

Archaeological Overview Assessment
FII Project: Bow Valley Parkway Bridge Rehabilitation (Johnston Cr., Baker Cr., Corral Cr.)
Banff National Park, Alberta

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Introduction and Scope of Work

Highway Engineering Services will be undertaking rehabilitation of the Johnston Creek, Baker Creek and Corral Creek Bridges located at km 17.9, 38.4 and 48.0 (as measured from the east end of the parkway) respectively on the Bow Valley Parkway in Banff National Park (BNP) (Figure 1). Work will include replacement of the bridge barriers, deck joints, wearing surface, minor approach paving and modifications to the approach barriers. Previous inspections have identified components of the structures which are at the end of their service life and require replacement or rehabilitation. Additionally, barriers on the bridges will be brought up to current standards to improve user safety.

Projects will be limited to the bridge footprint and portion of the approach on either end of the bridge. No instream work is expected. Access to the bridge will be directly off of the BVP, equipment and materials may be stored in laydown areas near the bridge, as cleared parking areas already exist near the bridge. Limited approach excavation and paving may be required to tie in the new deck surface and to construct approach barriers. No expansion of the existing roadway footprint will be required. Work is tentatively scheduled to begin April 1, 2017.

This Archaeological Overview Assessment will evaluate the archaeological potential of the project areas and the potential for the proposed work to impact cultural resources. It will determine if an Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA), or like mitigation measures and any specific archaeological requirements are necessary prior to, or in conjunction with, each of the BVP bridge projects in order to protect Banff National Park's cultural resources.

Previous Archaeological Work and Archaeological Potential: BVP Johnston Creek Bridge; km 17.9 Banff NP

Johnston Creek Bridge is a single span of 21.4 m with a curb-to-curb roadway width of 11.7 m and carries two traffic lanes (one each direction). A systematic recording of archaeological sites has been undertaken within the environs of the BVP through Banff National Park. A review of known sites indicates two (Figure 2) that occur in the vicinity, but west the Canadian Pacific Railway grade well beyond the Johnston Creek Bridge location.

Previous Archaeological Work and Archaeological Potential: BVP Baker Creek Bridge; km 38.4 Banff NP

Baker Creek Bridge is a single span of 18m with a curb-to-curb roadway width of 12.3 m and carries two traffic lanes (one each direction). A systematic recording of archaeological sites has been undertaken within the environs of the BVP through Banff National Park. A review of known sites (Figure 3) indicates several that occur west of the proposed project at the Baker Creek Bridge location.

Previous Archaeological Work and Archaeological Potential: BVP Corral Creek Bridge; km 48.0 Banff NP

Corral Creek Bridge is a single span of 14m with a curb-to-curb roadway width of 12.3 m and carries two traffic lanes (one each direction). A systematic recording of archaeological sites has been undertaken within the environs of the BVP through Banff National Park. A review of known sites (Figure 4) indicates that no sites have been recorded within the immediate vicinity of the proposed project at the Corral Creek Bridge location.

Archaeological Impact Potential: Bow Valley Parkway Bridge Rehabilitation (Johnston Cr., Baker Cr., Corral Cr.)

The archaeological information to date suggests the archaeological potential within this area of BNP is very high for both historic and pre-contact sites. However the potential for each these three projects to impact any known sites, as illustrated in Figures 2, 3 and 4, is considered to be very low, as none are in very close proximity to the BVP and bridge project areas. Additionally, there is limited ground disturbance anticipated outside the present BVP footprint, nor in any staging or borrow areas associated with these projects.

Archaeological Requirements: BVP Bridge Rehabilitation (Johnston Cr., Baker Cr., Corral Cr.); Banff NP

It has been determined from this Archaeological Overview Assessment that the rehabilitation of the Johnston Creek, Baker Creek and Corral Creek Bridges located at km 17.9, 38.4 and 48.0 respectively on the Bow Valley Parkway in Banff National Park, using the methods as described in the reviewed document: *Project Description* (January 23 2017), has a very low potential to negatively impact on any archaeological resources. **Therefore an Archaeological Impact Assessment prior to work commencing will not be required.** Both the Change of Scope and Accidental Finds Protocol (below) will apply.

Change of Scope

Any changes to the proposed plans must be submitted to the Parks Canada Agency Terrestrial Archaeology Representative for review.

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Accidental Finds Protocol

As there could be a chance, however low, that features or artifact concentrations are encountered in the course of rehabilitation work and operational staging. If significant features (i.e., structural remains and/or high artifact concentrations) are encountered, work should stop in the immediate area, photographs and a GIS reading should be taken, and the Parks Canada project manager informed. The project manager should then contact Parks Canada's Terrestrial Archaeology section for advice and assessment of significance that will in turn determine what will be required to mitigate the chance find.

What is a significant find? It is possible that a scattering of historic objects will be found in the project areas. Isolated finds of such things as tin cans or bottles are not reason to stop work. If there is a particularly interesting specimen, it could be set aside for the archaeologist to collect later. Concentrations of them are significant, however, and so are structural features like log cabin foundations, tent platforms, or log cribbing retaining features. Encountering any of these would be a stop work situation, as would the accidental find of human remains.

References

2016 Site files, Parks Canada Agency, on file Calgary AB.



Figure 1: Location of the Johnstone Creek, Baker Creek and Corral Creek Bridges located at km 17.9, 38.4 and 48.0 respectively on the Bow Valley Parkway in Banff National Park.

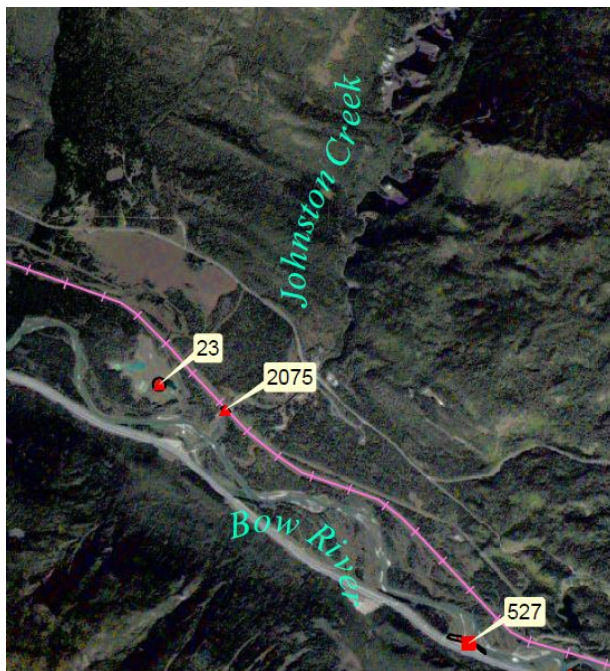


Figure 2: Location of archeological sites 23 and 2075 recorded west of the Johnstone Creek Bridge; Banff NP.



Figure 3: Location of archeological sites recorded in the vicinity west of the Baker Creek Bridge; Banff NP.



Figure 4: Location of archeological sites recorded within the area of the Corral Creek Bridge; Banff NP.