



## **1.0 PROJECT REPORT COVER PAGE**

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### **PROJECT INFORMATION:**

Corporate Project Number:

2020128

MHSTCI Project Number:

P058-1923-2020

Investigation Type:

Stage 1-2 Archaeological Property Assessment

Project Name:

9304 McLeod Road.

Project Location:

9304 McLeod Road,  
Part of Township Lot 181 (Geographical Township of  
Stamford, County of Welland), Part 1 of Plan 59R-  
11144 and Part 1 of Plan 59R-16342, City of Niagara  
Falls, Regional Municipality of Niagara

Project Designation Number:

Not Currently Available

### **MHSTCI FILING INFORMATION:**

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Date of Report Filing:

10 June 2021

Type of Report:

**REVISED**

## **2.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report describes the results of the 2020 Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment of 9304 McLeod Road, Part of Township Lot 181 (Geographical Township of Stamford, County of Welland), Part 1 of Plan 59R-11144 and Part 1 of Plan 59R-16342, City of Niagara Falls, Regional Municipality of Niagara, conducted by AMICK Consultants Limited. This study was conducted under Professional Archaeologist License #P058 issued to Michael Henry by the Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries for the Province of Ontario. This assessment was undertaken as a requirement under the Planning Act (RSO 1990) and the Provincial Policy Statement (2020) in order to support a Draft Plan and companion Zoning By-law Amendment application as part of the pre-submission process. Within the land use planning and development context, Ontario Regulation 544/06 under the Planning Act (1990b) requires an evaluation of archaeological potential and, where applicable, an archaeological assessment report completed by an archaeologist licensed by the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI). Policy 2.6 of the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS 2020) addresses archaeological resources. All work was conducted in conformity with Ontario Ministry of Tourism and Culture (MTC) Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (MTC 2011), the Ontario Heritage Act (RSO 1990a).

AMICK Consultants Limited was engaged by the proponent to undertake a Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment of lands potentially affected by the proposed undertaking and was granted permission to carry out archaeological fieldwork. The entirety of the study area was subject to property inspection and photographic documentation concurrently with the Stage 2 Property Assessment by high intensity pedestrian survey at an interval of five metres between individual transects on 27 October 2020. All records, documentation, field notes, photographs and artifacts (as applicable) related to the conduct and findings of these investigations are held at the Lakelands District corporate offices of AMICK Consultants Limited until such time that they can be transferred to an agency or institution approved by the Ontario Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI) on behalf of the government and citizens of Ontario.

### **STAGE 2 RECOMMENDATIONS:**

As a result of the Stage 2 Property Assessment of the study area, no archaeological resources were encountered. Consequently, the following recommendations are made:

- 1. No further archaeological assessment of the study area is warranted;*
- 2. The Provincial interest in archaeological resources with respect to the proposed undertaking has been addressed;*
- 3. The proposed undertaking is clear of any archaeological concern.*

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### **4.0 PROJECT PERSONNEL**

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Marilyn Cornies (MHSTCI Professional Archaeologist Licence #P038)

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## **5.0 PROJECT CONTEXT**

### **5.1 DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT**

This report describes the results of the 2020 Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment of 9304 McLeod Road, Part of Township Lot 181 (Geographical Township of Stamford, County of Welland), Part 1 of Plan 59R-11144 and Part 1 of Plan 59R-16342, City of Niagara Falls, Regional Municipality of Niagara, conducted by AMICK Consultants Limited. This study was conducted under Professional Archaeologist License #P058 issued to Michael Henry by the Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries for the Province of Ontario. This assessment was undertaken as a requirement under the Planning Act (RSO 1990) and the Provincial Policy Statement (2020) in order to support a Draft Plan and companion Zoning By-law Amendment application as part of the pre-submission process. Within the land use planning and development context, Ontario Regulation 544/06 under the Planning Act (1990b) requires an evaluation of archaeological potential and, where applicable, an archaeological assessment report completed by an archaeologist licensed by the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI). Policy 2.6 of the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS 2020) addresses archaeological resources. All work was conducted in conformity with Ontario Ministry of Tourism and Culture (MTC) Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (MTC 2011), the Ontario Heritage Act (RSO 1990a).

AMICK Consultants Limited was engaged by the proponent to undertake a Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment of lands potentially affected by the proposed undertaking and was granted permission to carry out archaeological fieldwork. The entirety of the study area was subject to property inspection and photographic documentation concurrently with the Stage 2 Property Assessment by high intensity pedestrian survey at an interval of five metres between individual transects on 27 October 2020. All records, documentation, field notes, photographs and artifacts (as applicable) related to the conduct and findings of these investigations are held at the Lakelands District corporate offices of AMICK Consultants Limited until such time that they can be transferred to an agency or institution approved by the Ontario Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI) on behalf of the government and citizens of Ontario.

A proposed development plan was not available at the time of filing this report. A survey plan for Part 1 of Plan 59R-11144 and Part 1 of Plan 59R-16342 have been submitted together with this report to MHSTCI for review and reproduced within this report as Maps 4 and 5 respectively. The plans are placed together to create the study area and are reproduced within this report as Map 6.

### **5.2 HISTORICAL CONTEXT**

#### **5.2.1 PRE-CONTACT LAND-USE OUTLINE**

What follows is an outline of Aboriginal occupation in the area during the Pre-Contact Era from the earliest known period, about 9000 B.C. up to approximately 1650 AD.

#### **5.2.1.1 PALAEO-INDIAN PERIOD (APPROXIMATELY 9000-7500 B.C.)**

North of Lake Ontario, evidence suggests that early occupation began around 9000 B.C. People probably began to move into this area as the glaciers retreated and glacial lake levels began to recede. The early occupation of the area probably occurred in conjunction with environmental conditions that would be comparable to modern Sub-Arctic conditions. Due to the great antiquity of these sites, and the relatively small populations likely involved, evidence of these early inhabitants is sparse and generally limited to tools produced from stone or to by-products of the manufacture of these implements.

#### **5.2.1.2 ARCHAIC PERIOD (APPROXIMATELY 8000-1000 B.C.)**

By about 8000 B.C. the gradual transition from a post glacial tundra-like environment to an essentially modern environment was largely complete. Prior to European clearance of the landscape for timber and cultivation, the area was characterized by forest. The Archaic Period is the longest and the most apparently stable of the cultural periods identified through archaeology. The Archaic Period is divided into the Early, Middle and Late Sub-Periods, each represented by specific styles in projectile point manufacture. Many more sites of this period are found throughout Ontario, than of the Palaeo-Indian Period. This is probably a reflection of two factors: the longer period of time reflected in these sites, and a greater population density. The greater population was likely the result of a more diversified subsistence strategy carried out in an environment offering a greater variety of abundant resources. (Smith 2002:58-59)

Current interpretations suggest that the Archaic Period populations followed a seasonal cycle of resource exploitation. Although similar in concept to the practices speculated for the big game hunters of the Palaeo-Indian Period, the Archaic populations utilized a much broader range of resources, particularly with respect to plants. It is suggested that in the spring and early summer, bands would gather at the mouths of rivers and at rapids to take advantage of fish spawning runs. Later in the summer and into the fall season, smaller groups would move to areas of wetlands to harvest nuts and wild rice. During the winter, they would break into yet smaller groups probably based on the nuclear family and perhaps some additional relatives to move into the interior for hunting. The result of such practices would be to create a distribution of sites across much of the landscape. (Smith 2002: 59-60).

The material culture of this period is much more extensive than that of the Palaeo-Indians. Stylistic changes between Sub-Periods and cultural groups are apparent, although the overall quality in production of chipped lithic tools seems to decline. This period sees the introduction of ground stone technology in the form of celts (axes and adzes), manos and metates for grinding nuts and fibres, and decorative items like gorgets, pendants, birdstones, and bannerstones. Bone tools are also evident from this time period. Their presence may be

a result of better preservation from these more recent sites rather than a lack of such items in earlier occupations. In addition, copper and exotic chert types appear during the period and are indicative of extensive trading (Smith 2002: 58-59).

### **5.2.1.3 WOODLAND PERIOD (APPROXIMATELY 1000 B.C.-1650 A.D.)**

The primary difference in archaeological assemblages that differentiates the beginning of the Woodland Period from the Archaic Period is the introduction of ceramics to Ontario populations. This division is probably not a reflection of any substantive cultural changes, as the earliest sites of this period seem to be in all other respects a continuation of the Archaic mode of life with ceramics added as a novel technology. The seasonally based system of resource exploitation and associated population mobility persists for at least 1500 years into the Woodland Period. (Smith 2002: 61-62)

The Early Woodland Sub-Period dates from about 1000-400 B.C. Many of the artifacts from this time are similar to the late Archaic and suggest a direct cultural continuity between these two temporal divisions. The introduction of pottery represents an entirely new technology that was probably acquired through contact with more southerly populations from which it likely originates. (Smith 2002:62)

The Middle Woodland Sub-Period dates from about 400 B.C.-800 A.D. Within the region including the study area, a complex emerged at this time termed "Point Peninsula". Point Peninsula pottery reflects a greater sophistication in pottery manufacture compared with the earlier industry. The paste and temper of the new pottery is finer and new decorative techniques such as dentate and pseudo-scallop stamping appear. There is a noted Hopewellian influence in southern Ontario populations at this time. Hopewell influences from south of the Great Lakes include a widespread trade in exotic materials and the presence of distinct Hopewell style artifacts such as platform pipes, copper or silver panpipe covers and shark's teeth. The populations of the Middle Woodland participated in a trade network that extended well beyond the Great Lakes Region.

The Late Woodland Sub-Period dates from about 500-1650 A.D. The Late Woodland includes four separate phases: Princess Point, Early Ontario Iroquoian, Middle Ontario Iroquoian and Late Ontario Iroquoian.

