

**Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment
Part 1, 583 Fielden Avenue, City of Port Colborne**

Part of Lot 29, Concession 2,
Geographic Township of Humberstone,
Historical County of Welland,
Regional Municipality of Niagara.

Submitted to:

Kirk Guthro
2751 Chippawa Road
Port Colborne, Ontario
L3K 5V5

and

Ontario's Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries

Submitted by:



Detritus

CONSULTING LTD.

archaeology · heritage

69 Claremont Avenue, Kitchener Ontario, N2M 2P5

Mobile/Office: 519-744-7018

e-mail: garth@golden.net www.detcon.net

Licensee: Michael Pitul

License Number: P462

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ORIGINAL REPORT

January 12th, 2023

Executive Summary

Detritus Consulting Ltd. ('Detritus') was retained by Kirk Guthro ('the Proponent') to conduct a Stage 1-2 archaeological assessment on Part 1 of 583 Fielden Avenue, in the City of Port Colborne, Regional Municipality of Niagara, historically within the Geographic Township of Humberstone, County of Welland, Ontario. This investigation was conducted in advance of a proposed severance at the 'Study Area'; (Figure 1).

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 the conditions of this legislation, a Stage 1-2 assessment of the Study Area was conducted during the application phase of the proposed development under archaeological consulting license P462 issued to Mr. Michael Pitul 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 Subject Property is square in shape, measures 0.10 hectares ('ha'), and consists of a residential property including a house and separate parking structure with associated paved driveways. Only the portion of the property to be subject to a consent to sever application required archaeological assessment (Part 1, Figure 3). This reduced Study Area forms a rectangular shaped area, which measures 0.043 hectares ('ha'), and comprises primarily manicured grass and part of the eastern half of the parking structure. The Subject Property is bound by Beech Street to the north, Fielden Avenue to the west and further residential properties to the east and south.

The Stage 1 background research indicated that the Study Area exhibited a moderate to high potential for the identification and recovery of archaeological resources. As such, a Stage 2 archaeological assessment was recommended for the manicured grass components of the Study Area. The eastern portion of the parking structure was determined to retain no archaeological potential based on the identification of extensive and deep land alteration that has severely damaged the integrity of archaeological resources. The disturbed areas were mapped and photo-documented.

The subsequent Stage 2 assessment was conducted on November 11th, 2023 and consisted of a test pit survey conducted at 5m intervals as per Section 2.1.1, Standard 1 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011). No material culture was encountered during surveys. Given the results of the Stage 1-2 assessment and the recovery no archaeological resources, **no further archaeological assessment of the Study Area is recommended.**

This recommendation applies to the portion of the subject property to be subject to construction and development activities, and that was included in the current Study Area. **If in the future the remaining portions of the property, which were not included in the current Study Area will be impacted by development, then a Stage 1 archaeological assessment is required,** conducted according to Section 1.1 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011). This investigation will assess the development area's potential for the recovery of archaeological resources and will provide specific direction for the protection, management and/or recovery of these resources, as per Sections 1.3 and 1.4 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011).

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

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	ii
1.0 Project Context	1
1.1 Development Context	1
1.2 Historical Context.....	2
1.2.1 Post-Contact Indigenous Resources.....	2
1.2.2 Euro-Canadian Resources	3
1.3 Archaeological Context.....	4
1.3.1 Property Description and Physical Setting	4
1.3.2 Pre-Contact Land Use.....	4
1.3.3 Previous Identified Archaeological Work.....	5
1.3.4 Archaeological Potential	5
2.0 Field Methods	7
3.0 Record of Finds.....	8
4.0 Analysis and Conclusions.....	9
5.0 Recommendations.....	10
6.0 Advice on Compliance with Legislation	11
7.0 Bibliography and Sources	12
8.0 Maps.....	14
9.0 Photos.....	18

Project Personnel

Project Manager:	Garth Grimes, P017
Field Director:	Michael Pitul, P462
Field Technicians:	Alysha Gullion
Report Preparation:	Jessie Rae
Mapping and GIS:	Jessie Rae
Licensee Review:	

Acknowledgments

Generous contributions by Kirk Guthro made this report possible.

