

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
MONITORING OF PILING  
AUGERING FOR THE ACCESS  
RAMP AT THE FORKS**

Submitted to

**THE FORKS RENEWAL CORPORATION**

**QUATERNARY  
CONSULTANTS  
LIMITED**

May, 1995

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING OF PILING AUGERING FOR THE ACCESS RAMP AT THE FORKS

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

A ramp is being constructed at the southwest edge of the Travel Manitoba Idea Centre to provide access from the northeast corner of The Forks Market Plaza to the Johnston Terminal. In order to effect a stable ramp, the structure will be anchored by six 'cast-in-ground' pilings (Figure 1). The holes for the pilings are forty centimetres (sixteen inches) in diameter and were augered to depths of nearly 9 metres (27 to 29 feet).

Archaeological horizons are known to occur in the immediate vicinity (Kroker and Goundry 1990:41-42; Quaternary 1993a, 1994a). Based upon previous investigations at The Forks (Kroker and Goundry 1990, 1993a, 1993b, 1994; Quaternary 1993a, 1993b, 1994a, 1994b), the upper three metres were deemed to have the highest potential for heritage resources. The excavations were monitored by Sid Kroker—Senior Archaeologist, Quaternary Consultants Limited. The activities were conducted under the terms of Heritage Permit A9-95, issued by Historic Resources Branch, Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Citizenship (attached).

The drilling crew, from Western Caisson, accommodated the archaeologist's need to examine a minimally disturbed sediment column and, where possible, only drilled the length of the auger bit prior to extracting the auger. In this way, spinning of the auger with resultant column deformation and stratum smearing did not occur. The only times that spinning occurred were when holes collapsed and had to be reamed out.

## 2.0 OBSERVATIONS

The six holes provided very similar profiles with no evidence of archaeological horizons. The uppermost fifty to sixty centimetres, immediately underlying the concrete surface of the plaza, consisted of sand, gravel, and cinder. The cinder is the residual portion of the original layer of railroad fill which covered the area prior to the construction of the Market Plaza. Below the cinder layer, riverine sediments consisting of alternating strata of sand, sandy silt, silt, silty clay, and clay occurred. The general colour of the sediments was medium to dark yellow brown. The thicknesses of the various strata varied from hole to hole and were not necessarily continuous throughout the area penetrated by the six auger holes. No defined relict soil horizons were observed, especially ones that would correspond with the ceramic horizon at the Travel Manitoba Idea Centre (Quaternary 1994a) or the Archaic Horizon (Kroker and Goundry 1990, 1993a, 1993b, 1994; Quaternary 1993a).

A faint charcoal horizon, less than 0.5 centimetres thick, was observed at a depth of 4.85 metres (16 feet) in Hole 6. It does not represent a cultural horizon and probably derives from a grass fire. No relict soil horizon was present under the charcoal layer, although minor hematite staining of the underlying clayey silt horizon was observed. A second occurrence of natural fire was noted at a depth of 6.4 metres (21 feet) in Hole 5 where a small pocket of *in situ* charcoal