The Princess Point phase dates to approximately 500-1000 A.D. Pottery of this phase is distinguished from earlier technology in that it is produced by the paddle method instead of coil and the decoration is characterized by the cord wrapped stick technique. Ceramic smoking pipes appear at this time in noticeable quantities. Princess Point sites cluster along major stream valleys and wetland areas. Maize cultivation is introduced by these people to Ontario. These people were not fully committed to horticulture and seemed to be experimenting with maize production. They generally adhere to the seasonal pattern of occupation practiced by earlier occupations, perhaps staying at certain locales repeatedly and for a larger portion of each year (Smith 2002: 65-66)



The Early Ontario Iroquoian stage dates to approximately 950-1050 A.D. This stage marks the beginning of a cultural development that led to the historically documented Ontario Iroquoian groups that were first contacted by Europeans during the early 1600s (Petun, Neutral, and Huron). At this stage formal semi-sedentary villages emerge. The Early stage of this cultural development is divided into two cultural groups in southern Ontario. The areas occupied by each being roughly divided by the Niagara Escarpment. To the west were located the Glen Meyer populations, and to the east were situated the Pickering people (Smith 2002: 67).

The Middle Ontario Iroquoian stage dates to approximately 1300-1400 A.D. This stage is divided into two sub-stages. The first is the Uren sub-stage lasting from approximately 1300-1350 A.D. The second of the two sub-stages is known as the Middleport sub-stage lasting from roughly 1350-1400 A.D. Villages tend to be larger throughout this stage than formerly (Smith 2002: 67).

The Late Ontario Iroquoian stage dates to approximately 1400-1650 A.D. During this time the cultural divisions identified by early European explorers are under development and the geographic distribution of these groups within southern Ontario begins to be defined.

## **5.2.2 GENERAL HISTORICAL OUTLINE**

The County of Welland was formed in 1851, and was named after the Welland River. It should be noted that Welland County was one of the first major settlements within Upper Canada (Wikipedia.org 2010). Many of its first settlers were Loyalists and moved to the area as a result of the American Revolution. Due to the presence of the Welland River and to Niagara Falls, this allowed the area to develop rapidly as the River offered easy transportation and energy production. The construction of the Welland Canal began in 1824, and would connect Lake Ontario to Lake Erie. The canal was at first a wooden structure and would later be replaced with stone (Welland.ca 2010). The counties of Lincoln and Welland were amalgamated in to the Regional Municipality of Niagara in 1970 (Wikipedia.org 2010).

Stamford Township was originally allotted to about twelve families. Among the first Euro-Canadian people to settle in Stamford in 1776, were the Cook and the Durham families who came from New Jersey. Lundy's Lane was originally a First Nations trail that was developed by the early settlers into the first road in the Township. Other early roads included Portage Road and Mountain Road. The original survey for Stamford Township, conducted in 1787, was the second township survey in the Niagara Peninsula. The survey was conducted by Phillip Frey. In 1791 the first Stamford Township plan of survey area was published. Stamford was originally called Mount Dorchester, or Township Number 2, named for Sir Guy Carleton, Lord Dorchester. It received the name Stamford from Governor Simcoe who named it and other portions of Welland County after well-known places in Lincolnshire, England (niagarafallsinfo 2015).

Map 2 is a facsimile segment from Tremaine's Map of Welland County (Tremaine 1862). Map 2 illustrates the location of the study area and environs as of 1862. The western portion of the study area is shown to belong to Haggai Biggar; no structures are shown to be within this portion of the study area. The eastern portion of the study area is shown to belong to James Woolnough; no structures are shown to be within this portion of the study area. An historic home is shown to be across the settlement road to the northeast of the study area. The study area is bounded on the north and west by a settlement road and is the current McLeod Road and Beechwood Road respectively. Accordingly, it has been determined that there is potential for archaeological deposits related to early Post-Contact settlement within the study area.

Map 3 is a facsimile segment reproduced from The Illustrated Historical Atlas of the Counties of Lincoln and Welland, Ontario (H.R. Page & Co. 1876). Map 3 illustrates the location of the study area and environs as of 1876. The western portion of the study area is shown to belong to Haggai Biggar; no structures are shown to be within this portion of the study area. The eastern portion of the study area is shown to belong to James Woolnough; no structures are shown to be within this portion of the study area. Adjacent to the study area to the east, there is an historic home with an orchard. The study area is bounded on the north and west by a settlement road and is the current McLeod Road and Beechwood Road respectively. Accordingly, it has been determined that there is potential for archaeological deposits related to early Post-Contact settlement within the study area.

It must be borne in mind that inclusion of names of property owners and depictions of structures and other features within properties on these maps were sold by subscription. Property owners paid to include information or details about their properties. While information included within these maps may provide information about the occupation of a property at a specific moment in time when the information was collected, the absence of such information does not necessarily indicate that the property was not occupied.

### **5.2.3 CURRENT CONDITIONS**

The present use of the study area is as actively farmed agricultural land. The study area is roughly 22.2 hectares in area. The study area includes within it mostly ploughable lands and a very small portion of topsoil stripped lands with some disturbance in the northeast corner. Based on aerial imagery, there was a house that existed in the northeast corner of the study area previous to the assessment. The house has since been demolished and small piles of debris are located in the area of where the house was. The topsoil stripped area was pedestrian surveyed at 5 metre intervals. The study area is bounded on the north by McLeod Road, on the east by agricultural land, on the west by Beachwood Road and on the south by agricultural land. The study area is adjacent to the intersection of Beachwood Road and McLeod Road. Survey plans of Plan 59R-11144 and Plan 59R-16342 are shown separately as Maps 4 & 5 respectively. The plans are shown together to create the study area in Map 6. Current conditions encountered during the Stage 1-2 Property Assessment are illustrated in Maps 7 & 8.



#### **5.2.4 SUMMARY OF HISTORICAL CONTEXT**

The brief overview of readily available documentary evidence indicates that the study area is situated within an area that was close to historic transportation routes and in an area well populated during the nineteenth century and therefore has potential for sites relating to early Post-Contact settlement in the region.

### **5.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT**

The Archaeological Sites Database administered by the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI) indicates that there is ten (10) previously documented sites within 1 kilometre of the study area. However, it must be noted that this is based on the assumption of the accuracy of information compiled from numerous researchers using different methodologies over many years. AMICK Consultants Limited assumes no responsibility for the accuracy of site descriptions, interpretations such as cultural affiliation, or location information derived from the Archaeological Sites Database administered by MHSTCI. In addition, it must also be noted that a lack of formerly documented sites does not indicate that there are no sites present as the documentation of any archaeological site is contingent upon prior research having been conducted within the study area.

On the basis of information supplied by MHSTCI, no archaeological assessments have been conducted within 50 metres of the study area. AMICK Consultants Limited assumes no responsibility for the accuracy of previous assessments, interpretations such as cultural affiliation, or location information derived from the Archaeological Sites Database administered by MHSTCI. In addition, it must also be noted that the lack of formerly documented previous assessments does not indicate that no assessments have been conducted.

Data contained in previous archaeological reports in close proximity to the study area that is relevant to Stage 1 Background Study is defined within the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists in Section 7.5.8 Standard 4 as follows:

*“Provide descriptions of previous archaeological fieldwork carried out within the limits of, or immediately adjacent to the project area, **as documented by all available reports that include archaeological fieldwork carried out on the lands to be impacted by this project, or where reports document archaeological sites immediately adjacent (i.e., within 50 m) to those lands.**”*

(MTCS 2011: 126 Emphasis Added)

In accordance with data supplied by MHSTCI for the purposes of completing this study, there are no previous reports detailing, *“archaeological fieldwork carried out on the lands to be impacted by this project”*, nor do any previous reports document known archaeological sites within 50 metres of the study area.

The Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists stipulates that the necessity to summarize the results of previous archaeological assessment reports, or to cite MHSTCI File Numbers in references to other archaeological reports, is reserved for reports that are directly relevant to the fieldwork and recommendations for the study area (S & Gs 7.5.7, Standard 2, MTC 2011: 125). This is further refined and elaborated upon in Section 7.5.8, Standards 4 & 5, MTC 2011:

*“4. Provide descriptions of previous archaeological fieldwork carried out within the limits of, or immediately adjacent to the project area, as documented by all available reports that include archaeological fieldwork carried out on the lands to be impacted by this project, or where reports document archaeological sites immediately adjacent (i.e., within 50m) to those lands.”*

*“5. If previous findings and recommendations are relevant to the current stage of work, provide the following:*

- a. *a brief summary of previous findings and recommendations*
- b. *documentation of any differences in the current work from the previously recommended work*
- c. *rationale for the differences from the previously recommended work”*

***(Emphasis Added)***

The study area is situated within an area (Niagara Region) that is in the process of creating an Archaeological Management Plan. In 2019, the Region of Niagara produced the *Niagara Region Archaeological Management Plan: Phase II Research and Background Report* (ASI 2019). This report suggests recommended best practices in archaeological resource planning through development of an Archaeological Management Plan (AMP). The purpose of creating the AMP is to more easily identify where archaeological assessments are required and manage archaeological resources, all within compliance of the Provincial Policy Statement (2014) and revised Heritage Act (2005) (ASI 2019).

It must be further noted that there are no relevant plaques associated with the study area, which would suggest an activity or occupation within, or in close proximity to, the study area that may indicate potential for associated archaeological resources of significant CHVI.

In addition, archaeological sites data is also used to determine if any archaeological resources had been formerly documented within or in close proximity to the study area and if these same resources might be subject to impacts from the proposed undertaking. This data was also collected in order to establish the relative significance of any resources that might be encountered during the conduct of the present study. For example, the relative rarity of a site can be used to assign an elevated level of significance to a site that is atypical for the immediate vicinity. The requisite archaeological sites data of previously registered archaeological sites was collected from the MHSTCI and the corporate research library of AMICK Consultants Limited. The Stage 1 Background Research methodology also includes

a review of the most detailed available topographic maps, historical settlement maps, archaeological management plans (where applicable) and commemorative plaques or monuments. When previous archaeological research documents lands to be impacted by the proposed undertaking or archaeological sites within 50 metres of the study area, the reports documenting this earlier work are reviewed for pertinent information. AMICK Consultants Limited will often modify this basic methodology based on professional judgment to include additional research (such as, local historical works or documents and knowledgeable informants).

