

**Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment
8970 & 9015 Stanley Avenue and Various
Vacant Properties, Niagara Falls**

Part of Lots 1, 2 & 3 Broken Front on Chippewa Creek
and Part of Lot 20 Concession 3,
Geographic Township of Willoughby,
Historical County of Welland,
Regional Municipality of Niagara, Ontario

Submitted to:

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and

Ontario's Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture
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ORIGINAL REPORT

September 29, 2021

Executive Summary

Detritus Consulting Ltd. ('Detritus') was retained by Upper Canada Consultants ('the Proponent') to conduct a Stage 1 archaeological assessment on part of Lots 1, 2 and 3, Broken Front on Chippewa Creek and part of Lot 20, Concession 3 in the Geographic Township of Willoughby, in the historical County of Welland within the Regional Municipality of Niagara, Ontario (Figure 1). This assessment was undertaken prior to the proposed South Niagara Falls Redevelopment located at 8970 and 9015 Stanley Avenue as well as five vacant parcels with no property addresses, and portion of Stanley Avenue and Lyons Creek Road and their associated rights-of-way ('ROW') in the City of Niagara Falls (the 'Study Area'; Figure 8).

This assessment was triggered by the Provincial Policy Statement ('PPS') that is informed by the *Planning Act* (Government of Ontario 1990a), which states that decisions affecting planning matters must be consistent with the policies outlined in the larger *Ontario Heritage Act* (Government of Ontario 1990b). According to Section 2.6.2 of the PPS, "development and site alteration shall not be permitted on lands containing archaeological resources or areas of archaeological potential unless significant archaeological resources have been conserved." To meet this condition, a Stage 1 assessment was conducted as part of the pre-approval stage of the development under archaeological consulting license P017 issued to Mr. Garth Grimes by the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries ('MHSTCI') and adheres to the archaeological license report requirements under subsection 65 (1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act* (Government of Ontario 1990b) and the MHSTCI's *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* ('Standards and Guidelines'; Government of Ontario 2011).

The assessment properties, roads and ROW combined measure 89.91 hectares ('ha'). At the time of assessment, 9015 Stanley Avenue was an abandoned campground featuring gravel roads, concrete pads, swimming pools, boat ramp, gates, fences, and structures, surrounded by overgrown grass and trees throughout. Various berms were visible in the southeastern quadrant of the parcel and a brick laneway is visible at the entrance. Additionally, various agricultural fields are visible to the south of the campground. The parcel at 8970 Stanley Avenue and the four parcels to the east was an abandoned golf course featuring a structure and a large gravel parking lot in the northwestern corner as well as various sand traps, artificial berms, and paths throughout, all of which are now overgrown with grass. Various ponds and trees are visible throughout these parcels. Additionally, of the two parcels to the south of Lyons Creek Road, the eastern parcel comprises primarily an agricultural field with trees bordering the southern edge, adjacent to Lyons Creek. The western parcel comprises primarily woodlot with areas of overgrown grass and a small portion of an agricultural field in the northeastern corner. Lastly, both Stanley Avenue and Lyons Creek Road and their ROWs comprise asphalt surfaces as well as gravel and grass shoulders (Figure 6).

Following advice provided by the City of Niagara Falls (see correspondence in Supplementary Documentation), only the portions of the assessment properties that may be subject to developmental impacts required archaeological assessment (Figures 7-8). The assessment parcel (the 'Study Area') is irregularly shaped and measures approximately 72.38ha and, at the time of assessment, comprised overgrown and manicured grass, treed areas, and agricultural fields as well as various structures, laneways, parking areas, asphalt roadways, and gravel shoulders (Figure 6). The Study Area is bound by environmentally protected areas and Ontario Hydro Lands to the north; regulated wetlands and Lyons Creek to the south; 4721 Lyons Creek Road and Lyons Creek Road and its associated ROW to the east; and 5789 Lyons Creek Road to the west.

