

Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment of 132 College Street, Part of Lot 7, Concession 9, Geographic Township of Grimsby, Lincoln County, Town of Smithville, Township of West Lincoln, Regional Municipality of Niagara

Revised Report

Prepared for:

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Executive Summary

Archaeological Services Inc. was retained by 2853972 Ontario Inc. to undertake a Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment of 132 College Street, located on part of Lot 7, Concession 9, Geographic Township of Grimsby, Lincoln County, now in the Town of Smithville, Township of West Lincoln, Regional Municipality of Niagara. The subject property is approximately 1.8 hectares. Permission to access the subject property and to carry out all activities necessary for the completion of the assessment was granted by the proponent on March 14, 2022.

The Stage 1 background assessment entailed consideration of the proximity of previously registered archaeological sites and the original environmental setting of the subject property, along with nineteenth- and twentieth-century settlement trends. This research led to the conclusion there was potential for the presence of both Indigenous and Euro-Canadian archaeological resources within the property.

The Stage 2 field assessment was conducted by means of a test pit survey in all areas of archaeological potential. Portions of the subject property with evidence of past disturbances were documented but not tested. Despite careful scrutiny, no archaeological resources were encountered during the course of the survey.

Additional background research on the development of the nearby Smithville Union Cemetery was also reviewed to evaluate the likelihood for the presence of any unmarked burials within the limits of the subject property. This review, along with observations of the nearest portions of the cemetery during the Stage 2 field survey, has found no evidence to suggest the presence of unmarked burials within the subject property.

It is recommended that no further archaeological assessment of the subject property be required.



Project Personnel

- **Senior Project Manager:** Jennifer Ley, Hons. B.A. (R376), Lead Archaeologist, Manager, Planning Assessment Division
- **Project Manager:** Jamie Houston-Dickson, M.A. (P398), Associate Archaeologist, Project Manager, Planning Assessment Division
- **Project Director:** Robb Bhardwaj, M.A. (P449), Associate Archaeologist, Project Manager, Planning Assessment Division
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1.0 Project Context

Archaeological Services Inc. was retained by 2853972 Ontario Inc. to undertake a Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment of 132 College Street, located on part of Lot 7, Concession 9, Geographic Township of Grimsby, Lincoln County, now in the Town of Smithville, Township of West Lincoln, Regional Municipality of Niagara (Figure 1). The subject property is approximately 1.8 hectares.

1.1 Development Context

This assessment was conducted under the senior project management of Jennifer Ley (R376), the project management of Jamie Houston-Dickson (P398), and the project direction of Robb Bhardwaj (P449); the work was completed under Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (hereafter referred to as the Ministry) Project Information Form P449-0618-2022. All activities carried out during this assessment were completed as part of a proposed site plan application, as required by the Township of West Lincoln and the *Planning Act* (Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, 1990). All work was confined to the former elementary school property, located at 132 College Street, as directed by the proponent.

All work was completed in accordance with the *Ontario Heritage Act* (Ministry of Culture, 1990; now the Ministry) and the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (hereafter referred to as the Standards) (Ministry of Tourism and Culture, 2011; now the Ministry).

Permission to access the subject property and to carry out all activities necessary for the completion of the assessment was granted by the proponent on March 14, 2022.

Given the subject property's proximity to the historical Smithville Union Cemetery (licenced site #02714), the Bereavement Authority of Ontario and the Township of West Lincoln, as the licenced operator (#3288930) of the cemetery, were both contacted regarding the scope of the archaeological assessment.



1.2 Historical Context

The purpose of this section is to describe the past and present land use and the settlement history of the subject property, and any other relevant historical information gathered through the Stage 1 background research.

Historically, the subject property was located on part of Lot 7, Concession 9, in the Geographic Township of Grimsby, Lincoln Township. More specifically, the property was situated in the east end of the historical settlement (now the Town) of Smithville, which was first settled in the early-mid nineteenth century. Currently, the property consists of the former College Street Public School property located at 132 College Street.

The subject property was used continuously as a school from the early twentieth century (or possibly the late nineteenth century) until its permanent closure around 2017-2018. The modern school building, located at the west limit of the property fronting College Street (west limit) and Morgan Avenue (north limit), is an amalgamation of various building additions; it is not clear if the original school remains part of the structure, but the oldest section of the existing structure dates to before 1934.

The subject property also borders the north end of the Smithville Union Cemetery, which was established during the nineteenth century. The north limit of the original nineteenth-century cemetery grounds, which straddles Lot 7 and adjacent Lot 6 to the east, is approximately 30 metres south of the subject property. The cemetery property was expanded northward in 1941 to include additional lands on Lot 6 bordering the east limit of the subject property. Currently, the north limit of the modern burial ground, which is delineated by a wooden rail fence, is approximately ten metres south of the southeast corner of the subject property.

1.2.1 Pre-Contact Settlement

Southern Ontario has a cultural history that begins approximately 13,500 years ago and continues to the present. As there tends to be less widespread awareness of the depth of this pre-contact settlement history, or general knowledge of the



societies that inhabited Ontario prior to the onset of Euro-Canadian settlement, a brief review of the prehistory of the area is necessary in order to provide an understanding of the various natural and cultural forces that have operated to create the archaeological sites that are found today.

Table 1 provides a general summary of the pre-contact Indigenous settlement history of southern Ontario from approximately 11,500 Before Common Era (B.C.E.) to the year 1650 Common Era (C.E.).

Table 1: Pre-contact Indigenous Temporal Culture Periods in Southern Ontario

Period	Description
Paleo > 11,500 – 8,500 B.C.E.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• First human occupation of Ontario• Astronomers/ Artists/ Hunters/ Gatherers/ Foragers• Language Unknown• Small occupations• Non-stratified populations
Archaic 8,500 – 1,000 B.C.E.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Astronomers/ Artists/ Hunters/ Gatherers/ Foragers• Small occupations• Non-stratified populations• Mortuary ceremonialism• Extensive trade networks for raw materials and finished objects
Early Woodland 1,000 – 450 B.C.E.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Astronomers/ Artists/ Hunters/ Gatherers/ Foragers• General trend in spring/summer congregation and fall/winter dispersal• Small and large occupations• First evidence of community identity• Mortuary ceremonialism• Extensive trade networks for raw materials and finished objects



Period	Description
Middle Woodland 450 B.C.E. – 750 C.E. Transitional Woodland 600 – 900 C.E.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Astronomers/ Artists/ Hunters/ Gatherers/ Foragers • A general trend in spring/summer congregation and fall/winter dispersal into large and small settlements • Kin-based political system • Increasingly elaborate mortuary ceremonialism • Incipient agriculture in some regions • Longer term settlement occupation and reuse
Late Woodland (Early) 900 – 1300 C.E.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foraging with locally defined dependence on agriculture • Villages, specific and special purpose sites • Socio-political system strongly kinship based
Late Woodland (Middle) 1300 – 1400 C.E.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major shift to agricultural dependency • Villages, specific and special purpose sites • Development of socio-political complexity
Late Woodland (Late) 1400 – 1650 C.E.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complex agricultural society • Villages, specific and special purpose sites • Politically allied regional populations

1.2.2 Post-Contact Settlement

Treaty 3 (Between the Lakes Purchase)

The subject property is within Treaty 3, the “Between the Lakes Purchase.” Following the 1764 Niagara Peace Treaty and the follow-up treaties with Pontiac, the English colonial government considered the Mississaugas to be their allies since they had accepted the Covenant Chain. The English administrators followed the terms of the Royal Proclamation and insured that no settlements were made in the hunting grounds that had been reserved for their use (Johnston, 1964; Lytwyn, 2005). In 1784, under the terms of the Between the Lakes Purchase



signed by Sir Frederick Haldimand and the Mississaugas, the Crown acquired over one million acres of land in-part spanning westward from near modern-day Niagara-on-the-Lake along the south shore of Lake Ontario to modern-day Burlington (Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, 2016).

County of Lincoln

The County of Lincoln was one of the first counties to be established by proclamation following the arrival of Lieutenant-Governor John Graves Simcoe in Upper Canada in 1792. The County was named after Lincolnshire in England. Prior to that time, Lincoln had comprised part of the District of Nassau, which was under the legal and administrative jurisdiction of Montreal between 1783 and 1788. This name was changed to the “Home District” in October 1792. The Town of Niagara (or Newark, now Niagara-on-the-Lake) was not only the county town but also the capital of the Province of Upper Canada between 1792 and 1796. In 1800, the Niagara Region was renamed as the “District of Niagara.” The Town of Niagara remained as the “official” County Town from July 1801 until 1866, when that status was transferred to St. Catharines (Gardiner, 1899:267; Armstrong, 1985:172, 186-188).

By 1805, Lincoln was described as being “a very fine and populous settlement,” with a population of about 6,000 (Boulton, 1805:49).

Township of Grimsby

Grimsby was originally known as “Township No. 6,” but was also called “The Forty” due to its location on the Forty Mile Creek. It was renamed after a place called “Great Grimsby” in Lincolnshire, England (Gardiner, 1899:268).

Grimsby Township was first surveyed and settled in 1787-1788. Some of the original landowners were disbanded soldiers who had served in Butler’s Rangers during the American Revolutionary War, while others were classified as “Late Loyalists” and Americans who arrived in the province between 1785 and 1789. The first known township meeting in Ontario was held at Grimsby in April 1790. A post-office was established there in 1816 (Smith, 1851:153; Armstrong, 1985:144; Scott, 1997:94).



The township was described in an early gazetteer as being “in the county of Lincoln, lies west of Clinton, and fronts Lake Ontario.” It was observed that Grimsby contained “soil of a good quality” and was in a “good situation.” Grimsby was, however, “but indifferently circumstanced for roads,” although it had “full advantage of water communication” by means of Lake Ontario with other settlements. Early mills and various industries were established in Grimsby on the Forty Mile Creek (Smyth, 1799:86; Boulton, 1805:80).

