).

1.4.2 Physiography

The project area is part of the Grenville Province of the Pre-Cambrian Shield, with bedrock predominantly granite or granitic-gneisses. Also present in small percentages are crystalline limestone, quartzite, and amphibolite and paragneiss, these respectively being from the metamorphism of limestone, sandstone, and various limey and sandy shales (Chapman 1975: 3).

The project area is part of the “Number 11 Strip” (Chapman & Putnam 1984: 214). Highway 11, which the area has been named after follows just below the ancient Lake Algonquin Shoreline, where streams flowing into the lake dropped sand as river deltas, and clay and silt were deposited further in deeper waters (Chapman & Putnam 1984: 214-5). The project area is comprised of shallow till and rock ridges, sand, and clay plains. and in this area bare rocks comprising less than 5% of the area. The till is usually sandy with stones, that follows the contour of the bedrock (Chapman 1975: 5). The soils are unsuitable for agriculture owing to their high stone content, numerous rock out crops, as well as its general shallowness (Chapman 1975: 20).

1.4.3 Previous Archaeological Assessments

Archaeological Services Incorporated developed an archaeological master plan in 1994 for the District Municipality of Muskoka and the Wahta Mohawks (1994a, b, & c). The master plan was a three volume work, the first dealing with background research, the second involved First Nations’ traditional land use and discussions of the archaeological survey that tested the hypotheses formed in the first volume. The third volume was a conservation management guide that will not be dealt with in this report.

Apart from archaeological data the first volume also gives an accounting of the geology, physiography, flora, and fauna of Muskoka, which are invaluable when attempting to discern the probability of archaeological sites being present in any particular local. Archaeological sites known up to the time of writing are also discussed. Built and “Intangible” heritage is also discussed in the first volume. The most important part of this volume with regards to the Grandview Resorts Project is the discussion of the predictive modelling that was created. The “vicinity of Huntsville” is classified as possessing a high to very high probability of containing lay-over, portage, or break-in-bulk sites (ASI 1994a: 50, Table 4). No potential mapping was provided for the project area.

The second volume contains information on historical Ojibway and Mohawk land-use in the district. Of particular interest in the discussion about the Muskoka and Rama bands and their

**Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1,
Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka**

exploitation of their lands in around the project area,. The two groups discussed in the master plan initially lived around Matchedash, but split after the abandonment of their settlement at Coldwater. The two groups would use the Severn and Muskoka Rivers for travel into the interior to sites on Lake Muskoka, Lake Rosseau, Lake St. Joseph, Lake of Bays etc.

The archaeological survey conducted to test hypotheses generated in the first volume visually inspected the area around Huntsville, Fairy and Peninsula Lakes to the south of the project area from the water but did not conduct any test-pitting or surface survey to recover any artefacts. Figure 28 of the report shows the project area, as well as the route taken for the visual inspection. This figure did not include Cookson Bay and the project area.

The lakes were described as being surrounded by “high, wooded, bedrock hills, the exceptions being the north shore of Fairy Lake and the Canal. Fairy and Peninsula Lakes were classified as possessing moderate to high potential: “in addition to serving as major transportation corridors, the major lake chains would have provided all of the resources necessary to sustain year-round occupation.” The visual inspection caused them to conclude “not surprisingly, the highest archaeological potential exists in those areas where land development is heaviest, since these have been the prime settlement locations for millennia. (ASI 1994b: 65).”

1.4.4 Registered Archaeological Sites

A request of the MHSTCI data base showed that there were no archaeological sites within 1km of the project area. The nearest sites are 4km away. These sites are the Later Farmstead (BiGt-13) and the Later Knoll (BiGt-14), both Euro-Canadian sites found by Horizon Archaeology Inc in 2019.