The Stage 1 assessment of the Study Area consisted of background research and a property inspection, as per Section 1.2 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011). Included as part of the background research was a review of aerial and satellite imagery of the Study Area. The 1934 aerial imagery (Figure 3) depicts various buildings in the southern portion of 9015 Stanley Avenue as well as a couple of structures to the north of Lyons Creek Road on the largest parcel of the former golf course property. The remainder of the Study Area to the north of Lyons Creek Road comprises agricultural fields. The two parcels to the south of Lyons Creek Road appear to be in the same state as they are on the current aerial imagery. By 2000 (Figure 4), the buildings on the former golf course property had been demolished, however the ones on the

campground property remain. At this time the campground layout appears in the northern portion of that parcel, and the golf course appears to be in operation. By 2010 (Figure 5) the structures in the southern portion of the campground parcel had been demolished. The Study Area remains generally unchanged since 2010.

The Stage 1 property inspection of the Study Area was conducted on August 27, 2021 and involved spot-checking of the Study Area for confirmation of disturbances and deep land alterations. The Stage 1 archaeological assessment, resulted in the determination that portions of the Study Area exhibit a moderate to high potential for the identification and recovery of archaeological resources. Generally, these areas were limited to the overgrown and manicured grass areas, the treed areas, agricultural fields throughout the Study Area. Additionally, given that no property inspection was not conducted for the parcel to the west of Stanley Avenue as part of the Stage 1 assessment, these areas of possible disturbance within this parcel, which include gravel roads, concrete pads, swimming pools, boat ramp, gates, fences, and structures can not be confirmed. Therefore, it was determined that these areas demonstrated the potential for the recovery of archaeological resources. As such, **a Stage 2 archaeological assessment is recommended for the portions of the Study Area retaining archaeological potential (Figures 6).**

The portions of the Study Area that are inaccessible for ploughing, will be subject to a typical Stage 2 test pit assessment at a five metre ('m') interval, conducted according to Section 2.1.2 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011). The test pit survey will be conducted within one metre of standing structures or until test pits show evidence of disturbance according to Section 2.1.2, Standard 4 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011). Each test pit must be at least 30 centimetres ('cm') in diameter and excavated 5cm into sterile subsoil. The soil and test pits will then be examined for stratigraphy, cultural features, or evidence of fill. All soil will be screened through six-millimetre ('mm') mesh hardware cloth to facilitate the recovery of small artifacts and then used to backfill the pit.

In accordance with Section 2.1.3 Standard 1 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011), if archaeological resources are encountered during the Stage 2 test pit survey, the test pit excavation will continue on the survey grid to determine the extent of further positive test pits. If insufficient archaeological resources are found through a continued survey of the grid to meet the criteria for continuing to Stage 3, the survey coverage will be intensified around the positive test pits using either Option A or Option B of Section 2.1.3, Standard 2 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011). Universal Transverse Mercator ('UTM') coordinates will then be recorded for all positive test pit in addition to a fixed reference landmark using a Garmin eTrex 10 GPS unit with a minimum accuracy 1-2.5m (North American Datum 1983 ('NAD83') and UTM Zone 17T). All artifacts will be collected and recorded according to their associated positive test pit or 1m test unit.

Additionally, the agricultural fields that retains archaeological potential and are accessible for ploughing will be subject to a typical Stage 2 pedestrian survey at a 5m interval, conducted according to Section 2.1.1 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011). The fields will be ploughed until 80% surface visibility is attained, then allowed to weather prior to assessment. As per Section 2.1.1, Standard 7 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011), if archaeological resources are found, the survey transects will be decreased to 1m intervals over a 20m radius around each find to determine whether it is an isolated find or part of a larger scatter. All formal artifact types and diagnostic categories will be collected for laboratory analysis and cataloguing, including all refined ceramic sherds for 19th century archaeological sites.

Lastly, if any of the areas recommended for Stage 2 assessment are determined to be previously disturbed, steeply sloped, or permanently wet during the course of the Stage 2 assessment, they will be photo documented as per Section 2.1, Sections 2a and 2b and Section 6 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011).

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

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Generous contributions by Craig Rohe of Upper Canada Consultants made this report possible.

1.0 Project Context

1.1 Development Context

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

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

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

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

The licensee received permission from the Proponent to enter the land and conduct all required archaeological fieldwork activities.

