Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment
Property Severance
95 Victoria Street
Part 1 of Lot 8 (N/S Victoria Street), Registered Plan 848
City of Port Colborne
Lot 28, Concession 1
Geographic Township of Humberstone
Former Welland County
Now Regional Municipality of Niagara, Ontario

Original Report

Submitted to:
Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism

Prepared for:
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Licensee:	Amanda Parks, MA (P450)
PIF No:	P450-0122-2024
Project No:	2023-514
Dated:	May 27, 2024

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A Stage 1 and 2 archaeological assessment was conducted for a proposed property severance at 95 Victoria Street, located in Port Colborne, in the Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region), Ontario. Specifically, the project area is limited to the 0.05 ha (0.12 ac) parcel to be severed, which is located within Lot 28, Concession 1, in the Geographic Township of Humberstone, former Welland County, encompassing Part 1 of Lot 8 (N/S Victoria Street), Registered Plan 848. The project area contains an asphalt driveway and manicured grass. In 2023, TMHC Inc. (TMHC) was contracted by Julie Cule to conduct the assessment, which was conducted in accordance with the provisions of the *Planning Act* and *Provincial Policy Statement*. The work was also in keeping with *Niagara Region Archaeological Management Plan* (Niagara Region 2023), a guide for assessing potential archaeological impacts in land use planning in the Niagara Region. The purpose of the assessment was to determine whether there were archaeological resources present within the project area.

The Stage 1 background study included a review of current land use, historic and modern maps, past settlement history for the area and a consideration of topographic and physiographic features, soils and drainage. It also involved a review of previously registered archaeological resources within 1 km of the project area and previous archaeological assessments within 50 m. The background study indicated that the property had potential for the recovery of archaeological resources due the proximity (i.e., within 300 m) of features that signal archaeological potential, namely:

- a previously identified archaeological site (AfGt-82);
- areas of early 19th-century settlement (Port Colborne);
- an early transportation route (Buffalo, Brantford and Goderich Railway)
- 19th-century thoroughfares (Sugarloaf, Adelaide, Victoria, Kent, Elm, Catharine, King, and West Streets);
- 19th-century churches;
- 19th-century cemeteries; and,
- registered heritage properties.

As well, the *Niagara Region Archaeological Management Plan* identifies the project area as having archaeological potential.

The project area consists of non-ploughable lands; these were subject to Stage 2 assessment via standard test pit survey at a 5 m transect interval (80%; 0.04 ha), in keeping with provincial standards. The remainder of the project area consists of built features that were previously disturbed, deemed of low archaeological potential and were photo-documented (20%; 0.01 ha).

All work met provincial standards and no archaeological material was documented during the assessment. As such, no further archaeological assessment is recommended.

Should proposed impacts extend into the parcel to be retained, then additional assessment of the property may be required.

These recommendations are subject to the conditions laid out in Section 5.0, and to the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism's (MCM's) review and acceptance of this report into the provincial register of archaeological reports.

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PROJECT PERSONNEL

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Project Administrators	Kellie Theaker, CHRP
	Victoria Scott, MA, MLis
	Sara Harvey
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	Patryk Weglorz, MSc (R1170)
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	Casey Lun, MSc
Senior Reviewer	Matthew Beaudoin, PhD (P324)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Julie Cule	Property Owner

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The project area is located on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek (Ah-nish-in-a-bek), Haudenosaunee (Ho-den-no-show-nee), and Ojibway/Chippewa peoples on lands connected with the Between the Lakes Treaty (Treaty 3). Most recently, the territory is of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation who are direct descendants of the Mississauga of the Credit, and the Six Nations of the Grand River. This land continues to be home to diverse Indigenous peoples (e.g., First Nations, Métis and Inuit) whom we recognize as contemporary stewards of the land and vital contributors of our society.

ABOUT TMHC

Established in 2003 with a head office in London, Ontario, TMHC Inc. (TMHC) provides a broad range of archaeological assessment, heritage planning and interpretation, cemetery, and community consultation services throughout the Province of Ontario. We specialize in providing heritage solutions that suit the past and present for a range of clients and intended audiences, while meeting the demands of the regulatory environment. Over the past two decades, TMHC has grown to become one of the largest privately-owned heritage consulting firms in Ontario and is today the largest predominately woman-owned CRM business in Canada.

Since 2004, TMHC has held retainers with Infrastructure Ontario, Hydro One, the Ministry of Transportation, Metrolinx, the City of Hamilton, and Niagara Parks Commission. In 2013, TMHC earned the Ontario Archaeological Society's award for Excellence in Cultural Resource Management. Our seasoned expertise and practical approach have allowed us to manage a wide variety of large, complex, and highly sensitive projects to successful completion. Through this work, we have gained corporate experience in helping our clients work through difficult issues to achieve resolution.

TMHC is skilled at meeting established deadlines and budgets, maintaining a healthy and safe work environment, and carrying out quality heritage activities to ensure that all projects are completed diligently and safely. Additionally, we have developed long-standing relationships of trust with Indigenous and descendent communities across Ontario and a good understanding of community interests and concerns in heritage matters, which assists in successful project completion.

TMHC is a Living Wage certified employer with the Ontario Living Wage Network and a member of the Canadian Federation for Independent Business.

KEY STAFF BIOS

Matthew Beaudoin, PhD – Principal

Matthew received a PhD in Anthropology from Western University in 2013 and has a professional archaeological license with the Province of Ontario (P324). During his archaeological career, Matthew has conducted extensive field research and artifact analysis in Labrador and Ontario, and has taught the Field Methods Course and Principals of archaeology courses as a part-time faculty member at Western University. Matthew has also conducted ethnographic projects in Labrador, and has volunteered with the OAS to provide archaeological training to several Indigenous communities throughout the province.

Over the course of his career, Matthew has supervised over 800 archaeological assessments in Ontario, including Stages 1-4, under a variety of regulatory triggers including provincial and municipal Environmental Assessments, Green Energy projects, development projects under the *Planning Act*, and as due diligence process. Matthew has extensive experience managing large and complex archaeological projects in conjunction with other disciplines, specialists, and Indigenous communities including Enbridge Line 10 Westover Segment, Imperial Oil from Waterdown to Finch, and Highway 3 Widening in Kingsville. Since joining TMHC in 2008, Matthew has also been involved with several notable projects, such as the archaeological assessment of Stoney Point/Camp Ipperwash. For these and other projects, Matthew works closely with heritage staff at TMHC and with heritage staff employed by clients and stakeholder communities.

Matthew is an active member of the Canadian Archaeological Association, the Ontario Archaeological Society, the Society for American Archaeology, and the Society for Historical Archaeology.

Amanda Parks, MA – Manager – Environmental Assessments Project Division

Amanda began her career in archaeology in 2004 and has dedicated her work to the conservation of cultural heritage resources in Ontario. Amanda has worked on numerous Stage 1-4 archaeological assessments in a multitude of roles: project manager, field director, report writer, artifact analyst, and engagement specialist. Regarding the latter, Amanda has worked regularly with Indigenous communities throughout Ontario, engaging communities for archaeological projects, environmental assessments, and property management plans. She has established good working relationships with communities by focusing on a collaborative approach to the protection and documentation of archaeological sites.

Amanda earned a BA in Archaeological Science from the University of Toronto in 2012 and completed her MA in Applied Archaeology at Western in 2018. Her masters research focused on the sweat baths at the Redeemer site, a Middle Ontario Iroquoian site located in the City of Hamilton.

STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS AND LIMITATIONS

The attached Report (the "Report") has been prepared by TMHC Inc. (TMHC) for the benefit of the Client (the "Client") in accordance with the agreement between TMHC and the Client, including the scope of work detailed therein (the "Agreement").

The information, data, recommendations and conclusions contained in the Report (collectively, the "Information"):

- is subject to the scope, schedule, and other constraints and limitations in the Agreement and the qualifications contained in the Report (the "Limitations");
- represents TMHC's professional judgment in light of the Limitation and industry standards for the preparation of similar reports;
- may be based on information provided to TMHC which has not been independently verified;
- has not been updated since the date of issuance of the Report and its accuracy is limited to the time period and circumstances in which it was collected, processed, made or issued;
- must be read as a whole and sections thereof should not be read out of such context; and
- was prepared for the specific purposes described in the Report and the Agreement.

TMHC shall be entitled to rely upon the accuracy and completeness of information that was provided to it and has no obligation to update such information. TMHC accepts no responsibility for any events or circumstances that may have occurred since the date on which the Report was prepared and, in the case of subsurface, environmental or geotechnical conditions, is not responsible for any variability in such conditions, geographically or over time.

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This Statement of Qualifications and Limitations is attached to and forms part of the Report and any use of the Report is subject to the terms hereof.

QUALITY INFORMATION

Report prepared by: _____

Casey Lun, MSc

Report Writer

Project managed by: _____

Amanda Parks, MA (P450)

Manager – Environmental Assessments Project Division

Report reviewed by: _____

Matthew Beaudoin, PhD (P324)

Principal

1 PROJECT CONTEXT

1.1 Development Context

1.1.1 Introduction

A Stage 1 and 2 archaeological assessment was conducted for a proposed property severance at 95 Victoria Street, located in Port Colborne, in the Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region), Ontario. Specifically, the project area is limited to the 0.05 ha (0.12 ac) parcel to be severed, which is located within Lot 28, Concession 1, in the Geographic Township of Humberstone, former Welland County, encompassing Part 1 of Lot 8 (N/S Victoria Street), Registered Plan 848. The project area contains an asphalt driveway and manicured grass. In 2023, TMHC Inc. (TMHC) was contracted by the property owner to conduct the assessment, which was conducted in accordance with the provisions of the *Planning Act* and *Provincial Policy Statement*. The work was also in keeping with *Niagara Region Archaeological Management Plan* (Niagara Region 2023), a guide for assessing potential archaeological impacts in land use planning in the Niagara Region. The purpose of the assessment was to determine whether there were archaeological resources present within the project area.

All archaeological assessment activities were performed under the professional archaeological license of Amanda Parks, MA (P450) and in accordance with the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (MTC 2011, "Standards and Guidelines"). Permission to enter the property and carry out all required archaeological activities, including collecting artifacts when found, was given by the property owner.

1.1.2 Purpose and Legislative Context

The *Ontario Heritage Act* (R.S.O. 1990) makes provisions for the protection and conservation of heritage resources in the Province of Ontario. Heritage concerns are recognized as a matter of provincial interest in Section 2.6.2 of the *Provincial Policy Statement* (PPS 2020) which states:

> *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*.