### **5.3.1 PRE-CONTACT REGISTERED SITES**

A summary of registered and/or known archaeological sites within a 1-kilometre radius of the study area was gathered from the Archaeological Sites Database, administered by MHSTCI. As a result it was determined that four (4) archaeological sites relating directly to Pre-Contact habitation/activity had been formally registered within the immediate vicinity of the study area. However, the lack of formally documented archaeological sites does not mean that Pre-Contact people did not use the area; it more likely reflects a lack of systematic archaeological research in the immediate vicinity. Even in cases where one or more assessments may have been conducted in close proximity to a proposed landscape alteration, an extensive area of physical archaeological assessment coverage is required throughout the region to produce a representative sample of all potentially available archaeological data in order to provide any meaningful evidence to construct a pattern of land use and settlement in the past. All previously registered Pre-Contact sites are briefly described below in Table 1:

**TABLE 1 PRE-CONTACT SITES WITHIN 1KM**

<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Borden #</b>	<b>Site Type</b>	<b>Cultural Affiliation</b>
Location 1	AgGs-394	Scatter	Early Archaic (Aboriginal)
	AgGs-288	Scatter/Unknown	Early Archaic (Aboriginal)
	AgGs-286	Unknown	Pre-Contact (Unknown)
	AgGs-282	Scatter	Early Archaic (Aboriginal)

None of the above noted archaeological sites are situated within 300 metres of the study area. Therefore, they have no impact on determinations of archaeological potential for further archaeological resources related to Pre-Contact activity and occupation with respect to the archaeological assessment of the proposed undertaking.

The study area contains two branches of intermittent streams associated with Thompsons Creek. These are seasonal and not shown on any historical mapping but that is likely due to their small size and seasonal nature.

Table 2 illustrates the chronological development of cultures within southern Ontario prior to the arrival of European cultures to the area at the beginning of the 17<sup>th</sup> century. This general cultural outline is based on archaeological data and represents a synthesis and summary of

research over a long period of time. It is necessarily generalizing and is not necessarily representative of the point of view of all researchers or stakeholders. It is offered here as a rough guideline and as a very broad outline to illustrate the relationships of broad cultural groups and time periods.

**TABLE 2 PRE-CONTACT CULTURAL CHRONOLOGY FOR SOUTHERN ONTARIO**

<b>Years ago</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>Southern Ontario</b>
250	Terminal Woodland	Ontario and St. Lawrence Iroquois Cultures
1000 2000	Initial Woodland	Princess Point, Saugeen, Point Peninsula, and Meadowood Cultures
3000 4000 5000 6000	Archaic	Laurentian Culture
7000 8000 9000 10000 11000	Palaeo-Indian	Plano and Clovis Cultures
		(Wright 1972)

### 5.3.2 POST-CONTACT REGISTERED SITES

A summary of registered and/or known archaeological sites within a 1-kilometre radius of the study area was gathered from the Archaeological Sites Database, administered by MHSTCI. As a result it was determined that three (3) archaeological sites relating directly to Post-Contact habitation/activity had been formally registered within the immediate vicinity of the study area. All previously registered Post-Contact sites are briefly described below in Table 3:

**TABLE 3 POST-CONTACT SITES WITHIN 1KM**

<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Borden #</b>	<b>Site Type</b>	<b>Cultural Affiliation</b>
B. Williams	AgGt-132	Homestead	Euro-Canadian
	AgGs-395	Unknown	Euro-Canadian
	AgGs-280	Homestead	Euro-Canadian

None of the above noted archaeological sites are situated within 300 metres of the study area. Therefore, they have no impact on determinations of archaeological potential for further archaeological resources related to Post-Contact activity and occupation with respect to the archaeological assessment of the proposed undertaking.

### 5.3.3 OTHER REGISTERED SITES

A summary of registered and/or known archaeological sites within a 1-kilometre radius of the study area was gathered from the Archaeological Sites Database, administered by MHSTCI. As a result it was determined that three (3) archaeological sites had been formally registered within the immediate vicinity of the study area. All previously registered other sites are briefly described below in Table 4:

**TABLE 4 OTHER SITES WITHIN 1KM**

<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Borden #</b>	<b>Site Type</b>	<b>Cultural Affiliation</b>
	AgGs-287	Other Findspot	Other
	AgGs-284	N/A	N/A
	AgGs-283	Other Findspot	Other

None of the above noted archaeological sites are situated within 300 metres of the study area. Therefore, they have no impact on determinations of archaeological potential for further archaeological resources related to any activity and occupation with respect to the archaeological assessment of the proposed undertaking.

The study area is described as 9304 McLeod Road, Part of Township Lot 181 (Geographical Township of Stamford, County of Welland), Part 1 of Plan 59R-11144 and Part 1 of Plan 59R-16342, City of Niagara Falls, Regional Municipality of Niagara. The study area was subject to this assessment as a requirement under the Planning Act (RSO 1990) and the Provincial Policy Statement (2020) in order to support a Draft Plan and companion Zoning By-law Amendment application as part of the pre-submission process.

The present use of the study area is as actively farmed agricultural land. The study area is roughly 22.2 hectares in area. The study area includes within it mostly ploughable lands and a very small portion of topsoil stripped lands with some disturbance in the northeast corner. Based on aerial imagery, there was a house that existed in the northeast corner of the study area previous to the assessment. The house has since been demolished and small piles of debris are located in the area of where the house was. The topsoil stripped area was pedestrian surveyed at 5 metre intervals. The study area is bounded on the north by McLeod Road, on the east by agricultural land, on the west by Beachwood Road and on the south by agricultural land. The study area is adjacent to the intersection of Beachwood Road and McLeod Road. Survey plans of Plan 59R-11144 and Plan 59R-16342 are shown separately as Maps 4 & 5 respectively. The plans are shown together to create the study area in Map 6. Current conditions encountered during the Stage 1-2 Property Assessment are illustrated in Maps 7 & 8.

#### **5.3.4 PHYSIOGRAPHIC REGION**

The study area is situated within the Haldimand Clay Plain physiographic region. The Haldimand Clay Plain lies between the Niagara Escarpment and Lake Erie, and consists of an intermixture of stratified clay and till. The study area falls within an area of the plain where

good silt loam is prime for orchards and vineyards of grapes, pears and apples (Chapman and Putnam 1984: 177-182).

### **5.3.5 SURFACE WATER**

Sources of potable water, access to waterborne transportation routes, and resources associated with watersheds are each considered, both individually and collectively to be the highest criteria for determination of the potential of any location to support extended human activity, land use, or occupation. Accordingly, proximity to water is regarded as the primary indicator of archaeological resource potential. The Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists stipulates that undisturbed lands within 300 metres of a water source are considered to have archaeological potential (MTC 2011: 21).

The study area contains two branches of intermittent streams associated with Thompsons Creek. These are seasonal and not shown on any historical mapping but that is likely due to their small size and seasonal nature.

### **5.3.6 CURRENT PROPERTY CONDITIONS CONTEXT**

Current characteristics encountered within an archaeological research study area determine if property Assessment of specific portions of the study area will be necessary and in what manner a Stage 2 Property Assessment should be conducted, if necessary. Conventional assessment methodologies include pedestrian survey on ploughable lands and test pit methodology within areas that cannot be ploughed. For the purpose of determining where property Assessment is necessary and feasible, general categories of current landscape conditions have been established as archaeological conventions. These include:

#### **5.3.7.1 BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURAL FOOTPRINTS**

A building, for the purposes of this particular study, is a structure that exists currently or has existed in the past in a given location. The footprint of a building is the area of the building formed by the perimeter of the foundation. Although the interior area of building foundations would often be subject to property Assessment when the foundation may represent a potentially significant historic archaeological site, the footprints of existing structures are not typically assessed. Existing structures commonly encountered during archaeological assessments are often residential-associated buildings (houses, garages, sheds), and/or component buildings of farm complexes (barns, silos, greenhouses). In many cases, even though the disturbance to the land may be relatively shallow and archaeological resources may be situated below the disturbed layer (e.g. a concrete garage pad), there is no practical means of assessing the area beneath the disturbed layer. However, if there were evidence to suggest that there are likely archaeological resources situated beneath the disturbance, alternative methodologies may be recommended to study such areas.

The study area contains no buildings or structural footprints.



### 5.3.7.2 DISTURBANCE

Areas that have been subjected to extensive and deep land alteration that has severely damaged the integrity of archaeological resources are known as land disturbances. Examples of land disturbances are areas of past quarrying, major landscaping, and sewage and infrastructure development (MTC 2011: 18), as well as driveways made of gravel or asphalt or concrete, in-ground pools, and wells or cisterns. Surfaces paved with interlocking brick, concrete, asphalt, gravel and other surfaces meant to support heavy loads or to be long wearing hard surfaces in high traffic areas, must be prepared by the excavation and removal of topsoil, grading, and the addition of aggregate material to ensure appropriate engineering values for the supporting matrix and also to ensure that the installations shed water to avoid flooding or moisture damage. All hard surfaced areas are prepared in this fashion and therefore have no or low archaeological potential. Major utility lines are conduits that provide services such as water, natural gas, hydro, communications, sewage, and others. These major installations should not be confused with minor below ground service installations not considered to represent significant disturbances removing archaeological potential, such as services leading to individual structures which tend to be comparatively very shallow and vary narrow corridors. Areas containing substantial and deeply buried services or clusters of below ground utilities are considered areas of disturbance, and may be excluded from Stage 2 Property Assessment. Disturbed areas are excluded from Stage 2 Property Assessment due to no or low archaeological potential and often because they are also not viable to assess using conventional methodology.