1.0 Project Context

1.1 Development Context

Detritus Consulting Ltd. ('Detritus') was retained by Kirk Guthro ('the Proponent') to conduct a Stage 1-2 archaeological assessment on Part 1 of 583 Fielden Avenue, in the City of Port Colborne, Regional Municipality of Niagara, historically within the Geographic Township of Humberstone, County of Welland, Ontario. This investigation was conducted in advance of a proposed severance at the 'Study Area'; (Figure 1).

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 the conditions of this legislation, a Stage 1-2 assessment of the Study Area was conducted during the application phase of the proposed development under archaeological consulting license P017 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 was 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 Stage 2 assessment were as follows:

- 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, the Niagara region was occupied by the Neutral, or Attawandaron tribe. The earliest recorded visit was undertaken by Étienne Brûlé, an interpreter and guide for Samuel de Champlain. In June 1610, Brûlé requested permission to live among the Algonquin people and to learn their language and customs. In return, Champlain agreed to take on a young Huron named Savignon and to teach him the language and customs of the French. The purpose of this endeavour was to establish good relations with Aboriginal communities in advance of future military and colonial enterprises in the area. In 1615, Brûlé joined twelve Huron warriors on a mission to cross enemy territory and seek out the Andaste people, allies of the Huron, and ask for their assistance in an expedition being planned by Champlain. The mission was a success, but took much longer than anticipated. Brûlé returned with the Andaste two days too late to help Champlain and the Hurons, who had already been defeated by the Iroquois (Heidenreich 1990).

Throughout the middle of the 17th century, the Iroquois of the Five Nations sought to expand upon their territory and to monopolise the local fur trade as well as trade between the European markets and the tribes of the western Great Lakes. A series of bloody conflicts followed known as the Beaver Wars, or the French and Iroquois Wars, were contested between the Iroquois and the French with their Huron and other Algonquian speaking allies of the Great Lakes region. Many communities were destroyed including the Huron, Neutral, Erie, 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. By 1667, all members of the Five Nations had signed a peace treaty with the French and allowed their missionaries to visit their villages (Heidenreich 1990).

Ten years later, hostilities between the French and the Iroquois resumed after the latter formed an alliance with the British through an agreement known as the Covenant Chain (Heidenreich 1990). In 1696, an aging Louis de Buade, Comte de Frontenac et de Palluau, the Governor General of New France, rallied the Algonquin forces and drove the Iroquois out of the territories north of Lake Erie, as well as those west of present-day Cleveland, Ohio. A second treaty was concluded between the French and the Iroquois in 1701, after which the Iroquois remained mostly neutral (Jamieson 1992; Noble 1978).

Throughout the late 17th and early 18th centuries, various Iroquoian-speaking communities had been migrating into southern Ontario from New York State. In 1722, the Five Nations adopted the Tuscarora in New York becoming the Six Nations (Pendergast 1995). This period also marks the arrival of the Mississaugas into Southern Ontario and, in particular, the watersheds of the lower Great Lakes (Konrad 1981; Schmalz 1991). The oral traditions of the Mississaugas, as told by Chief Robert Paudash, 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 and, at the end of the 17th century, the Mississaugas settled permanently in Southern Ontario (Praxis Research Associates n.d.). Around this same time, members of the Three Fires Confederacy (Chippewa, Ottawa, and Potawatomi) began immigrating from Ohio and Michigan into southeastern Ontario (Feest and Feest 1978).

The current Study Area falls within the lands surrendered by Treaty Number 3. According to Morris, Treaty Number 3,

...this Grant was composed of the following Townships: Dunn, Sherbrooke, Moulton, Canborough, North and South Cayuga, Oneida and Seneca in Haldimand County; Tusc[aro]ra, Onondaga, Brantford and South Dumfries in Brant County; North Dumfries, Waterloo and Woolwich in Waterloo County; Pilkington and Nichol in Wellington County; and is described as a parcel or tract of land six miles on each side of the Ouse or Grand River from it's mouth toward its source, to be bounded by the tract of land deeded December the 7th, 1792 by the Mississag[u]ga Chiefs and people to the Crown. This part was set aside as a suitable retreat for the Six Nation Indians who had shewn attachment and

Fidelity to the British Government during the troublous times 1759 to 1783 and was granted to the Chiefs, Warriors, Women and People of the Six Nations and their heirs forever.

