

Motion Regarding Antrex Indigenous Village Site

Council Date: February 16, 2022

Moved by Councillor Carolyn Parrish

Whereas the Antrex Indigenous Village site was discovered, excavated and its artifacts removed from 1992 to 1994 to make way for development;

Whereas the former Grand Highland Golf Course was a part of the development that was built over the site;

Whereas hundreds of such villages have been removed, their artifacts boxed and stored and reports filed that no one sees or reads;

Whereas the City has an opportunity to take a significant step, with the newly acquired parkland, in reversing the erasure of an entire village of people, a nation and their descendants;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

The City work toward achieving a respectful memorial with a correct interpretation of the site, and further

A first step be taken by engaging with Indigenous Communities who have Treaty and Traditional Territory in the City.

Councillor Carolyn Parrish

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Carolyn Parrish". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'C' and a long, sweeping underline.

Antrex Site

Council

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Antrex Site

1. The Archaeology of the site
2. What Was Found?
3. The Village
4. The People
5. Reconciliation and Interpretation

The Archaeology Of the Site

- The Antrex Site was first documented in 1990 and excavated over four years.
- Archaeology is a provincial interest under the *Ontario Heritage Act* and the *Planning Act*, and is required in advance of land development and alteration.
- Archaeology is a regulated industry, requiring licensing and standards similar to other professional industries.
- Interpretation of archaeological sites is rare, yet it provides access to past lives in a way that building preservation connects new communities with their heritage.
- The City has over 300 known archaeological sites.

What was Found?

- Excavation spanned three quarters of a hectare (2 acres).
- Nine longhouses, a double row palisade, two middens, sweat lodges and burials.
- Over 41,000 artifacts, including tools, ceramic sherds, bone and vegetable remains

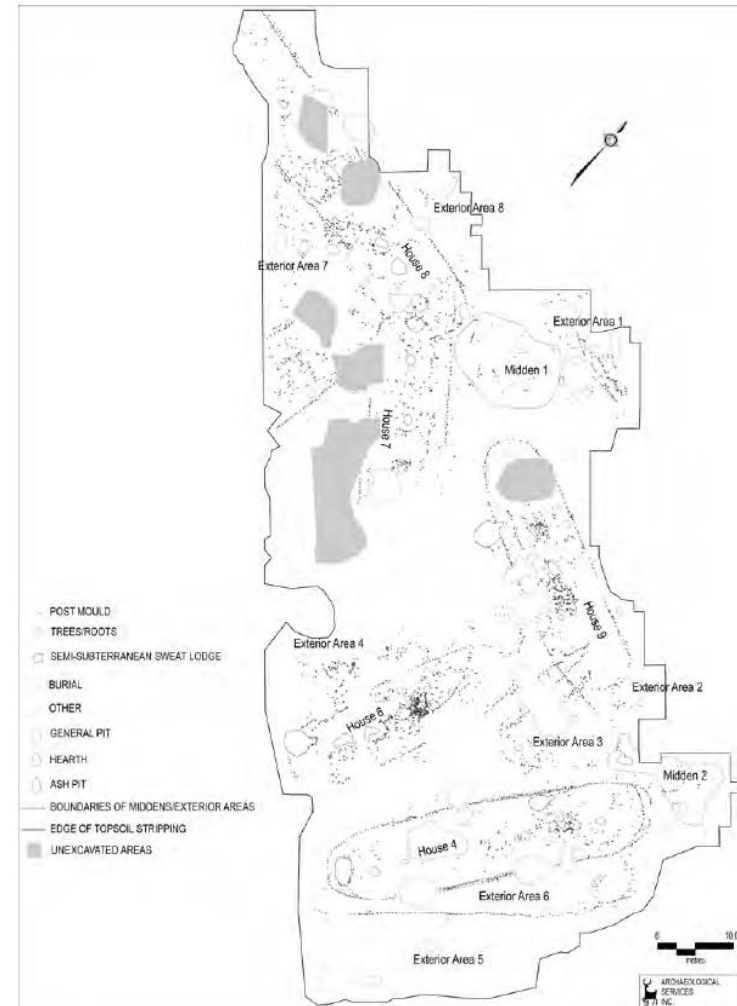


Figure 1. Antres site settlement patterns (courtesy of Archaeological Services Inc.).

What was Found?