In 1846, Grimsby was described as a “well settled township” with “rolling land” and “excellent farms.” The population, a mixture of Canadians (Loyalists), Americans, and Europeans, was 1,784. Approximately 35% of the land within the township (9,745 acres or 3,943 hectares) was under cultivation. The principal crops included wheat, barley, rye, oats, peas, Indian corn, potatoes, buckwheat, turnips, mangel wurzel, hay, and various fruit cultivars. Additional farm products of note included hay, wool, cheese, butter, and maple sugar. Real property in the township was assessed at £35,498. The timber was a mixture of pine and hardwood. The township contained thirteen public schools by the early 1850s (Smith, 1846:71; Smith, 1851:211, 216-217).

The original township was split into North and South Grimsby Townships in 1882. Following the creation of the Regional Municipality of Niagara in 1970, South Grimsby was annexed and joined with other nearby townships to form part of present-day West Lincoln (Rayburn, 1997:144).

Community of Smithville

The community of Smithville is one of the oldest settlements in the Niagara Region. The first settler in the community was Richard Griffin, a Welshman who had resided at Nine Partners, New York, prior to the outbreak of the American Revolutionary War. He was married to Mary Smith, and they raised a family of twelve children, including a son named Smith Griffin. The Griffin family settled in Grimsby around 1786. The new settlement was originally named “Griffintown,” but was renamed “Smithville” in July 1831, when it acquired the status of a post-office village. The new name is said to have been selected in honour of Mary Smith’s family. Smith Griffin was an enterprising individual, who served on the township council and constructed the first store and grist mill in the community



on the headwaters of the Twenty Mile Creek (Armstrong, 1985:235; Rayburn, 1997:320; Scott, 1997:208).

In 1846, Smithville had a population of about 150 inhabitants, and by 1851 the population had grown to approximately 450 inhabitants. The spiritual needs of the community were served by an Episcopal Methodist and a British Wesleyan Methodist Church. The post office received mail twice weekly. The list of businesses included one grist mill, one sawmill, a carding machine, cloth factory, machine shop, tannery, two blacksmiths, four stores, two tailors, and two shoemakers. Additional industries included a woolen factory and a foundry. A lead mine (for “cubic lead ore”) had been established in the late 1840s. There were two known “sulphur springs” in the vicinity. Unconfirmed reports circulated around that time of “ore rich in silver” (Smith, 1846:174; Smith, 1851:209).

The substantial growth of Smithville and its various industries during the second half of the nineteenth century is demonstrated clearly on the 1862 *Tremaine Map of the Counties of Lincoln and Welland* (Tremaine and Tremaine, 1862) (Figure 2) and the 1876 *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the Counties of Lincoln* (Page, 1876) (Figures 3-4). The arrival of the Toronto, Hamilton and Buffalo Railway at the end of the nineteenth century further energized development in the community, including the establishment of a school shown within the current subject property under review on the early twentieth-century Grimsby topographic map series (Department of Militia and Defence, 1907; Department of National Defence, 1938) (Figures 5-6). The existing (now closed) College Street Public School on the subject property is comprised of multiple building additions constructed over the course of the twentieth century, but a property brochure from 2021 advertising the sale of the property lists the initial construction date as 1921 (Colliers International, 2021); if accurate, this would mean the oldest section of the existing building is not the original school building shown on the 1907 topographic map.

1.2.3 Historical Development of the Smithville Union Cemetery

The Smithville Union Cemetery was established during the early-mid nineteenth century. The original nineteenth-century cemetery limits straddled portions of Lot



6 and Lot 7 approximately 30 metres south of the subject property under review. The cemetery limits were expanded in the mid-twentieth century to include additional lands on Lot 6, the northernmost portion of which now borders the east limit of the subject property. Given the proximity of the modern cemetery limits, the historical land use and development of the Smithville Union Cemetery on Lots 6 and 7 was reviewed to determine the potential for the presence of unmarked burials on or within the limits of the subject property.

Development of Lot 6, Concession 9

Lot 6, Concession 9 was patented by Edward Griffin on December 31, 1798. There is a gap in the chain of title following the patent of nearly eighteen years. This was either caused by the non-registration of subsequent property deeds or more probably due to the destruction of all the Land Registry records when the Town of Niagara was burned by the retreating American forces in December 1813.

By September 1816, this lot was in the possession of Jacob Miree. At that time, he sold the northerly 23 acres of the lot to Daniel Ward Eastman (Grimsby Memorial deeds #5562). Upon his death in 1832, his widow Bethia inherited a life interest in the residue of his Smithville farm which was “supposed to contain about 150 acres” (approximately 60.70 hectares). Upon the death of Bethia, the farm was inherited by her sons (Miree’s “step-sons”) Nathaniel and Cornelius Hill. It is not known where Bethia and Jacob Miree were buried, but their graves may have been among the unmarked interments in the Smithville Union Cemetery (Couch, 1907:14, 52-56; Powell, 1950:90; Powell, 1951:33, 35-36, 40, 42, 45; Grimsby Memorial deed #3166; Armstrong, 1985:64, 77).

In September 1839, Eastman severed his part of the lot into two parcels of equal size. He sold the “north west 11.5 acres” (4.65 hectares) to Cornelius Hill for £25. Nathaniel Hill purchased the “north east 11½ acres” (4.65 hectares) at that same time for £30. These men inherited additional lands from Jacob Miree following his death in 1832, which was to be “divided between them or sold” (Grimsby Memorial deeds #101, 102, 3166).

Between August 1854 and August 1857, John Hill acquired 18 acres (7.28 hectares) for £25 from Barbara Hill, a spinster and one of the heirs of Cornelius



Hill, as well as from Henry and Margaret Porter, who were named as the executors of Cornelius Hill (Grimsby Memorial deeds #5932, 9808).

In July 1855, Hill sold a 0.5-acre (0.20-hectare) parcel to John McCollom and nine others as “trustees for a public burying ground.” This land, which had been accepted by the trustees “as capable of taking, holding and possessing such land in trust” from Hill, was then transferred to another group of five trustees (John McCollom, Richard C. Griffin, Nathaniel and John Hill, and William Russ) for the sum of £4. The deed provided that there would always be five cemetery trustees, and their names would be entered into a record book kept expressly for that purpose (Grimsby Memorial deeds #12571).

The property sold by Hill to the Cemetery trustees was described in the deed as being four chains in length by one chain and 25 links in width (264 feet by 82.5 feet, or 80.46 metres by 25.14 metres), which commenced on the line between Lots 6 and 7 at a distance of three chains and 21 links (211.86 feet or 64.57 metres) north of St. Catharines Street, running north and east (Grimsby Memorial deeds #12571).

The abstract index for the “Grimsby Memorials” series contained no further references to any lands acquired by the trustees for the Smithville Union Cemetery.

The Smithville Union Cemetery was expanded in October 1941. At that time, the “Trustees” purchase two additional parcels of land on Lot 6 to the north and east of the original burial ground.

The first deed was made with Harold T. Malcolmson (“Railway General Manager and Vice President”) and John Alexander Soule (“one of His Majesty’s Counsel”), who sold the Trustees a 1.28-acre (0.52-hectare) parcel for \$200 (South Gimsby deed #6067) (Figure 7).

The second deed was made with the Toronto, Hamilton and Buffalo Railway Company, by which the Trustees acquired a 0.96-acre (0.39-hectare) parcel for \$50. This land formed part of the former “Smithville Station” grounds (South Grimsby deed #6068) (Figure 8). This parcel comprises the northern portion of the



modern cemetery property that directly borders the 132 College Street subject property under review.

A fourth parcel of land also forms part of the Smithville Union Cemetery. It is situated between St. Catharines Street and the south limit of the lands conveyed to the Trustees by John Hill in 1855. This parcel was not included in the deeds from Hill or Lewis to the Trustees, but this land was shown on plans of survey made in August 1914 and September 1941, where it is clearly labelled as “Cemetery.” This parcel provides access into the cemetery from St. Catharines Street (South Grimsby deeds #3181) (Figure 9).

There were no additional deeds of land found for the cemetery or transfers made to its trustees in the abstract index for Lot 6 between 1876 and 1947.

Development of Lot 7, Concession 9

Lot 7, Concession 9 was patented by Charles Meredith on June 22, 1796. Meredith was one of the earliest settlers in South Grimsby/Smithville, and his name was shown on a map of the township dated September 1811. In August 1804, Meredith sold the whole of this lot to his brother-in-law, Smith Griffin (Grimsby Memorial deeds #6033).

In February 1832, Griffin mortgaged this land in favour of Forsyth, Richardson & Co. The principal amount of the charge was £7,800, which was a considerable amount for that time. Griffin appears to have become financially embarrassed, and in April 1835 he transferred this land (except the parts already sold) to Forsyth, Richardson & Co. (Grimsby Memorial deeds #8569, 10330).

Forsyth and Richardson retained possession of this land for a number of years, and gradually disposed of the property. Individual building lots, and in other instances larger acreage, was sold by this firm to private owners between October 1842 and July 1850.

In July 1850, Forsyth and Richardson sold a larger parcel of land to John W. Lewis. The property which he bought included “7 acres 1 rod and 20 perches” in Lot 7, as well as parts of Lots 8 and 9 (Grimsby Memorial deeds #4467).



In July 1855, Lewis sold a 0.5-acre (0.20-hectare) parcel to John McCollom and nine others as “trustees for a public burying ground.” This land, which had been accepted by the trustees “as capable of taking, holding and possessing such land in trust” from Lewis, was then transferred to another group of five trustees (John McCollom, Richard C. Griffin, Nathaniel and John Hill, and William Russ) for the sum of £4. The deed provided that there would always be five cemetery trustees, and their names would be entered into a record book kept expressly for that purpose (Grimsby Memorial deeds #12572).

The property sold by Lewis to the Cemetery trustees was described in the deed as being four chains in length by one chain and 25 links in width (264 feet by 82.5 feet, or 80.46 metres by 25.14 metres), which commenced on the line between Lots 6 and 7 at a distance of three chains and 21 links (211.86 feet or 64.57 metres) north of St. Catharines Street, running north and west (Grimsby Memorial deeds #12572).