Morris 1943: 19-21

The size and nature of the pre-contact settlements and the subsequent spread and distribution of Aboriginal material culture in Southern Ontario began to shift with the establishment of European settlers. 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 & Co. 1879; Tanner 1987; Weaver 1978). Despite the inevitable 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 2009:114). 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 in the Geographic Township of Humberstone, within historic Welland County, now the Regional Municipality of Niagara, Ontario.

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 and he spearheaded several initiatives to populate the province including the establishment of shoreline communities with effective transportation links between them (Coyne 1895:33).

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 and Coffman 1956:17-18).

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 (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 (the two counties would be amalgamated once again in 1970 to form the Regional Municipality of Niagara).

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 & Co 1876; Figure 2). Landowners are listed for most lots within the township, many of which had been subdivided multiple times into smaller parcels to accommodate an increasing population throughout the late 19th century. Structures and orchards are prevalent throughout the township, almost all of which front early roads and water bodies.

The 1876 *Historical Atlas* map of Lincoln and Welland Townships (Page & Co 1876; Figure 2) doesn't list any landowners for the parcel in which the Study Area lies. Although no landowner is depicted on the historical atlas, according to Niagara Settlers Land Records, portions of Lot 29, Concession 2 were bought and sold between the Neff Family beginning the year 1798 when The

Crown granted a patent to Abraham Neff for all 200 acres of Lot 29, Concession 2 (Mutrie, n.d.). Portions of this parcel were within the Neff family until the year 1865 when parts of Lot 29 were sold to George Augustine, the first individual to own outside of the family.

Although significant and detailed landowner information is available on the current *Historical Atlas*, it should be recognized that historical county atlases were funded by subscriptions 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 Subject Property is a square shaped parcel measuring approximately 0.10 hectares ('ha') and consists of a residential property including a house and separate parking structure with associated paved driveways. Only the portion of the property to be subject to severance required archaeological assessment (Figure 3). This reduced Study Area forms a rectangular shaped area, which measures 0.043 hectares ('ha'), and comprises primarily manicured grass and part of the eastern half of the parking structure. The Subject Property is bound by Beech Street to the north, Fielden Avenue to the west and further residential properties to the east and south.

The Study Area is located within the Haldimand Clay Plain physiographic region. According to Chapman and Putnam,

...although it was all submerged in Lake Warren, the till is not all buried by stratified clay; it comes to the surface generally in low morainic ridges in the north. In fact, there is in that area a confused intermixture of stratified clay and till. The northern part has more relief than the southern part where the typically level lake plains occur.

Chapman & Putnam 1984:156

Haldimand Clay is slowly permeable, imperfectly drained with medium to high water-holding capacities. Surface runoff is usually rapid, but water retention of the clayey soils can cause it to be droughty during dry periods (Kingston & Presant 1989). The soil is suitable for corn and soy beans in rotation with cereal grains as well as alfalfa and clover (Huffman & Dumanski 1986).

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 (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 19th century, Euro-Canadian settlers began to clear the forests for agricultural purposes.

The closest source of potable water is the Welland Canal, located 523m east of the Study Area.

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

1.3.3 Previous Identified Archaeological Work

In order to compile an inventory of archaeological resources, the registered archaeological site records kept by the MCM were consulted. In Ontario, information concerning archaeological sites stored in the ASDB (Government of Ontario n.d.) is maintained by the MCM. This database 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 13 kilometres ('km') 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 under review is within Borden Block AfGt.

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 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, three archaeological sites have been registered within a 1km radius of the Study Area (Table 2). All three have been identified as Aboriginal sites and belonging to either Archaic, Pre or Post Contact time periods.

Table 2: Registered Archaeological Sites within 1km of the Study Area

Borden Number	Site Name	Time Period	Affinity	Site Type	Current Development Review Status
AfGt-82	Wildwood	Post-Contact, Pre-Contact	Aboriginal, Euro-Canadian	Unknown	
AfGt-347	23-354P1	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	Scatter	No Further CHVI
AfGt-101	Sugarloaf	Archaic, late	Aboriginal	Other camp/campsite, workshop	

The best of Detritus' knowledge, no other assessments have been conducted adjacent to the Study Area. No sites are registered within 50m.