2.0 Field Methods

Stage 1 assessment included a site inspection, with no ground being disturbed, nor collection of archaeological resources if any were encountered. Aside from the review of the available literature to discern archaeological potential and previous historic land use, the assessment hoped to determine the areas which may have been too badly disturbed to still potential contain cultural values. This information was used to determine what survey strategies would be appropriate for a Stage 2 assessment, should it be required.

Located in the District Municipality of Muskoka, the project area qualifies for Sections 1.3.3: Alternatives for potential evaluation in special conditions: Canadian Shield, and 2.1.5: Alternative Strategies for special survey conditions: Test pit survey in northern Ontario and on Canadian Shield terrain. Section 2.1.5 does not require test pitting beyond 50m of a modern watercourse. If there are features of high potential other than a modern water source, such as glacial shore lines, test pits are to be dug at 5 metre intervals up to 50 metres from the feature of

Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1, Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka

high potential, and at 10 metre intervals from 50 to 150 metres. No assessment is required beyond 150 metres (Standard 2.1.5.2, MHSTCI 2011: 35).

The site inspection systematically covered the entirety of the project area on May 29th 2021 and was sufficient to identify any archaeological potential. As per Section 1.2.2 of the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists, conditions permitted good visibility of land features during the site inspection. The temperature during on the day of the site inspection was around 25°C, and sunny. No restrictions were placed on the fieldwork. All photographs and reference points were recorded using a WAAS enabled Magellan eXplorist 610 GPS, using the NAD 83 datum.

This land has been extensively landscaped in the creation of the golf course. This includes the creation of two ponds (see Figures 5 & 6, **Figures 10 & 11**). The golf course clubhouse / recreation centre, and outbuildings have caused further disturbance within the project area. Along the north edge of Cookson Bay and the eastern project border, the ground is low-lying and wet (**Figure 12**).

Within the project area, approximately, 85% of the terrain was disturbed through construction of the golf course, clubhouse and recreation buildings. The other 15% was low-lying and wet along the shore of Cookson Bay (**Map 7**). Areas around Cookson Bay that would have been areas of high potential have been disturbed through construction of the golf course or buildings.

The documentary record generated in the field comprises of three pages of field notes and sketch maps, GPS points, and 62 digital photographs.

3.0 Analysis and Recommendations

3.1 Features Indicating Archaeological Potential

A number of factors are employed in determining archaeological potential. Criteria for pre-contact archaeological potential is focussed on physiographic variables that include distance from the nearest source of water; the nature of that source; distinguishing features in the landscape (e.g., ridges, knolls, eskers, wetlands); the types of soils found within the area of the assessment and resource availability. Also considered are known archaeological sites within or the vicinity of the study area.

The closest source of fresh water is Cookson Bay off of Fairy Lake. Two ponds within the project area are artificial, constructed to add water features to the golf course.

There are no sites within the project area, and none within 2 kilometres

**Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1,
Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka**

Land registry records, assessment rolls, census, historic maps and aerial photographs as well as a property inspection all assist in determining historical archaeological potential. Additionally, the proximity of historic transportation corridors such as roads, rail and water courses also affect the historic archaeological potential.

Early maps of Chaffey Township, and Census documents indicate that Lot 26 was occupied by Johnathan Cookson, and Lot 27 by Johnathan Taylor. Cookson received the deed for the property in 1886, and Taylor in 1877 shortly after the opening of the township for settlement. The only road access to the properties was on its northern border, at least roughly approximating the route of Highway 60. Both properties could be accessed by boat from Fairy Lake.

3.2 Conclusions

The Grandview Resort property which has undergone extensive land disturbance and development, contains low archaeological potential, and requires no further assessment.

4.0 Recommendations

Based upon the background research and the results of the property inspection, it is recommended that:

- 1) The Grandview Resorts project area is of low archaeological potential, and should be cleared of further archaeological concerns and requires no further assessment.