The abstract index for the “Grimsby Memorials” series contained no further references to any lands acquired by the trustees for the Smithville Union Cemetery.

There were no additional deeds of land found for the cemetery or transfers made to its trustees in the abstract index for Lot 7 between 1876 and 1947.

Lot 2, Plan M-96

In October 1978, the “Trustees and Their Elected Successors in Office of the Union Cemetery, Smithville, Ontario” applied to have this land transferred to the Land Titles system (application D-16). The cemetery land was entered into Land Titles as Parcel 2-1 Section Plan M-96 (Figure 10). The boundaries of the parcel were confirmed under Plan BA1693 in February 1980. The parcel register was automated in October 1997. Any subsequent land ownership history between that year and the present date would require a Property Index Number search.



Smithville Union Cemetery

The Smithville Union Cemetery comprises parts of Lots 6 and 7, Concession 9 in the former Township of South Grimsby, now the Township of West Lincoln. The cemetery is reputed to have been established around 1813, and that date is carved into a commemorative granite monument erected at the site. If this date can be verified, it would mean that this cemetery is one of the oldest public burial grounds in the Township of West Lincoln.

When this cemetery was transcribed by the volunteer members of the Ontario Genealogical Society in 1991, there were approximately 362 intact tombstones, which commemorated the burials of approximately 690 individuals. There were also several broken tombstones noted, either with complete or partial inscriptions. Some of the other standing tombstones had weathered badly, and their inscriptions could no longer be deciphered.

The inscriptions on the tombstones ranged in date between 1836 and the time of the transcription process in 1991. The number of unmarked burials is not presently known. The number of burials has increased during the ensuing 31 years since Smithville Union Cemetery remains in use as an active burial ground.

The oldest marked burial in this cemetery is that of the Reverend Jeremiah Cutler, who died on February 26, 1836 “in the 78th year of his age.” Cutler was a member of the United Brethren in Christ Church, which was founded in Maryland in 1800. Other members of his family were interred here with him.

The next marked burial is that of Eliza Catharine Waddell, the daughter of Captain Robert and Mary Waddell, who died on September 5, 1838, aged 17 years. Waddell was the granddaughter of Solomon Hill and his wife Bethia Griffin, and the step-granddaughter of Jacob Miree.

There are just four marked burials in this cemetery dating from the 1840s: an infant daughter of Roy and Parmelia Cutler (died September 10, 1844, aged four months); Eleanor J. Rozel, the wife of Charles Rozel (died January 19, 1846, aged 23 years); an infant son of Robert and Mary Cartmer (died October 17, 1846, aged one month); and John Robinson (died August [12? 1848?], aged 61 years).



There are no marked burials between 1848 and 1851. There is just one marked burial from 1851, that of Benjamin F. (Fisch?), who died in August 1851. There are two marked interments from 1852: Mary Carmer, the wife of Robert (died May 19, 1852, aged 32 years) and George Roy (died September 13, 1852, aged 39 years).

The next marked burials date from 1854: Stephen Roy (died July 15, 1854, aged 76 years); Cornelius Hill (died August 4, 1854, aged 54 years); and Mary Ann Waddell, the daughter of Robert and Mary Waddell (died December 14, 1854, aged 25 years).

The number of marked burials significantly increased following the time when the land for this burial ground was deeded to the cemetery trustees in 1855. Marked interments may be found in this cemetery from nearly every year between 1855 and 1991. There are a significant number of burials from the 1980s and early 1990s. Many of the tombstones for these burials show surnames of Dutch and German origin (for example, Brutscher, DeBoer, Dykstra, TenBrinke, VanEgmond, Zantingh), as well as several Polish and Ukrainian names (for example, Jasinski, Kazienko, Sicko, Urechuk, Zablotna). As mentioned above, the cemetery remains an active burial ground with multiple additional marked interments dating from 2000 to 2021.

The small number of interments which occurred here between 1836 and 1855, as well as the fact that there are *no* marked burials from an earlier period, suggests that this burial ground was probably not established circa 1813 as stated in the 1991 Ontario Genealogical Society transcription. Other cemeteries in Grimsby, such as St. Andrew's Churchyard, contain a number of tombstones from the first quarter of the nineteenth century. Part of the original Smithville Union Cemetery burial ground was deeded to the trustees by members of the Hill family in 1855. Since at least three members of the Hill-Waddell family were buried here prior to the time of the land donation, this raises the possibility that part of the cemetery may have originally been a private family burial plot. The earlier Cutler burial (1836) and the few scattered 1840s burials may have been moved here during a later period. Furthermore, the establishment of this cemetery would appear to



post-date the time when the Wesleyan Methodist and Methodist Episcopal split or division occurred within the congregation.

Unfortunately, there are no known contemporary nineteenth-century maps of the cemetery (which would have been kept by the trustees or sextons) that showed the location of the interments as they were being made. It is interesting to note that the 1862 *Tremaine Map of the Counties of Lincoln and Welland* (Tremaine and Tremaine, 1862) does not show the location of the Smithville Union Cemetery (Figure 2). The cemetery does, however, appear on later maps, including the 1876 *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the Counties of Lincoln and Welland* (Page, 1876) (Figures 3-4).

Summary

The Smithville Union Cemetery is located upon parts of Lots 6 and 7 in Concession 9 in the Township of West Lincoln (formerly South Grimsby Township). These lands were originally granted between 1796 and 1798 to two men, Edward Griffin and Charles Meredith, who were classified as “late Loyalist” settlers. These township lots were farmed by the Griffin-Meredith-Hill-Miree families for more than fifty years.

Local “tradition” relates that this cemetery was established “circa 1813,” and was originally used by the Smithville Methodist Episcopal congregation. This early date may be questioned due to the complete lack of any marked burials within the cemetery between 1813 and 1836. This does not preclude the possibility that part of the cemetery may have been used as a private family burial ground by the related Griffin, Hill, Meredith, and Miree families. Some of the early burials may have been moved to this cemetery from other small burial grounds. The cemetery was probably established during the 1830s following the split or schism which occurred between the Methodist Episcopal and the Wesleyan Methodist Churches in Upper Canada.

The cemetery is a consolidation of four or five parcels of various dimensions, deeded by private owners to the cemetery trustees in 1855, pre-1914, and 1941. The lands deeded to the cemetery in 1941 formed part of the railway lands described as the Smithville Station grounds (Figures 7-9). These parcels were



consolidated in a survey in 1976 and are now described as Lot 2 as shown on Registered Plan M-96 (Figure 10).

There are no known nineteenth-century maps of the cemetery that showed the location of the burials at the time at which they occurred. Nor are there any known early burial registers for this cemetery. Twentieth-century burial records have not been consulted.

The Ontario Genealogical Society transcribed more than 362 intact tombstones dating from 1836 to 1991, which commemorate the burials of more than 690 individuals. The number of unmarked burials is not presently known. This count does not include the Victorian era tombstones that are broken and do not contain names. Some of the tombstones are intact but are too badly weathered to be legible. The number of tombstones and additional interments has increased during the last 31 years since this burial ground remains in use as an active cemetery.

Upon review of the historical land use, mapping, and deed plans, it is evident that the original nineteenth-century burial ground straddling Lots 6 and 7 did not directly border the current subject property on Lot 7. There is no indication in the background research of any expansion of the cemetery within Lot 7 after the initial sale of the land by John W. Lewis to the Cemetery trustees in 1855, and it was not until the addition of multiple parcels on Lot 6 during the 1941 expansion that the north end of the cemetery came to border the east limit of the subject property.

1.2.4 Review of Map Sources

A review of nineteenth- and early twentieth-century mapping was completed to determine if these sources depict any nineteenth-century Euro-Canadian settlement features that may represent potential historical archaeological sites within or adjacent to the subject property. Historical map sources are used to reconstruct/predict the location of former features within the modern landscape by cross-referencing points between the various sources and then georeferencing them in order to provide the most accurate determination of the location of any property from historical mapping sources. The results can be imprecise (or even



contradictory) because sources of error, such as the vagaries of map production, differences in scale or resolution, and distortions caused by the reproduction of the sources, introduce error into the process. The impacts of this error are dependent on the size of the feature in question, the constancy of reference points on mapping, the distances between them, and the consistency with which both are depicted on historic mapping.

In addition, not all settlement features were depicted systematically in the compilation of these historical map sources, given that they were financed by subscription, and subscribers were given preference with regards to the level of detail provided. Thus, not every feature of interest from the perspective of archaeological resource management would have been within the scope of these sources.

The subject property, as overlaid on the 1862 *Map of the Counties of Lincoln and Welland* (Tremaine and Tremaine, 1862) (Figure 2) and the 1876 *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the Counties of Lincoln and Welland* (Page, 1876) (Figures 3-4), is shown in the east end of the village of Smithville on part of Lot 7, Concession 9. The property is situated just north and east of the developed areas fronting historic St. Catharines Street and Brock Street, respectively; both roads are within 100 metres of the west end of the subject property. The maps also depict Twenty Mile Creek approximately 300 metres south of the property at its nearest point. No owner is listed for the portion of Lot 7 occupied by the subject property on the 1862 map. The Smithville insert of the 1876 atlas, however, shows the detailed division of the many individual property parcels comprising the community, with the subject property occupying the majority of a parcel owned by John. N. French. As noted in Section 1.2.3 above, the 1862 map does not identify the location of the Smithville Union Cemetery, but the cemetery is identified on the 1876 atlas, with the more detailed Smithville insert clearly showing the cemetery property overlapping parts of Lots 6 and 7 approximately 30 metres south of the subject property. The Smithville insert also indicates the 30 metres of land separating the subject property and the cemetery was not part of the John N. French parcel, but rather part of a separate parcel belonging to a different landowner (Mrs. Mary Teeter).



