

## **Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment 19 Lakeshore Road West, Port Colbourne**

Part of Lot 32, Concession 1  
Geographic Township of Humberstone,  
Historical County of Welland,  
Regional Municipality of Niagara.

**Submitted to:**  
Maxima Holdings  
71 King Street  
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and

Ontario's Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism

**Submitted by:**



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PIF Number: P017-1066-2023  
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**ORIGINAL REPORT**

**September 5, 2023**

## Executive Summary

Detritus Consulting Ltd. ('Detritus') was retained by Dylan Earl of Maxima Holdings ('the Proponent') to conduct a Stage 1-2 archaeological assessment on part of Lot 32, Concession 1, within the Geographical Township of Humberstone, in the historical County of Welland, which is now the Town of Port Colborne in the Regional Municipality of Niagara, Ontario. This assessment was undertaken in advance of a proposed subdivision and residential development on the property at 19 Lakeshore Road West, Port Colborne (the 'Study Area.' Figures 1 and 5).

The assessment was triggered by the Provincial Policy Statement ('PPS') that is informed by the *Planning Act* (Government of Ontario 1990a), which states that decisions affecting planning matters must be consistent with the policies outlined in the larger *Ontario Heritage Act* (Government of Ontario 1990b). According to Section 2.6.2 of the PPS, "development and site alteration shall not be permitted on lands containing archaeological resources or areas of archaeological potential unless significant archaeological resources have been conserved." To meet these conditions, a Stage 1-2 assessment was conducted as part of the Site Plan application under archaeological consulting license PO17 issued to Mr. Garth Grimes by the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism ('MCM') and adheres to the archaeological license report requirements under subsection 65 (1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act* (Government of Ontario 1990b) and the MCM's *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* ('Standards and Guidelines'; Government of Ontario 2011).

The Study Area is a rectangular parcel measuring approximately 0.17 hectares ('ha'; Figure 1), fronting onto Lakeshore Road West, Port Colborne. At the time of the assessment, the Study Area comprised a manicured lawn, a residential house, a studio house, a garage and asphalt driveway, and associated walking surfaces. The Study Area is bound by Lakeshore Road West to the south and residential properties to the east and west. The north side of the studio house defines the northern most extent of the property.

The Stage 1 background research indicated that the Study Area exhibited moderate to high potential for the identification and recovery of archaeological resources. A Stage 2 field assessment was recommended for the manicured lawn within the Study Area. The house, studio, garage and asphalt driveway were evaluated as having no potential based on the identification of extensive and deep land alteration that has severely damaged the integrity of archaeological resources, as per Section 2.1, Standard 2b of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011). The previously disturbed areas, as confirmed during a Stage 2 property inspection, were mapped and photo documented in accordance with Section 2.1, Standard 6 and Section 7.8.1, Standards 1a and 1b of the *Standards and Guidelines*.

The subsequent Stage 2 field assessment was conducted on August 1, 2023, and consisted of a typical test pit survey at five-metre (5m) intervals across the manicured lawn. This investigation resulted in the identification of no archaeological material; therefore, **no further archaeological assessment of the Study Area is recommended.**

*The Executive Summary highlights key points from the report only; for complete information and findings, the reader should examine the complete report.*

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## Project Personnel

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
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## Acknowledgments

Generous contributions by Dylan Earl of Maxima Holdings made this report possible.

## 1.0 Project Context

### 1.1 Development Context

Detritus Consulting Ltd. ('Detritus') was retained by Dylan Earl of Maxima Holdings ('the Proponent') to conduct a Stage 1-2 archaeological assessment on part of Lot 32, Concession 1, within the Geographical Township of Humberstone, in the historical County of Welland, which is now the City of Port Colborne in the Regional Municipality of Niagara, Ontario. This assessment was undertaken in advance of a proposed subdivision and residential development on the property at 19 Lakeshore Road West, Port Colborne (the 'Study Area.' Figures 1 and 5).

The assessment was triggered by the Provincial Policy Statement ('PPS') that is informed by the *Planning Act* (Government of Ontario 1990a), which states that decisions affecting planning matters must be consistent with the policies outlined in the larger *Ontario Heritage Act* (Government of Ontario 1990b). According to Section 2.6.2 of the PPS, "development and site alteration shall not be permitted on lands containing archaeological resources or areas of archaeological potential unless significant archaeological resources have been conserved." To meet these conditions, a Stage 1-2 assessment was conducted as part of the Site Plan application under archaeological consulting license PO17 issued to Mr. Garth Grimes by the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism ('MCM') and adheres to the archaeological license report requirements under subsection 65 (1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act* (Government of Ontario 1990b) and the MCM's *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* ('Standards and Guidelines'; Government of Ontario 2011).

The purpose of a Stage 1 Background Study is to compile all available information about the known and potential archaeological heritage resources within the Study Area and to provide specific direction for the protection, management and/or recovery of these resources. In compliance with the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011), the objectives of the following Stage 1 assessment were as follows:

- To provide information about the Study Area's geography, history, previous archaeological fieldwork and current land conditions;
- to evaluate, in detail, the Study Area's archaeological potential which will support recommendations for Stage 2 survey for all or parts of the property; and
- to recommend appropriate strategies for Stage 2 survey.

To meet these objectives Detritus archaeologists employed the following research strategies:

- A review of relevant archaeological, historic and environmental literature pertaining to the Study Area;
- a review of the land use history, including pertinent historic maps; and
- an examination of the Ontario Archaeological Sites Database ('ASDB') to determine the presence of known archaeological sites in and around the Study Area.

The purpose of a Stage 2 Property Assessment is to provide an overview of any archaeological resources within the Study Area, to determine whether any of the resources might be archaeological sites with cultural heritage value or interest ('CHVI'); and to provide specific direction for the protection, management and/or recovery of these resources. In compliance with the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011), the objectives of the following Stage 2 assessment were:

- To document all archaeological resources within the Study Area;
- to determine whether the Study Area contains archaeological resources requiring further assessment; and
- to recommend appropriate Stage 3 assessment strategies for archaeological sites identified.

The licensee received permission from the Proponent to enter the land and conduct all required archaeological fieldwork activities, including the recovery of artifacts.

## 1.2 Historical Context

### 1.2.1 Post-Contact Indigenous Resources

Prior to the arrival of European settlers, much of the central and southern Ontario was occupied by Iroquoian speaking linguistic groups that had united to form confederacies, including the Huron-Wendat, the Neutral (or Attawandaran), and the Petun in Ontario, as well as the Five Nations Iroquois Confederacy in Upper New York State (Warrick, 2013; Birch, 2010). Of these groups, the Huron-Wendat established themselves to the east of the Niagara escarpment and the Neutral, to the west (Warrick, 2000).