In the PPS, the term conserved means:

> the identification, protection, management and use of *built heritage resources, cultural heritage landscapes* and *archaeological resources* in a manner that ensures their cultural heritage value or interest is retained. This may be achieved by the implementation of recommendations set out in a conservation plan, archaeological assessment and/or heritage impact assessment that has been approved, accepted or adopted by the relevant planning authority and/or decision-maker. Mitigative measures and/or alternative development approaches can be included in these plans and assessments.

Sections 2 (d) and 3.5 of the *Planning Act* stipulate that municipalities shall have regard for their conservation of features of significant architectural, cultural, historical, archaeological or scientific interest. Therefore, the purpose of a Stage 1 background study is to determine if there is potential for archaeological resources to be found on a property for which a change in land use is pending. It is used to determine the need for a Stage 2 field assessment involving the search for archaeological sites. In accordance with *Provincial Policy Statement* 2.6, if significant sites are found, a strategy (usually avoidance, preservation or excavation) must be put forth for their mitigation.

The *Niagara Region Archaeological Management Plan* (Niagara Region 2023), as part of the New Niagara Official Plan, is a planning tool developed to implement these requirements by identifying areas where there is potential for archaeological sites to exist. If properties are deemed to have potential for archaeological sites, a Stage 1 and 2 archaeological assessment is required.

2 STAGE 1 BACKGROUND REVIEW

2.1 Research Methods and Sources

A Stage 1 overview and background study was conducted to gather information about known and potential cultural heritage resources within the project area. According to the *Standards and Guidelines*, a Stage 1 background study must include a review of:

- an up-to-date listing of sites from the MCM's PastPortal for 1 km around the property;
- reports of previous archaeological fieldwork within a radius of 50 m around the property;
- topographic maps at 1:10,000 (recent and historical) or the most detailed scale available;
- historical settlement maps (e.g., historical atlas, survey);
- archaeological management plans or other archaeological potential mapping when available; and,
- commemorative plaques or monuments on or near the property.

For this project, the following activities were carried out to satisfy or exceed the above requirements:

- a database search was completed through MCM's PastPortal system that compiled a list of registered archaeological sites within 1 km of the project area (completed May 17, 2024);
- a review of known prior archaeological reports for the property and adjacent lands;
- Ontario Base Mapping (1:10,000) was reviewed through ArcGIS and mapping layers under the Open Government Licence – Canada and the Open Government Licence- Ontario;
- detailed mapping provided by the client was also reviewed;
- a series of historic maps and photographs was reviewed related to the post-1800 land settlement; and
- the *Niagara Region Archaeological Management Plan* (Niagara Region 2023) was reviewed.

Additional sources of information were also consulted, including modern aerial photographs, local history accounts, soils data provided by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), physiographic data provided by the Ontario Ministry of Northern Development and Mines, and detailed topographic data provided by Land Information Ontario.

When compiled, background information was used to create a summary of the characteristics of the project area, in an effort to evaluate its archaeological potential. The Province of Ontario (MTC 2011; Section 1.3.1) has defined the criteria that identify archaeological potential as:

- previously identified archaeological sites;
- water sources;
    - primary water sources (e.g., lakes, rivers, streams, creeks);
    - secondary water sources (e.g., intermittent streams and creeks, springs, marshes, swamps);
    - features indicating past water sources (e.g., glacial lake shorelines, relic river or stream channels, shorelines of drained lakes or marshes, cobble beaches);
    - accessible or inaccessible shorelines (e.g., high bluffs, sandbars stretching into a marsh);
- elevated topography (e.g., eskers, drumlins, large knolls, plateau);
- pockets of well-drained sandy soils;
- distinctive land formations that might have been special or spiritual places (e.g., waterfalls, rock outcrops, caverns, mounds, promontories and their bases);

- resource areas, including:
    - food or medicinal plants (e.g., migratory routes, spawning areas, prairies);
    - scarce raw materials (e.g., quartz, copper, ochre, or chert outcrops);
    - early industry (e.g., fur trade, logging, prospecting, mining);
- areas of early 19th-century settlement, including:
    - early military locations;
    - pioneer settlement (e.g., homesteads, isolated cabins, farmstead complexes);
    - wharf or dock complexes;
    - pioneer churches;
    - early cemeteries;
- early transportation routes (e.g., trails, passes, roads, railways, portage routes);
- a property listed on a municipal register, designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act*, or that is a federal, provincial, or municipal historic landmark or site; and,
- a property that local histories or informants have identified with possible archaeological sites, historical event, activities, or occupations.

In Southern Ontario (south of the Canadian Shield), any lands within 300 m of any of the features listed above are considered to have potential for the discovery of archaeological resources.

Typically, a Stage 1 assessment will determine potential for Indigenous and 19th-century period sites independently. This is due to the fact that lifeways varied considerably during these eras, so the criteria used to evaluate potential for each type of site also varies.

It should be noted that some factors can also negate the potential for discovery of intact archaeological deposits. The *Standards and Guidelines* (MTC 2011; Section 1.3.2) indicates that archaeological potential can be removed in instances where land has been subject to extensive and deep land alterations that have severely damaged the integrity of any archaeological resources. Major disturbances indicating removal of archaeological potential include, but are not limited to:

- quarrying;
- major landscaping involving grading below topsoil;
- building footprints; and,
- sewage and infrastructure development.

Some activities (agricultural cultivation, surface landscaping, installation of gravel trails, etc.) may result in minor alterations to the surface topsoil but do not necessarily affect or remove archaeological potential. It is not uncommon for archaeological sites, including structural foundations, subsurface features and burials, to be found intact beneath major surface features like roadways and parking lots. Archaeological potential is, therefore, not removed in cases where there is a chance of deeply buried deposits, as in a developed or urban context or floodplain where modern features or alluvial soils can effectively cap and preserve archaeological resources.

2.2 Project Context: Archaeological Context

2.2.1 Project Area: Overview and Physical Setting

The project area is a roughly 0.05 ha (0.12 ac) parcel of land located at 95 Victoria Street in Port Colborne, Ontario. More specifically, the project area is located within Lot 28, Concession 1, in the Geographic Township of Humberstone, and encompasses Part 1 of Lot 8 (N/S Victoria Street), Registered Plan 848 (Maps 1 and 2). The parcel to be severed contains the footprint of a metal clad shed, an asphalt driveway, and manicured grass. It is bound to the north, east, west by residential properties, and to the south by Victoria Street.

The project area is located within the Haldimand Clay Plain physiographic region (Map 3), as defined by Chapman and Putnam (1984:113). This region encompasses some 1,350 square miles between the Niagara Escarpment and Lake Erie and was once entirely submerged by glacial Lake Warren. It contains both flat clay plains and more gently rolling topography, particularly where till moraines and drumlins are prominent surface features (Chapman and Putnam 1984:156).

Formal soil surveys for Port Colborne do not map the soils in this area (Map 4). According to generalized soils for Port Colborne (Kingston and Presant 1989), the predominant soil type of the project area is a poor draining, fibric mesisol.

The project area lies within 300 m of the Welland Canal, and is 400 m north of Lake Erie (Map 1). The First Welland Canal began construction in 1824, with the current canal being its fourth iteration, built in 1913 (Scientific American 1919; Westwater and Albanese 2014). Its extension south reached Port Colborne in 1833. The Welland Canal plays an important role in the development of many port communities along Lake Ontario and Lake Erie, including Port Colborne, whose history, as the Canal's southern terminus, is intricately tied with the Canal.

2.2.2 Summary of Registered or Known Archaeological Sites

According to PastPortal (accessed May 17, 2024) there are seven registered archaeological sites within 1 km of the project area. The closest site is AfGt-82 (the Wildwood site), roughly 300 m southeast and part of a continuous aeolian dune complex along the northeast shore of Lake Erie. A 1995 survey done by J. Pengelly (license number 101) recovered Indigenous lithic material and 19th-century ceramics, and a possible 1812 cannonball. The researcher suggested that the lithic material (scraper and chert debitage) could be associated with nearby burial sites.

Table 1: Registered Archaeological Sites within 1 km of the Project Area

Borden Number	Site Name	Time Period	Affinity	Site Type	Current Development Review Status	Distance
AfGt-5	Solid Comfort Cemetary	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal			>1 km
AfGt-6	Pinellli					>1 km
AfGt-27	Ansari Site	Post-Contact, Pre-Contact			No Further CHVI	>1 km
AfGt-82	Wildwood	Post-Contact, Pre-Contact	Aboriginal, Euro-Canadian	Unknown		>300 m
AfGt-101	Sugarloaf	Archaic, Late	Aboriginal	Othercamp/campsite, workshop		>1 km
AfGt-102		Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	Scatter		>1 km
AfGt-347	23-354P1	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	Scatter	No Further CHVI	<1 km

2.2.3 Summary of Past Archaeological Investigations within 50 m

During the course of this study no record was found of any archaeological investigations within 50 m of the project area. However, it should be noted that the MCM currently does not provide an inventory of archaeological assessments to assist in this determination.

2.2.4 Dates of Archaeological Fieldwork

The Stage 2 fieldwork was conducted on May 16, 2024, in mixed sunny/cloudy and warm weather conditions under the direction of Arwen Johns, MA (R1330).

2.3 Project Context: Historical Context

2.3.1 Indigenous Settlement in the Niagara Region

The Niagara Region attracted considerable Indigenous settlement in the past and contains numerous archaeological sites. In recent years, our archaeological knowledge of the area has improved greatly, at the hands of various cultural resource management surveys and archaeological research projects that have accompanied development in the region. Using existing data and regional syntheses, it is possible to propose a generalized model of Indigenous settlement in the project area. The general themes, time periods and cultural traditions of Indigenous settlement, based on archaeological evidence, are provided below and in Table 2.