Twentieth-century topographic mapping was also reviewed for the presence of potential historical features and modern developments. Land features, such as waterways, wetlands, woodlots, and elevation, are clearly illustrated on this series of mapping, along with roads and structure locations. On the 1907 Grimsby topographic map (Department of Militia and Defence, 1907), the property is once again depicted in the east part of Smithville just north and west of St. Catharines Street and Brock Street, respectively (Figure 5). The streets are lined by rows of evenly spaced structures, most of which likely represent houses. Depicted approximately 200 metres north of the property is the Toronto, Hamilton and Buffalo Railway, which was opened circa 1895-1896. A stone or brick schoolhouse is identified inside the southwest corner of the subject property; as discussed in Section 1.2.2 above, the schoolhouse depicted on the 1907 map may represent an older structure that was replaced circa 1921 by what is now the oldest section of the existing school building currently on the property. The map identifies the presence of a church to the south of the subject property along St. Catharines Street, but the presence of the Smithville Union Cemetery near the southeast limit of the property is not represented.

Many of the transportation and other settlement features previously shown in the vicinity of the subject property on the earlier mapping appear again on the 1938 Grimsby topographic map (Department of National Defence, 1938), such as Twenty Mile Creek and St. Catharines Street to the south, Brock Street to the west, and the Toronto, Hamilton and Buffalo Railway to the north (Figure 6). In addition to these earlier features, however, the 1938 map shows the southern portion of the west subject property limit now fronting a new road, College Street, that branches north and east from St. Catharines Street and Brock Street, respectively; this new road facilitates access to the school that is once again depicted inside the southwest corner of the property. Just beyond the east limit of the subject property there is now a second rail line branching south from the main line of the Toronto, Hamilton and Buffalo Railway. Unlike the earlier 1907 topographic map, the 1938 map identifies not only the location of the Smithville Union Cemetery south of the southeast corner of the subject property, but also delineates the approximate limits of the original burial ground; like the 1976 atlas, the position of the subject property on the 1938 topographic map reflects the



approximate 30-metre distance between the subject property and the historical (pre-1941) boundaries of the cemetery property.

1.2.5 Review of Aerial Imagery

To further understand the previous land use of the subject property, a series of aerial images from the twentieth and early twenty-first centuries was reviewed (Figure 11).

The 1934 image (Ministry of Natural Resources Canada, 1934) shows the property situated to the north and east of rows of residential properties fronting St. Catharines Street to the south and Brock Street to the west. Present-day College Street has not yet been established as a proper road, but a driveway corresponding to the future roadway extends northeast from St. Catharines Street to the southwest corner of the property, where a building is situated within the property limits. This building corresponds to the oldest part of the existing school on the property. The rest of the subject property consists of cleared land. Just beyond the east property limit is a curved section of railway track that connects to the main Toronto, Hamilton and Buffalo Railway line located further to the north. Also visible on the 1934 image is the Smithville Union Cemetery situated south of the southeast corner of the subject property. On this aerial image, which pre-dates the 1941 expansion of the cemetery, the boundaries of the original burial ground are clearly defined by a tree border, and approximately 30 metres separates the north end of the cemetery from the subject property; this 30-metre separation from the original burial ground is consistent with the depictions on the historical maps and deed plans that both pre-date (Figures 3-4) and post-date (Figures 6-9) the 1934 image.

Imagery from 1954 (Ministry of Natural Resources Canada, 1954) now shows the old laneway that once connected the school in the southwest corner of the property to St. Catharines Street to the south as a proper road (College Street). The school building does not appear to have changed since 1934, but behind the school there are additional recreation areas, including a possible baseball diamond, and a large portion of the east end of the property is now covered in vegetation. It is also clear from the 1954 image that, despite the expansion of the overall property owned by the Smithville Union Cemetery 13 years earlier, the



northern portion bordering the east subject property limit has not yet been opened for interments and the treed boundary of the burial ground remains approximately of 30 metres from the subject property.

The aerial image from 1965 (Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, 1965) shows further development of the surrounding lands, including the extension of College Street north to the northwest limit of the subject property, where it connects to the newly constructed Morgan Avenue, which runs east from Brock Street along the western section of the north property limit. Two new houses have been built on the south side of Morgan Avenue between the road and the eastern portion of the north property limit, which is further back from the road, and several others on the north side opposite the property are in various stages of completion. In the west end of the subject property, a new, large addition has been built onto the north side of the original school building, and the land adjacent to the rear (east side) of the building has been cleared of all trees and graded. Evidence of grading in the northwest portion fronting both roads is also visible. The east end of the property remains densely wooded. On the adjacent Smithville Union Cemetery property, the north portion bordering the east limit of the subject property consists of an open scrub field and the limit of the active burial ground remains approximately 30 metres south of the subject property.

Development of the subject property and surrounding lands continued in the following decades, with subsequent building additions more than doubling the size of the school. The east part of the property remains densely wooded, but large portions of the west half have been further graded and paved to provide parking and recreational areas. An image of the property from 2006 (Niagara Region, no date) shows two large, roughly circular graveled areas, possibly baseball diamonds, surrounded by grass in the central portion. The 2006 image also shows the active burial ground on the adjacent Smithville Union Cemetery property has begun expanding northward, with the fenced northwest limit of the manicured lawn stopping just short of the southeast corner of the subject property. The northernmost part of the cemetery property beyond the burial ground that directly borders the east subject property limit has been left untended and is covered by dense trees and scrub.



The College Street Public School closed sometime around 2017-2018. The only significant changes to the property after 2006 were the clearing of a large portion of the treed east half and the rehabilitation of the graveled areas in the manicured central field (Figure 12). The conditions on the adjacent north section of the Smithville Union Cemetery, including the limit of the manicured active burial ground, has not changed.

1.3 Archaeological Context

This section provides background research pertaining to previous archaeological fieldwork conducted within and in the vicinity of the subject property, its environment characteristics (including drainage, soils, surficial geology, topography), and current land use and field conditions.

1.3.1 Registered Archaeological Sites

In order that an inventory of archaeological resources could be compiled for the subject property, three sources of information were consulted: the site record forms for registered sites housed at the Ministry, published and unpublished documentary sources, and the files of Archaeological Services Inc.

In Ontario, information concerning archaeological sites is stored in the Ontario Archaeological Sites Database, which is maintained by the Ministry. This database contains archaeological sites registered within the Borden system. The Borden system was first proposed by Dr. Charles E. Borden and is based on a block of latitude and longitude. Each Borden block measures approximately 13 kilometres east-west by 18.5 kilometres north-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 in the AgGv Borden block.

Currently, there are 31 archaeological sites registered within a 1.3-kilometre radius of the subject property (Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, 2022). A summary of these sites is provided in Appendix A. The sites nearest to the subject property are Sites AgGv-103 and AgGv-102, which are located approximately 135 metres and 200 metres southeast of the subject property, respectively; both are non-diagnostic Indigenous sites. The other sites, consisting



of 26 Indigenous sites and three nineteenth-century Euro-Canadian sites, are all located more than 500 metres from the subject property.

1.3.2 Previous Assessments

While no previous archaeological assessments are known to have been completed within the limits of the subject property, Archaeological Services Inc. previously conducted two separate archaeological assessments on a vacant property located at 173 St. Catharines Street, the northern limit of which borders the southeast limit of the current subject property at 132 College Street. The first assessment consisted of a Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment of the entire 173 St. Catharines Street property, and the second assessment consisted of a Stage 3 Archaeological Assessment (cemetery investigation) of the portion of 173 St. Catharines Street that bordered the west limit of the original nineteenth-century Smithville Union Cemetery burial ground.

The Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment was completed in 2016 (Archaeological Services Inc., 2016). Approximately 77% of the property was assessed by means of a pedestrian survey and 22% by means of a test pit survey, while the remaining 1% of the property, consisting of a gravel driveway, was deemed to have no archaeological potential due to previous ground disturbance and was not tested. Among the areas subject to test pit survey was a narrow strip of land along the full length of the east limit bordering the nineteenth-century cemetery. While no archaeological resources were encountered during the survey, grave markers were observed within 30-50 centimetres of the eastern property limit. Given the oldest known burials were located in the part of the cemetery closest to the 173 St. Catharines Street property, as well as the potential for the cemetery to have been used as a private family burial ground prior to 1836, it was recommended that a Stage 3 Archaeological Assessment (cemetery investigation) be conducted along the length of the east limit bordering the cemetery to confirm the presence or absence of unmarked burials outside of the currently defined cemetery limits. The balance of the property outside of the area recommended for cemetery investigation was deemed to be free of further archaeological concern (Archaeological Services Inc., 2016).



The Stage 3 Archaeological Assessment (cemetery investigation) of the 173 St. Catharines Street property was conducted in 2016-2017 (Archaeological Services Inc., 2017). The investigation involved mechanical removal of topsoil to a distance of ten metres along the east property limit bordering the Smithville Union Cemetery for a length of approximately 90 metres. The mechanical topsoil removal was restricted in certain sections of the investigation area due to an existing Tree Inventory and Preservation Plan designed to preserve mature trees situated along the property boundary; the tree protection zone occupied approximately 33% of the cemetery investigation area. No evidence of grave shafts or any other features (such as marker footings or lot corner stones) or materials were noted during course of the investigation, and it was recommended that no further assessment of the cemetery investigation area be required (Archaeological Services Inc., 2017).

Substantial residential development of the former railway lands immediately east of the Smithville Union Cemetery property began around 2017 and remains ongoing, and grading activity associated with the development has occurred within 15-20 metres of the subject property (Figure 11). However, no record of any archaeological assessment of these lands could be found.

1.3.3 Physiography

The subject property is in the Haldimand Clay Plain physiographic region, which, at approximately 3,500 square kilometres, is among the largest of the 53 defined physiographic regions in southern Ontario (MacDonald, 1980:3; Chapman and Putnam, 1984:21, 156-159). Extending from the Niagara Escarpment to Lake Erie, the clay plain was submerged in glacial Lake Warren around 12,500 years ago. As a result of the heavy lacustrine clay soils and low gradient, drainage is poor over most of the area, although it includes several distinctive landforms, including dunes, cobble, clay, and sand beaches, limestone pavements, and back-shore wetland basins.