Throughout the middle of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the Iroquois Confederacy sought to expand upon their territory and to monopolize the fur trade between the European markets and the tribes of the western Great Lakes region. A series of bloody conflicts followed known as the Beaver Wars or the French and Iroquois Wars, contested between the Iroquois Confederacy and the Algonkian speaking communities of the Great Lakes region. Many communities were destroyed including the Huron, Neutral, Susquehannock and Shawnee leaving the Iroquois as the dominant group in the region. By 1653 after repeated attacks, the Niagara peninsula and most of Southern Ontario had been vacated (Heidenreich, 1990).

At this same time, the Anishinaabeg Nation, an Algonkian-speaking community situated inland from the northern shore of Lake Huron, began to challenge the Haudenosaunee for dominance in the Lake Huron and Georgian Bay region in order to advance their own role in the fur trade (Gibson, 2006). The Algonkian-speaking groups that settled in the area bound by Lake Ontario, Lake Erie, and Lake Huron were referred to by the English as the Chippewas or Ojibwas. By 1680, the Ojibwa began expanding into the evacuated Huron-Wendat territory, and eventually into Southern Ontario. By 1701, the Haudenosaunee had been driven out of Ontario completely and were replaced by the Ojibwa (Gibson, 2006; Schmalz, 1991).

The late 17<sup>th</sup> and early 18<sup>th</sup> centuries also mark the arrival of an Ojibwa band known as the Mississaugas into Southern Ontario and, in particular, the watersheds of the lower Great Lakes. 'The Mississaugas' is the name that the Jesuits had used in 1840 for the Algonquin community living near the Mississagi River on the northwestern shore of Lake Huron (Smith, 2022). The oral traditions of the Mississaugas, as recounted by Chief Robert Paudash and recorded in 1904, suggest that the Mississaugas defeated the Mohawk Nation, who retreated to their homeland south of Lake Ontario. Following this conflict, a peace treaty was negotiated between the two groups (Praxis Research Associates, n.d.).

From the beginning of the 18<sup>th</sup> century until the end of the Seven Year War in 1763, the Ojibwa nation, including the Mississaugas, experienced a golden age in trade holding no alliance with either the French or the British (Schmalz, 1991). At the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the Mississaugas' settled permanently in Southern Ontario (Praxis Research Associates, n.d.). Around this same time, in 1722, the Five Nation Iroquois Confederacy adopted the Tuscarora in New York becoming the Six Nations (Pendergast, 1995).

The Study Area first entered the Euro-Canadian historical record on December 7<sup>th</sup>, 1792, as part of Treaty No. 3, which included land acquired in the 'Between the Lakes Purchase' dating to May 22, 1784. According to the terms of the treaty, the Mississaugas ceded to the Crown approximately 3,000,000 acres of land between Lake Huron, Lake Erie, and Lake Ontario in return for trade goods valued at £1180.

*The limits of the Treaty 3 lands are documented as comprising, Lincoln County excepting Niagara Township; Saltfleet, Binbrook, Barton, Glanford and Ancaster Townships, in Wentworth County; Brantford, Onondaga, Tusc[a]r[ra], Oakland and Burford Townships in Brant County; East and West Oxford, North and South Norwich, and Dereham Townships in Oxford County; North Dorchester Township in Middlesex County; South Dorchester, Malahide and Bayham Township in Elgin County; all Norfolk and Haldimand Counties; Pelham, Wainfleet, Thorold, Cumberland and Humberstone Townships in Welland County.*

Morris, 1943, pp. 17-8

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One of the stated objectives of the Between the Lakes Purchase was “to procure for that part of the Six Nation Indians coming into Canada a permanent abode” (Morris, 1943, p. 17) . Shortly after the transaction had been finalised in May of 1784, Sir Frederick Haldimand, the Governor of Québec, made preparations to grant a portion of land to those Six Nations who remained loyal to the Crown during the American War of Independence. More specifically, Haldimand arranged for the purchase of approximately 550,000 acres of land adjacent to the Treaty 3 limits from the Mississaugas. This tract of land, referred to as either the Haldimand Tract or the 1795 Crown Grant to the Six Nations, was provided for in the Haldimand Proclamation of October 25th, 1784, and was intended to extend a distance of six miles on each side of the Grand River from mouth to source (Weaver, 1978) . By the end of 1784, representatives from each constituent nation of the Six Nations, as well as other allies, relocated to the Haldimand Tract with Joseph Brant (Weaver, 1978; Tanner, 1987) .

Throughout southern Ontario, the size and nature of the pre-contact settlements and the subsequent spread and distribution of Aboriginal material culture began to shift with the establishment of European settlers. By 1834 it was accepted by the Crown that losses of portions of the Haldimand Tract to Euro-Canadian settlers were too numerous for all lands to be returned. Lands in the Lower Grand River area were surrendered by the Six Nations to the British Government in 1832, at which point most Six Nations people moved into Tuscarora Township in Brant County and a narrow portion of Oneida Township (Page, 1879; Weaver, 1978; Tanner, 1987) . Following the population decline and the surrender of most of their lands along the Credit River, the Mississaugas were given 6000 acres of land on the Six Nations Reserve, establishing the Mississaugas of New Credit First Nation, now the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, in 1847 (Smith, 2022)

Despite the encroachment of European settlers on previously established Aboriginal territories, “written accounts of material life and livelihood, the correlation of historically recorded villages to their archaeological manifestations, and the similarities of those sites to more ancient sites have revealed an antiquity to documented cultural expressions that confirms a deep historical continuity to Iroquoian systems of ideology and thought” (Ferris, 2009, p. 114) . As Ferris observes, despite the arrival of a competing culture, First Nations communities throughout Southern Ontario have left behind archaeologically significant resources that demonstrate continuity with their pre-contact predecessors, even if they have not been recorded extensively in historical Euro-Canadian documentation.

### 1.2.2 Euro-Canadian Resources

The Study Area is located on part of Lot 32, Concession 1, within the Geographic Township of Humberstone, in the historical County of Welland, which is now the Town of Port Colborne in the Regional Municipality of Niagara, Ontario ( Figure 1 ).

On July 24, 1788, Sir Guy Carleton, the Governor-General of British North America, divided the Province of Québec into the administrative districts of Hesse, Nassau, Mecklenburg, and Lunenburg (Archives of Ontario, 2012-2015) . Further change came in December 1791 when the former Province of Québec was rearranged into Upper Canada and Lower Canada under the provisions of the Constitutional Act. Colonel John Graves Simcoe was appointed as Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada; he spearheaded several initiatives to populate the province including the establishment of shoreline communities with effective transportation links between them (Coyne, 1895) .