Table 2: Chronology of Indigenous Settlement in the Niagara Region

Period	Time Range	Diagnostic Features	Archaeological Complexes
Early Paleo	9000-8400 BCE	fluted projectile points	Gainey, Barnes, Crowfield
Late Pale	8400-8000 BCE	non-fluted and lanceolate points	Holcombe, Hi-Lo, Lanceolate
Early Archaic	8000-6000 BCE	serrated, notched, bifurcate base points	Nettling, Bifurcate Base Horizon
Middle Archaic	6000-2500 BCE	stemmed, side & corner notched points	Brewerton, Otter Creek, Stanly/Neville
Late Archaic	2000-1800 BCE	narrow points	Lamoka
Late Archaic	1800-1500 BCE	broad points	Genesee, Adder Orchard, Perkiomen
Late Archaic	1500-1100 BCE	small points	Crawford Knoll
Terminal Archaic	1100-950 BCE	first true cemeteries	Hind
Early Woodland	950-400 BCE	expanding stemmed points, Vinette pottery	Meadowood
Middle Woodland	400 BCE-500 CE	dentate, pseudo-scallop pottery	Point Peninsula
Transitional Woodland	500-900 CE	first corn, cord-wrapped stick pottery	Princess Point
Late Woodland	900-1300 CE	first villages, corn horticulture, longhouses	Glen Meyer
Late Woodland	1300-1400 CE	large villages and houses	Uren, Middleport/Springwells
Late Woodland	1400-1650 CE	tribal emergence, territoriality	
Contact Period - Indigenous	1700 CE-present	treaties, mixture of Indigenous & European items	
Contact Period - Settler	1796 CE-present	industrial goods, homesteads	

2.3.1.1 Paleo Period

The first human populations to inhabit the region arrived between 12,000 and 10,000 years ago, coincident with the end of the last period of glaciation. Climate and environmental conditions were significantly different then they are today; local environs would not have been welcoming to anything but short-term settlement. Ontario's Indigenous peoples of this time period would have crossed the landscape in small groups (i.e., bands or family units) searching for food, particularly migratory game species. In this area, caribou may have provided the staple of the Paleo period diet, supplemented by wild plants, small game, birds and fish.

Given the low density of populations on the landscape at this time and their mobile nature, Paleo period sites are small and ephemeral. They are sometimes identified by the presence of fluted projectile points manufactured on a highly distinctive whitish-grey chert named "Fossil Hill" (after the formation) or "Collingwood." This material was acquired from sources near the edge of the escarpment on Blue Mountain. It was exploited by populations from as far south as the north shore of Lake Ontario, who would have traveled to the source as part of their seasonal round. There are known Paleo period sites in this region, and these are often found in association with glacial lake shorelines.

2.3.1.2 Archaic Period

Settlement and subsistence patterns changed significantly during the Archaic period as both the landscape and ecosystem adjusted to the retreat of the glaciers. Building on earlier patterns, early Archaic period populations continued the mobile lifestyle of their predecessors. Through time and with the development of more resource rich local environments, these groups gradually reduced the size of the territories they exploited on a regular basis. A seasonal pattern of warm season riverine or lakeshore settlements and interior cold weather occupations has been documented in the archaeological record.

Since the large cold weather mammal species that formed the basis of the Paleo period subsistence pattern became extinct or moved northward with the onset of warmer climate conditions, Archaic period populations had a more varied diet, exploiting a range of plant, bird, mammal and fish species. Reliance on specific food resources like fish, deer and nuts becomes more pronounced through time and the presence of more hospitable environments and resource abundance led to the expansion of band and family sizes. In the archaeological record, this is evident in the presence of larger sites and aggregation camps, where several families or bands would come together in times of plenty. The change to more preferable environmental circumstances led to a rise in population density. As a result, Archaic sites are more plentiful than those from the earlier period. Artifacts typical of these occupations include a variety of stemmed and notched projectile points, chipped stone scrapers, ground stone tools (e.g., celts, adzes) and ornaments (e.g., bannerstones, gorgets), bifaces or tool blanks, animal bone (where and when preserved) and waste flakes, a by-product of the tool making process.

2.3.1.3 Early, Middle and Transitional Woodland Periods

Significant changes in cultural and environmental patterns are witnessed in the Woodland period (c. 950 BCE-1700 CE). By this time, the coniferous forests of earlier times were replaced by stands of mixed and deciduous species. Occupations became increasingly more substantial in this period, culminating in major semi-permanent villages by 1,000 years ago. Archaeologically, the most significant changes by Woodland times are the appearance of artifacts manufactured from modeled clay and the construction of house structures. The Woodland period is often defined by the occurrence of pottery, storage facilities and residential areas similar to those that define the incipient agricultural or Neolithic period in Europe.

Early and Middle Woodland peoples are also known for a well-developed burial complex and ground stone tool industry. Unique Early Woodland ground stone items include pop-eyed birdstones and gorgets. In addition, there is evidence of the development of widespread trading with groups throughout the northeast. The recovery of marine shells from the Lake Superior area indicates that exchanges of exotic materials and finished items from distant places were common place. The Middle Woodland period in the region is dominated by sites recognized as part of the Point Peninsula archaeological complex. Point Peninsula groups were influenced by Hopewell culture developments in the American Midwest, including mound burial and participation in widespread trade in exotic materials, many of which were used as burial offerings.

2.3.1.4 Late Woodland Period

Beginning circa 1000 BCE. the archaeological record documents the emergence of more substantial, semi-permanent settlements and the adoption of corn horticulture. These developments are most often associated with Iroquoian-speaking populations, the ancestors of the Wendat (Huron) and Attawandaron (Neutral) nations who were known to have resided in the province upon the arrival of the first European explorers and missionaries. Iroquoian villages incorporated a number of longhouses, multi-family dwellings that contained several families related through the female line. Precontact Iroquoian sites may be identified by a predominance of well-made pottery decorated with various simple and geometric motifs, triangular projectile points, clay pipes and ground stone artifacts. Sites post-dating European contact are recognized through the appearance of various items of European manufacture. The latter include materials acquired by trade (e.g., glass beads, copper/brass kettles, iron axes, knives and other metal implements) in addition to the personal items of European visitors and Jesuit missionaries (e.g., finger rings, stoneware, rosaries, and glassware).

Indigenous people had long inhabited the Niagara region prior to the arrival of European explorers and missionaries in the 17th century. The Iroquoian-speaking Attawandaron lived in the region between the Grand and Niagara Rivers prior to the arrival of Europeans. French explorers referred to the Attawandaron Nation as the Neutral, after observing that the group often remained neutral during conflicts between the Wendat (Huron) and the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, and their neighbours referred to them as the Attawandaron. In the mid-17th century, Attawandaron villages were destroyed by the Seneca, who lived on the east side of the Niagara River. The Attawandaron population was decimated by these attacks, as well as earlier smallpox epidemics.

In the late-18th and early-19th centuries the Niagara Peninsula and environs was actively used by the Haudenosaunee who had settled along the Grand River and the Mississaugas, whose territory included lands further west into present day Toronto. The project area is located within lands that made up the July 19, 1701 Deed, or Nanfan Treaty, between the Five Nations of the Iroquois Confederacy and John Nanfan, on behalf of the British Crown. The agreement was amended 60 years later to identify a strip of land 60 miles wide close to Lake Erie and Lake Ontario for Six Nations occupation and use. The project area is within lands that were part of Treaty Number 381, known as the Niagara purchase, made between the Mississaugas and Chippewas and the Crown on 9 May 1781. The Niagara purchase was completed in 1784 at Fort Niagara from the Iroquois and Chippewa Indians. The Niagara purchase was instigated by Sir William Johnson, the first official representative of an Indian Department in British North America, and later made by Colonel Guy Johnson, the acting superintendent general of Indian Affairs (ITS 1971; Morris 1943).

2.3.2 Treaty History

The project area is encompassed by the Between the Lakes Treaty (Treaty No. 3). The Mississauga people reached a provisional agreement with the Crown in 1784, but it proved to be unclear. Consequently, the treaty was redrafted to provide a better description of the affected lands and signed on December 7, 1792. The area covered by the treaty extended from Mapleton Township in the northwest to Elgin County in the southwest to the edge of a tract of land ceded earlier along the Niagara River in the east. The stated purpose of Treaty No. 3 (MCFN 2020; Surtees 1984) was the Crown acquisition of land for the resettling of British allies from the American Revolutionary War, most notably allies from the Haudenosaunee Confederacy (Six Nations). Of these groups, Thayendanegea (Joseph Brant) and some 1,843 members of the Six Nations and their allies settled along the Grand River in what would become known as the Haldimand Tract (Surtees 1984:25).

2.3.3 Nineteenth-Century and Municipal Settlement

Historically the project area falls within Lot 28, Concession 1, in the Geographic Township of Humberstone, Welland County. A brief discussion of 19th-century settlement and land use in the township is provided below in an effort to identify features signaling archaeological potential.

2.3.3.1 Welland County

Welland County lies in the southeast portion of the Niagara peninsula of Ontario, bordered on the south by Lake Erie and on the east by the Niagara River. When Sir John Graves Simcoe became the first governor of Upper Canada in 1792, the Province of Ontario (then Upper Canada) began to be divided into counties and further into townships (Fretz 1953:55). In the Niagara peninsula, township names were to be taken from various places in England and Scotland, counter to previous methods of naming rights being given to their early settlers (Exploring Niagara 2014). Ontario, legally a part of Quebec as the Act of 1774, had previously been divided into four districts by Lord Dorchester: the Detroit settlement, called Hesse; the Niagara settlement, called Nassau; the Bay of Quinte and Lake Ontario settlement, called Mecklenberg; and the St. Lawrence front in the east, called Lunenberg (Fretz 1953:55). The Niagara district became the County of Lincoln; by 1845, the southern portion of Lincoln County was separated to form Welland County (Exploring Niagara 2014) and by about 1881, only the townships between the Niagara River and the Welland Canal were called Welland County (Fretz 1953:55).

2.3.3.2 Humberstone Township

The Township of Humberstone was settled by 1785 (H.R. Page & Co. 1876); it was bordered to the south by Lake Erie, to the north by the Township of Crowland, to the east by the Township of Bertie, and to the west by the Township of Wainfleet. Some of the original settler families of Humberstone Township include Knisley [Kniseley], Near [Neave/Neff], Sherk [Shirk], Zavitz [Sevitz/Savitz], and Steel [Steele], as well as U.E. Loyalist settlers from the American colonies (Exploring Niagara 2014; Fretz 1953:10). Early on, it was nicknamed Sugarloaf Township, so named because of the distinctively shaped lake-side hill which wistfully reminded the early settlers of a tasty loaf eaten by the former immigrants from Pennsylvania (Port Colborne n.d.). During the War of 1812, Sugarloaf Hill was used as a signal beacon to warn of impending American attacks but proved to be unable to halt a small attack on the Sugarloaf Settlement shoreline (Port Colborne n.d.). By 1817, the Township included a saw mill, grist mill, and over 75 families (H.R. Page & Co. 1876). By 1850, it contained

a grist mill, three saw mills, a foundry, two churches, eight public schools, and 279 inhabited houses that served its population of 2,377 (H.R. Page & Co. 1876).