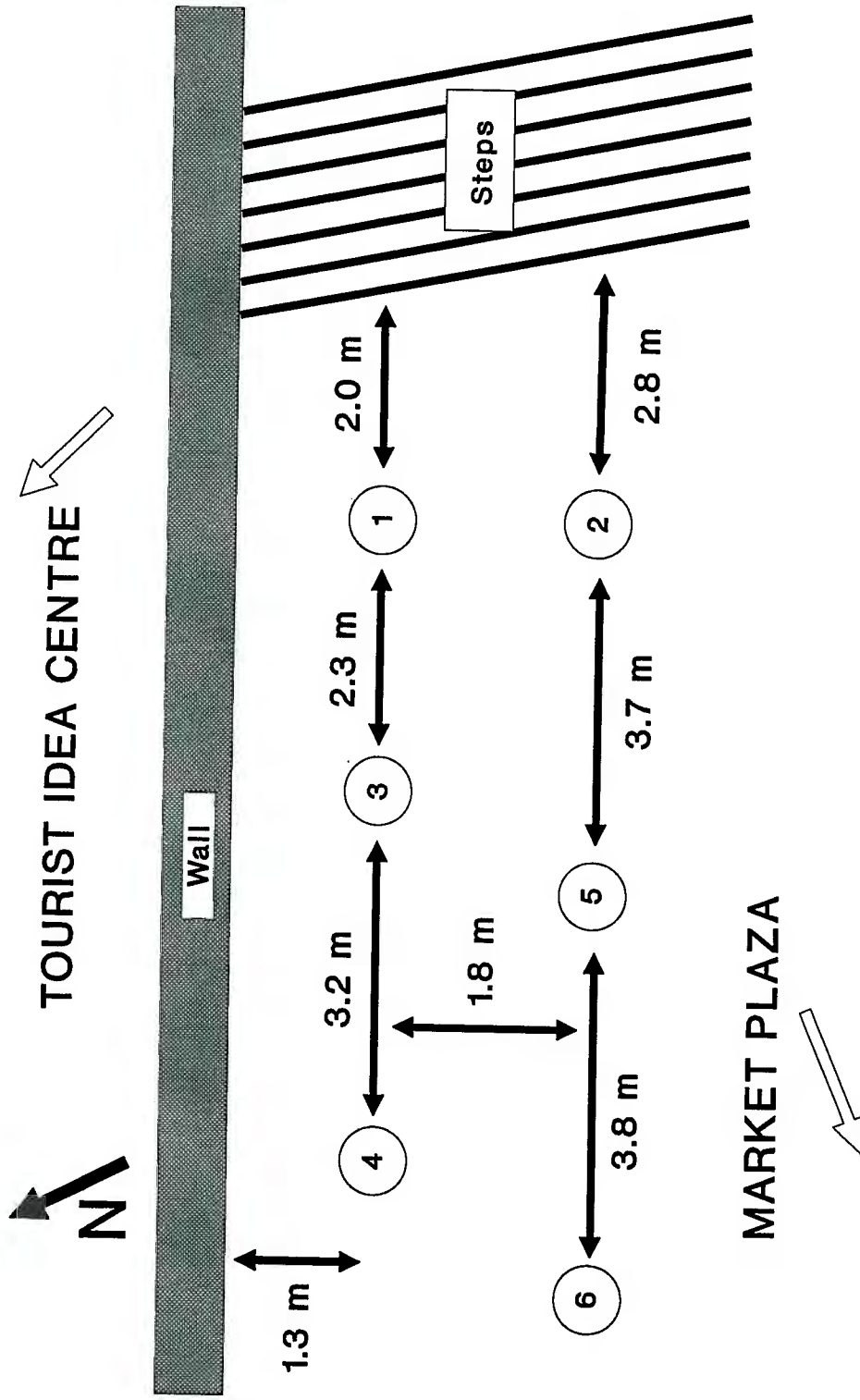


Figure 1: Location of Augered Piling Holes

was observed. Some fire-hardened clay surrounded the charcoal which derives from the natural burning of a tree root. The only other noteworthy observation was the presence of grey Lake Agassiz clays at a depth of 8.89 metres (29' 2") in Hole 1.

No evidence of cultural horizons was encountered during the augering and, accordingly, no artifacts were curated. Special care was taken by the drilling crew to ensure that the sediment column was extracted in a minimally disturbed manner. It would appear that none of the previously recorded archaeological strata from nearby areas extend into this small (10 metres by 3 metres) location.

### 3.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Kroker, Sid and Pamela Goundry

1990 *Archaeological Monitoring of the Stage I Construction Program*. The Forks Renewal Corporation, Winnipeg.

1993a *Archaeological Monitoring and Mitigation of the Assiniboine Riverfront Quay*. The Forks Renewal Corporation, Winnipeg.

1993b *A 3000 Year Old Native Campsite and Trade Centre at The Forks*. Compiled by Sid Kroker and Pam Goundry. The Forks Public Archaeological Association, Inc., Winnipeg.

1994 *Archaic Occupations at The Forks*. Compiled by Sid Kroker and Pam Goundry. The Forks Public Archaeological Association, Inc., Winnipeg.

Quaternary Consultants Limited

1993a *Archaeological Mitigation of the Johnston Terminal Refurbishment Project*. On file with Marwest Management Canada Ltd. and Historic Resources Branch, Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Citizenship.

1993b *Archaeological Monitoring and Impact Assessment Component of The Forks Heritage Plaza Project*. On file with The Forks Renewal Corporation and Historic Resources Branch, Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Citizenship.

1994a *Archaeological Mitigation at the Travel Manitoba Idea Centre at The Forks*. On file with The Forks Renewal Corporation, Travel Manitoba, Manitoba Industry, Trade and Tourism, and Historic Resources Branch, Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Citizenship.