In July 1792, Simcoe divided Upper Canada into 19 counties stretching from Essex in the west to Glengarry in the east. Each new county was named after a county in England or Scotland; the constituent townships were then given the names of the corresponding townships from each original British county (Powell & Coffman, 1956) .

Later that year, the four districts originally established in 1788 were renamed the Western, Home, Midland, and Eastern Districts. As population levels in Upper Canada increased, smaller and more manageable administrative bodies were needed resulting in the establishment of many new counties and townships. As part of this realignment, the boundaries of the Home and Western Districts were shifted and the London and Niagara Districts were established. Under this new territorial arrangement, the Study Area became part of the Niagara District, comprising Lincoln County, Haldimand County and other lands (Archives of Ontario, 2012-2015) . In 1845, after years of increasing settlement that began after the War of 1812, the southern portion of Lincoln County was severed to form Welland County, of which Pelham Township was a part.

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In 1845, after years of increasing settlement that began after the War of 1812, the southern portion of Lincoln County was severed to form Welland County (the two counties would be amalgamated once again in 1970 to form the Regional Municipality of Niagara). The county takes its name from the Welland River, which runs through the centre of the county and was itself named by Simcoe after a stream in Lincolnshire, England. This county was home to the Niagara Falls as well as many of the earliest settled townships in Upper Canada (Middleton & Landon, 1927).

Humberstone Township was settled in 1785. In 1817 it featured 75 inhabited houses, a grist mill, and a sawmill. By 1850 the number of inhabited houses had increased to 279, and the population to 2,377 inhabitants. At this time, the township also contained a grist mill, three sawmills, a foundry, two churches, and eight public schools. The township continued to grow throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century. By 1875, the population had increased to 3,200 (Page & Co. 1876).

In 1870, Port Colborne, which itself boasted a population of 1,200 at that time, was incorporated as a village. The village contained four churches, a public school, a Roman Catholic separate school, a village hall, as well as three planing mills and sash door factories, a grist mill, a sawmill, a branch of the Imperial Bank, Montreal and Dominion telegraph office and an extensive grain elevator belonging to the Welland Railway Company (Page & Co. 1876).

The *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the Counties of Lincoln and Welland* ('*Historical Atlas*'), demonstrates the extent to which Humberstone Township had been settled by 1876 (Page, 1876; Figure 2). Landowners are listed for every lot within the township, many of which had been subdivided multiple times into smaller parcels to accommodate an increasing population throughout the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Structures and orchards are prevalent throughout the township, almost all of which front early roads and water bodies.

Ontario's Land Registry (Niagara South/Niagara 30, LRO 59) records that the Crown grant was to Christian Sevitz (also spelled Zavitz) in 1798. Roughly half of the property was sold to Jesse Zavitz, though no record of the sale exists. In 1824 and 1830, both Zavitz sold their portions of the lot to John Steele. John Steele sold the land to Jonathon Steele in 1844, who then sold the property to John Schofield in 1848.

The 1876 Historical Atlas Map of Niagara Township (Page, 1876; Figure 2) shows John Schofield as the landowner of this property in which the Study Area lies. On the historic map, a single structure, located approximately 200 metres north of the Lake Erie shoreline, occupies the southern portion of the Schofield property. An orchard is shown adjacent to and west of the structure, while a second orchard is depicted in the northern portion of Lot 32, adjacent to and south of the Grand Trunk Railway line which bisects the property approximately 1.6 kilometres north of the Study Area. Looking further afield, the early community of Port Colborne is situated approximately 1.6 kilometres to the northeast. The Schofield family continued to own the lot into the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Although significant and detailed landowner information is available on the current *Historical Atlas*, it should be recognized that historical county atlases were funded by subscription fees and were produced primarily to identify factories, offices, residences and landholdings of subscribers. Landowners who did not subscribe were not always listed on the maps (Caston 1997:100). Moreover, associated structures were not necessarily depicted or placed accurately (Gentilcore and Head 1984).

## 1.3 Archaeological Context

### 1.3.1 Property Description and Physical Setting

The Study Area is a rectangular parcel measuring approximately 0.17 hectares ('ha'; Figure 1), fronting onto Lakeshore Road West, Port Colborne. At the time of the assessment, the Study Area comprised a manicured lawn, a residential house, a studio house, a garage and asphalt driveway, and associated walking surfaces. The Study Area is bound by Lakeshore Road West to the south and residential properties to the east and west. The north side of the studio house defines the northern most extent of the property.

The Study Area is situated within the Norfolk Sand Plain; this is a wedge-shaped area with a broad, curved base along the shore of Lake Erie and tapers northward to a point at Brantford on the Grand River. The plain declines southward from about 850 feet to the level of Lake Erie (572 feet) or in the west to the top of the shore cliff 100 feet or more above the lake. In good-sized sections of the plain the slope is only a foot or two to the mile, while a noticeable break in the slope occurs five to ten miles



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from the shore of Lake Erie. The sands and silts of this region were deposited as a delta in glacial Lakes Whittlesey and Warren. The drainage is through small rivers flowing directly to Lake Erie, except in a small area in the north, which is tributary to the Grand River (Chapman and Putnam 1984: 153).

The Niagara Region as a whole is located within the Deciduous Forest Region of Canada and contains tree species which are typical of the more northern Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Biotic zone, such as beech, sugar maple, white elm, basswood, white oak and butternut (MacDonald & Cooper, 1997) . During pre-contact and early contact times, the land in the vicinity of the Study Area comprised a mixture of hardwood trees such as sugar maple, beech, oak, and cherry. This pattern of forest cover is characteristic of areas of clay soil within the Maple-Hemlock Section of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Forest Province-Cool Temperate Division (McAndrews & Manville, 1987) . In the early 19<sup>th</sup>, Euro-Canadian settlers began to clear the forests for agricultural purposes.

The closest source of potable water is Lake Erie, with the shoreline approximately 38m south of the Study Area's southernmost boundary.

### 1.3.2 Pre-Contact Land Use

The Study Area occupies a portion of southwestern Ontario that has been occupied as far back as 11,000 years ago as the glaciers retreated. For the majority of this time, people were practicing hunter gatherer lifestyles with a gradual move towards more extensive farming practices.

Table 1 provides a general outline of the cultural chronology of Humberstone Township (Ellis and Ferris 1990).