The subject property is within the Twenty Mile Creek subwatershed of the Lake Ontario South Shore watershed (Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority, no date). Twenty Mile Creek, which flows through the Town of Smithville, is approximately 285 metres south of the subject property at its nearest point.



1.3.4 Existing Conditions

The subject property is a former elementary school property (College Street Public School) located in a residential area (Figure 12). The school was closed sometime around 2017-2018. The west limit of the property, where the school itself is located, fronts College Street and the north limit fronts Morgan Avenue; the western portion of the north limit extends along the roadway while the eastern portion, which is set back approximately 45 metres from the road, borders the backyards of four separate residential lots. Additional residential properties border the south limit. The east limit borders the narrow northernmost portion of the Smithville Union Cemetery, which is covered in dense trees and scrub.

The now-closed school was built through a series of additions over the course of the twentieth century, with the oldest portion of the existing building in the southwest corner believed to have been constructed circa 1921; the rectangular peaked roof of the early structure visible on the 1934 aerial image remains the tallest part of the current building. On the east side of the building is a large, paved recreational area, with a paved driveway and parking lot located in the northwest portion off Morgan Avenue. The central part of the property consists of a large, manicured field, the eastern limit of which is bordered by a chain-link fence. The most recent imagery of the property shows the east end of the property beyond the fenced field as covered in dense trees. Prior to the Stage 2 fieldwork, however, only a small portion of this area in the southeast corner remained wooded while the rest had been cleared.

1.3.5 Review of Archaeological Potential

The Standards, Section 1.3.1 stipulates that undisturbed lands within 300 metres of primary water sources (lakes, rivers, streams, creeks), secondary water sources (intermittent streams and creeks, springs, marshes, and swamps), ancient water sources (glacial lake shorelines indicated by the presence of raised sand or gravel beach ridges, relic river or stream channels indicated by clear dip or swale in the topography, shorelines of drained lakes or marshes, and cobble beaches), and accessible and inaccessible shorelines (bluffs, swamps or marsh fields by the edge



of a lake, sandbars stretching into marsh) are considered, at a generic level, to exhibit potential for Indigenous archaeological sites.

Potable water is the single most important resource necessary for any extended human occupation or settlement. Since water sources have remained relatively stable in south-central Ontario after the Pleistocene era, proximity to water can be regarded as a useful index for the evaluation of archaeological site potential. Indeed, distance from water has been one of the most common variables used for predictive modelling of site location. Twenty Mile Creek is within approximately 285 metres of the subject property.

Other geographic characteristics that can indicate pre-contact archaeological potential include elevated topography (eskers, drumlins, large knolls, plateaux), pockets of well-drained sandy soil, especially near areas of heavy soil or rocky ground, and distinctive land formations that might have been special or spiritual places for Indigenous populations, such as waterfalls, rock outcrops, caverns, mounds, and promontories and their bases. There may be physical indicators of their use by Indigenous peoples, such as burials, structures, offerings, and rock paintings or carvings. Resource areas, including food or medicinal plants (migratory routes, spawning areas, prairie) and scarce raw materials (quartz, copper, ochre, or outcrops of chert and bedrock), are also considered characteristics that indicate pre-contact archaeological potential.

For the post-contact period, Section 1.3.1 of the Standards stipulates those areas of early Euro-Canadian settlement, including places of early military pioneer settlement (pioneer homesteads, isolated cabins, farmstead complexes), early wharf or dock complexes, pioneer churches, and early cemeteries, are considered to have archaeological potential. There may be commemorative markers of their history, such as local, provincial, or federal monuments or heritage parks. Also considered to have archaeological potential are early historical transportation routes (trails, passes, roads, railways, portage routes), properties listed on a municipal register or designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act* or a federal, provincial, or municipal historical landmark or site, and properties that local histories or informants have identified with possible archaeological sites, historical events, activities, or occupations.



The majority of early nineteenth-century farmsteads, which are arguably the most potentially significant resources and whose locations are rarely recorded on nineteenth-century maps, are likely to be captured by the basic proximity to water model, since these occupations were subject to similar environmental constraints. An added factor, however, is the development of the network of concession roads and railroads through the course of the nineteenth century. These transportation routes frequently influenced the siting of farmsteads and businesses. Accordingly, the Standards considers undisturbed lands within 100 metres of early settlement roads or railroads to have potential for the presence of Euro-Canadian archaeological sites.

In addition to the above criteria for Indigenous and historical archaeological potential, the Standards also defines potential buffers of 300 metres around registered Indigenous and historical archaeological sites. There are two known Indigenous sites registered within 300 metres of the subject property. While no historical archaeological sites have been registered within this buffer, the property is situated in a historical settlement and is within 30 metres of the original nineteenth-century burial ground of the Smithville Union Cemetery. In addition, while the oldest part of the existing school was likely constructed around 1921, early twentieth century mapping identifies a schoolhouse on the property by at least 1907.

Given the proximity of water, registered Indigenous sites, and its overall location within a nineteenth-century historical settlement, the subject property meets the criteria for both Indigenous and Euro-Canadian archaeological potential, depending on the extent of modern development impacts.

2.0 Field Methods

The Stage 2 field assessment was conducted in order to inventory, identify, and describe any archaeological resources extant within the subject property prior to development. The fieldwork took place on April 28 and May 2, 2022. All fieldwork was conducted under the field direction of Sean Haefner (R1253) and was carried out in accordance with the Standards. The weather conditions were appropriate for the completion of fieldwork, permitting good visibility of the land features.



Representative photos documenting the field conditions during the Stage 2 fieldwork are presented in Section 8.0 of this report, and photo locations and field observations have been compiled on project mapping (Images 1-15; Figures 13-14). Field observations and photographs were recorded with a Trimble Catalyst Global Navigation Satellite System receiver using World Geodetic System 84.

2.1 Areas of No Potential

The assessment was initiated by conducting a visual review to identify areas with no archaeological potential. During the review it was determined that approximately 42% of the subject property was thoroughly disturbed from past grading and construction activities (Figures 13-14). The areas of disturbance, located in the west part of the property, consist of the existing school building and the associated paved parking lots and recreational areas (Images 1-6). In accordance with the Standards, Section 2.1, Standard 2.b, these areas of deep and extensive land disturbance are considered to have no archaeological potential and were not tested.

2.2 Test Pit Survey

The remaining 58% of the subject property, consisting of the large, manicured field in the centre of the property, the recently clear-cut area in the northeast end, and the remaining area of dense trees and scrub in the southeast end, was assessed by means of a test pit survey (Images 7-10). In accordance with the procedures outlined in the Standards, Section 2.1.2, Standard 2, the test pit survey was initiated at five-metre intervals. As per Section 2.1.8, Standard 2, however, survey intervals were increased to ten metres in areas where significant ground disturbance was encountered (Figures 13-14). All test pits were excavated stratigraphically by hand to no less than five centimetres into sterile subsoil, and all soil was screened through six-millimetre mesh to facilitate artifact recovery. The test pits were examined for stratigraphy, cultural features, and evidence of fill. All test pits were at least 30 centimetres in diameter and excavated within one metre of all structures and/or other disturbances where possible. All test pits were backfilled upon completion of the survey.



Intact soil profiles were encountered in the area of dense scrub in the southeast corner of the subject property. The soil profiles observed in this location consisted of 10-20 centimetres of very dark greyish brown (10Y.R. 3/2) clay A-horizon over a sterile B-horizon of brown (10Y.R. 4/3) clay (Image 11). A shallow drainage channel cuts through this section of the property, and as a result the soils in this location were quite saturated at the time of survey.

The recently cleared northeast section and the large, manicured playing field were thoroughly disturbed with no remaining intact A-horizon deposits. In the cleared northeast section, the ground was covered by a surface layer of wood chips and other debris from tree removal, as well as significant construction and landscaping debris (concrete, bricks, gravel, geotextile cloth); underlying the surface layer was ten centimetres of compact, very dark grey (10Y.R. 3/1) clay fill mixed with gravel and other debris (including torn pieces of geotextile cloth), over a sterile B-horizon of brown (10Y.R. 4/3) clay. The typical disturbed soil profile documented throughout the central field consisted of approximately ten centimetres of secondary landscape fill, over 5-10 centimetres of compact, dark grey (10Y.R. 4/1) mottled clay and gravel fill, over 5-10 centimetres of compact gravel fill, over another 15 centimetres of dark grey clay fill mixed with gravel, over a dark, yellowish brown (10Y.R. 3/4) sterile clay B-horizon (Image 12). In general, the locations where the gravel layer underlying the initial mottled clay fill deposit was thicker and most heavily compacted correlates with the locations of the old gravel baseball diamonds visible on the 2006 aerial image (Figure 11).

2.3 Smithville Union Cemetery

At the time of the Stage 2 assessment, it was also deemed prudent to identify any features of the Smithville Union Cemetery located in the immediate vicinity (within ten metres) that could indicate the potential for unmarked burials within the limits of the subject property.

Of greatest significance is the presence of a wooden rail fence delineating the north limit of the active burial ground (Images 13-15); this fence is visible on various early twenty-first century aerial images (Figures 11 and 12). The northwest corner of the fence, located at the boundary of Lots 6 and 7, was



measured at 6.5 metres south of an orange property stake marking the southeast corner of the subject property (Image 13).

A review of the interment dates on the grave markers in the north portion of the cemetery confirms the burials in this section did not begin until after the land was acquired by the cemetery 1941. Indeed, the burials nearest to the rail fence all date from the late twentieth century onward, which is consistent with aerial imagery that shows the land north of the original nineteenth-century burial ground was not used for interments until sometime after 1965. Only two grave markers were observed within ten metres of the current subject property (Image 14; Figure 13). The nearest, at a distance of approximately 9.4 metres, is an unoccupied plot reserved for Klaas van Marrum. The second closest marker, at a distance of 9.8 metres, is that of Daniel and Tina Bremmer, who were buried in 2003 and 2001, respectively. A third marker, situated adjacent to the unoccupied van Marrum plot and approximately 10.4 metres from the subject property, is for Gerlof and Tryntje van Marrum, who were buried in 2002 and 1991, respectively.