*“Earthwork is one of the major works involved in road construction. This process includes excavation, material removal, filling, compaction, and construction. Moisture content is controlled, and compaction is done according to standard design procedures. Normally, rock explosion at the road bed is not encouraged. While filling a depression to reach the road level, **the original bed is flattened after the removal of the topsoil.** The fill layer is distributed and compacted to the designed specifications. This procedure is repeated until the compaction desired is reached. **The fill material should not contain organic elements, and possess a low index of plasticity.** Fill material can include gravel and decomposed rocks of a particular size, but should not consist of huge clay lumps. Sand clay can be used. The area is considered to be adequately compacted when the roller movement does not create a noticeable deformation. **The road surface finish is reliant on the economic aspects, and the estimated usage.**” [Emphasis Added]*

(Goel 2013)

The supporting matrix of a hard paved surface cannot contain organic material, which is subject to significant compression, decay and moisture retention. Topsoil has no engineering value and must be removed in any construction application where the surface finish at grade requires underlying support.

Installation of sewer lines and other below ground services associated with infrastructure development often involves deep excavation that can remove archaeological potential. This consideration does not apply to relatively minor below ground services that connect structures and facilities to services that support their operation and use. Major servicing corridors will be situated within adjacent road allowances with only minor, narrow and relatively shallow underground services entering into the study area to connect existing structures to servicing mainlines. The relatively minor, narrow and shallow services buried within a residential property do not require such extensive ground disturbance to remove or minimize archaeological potential within affected areas.

The study area contains a very small portion of disturbance where the house that was previously within the property was demolished. There were very small piles of rubble and debris but due to the small size, they did not affect the integrity of the assessment. The area that was topsoil stripped was pedestrian surveyed at 5 metre intervals to ensure there were no archaeological resources within the disturbed area.

#### **5.3.7.3 LOW-LYING AND WET AREAS**

Landscape features that are covered by permanently wet areas, such as marshes, swamps, or bodies of water like streams or lakes, are known as low-lying and wet areas. Low-lying and wet areas are excluded from Stage 2 Property Assessment due to inaccessibility.

The study area does not contain low-lying and wet areas.

#### **5.3.7.4 STEEP SLOPE**

Landscape which slopes at a greater than (>) 20 degree change in elevation, is known as steep slope. Areas of steep slope are considered uninhabitable, and are excluded from Stage 2 Property Assessment.

Generally, steep slopes are not assessed because steep slopes are interpreted to have low potential, not due to viability to assess, except in cases where the slope is severe enough to become a safety concern for archaeological field crews. In such cases, the Occupational Health and Safety Act takes precedence as indicated in the introduction to the Standards and Guidelines. AMICK Consultant Limited policy is to assess all slope areas whenever it is safe to do so. Assessment of slopes, except where safety concerns arise, eliminates the invariably subjective interpretation of what might constitute a steep slope in the field. This is done to minimize delays due to conflicts in such interpretations and to increase the efficiency of review.

The study area does not contain areas of steep slope.

#### **5.3.7.5 WOODED AREAS**

Areas of the property that cannot be ploughed, such as natural forest or woodlot, are known as wooded areas. These wooded areas qualify for Stage 2 Property Assessment, and are required to be assessed using test pit survey methodology.

The study area does not contain any wooded areas.

#### **5.3.7.6 PLOUGHABLE AGRICULTURAL LANDS**

Areas of current or former agricultural lands that have been ploughed in the past are considered ploughable agricultural lands. Ploughing these lands regularly turns the soil, which in turn brings previously buried artifacts to the surface, which are then easily identified during visual inspection. Furthermore, by allowing the ploughed area to weather sufficiently through rainfall, soil is washed off of exposed artifacts at the surface and the visibility of artifacts at the surface of recently worked field areas is enhanced markedly. Pedestrian survey of ploughed agricultural lands is the preferred method of physical assessment because of the greater potential for finding evidence of archaeological resources if present.

The study area consists mostly of ploughed agricultural land. There is a very small portion of land in the northeast corner of the study area that was previously topsoil stripped due to the demolition of a house that was previously within the study area. The area that was topsoil stripped was pedestrian surveyed due to the lack of topsoil although the area was disturbed. Maps 7 & 8 of this report illustrate the locations of these features.

#### **5.3.7.7 LAWN, PASTURE, MEADOW**

Landscape features consisting of former agricultural land covered in low growth, such as lawns, pastures, meadows, shrubbery, and immature trees. These are areas that may be considered too small to warrant ploughing, (i.e. less than one hectare in area), such as yard areas surrounding existing structures, and land-locked open areas that are technically workable by a plough but inaccessible to agricultural machinery. These areas may also include open area within urban contexts that do not allow agricultural tillage within municipal or city limits or the use of urban roadways by agricultural machinery. These areas are required to be assessed using test pit survey methodology.

The study area does not contain any areas of lawn, pasture or meadow.

#### **5.3.8 SUMMARY**

Background research suggests potential for archaeological resources of Post-Contact origins based on proximity to historic roadways and proximity to an historic structure.

Archaeological potential does not indicate that there are necessarily sites present, but that environmental and historical factors suggest that there may be as yet undocumented

archaeological sites within lands that have not been subject to systematic archaeological research in the past.

## **6.0 FIELD WORK METHODS AND WEATHER CONDITIONS**

This report confirms that the study area was subject to Stage 2 Property Assessment by high intensity pedestrian survey at an interval of five metres between individual transects on 27 October 2020.

The fieldwork undertaken as a component of this study was conducted according to the archaeological fieldwork standards and guidelines (including weather and lighting conditions). Weather conditions were appropriate for the necessary fieldwork required to complete the Stage 2 Property Assessment and to create the documentation appropriate to this study. The locations from which photographs were taken and the directions toward which the camera was aimed for each photograph are illustrated in Maps 7 & 8 of this report. Upon completion of the property inspection of the study area, it was determined that select areas would require Stage 2 Property Assessment.

It must be noted that AMICK Consultants Limited has been retained to assess lands as specified by the proponent. As such, AMICK Consultants Limited is constrained by the terms of the contract in place at the time of the Archaeological Assessment and can only enter into lands for which AMICK Consultants Limited has received consent from the owner or their agent(s). The proponent has been advised that the entire area within the planning application must be subject to archaeological assessment and that portions of the planning application may only be excluded if they are of low potential, are not viable to assess, or are subject to planning provisions that would restrict any such areas from any form of ground altering activities.

### **6.1 PROPERTY INSPECTION**

A detailed examination and photo documentation was carried out on the study area in order to document the existing conditions of the study area to facilitate the Stage 2 Property Assessment. All areas of the study area were visually inspected and select features were photographed as a representative sample of each area defined within Maps 7 & 8. Observations made of conditions within the study area at the time of the inspection were used to inform the requirement for Stage 2 Property Assessment for portions of the study area as well as to aid in the determination of appropriate Stage 2 Property Assessment strategies. The locations from which photographs were taken and the directions toward which the camera was aimed for each photograph are illustrated in Maps 7 & 8 of this report.

### **6.2 PEDESTRIAN SURVEY**

In accordance with the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists, pedestrian survey is required for all portions of the study area that are ploughable or can be subject to

cultivation. This is the preferred method to utilize while conducting an assessment. This report confirms that the conduct of pedestrian survey within the study area conformed to the following standards:

1. *Actively or recently cultivated agricultural land must be subject to pedestrian survey.*  
[All actively or recently cultivated agricultural land was subject to pedestrian survey.]
2. *Land to be surveyed must be recently ploughed. Use of chisel ploughs is not acceptable. In heavy clay soils ensure furrows are disked after ploughing to break them up further.*  
[All land was recently ploughed.]
3. *Land to be surveyed must be weathered by one heavy rainfall or several light rains to improve visibility of archaeological resources.*  
[All land was weathered by rainfall.]
4. *Provide direction to the contractor undertaking the ploughing to plough deep enough to provide total topsoil exposure, but not deeper than previous ploughing.*  
[Direction was given to the contractor undertaking the ploughing to plough deep enough to provide total topsoil exposure, but not deeper than previous ploughing]
5. *At least 80 % of the ploughed ground surface must be visible. If surface visibility is below 80% (e.g. due to crop stubble, weeds, young crop growth), ensure the land is re-ploughed before surveying.*  
[Roughly 99% of the ploughed field surface was exposed and visible.]
6. *Space survey transects at maximum intervals of 5m (20 survey transects per hectare)*  
[All transects were conducted at an interval of 5m between individual transects.]
7. *When archaeological resources are found, decrease survey transects to 1m intervals over a minimum of a 20m radius around the find to determine whether it is an isolated find or part of a larger scatter. Continue working outward at this interval until full extent of the surface scatter has been defined.*  
[Not Applicable – No archaeological resources were encountered.]
8. *Collect all formal artifact types and diagnostic categories. For 19<sup>th</sup> century archaeological sites, collect all refined ceramic sherds (or, for larger sites collect a sufficient sample to form the basis for dating).*  
[Not Applicable – No archaeological resources were encountered.]

9. *Based on professional judgment, strike a balance between gathering enough artifacts to document the archaeological site and leaving enough in place to relocate the site if it is necessary to conduct further assessment.*

[Not Applicable – No archaeological resources were encountered.]

(MTC 2011: 30-31)

In this instance pedestrian survey methodology was used to examine the surface across a small area of topsoil stripped lands in order to ensure that no evidence of archaeological resources (either artifacts or features) were present within the area of bare exposed subsoil. This circumstance is not specifically mentioned within the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (MTC 2011) but was conducted on the base of professional judgement of the Project Archaeologist as a measure to ensure that despite disturbance to this portion of the study area in the form of topsoil stripping, the possibility of archaeological remains having survived this landscape alteration was addressed.

Approximately 98% of the study area consisted of ploughed agricultural land that was pedestrian surveyed at 5 metre intervals. Approximately 2% of the study area was topsoil stripped and disturbed due to the demolition of the house that was within the study area previously. The topsoil stripped area was pedestrian surveyed at 5 metre intervals.