**Table 1: Cultural Chronology for Humberstone Township**

| Time Period     | Cultural Period                     | Comments   |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| 9500 – 7000 BC  | Paleo Indian                        | first human occupation<br>hunters of caribou and other extinct Pleistocene game<br>nomadic, small band society |
| 7500 - 1000 BC  | Archaic                             | ceremonial burials<br>increasing trade network<br>hunter gatherers   |
| 1000 - 400 BC   | Early Woodland                      | large and small camps<br>spring congregation/fall dispersal<br>introduction of pottery                         |
| 400 BC – AD 800 | Middle Woodland                     | kinship based political system<br>incipient horticulture<br>long distance trade network                        |
| AD 800 - 1300   | Early Iroquoian<br>(Late Woodland)  | limited agriculture<br>developing hamlets and villages   |
| AD 1300 - 1400  | Middle Iroquoian<br>(Late Woodland) | shift to agriculture complete<br>increasing political complexity<br>large, palisaded villages                  |
| AD 1400 - 1650  | Late Iroquoian                      | regional warfare and<br>political/tribal alliances<br>destruction of Huron and Neutral                         |

### 1.3.3 Previous Identified Archaeological Work

In order to compile an inventory of known archaeological resources in the vicinity of the Study Area, Detritus consulted the ASDB. The ASDB, which is maintained by the MCM (Government of Ontario, n.d.), contains archaeological sites registered according to the Borden system. Under the Borden system, Canada is divided into grid blocks based on latitude and longitude. A Borden Block is approximately 13km east to west and approximately 18.5km north to south. Each Borden Block is referenced by a four-letter designator and sites within a block are numbered sequentially as they are found. The Study Area lies within block AgGt.

Information concerning specific site locations is protected by provincial policy and is not fully subject to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (Government of Ontario, 1990c) The release of such information in the past has led to looting or various forms of illegally conducted site destruction. Confidentiality extends to all media capable of conveying location, including maps, drawings, or textual descriptions of a site location. The MCM will provide information concerning site

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location to the party or an agent of the party holding title to a property, or to a licensed archaeologist with relevant cultural resource management interests.

According to the ASDB, nine sites have been registered within a 1km radius of the Study Area (Table 2). Of the nine sites, one is a Pre-Contact Aboriginal site dating to the Archaic period (AfGt-101), while two, multicomponent sites bridge both the Late Archaic and Woodland periods (AfGt-234 and AfGt-2). Two sites have been identified simply as pre-contact Aboriginal (AfGt-5 and AfGt-102) and two simply as Euro-Canadian (AfGt-346 and AfGt-336). One site (AfGt-27) was identified as a multicomponent site, while no information is provided for site AfGt-6.

**Table 2: Registered Archaeological Sites within 1km**

| <b>Borden Number</b> | <b>Site Name</b>       | <b>Time Period</b>            | <b>Affinity</b> | <b>Site Type</b>              |
|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| AfGt-6               | Pinelli                |                               |                 |                               |
| AfGt-5               | Solid Comfort Cemetery | Pre-Contact                   | Aboriginal      |                               |
| AfGt-346             | Sugarloaf Cemetery     | Post-Contact                  | Euro-Canadian   | cemetery                      |
| AfGt-336             | Westwood Historic      | Post-Contact                  | Euro-Canadian   | residential                   |
| AfGt-27              | Ansari Site            | Post-Contact, Pre-Contact     |                 |                               |
| AfGt-234             |                        | Archaic, Late, Woodland, Late | Aboriginal      | camp / campsite, seasonal     |
| AfGt-2               | Tennessee Avenue       | Archaic, Woodland             | Aboriginal      | Unknown                       |
| AfGt-102             | -                      | Pre-Contact                   | Aboriginal      | scatter                       |
| AfGt-101             | Sugarloaf              | Archaic, Late                 | Aboriginal      | Other camp/campsite, workshop |

Both the Tennessee Avenue site (AfGt-2) and site AfGt-234 were discovered as part of archaeological assessments for a watermain trench planned for Tennessee Avenue. Accordingly, their assessment areas were restricted to 2m wide trenches required for the watermain.

The Tennessee Avenue site (AfGt-2) lies approximately 65m ENE of the Study Area and was discovered during a Stage 1-2 assessment undertaken by Archaeological Services Incorporated ('ASI') in 2003 (ASI 2018; PIF# P1066-0005-2016). This resulted in the recovery of 938 artifacts, comprising 929 lithic tools and debitage, six pre-contact Aboriginal pottery sherds, and three Euro-Canadian ceramics.

In 2006, ASI conducted a Stage 3-4 assessment of the Tennessee Avenue site (AfGt-2) which resulted in the recovery and documentation of 49,062 lithic artifacts, 4,014 faunal remains, and 12,614 sherds of Aboriginal pottery (ASI 2018, 1; PIF# P1066-0005-2016).

Additionally, while looking to define the full extent of the Tennessee Avenue site (AfGt-2) in relation to the proposed development, a previously unknown site, AfGt-234, was identified within the right of way corridor between Oakridge Crescent and Tennessee Avenue (ASI 2015; PIF# P057-0767-2015).

Site AfGt-234 is a pre-contact Aboriginal site which, due to the proximity and continuity of artifact types, was deemed likely a continuation the Tennessee Avenue site (ASI 2015, 11; PIF# P057-0767-2015). Site AfGt-234 is distinguished from the Tennessee Avenue site (AfGt-2) by the original outlet of Eagle Marsh, 150m to the southwest of the Tennessee Avenue site (AfGt-2).

The Stage 2 assessment of AfGt-234 was conducted between April and June of 2015 resulting in the recovery of 5,404 pre-contact Aboriginal artifacts (ASI 2015, 11; PIF# P057-0767-2015).

The subsequent Stage 3 assessment was conducted between August 2015 and January 2016 (ASI 2016; PIF# P128-0112-2015) and resulted in 2,550 artifacts including 2,386 lithic tools and debitage, 157 faunal remains, and seven sherds of pre-contact Aboriginal pottery. A Stage 4 excavation, conducted between October 2015 and January 2016, resulted in the recovery and the documentation of 22,489 artifacts, comprising 22,106 lithic tools and debitage, 139 sherds of pre-contact Aboriginal pottery, and 244 faunal remains. Eleven subsurface cultural features were also documented (ASI 2018; PIF# P1066-0009-2016).

As the assessment area for the excavations conducted by ASI (ASI 2003, 2015, 2016, 2018) were limited to the 2m wide trench required for the installation of a watermain along Tennessee Avenue.

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The Tennessee Avenue site (AfGt-2) is presumed to extend beyond the area assessed and would retain CHVI on adjacent lands.

To the best of Detritus' knowledge, no other sites have been observed within 50m of the Study Area, and no assessments have been conducted on lands adjacent to the Study Area.