1.2 Historical Context

1.2.1 Post-Contact Aboriginal Resources

Prior to the arrival of European settlers, much of Southern Ontario was occupied by the Neutral, or Attawandaron tribe. The earliest recorded visit was undertaken by Étienne Brûlé, an interpreter and guide for Samuel de Champlain. In June 1610, Brûlé requested permission to live

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

Throughout the middle of the 17th century, the Iroquois of the Five Nations sought to expand upon their territory and to monopolise the local fur trade as well as trade between the European markets and the tribes of the western Great Lakes. A series of bloody conflicts followed known as the Beaver Wars, or the French and Iroquois Wars, were contested between the Iroquois and the French with their Huron and other Algonquian speaking allies of the Great Lakes region. Many communities were destroyed including the Huron, Neutral, Erie, Susquehannock, and Shawnee leaving the Iroquois as the dominant group in the region. By 1653 after repeated attacks, the Niagara peninsula and most of Southern Ontario had been vacated. By 1667, all members of the Five Nations had signed a peace treaty with the French and allowed their missionaries to visit their villages (Heidenreich 1990).

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

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

The Study Area first enters the Euro-Canadian historic record on May 9th 1781 as part of the Niagara Treaty No. 381 with the Mississauga and Chippewa. This treaty involved the surrender of...

...all that certain tract of land situated on the west side of the said strait or river, leading from Lake Erie to Lake Ontario, beginning at a large white oak tree, forked six feet from the ground, on the bank of the said Lake Ontario, at the distance of four English miles measured in a straight line, from the West side of the bank of the said strait, opposite to the Fort Niagara and extending from thence by a southerly course to the Chipewigh River, at the distance of four miles on a direct line from where the said river falls into the said strait about the great Fall of Niagara or such a line as will pass at four miles west of the said Fall in its course to the said river and running from thence by a southeasterly course to the northern bank of Lake Erie at the distance of four miles on a straight line, westerly from the Post called Fort Erie, thence easterly along the said Lake by the said Post, and northerly up the west side of the said strait to the said lake Ontario, thence westerly to the place of beginning.

Morris 1943: 15-16

The size and nature of the pre-contact settlements and the subsequent spread and distribution of Aboriginal material culture in Southern Ontario began to shift with the establishment of European settlers. Lands in the Lower Grand River area were surrendered by the Six Nations to the British Government in 1832, at which point most Six Nations people moved into Tuscarora Township in Brant County and a narrow portion of Oneida Township (Page, H.R. & Co. 1879; Tanner 1987; Weaver 1978). Despite the inevitable encroachment of European settlers on previously established Aboriginal territories, “written accounts of material life and livelihood, the correlation of historically recorded villages to their archaeological manifestations, and the similarities of those sites to more ancient sites have revealed an antiquity to documented cultural expressions that confirms a deep historical continuity to Iroquoian systems of ideology and thought” (Ferris 2009:114). As Ferris observes, despite the arrival of a competing culture, First Nations communities throughout southern Ontario have left behind archaeologically significant resources that demonstrate continuity with their pre-contact predecessors, even if they have not been recorded extensively in historical Euro-Canadian documentation.

1.2.2 Euro-Canadian Land Use

The Study Area is located within the Geographic Township of Willoughby in the historical County of Welland, now the City of Niagara Falls within the Region of Niagara, Ontario.

Following the Treaty of Paris of 1763, which ended the Seven Years War, Canada was transferred from France to Britain, becoming the Province of Québec. On July 24, 1788, Sir Guy Carleton, the Governor-General of British North America, divided the Province of Québec into the administrative districts of Hesse, Nassau, Mecklenburg and Lunenburg (Archives of Ontario 2012-2015). Further change came in December 1791 when the former Province of Québec was rearranged into Upper Canada and Lower Canada under the Constitutional Act. Colonel John Graves Simcoe was appointed as Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada and he initiated several initiatives to populate the province including the establishment of shoreline communities with effective transportation links between them (Coyne 1895:33).

In July 1792, Simcoe divided Upper Canada into 19 counties, including Welland County, stretching from Essex in the west to Glengarry in the east. Later that year, the four districts originally established in 1788 were renamed as the Western, Home, Midland and Eastern Districts. As population levels in Upper Canada increased, smaller and more manageable administrative bodies were needed resulting in the establishment of many new counties and townships. As part of this realignment, the boundaries of the Home and Western Districts were shifted and the London and Niagara Districts were established. Under this new territorial arrangement, Willoughby Township became part of Lincoln County in the Niagara District (Archives of Ontario 2012-2015).