## **7.0 RECORD OF FINDS**

Section 7.8.2 of the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (MTC 2011: 137-138) outlines the requirements of the Record of Finds component of a Stage 2 report:

1. *For all archaeological resources and sites that are identified in Stage 2, provide the following:*
  - a. *a general description of the types of artifacts and features that were identified*
  - b. *a general description of the area within which artifacts and features were identified, including the spatial extent of the area and any relative variations in density*
  - c. *a catalogue and description of all artifacts retained*
  - d. *a description of the artifacts and features left in the field (nature of material, frequency, other notable traits).*
2. *Provide an inventory of the documentary record generated in the field (e.g. photographs, maps, field notes).*
3. *Submit information detailing exact site locations on the property separately from the project report, as specified in section 7.6. Information on exact site locations includes the following:*
  - a. *table of GPS readings for locations of all archaeological sites*
  - b. *maps showing detailed site location information.*



## **7.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

No archaeological resources of any description were encountered anywhere within the study area.

## **7.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK DOCUMENTATION**

The documentation produced during the field investigation conducted in support of this report includes: one sketch map, one page of photo log, one page of field notes, and 32 digital photographs.

## **8.0 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS**

AMICK Consultants Limited was engaged by the proponent to undertake a Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment of lands potentially affected by the proposed undertaking and was granted permission to carry out archaeological fieldwork. The entirety of the study area was subject to property inspection and photographic documentation concurrently with the Stage 2 Property Assessment on 27 October 2020, consisting of high intensity pedestrian survey at an interval of five metres between individual transects. All records, documentation, field notes, photographs and artifacts (as applicable) related to the conduct and findings of these investigations are held at the Lakelands District corporate offices of AMICK Consultants Limited until such time that they can be transferred to an agency or institution approved by the Ontario Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI) on behalf of the government and citizens of Ontario.

### **8.1 STAGE 1 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS**

As part of the present study, background research was conducted in order to determine the archaeological potential of the proposed project area.

*“A Stage 1 background study provides the consulting archaeologist and Ministry report reviewer with information about the known and potential cultural heritage resources within a particular study area, prior to the start of the field assessment.”* (OMCzCR 1993)

The evaluation of potential is further elaborated Section 1.3 of the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologist (2011) prepared by the Ontario Ministry of Tourism and Culture:

*“The Stage 1 background study (and, where undertaken, property inspection) leads to an evaluation of the property’s archaeological potential. If the evaluation indicates that there is archaeological potential anywhere on the property, the next step is a Stage 2 assessment.”* (MTC 2011: 17)

Features or characteristics that indicate archaeological potential when documented within the study area, or within close proximity to the study area (as applicable), include:

“ - *previously identified archaeological sites*

- *water sources (It is important to distinguish types of water and shoreline, and to distinguish natural from artificial water sources, as these features affect site locations and types to varying degrees.):*
  - *primary water sources (lakes, rivers, streams, creeks)*
  - *secondary water sources (intermittent streams and creeks, springs, marshes, swamps)*
  - *features indicating past water sources (e.g., 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, cobble beaches)*
  - *accessible or inaccessible shoreline (e.g., high bluffs, swamp or marsh fields by the edge of a lake, sandbars stretching into marsh)*
- *elevated topography (e.g., eskers, drumlins, large knolls, plateaux)*
- *pockets of well-drained sandy soil, especially near areas of heavy soil or rocky ground*
- *distinctive land formations that might have been special or spiritual places, such as waterfalls, rock outcrops, caverns, mounds, and promontories and their bases. There may be physical indicators of their use, such as burials, structures, offerings, rock paintings or carvings.*
- *resource areas, including:*
  - *food or medicinal plants (e.g., migratory routes, spawning areas, prairie)*
  - *scarce raw materials (e.g., quartz, copper, ochre or outcrops of chert)*
  - *early Post-contact industry (e.g., fur trade, logging, prospecting, mining)*
- *areas of early Post-contact settlement. These include places of early military or pioneer settlement (e.g., pioneer homesteads, isolated cabins, farmstead complexes), early wharf or dock complexes, pioneer churches and early cemeteries. There may be commemorative markers of their history, such as local, provincial, or federal monuments or heritage parks.*
- *Early historical transportation routes (e.g., trails, passes, roads, railways, portage routes)*
- *property listed on a municipal register or designated under the Ontario Heritage Act that is a federal, provincial or municipal historic landmark or site*
- *property that local histories or informants have identified with possible archaeological sites, historical events, activities, or occupations”*

(MTC 2011: 17-18)

The evaluation of potential does not indicate that sites are present within areas affected by proposed development. Evaluation of potential considers the possibility for as yet undocumented sites to be found in areas that have not been subject to systematic

archaeological investigation in the past. Potential for archaeological resources is used to determine if property assessment of a study area or portions of a study area is required.

*“Archaeological resources not previously documented may also be present in the affected area. If the alternative areas being considered, or the preferred alternative selected, exhibit either high or medium potential for the discovery of archaeological remains an archaeological assessment will be required.”*

(MCC & MOE 1992: 6-7)

*“The Stage 1 background study (and, where undertaken, property inspection) leads to an evaluation of the property’s archaeological potential. If the evaluation indicates that there is archaeological potential anywhere on the property, the next step is a Stage 2 assessment.”*

(MTC 2011: 17)

In addition, archaeological sites data is also used to determine if any archaeological resources had been formerly documented within or in close proximity to the study area and if these same resources might be subject to impacts from the proposed undertaking. This data was also collected in order to establish the relative cultural heritage value or interest of any resources that might be encountered during the conduct of the present study. For example, the relative rarity of a site can be used to assign an elevated level of cultural heritage value or interest to a site that is atypical for the immediate vicinity. The requisite archaeological sites data of previously registered archaeological sites was collected from the MHSTCI and the corporate research library of AMICK Consultants Limited. The Stage 1 Background Research methodology also includes a review of the most detailed available topographic maps, historical settlement maps, archaeological management plans (where applicable) and commemorative plaques or monuments. When previous archaeological research documents lands to be impacted by the proposed undertaking or archaeological sites within 50 metres of the study area, the reports documenting this earlier work are reviewed for pertinent information. AMICK Consultants Limited will often modify this basic methodology based on professional judgment to include additional research (such as, local historical works or documents and knowledgeable informants).

Section 7.7.3 of the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (MTC 2011: 132) outlines the requirements of the Analysis and Conclusions component of a Stage 1 Background Study.

- 1) *“Identify and describe areas of archaeological potential within the project area.*
- 2) *Identify and describe areas that have been subject to extensive and deep land alterations. Describe the nature of alterations (e.g., development or other activity) that have severely damaged the integrity of archaeological resources and have removed archaeological potential.”*

## **CHARACTERISTICS INDICATING ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL**

Section 1.3.1 of the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists specifies the property characteristics that indicate archaeological potential (MTC 2011: 17-18). Factors that indicate archaeological potential are features of the local landscape and environment that may have attracted people to either occupy the land or to conduct activities within the study area. One or more of these characteristics found to apply to a study area would necessitate a Stage 2 Property Assessment to determine if archaeological resources are present. These characteristics are listed below together with considerations derived from the conduct of this study.

1) *Previously Identified Archaeological Sites*

Previously registered archaeological sites have not been documented within 300 metres of the study area.

2) *Water Sources*

Primary water sources are described as including lakes, rivers streams and creeks. Close proximity to primary water sources (300 metres) indicates that people had access to readily available sources of potable water and routes of waterborne trade and communication should the study area have been used or occupied in the past.

There are no identified primary water sources within 300 metres of the study area.

Secondary water sources are described as including intermittent streams and creeks, springs, marshes, and swamps. Close proximity (300 metres) to secondary water sources indicates that people had access to readily available sources of potable water, at least on a seasonal basis, and in some cases seasonal access to routes of waterborne trade and communication should the study area have been used or occupied in the past.

The study area contains two branches of intermittent streams associated with Thompsons Creek. These are seasonal and not shown on any historical mapping but that is likely due to their small size and seasonal nature.

3) *Features Indicating Past Water Sources*

Features indicating past water resources are described as including 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. Close proximity (300 metres) to features indicating past water sources indicates that people had access to readily available sources of potable water, at least on a seasonal basis, and in some cases seasonal access to routes of waterborne trade and communication should the study area have been used or occupied in the past.

There are no features indicating past water sources within 300 metres of the study area.

4) Accessible or Inaccessible Shoreline

This form of landscape feature would include high bluffs, swamp or marsh fields by the edge of a lake, sandbars stretching into marsh, etc.

There are no shorelines within 300 metres of the study area.

5) Elevated Topography

Features of elevated topography that indicate archaeological potential include eskers, drumlins, large knolls, and plateaux.

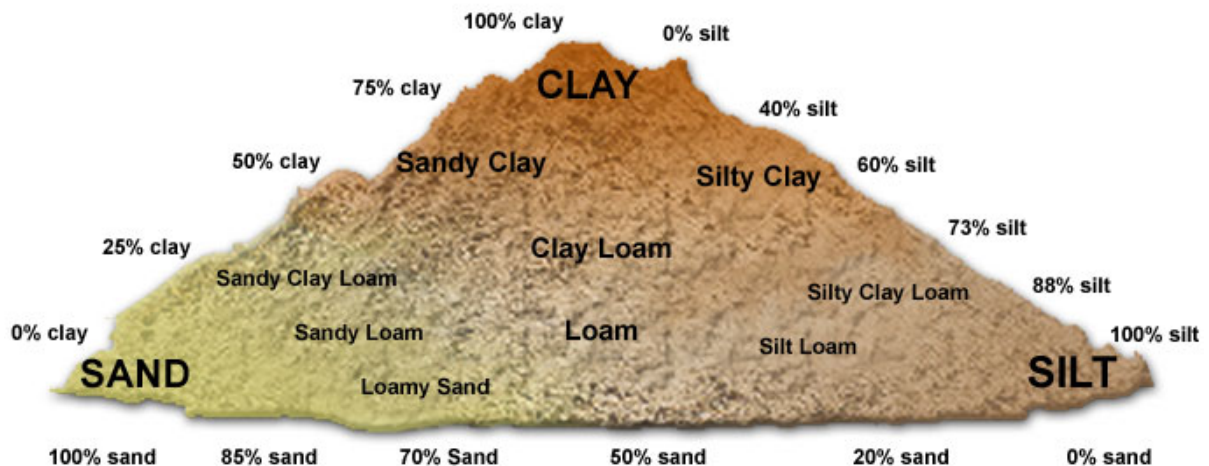
There are no identified features of elevated topography within the study area.