1994b *Archaeological Monitoring of Services Installations for the Manitoba Children's Museum at The Forks*. On file with The Forks Renewal Corporation, Manitoba Children's Museum, Winnipeg Hydro, and Historic Resources Branch, Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Citizenship.



**Heritage Permit No.**

A9-95

FORM 11

**PURSUANT** to Section/~~Subsection~~ 53 of *The Heritage Resources Act*:

Name: Quaternary Consultants Ltd.  
Address: 130 Fort Street  
Winnipeg MB R3C 1C7  
  
ATTENTION Mr. Sid Kroker

(hereinafter referred to as "the Permittee"),

is hereby granted permission to:

carry out the monitoring of six augered pile holes for the construction of a wheelchair ramp on the southwest side of Travel Manitoba Idea Centre at the Forks (D1Lg-33) in Downtown Winnipeg;

during the period:

April 18 to 21, 1995

This permit is issued subject to the following conditions:

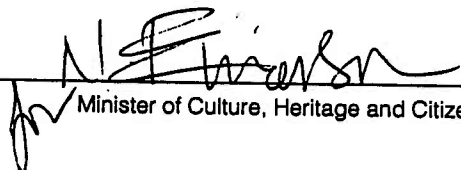
- (1) That the information provided in the application for this permit dated the 15th day of April 19 95, is true in substance and in fact;
- (2) That the Permittee shall comply with all the provisions of *The Heritage Resources Act* and any regulations or orders thereunder; PLEASE NOTE ATTACHMENT RE CUSTODY AND OWNERSHIP OF HERITAGE OBJECTS
- (3) That the Permittee shall provide to the Minister a written report or reports with respect to the Permittee's activities pursuant to this permit, the form and content of which shall be satisfactory to the Minister and which shall be provided on the following dates:  
June 30, 1995
- (4) That this permit is not transferable;
- (5) This permit may be revoked by the Minister where, in the opinion of the Minister, there has been a breach of any of the terms or conditions herein or of any provision of *The Heritage Resources Act* or any regulations thereunder;

(6) Special Conditions:

- a. All surface collections, excavations, etc. are to be carried out using the provenience system established for use at The Forks and this project will be designated 95A;
- b. All heritage objects (artifacts) recovered from The Forks are to be catalogued according to the CHIN system and the relevant Borden designation will be DLLg-33/95A;
- c. All heritage objects from The Forks are to be deposited with the Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature by March 31, 1996, for permanent curation and storage, unless appropriate loan requirements are arranged with the Curator of Archaeology prior to that date;
- d. A complete set of archaeological field records, catalogue sheets, laboratory analysis records, photographs, reports, etc. are to be deposited with the Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature upon completion of the archaeological research, or sooner if required; and any subsequent revisions or additions to these records are to be filed as soon as possible thereafter;
- e. All computer systems and programs employed in archaeological research should be compatible with the computer system established for The Forks;
- f. Appropriate arrangements and funds should be made available for the conservation of perishable heritage objects collected from The Forks;
- g. In the event that any human remains are encountered during the excavations, all activity in that particular locus will cease immediately, and the Historic Resources Branch notified immediately so that appropriate action can be determined and taken;
- h. The Permittee will be on-site supervising all aspects of the field work, including the removal of the railroad overburden during site preparation, at least 75% of the time, but when the Permittee must be absent, a qualified designate acceptable to Historic Resources Branch (copy of vita to be filed prior to commencement of field work) shall be present;
- i. The Permittee shall be responsible for the conduct of the laboratory analysis of recovered heritage objects and information to be included in the permit report;
- j. The report identified in #3 above shall conform at a minimum to "The Contents and Format of a Heritage Resource Impact Assessment" (copy attached)
- k. Neither the Government of Manitoba nor the party issuing this permit be liable for any damages resulting from any activities carried out pursuant to this permit, and the Permittee specifically agrees, in consideration for receiving this permit, to indemnify and hold harmless the Minister and the Government of Manitoba, the Minister and any employees and officials of the Government, against any and all action, liens, demands, loss, liability, cost, damage and expense including, without limitation, reasonable legal fees, which the Government, Minister or any employee or official of the Government may suffer or incur by reason of any of the activities pursuant to or related to this permit.

8280h

Dated at the City of Winnipeg, in Manitoba, this 18th day of April 1995.

  
Minister of Culture, Heritage and Citizenship