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Limited

**Report on the 2003 Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment of the
Proposed Mason Homes Subdivision (including Phase I, 18T-97005),
Part of Lot 33, Concession 6, Uxbridge Township,
(formerly in the County of Ontario), Regional Municipality of Durham**

Submitted to

The Ontario Ministry of Culture

&

Mason Homes

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Prepared by

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Archaeological Consulting Licence #2001-016 & 2002-117

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Project Personnel

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Executive Summary

This report describes the results of the 2003 Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment of the Proposed Mason Homes Subdivision, Part of Lot 33, Concession 6, Uxbridge Township, Durham County (formerly in the County of Ontario) conducted by AMICK Consultants Limited. This study was conducted under Archaeological Consulting Licences #2001-016 and 2002-117 issued to Michael Henry by the Minister of Culture for the Province of Ontario. This assessment was undertaken in order to address conditions of development approval. All work was conducted in conformity with the Archaeological Assessment Technical Guidelines (OMCzCR 1993) and the Ontario Heritage Act (RSO 1980).

AMICK Consultants Limited was engaged to undertake this study on November 22, 2002. The subject land consists of former agricultural lands, the majority of which were ploughed in preparation for this study. As a result of this study, no archaeological resources which would represent a planning concern were determined to be situated within the area of the proposed undertaking. As a result, it is recommended that any condition respecting archaeological resources be considered as addressed and that no further archaeological studies are necessary for the proposed undertaking.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report describes the results of the 2003 Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment of the Proposed Mason Homes Subdivision, Part of Lot 33, Concession 6, Uxbridge Township, Durham County (formerly in the County of Ontario) conducted by AMICK Consultants Limited (see Figure 1). The subject land consists of approximately 100 acres of gently rolling former agricultural lands on a gradual slope descending from west to east (see Figure 3). The subject lands are rectangular in shape and are situated on the north edge of the Town of Uxbridge adjacent to the west side of Durham Regional Road 1 (Main Street).

The conduct of the archaeological assessment followed two phases: Background Research and Field Examination. All work was conducted in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Ontario Heritage Act (RSO 1980) under Archaeological Consulting Licenses #2001-016 & 2002-117 issued by the Minister of Culture for the Province of Ontario to Michael Henry. All pertinent documentation, materials and artifacts (if applicable) are maintained at the offices of AMICK Consultants Ltd. AMICK Consultants Ltd. entered the subject property with the consent of the property owner.

2.0 LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

As illustrated in Figures 1 and 3, the subject property for the purposes of this study is defined as the Proposed Mason Homes Subdivision, Part of Lot 33, Concession 6, Uxbridge Township, Durham County (formerly in the County of Ontario). The subject land consists of approximately 100 acres of former agricultural lands on a gradual slope descending from west to east (see Figure 3). The subject property is situated on the north edge of the Town of Uxbridge (see Figure 1). The east end of the property is separated from Main Street or Durham Regional Road 1 by a single row of existing residential structures and small commercial buildings. Likewise, the south edge of the property is defined by a single row of residential houses fronting onto the north side of North Street. The west side of the property is defined by the east edge of Centre Road and to the north of the subject property is rural farmland. An unnamed tributary stream of Uxbridge Brook flows through the center of the property from west to east and numerous seasonal drain cuts are evident in the fields of the subject property.

The subject property is situated within the Peterborough Drumlin Field physiographic region which is described as a series of broad rolling till plains. The study area is located within the valley of the Uxbridge Brook noted for poor drainage afforded by sluggish streams (Chapman and Putnam 1984: 169-171). Figure 3 illustrates the subject property and the methodology employed to complete the physical assessment.

3.0 BACKGROUND RESEARCH

As part of the present study, background research was conducted in order to determine if any archaeological resources had been formerly documented within or in close proximity to the proposed servicing alignment and if these same resources might be subject to impacts from the proposed undertaking. This data was also collected in order to assist in the assessment of the archaeological potential of the study area and in order to establish the significance of any resources which might be encountered during the conduct of the present study or in any subsequent physical assessment should an assessment of all or part of the proposed alignment be warranted. The requisite data was collected from the Archaeology Unit, Heritage Branch, Ontario Ministry of Culture and (OMC) and the corporate research library of AMICK Consultants Ltd.