5.0 Advice on Compliance with Legislation

This report is filed with the Ministry of Tourism, Culture, and Sport as a condition of licensing in accordance with Part VI of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. 0.18. The report is reviewed to ensure that it complies with the standards and guidelines that are issued by the Ministry, and that the archaeological fieldwork and report recommendations ensure the conservation, protection and preservation of the cultural heritage of Ontario. When all matter relating to archaeological sites within the project area of a development proposal have been addressed to the satisfaction of the Ministry of Tourism and Culture and Sport, a letter will be issued by the ministry stating that there are no further concerns with regard to alterations to archaeological sites by the proposed development.

It is an offence under Section 48 and 69 of the Ontario Heritage Act for any party other than a licensed archaeologist to make any alteration to a known archaeological site or to remove any artifact or other physical evidence of past human use or activity from the site, until such a time as a licensed archaeologist has completed archaeological fieldwork on the site, submitted a report to the Minister stating that the site has no further cultural heritage value or interest, and the report has been filed in the Ontario Public Register of Archaeology Reports referred to in Section 65.1 of the Ontario Heritage Act.

Should previously unknown or deeply buried archaeological resources be uncovered during development, they may be a new archaeological site and therefore subject to Section 48 (1) of the Ontario Heritage Act. The Proponent or person discovering the archaeological resources must cease alteration of the site immediately and engage a licensed consultant archaeologists to carry out archaeological fieldwork, in compliance with Section 48 (1) of the Ontario Heritage Act.

The Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002, S.O. 2002, require that any person discovering human remains must notify the police or coroner and the Registrar of Cemeteries at the Ministry of Consumer Services.

Archaeological sites recommended for further archaeological fieldwork or protection remain subject to Section 48 (1) of the Ontario Heritage Act and may not be altered, or have artifacts removed from them, except by a person holding an archaeological license.

**Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1,
Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka**

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**Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1,
Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka**

7.0 Images



Figure 1: Muskoka Segment of Alexander Sherriff's Map of 1831.



Figure 2: Barn at north border of Project Area. Facing Northwest.

**Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1,
Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka**



Figure 3: Driving Shed, north border of Project area. Facing Northwest.



Figure 4: Driveway accessing Barn and Driving Shed. Highway 60 visible in upper Right. Facing West.

**Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1,
Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka**



Figure 5: Grandview Project Area from Barn. Steep Slope and Golf Course Disturbance. Facing South.

**Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1,
Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka**



Figure 6: Slope towards Fairy Lake. Facing South.



Figure 7: Golf Course Club house and Parking Lot. Facing North.

**Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1,
Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka**



Figure 8: Steep Slope along shore of Cookson Bay. Facing South.



Figure 9: Grandview Resort, Cookson Bay, Steep Slope and
Condominiums on East border of Project Area. Facing North.

**Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1,
Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka**



Figure 10: Artificial Pond. Facing South.



Figure 11: Project Area from southeastern border, towards Grandview Drive. Facing West.

