

# City of Vaughan's Official Plan

## Archaeology



The Provincial Policy Statement (2005) defines archaeological resources as “artifacts, archaeological sites and marine archaeological sites.” The identification and evaluation of archaeological resources is based upon archaeological fieldwork undertaken in accordance with the Ontario Heritage Act.

New policy initiatives mandate that any Stage 4 archaeological investigations on pre-contact sites should be preceded by First Nations consultation.

Ossuaries and other burial features are often found in association with village sites. Extra vigilance needs to be taken in lands within one kilometre of documented village sites and within 300 m of past or present water sources.

Ossuaries, other burial features, and deeply buried sites are often discovered accidentally as a result of earth-moving or other construction activity as it is virtually impossible to detect them during archaeological surveys. The adoption of a “Contingency Plan for the Protection of Archaeological Resources in Urgent Situations” would offer automatic protection to these sites. The development of such a plan needs to be developed in consultation with the Ministry of Culture, relevant Aboriginal communities, other agencies, landowners, and the public.

The general public is a great asset in the protection of archaeological resources. Public awareness programs on the wide range of archaeological features within the City, their fragility, and their significance as part of the City’s cultural heritage, need to be developed in order to garner interest and support.

Archaeological artifacts are fragile, non-renewable links to the past. With appropriate storage and curatorial facilities, the City would be able to house and display artifacts from local archaeological sites.

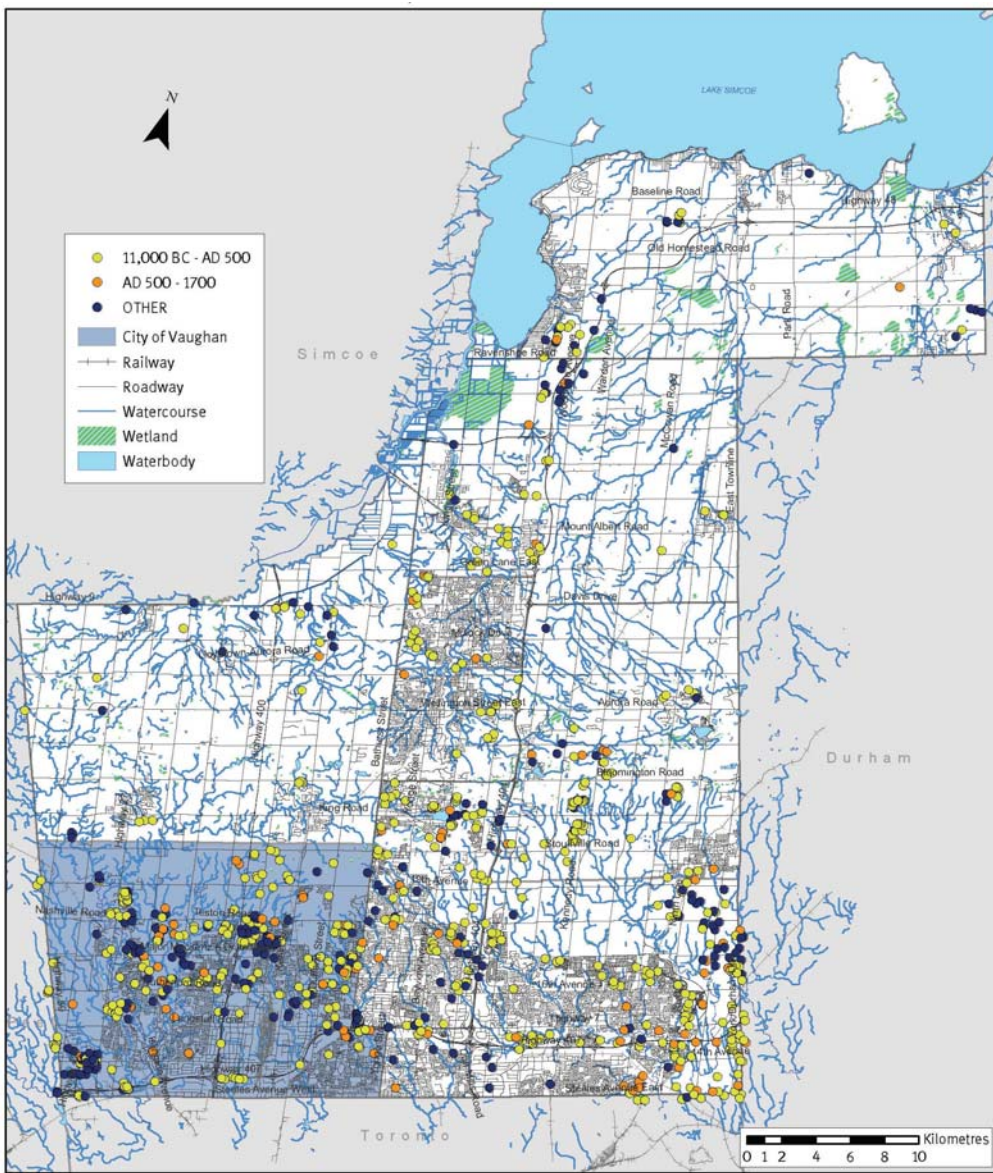


What if...