6) Pockets of Well-drained Sandy Soil

Pockets of sandy soil are considered to be especially important near areas of heavy soil or rocky ground.

The soil throughout the study area is light grey to light brown silt, which is consistent with the wider area surrounding the property. Therefore, the presence of this soil has no impact on potential within the study area, as the wider area is not known for clay soils or exposed bedrock.

The image below (Kuhlmann, Stacy 2017) shows the consistencies of soil types and how they compare to one another. The soil found within the study area was a silt, which contains extremely low percentages of sand and clay. The lower percentage of clay allows the soil to break up from the action of ploughing alone when not compacted or bound by extensive root masses.



(Kuhlmann, Stacy 2017)

7) *Distinctive Land Formations*

These are landscape features that might have been special or spiritual places, such as waterfalls, rock outcrops, caverns, mounds, and promontories and their bases. There may be physical indicators of their use, such as burials, structures, offerings, rock paintings or carvings.

There are no identified distinctive land formations within the study area.

8) *Resource Areas*

Resource areas that indicate archaeological potential include food or medicinal plants (e.g., migratory routes, spawning areas, and prairie), scarce raw materials (e.g., quartz, copper, ochre or outcrops of chert) and resources of importance to early Post-contact industry (e.g., logging, prospecting, and mining).

There are no identified resource areas within the study area.

9) *Areas of Early Post-Contact Settlement*

These include places of early military or pioneer settlement (e.g., pioneer homesteads, isolated cabins, and farmstead complexes), early wharf or dock complexes, pioneer churches and early cemeteries. There may be commemorative markers of their history, such as local, provincial, or federal monuments or heritage parks.

The study area is situated in close proximity to a historic structure identified on the historic atlas map of 1876, however there is no area of early post-contact settlement within proximity of the study area based on earlier historical mapping.

10) *Early Historical Transportation Routes*

This includes evidence of trails, passes, roads, railways, portage routes.

The study area is situated within 100 metres of two early settlement roads that appears on the Historic Atlas Map of 1862 and 1876. These historic roads correspond to the roads presently known as Beachwood Road to the west and McLeod Road to the north.

11) *Heritage Property*

Property listed on a municipal register or designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act* or is a federal, provincial or municipal historic landmark or site.

There are no listed or designated heritage buildings or properties that form a part of the study area. There are no listed or designated heritage buildings or properties that are adjacent to the study area.

12) *Documented Historical or Archaeological Sites*



This includes property that local histories or informants have identified with possible archaeological sites, historical events, activities, or occupations. These are properties which have not necessarily been formally recognized or for which there is additional evidence identifying possible archaeological resources associated with historic properties in addition to the rationale for formal recognition.

There are no known heritage features, or known historic sites, or known archaeological sites within the study area in addition to those formally documented with the appropriate agencies or previously noted under a different criterion.

### **CHARACTERISTICS INDICATING REMOVAL OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL**

Section 1.3.2 of the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists specifies the property characteristics which indicate no archaeological potential or for which archaeological potential has been removed (MTC 2011: 18-19). These characteristics are listed below together with considerations derived from the conduct of this study.

The introduction of Section 1.3.2 (MTC 2011: 18) notes that *“Archaeological potential can be determined not to be present for either the entire property or a part(s) of it when the area under consideration has been subject to extensive and deep land alterations that have severely damaged the integrity of any archaeological resources. This is commonly referred to as ‘disturbed’ or ‘disturbance’, and may include:”*

1) Quarrying

There is no evidence to suggest that quarrying operations were ever carried out within the study area.

2) Major Landscaping Involving Grading Below Topsoil

Unless there is evidence to suggest the presence of buried archaeological deposits, such deeply disturbed areas are considered to have lost their archaeological potential. Properties that do not have a long history of Post-Contact occupation can have archaeological potential removed through extensive landscape alterations that penetrate below the topsoil layer. This is because most archaeological sites originate at grade with relatively shallow associated excavations into the soil. Pre-Contact sites and early historic sites are vulnerable to extensive damage and complete removal due to landscape modification activities. In urban contexts where a lengthy history of occupation has occurred, properties may have deeply buried archaeological deposits covered over and sealed through redevelopment activities that do not include the deep excavation of the entire property for subsequent uses. Buildings are often erected directly over older foundations preserving archaeological deposits associated with the earlier occupation.

There is no evidence to suggest that major landscaping operations involving grading below topsoil were ever carried out within the study area. Surfaces paved with interlocking brick, concrete, asphalt, gravel and other surfaces meant to support heavy

loads or to be long wearing hard surfaces in high traffic areas, must be prepared by the excavation and removal of topsoil, grading, and the addition of aggregate material to ensure appropriate engineering values for the supporting matrix and also to ensure that the installations shed water to avoid flooding or moisture damage. All hard surfaced areas are prepared in this fashion and therefore have no or low archaeological potential. Disturbed areas are excluded from Stage 2 Property Assessment due to no or low archaeological potential and often because they are also not viable to assess using conventional methodology.

3) *Building Footprints*

Typically, the construction of buildings involves the deep excavation of foundations, footings and cellars that often obliterate archaeological deposits situated close to the surface.

There are no buildings within the study area.

4) *Sewage and Infrastructure Development*

Installation of sewer lines and other below ground services associated with infrastructure development often involves deep excavation that can remove archaeological potential.

There is no evidence to suggest that substantial below ground services of any kind have resulted in significant impacts to any significant portion of the study area. Major utility lines are conduits that provide services such as water, natural gas, hydro, communications, sewage, and others. These major installations should not be confused with minor below ground service installations not considered to represent significant disturbances removing archaeological potential, such as services leading to individual structures which tend to be comparatively very shallow and vary narrow corridors. Areas containing substantial and deeply buried services or clusters of below ground utilities are considered areas of disturbance, and may be excluded from Stage 2 Property Assessment.

*“Activities such as agricultural cultivation, gardening, minor grading and landscaping do not necessarily affect archaeological potential.”*

(MTC 2011: 18)

*“Archaeological potential is not removed where there is documented potential for deeply buried intact archaeological resources beneath land alterations, or where it cannot be clearly demonstrated through background research and property inspection that there has been complete and intensive disturbance of an area. Where complete disturbance cannot be demonstrated in Stage 1, it will be necessary to undertake Stage 2 assessment.”*

(MTC 2011: 18)

**SUMMARY**

***REVISED 10 June 2021 Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment of 9304 McLeod Road, Part of Township Lot 181 (Geographical Township of Stamford, County of Welland), Part 1 of Plan 59R-11144 and Part 1 of Plan 59R-16342, City of Niagara Falls, Regional Municipality of Niagara  
(AMICK File #2020128/MHSTCI File #P058-1923-2020)***

Table 5 below summarizes the evaluation criteria of the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI) together with the results of the Stage 1 Background Study for the proposed undertaking. Based on the criteria, the property is deemed to have archaeological potential on the proximity to a water source, proximity to an historic settlement structure and the location of early historic settlement roads adjacent to the study area.

**REVISED 10 June 2021 Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment of 9304 McLeod Road, Part of Township Lot 181 (Geographical Township of Stamford, County of Welland), Part 1 of Plan 59R-11144 and Part 1 of Plan 59R-16342, City of Niagara Falls, Regional Municipality of Niagara (AMICK File #2020128/MHSTCI File #P058-1923-2020)**

**TABLE 5 EVALUATION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL**

FEATURE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL		YES	NO	N/A	COMMENT
1	Known archaeological sites within 300m		<b>N</b>		If Yes, potential determined
<b>PHYSICAL FEATURES</b>					
2	Is there water on or near the property?	<b>Y</b>			If Yes, what kind of water?
2a	Primary water source within 300 m. (lakeshore, river, large creek, etc.)		<b>N</b>		If Yes, potential determined
2b	Secondary water source within 300 m. (stream, spring, marsh, swamp, etc.)	<b>Y</b>			If Yes, potential determined
2c	Past water source within 300 m. (beach ridge, river bed, relic creek, etc.)		<b>N</b>		If Yes, potential determined
2d	Accessible or Inaccessible shoreline within 300 m. (high bluffs, marsh, swamp, sand bar, etc.)		<b>N</b>		If Yes, potential determined
3	Elevated topography (knolls, drumlins, eskers, plateaus, etc.)		<b>N</b>		If Yes, and Yes for any of 4-9, potential determined
4	Pockets of sandy soil in a clay or rocky area		<b>N</b>		If Yes and Yes for any of 3, 5-9, potential determined
5	Distinctive land formations (mounds, caverns, waterfalls, peninsulas, etc.)		<b>N</b>		If Yes and Yes for any of 3-4, 6-9, potential determined
<b>HISTORIC/PREHISTORIC USE FEATURES</b>					
6	Associated with food or scarce resource harvest areas (traditional fishing locations, agricultural/berry extraction areas, etc.)		<b>N</b>		If Yes, and Yes for any of 3-5, 7-9, potential determined.
7	Early Post-Contact settlement area within 300 m.		<b>N</b>		If Yes, and Yes for any of 3-6, 8-9, potential determined
8	Historic Transportation route within 100 m. (historic road, trail, portage, rail corridors, etc.)	<b>Y</b>			If Yes, and Yes for any 3-7 or 9, potential determined
9	Contains property designated and/or listed under the Ontario Heritage Act (municipal heritage committee, municipal register, etc.)		<b>N</b>		If Yes and, Yes to any of 3-8, potential determined
<b>APPLICATION-SPECIFIC INFORMATION</b>					
10	Local knowledge (local heritage organizations, Pre-Contact, etc.)		<b>N</b>		If Yes, potential determined
11	Recent disturbance not including agricultural cultivation (post-1960-confirmed extensive and intensive including industrial sites, aggregate areas, etc.)		<b>N</b>		If Yes, no potential or low potential in affected part (s) of the study area.