1.3.4 Archaeological Potential

Archaeological potential is established by determining the likelihood that archaeological resources may be present on a subject property. As part of the current investigation, Detritus applied archaeological potential criteria commonly used by the MCM to confirm the areas of archaeological potential documented within the Study Area. According to Section 1.3.1 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011), 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. As per Section 1.3.1 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011), water sources may be categorized 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 Welland Canal, located 523m east 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.

Finally, despite the factors mentioned above, extensive land disturbance can eradicate archaeological potential within a Study Area, as per Section 1.3.2 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011). Current aerial imagery identified areas of potential disturbance within the Study Area, which comprises the eastern portion of a parking structure (see Section 1.3.1 above). It is recommended that these areas be subject to a Stage 2 property inspection, conducted according to Section 2.1.8, Standard 1 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011), Section 1.2 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011), to confirm and document the degree and extent of the disturbance.

2.0 Field Methods

The Stage 2 assessment of the Study Area was conducted on November 11th, 2023, under archaeological consulting license PO17 issued to Mr. Garth Grimes by the MCM. The limits of the Study Area were surveyed and marked by the Proponent prior to the assessment.

At the time of primary assessment, the conditions were sunny with a high of 5 °C. Assessment conditions were excellent and at no time were the field, weather, or lighting conditions detrimental to the recovery of archaeological material. Photos 1-5 illustrate the assessment conditions throughout the Study Area at the time of the survey, including areas that met the requirements for a Stage 2 field assessment, as per Section 7.8.6, Standards 1a and b of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011). Figure 3 provides an illustration of the Stage 2 assessment methods in relation to the proposed development of the Study Area, as well as photograph locations and directions.

Approximately 86% of the Study Area comprised manicured lawn. 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 1-10). Test pits were excavated to within 1m of all standing structures, or until test pits demonstrated evidence of recent ground disturbance as per Section 2.1.2, Standard 4 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011). All test pits were at least 30 centimetres ('cm') in diameter and were 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 since no artifacts were identified during the test pit survey.

The remaining 14% of the Study Area comprised the 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 eastern portion of the parking structure was 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 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 2: Inventory of Document Record

Document Type	Current Location	Additional Comments
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
6 digital photographs	Detritus office	stored digitally in project file

No archaeological resources were identified within the Study Area during the Stage 2 assessment; therefore, no artifacts were collected. As a result, no storage arrangements are required.

4.0 Analysis and Conclusions

Detritus Consulting Ltd. ('Detritus') was retained by Kirk Guthro ('the Proponent') to conduct a Stage 1-2 archaeological assessment on 583 Fielden Avenue in the City of Port Colborne, Regional Municipality of Niagara, historically within the Geographic Township of Humberstone, County of Welland, Ontario. This investigation was conducted in advance of a proposed severance on Part 1 of the Subject Property. (the 'Study Area'; Figure 1).

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 the conditions of this legislation, a Stage 1-2 assessment of the Study Area was conducted during the application phase of the proposed development under archaeological consulting license P017 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 Subject Property is a square shaped parcel measuring approximately 0.10 hectares ('ha') and consists of a residential property including a house and separate parking structure with associated paved driveways. Only the portion of the property to be subject to severance required archaeological assessment (Figure 3). This reduced Study Area forms a rectangular shaped area, which measures 0.043 hectares ('ha'), and comprises primarily manicured grass and part of the eastern half of the parking structure. The Subject Property is bound by Beech Street to the north, Fielden Avenue to the west and further residential properties to the east and south.

At the time of the Stage 1 assessment, aerial imagery suggested that the Study Area comprised the eastern portion of a parking structure and manicured grass. The Stage 1 background research indicated that the entire Study Area exhibited potential for the identification and recovery of archaeological resources. Therefore, a Stage 2 assessment was recommended for the entire Study Area.

The Stage 2 field assessment was conducted on November 11th, 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 of the area. This investigation resulted in the identification and documentation of no artifacts.

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.**

This recommendation applies to the portion of the development property that may be subject to developmental impacts according to the current SPA, and which was included within the current Study Area. **If in the future, the portion of the property not included within the current Study Area (Figure 4) will be impacted by development, then a Stage 1 archaeological assessment is required,** conducted according to Section 1.1 of the Standards and Guidelines (Government of Ontario 2011). This investigation will assess the development area's potential for the recovery of archaeological resources and will provide specific direction for the protection, management and/or recovery of these resources, as per Sections 1.3 and 1.4 of the Standards and Guidelines (Government of Ontario 2011).