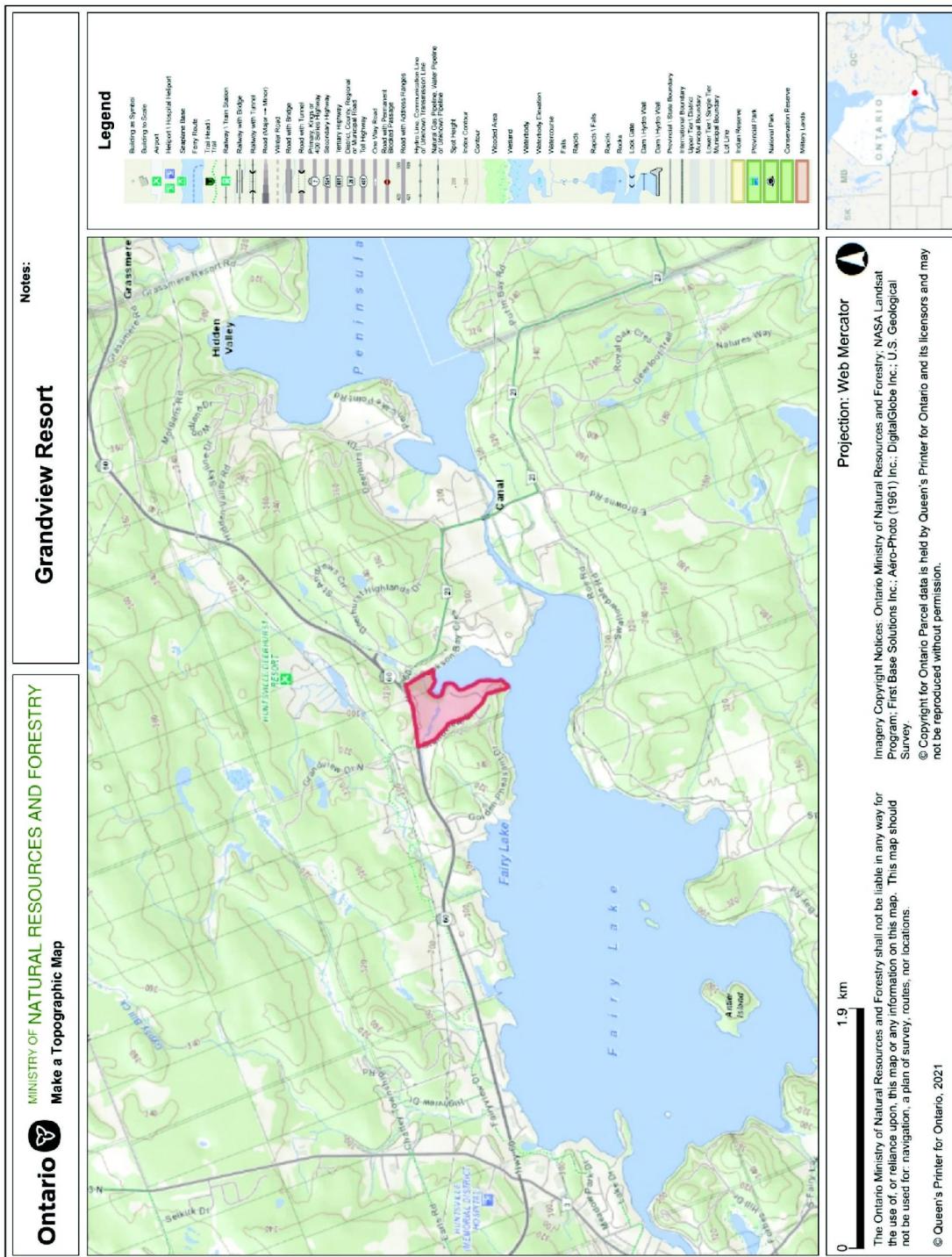
**Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1,
Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka**



Figure 12: Low-Lying and Wet terrain along the South and Southeastern project boundaries. Facing South.

Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1, Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka

8.0 Maps



Map 1: Grandview Resort Project Area Location.

Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1, Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka



Map 2: Grandview Resort Development Map.

Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1,
Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka



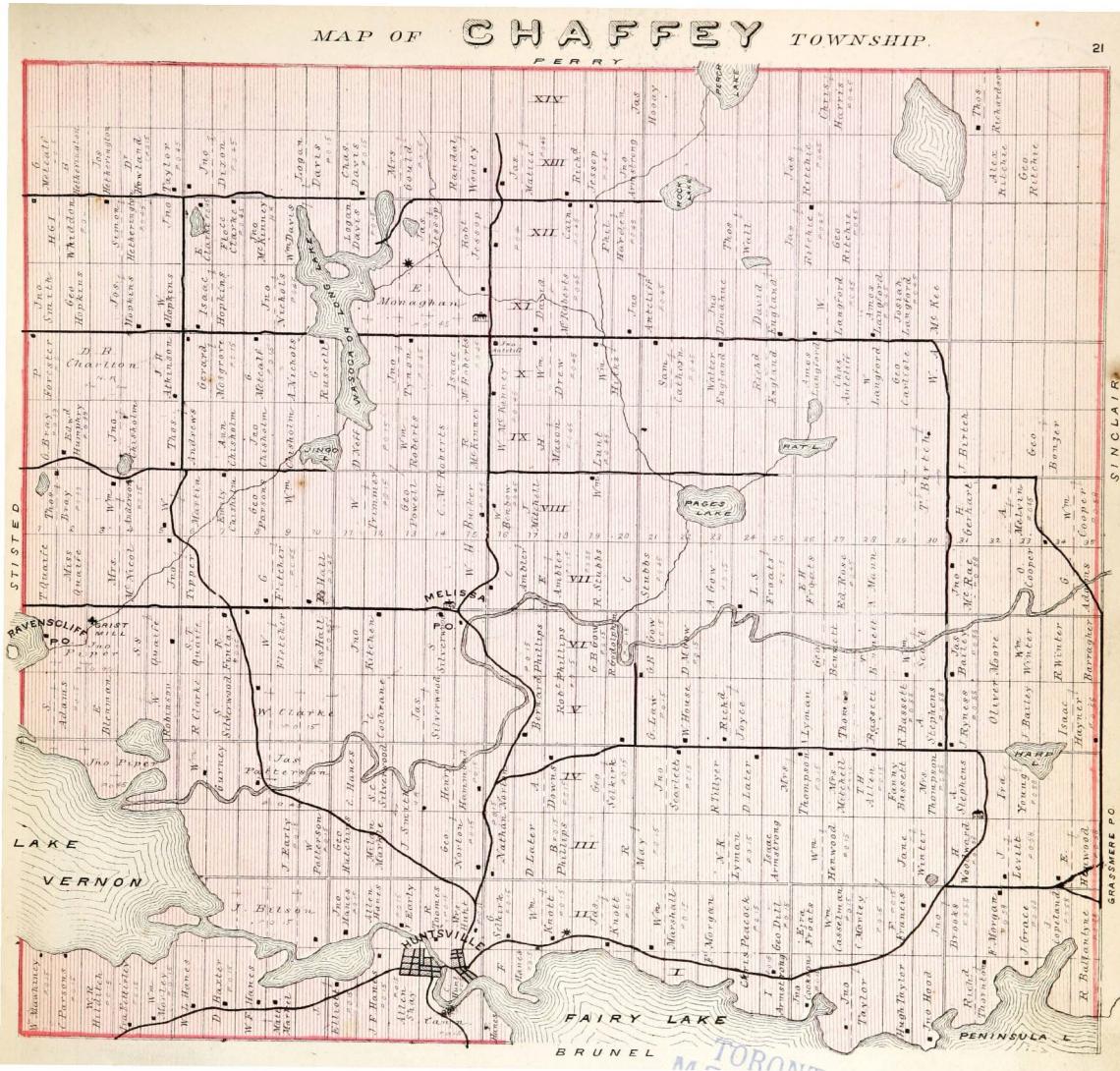
Map 3: 1870 Crown Lands Map of Chaffey Township.

Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1,
Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka



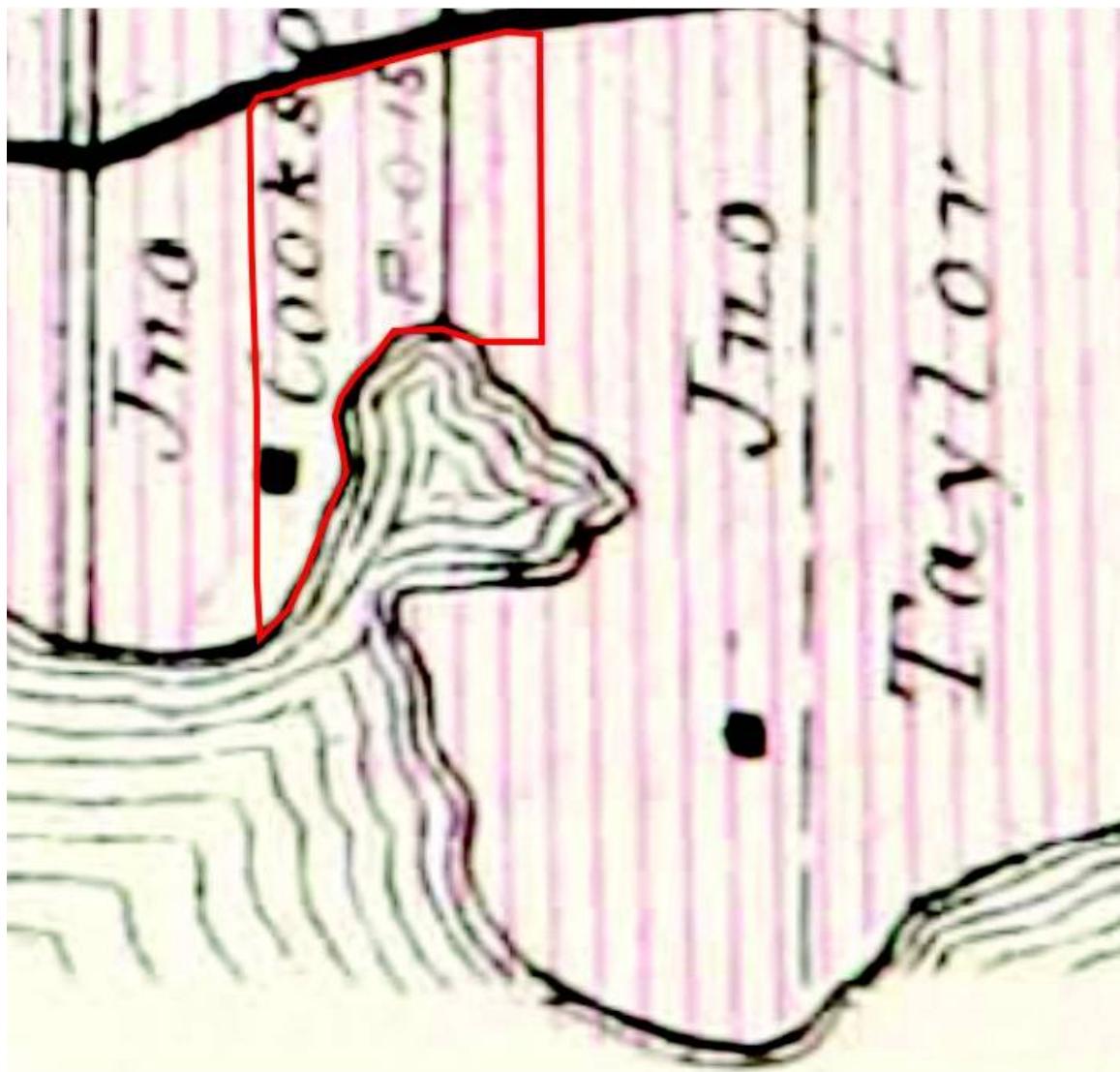
Map 4: 1870 Crown Lands Map Segment, Project Area Outlined in Red.

Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1, Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka



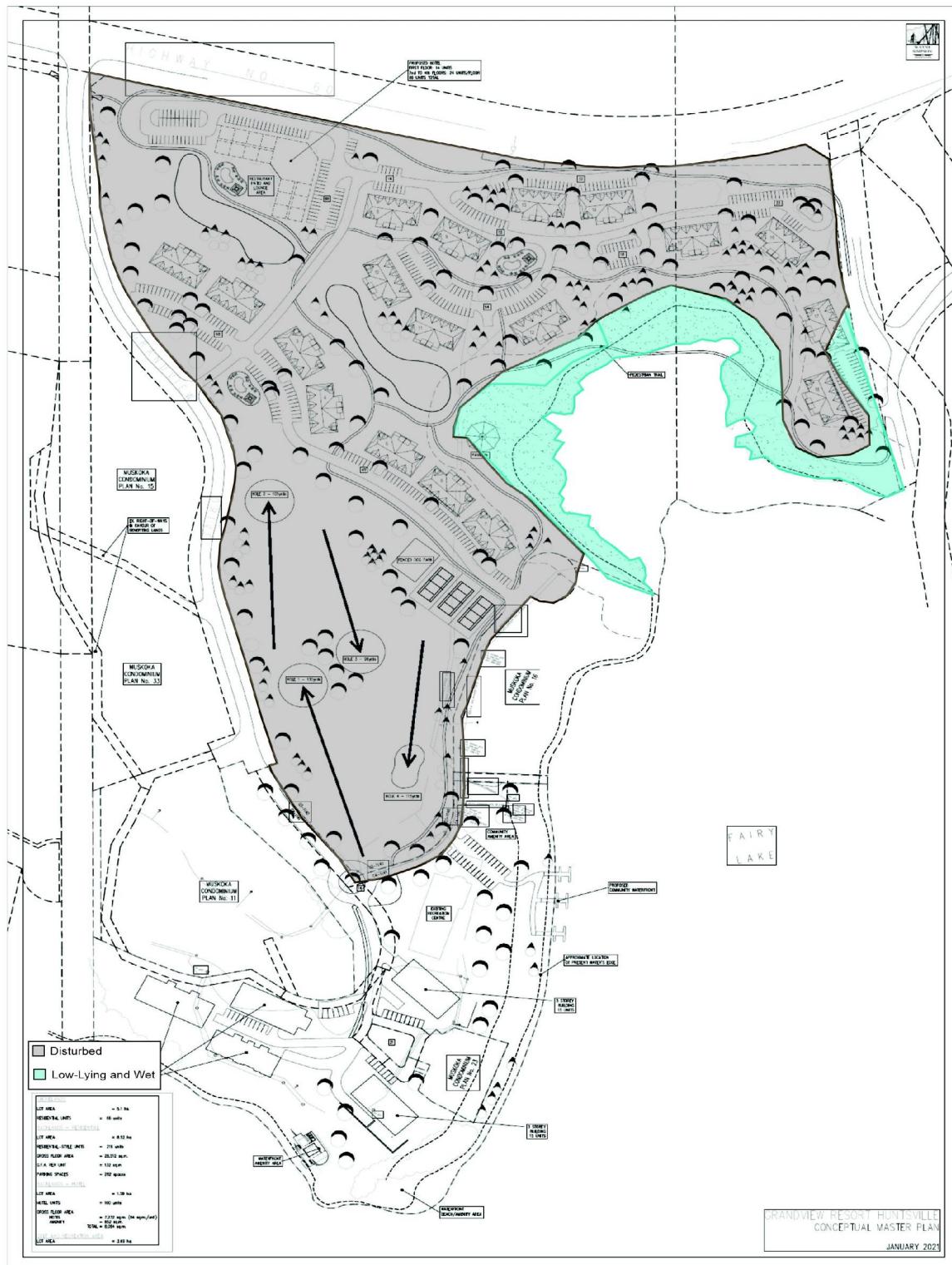
Map 5: Hamilton's Map of Chaffey Township.

Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1,
Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka



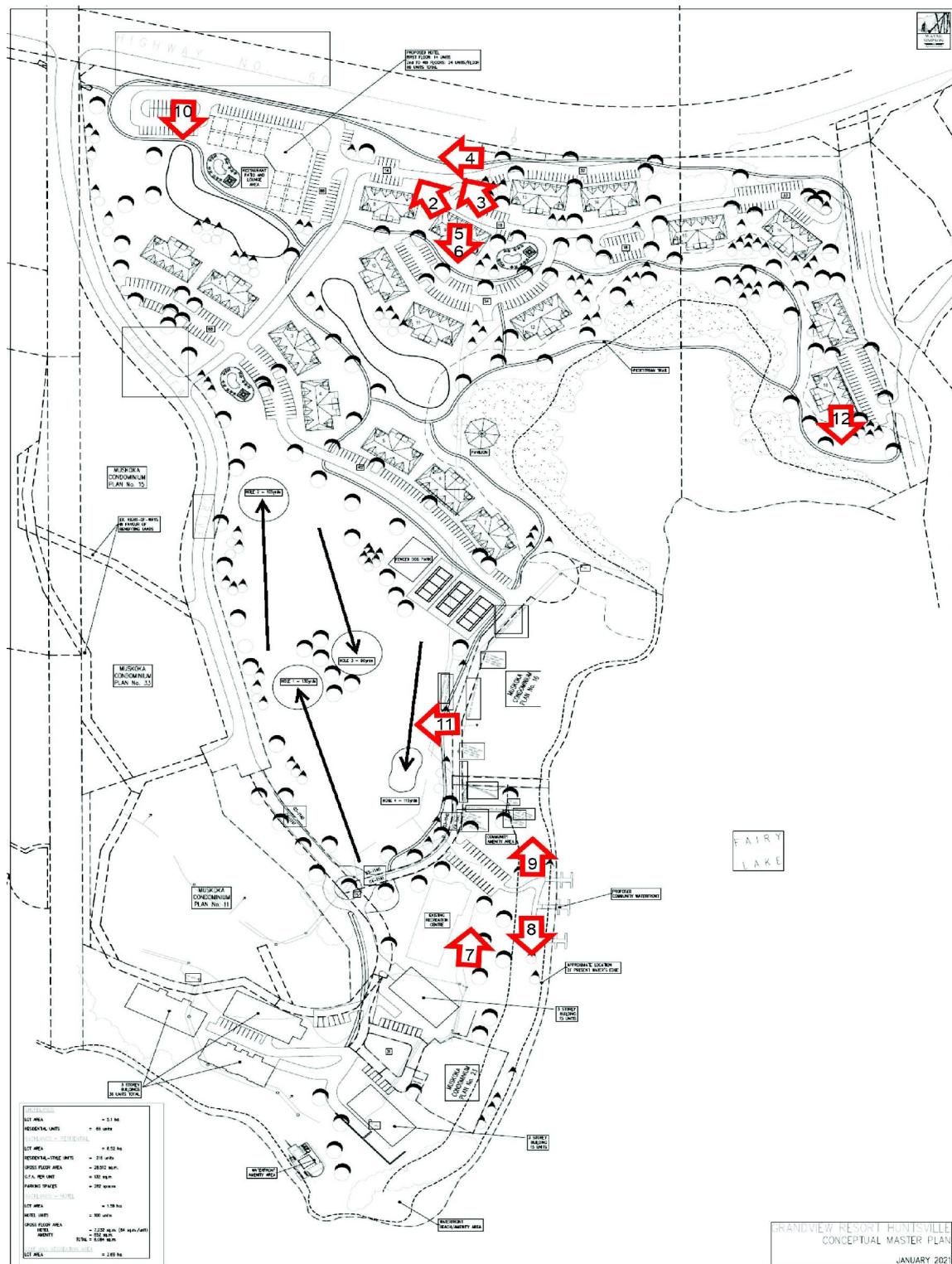
Map 6: Segment of Hamilton Map, Project Area Outlined in Red.

Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1, Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka



Map 7: Grandview Resort, Results of the Stage 1 Site Inspection.

Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Grandview Resort Part Lots 26 and 27, Concession 1,
Township of Chaffey, Town of Huntsville, District Municipality of Muskoka



Map 8: Grandview Resort, Image Locations and Direction Mentioned in Text.