If **YES** to any of 1, 2a-c, or 10 Archaeological Potential is **confirmed**

If **YES** to 2 or more of 3-9, Archaeological Potential is **confirmed**

If **YES** to 11 or No to 1-10 Low Archaeological Potential is **confirmed** for at least a portion of the study area.

## **8.2 STAGE 2 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS**

Section 7.8.3 of the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (MTC 2011: 138-139) outlines the requirements of the Analysis and Conclusions component of a Stage 2 Property Assessment.

1. *Summarize all findings from the Stage 2 survey, or state that no archaeological sites were identified.*
2. *For each archaeological site, provide the following analysis and conclusions:*
  - a. *A preliminary determination, to the degree possible, of the age and cultural affiliation of any archaeological sites identified.*
  - b. *A comparison against the criteria in 2 Stage 2: Property Assessment to determine whether further assessment is required*
  - c. *A preliminary determination regarding whether any archaeological sites identified in Stage 2 show evidence of a high level cultural heritage value or interest and will thus require Stage 4 mitigation.*

No archaeological sites or resources were found during the Stage 2 survey of the study area.

## **9.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **9.1 STAGE 2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

Under Section 7.8.4 of the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (MTC 2011: 139) the recommendations to be made as a result of a Stage 2 Property Assessment are described.

- 1) *For each archaeological site, provide a statement of the following:*
  - a. *Borden number or other identifying number*
  - b. *Whether or not it is of further cultural heritage value or interest*
  - c. *Where it is of further cultural heritage value or interest, appropriate Stage 3 assessment strategies*
- 2) *Make recommendations only regarding archaeological matters. Recommendations regarding built heritage or cultural heritage landscapes should not be included.*
- 3) *If the Stage 2 survey did not identify any archaeological sites requiring further assessment or mitigation of impacts, recommend that no further archaeological assessment of the property be required.*

As a result of the Stage 2 Property Assessment of the study area, no archaeological resources were encountered. Consequently, the following recommendations are made:

4. *No further archaeological assessment of the study area is warranted;*

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5. *The Provincial interest in archaeological resources with respect to the proposed undertaking has been addressed;*
6. *The proposed undertaking is clear of any archaeological concern.*



## **10.0 ADVICE ON COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION**

While not part of the archaeological record, this report must include the following standard advisory statements for the benefit of the proponent and the approval authority in the land use planning and development process:

- a. This report is submitted to the Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries as a condition of licensing in accordance with Part VI of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. 0.18. The report is reviewed to ensure that it complies with the standards and guidelines issued by the Minister, and that the archaeological fieldwork and report recommendations ensure the conservation, protection and preservation of the cultural heritage of Ontario. When all matters relating to archaeological sites within the project area of a development proposal have been addressed to the satisfaction of the Ministry of Tourism and Culture, 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.*
- b. 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 Archaeological Reports referred to in Section 65.1 of the Ontario Heritage Act.*
- c. 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 archaeologist to carry out archaeological fieldwork, in compliance with sec. 48 (1) of the Ontario Heritage Act.*
- d. The Cemeteries Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. C.4 and the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002, S.O. 2002, c.33 (when proclaimed in force) require that any person discovering human remains must notify the police or coroner and the Registrar of Cemeteries at the Ministry of Consumer Services.*
- e. Archaeological sites recommended for further archaeological fieldwork or protection remain subject to Section 48 (1) of the Ontario Heritage Act and may not be altered, or have artifacts removed from them, except by a person holding an archaeological licence.*

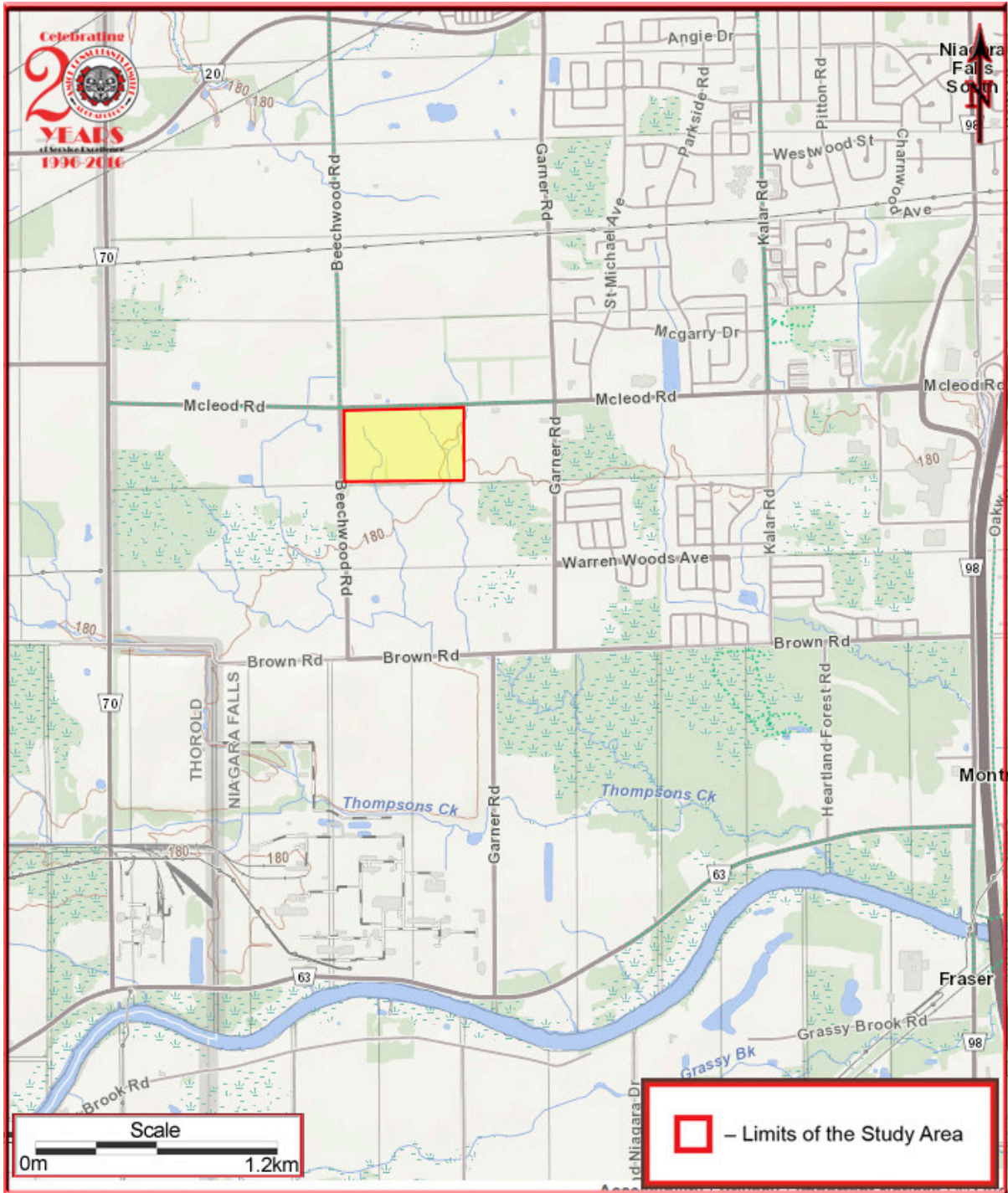
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## 12.0 MAPS



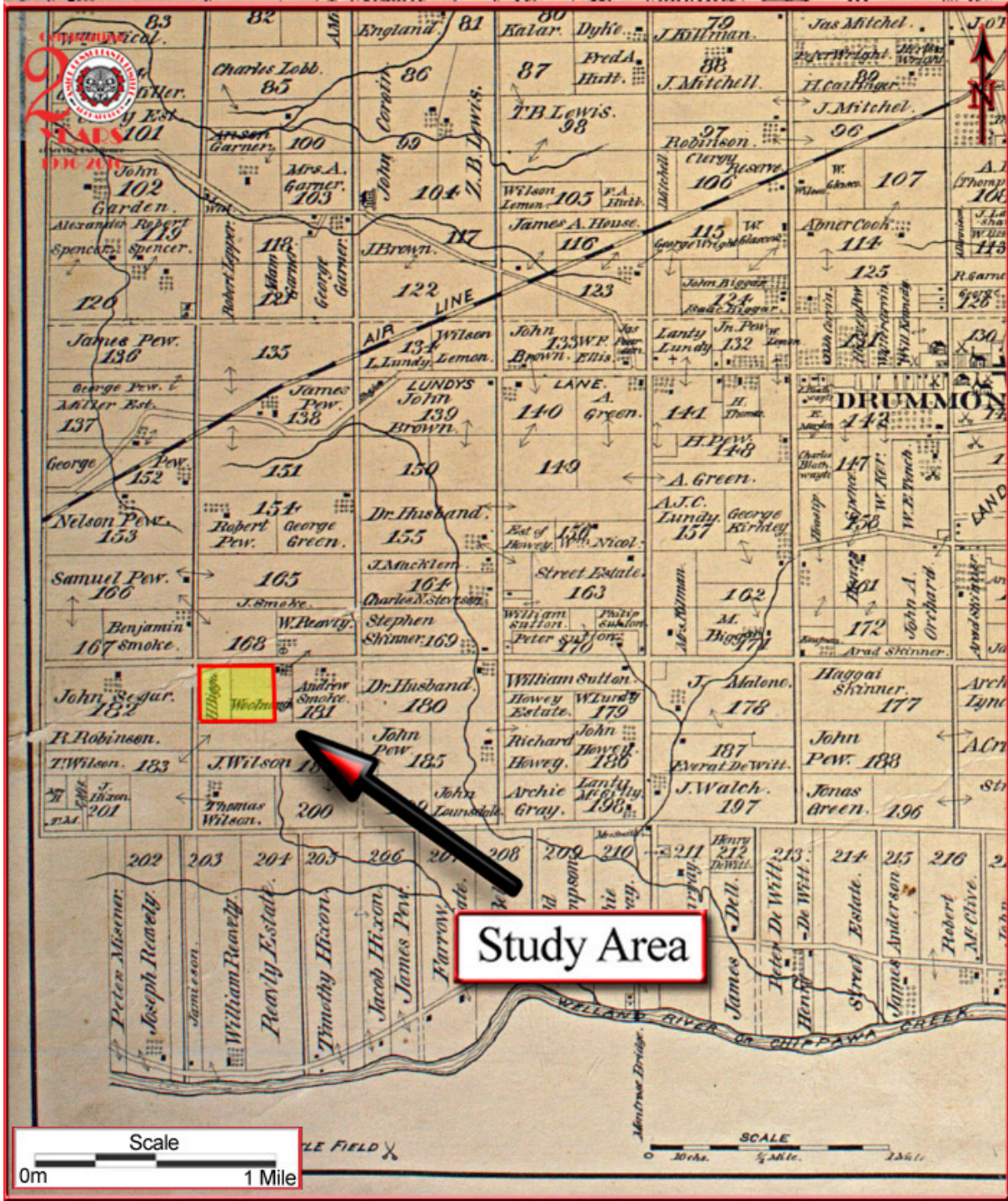
**MAP 1 LOCATION OF THE STUDY AREA (ESRI 2020)**