### 1.3.4 Archaeological Potential

Archaeological potential is established by determining the likelihood that archaeological resources may be present on a subject property. Detritus applied archaeological potential criteria commonly used by the MCM (Government of Ontario, 2011) to determine areas of archaeological potential within the Study Area. These variables include proximity to previously identified archaeological sites, distance to various types of water sources, soil texture and drainage, glacial geomorphology, elevated topography, and the general topographic variability of the area.

Distance to modern or ancient water sources is generally accepted as the most important determinant of past human settlement patterns and, when considered alone, may result in a determination of archaeological potential. However, any combination of two or more other criteria, such as well-drained soils or topographic variability, may also indicate archaeological potential. When evaluating distance to water it is important to distinguish between water and shoreline, as well as natural and artificial water sources, as these features affect site locations and types to varying degrees. The MCM (Government of Ontario, 2011) categorizes water sources in the following manner:

- Primary water sources: lakes, rivers, streams, creeks;
- Secondary water sources: intermittent streams and creeks, springs, marshes and swamps;
- Past water sources: glacial lake shorelines, relic river or stream channels, cobble beaches, shorelines of drained lakes or marshes; and
- Accessible or inaccessible shorelines: high bluffs, swamp or marshy lake edges, sandbars stretching into marsh.

As was stated above, the closest source of potable water is the shore of Lake Erie, located approximately 38m southeast of the Study Area.

Soil texture is also an important determinant of past settlement, usually in combination with other factors such as topography. The Study Area is situated within the Iroquois Plain physiographic region. As aforementioned, the primary soils within the Study Area, meanwhile, have been documented as being suitable for pre-contact Aboriginal practices. Considering also the presence of one post-contact multi-component site within 1km of the Study Area, the Aboriginal archaeological potential is judged to be moderate to high.

For Euro-Canadian sites, archaeological potential can be extended to areas of early Euro-Canadian settlement, including places of military or pioneer settlements; early transportation routes; and properties listed on the municipal register or designated under the Ontario Heritage Act (Government of Ontario 1990b) or property that local histories or informants have identified with possible historical events.

The Illustrated Atlas demonstrates the extent to which Humberstone Township had been settled by 1876 (Page, H.R.& Co. 1876; Figure 2 ). Landowners are listed for a large majority of the lots within the township, many of which had been subdivided multiple times into smaller parcels to accommodate an increasing population throughout the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Much of the established road system and agricultural systems throughout the township is still visible today. Structures and orchards are prevalent throughout the township, almost all of which front early roads. Given these findings, along with the presence of nine registered archaeological sites within 1km, and one site within 65m of the study area, the archaeological potential of the Study Area is judged to be moderate to high.

Finally, despite the factors mentioned above, extensive land disturbance can eradicate archaeological potential within a Study Area, as outlined in Section 1.3.2 of the Standards and Guidelines (Government of Ontario, 2011) . As was discussed above in Section 1.3.1, recent aerial imagery of the region revealed no visible disturbances within the Study Area ( Figure 5 ). It is recommended that this area be subject to visual inspection and documentation during a Stage 2 property inspection conducted as per Section 2.1.8 of the Standards and Guidelines (Government of Ontario 2011) to confirm and document the level of disturbance.

## 2.0 Field Methods

The Stage 2 assessment of the Study Area was conducted on June 9, 2023, under archaeological consulting license P017 issued to Mr. Garth Grimes by the MCM. The Study Area was bounded by Lakeshore Road West to the south and residential properties to the east and west. The north side of the studio house defined the northern most extent of the property.

During the Stage 2 assessment, the conditions were sunny and 15°C. Assessment conditions were excellent; at no time were the field, weather, or lighting conditions detrimental to the recovery of archaeological material. Photos 1-8 demonstrate the land conditions at the time of the survey throughout the Study Area including areas that met the requirements for a Stage 2 archaeological assessment, as per Section 7.8.6, Standards 1a of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011). Figure 3 provides an illustration of the Stage 2 assessment methods in relation to the survey plan and includes all photograph locations and directions; Figure 4 illustrates the assessment methods in relation to the proposed development.

Approximately 67% of the Study Area comprised manicured lawn with trees. This area was considered inaccessible to ploughing and was therefore subject to a typical Stage 2 test pit survey, conducted at 5m intervals in accordance with Section 2.1.2, Standards 1 and 2 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011; Photos 1-8). The test pit survey was conducted to within 1m of the built structures or until test pits showed evidence of recent ground disturbance, as per Section 2.1.2, Standard 4 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario, 2011). Each test pit was at least 30 centimetres ('cm') in diameter and excavated 5cm into sterile subsoil as per Section 2.1.2, Standards 5 and 6 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario, 2011). The soils were then examined for stratigraphy, cultural features, or evidence of fill.

All soil from the test pits was screened through six-millimetre ('mm') hardware cloth to facilitate the recovery of small artifacts and then used to backfill the pit, as per Section 2.1.2, Standards 7 and 9 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011). No further archaeological methods were employed as no artifacts were identified during the test pit survey.

The remaining 33% of the Study Area comprised existing built structures and possible disturbance areas identified on the current aerial imagery of the Study Area (see Section 1.3.4 above). Following a Stage 2 property inspection, conducted according to Section 2.1.8, Standard 1 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011), the house, studio house, garage, and asphalt driveway, as well as the associated walking surfaces were evaluated as having no potential based on the identification of extensive and deep land alteration that has severely damaged the integrity of archaeological resources, as per Section 2.1, Standard 2b of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011). All of the visibly disturbed areas documented within the Study Area were mapped and photo documented in accordance with Section 2.1, Standard 6 and Section 7.8.1, Standard 1b of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011).

### 3.0 Record of Finds

The Stage 2 archaeological assessment was conducted employing the methods described in Section 2.0. An inventory of the documentary record generated by fieldwork is provided in Table 3 below.

**Table 3 : Inventory of Document Record**

| <b>Document Type</b>            | <b>Current Location</b> | <b>Additional Comments</b>       |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 Page of Field Notes           | Detritus' office        | Stored digitally in project file |
| 1 Map provided by the Proponent | Detritus' office        | Stored digitally in project file |
| 1 Field Map                     | Detritus' office        | Stored digitally in project file |
| 8 Digital Photographs           | Detritus' office        | Stored digitally in project file |

No archaeological resources were identified within the Study Area and so no material culture was collected. As a result, no storage arrangements were required.