2.3.3.3 Port Colborne

Settlement of the Port Colborne area, originally known as Gravelly Bay, began in the 1790s. Following the completion of the Welland Ship Canal in 1833, the settlement was renamed in honour of Upper Canada's then Lieutenant-Governor, Sir John Colborne, who was instrumental in securing funding for the canal project. Port Colborne became one of the largest communities in Humberstone Township, partly because of its location at the southern terminus of both the canal and the Welland Railway. It was also an important station along the Buffalo and Goderich Division of the Grand Truck Railway (H.R. Page & Co. 1876).

The presence of the Welland Canal, which effectively bisects the city, was the major driving factor for the city's growth in the 19th century (Port Colborne n.d.). Throughout the 19th century, Port Colborne developed into a business community serving the marine trade passing through the Welland Canal. By 1870, the population of Port Colborne had grown to 1,030, which prompted the citizens to become an incorporated village. In 1889, the Humberstone Club, composed of wealthy summer residents from the southern states such as Mrs. Jefferson Davis, wife of the former president of the Confederacy during the American Civil War, chose Port Colborne as their destination of escape from the summer heat. The discovery in the late 1880's of significant reserves of natural gas in the area led to the rapid industrialization of Port Colborne and the surrounding area as companies such as the Erie and Foster glass companies and the Ontario Silver Company established themselves in the area to utilize the new source of fuel (Port Colborne n.d.).

As the 20th century progressed, improvements to the harbour and the enlargements of the Welland Canal facilitated industrial development and small 19th-century commercial and manufacturing works began to be displaced by larger conglomerates (Port Colborne n.d.). In 1918, Port Colborne was officially declared a town with a population of 2,837. In the succeeding decades of steady growth, the Village of Humberstone and the Town of Port Colborne continued to grow towards one another geographically and this reality was officially recognized in 1952 with their amalgamation. In 1966, Port Colborne was officially accorded the status of 'City' (Port Colborne n.d.).

2.3.4 Review of Historic Maps and Aerial Imagery

The project area historically falls within Lot 28, Concession 1, Township of Humberstone, Welland County, Ontario. The 1862 *Tremaine's Map* (Map 5) shows the town of Port Colborne as being established at this time, with a bridge over the Welland Canal and various residential streets as being open at this time. A church is depicted to the east of Catherine Street. The Buffalo Brantford and Goderich Railway is depicted further north. Similarly, the 1876 historic atlas (Map 6) depicts the same streets and railway as open at this time, though no other details are shown. In another 1876 map specific to Port Colborne, the project area is associated with "Gordham's Estate", and a graveyard is shown roughly 300 m to the south, by Lake Erie (Map 7). This graveyard may be the Old Gravelly Bay Cemetery (Ontario Genealogical Society n.d.).

On the 1907 topographic map, there are three churches depicted near the project area to the north of Kent Street – one made of wood, two of stone and brick (Map 8). The area is densely populated with structures.

A review of a 1934 aerial photograph shows that a residential structure is depicted either side of the project area and that the surrounding area is characterized as largely residential (Map 9), a trend which continues to the present. The Port Colborne Harbour Railway is shown, approximately 190 m to the west.

2.3.5 Review of Heritage Properties

There are numerous properties listed on the Port Colborne Heritage Property Registry (2008) in the vicinity (within 300 m) of the project area, including 95 Victoria Street. The city list identifies non-designated properties that contain Cultural or Heritage value or interests under the *Ontario Heritage Act*. The closest property, 95 Victoria Street itself, is a stucco house built in the Classic Revival variation style. While no date is provided for its year of construction, most of the surrounding properties that are also designated as heritage properties were built in the 19th-century, with the nearby 94 Victoria Street built in 1865.

Designated heritage properties within 50 m of the project area include:

- 86 Victoria Street
- 90 Victoria Street
- 94 Victoria Street
- 95 Victoria Street
- 108 Victoria Street
- 113 Victoria Street
- 94/96 Kent Street
- 104 Kent Street
- 110 Kent Street
- 136 Catharine Street
- 140 Catharine Street

2.4 Analysis and Conclusions

As noted in Section 2.1, the Province of Ontario has identified numerous factors that signal the potential of a property to contain archaeological resources. Based on the archaeological and historical context reviewed above, the project area is in proximity (i.e., within 300 m) to features that signal archaeological potential, namely:

- a previously identified archaeological site (AfGt-82);
- areas of early 19th-century settlement (Port Colborne);
- early transportation routes (the Welland Canal and Buffalo, Brantford and Goderich Railway)
- 19th-century thoroughfares (Sugarloaf, Adelaide, Victoria, Kent, Elm, Catharine, King, and West Streets);
- 19th-century churches;
- 19th-century cemeteries; and,
- registered heritage properties.

As well, the *Niagara Region Archaeological Management Plan* identifies the project area as having archaeological potential.

2.5 Recommendations

Given that the project area demonstrated potential for the discovery of archaeological resources, a Stage 2 archaeological assessment was recommended. In keeping with provincial standards, the areas within the project area that consist of grassed or treed areas are recommended for assessment by a test pit survey at a 5 m transect interval to achieve the provincial standard. As the project area is considered to have archaeological potential pending Stage 2 field inspection, a separate map detailing zones of archaeological potential is not provided herein (MTC 2011; Section 7.7.4, Standard 1 and Section 7.7.6, Standards 1 and 2).

3 STAGE 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

3.1 Field Methods

All fieldwork was undertaken in good weather and lighting conditions. No conditions were encountered that would hinder the identification or recovery of artifacts. The property boundaries were determined in the field based on proponent mapping, property markers, and geographic features.

The project area is comprised of non-ploughable lands consisting of manicured grass, gently sloping from south to north. As such, the project area was subject to a standard test pit assessment, employing a 5 m transect interval (80%; 0.04 ha; Images 1 and 2). Test pits measuring at least 30 cm (shovel-width) were excavated through the first 5 cm of subsoil with all fill screened through 6 mm hardware cloth. Once screening was finished, the stratigraphy in the test pits was examined and then the pits were backfilled as best as possible, tamped down by foot and shovel and re-capped with sod. Test pitting extended up to 1 m from all standing features, including trees and buildings, when present.

It was anticipated that when cultural material was found, the test pit survey would be intensified (reduced to 2.5 m) to determine the size of the site. If not enough archaeological materials were recovered from the intensification test pits, a 1 m^2 test unit would be excavated atop of one of the positive test pits to gather additional information.

Within the manicured grass, both intact and disturbed soil profiles were observed. The test pits with intact soil profiles typically contained roughly 30 cm of brown silty clay loam with root intrusions over grey-tan silty clay subsoil (Image 3). The test pits exhibiting disturbed soil profiles contained roughly four layers of soil reaching a depth of 70 cm. Layer 1 consisted of brown silty clay loam; Layer 2 was brown clay loan with gravel/builder's clay intrusions; Layer 3 was brown silty clay loam topsoil; and Layer 4 was grey-tan silty clay subsoil (Image 4). The disturbance was likely a result of past activities to level the lot, including depositing overburden or fill soils over intact topsoil.

As per Section 2.1, Standard 2 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (MTC 2011:28-29), certain physical features and deep land alterations are considered as having low archaeological potential and are thus exempt from the standard test pit survey. Approximately 20% (0.01 ha) of the project area was disturbed, consisting of the asphalt driveway (Image 5), and the footprint of a former shed on the property (Image 6).

Map 10 illustrates the Stage 2 field conditions and assessment methods; the location and orientation of all photographs appearing in this report are also shown on this map. Map 11 presents the Stage 2 results on the proponent mapping. An unaltered proponent map is provided as Map 12.

3.2 Record of Finds

No archaeological materials or sites were identified during the Stage 2 archaeological assessment of the project area. Table 4 provides an inventory of the documentary records generated during this project.

All files are currently being stored at the TMHC corporate office located at 1108 Dundas Street, Unit 105, London, ON, N5W 3A7.

Table 3: Documentary Records

Date	Field Notes	Field Maps	Digital Images
May 16, 2024	Digital and hard copies	Digital and hard copies	24 Images

3.3 Analysis and Conclusions

A Stage 2 field assessment was conducted in keeping with the MCM's *Standards and Guidelines* (MTC 2011). The test pit survey did not result in the documentation of archaeological resources. As such, the project area should be considered free of archaeological concern.

3.4 Recommendations

All work met provincial standards and no archaeological material was documented during the assessment. As such, no further archaeological assessment is recommended.

Should proposed impacts extend into the parcel to be retained, then additional assessment of the property may be required (Map 13).

These recommendations are subject to the conditions laid out in Section 5.0 of this report and to the MCM's review and acceptance of this report into the provincial register.

4 SUMMARY

A Stage 1 and 2 archaeological assessment was conducted for a property severance at 95 Victoria Street (Part 1), located in Port Colborne, Ontario. The project area is roughly 0.05 ha (0.12 ac) in size and is located within Lot 28, Concession 1, in the Geographic Township of Humberstone, former Welland County, encompassing Part 1 of Lot 8 (N/S Victoria Street), Registered Plan 848. The Stage 1 assessment revealed that the property had potential for the discovery of archaeological resources and a Stage 2 survey was recommended and carried out. The Stage 2 assessment (test pit assessment at a 5 m interval) did not result in the documentation of archaeological resources. As such, no further archaeological assessment is recommended.

5 ADVICE ON COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION

This report is submitted to the MCM 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 MCM, 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 (i.e., unknown or deeply buried) 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 *Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act*, 2002, S.O. 2002, c.33 requires that any person discovering human remains must notify the police or coroner and Ian Hember, Registrar of Burial Sites, Ontario Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery. His telephone number is 416-212-7499 and e-mail address is Ian.Hember@ontario.ca.