6.0 Advice on Compliance with Legislation

This report is submitted to the Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries 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 Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries, 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*.

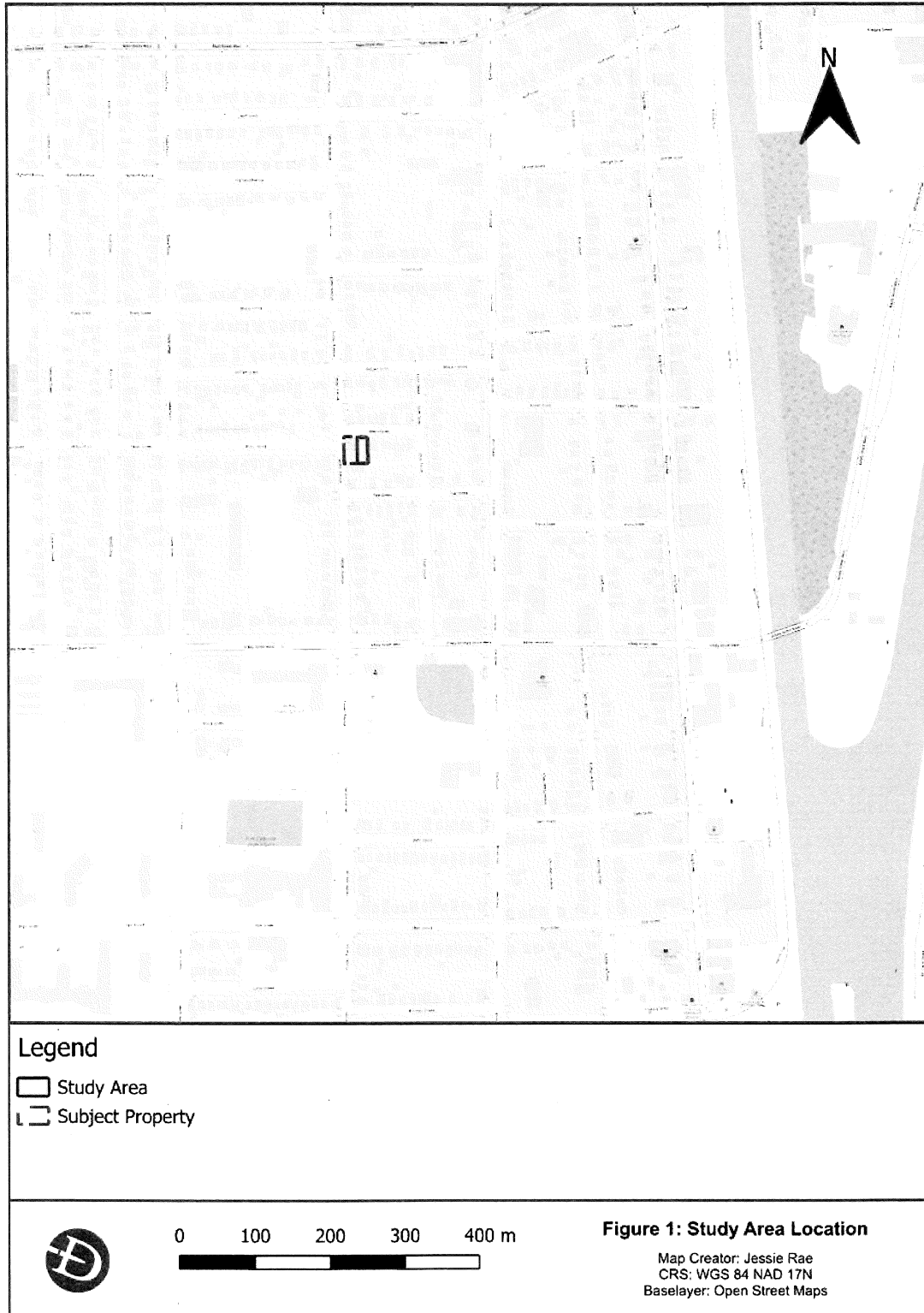
The *Cemeteries Act*, R.S.O. 1990 c. C.4 and the *Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act*, 2002, S.O. 2002, c.33 (when proclaimed in force) require that any person discovering human remains must notify the police or coroner and the Registrar of Cemeteries at the Ministry of Consumer Services.