## 4.0 Analysis and Conclusions

Detritus was retained by the Proponent to conduct a Stage 1-2 archaeological assessment on Part of Lot 32, Concession 1, within the Geographic Township of Humberstone, in the historical County of Welland, which is now the Town of Port Colborne in the Regional Municipality of Niagara, Ontario (Figure 1). This assessment was undertaken in advance of future development on part of the property at 19 Lakeshore Road West, Port Colborne (Figure 5).

The Study Area is a rectangular parcel measuring approximately 0.17 hectares ('ha'; Figure 1), fronting onto Lakeshore Road West, Port Colborne. At the time of the assessment, the Study Area comprised a manicured lawn with trees, a residential house, a studio house, a garage and asphalt driveway, and associated walking surfaces. The Study Area is bound by Lakeshore Road West to the south and residential properties to the east and west. The north side of the studio house defines the northern most extent of the property.

The Stage 1 background research indicated that the Study Area is within an area of archaeological potential. Given the archaeological potential of the Study Area, the location of the Study Area within the Town of Port Colborne, it was determined that the Study Area exhibited archaeological potential for the recovery of artifacts. A Stage 2 field assessment was recommended for the manicured lawn within the Study Area. The absence of disturbances within the Study Area was confirmed during a Stage 2 property inspection.

The Stage 1 field assessment was conducted on June 9, 2023. An initial property inspection revealed the Study Area to be dry and suitable for test pit survey. The subsequent Stage 2 field investigation consisted of a typical test pit survey conducted at five-metre (5m) intervals across the areas of manicured lawn with trees within the Study Area (Figure 3). This investigation resulted in the identification and documentation no artifacts.

The remaining existing built structures were evaluated as having no potential based on the identification of extensive and deep land alteration that has severely damaged the integrity of archaeological resources. These areas were mapped and photo documented only.

## 5.0 Recommendations

No archaeological resources were documented during the Stage 2 assessment of the Study Area. Therefore, **no further archaeological assessment of the Study Area is recommended.**

## 6.0 Advice on Compliance with Legislation

This report is submitted to the Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism as a condition of licensing in accordance with Part VI of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c 0.18. The report is reviewed to ensure that it complies with the standards and guidelines that are issued by the Minister, and that the archaeological fieldwork and report recommendations ensure the conservation, protection and preservation of the cultural heritage of Ontario. When all matters relating to archaeological sites within the project area of a development proposal have been addressed to the satisfaction of the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, a letter will be issued by the ministry stating that there are no further concerns with regard to alterations to archaeological sites by the proposed development.

It is an offence under Sections 48 and 69 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* for any party other than a licensed archaeologist to make any alteration to a known archaeological site or to remove any artifact or other physical evidence of past human use or activity from the site, until such time as a licensed archaeologist has completed archaeological fieldwork on the site, submitted a report to the Minister stating that the site has no further cultural heritage value or interest, and the report has been filed in the Ontario Public Register of Archaeology Reports referred to in Section 65.1 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

Should previously undocumented archaeological resources be discovered, they may be a new archaeological site and therefore subject to Section 48 (1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. The proponent or person discovering the archaeological resources must cease alteration of the site immediately and engage a licensed consultant archaeologist to carry out archaeological fieldwork, in compliance with Section 48 (1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

The *Cemeteries Act*, R.S.O. 1990 c. C.4 and the *Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act*, 2002, S.O. 2002, c.33 (when proclaimed in force) require that any person discovering human remains must notify the police or coroner and the Registrar of Cemeteries at the Ministry of Consumer Services.