Willoughby Township was settled by a combination of Loyalist immigrants from the United States many of whom were Quakers from Pennsylvania. There were few hubs of settlement in Willoughby Township but one was at Black Creek where a settlement was established by 1792 (Fretz 1953). Even as late as the 1870s this remained a small hamlet consisting of only a post office cemetery, meeting house and about a dozen homes (Page & Co 1876). Much of the southern third of the township was inhibited from settlement by the presence of the Tamarack Swamp. Only one road had penetrated the swamp by 1852 but by the 1870s several roads had been pushed through and lots were taken up in this area. Settlement was thickest and earliest near the Niagara River. In 1837-38 during the Rebellion of 1837 and for a time after every house between Chippewa and Black Creek was occupied by Government Troops due to the presence of a headquarters for the conspirators at Navy Island (Page & Co 1876).

The *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the Counties of Lincoln and Welland* (*Historical Atlas*), demonstrates the extent to which Willoughby Township had been settled by 1876 (Page & Co 1876; Figure 2). Landowners are listed for most of the lots within the township, many of which had been subdivided multiple times into smaller parcels to accommodate an increasing population throughout the late 19th century. Structures and orchards are prevalent throughout the township, almost all of which front early roads and waterways, especially the Niagara River.

According to the *Historical Atlas*, Lots 1, 2 and 3, Broken Front on Chippewa Creek were each subdivided into various parcels and are each divided by Lyons Creek and what is now called Lyons Creek Road. Lot 1, Broken Front on Chippewa Creek was divided into three parcels, the portion to the south of Lyons Creek was owned by William McClay, the portion north of Lyons Creek and the parcel north of what is now Lyons Creek Road were owned by Alex McClive. Lot 2, Broken Front on Chippewa Creek was also divided into three parcels, the parcel to the south of Lyons Creek was owned by Andrew Simpson, the parcel north of Lyons Creek and north of what is now Lyons Creek Road was also owned by Alex McClive. Lot 3, Broken Front on Chippewa Creek was divided into two parcels, however both halves appear to be owned by Andrew Simpson. Lastly, Lot 20, Concession 3 was divided into two parcels. The largest parcel, south of what is now Lyons Creek Road was owned by Frederick Pirson, the parcel north of Lyons Creek Road was owned by Alex McClive. It appears as though the majority of the Study Area was owned by Alex McClive with a small portion along the western edge that was owned by Andrew Simpson. A single structure is visible on Lot 2, Broken Front on Chippewa Creek on Alex McClive's property, north of Lyons Creek Road, which is in the vicinity of the structure visible on the 1934 aerial imagery that was demolished by 2000. Additionally, the early village of Chippewa is located to the northeast of the Study Area, and the Welland River borders the Study Area to the north, although the current aerial imagery of the properties puts the Welland River further north.

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

1.3 Archaeological Context

1.3.1 Property Description and Physical Setting

The assessment properties, roads and ROW combined measure 89.91 hectares ('ha'). At the time of assessment, 9015 Stanley Avenue was an abandoned campground featuring gravel roads, concrete pads, swimming pools, boat ramp, gates, fences, and structures, surrounded by overgrown grass and trees throughout. Various berms were visible in the southeastern quadrant of the parcel and a brick laneway is visible at the entrance. Additionally, various agricultural fields are visible to the south of the campground. The parcel at 8970 Stanley Avenue and the four parcels to the east was an abandoned golf course featuring a structure and a large gravel parking lot in the northwestern corner as well as various sand traps, artificial berms, and paths throughout, all of which are now overgrown with grass. Various ponds and trees are visible throughout these parcels. Additionally, of the two parcels to the south of Lyons Creek Road, the eastern parcel comprises primarily an agricultural field with trees bordering the southern edge, adjacent to Lyons Creek. The western parcel comprises primarily woodlot with areas of overgrown grass and a small portion of an agricultural field in the northeastern corner. Lastly, both Stanley Avenue and Lyons Creek Road and their ROWs comprise asphalt surfaces as well as gravel and grass shoulders (Figure 6).