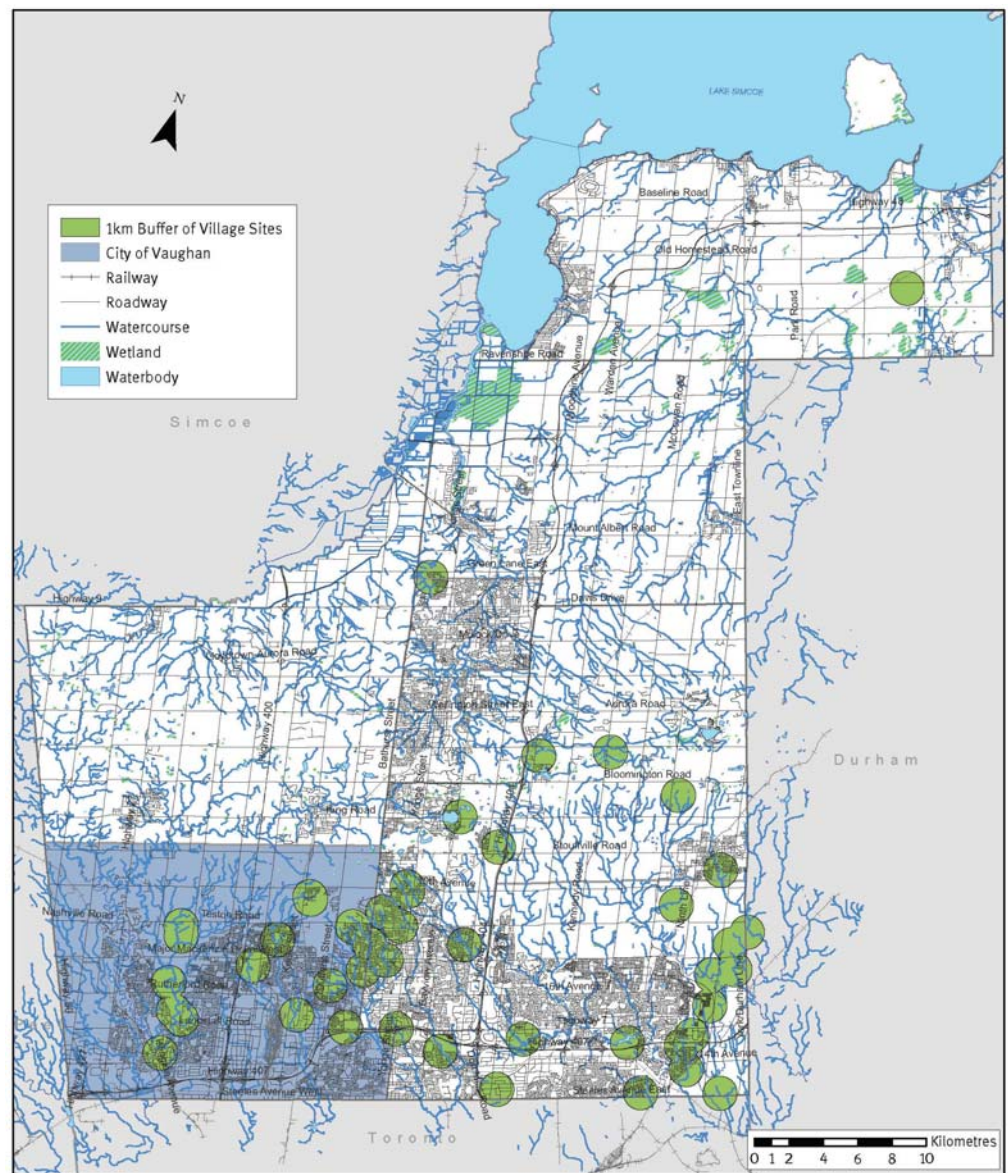
Significant archaeological sites were treated in the same manner as environmentally sensitive areas and were removed from developable land?

