Sharing our past to inform the present

Archaeology & Heritage
Development and history may at times seem to be at odds. The effects of environment and time, along with urbanization and the ever increasing need for new infrastructure keeps our landscape ever changing. However, sometimes lost in the acceleration of the world around us is the fact that historic places and structures have the ability to have an impact on our lives that is more than physical – they connect us to our past, contributing to our identity and who we are as a society. In reality, once we tear down and build or pave over, we may have lost something we can never recover again.

WSP is committed to providing the expert advice that allows our clients to make informed decisions for the future of their built and natural landscapes while keeping its character intact, empowering them as custodians who connect heritage with the future. As partners in the process, we help you understand and navigate the legislation and assessment process, so that you are able to understand early in the project what is required, instead of making changes at crucial periods of design and construction.

Have the confidence in WSP’s over 50 years of experience working with archaeology, built heritage and cultural heritage landscapes. Our team contributes to the identification, mitigation of developmental impacts and conservation of cultural heritage resources across Canada, delivering solutions that respect the environmental, aesthetic, cultural, and historical values that shape our communities and their collective identities. We liaise extensively with the public, local architectural conservation advisory committees, and other stakeholders, and are active members and participants in the Canadian Association of Heritage Professionals (CAHP), the Canadian Archaeological Association (CAA), the Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation, the National Trust for Canada, and the Association for Preservation Technology. We have advised on archaeological sites, landscapes, structures and monuments of every classification in Canada, the United States and internationally.

**HOW DO CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES AFFECT MY PROJECT?**

When proposing development on or adjacent to significant cultural heritage resources, it is important to identify them early in the process. With expert planning, the design of the development can often avoid future conflict with the community or municipality, and often results in a development that is as good as or better than if the heritage resources were removed.
**How do I approach a cultural heritage resource near my development?**

1a **Heritage impact assessment**
- Screening, evaluation, research and analysis, recommendations, reporting

1b **Archaeological assessment**
- If there is a potential of impacting archaeological resources, whether by discovery or recommendation, a professional archaeologist must carry out an assessment
- Overview, property assessment and survey, excavation, historians, evaluation, research and analysis, recommendations, reporting

2 **Planning, design, and guideline development**
- Historical Buildings – Repair or restoration, maintenance
- Culture Heritage Landscapes – Conservation, research, preservation planning
- Archaeological Resources - Mitigation options, avoidance and protection or excavation

3 **Tender and project management**
## Services

### ARCHAEOLOGY
- Property assessment
- Cultural resource management
- Special places
- Archaeological overview assessments
- Archaeological inventory or surveys
- Archaeological impact assessments
- Implementation of mitigation strategies
- Archaeological analysis
- Monitoring the condition of archaeological resources
- Master plan development
- Ground Penetrating Radar
- Augmented Reality
- 3D Modelling

### BUILT HERITAGE AND CULTURAL HERITAGE LANDSCAPES
- Built heritage assessments
- Heritage streetscape revitalization and design
- Heritage urban design
- Cultural heritage landscape surveys, analysis, research and evaluation
- Historic site restoration
- Cultural heritage landscape design and restoration

### HERITAGE PLANNING
- Heritage planning policy
- Heritage conservation district studies and plans

### BUILDING REHABILITATION
- Structural evaluation of existing buildings
- Structural design of new additions to existing buildings
- Seismic retrofit of existing buildings and structures
- Bridge evaluation and retrofit
- Façade evaluation, repair design, contract administration and construction review
- Performance modelling of existing wall/window assemblies for durability and retrofit
Why WSP?

A TRULY INTEGRATED AND MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH

We are unique in having the integrated resources to deliver expert advice on archaeology resources and assessment, to cultural heritage landscapes assessment, to the assessment, repair and rehabilitation of heritage structures. This translates into continuity, collaboration and simplified communication at each critical phase. As well, we offer clients access to a large multidisciplinary team with expertise in broad fields such as ecology, environmental and civil engineering, and transportation planning.