Native Occupation:

The data collected from the Archaeological Sites Database of the OMC was limited to a 2 km radius about the subject property. As a result it was determined that no archaeological sites related to First Nations activity in the area had been formerly documented within 2 km of the subject property.

However, the lack of documented archaeological resources related to First Nations activity in the area more likely reflects a very low volume of archaeological assessments. Given the presence of a tributary of Uxbridge Brook and several feeder drains within the subject property, the potential for the discovery of archaeological materials related to First Nations activity within this property was determined to be high.

Euro-Canadian Settlement:

The Illustrated Historical Atlas of County of Ontario (1878) indicates that a residence had been established within the larger rural lot of which the subject property was a part at that time. However, no remains were encountered during the archaeological assessment of the property related to this former habitation site and it is likely that the location of this site is near the eastern limits of the subject property within the block of land overlooking the confluence of two stream courses.

Summary:

The presence of an unnamed tributary of Uxbridge Creek and numerous associated drains within the subject property suggests that the area exhibits a high potential for significant archaeological resources of Native origin. Background research indicates that the potential for significant archaeological deposits related to Euro-Canadian activity within the subject property is moderate.

4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

4.1 Methodology

Figure 3 illustrates the subject property and the methods employed to complete the assessment. Almost the entire property was subject to survey by pedestrian methodology on May 23, 2003. Given the demonstrated high potential of the subject property to yield archaeological resources related to First Nations activities, the entire assessed area was surveyed at a high intensity interval of five metres between pedestrian transects. The only areas of the property not assessed were those areas that were either steep slopes or low-lying and wet. These areas are indicated on Figure 3 of this report which illustrates the subject property and the survey methods used to complete the assessment.

4.2 Results

As a result of the physical inspection 4 archaeological resources were encountered. Each of these resources was a single artifact found in isolation. In each case, an area measuring 20 metres in all directions outward from the artifact was examined at a one metre pedestrian transect interval to determine if the find was situated within a larger site. In all cases, no further finds were made. All artifacts recovered were manufactured of Onondaga chert. Findspot # 2 consisted of a large incomplete scraper and all remaining artifacts were pieces of chipping detritus. None of the artifacts is diagnostic and so, temporal or cultural affiliations for this material remains unknown. The locations of these finds are shown on Figure 3 of this report. None of these finds was registered as an archaeological site and none are considered to warrant further investigation. Consequently, it is recommended that any condition applied to this property respecting archaeological resources be considered as addressed and that no further archaeological studies are warranted.

5.0 CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

As a result of the physical inspection no archaeological resources were encountered which would represent a planning concern to the proposed undertaking. Consequently, it is recommended that any condition applied to this property respecting archaeological resources be considered as addressed and that no further archaeological studies are warranted.

However, it must be noted at this time that no archaeological survey, regardless of its intensity, can entirely negate the possibility of deeply buried cultural material, notably human interments. Consequently, it is further recommended that should any such remains be encountered during construction activities, the Regulatory Operations Group, Ontario Ministry of Culture and/or the Cemeteries Regulation Group of the Ontario Ministry of Consumer & Commercial Relations and AMICK Consultants be contacted immediately.

All archaeological records related to these investigations will be held at the corporate offices of AMICK Consultants Limited until such time as they can be transferred to an appropriate public facility approved by the Ontario Ministry of Culture.

6.0 REFERENCES CITED

Chapman, L.J. & D.F. Putnam

1984 The Physiography of Southern Ontario (Third Edition). Ontario Geological Survey,
Special Report #2. Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Toronto.

Government of Ontario

1980 The Heritage Act, RSO 1980. Queen's Printer, Toronto.

1983 The Planning Act, RSO 1983. Queen's Printer, Toronto.

H. Belden & Co.

1878 The Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Ontario. H. Belden & Co.,
Toronto.

Ontario Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation (OMCzCR)

1993 Archaeological Assessment Technical Guidelines, Stages 1-3 and Reporting Format.
OMCzCR, Cultural Programs Branch, Archaeology and Heritage Planning, Toronto.