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7 IMAGES

Image 1: Test Pit Survey at 5 m Interval in Backyard

Looking Northeast

Image 2: Test Pit Survey at 5 m Interval in Front Yard

Looking North

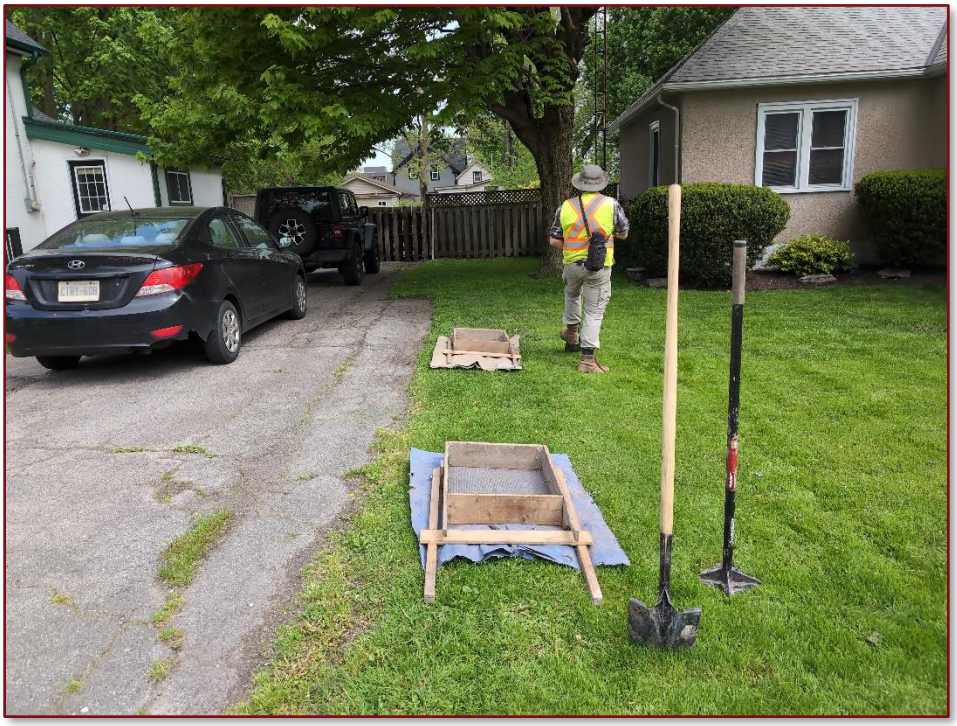


Image 3: Typical Test Pit within Intact Soil Profile

Image 4: Typical Test Pit with Disturbed Soil Profile

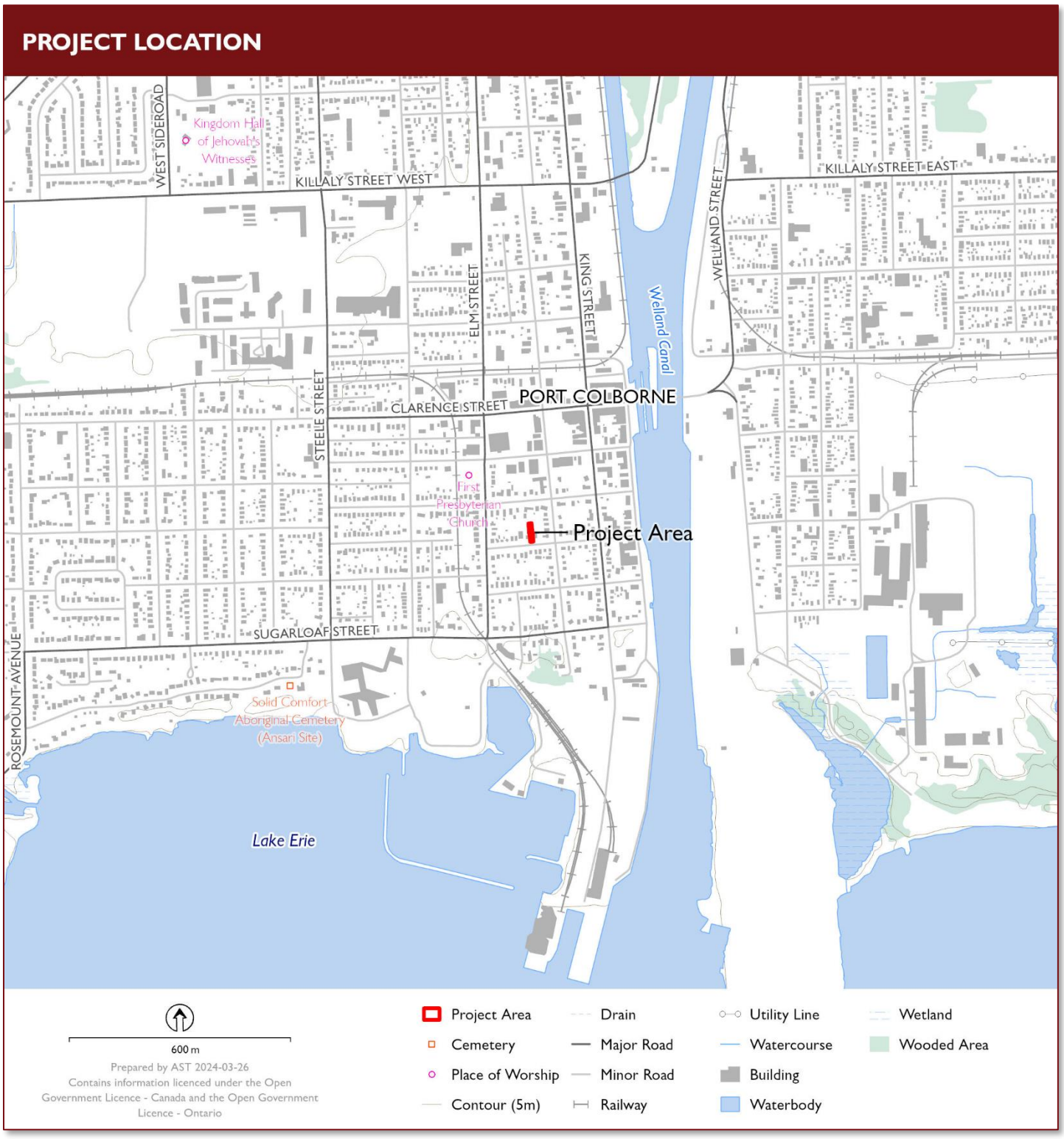
Image 5: Paved Driveway