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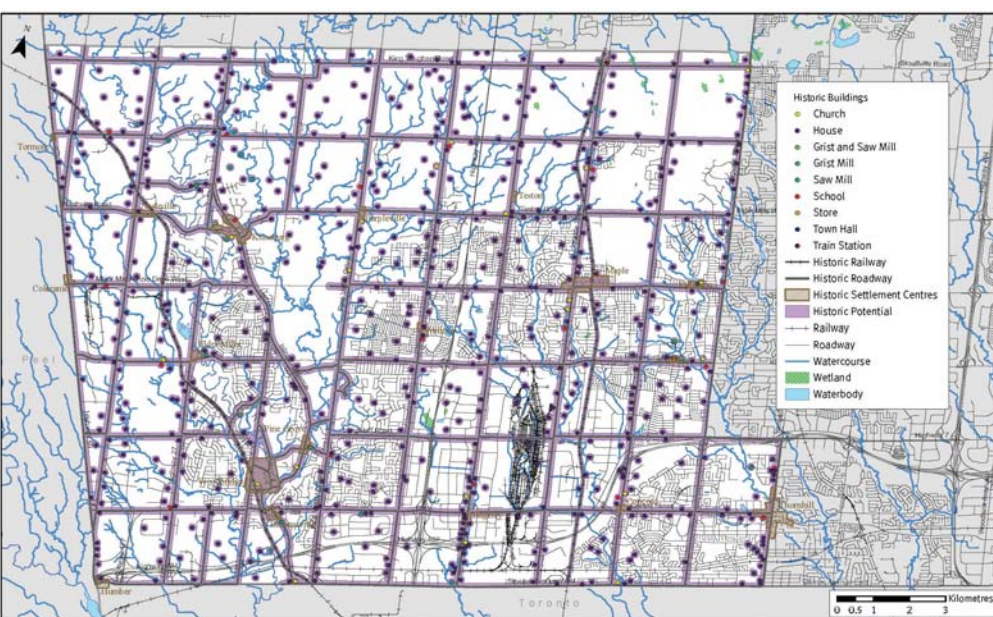
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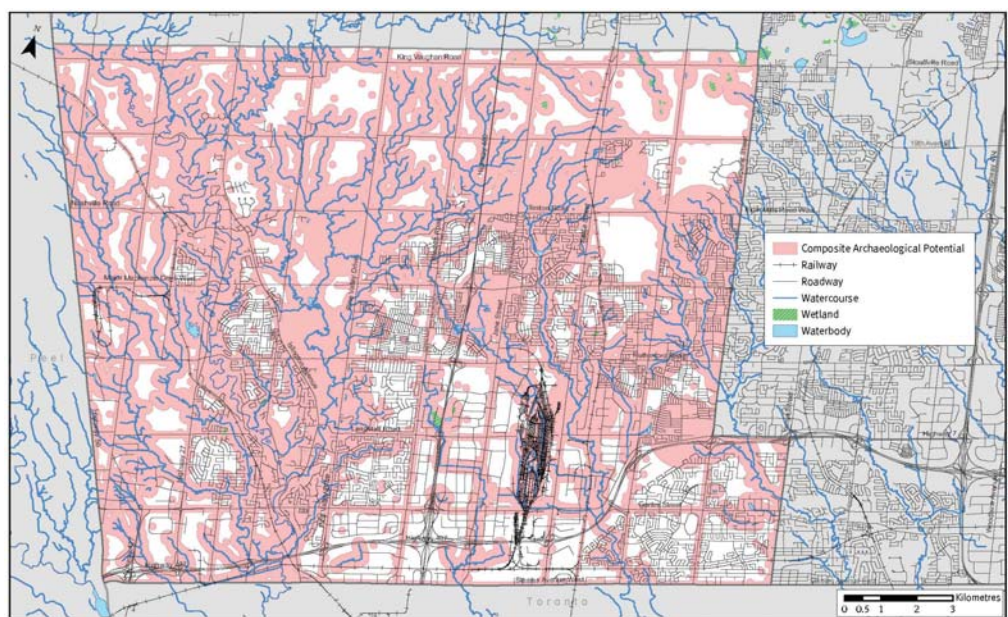
Known Archaeological Sites in the Region of York



Known Ancestral Huron Village Zones in the Region of York



Known Euro-Canadian Features in the City of Vaughan



Archaeological Potential in the City of Vaughan

What if...

Significant archaeological sites were treated in the same manner as environmentally sensitive areas and were removed from developable land?