The Study Area is irregularly shaped and measures approximately 72.38ha and, at the time of assessment, comprised overgrown and manicured grass, treed areas, and agricultural fields as well as various structures, laneways, parking areas, asphalt roadways, and gravel shoulders (Figure 6). The Study Area is bound by environmentally protected areas and Ontario Hydro Lands to the north; regulated wetlands and Lyons Creek to the south; 4721 Lyons Creek Road and Lyons Creek Road and its associated ROW to the east; and 5789 Lyons Creek Road to the west.

The majority of the region surrounding the Study Area has been subject to European-style agricultural practices for over 100 years, having been settled by Euro-Canadian farmers by the middle of the 19th century. Much of the region today continues to be used for agricultural purposes.

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

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

Chapman and Putnam 1984:156

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

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

The closest sources of potable water are the Welland River, which is located 28 metres ('m') to the north of the Study Area, and Lyons Creek, which is 39m to the south of the Study Area.

1.3.2 Pre-Contact Aboriginal Land Use

This portion of southern Ontario was occupied by people as far back as 11,000 years ago as the glaciers retreated. For the majority of this time, people were practicing hunter gatherer lifestyles with a gradual move towards more extensive farming practices. Table 1 provides a general outline of the cultural chronology of Willoughby Township (Ellis and Ferris 1990).

Table 1: Cultural Chronology for Willoughby Township

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

1.3.3 Previous Identified Archaeological Work

In order to compile an inventory of known archaeological resources in the vicinity of the Study Area, Detritus consulted the ASDB. The ASDB, which is maintained by the MHSTCI (Government

of Ontario n.d.), contains information concerning archaeological sites that have been registered according to the Borden system. Under the Borden system, Canada is divided into grid blocks based on latitude and longitude. A Borden Block is approximately 13 kilometres ('km') east to west and approximately 18.5km north to south. Each Borden Block is referenced by a four-letter designator and sites within a block are numbered sequentially as they are found. The Study Area lies within block AgGs.

Information concerning specific site locations is protected by provincial policy and is not fully subject to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (Government of Ontario 1990c). The release of such information in the past has led to looting or various forms of illegally conducted site destruction. Confidentiality extends to all media capable of conveying location, including maps, drawings, or textual descriptions of a site location. The MHSTCI will provide information concerning site location to the party or an agent of the party holding title to a property, or to a licensed archaeologist with relevant cultural resource management interests.

According to the ASDB, seven archaeological sites have been registered within 1km of the Study Area including five pre-contact Aboriginal sites, three of which date from the Archaic and Woodland periods, and two post-contact Euro-Canadian sites. For further information see Table 2, below.

Table 2: Archaeological Sites Database Records

Borden Number	Site Name	Time Period	Affinity	Site Type
AgGs-1	Chippawa	Archaic	Aboriginal	Unknown
AgGs-46	Brindle	Archaic, Middle	Aboriginal	camp/campsite
AgGs-49	Crawford 3	Archaic, Middle, Woodland, Early	Aboriginal	camp/campsite, fishing, hunting
AgGs-91	TCPL 90-11	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	findspot
AgGs-92	TCPL 90-12	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	findspot
AgGs-344	Weaver 1	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead
AgGs-371	Weaver 2	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	scatter

To the best of Detritus' knowledge, no assessments have been conducted on adjacent properties nor have sites been found within 50m of the Study Area.

2.0 Field Methods

A property inspection was conducted under archaeological consulting license PO17 issued to Mr. Garth Grimes by the MHSTCI. The limits of the Study Area were determined using shapefiles uploaded to a handheld Global Positioning System ('GPS').