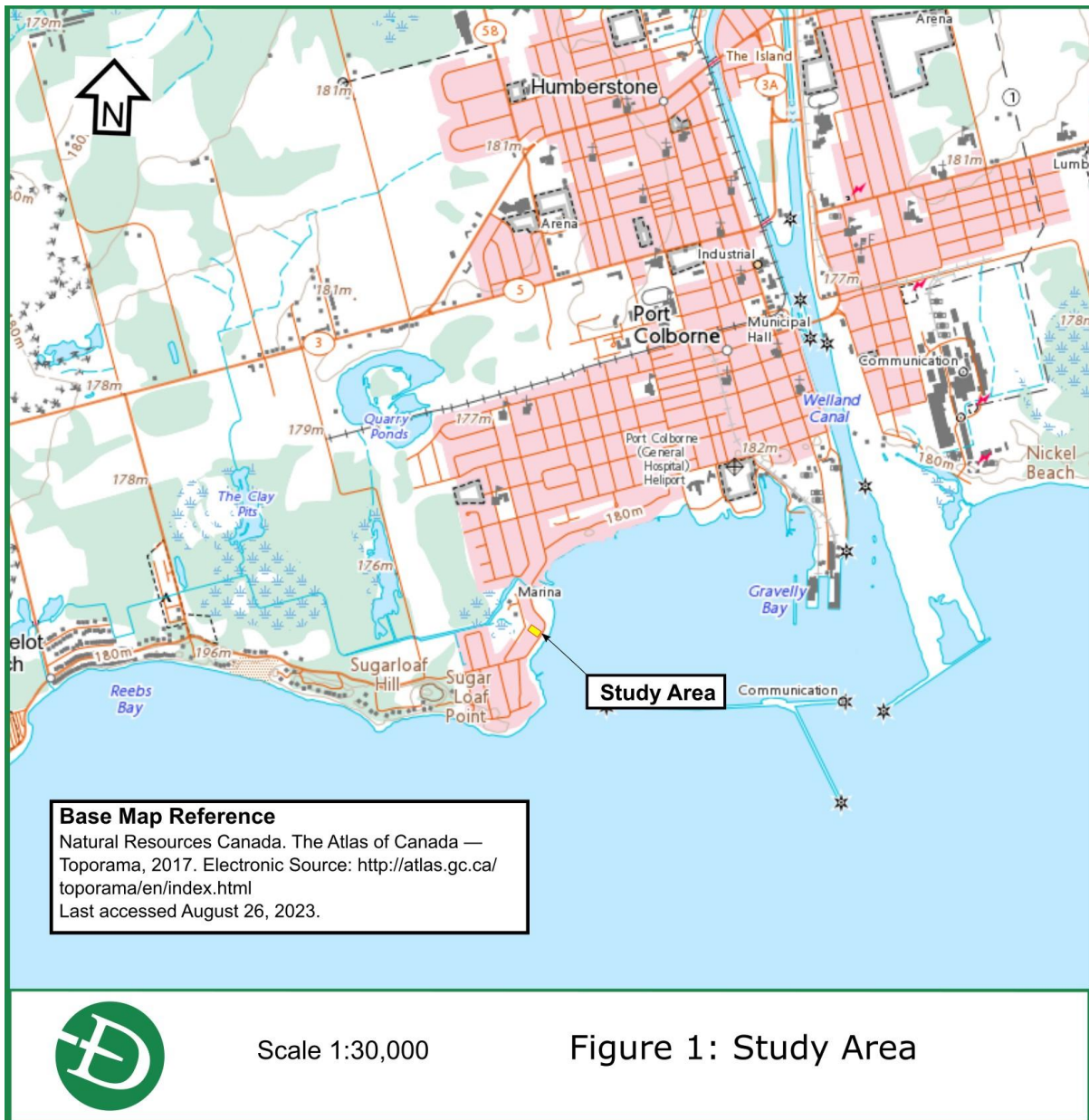
## 7.0 Bibliography and Sources

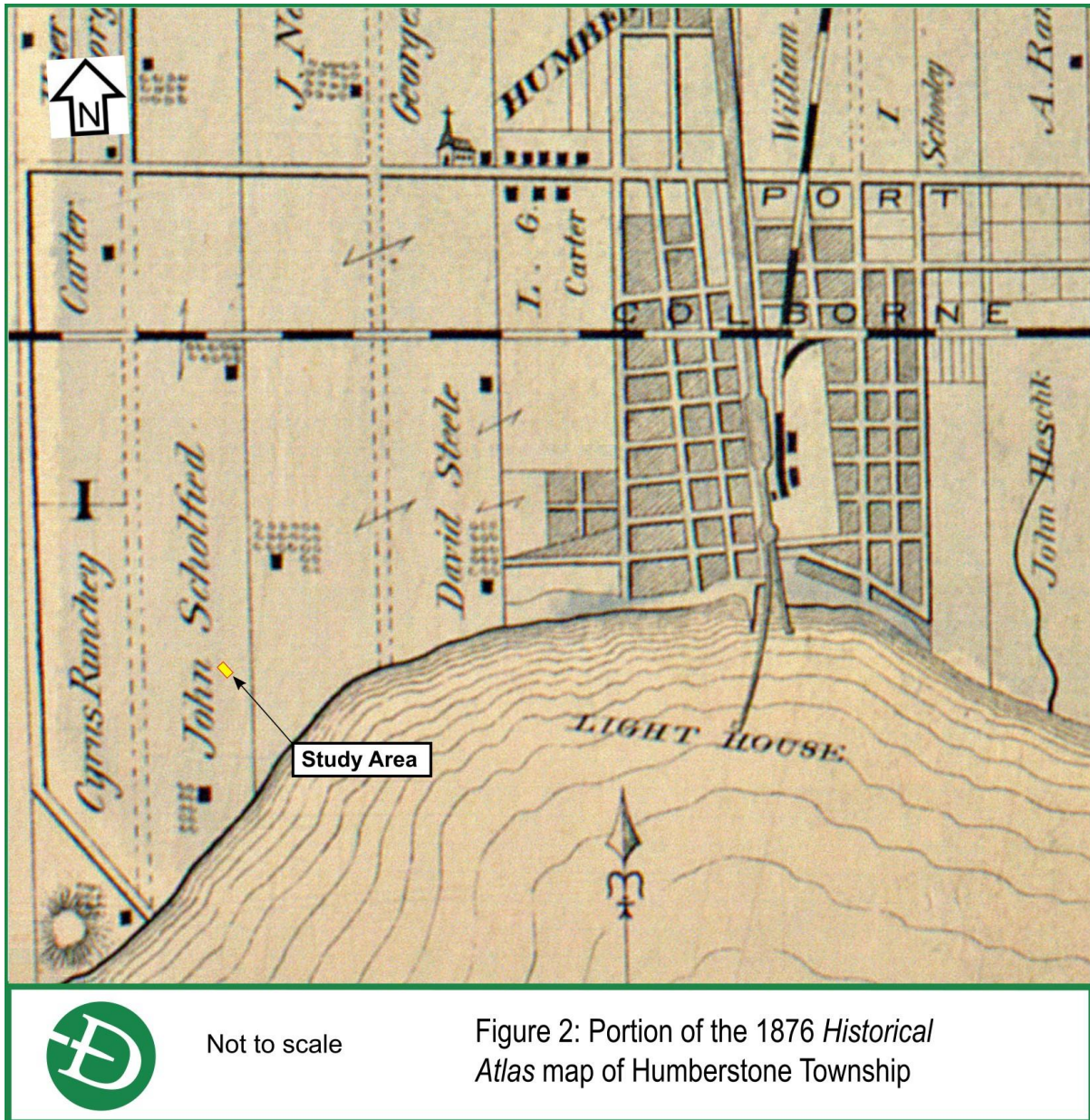
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## Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment of 19 Lakeshore Road West, Port Colborne

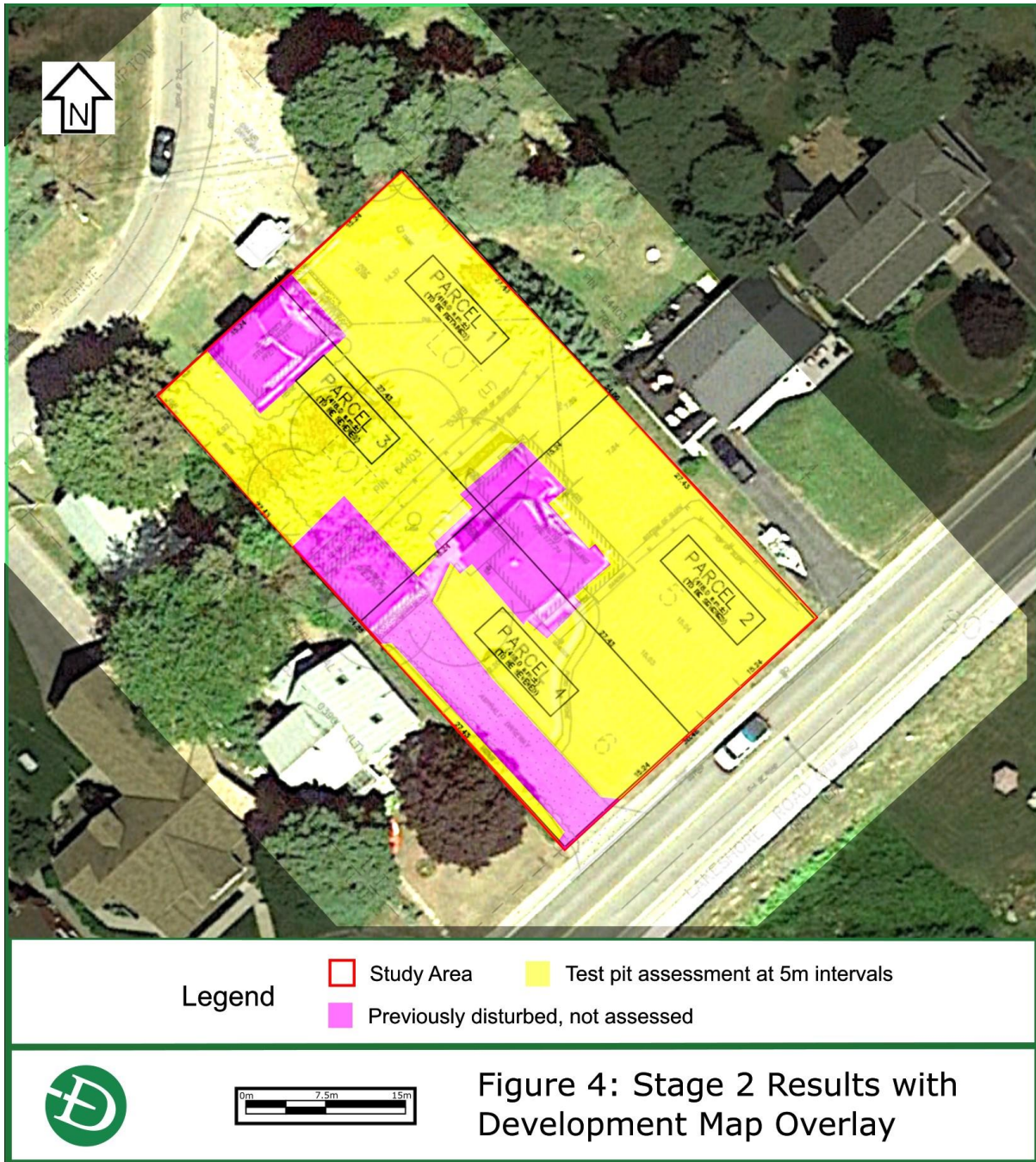
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## 8.0 Maps