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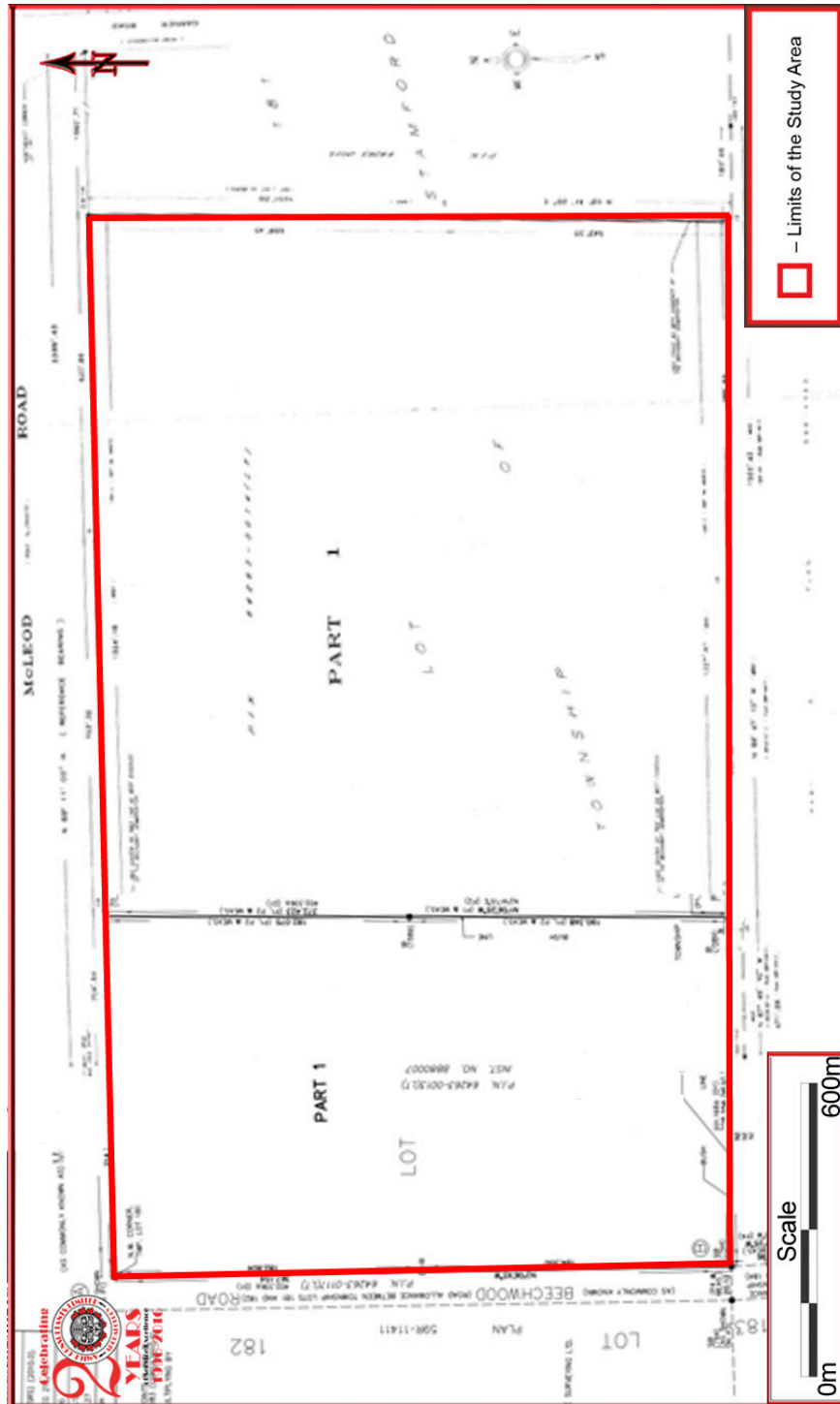
MAP 3 FACSIMILE SEGMENT OF LINCOLN AND WELLAND COUNTIES (H.R. PAGE & CO. 1876)







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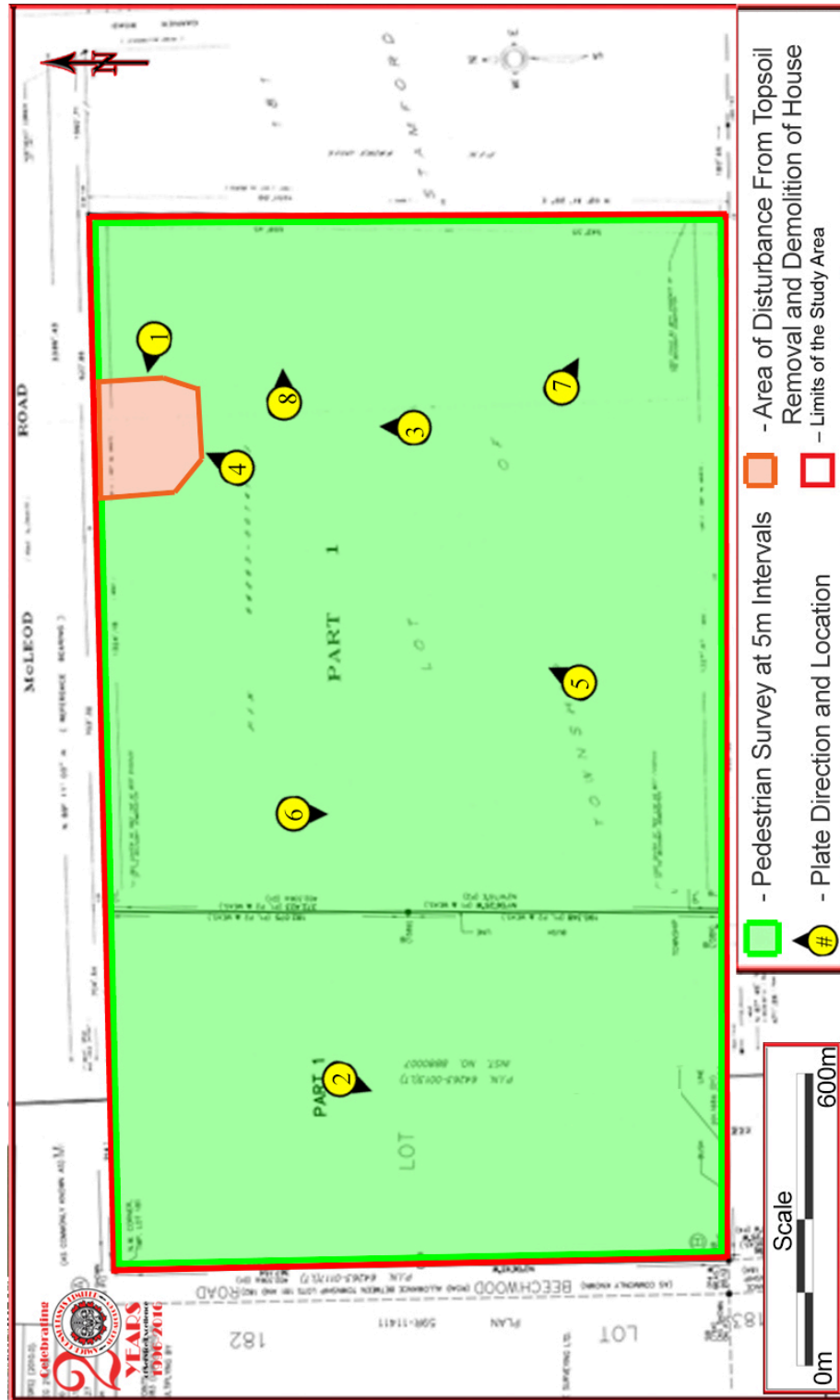
**MAP 6 SURVEY PLAN OF ENTIRE STUDY AREA (MATTHEWS, CAMERON, HEYWOOD-KERRY T. HOWE SURVEYING LIMITED 2018 & SUDA & MALESZYK SURVEYING INC. 2000)**



**MAP 7 AERIAL PHOTO OF THE STUDY AREA (GOOGLE EARTH 2020)**



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**MAP 8 DETAILED PLAN OF THE STUDY AREA**



**13.0 IMAGES**



**IMAGE 1 REMOVAL OF TOPSOIL WHERE HOUSE WAS PREVIOUSLY LOCATED**



**IMAGE 2 PEDESTRIAN SURVEY IN PROGRESS**



**IMAGE 3 SURVEY CONDITIONS**



**IMAGE 4 DEBRIS PILE FROM DEMOLITION OF HOUSE**



**IMAGE 5 SOIL CONDITIONS**



**IMAGE 6 SURVEY CONDITIONS**



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**IMAGE 7 SURVEY CONDITIONS**



**IMAGE 8 SURVEY CONDITIONS**