Observations of the triangular section of the cemetery property directly abutting the full length of the eastern subject property limit show this section to be covered with scrub and trees and contains large pile of displaced soil. The large soil pile, which includes gravel and pieces of garbage and other debris, is located just beyond a gap in the rail fence with a well-worn dirt lane providing access from the main driveway looping through the central part of the cemetery (Image 15). Aerial imagery shows the area was already covered in scrub vegetation when modern interments began at the adjacent north end of the active burial ground during the late twentieth century (Figure 11).

3.0 Record of Finds

Despite scrutiny, no archaeological resources were found during the Stage 2 field assessment. Written field notes, annotated field maps, Global Positioning System logs, and other data related to the archaeological assessment of the subject property are located at Archaeological Services Inc.

The documentation and materials related to this project will be curated by Archaeological Services Inc. until such a time that arrangements for their ultimate



transfer to His Majesty the King in right of Ontario, or other public institution, can be made to the satisfaction of the project owner(s), the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, and any other legitimate interest groups.

4.0 Analysis and Conclusions

Archaeological Services Inc. was retained by 2853972 Ontario Inc. to undertake a Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment of 132 College Street, located on part of Lot 7, Concession 9, Geographic Township of Grimsby, Lincoln County, now in the Town of Smithville, Township of West Lincoln, Regional Municipality of Niagara. The subject property is approximately 1.8 hectares.

The Stage 1 background assessment entailed consideration of the proximity of previously registered archaeological sites and the original environmental setting of the subject property, along nineteenth- and twentieth-century settlement trends. This research indicated there was potential for Indigenous and Euro-Canadian archaeological resources within the subject property.

The Stage 2 field assessment was conducted by means of a test pit survey across all portions of the subject property considered to have archaeological potential; approximately 42% of the property was deemed to have no archaeological potential due to previous ground disturbance. Despite careful scrutiny, no archaeological resources were encountered during the course of the survey.

Due to the proximity of the Smithville Union Cemetery, the north end of which borders the east limit of the subject property, a review of the historical land use and expansion of the cemetery over time was also conducted to determine the likelihood for the presence of unmarked burials within the limits of the subject property. The historical background research revealed that the original nineteenth-century burial ground, which overlapped portions of Lots 6 and 7, Concession 9, was situated approximately 30 metres from the subject property limits, while the north portion of the modern cemetery property bordering the current subject property was not acquired until 1941. A review of historical and modern aerial imagery as well as observations made of the north part of the cemetery during the Stage 2 field assessment demonstrates that the overgrown and partially disturbed portion of the cemetery property directly bordering the



subject property was never incorporated into the modern burial ground. The north limit of the active burial ground, which is marked by a wooden rail fence, is approximately 6.5 metres south of the southeast corner of the subject property. Furthermore, all burials in this part of the cemetery are modern, dating from the late twentieth century onward, and there are only two burial plots located within ten metres of the subject property: the nearest, at 9.4 metres, is unoccupied, while the other, at 9.8 metres, contains burials from 2001 and 2003. After consideration of the historical land use and first-hand observations, there is no evidence to suggest the presence of unmarked burials within the subject property.

5.0 Recommendations

In light of these results, the following recommendation is made:

1. No further archaeological assessment of the property be required.

NOTWITHSTANDING the results and recommendations presented in this study, Archaeological Services Inc. notes that no archaeological assessment, no matter how thorough or carefully completed, can necessarily predict, account for, or identify every form of isolated or deeply buried archaeological deposit. In the event that archaeological remains are found during subsequent construction activities, the consultant archaeologist, approval authority, and the Cultural Programs Unit of the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism must be immediately notified.

The documentation and materials related to this project will be curated by Archaeological Services Inc. until such a time that arrangements for their ultimate transfer to Her Majesty the Queen in right of Ontario, or other public institution, can be made to the satisfaction of the project owner(s), the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, and any other legitimate interest groups.

6.0 Advice on Compliance with Legislation

Archaeological Services Inc. advises compliance with the following legislation:



- This report is submitted to the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism as a condition of licensing in accordance with Part VI of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 2005, 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 field work and report recommendations ensure the conservation, preservation and protection of the cultural heritage of Ontario. When all matters relating to archaeological sites within the project area of a development proposal have been addressed to the satisfaction of the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, a letter will be issued by the Ministry stating that there are no further concerns with regards 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 field work 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 sec. 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 or having knowledge of a burial site shall immediately notify the police or coroner. It is recommended that the Registrar of Cemeteries at the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services is also immediately notified.
- Archaeological sites recommended for further archaeological field work or protection remain subject to Section 48 (1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act* and



may not be altered, nor may artifacts be removed from them, except by a person holding an archaeological license.

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8.0 Images



Image 1: View of former College Street Public School fronting College Street.



Image 2: View of original (circa 1921) portion of existing school in southwest corner of the property.



Image 3: View of rear (east side) of original school building and paved recreation area.



Image 4: View of later school additions and paved recreation area.



Image 5: View of north side of school (most recent addition) and paved driveway off Morgan Avenue.



Image 6: View across paved parking lot along Morgan Avenue.



Image 7: View of large, manicured field in central part of property; test pit survey in progress.



Image 8: View of dense trees and scrub in southeast corner of property; test pit survey in progress.



Image 9: View of northeast part of property recently cleared of vegetation.



Image 10: View of test pit survey in cleared portion of east end.



Image 11: View of intact soil profile in southeast corner.



Image 12: View of disturbed soil profile in manicured field.



Image 13: View of property stake at southeast limit of property; wooden rail fence bordering active burial ground of Smithville Union Cemetery visible 6.5 metres from property stake.



Image 14: View of fenced northwest corner of active Smithville Union Cemetery burial ground, showing three burial plots closest to subject property.

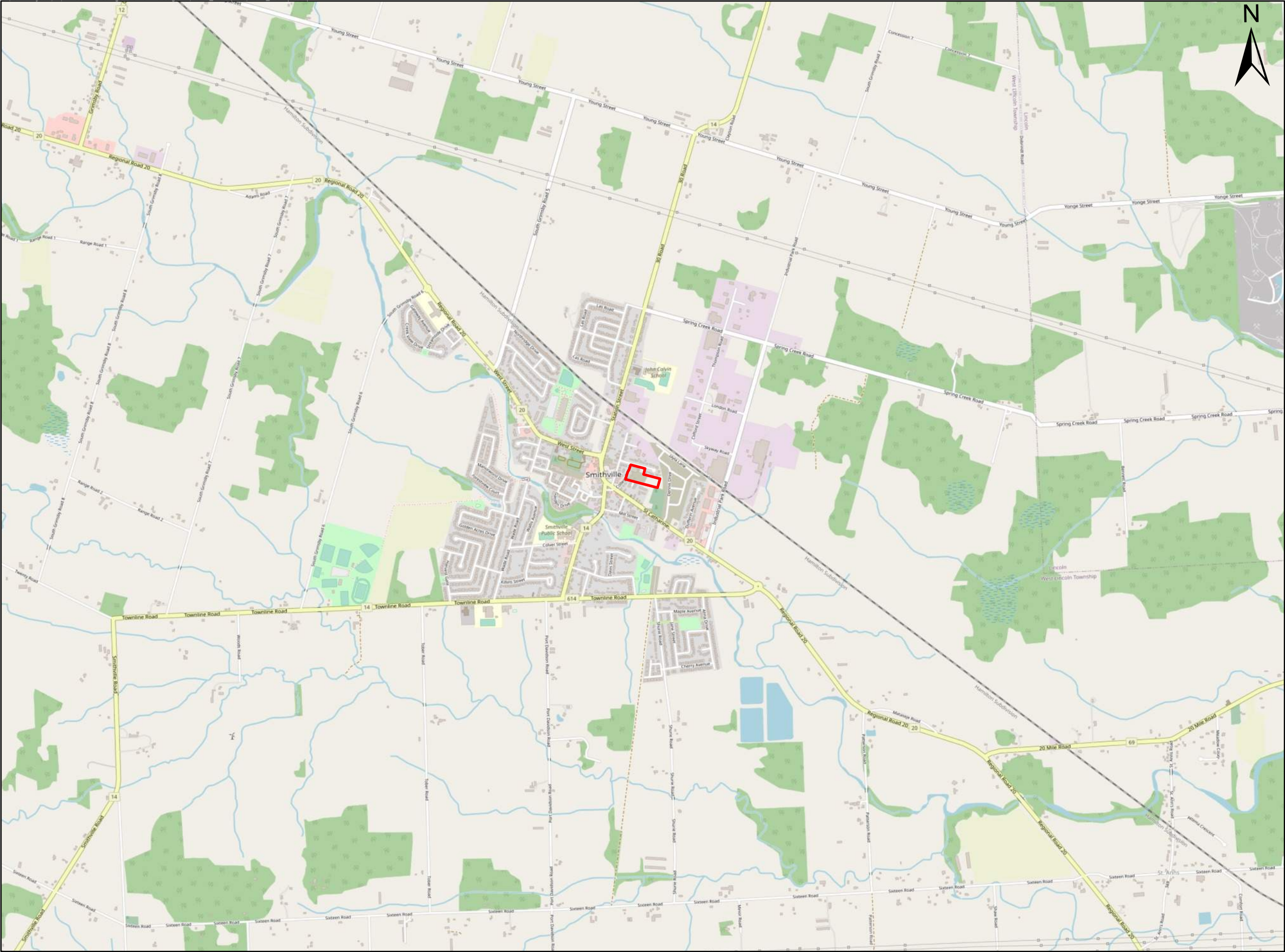


Image 15: View of break in cemetery fence where displaced soil from cemetery has been dumped in north section immediately bordering subject property.