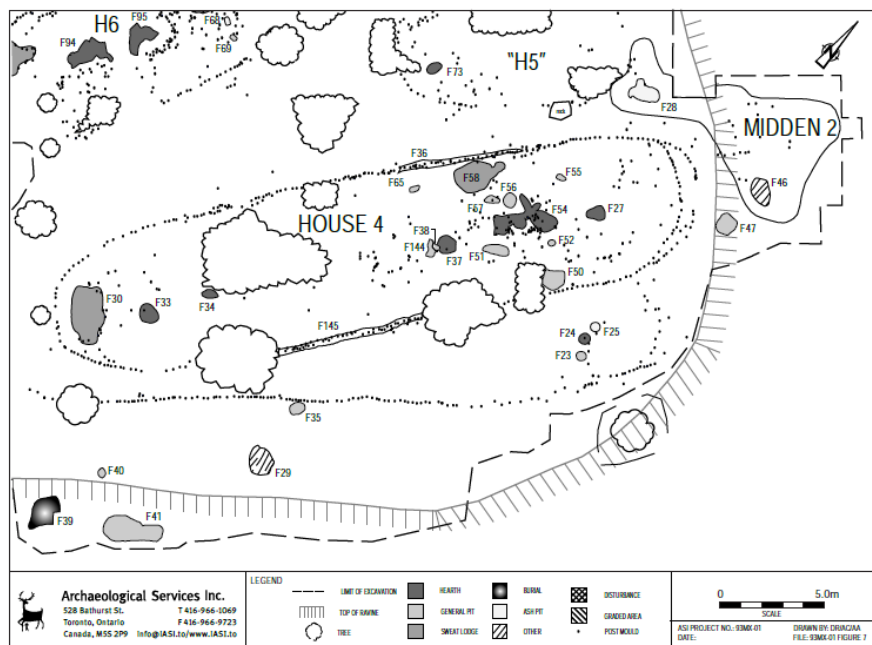


Figure 7: Detail of the House 4 and Midden 2 settlement patterns.

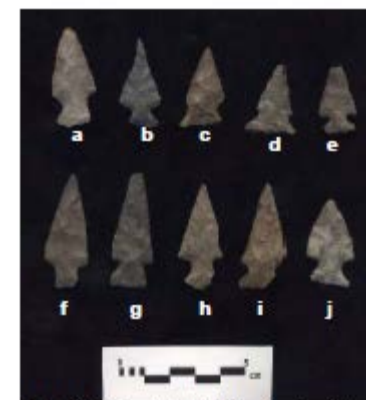
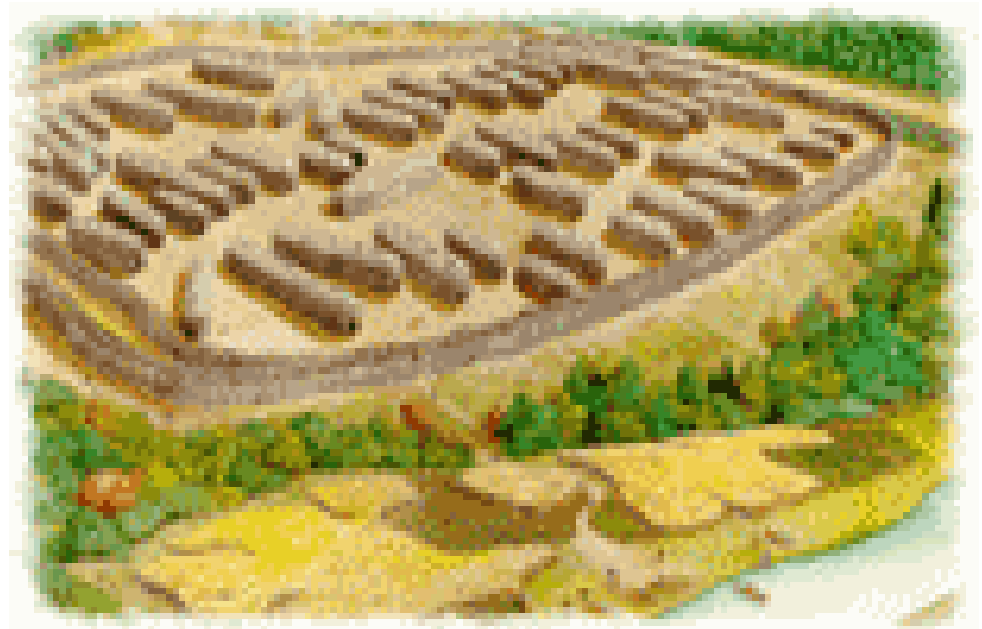


Plate 25: Selected Late Woodland points (Dewaele/side notched forms).

The Village

- The village was occupied in 1200-1300s- a precise date is unknown.
- The village would have been occupied by ~400-500 individuals.
- Highly ordered and organized settlement, complete with waste management, streets and public areas.



Artistic interpretation of a longhouse village

Reconciliation and Interpretation

- The City of Mississauga is committed to reconciliation with our Indigenous partners.
- Reconciliation can take the form of reversing erasure of Indigenous history through interpretation.
- Interpretation is supported through a meaningful engagement with the descendant communities.



Wanuskewin Heritage Park, Saskatoon



Humber College Campus