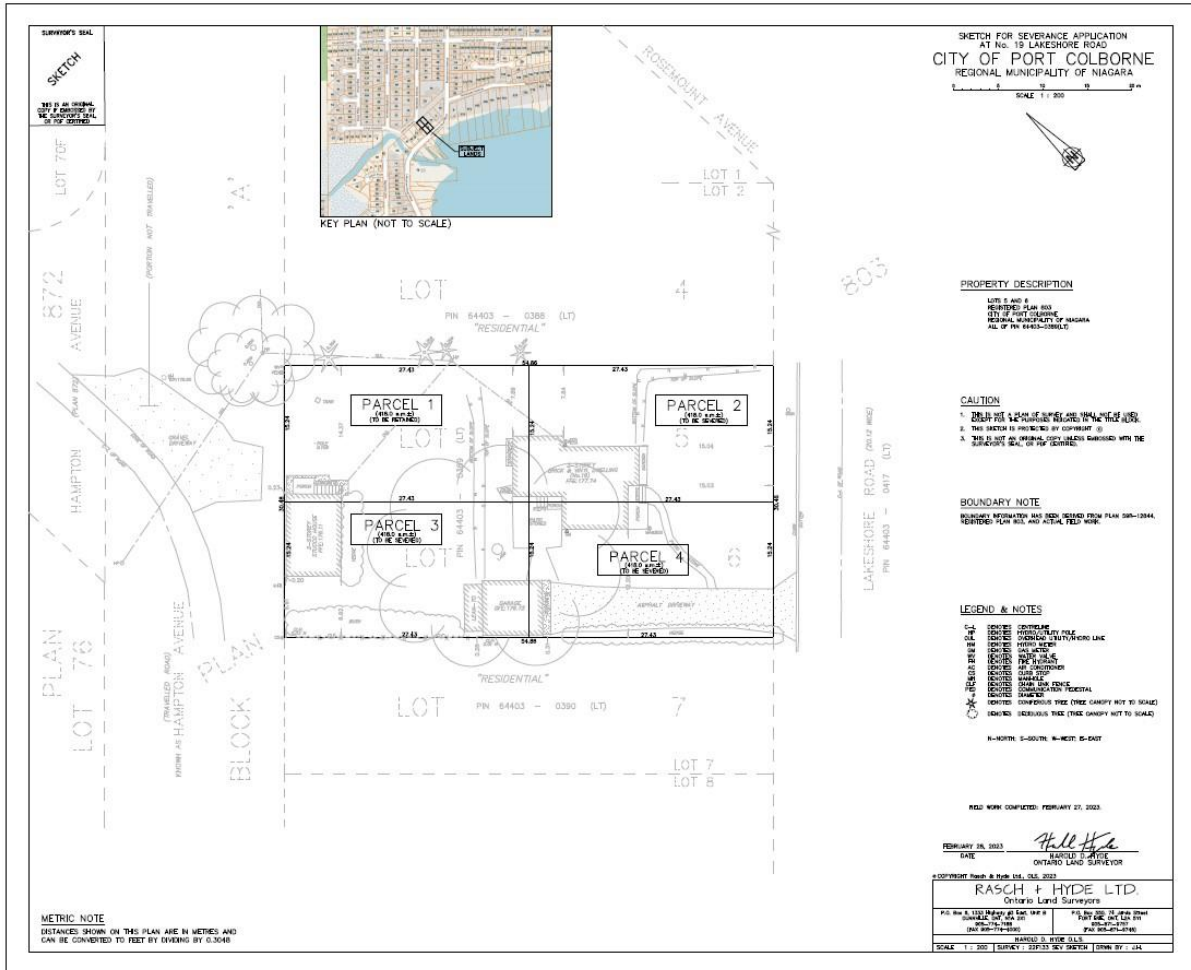






# Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment of 19 Lakeshore Road West, Port Colborne

Figure 5: The Assessed Property



## 9.0 Photos

**Photo 1:** Manicured Lawn and House; Test Pit Surveyed at 5m Intervals, Facing Northeast



**Photo 2:** Manicured Lawn and House; Test Pitted at 5m Intervals, Facing Northwest



**Photo 3:** Typical Test Pit



**Photo 4:** Manicured Lawn, Studio House, and Woodpile; Test Pitted at 5m Intervals, Facing North





Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment of 19 Lakeshore Road West, Port Colborne

**Photo 5:** Manicured Lawn and Studio House; Test Pitted at 5M Intervals, Facing Northwest



**Photo 6:** Manicured Lawn, House, Garage, and Studio House; Test Pitted at 5M Intervals, Facing Southwest



**Photo 7:** Typical Test Pit



**Photo 8:** Residential House, Garage, and Woodpile; Manicured Lawn Test Pit Surveyed at 5m, Facing South