9.0 Maps

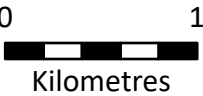
See following pages for detailed assessment mapping and figures





 SUBJECT PROPERTY

Sources: © OpenStreetMap (and contributors, CC-BY-SA) Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N Scale: 1:25,000



ASI Project No: 21PL-359 Date: 4/26/2022 8:30 AM Drawn By: jfernandez File: 21PL359_Fig1



Providing Archaeological & Cultural Heritage Services
528 Bathurst Street Toronto, ONTARIO M5S 2P9
T 416-966-1069 F 416-966-9723 asiheritage.ca

Figure 1: Location of the Subject Property



Figure 2: Subject Property located on the 1862 Tremaine Map of the Counties of Lincoln and Welland



Figure 3: Subject Property located on the 1876 Illustrated Historical Atlas of the Counties of Lincoln and Welland



Figure 4: Subject Property located on the Smithville Insert of the 1876 Illustrated Historical Atlas of the Counties of Lincoln and Welland



Figure 5: Subject Property located on the 1907 Grimsby Topographic Map



Figure 6: Subject Property located on the 1938 Grimsby Topographic Map

	 SUBJECT PROPERTY	Sources: 1907 Grimsby Sheet (Department of Militia and Defence, 1907) 1938 Grimsby Sheet (Department of National Defence, 1938)	0 400  Metres	
		Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N Scale: 1:10,000 Page Size: 8.5 x 11	ASI Project No.: 21PL-359 Date: 4/26/2022	Drawn By: cnettleton File: 21PL359_Fig5-6

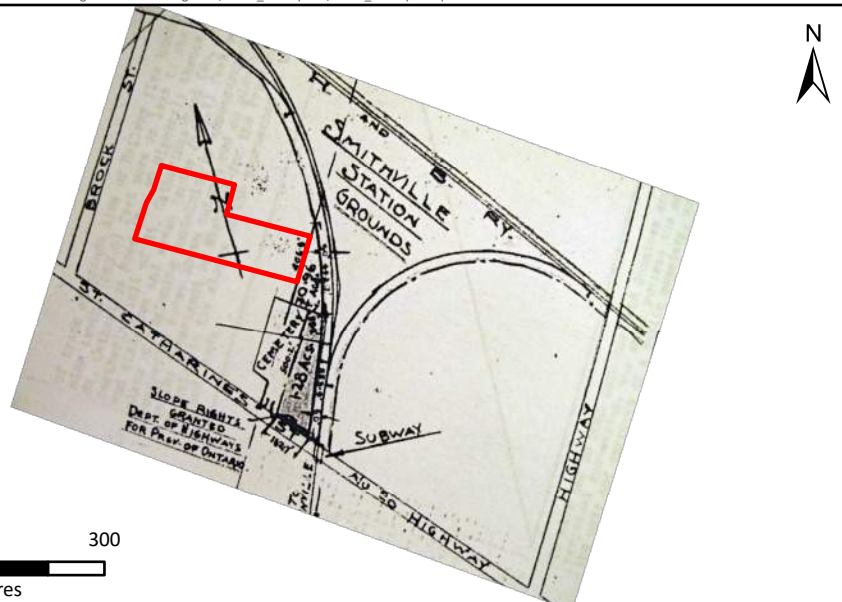


Figure 7: Subject Property located on South Grimsby Deed #6067

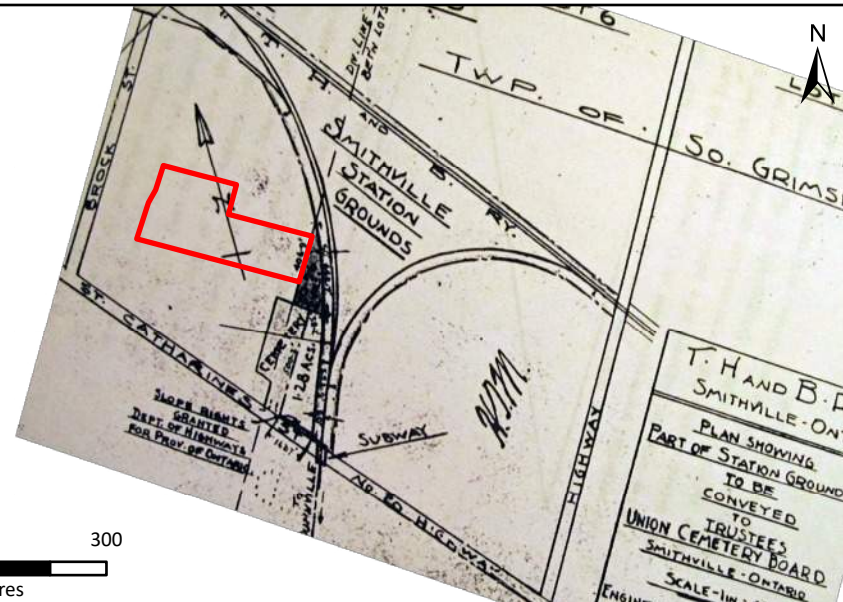


Figure 8: Subject Property located on South Grimsby Deed #6068

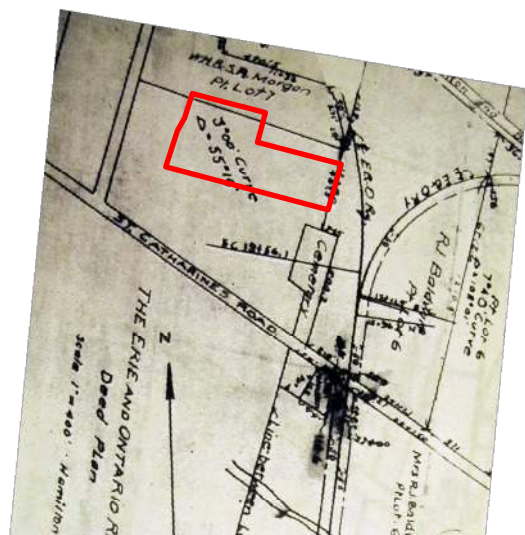


Figure 9: Subject Property located on South Grimsby Deed #3181

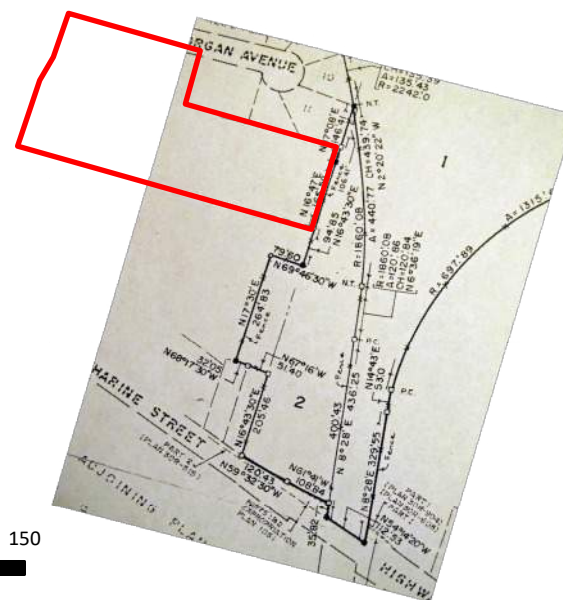


Figure 10: Subject Property located on Plan M-96



SUBJECT PROPERTY

Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N
Scale: 1:10,000
Page Size: 8.5x11

ASI Project No.: 21PL359
Date: 4/26/2022 11:39

Drawn By: pbikoulis
File: 21PL359_Fig7-10



1934



1954



1965



2006

	<div data-bbox="174 1388 466 1425">  SUBJECT PROPERTY </div>	<div data-bbox="1365 1369 1719 1433"> Sources: 1934 & 1954: Ministry of Natural Resources Canada 1965: Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources 2006: Niagara Region </div> <div data-bbox="1365 1474 1610 1528"> Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N Scale: 1:4,000 Page Size: 8.5x11 </div>		<div data-bbox="1785 1377 2032 1446"> <div>0120</div>  <div>Metres</div> </div> <div data-bbox="1726 1474 2079 1515"> <div>ASI Project No.: 21PL359</div> <div>Date: 4/26/2022 8:35 AM</div> <div>Drawn By: pbikoulis</div> <div>File: 21PL359_Fig11</div> </div>	
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Figure 11: Subject Property located on 1934, 1954, 1965, and 2006 Aerial Imagery



	 SUBJECT PROPERTY	Maxar, Microsoft		0 35 Metres	
	 PROPERTY PARCEL	Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N Scale: 1:1,100 Page Size: 11 x 17		ASI Project No.: 21PL359 Date: 4/26/2022 8:35 AM	
				Drawn By: pbikoulis File: 21PL359_Fig12	