The property inspection was completed on August 27, 2021. In accordance with Section 1.2 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011), the property inspection involved spot-checking of the majority of the Study Area. Access was not granted for the campground parcel at 9015 Stanley Avenue; therefore, a property inspection was conducted along the roadside for the parcel adjacent to the west of Stanley Avenue. As a result, archaeological potential could only be confirmed for the portions of the Study Area that were observed first hand. The photography from the property inspection is presented in Section 9 below and confirms that the requirement for a Stage 1 property inspection of the roads, ROWs, and the parcels to the east of Stanley Avenue and to the south of Lyons Creek Road was met, as per Section 1.2 and Section 7.7.2 Standard 1 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011) and that the remainder of the Study Area to the west of Stanley Avenue were partially met, as per Section 1.2 and Section 7.7.2 Standard 1 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011).

During the property inspection, the weather was hot and sunny, and visibility of land features was excellent. At no time were field or weather conditions detrimental to the identification of features of archaeological potential.

The results of the Stage 1 background research and property inspection indicate that 10% of the Study Area comprised an existing structure, a large gravel parking lot, asphalt road surfaces, gravel shoulders, a brick laneway, an artificial berm, and various small ponds.

The remaining 90% comprised overgrown and manicured grass areas, various agricultural fields and treed areas as well as the former campground area, which comprised gravel roads, concrete pads, swimming pools, boat ramp, gates, fences, and structures of the former campground, which could not be observed first hand due to insufficient property access.

As part of the background research, aerial imagery of the Study Area was reviewed. The aerial imagery from 1934 through 2010 (Figures 3-5) show evidence of demolition of various structures within the Study Area. The property inspection confirmed that portions of the Study Area to the east of Stanley Avenue have been extensively disturbed due to a structure, a gravel parking lot, various ponds, an artificial berm, asphalt roadways, and gravel shoulders. These areas show visible evidence of extensive and deep land alterations that indicate archaeological potential has been removed, as per Section 1.3.2 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011).

3.0 Record of Finds

The Stage 1 archaeological assessment of the Study Area was conducted employing the methods described in Section 2.0 above. An inventory of the documentary record generated by fieldwork is provided in Table 3 below.

Table 3: Inventory of Document Record

Document Type	Current Location	Additional Comments
1 Pages of Field Notes	Detritus office	Stored digitally in project file
1 Map provided by the Proponent	Detritus office	Stored digitally in project file
1 Field Maps	Detritus office	Stored digitally in project file
47 Digital Photographs	Detritus office	Stored digitally in project file

4.0 Analysis and Conclusions

Detritus was retained by the Proponent to conduct a Stage 1 archaeological assessment in advance of the proposed South Niagara Falls Redevelopment in the City of Niagara Falls.

Archaeological potential is established by determining the likelihood that archaeological resources may be present on a subject property. Detritus applied archaeological potential criteria commonly used by the MHSTCI to determine areas of archaeological potential within Study Area. According to Section 1.3.1 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011), these variables include proximity to previously identified archaeological sites, distance to various types of water sources, soil texture and drainage, glacial geomorphology, elevated topography, and the general topographic variability of the area.

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

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

The closest sources of potable water are the Welland River, which is located 28 metres ('m') to the north of the Study Area, and Lyons Creek, which is 39m to the south of the Study Area.

Soil texture is also an important determinant of past settlement, usually in combination with other factors such as topography. The Study Area is situated within the Haldimand Clay Plain physiographic region. The soils within this region are suitable for pre-contact and post contact Aboriginal agricultural. Given the quality of the soil, the proximity of potable water, and the length of occupation of Willoughby Township prior to the arrival of Euro-Canadian settlers, as well as the five pre-contact Aboriginal sites registered within 1km of the Study Area, the pre-contact and post-contact Aboriginal archaeological potential of the Study Area is judged to be moderate to high.

For Euro-Canadian sites, archaeological potential can be extended to areas of early Euro-Canadian settlement, including places of military or pioneer settlements; early transportation routes; and properties listed on the municipal register or designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act* (Government of Ontario 1990b) or property that local histories or informants have identified with possible historical events. The *Historical Atlas* (Page & Co. 1876) map of Willoughby Township shows the Study Area in close proximity to historical roads, the Village of Chippawa, the Welland River and Lyons Creek. Considering that the Study Area is located in close proximity to early settlements of the areas as well as a two Euro-Canadian sites registered within 1km of the Study Area, the potential for post-contact Euro-Canadian archaeological resources is judged to be moderate to high.