Looking North

Image 6: Footprint of Former Shed

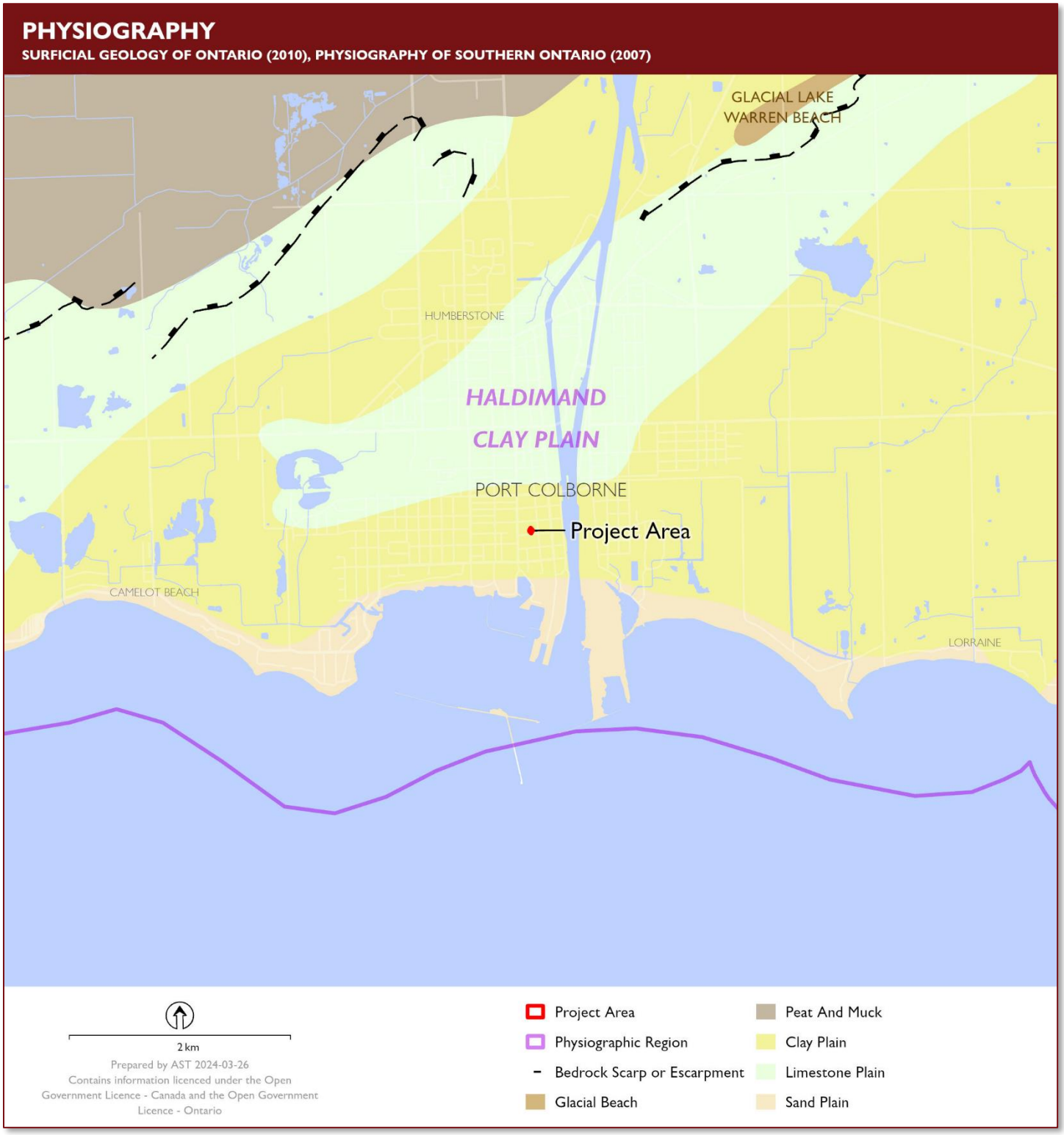
Looking South

8 MAPS

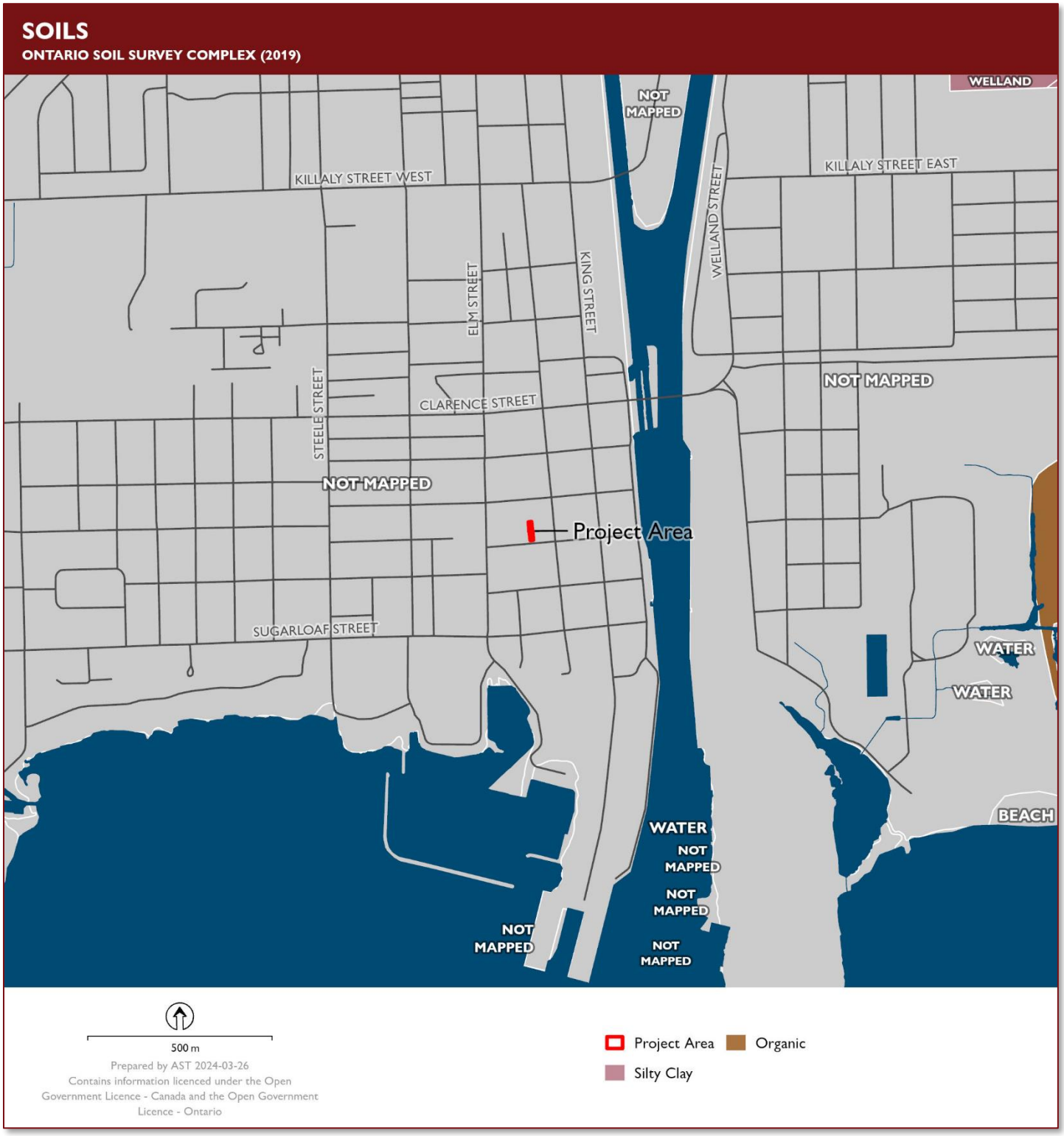


Map 1: Location of the Project Area in Port Colborne, ON

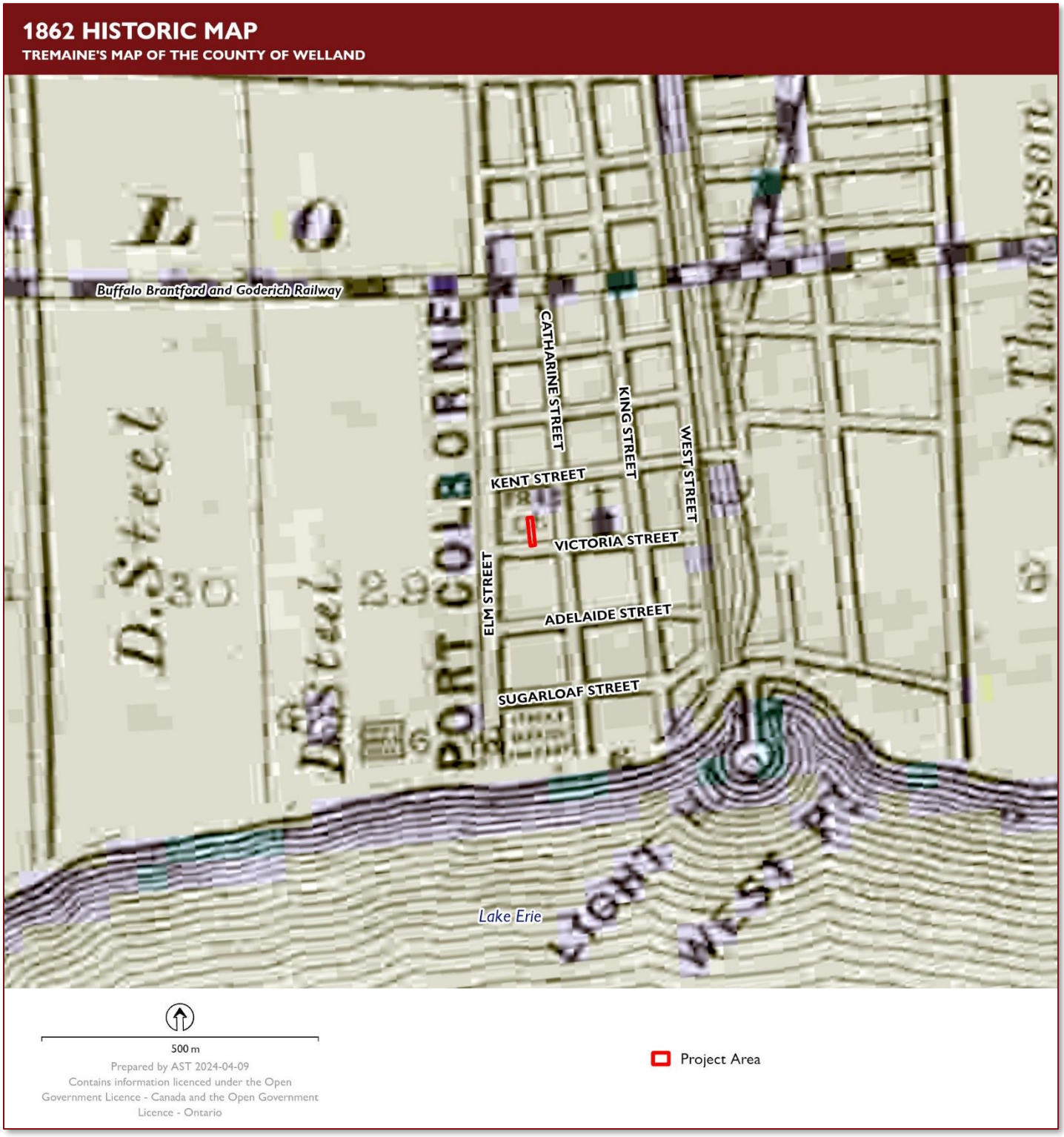
Map 2: Aerial Photograph Showing the Location of the Project Area



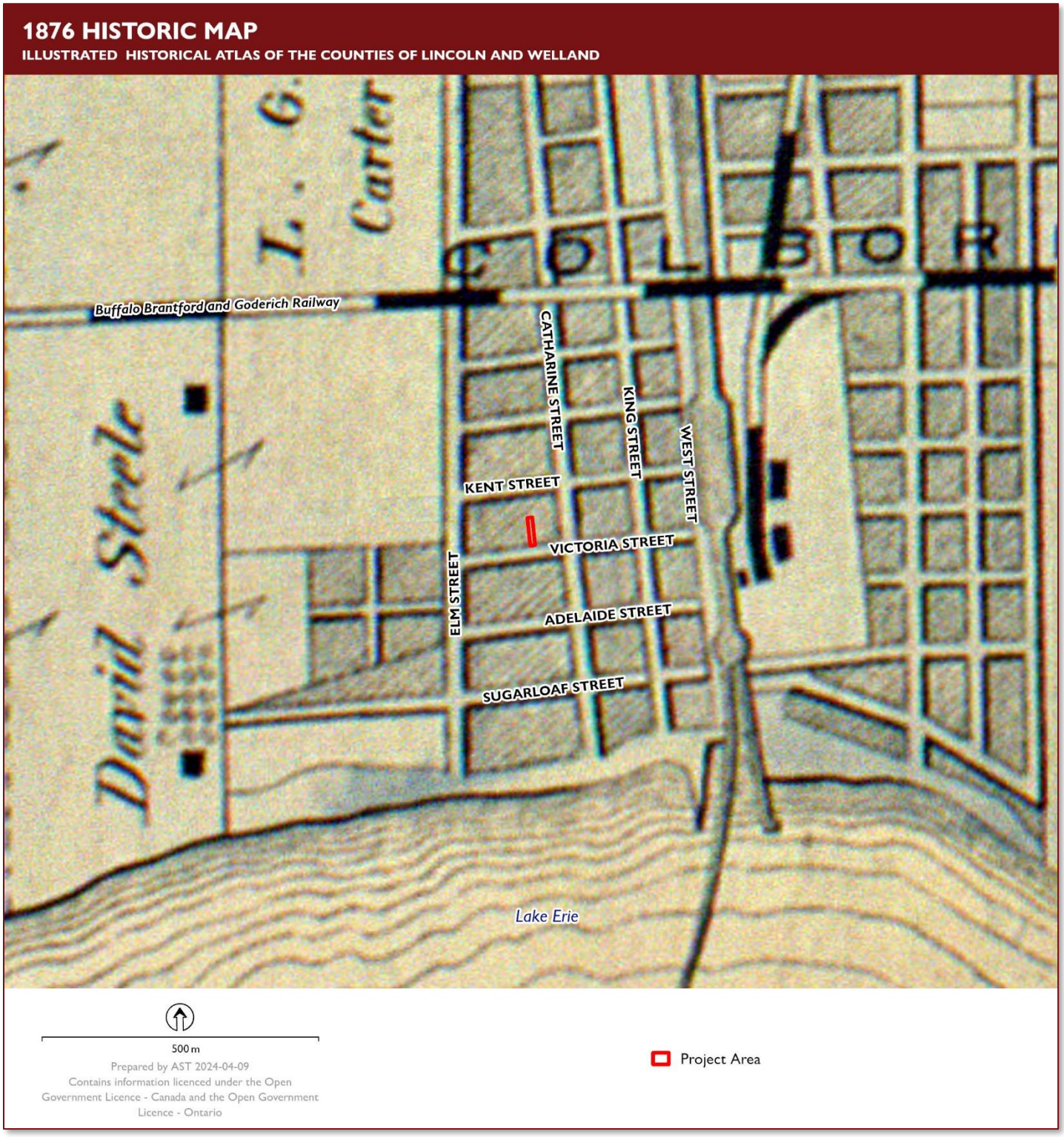
Map 3: Physiography Within the Vicinity of the Project Area



