

# (Re-)Imagining the Schreiber Wood Landscape: Digital Reconstructions of 19th Century Settler Occupations at the University of Toronto Mississauga

Mahalia Johnna Baguio, Ya Qi Mo

Department of Anthropology, University of Toronto Mississauga

## INTRODUCTION

## OBJECTIVE

The Schreiber Wood Project is an undergraduate archaeological field school program conducted on the University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM) campus. Since 2013, surveys and excavations have provided insight into the Schreiber family who inhabited the property on which UTM now sits during the late 19th century. This poster shows our process in creating an interactive digital reconstruction of one of the sites that have been explored through the project to date: AjGw-535, the location of a house known as Iverholme.

We aim to create an interactive and informative method to compare the historical condition of an archaeological site (AjGw-535) with its present state highlighting the landscape changes and cultural modifications through time.

## METHODS

Historical images of each house were digitized through free-form sketches. An interactive image slider was created using HTML, CSS and JavaScript.

### CREATING: FREE FORM SKETCHES

Hand-drawn sketches were made based off of historical photographs of Iverholme (Image 1). Parts of the house that cannot be discerned due to obstacles or limitations of the photograph were drawn based on archaeological evidence of the foundation of the house (Image 2).

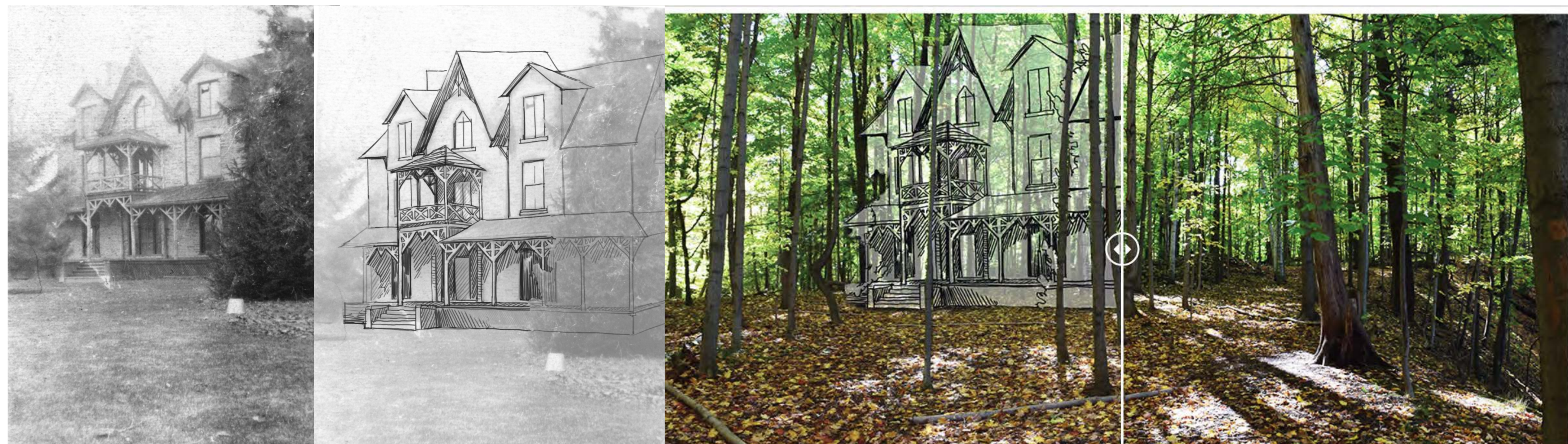


Image 3. Progression of digital reconstruction. Original image courtesy of Local History Files - Schreiber Family, Heritage Mississauga.

### CREATING: INTERACTIVE SLIDER

Inspiration for creating an interactive module is from H5P Studio by eCampus Ontario. Their "Image Slider" tool was the basis of the creation of our interactive slider.

The interactive slider is comprised of three parts:

1. The forest image (background): stitched image of the archaeological site.  
Edited using Adobe Lightroom, stitched together using Adobe Photoshop.
2. The free form sketches (foreground)
3. The slider: coded using HTML, CSS, and JavaScript.  
Coded on Visual Studio Code v.1.65.2.

```

28 .wrapper .images .img-1{
29   height: 100%;
30   width: 100%;
31   background: url("images/iverholmebg.png") no-repeat;
32 }
33 .wrapper .images .img-2{
34   position: absolute;
35   height: 100%;
36   width: 100%;
37   background: url("images/iverholmesketchtree.png") no-repeat;
38 }
39 .wrapper .slider{
40   position: absolute;
41   top: 0;
42   width: 100%;
43   height: 100%;
44   z-index: 99;
45 }
46 .wrapper .slider input{
47   width: 100%;
48   height: 100%;
49   outline: none;
50   background: none;
51   -webkit-appearance: none;
52 }
53 .slider input::-webkit-slider-thumb{
54   height: 48px;
55   width: 3px;
56   background: none;
57   -webkit-appearance: none;
58   cursor: col-resize;
59 }

```

Image 4. Portion of CSS code for interactive slider.

## FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

Continuous utilization of technology can assist with digitizing archaeological records for future reference. The creation of interactive archaeological records need to ensure limited exposure of site location. Furthermore, limited photos of site in 19th century prevents ability to recreate the site to highest accuracy.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We extend our gratitude to Dr. Michael Brand and Dr. Trevor Orchard with their guidance throughout this project, and for allowing us the opportunity to work on the Schreiber Wood project. Thank you to the Department of Anthropology at the University of Toronto Mississauga for providing us with this opportunity.

### Author Contact Information:

Mahalia Johnna Baguio: mj.baguio@mail.utoronto.ca  
Ya Qi Mo: yqmaxwell.mo@mail.utoronto.ca



Figure 1. Images of the Schreiber Estate, (Toronto Daily Star, 1930)



Figure 2. Isolated sketch of Iverholme house.

We wish to acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto operates. For thousands of years it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and the Mississaugas of the Credit. Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.