Figure 12: Subject Property located on Current Satellite Imagery

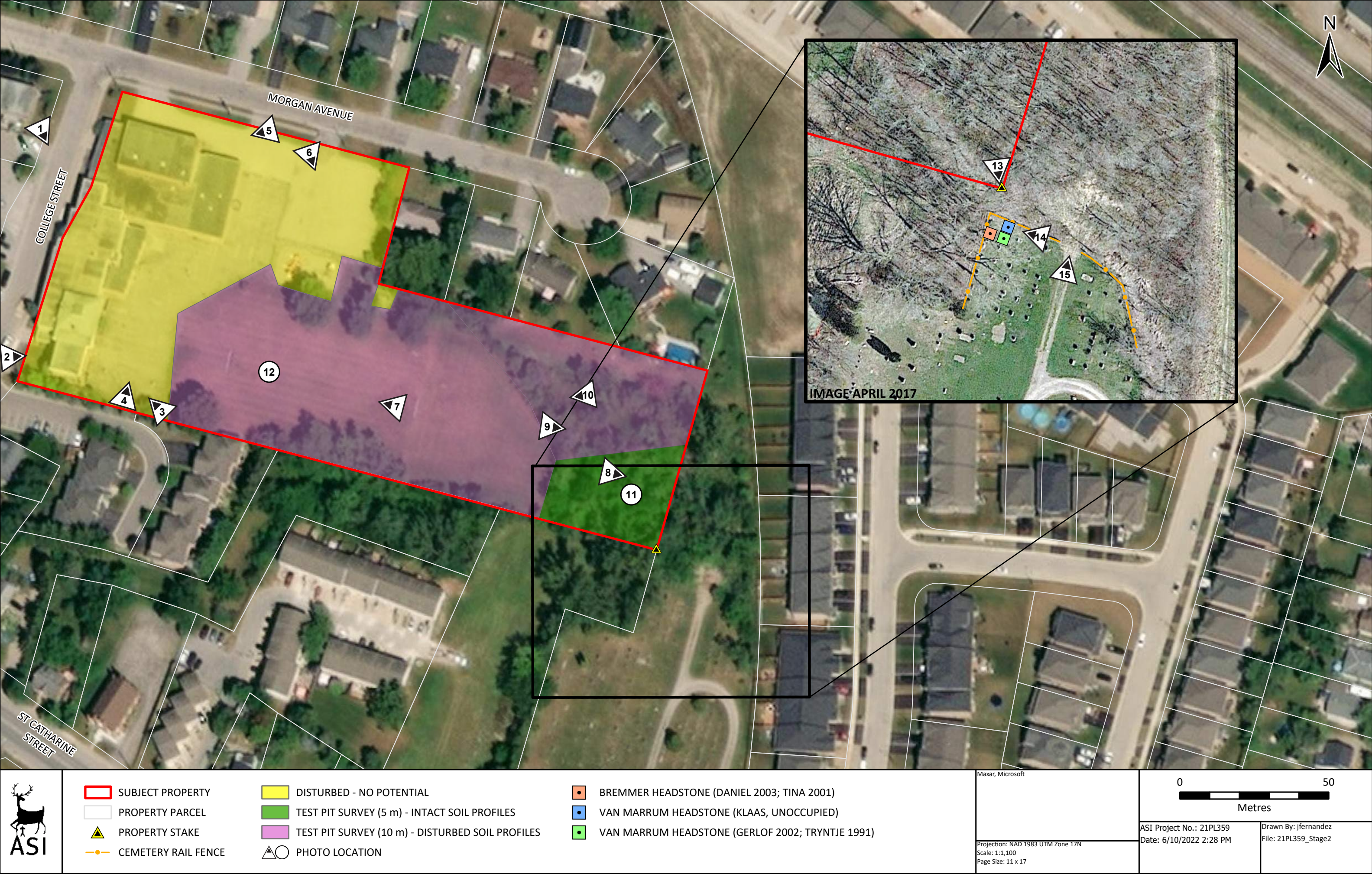
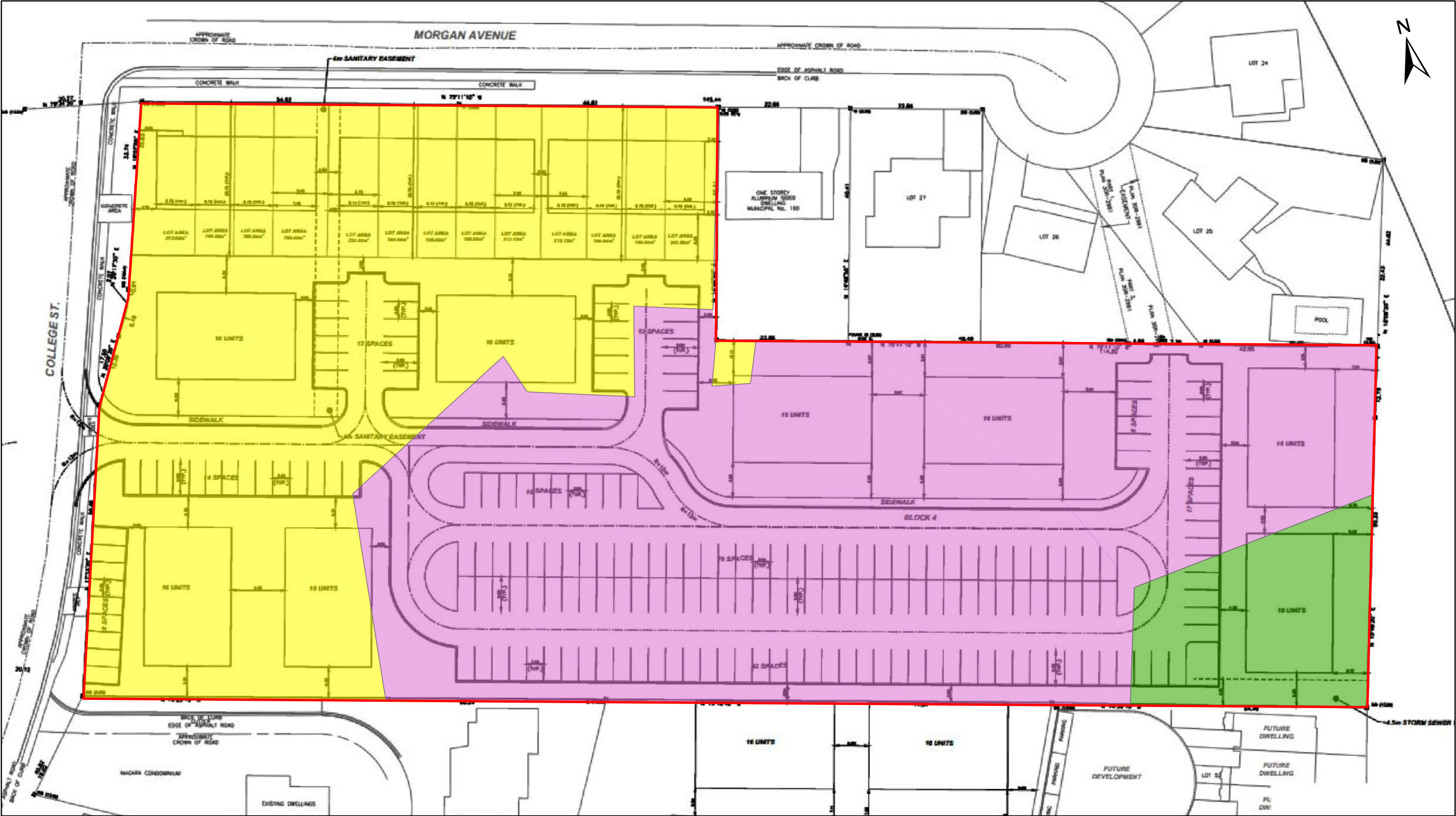


Figure 13: Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment Results





SUBJECT PROPERTY

DISTURBED - NO POTENTIAL

TEST PIT SURVEY (5 m) - INTACT SOIL PROFILES

TEST PIT SURVEY (10 m) - DISTURBED SOIL PROFILES

Source:
LandSmith Engineering & Consulting Ltd.

Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N
Scale: 1:600
Page Size: 11 x 17

025

Metres

ASI Project No.: 21PL-359
Date: 10/10/2023 3:07 PM

Drawn By: cnettleton
File: 21PL359_Stage2_plan

Figure 14: Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment Results on Site Concept Plan

Appendix A: Registered Sites Within 1.3 Kilometres of the Subject Property

Borden	Site Name	Temporal/Cultural Affiliation	Site Type	Researcher
AgGv-54	Riverview Estates	Pre-contact	Campsite	Griffin-Short, 1993
AgGv-60	n/a	Pre-contact	Campsite	Unavailable (2004)
AgGv-61	n/a	Pre-contact	Unknown	Unavailable (2004)
AgGv-62	n/a	Pre-contact	Findspot	Unavailable (2004)
AgGv-65	Area 1	Pre-contact	Campsite	Woodley, 2004
AgGv-66	Area 2	Early Archaic	Campsite	Woodley, 2004, 2005, 2006
AgGv-67	Area 3	Early Archaic	Campsite	Woodley, 2004
AgGv-68	Area 4	Pre-contact	Campsite	Woodley, 2004

Borden	Site Name	Temporal/Cultural Affiliation	Site Type	Researcher
AgGv-69	Area 5	Late Archaic	Campsite	Woodley, 2004
AgGv-70	Area 6	Late Woodland	Campsite	Woodley, 2004
AgGv-71	Area 7	Pre-contact	Campsite	Woodley, 2004
AgGv-72	Area 8	Early Archaic	Campsite	Woodley, 2004
AgGv-73	Area 9	Pre-contact	Campsite	Woodley, 2004
AgGv-74	Area 10	Early Woodland	Campsite	Woodley, 2004
AgGv-75	Area 11	Pre-contact	Campsite	Woodley, 2004
AgGv-76	Area 12	Pre-contact	Campsite	Woodley, 2004
AgGv-77	Bartel Bridge	Pre-contact	Campsite	Woodley, 2004
AgGv-78	n/a	Early Woodland	Findspot	Woodley, 2004

Borden	Site Name	Temporal/Cultural Affiliation	Site Type	Researcher
AgGv-79	n/a	Pre-contact	Findspot	Woodley, 2004
AgGv-80	n/a	Pre-contact	Findspot	Woodley, 2004
AgGv-81	n/a	Pre-contact	Findspot	Woodley, 2004
AgGv-82	n/a	Pre-contact	Findspot	Woodley, 2004
AgGv-83	n/a	Pre-contact	Findspot	Woodley, 2004
AgGv-84	n/a	Pre-contact	Findspot	Woodley, 2004
AgGv-85	n/a	Pre-contact	Findspot	Woodley, 2004
AgGv-86	Wolf	Late Archaic	Findspot	Unavailable (2004)
AgGv-102	n/a	Pre-contact	Scatter	Woodley, 2004
AgGv-103	n/a	Pre-contact	Unknown	Woodley, 2004

Borden	Site Name	Temporal/Cultural Affiliation	Site Type	Researcher
AgGv-145	Location 1	Post-contact	Scatter	Stantec, 2020
AgGv-146	Algernon Page	Post-contact	Agricultural	Parslow, 2020
AgGv-147	J Patterson	Post-contact	Agricultural	Parslow, 2020