TABLE 1 Cultural Chronology for South-Central Ontario

PERIOD	GROUP	DATE RANGE	TRAITS
Palaeo- Indian			
	Fluted Point Hi-Lo	9500-8500 B.C. 8500-7500 B.C.	Big Game hunters small nomadic groups
Archaic			
Early		8000-6000 B.C.	hunter-gatherers
Middle	Laurentian	6000-2000 B.C.	territorial divisions arise
Late	Lamoka Broadpoint Crawford Knoll Glacial Kame	2500-1700 B.C. 1800-1400 B.C. 1500-500 B.C. c.a. 1000 B.C.	ground stone tools appear elaborate burial practices
Woodland			
Early	Meadowood Red Ochre	1000-400 B.C. 1000-500 B.C.	introduction of pottery
Middle	Point Peninsula Princess Point	400 B.C.-500 A.D. 500-800 A.D.	long distance trade horticulture
Late	Pickering Uren Middleport Huron	800-1300 A.D. 1300-1350 A.D. 1300-1400 A.D. 1400-1650 A.D.	villages & agriculture larger villages warfare
Historic			
Early	Odawa, Ojibwa	1700-1875 A.D.	social displacement
Late	Euro-Canadian	1785 A.D. +	European settlement

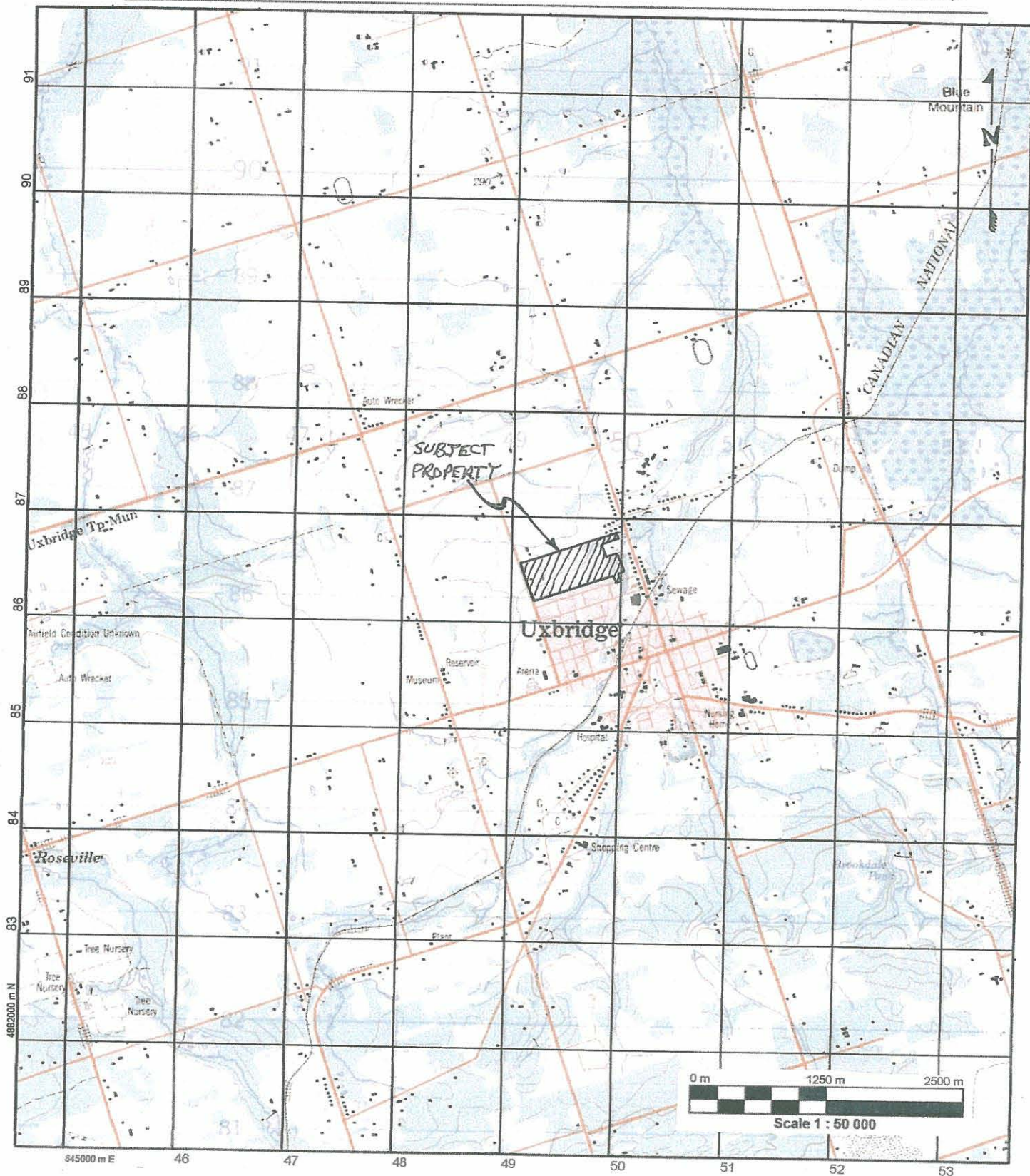


Figure 1 Location of the Subject Property

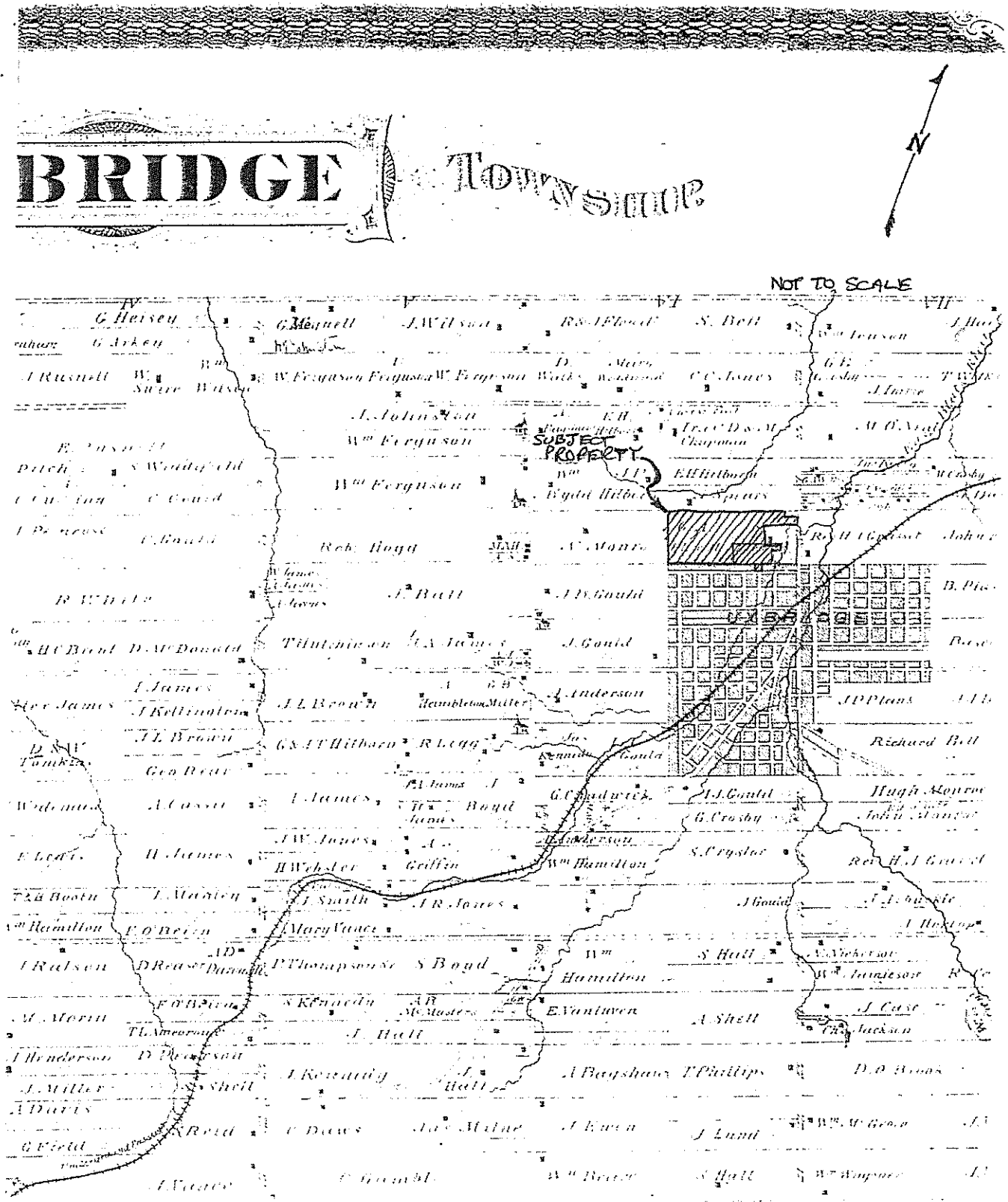


Figure 2 Segment of the Historic Atlas Map (1878)



