



ARCHAEOLOGICAL MAP OF VESPRIA TOWNSHIP.

The numbers of the sites on the map correspond with the numbers in the text. The outlines of the hills are those with bases at the 790 ft. shoreline.

## LIST OF VILLAGE SITES IN VESPA.

Site No.	Lot No.	Concession	Present owner or occupant (1906)	Former owners or occupants who reported finds	French relics.
1	2	12	John Campbell		modern.
2	E. hf. 6	9	Isaac J. Middleton	Richard Dixon, Samuel Jacobs	
3	E. hf. 8	7	Charles Littlejohn		
4	W. hf. 9	8	Timothy S. Morton	O. F. Wright, Charles Wright	
5	W. hf. 8	8	Robert Stewart	Joseph Orchard	F.
6	W. hf. 8	9	Joseph Chapelle	Geo. Plowright, Ephriam English	
7	W. hf. 9	7	Thomas Elliott	James Corrigan	
8	E. hf. 10	7		Charles F. Wattie	
9	E. hf. 3	7	James Muir		F.
10	W. hf. 3	6	David Donnelly		
11	E. hf. 2	4	Matthew Kennedy		
12	N.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 36	1	James Williams		
13	E. hf. 6	3	Edward Shanacy		
14	30	1		Thomas Spence, sr.	
15	24	1	Alfred Salisbury		F.
16	E. hf. 12	3	Arthur Garvin	David Garvin	
17	W. hf. 21	1	Joseph Bonney	Samuel Brown	
18	N.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 14	3	James Pearce	Thomas Wright, Robert Poole	
19	20	2	George M. Coutts	Duncan Coutts	F.
20	E. hf. 16	3	Henry Sutton		
21	17	2	Thomas Sutton	Richard Monteith	
22	17	1		Wellington Partridge	
23	15	2	George Shannon	David Peacock	
24	S. hf. 14	1	James Rix	James Wickens	
25	10	1	Joseph Caldwell		
26	W. hf. 14	10		William Dempster	
27	E. hf. 16	10	Joseph McKernan	John McKernan	F.
28	E. hf. 18	10		Donald Campbell	
29	N.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 19	11		John Hiron, William A. Heron	
30	S.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 19	11		William Hiron	
31	W. hf. 20	11	George Young		
32	E. hf. 20	10		William Shanacy	
33	20	10		John & P. Quinn	
34	E. hf. 21	10		John W. Quinn	
35	E. hf. 18	9		John Copeland, sr.	
36	W. hf. 19	9	William Howard	James Hewis	F.
37	E. hf. 20	9		Henry Harrison	
38	W. hf. 21	9	Fred Harrison	Richard Harrison	F.
39	W. hf. 20	8	James & E. Greenfield	Peter Curtis	
40	E. hf. 22	8	Thomas Dawson		
41	E. hf. 23	7		William Chappell	
42	E. hf. 22	6	Peter McLaughlin		
43	E. hf. 16	8		Alfred Smallman	
44	E. hf. 17	7	Frederick Sneath		
45	W. hf. 14	6	Robert J. Munro		
46	E. hf. 16	5	P. Dunn	Thomas Dunn	
47	W. hf. 18	4	John Gordon		
48	E. hf. 19	4		John A. Fraser	
49	W. hf. 21	3	Daniel Quinlan	M. Quinlan	
50	W. hf. 5	1	James McBride	Frederick Hood	
51	1 & 2		(W. Nelson Square, Barrie)		F.
52			(Elizabeth Street, Barrie)		F.
53			(Alandale Station, South Barrie)		F.
54	E. hf. 20	5	Robert Brown	Thos. Cundle	



## NOTES ON VILLAGE SITES OF VESPRA.

No. 1. This site is at the junction of Marl Creek and the Nottawasaga River, and the relics were found on a small field of about two acres. It had iron tomahawks, stone axes and chisels, arrowheads, etc. Modern Indians have frequented this place quite often, and it is evidently a comparatively modern site, no pottery fragments or other early relics having been found that would lend any support to an opposite conclusion.