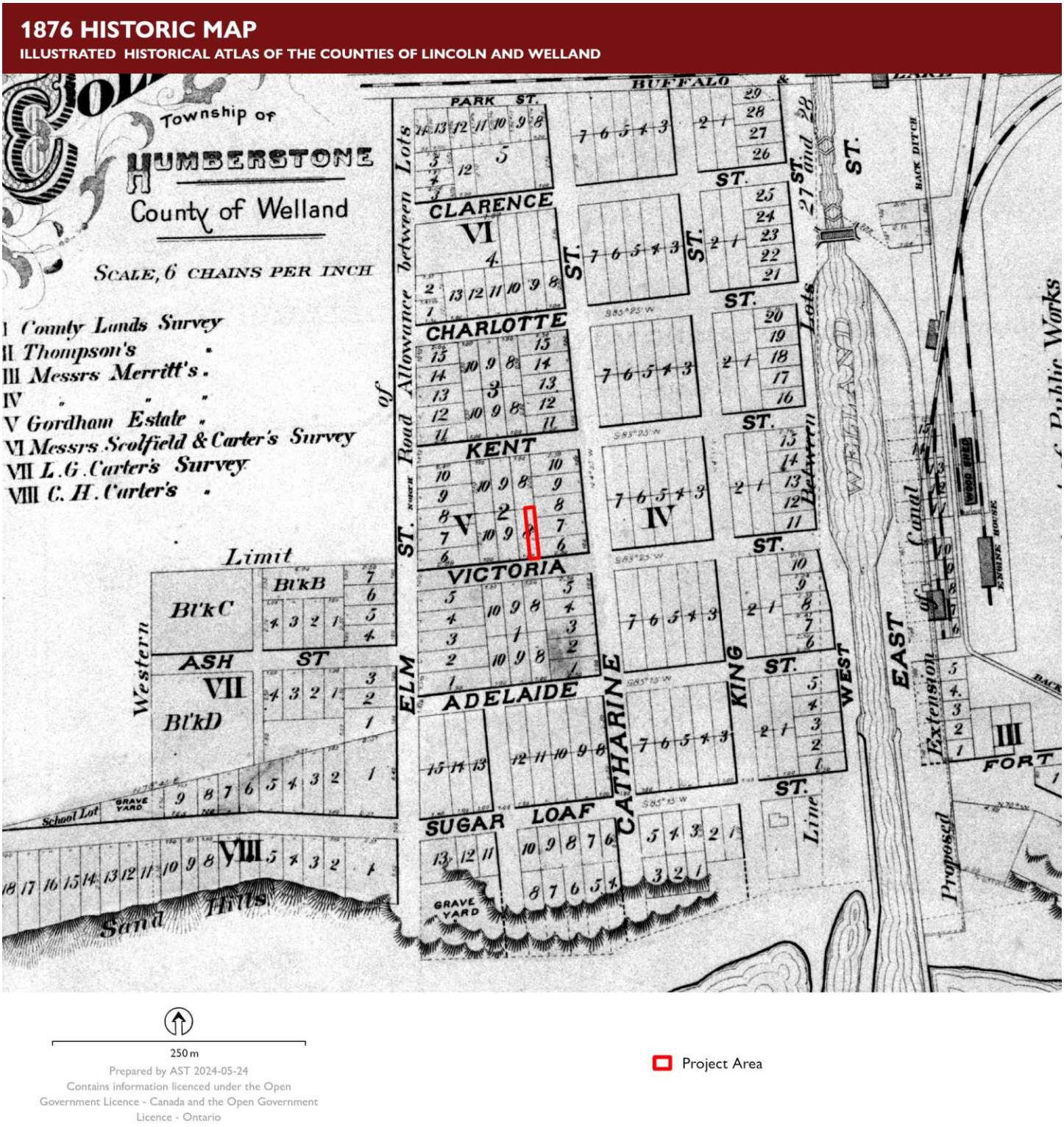
Map 4: Soils Within the Vicinity of the Project Area



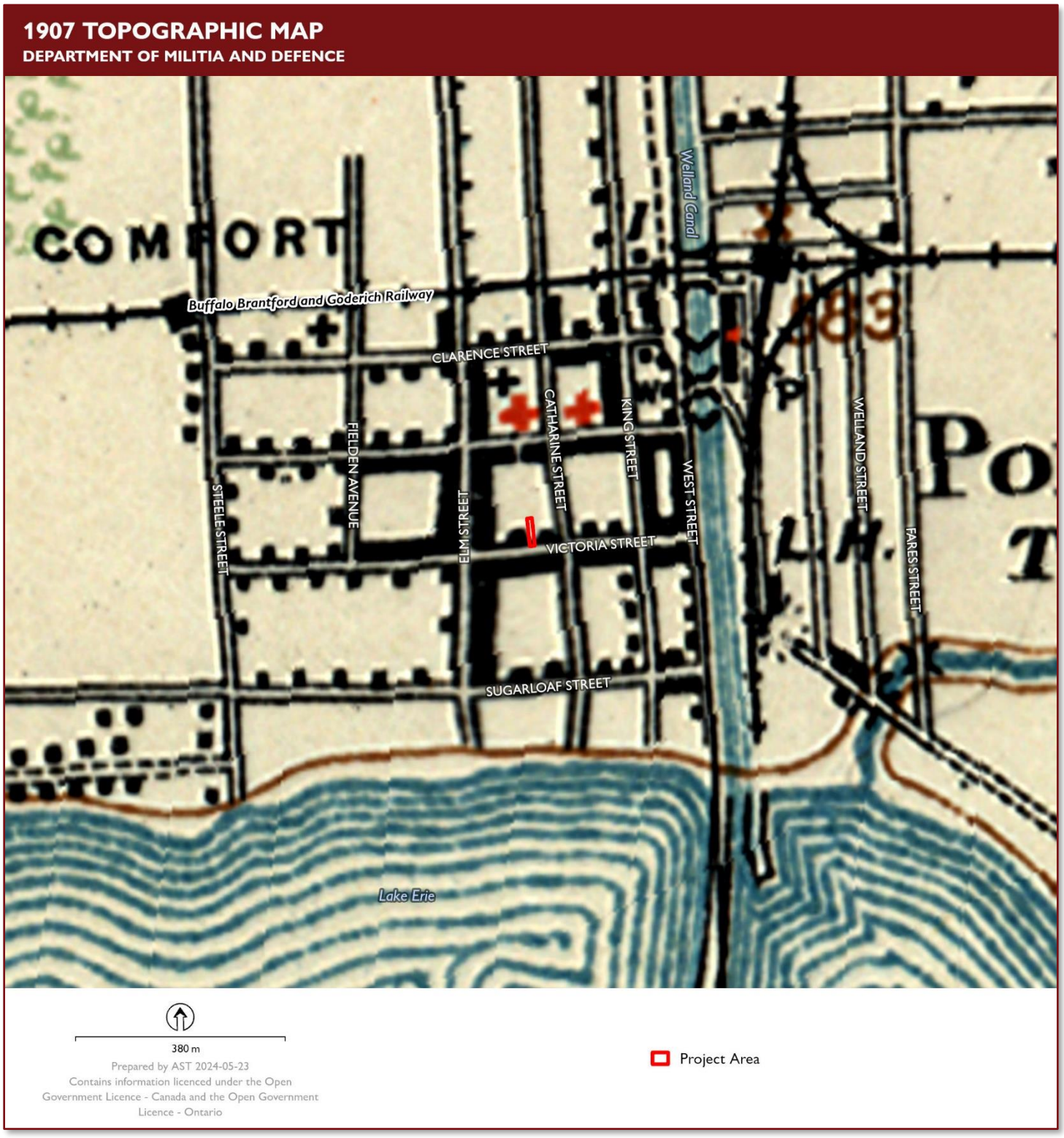
Map 5: Location of the Project Area Shown on the 1862 Map of Welland County



Map 6: Location of the Project Area Shown on the 1876 Map of Lincoln and Welland County