Plate 1 Survey Conditions within the Ploughed Portion of the Property



Plate 2 The Existing Farm Complex



Plate 3 The Low-Lying and Wet Area Associated with the Stream

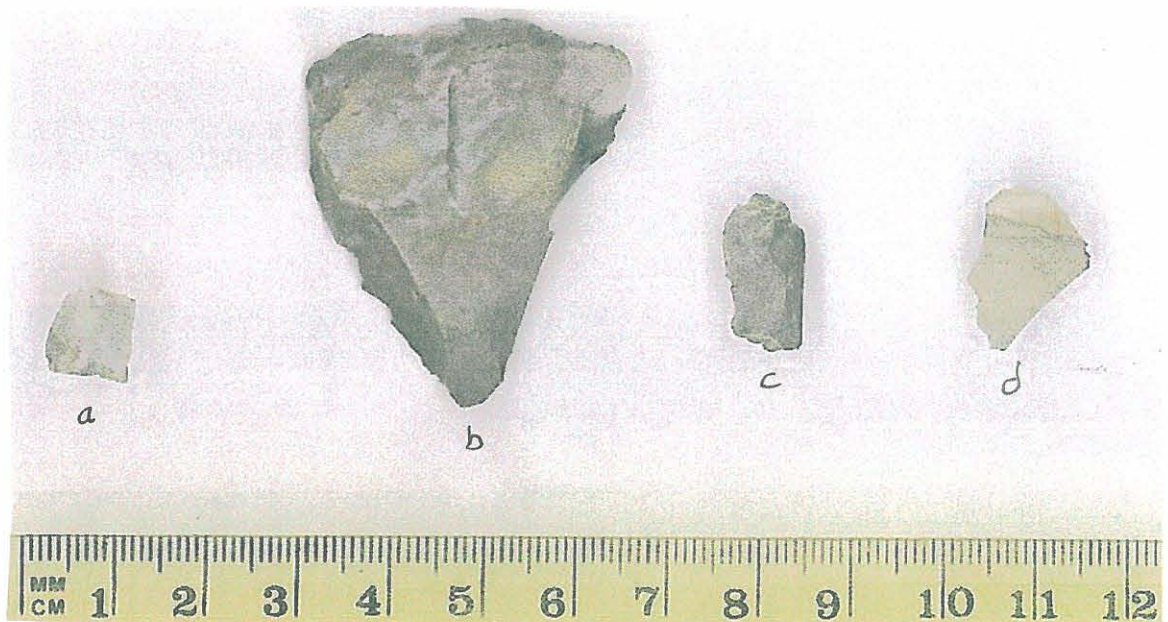


Plate 4 Artifacts Recovered During the Survey of the Property

- a) chipping detritus from location 1 shown on Figure 3
- b) scraper fragment from location 2 shown on Figure 3
- c) chipping detritus from location 3 shown on Figure 3
- d) chipping detritus from location 4 shown on Figure 3

**** all artifacts were produced from Onondaga chert ****