Finally, despite the factors mentioned above, extensive land disturbance can eradicate archaeological potential within a Study Area, as outlined in Section 1.3.2 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011). Recent aerial imagery (Figures 3 to 5) indicates that the Study Area contains structures, a gravel parking lot, a brick laneway, an artificial berm, various ponds, and portions of Stanley Avenue and Lyons Creek Road as well as their gravel shoulders. Given that a property inspection was conducted for these areas and it was confirmed that they have been subject to extensive and deep land alterations that have severely damaged the integrity of any archaeological resources, as per Section 1.3.2 of the *Standards and Guidelines*

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(Government of Ontario 2011) these areas retain no or low potential for the recovery of pre-contact Aboriginal, post-contact Aboriginal, and Euro-Canadian archaeological resources.

Additionally, given that no property inspection was not conducted for the parcel to the west of Stanley Avenue as part of the Stage 1 assessment, these areas of possible disturbance within this parcel, which include gravel roads, concrete pads, swimming pools, boat ramp, gates, fences, and structures can not be confirmed. Therefore, Detritus determined that these areas demonstrated the potential for the recovery of pre-contact Aboriginal, post-contact Aboriginal, and Euro-Canadian archaeological resources, and were recommended for additional assessment.

5.0 Recommendations

The Stage 1 archaeological assessment, involving background research and a property inspection, resulted in the determination that portions of the Study Area exhibit a moderate to high potential for the identification and recovery of archaeological resources. Generally, these areas were limited to the overgrown and manicured grass areas, the treed areas, agricultural fields throughout the Study Area. Additionally, given that no property inspection was not conducted for the parcel to the west of Stanley Avenue as part of the Stage 1 assessment, these areas of possible disturbance within this parcel, which include gravel roads, concrete pads, swimming pools, boat ramp, gates, fences, and structures can not be confirmed. Therefore, it was determined that these areas demonstrated the potential for the recovery of archaeological resources. As such, **a Stage 2 archaeological assessment is recommended for the portions of the Study Area retaining archaeological potential (Figures 6).**

The portions of the Study Area that are inaccessible for ploughing, will be subject to a typical Stage 2 test pit assessment at a five metre ('m') interval, conducted according to Section 2.1.2 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011). The test pit survey will be conducted within 1m of standing structures or until test pits show evidence of disturbance according to Section 2.1.2, Standard 4 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011). Each test pit must be at least 30 centimetres ('cm') in diameter and excavated 5cm into sterile subsoil. The soil and test pits will then be examined for stratigraphy, cultural features, or evidence of fill. All soil will be screened through six-millimetre ('mm') mesh hardware cloth to facilitate the recovery of small artifacts and then used to backfill the pit.

In accordance with Section 2.1.3 Standard 1 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011), if archaeological resources are encountered during the Stage 2 test pit survey, the test pit excavation will continue on the survey grid to determine the extent of further positive test pits. If insufficient archaeological resources are found through a continued survey of the grid to meet the criteria for continuing to Stage 3, the survey coverage will be intensified around the positive test pits using either Option A or Option B of Section 2.1.3, Standard 2 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011). Universal Transverse Mercator ('UTM') coordinates will then be recorded for all positive test pit in addition to a fixed reference landmark using a Garmin eTrex 10 GPS unit with a minimum accuracy 1-2.5m (North American Datum 1983 ('NAD83') and UTM Zone 17T). All artifacts will be collected and recorded according to their associated positive test pit or 1m test unit.

Additionally, the agricultural fields that retains archaeological potential and are accessible for ploughing will be subject to a typical Stage 2 pedestrian survey at a 5m interval, conducted according to Section 2.1.1 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011). The fields will be ploughed until 80% surface visibility is attained, then allowed to weather prior to assessment. As per Section 2.1.1, Standard 7 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011), if archaeological resources are found, the survey transects will be decreased to 1m intervals over a 20m radius around each find to determine whether it is an isolated find or part of a larger scatter. All formal artifact types and diagnostic categories will be collected for laboratory analysis and cataloguing, including all refined ceramic sherds for 19th century archaeological sites.