No. 2. Its position is on a knoll, or gently rising piece of ground, in a bay of the extinct inland lake, around whose margin is a raised terrace of that lake. The various occupants of the farm have found stone axes, pipe and pottery fragments, light-colored flint chips, etc. It is on the Minesing "Island," already described in the introduction to the Vespra sites. The evidence afforded is sufficient to place it in the Pre-Huron class.

No. 3. A site of the gouge-using people, who dwelt here probably when the extinct inland lake reached to this place. In this farm the shore of that lake made wave-washed formations of reddish sand, and evidently went no further east up the valley, but made here an ideal place for camps of those early aborigines. In modern times there was a good fishing place at the fork of Matheson's Creek with the Willow Creek, and the modern Indians made use of this place as a camp site as well as the ancient ones.

No. 4. Numerous relics have been found on the low ground here at some distance from the foot of Minesing hill. It seems to have been a site of the gouge-using people, or water-edge site, those Indians living here, as elsewhere, at the sides of the lakes and rivers. In this case, it is assignable to the period of the extinct inland lake.

No. 5. This site is about 100 feet higher than the surrounding land, being on the edge of the top of the Minesing hill, formerly known as Thomlinson's Hill, and commands one of the best views of all the country around. It is on the Minesing "Island," which is surrounded by flat ground, and is immediately opposite the end of a peak of land along which ran a trail, evidently directed toward this place. The site is on both sides of the Minesing Road, which crosses it, there being an acre or more east of the road, on which remains were found. Altogether, it covered about four acres, and was an important village in its day. It appears to have been an early Huron site, and its position on the hill suggests palisading. Large pine trees have grown up since the place was inhabited, and their stumps were to be seen until lately. Among the numerous relics found here, there have been many fragments of pottery with elaborately decorated patterns of Huron type, pipes (some of them of the belt pattern), bone tools (in these was a phalangeal or toe bone of a moose, dug up from the depth of two feet), and other kinds of relics. In the neighborhood of the site, a single iron tomahawk was once found, but otherwise the place has yielded no relics of European make, and even this one may have been lost at a date subsequent to the occupation of the village. The site has a diameter of about 100 paces, or yards, and is irregularly circular or oval. Down the hill, springs issue from the banks and flow to Willow Creek. The soil of the site is gravelly and is dotted with the thick black patches of the separate camps, which have a massed appearance, such as the condition of the village would prescribe, if palisaded.

No. 6. The former occupants of this farm obtained many relics of the usual kinds, at this site, but none of European make. Springs occur along the base of the raised lake shoreline here, furnishing a supply of water for the inhabitants.

No. 7. This site is at the peak referred to under No. 5. It is at the edge of the hill facing the "lake" flat, with a southerly outlook. The present occupant has found various remains of the usual kinds.

No. 8. Situated on the old trail along the peak of land mentioned under Nos. 5 and 7. In modern times, this trail was opened as a public highway, and was known for many years as Lount's Road, but now as the Minersing Road.

No. 9. At the west end of the farm, near the railway, and situated at the top of the hill overlooking the wide "lake" flat. The usual relics have been found. Among them was one iron tomahawk, found near the site, having a mattock poll. Other than this relic the remains were all of aboriginal make.

No. 10. Its position is south of the dwelling, at a moist piece of ground, in which springs occur and furnish a supply of water.

No. 11. Near Matheson's Creek, and several springs issue from the hillside near where the site is placed. It is on a lake terrace at the base of which the springs issue.

No. 12. Near the west end of the farm, on the brow of a hill which has the strong raised shoreline at 790 feet at its base. Lower than this line, there is damp ground furnishing water. On the brow of the hill mentioned, there is a flat patch of land suitable for camps, and from their position of advantage we might infer that there was some kind of palisade, or defence. It is near the line of the trail to the Neutrals.

No. 13. The site is near a spring, which is the source of a stream. It is distinctly Huron of the early period. The relics found included clay pipes, many of them of the belt pattern. An unfinished stone pipe represented a bird. Other pipes had the so-called trumpet-mouth pattern and human faces. A chert spearhead and a phalangeal or toe bone of a small deer were also found, but no European relics.

