



Ancient Forest Exploration & Research

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SITE VISIT REPORT #2

An Old-growth Forest Assessment for the
Trent, Nicolls and Burnham Forest Stands

City of Peterborough, Ontario

Written April 4, 2019 and revised November 12, 2019 and March 5, 2020 by Carling Dewar

Site information

Date of visit:	Wednesday April 3, 2019				
Property name and location:	Various locations in/near the City of Peterborough: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Trent site, just west of campus (44.356521, -78.298174) 2. Mark S. Burnham site, just west of Mark S. Burnham Provincial Park (44.298034, -78.281167) 3. Nicholls Oval site (44.317133, -78.313467) 				
Attendees:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Peter Quinby (AFER) 2. Carling Dewar (AFER) 				
Start time:	1:30pm	End time:	3:15pm	Duration:	1.75hrs
Purpose of visit:	Search for old-growth forest remnants in the City of Peterborough.				
Weather and terrain conditions:	6°C, very windy (up to 70km/h) with scattered flurries.				
Notes:	<p>Peter drove while I took GPS waypoints and notes. We did not enter forests to avoid trespassing.</p> <p>At the Nicholls Oval site, multiple snags had been cut down/pruned likely for safety reasons. Wild grape was abundant along several roadsides (particularly near disturbed areas, such as housing developments).</p> <p>Notable forest stands that were not assessed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A patch of white pines was observed just south of campus on the west side of the Otonabee River (44.348820, -78.301854). • At Pioneer Park (44.322305, -78.317852), there are several large white pines. However, they are located on a large, manicured lawn. There is a small forest patch to the south that may be worth investigating. 				

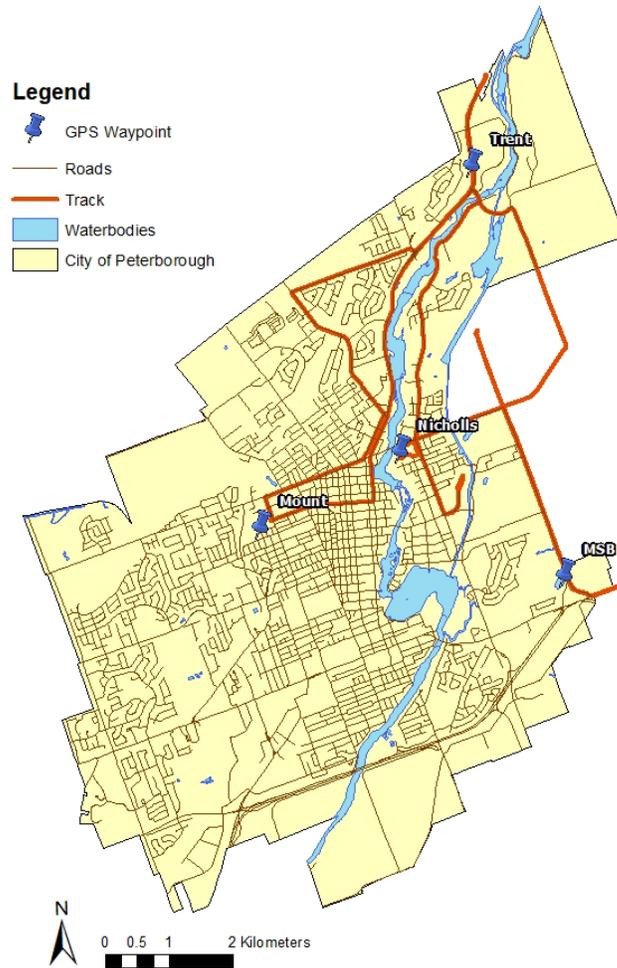


Figure 1. Map of route in the City of Peterborough. Created on ESRI ArcMap.



Figure 2. Satellite images of sites. Left: Site 1 (Trent); Centre: Site 2 (Mark S. Burnham (MSB)); Right: Site 3 (Nicholls Oval).

Old-growth features

1. Species present:

Site 1 (Trent): sugar maple, oak spp., American beech.

Site 2 (Mark S. Burnham): white pine, cedar, hemlock, hardwood spp.

Site 3 (Nicholls Oval): cedar, white pine, and hardwood spp.

2. **Coarse woody debris** (*none, uncommon, common, abundant*): Abundant at Trent and Nicholls Oval sites; unknown for Mark S. Burnham site.

3. **Snags** (*none, uncommon, common, abundant*): Common at all sites.

4. **Supercanopy trees present?** Present at Trent and Mark S. Burnham sites. Not noted for the Nicholls Oval site.

5. **Pit and mound topography present?** Present at the Trent site (one tip-up mound observed). Not noted for other sites.

6. **Evidence of human disturbance?** At the Nicholls Oval site, one snag had several lower limbs sawn off. Unknown for other sites.

7. Wildlife observations:

Site 1 (Trent): one osprey pair observed.

Site 2 (Mark S. Burnham): not noted.

Site 3 (Nicholls Oval): cavity located in one tree and pileated woodpecker holes abundant.

Photos

Site 1: Trent



Site 2: Mark S. Burnham



Site 3: Nicholls Park



Forest designations¹

- Young Mature Old Old-growth

Notes: Further investigation of these sites will determine if they contain old-growth forest remnants.

Acknowledgements

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¹ Definitions for designations are in progress.