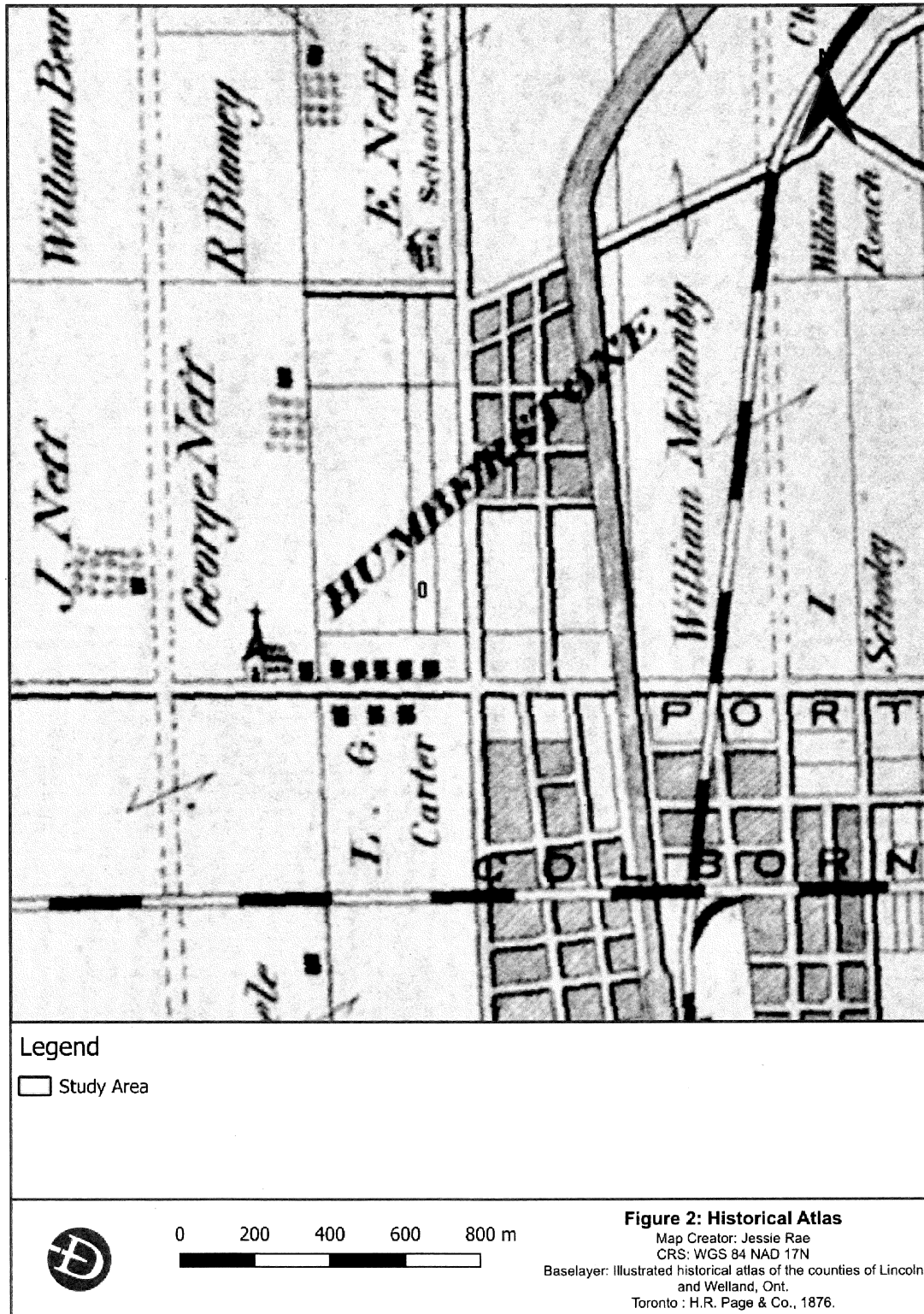
7.0 Bibliography and Sources

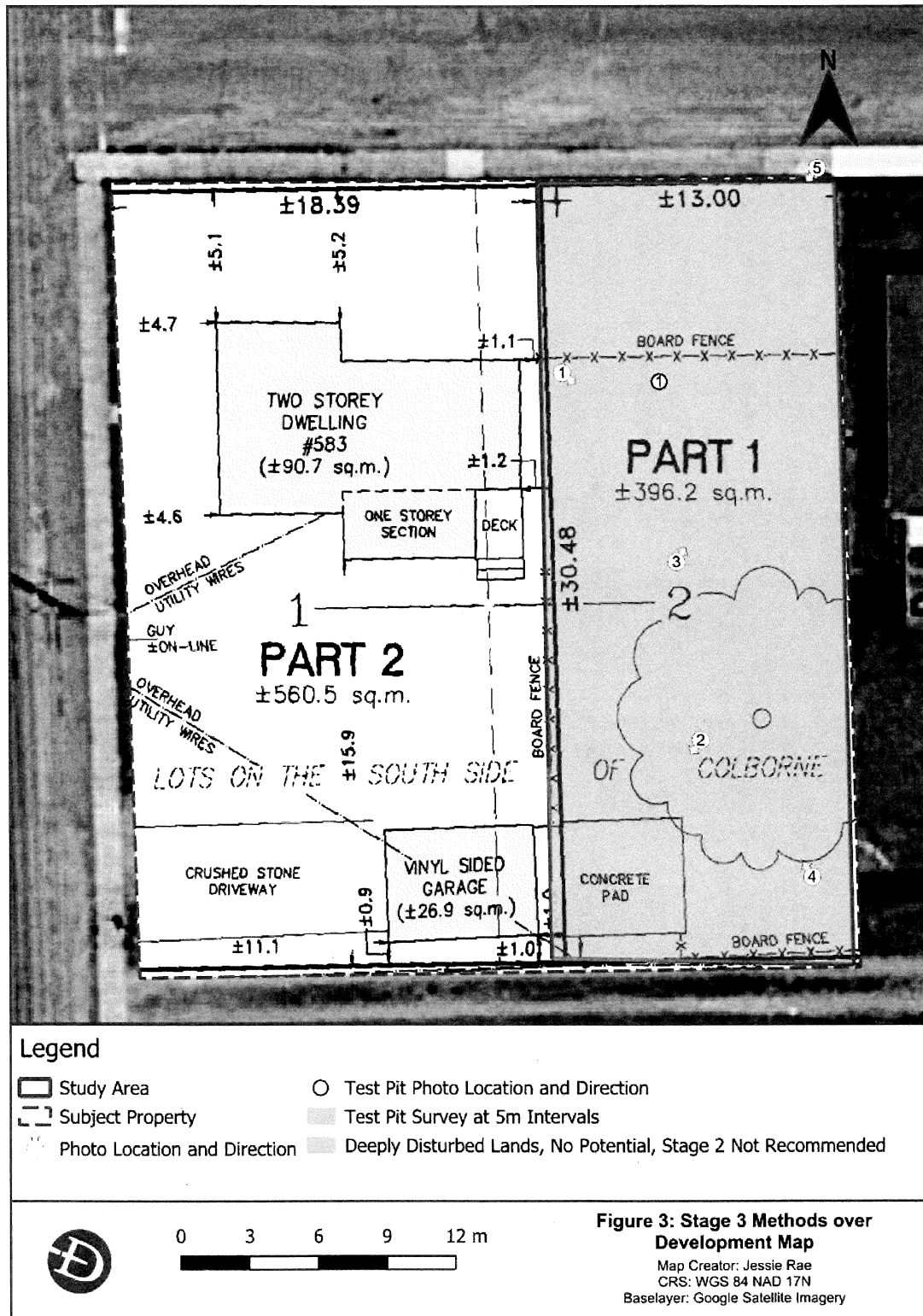
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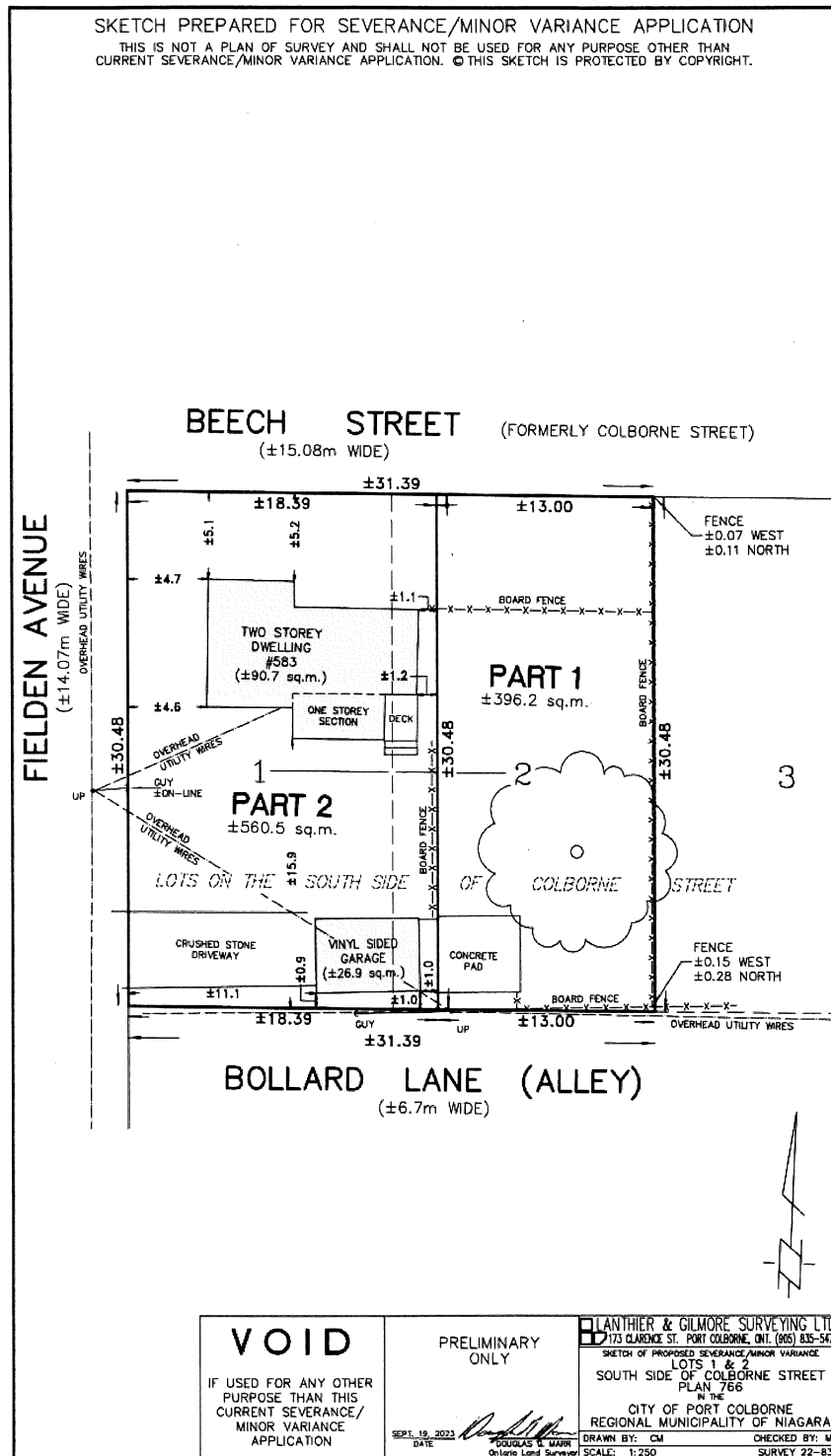
8.0 Maps







Development Map



9.0 Photos

Photo 1: Manicured grass; Test Pit Surveyed at 5m Intervals, Facing Southeast



Photo 2: Parking structure and associated gravel; Disturbed, facing Southwest



Photo 3: Manicured grass; Test Pit Surveyed at 5m intervals; Facing Northeast



Photo 4: Manicured Grass; Test Pit Surveyed at 5m Intervals, Facing North



Photo 5: Manicured grass; Test Pit Surveyed at 5m Intervals, Facing Southwest



Photo 6: Test Pit Photo Location #1