A PORTFOLIO OF AWARD-WINNING PROJECTS

Having successfully delivered across all sectors and phases, our team has the ability to combine technical understanding with practical solutions that are as unique as the projects we work on. We also strive to connect heritage issues to the wider context, informing our approach to urban design and place-making.

A PRACTICAL, INVESTIGATIVE APPROACH

Ours is a practical management approach. We balance the need for improved performance with many other factors, including cost, durability and physical appearance. We start heritage projects by understanding the client’s objectives for the property in the short, medium and long term. We review documentation that explains the construction and significance of the property and associated structures. Visiting the site allows us to explore and document current conditions, structural performance and state of deterioration of buildings. When heritage structures are involved, our repair and renewal strategies are designed to address deficiencies while being as minimally invasive as possible so as to not significantly alter the building’s form and fabric.

OUR SPECIALISTS ARE WHERE OUR CLIENTS NEED US

Our archaeology, built heritage and cultural heritage landscapes landscape specialist teams operate across Canada and have a clear understanding of regional differences as well as provincial and federal legislation. Made up of professionals and technicians with vast experience and a solid track record of achievements, the majority of these specialists have more than 15 years of professional experience in their disciplines and share their knowledge to offer the best service possible to our clients wherever they may be.

SUSTAINABILITY IS EMBEDDED INTO OUR STRATEGY AND VISION

As heritage is an inherently sustainable endeavour, it is essential that great care is taken to ensure that the information we learn as we uncover the past is properly documented and preserved for the future. In applying principles of sustainable development, we are able to utilize solutions that benefit our clients, while respecting the need to preserve the history and culture of the site.
ST. LAWRENCE MARKET
Client: Urban Revitalization
Location: Toronto, Ontario
Roles: Establish survey network through conventional methods
Laser scan entire city block for accurate as-build
Provide plans, surfaces and utilities for the street level and profiles of historical facet for redevelopment

MMM Group Limited produced detailed drawings of all street level hardware, curbing and landscape features within the city block. Along with plans, surfaces were provided for drainage analysis and wheelchair accessibility. Laser scanning provided detailed drawings of the historical facets for retro fitting of raised walkways between buildings. Street scanning was completed at night within the busy city block, enabling all street level data to be safely acquired with no disturbance to the flow of traffic and pedestrians.

Legal surveys were also provided for the overlay of cadastral fabric.

The project deliverables enabled architects and engineers to work together with absolute confidence in the up-to-date base data and ensured the historical aspect of the project remained intact.
01 / MCC Mackenzie King Estate landscape improvements, Gatineau, QC;
02 / Archaeology overview, Lac des Mille Lacs, Thunder Bay District, ON (In cooperation with the Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation);
03 / High definition scanning of St. Lawrence market, Toronto, ON;
04 / Property Condition Assessment and restoration of Fairmont Hotel MacDonald, Edmonton AB (Municipal Heritage Resource by the City of Edmonton);
05 / Evergreen Brick Works, Toronto, ON (LEED® consulting and structural design / LEED-NC Platinum Certified);
06 / Research, master planning and landscape design of ‘The Tangled Garden’ MacDonald Homestead, Thornhill, ON (Awarded a national heritage award and regional award);
07 / Repair and renewal of 20 Richmond Street East, Toronto, ON (2010 CAHP award winner).
WSP™ is one of the world’s leading professional services consulting firms. We are dedicated to our local communities and propelled by international brainpower. We are technical experts and strategic advisors including engineers, technicians, scientists, project managers, planners, and environmental specialists, as well as other design and program management professionals. We design and deliver lasting solutions in the Buildings, Transportation, Infrastructure, Oil & Gas, Environment, Mining, Power and Industrial sectors as well as project delivery and strategic consulting services. With over 7,500 talented people across Canada and 36,000 globally, we engineer projects that will help societies grow for generations to come.