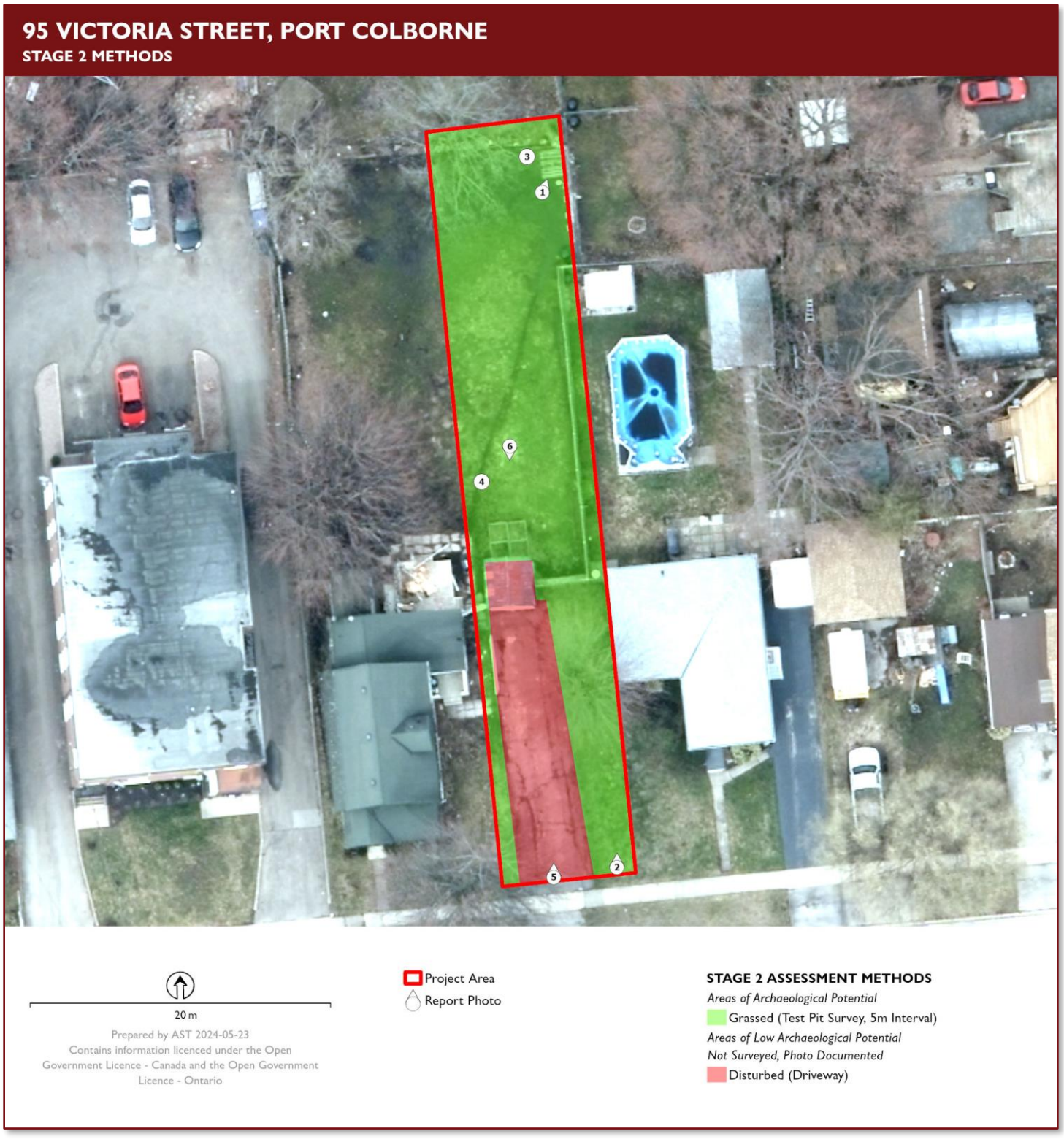


Map 7: Location of the Project Area Shown on 1876 Map of Lincoln and Welland County

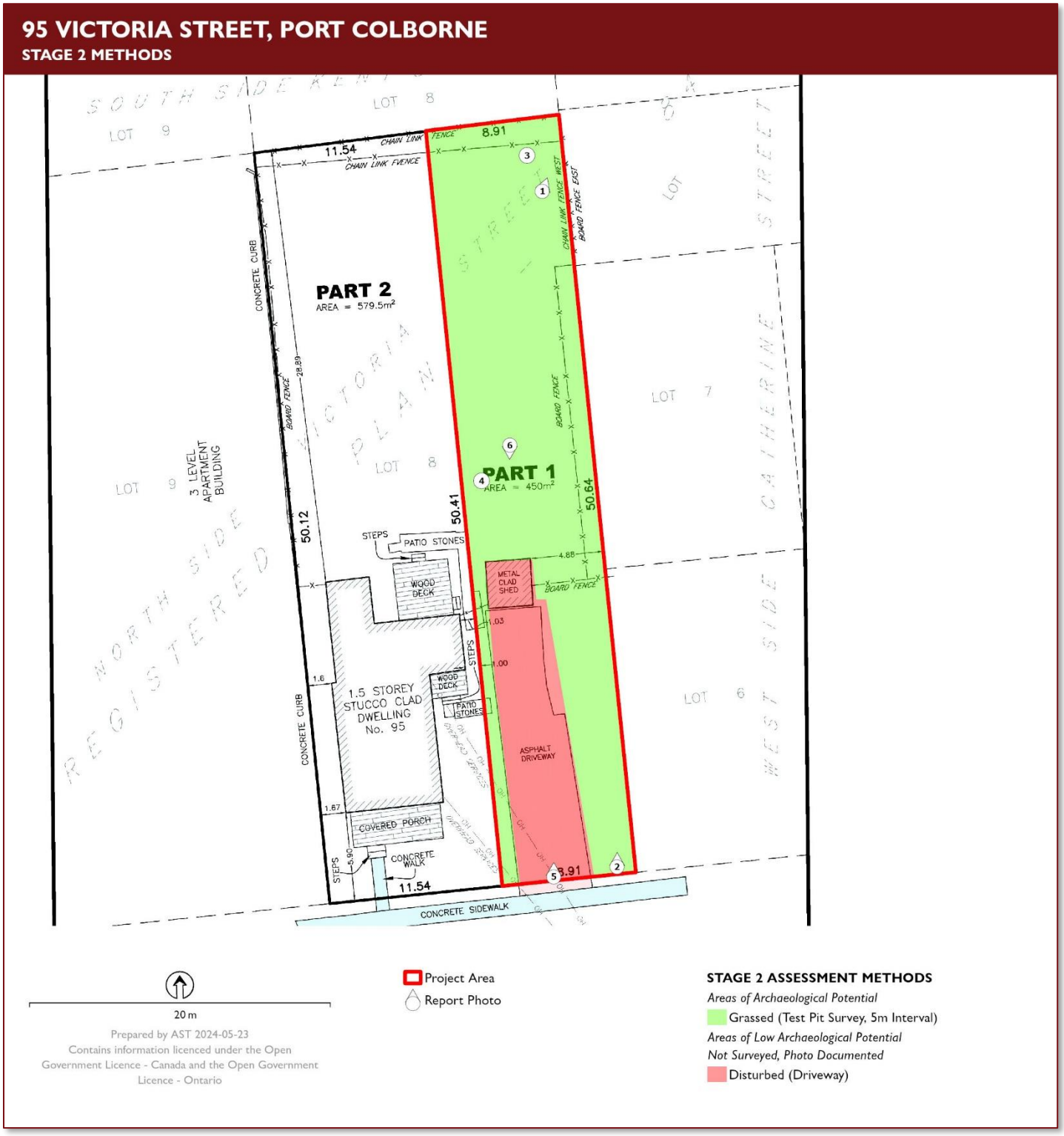


Map 8: Location of the Project Area Shown on a 1907 Topographic Map

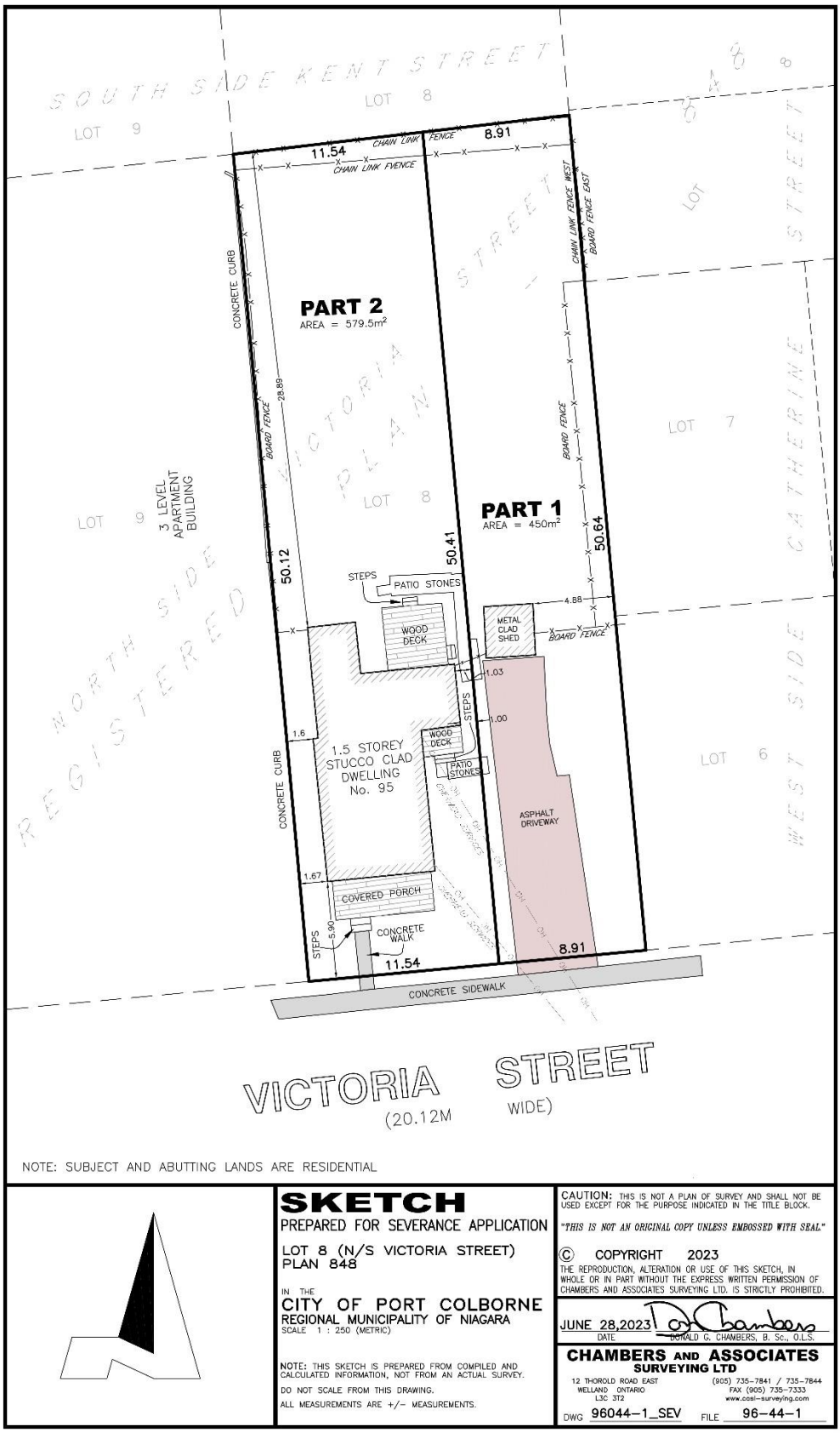
Map 9: Location of the Project Area Shown on a 1934 Aerial Photography



Map 10: Stage 2 Field Conditions and Assessment Methods



Map 11: Stage 2 Field Conditions and Assessment Methods Shown on Proponent Mapping



Map 12: Unaltered Proponent Mapping

Map 13: Summary of Archaeological Potential