No. 14. Some years ago, tenants of this farm (which is the Spence homestead) plowed up pottery fragments and other relics. There are also signs of camps on the adjoining lot north (lot No. 31), on the low ground westward.

No. 15. About half way across the farm, (which has a length of a mile and a quarter), the owner has found various relics. There is an area on the higher ground westward, that bears evidence of having been the corn patch of the village.

No. 16. The site had the usual pottery fragments, and other relics, but has been somewhat obliterated by cultivation. Some years ago two Indian skeletons were found near it.

No. 17. This one occupied about 50 square yards, near a spring. It was comparatively small, but was in the neighborhood of a large village. (See No. 19.)

No. 18. This site is among hills, on a flat piece of ground beside springs. Springs are common among these hills, at the surface of the ground, and also at a few inches depth. The site was not large, but yielded various relics, including a stone mortar. No iron relics have been reported.

No. 19. This site, covering about 5 acres, overlooking a ravine, had patches of the usual black soil and ashes of the camp fires, mixed with pottery fragments, pipes, and other relics and fragments. A heap of refuse here had a depth of 4 feet of ashes, etc., and in it were a bear's skull, numerous clam shells, pottery fragments, etc. About 80 rods distant to the northwest from the camps, Alex. Coutts found a bonepit about the year 1865. His father, the late Duncan Coutts, owned the farm at the time of



the discovery, and soon afterward the pit was thoroughly excavated by the neighbors and others, after which the occupants of the farm filled it with logs and refuse. It was about 8 feet deep from the level of the ground to the bottom of the pit, and it had a diameter of 12 feet. A large boulder was found on top of the centre of the pit. The finder, (Alex. Coutts), estimated the number of skeletons deposited there at 250, while Dr. Crookshank of Barrie, who made an examination of it at the time, estimated the number at 300. From the pit the latter secured a skeleton of large proportions. The owner of it, according to the doctor's estimate, attained a height of 6 ft. 6 inches. From the pit were also obtained an iron knife (pointed in shape), wampum beads, and a stone pipe, which Major Rogers presented to a museum in London, England.

No. 20. The owner has found straggling camps on the low ground at places suitable for inhabitation, especially where springs occur at the outlets of the cross ravines. At such places, he has found the usual pottery fragments, and other relics and fragments.

No. 21. Half way between the second and third lines, on this farm, I observed two straggling camps, on a high lake terrace. There was abundance of broken pottery, but the blackness of the soil was not so distinct as in many other cases, perhaps on account of the high position, which has been subjected to much weathering.

No. 22. In former years, the plow turned up numerous remains here, but continued cultivation has somewhat obliterated the site.

No. 23. This site is on the second line, where it reaches the edge of the hill; and being thus situated at the top of the hill or ridge, it overlooks Little Lake, which is about half a mile distant. There is a spring at the foot of the hill, where the inhabitants of the village evidently got their water supply. In the cultivated field on the west side of the second line, I counted some five camp fires, all of which had broken pottery and other fragmentary relics, the pottery having had Huron patterns. On the other side of the road there are also camps which belonged to the same village.

No. 24. There are camps beside a spring, about half way across the farm to the second line, from the first. It faces Little Lake. Relics of the usual kinds have been picked up.

No. 25. This site is on rising ground, with marshy ground in its neighborhood, where a supply of spring water could be obtained. E. H. Williams found some pottery fragments in the usual blackened soil. This, and the preceding seven sites, form a sort of chain of villages, all facing the Willow Creek and Little Lake, and situated on or near the edge of the high ground northeast from the lake and creek. The remainder of the sites in Vespra occupy the large ridge on the opposite side of the Willow Creek.

#### VILLAGE SITES ON THE SOUTHERLY RIDGE.

No. 26. Pottery fragments have been observed in considerable quantities in the field of this farm next to the eleventh line. Across the line are the remains of the "Old Fort," marked on modern maps. This was a blockhouse, built in 1814, in connection with the Anglo-American war, and was used as a fortified station until the thirties, or probably as late as 1842. The remains may have belonged to Indians camped near the fort, but they would seem to indicate an older period than the fort itself, as old as the