Lastly, if any of the areas recommended for Stage 2 assessment are determined to be previously disturbed, steeply sloped, or permanently wet during the course of the Stage 2 assessment, they will be photo documented as per Section 2.1, Sections 2a and 2b and Section 6 of the *Standards and Guidelines* (Government of Ontario 2011).

6.0 Advice on Compliance with Legislation

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

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

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

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

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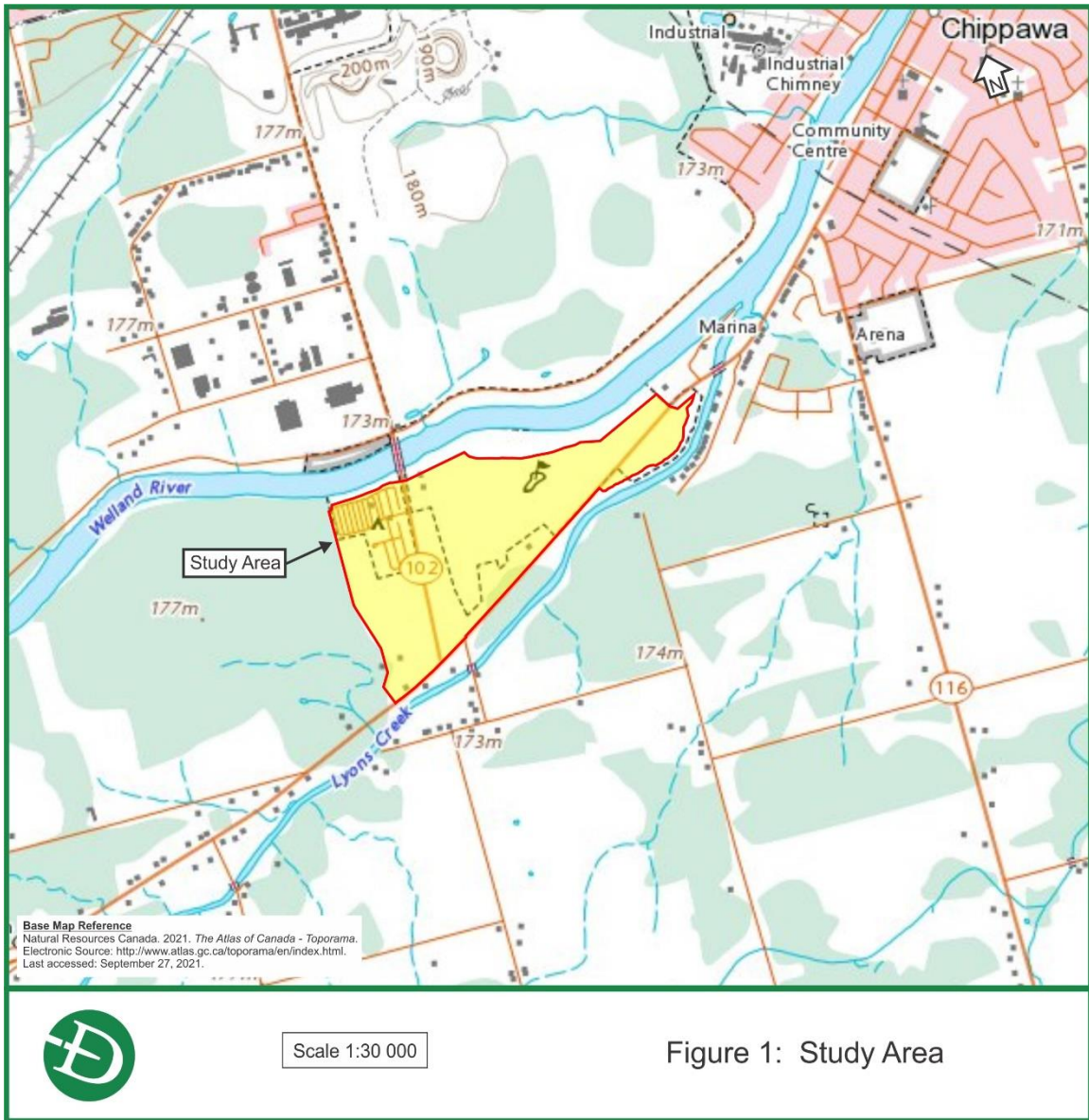
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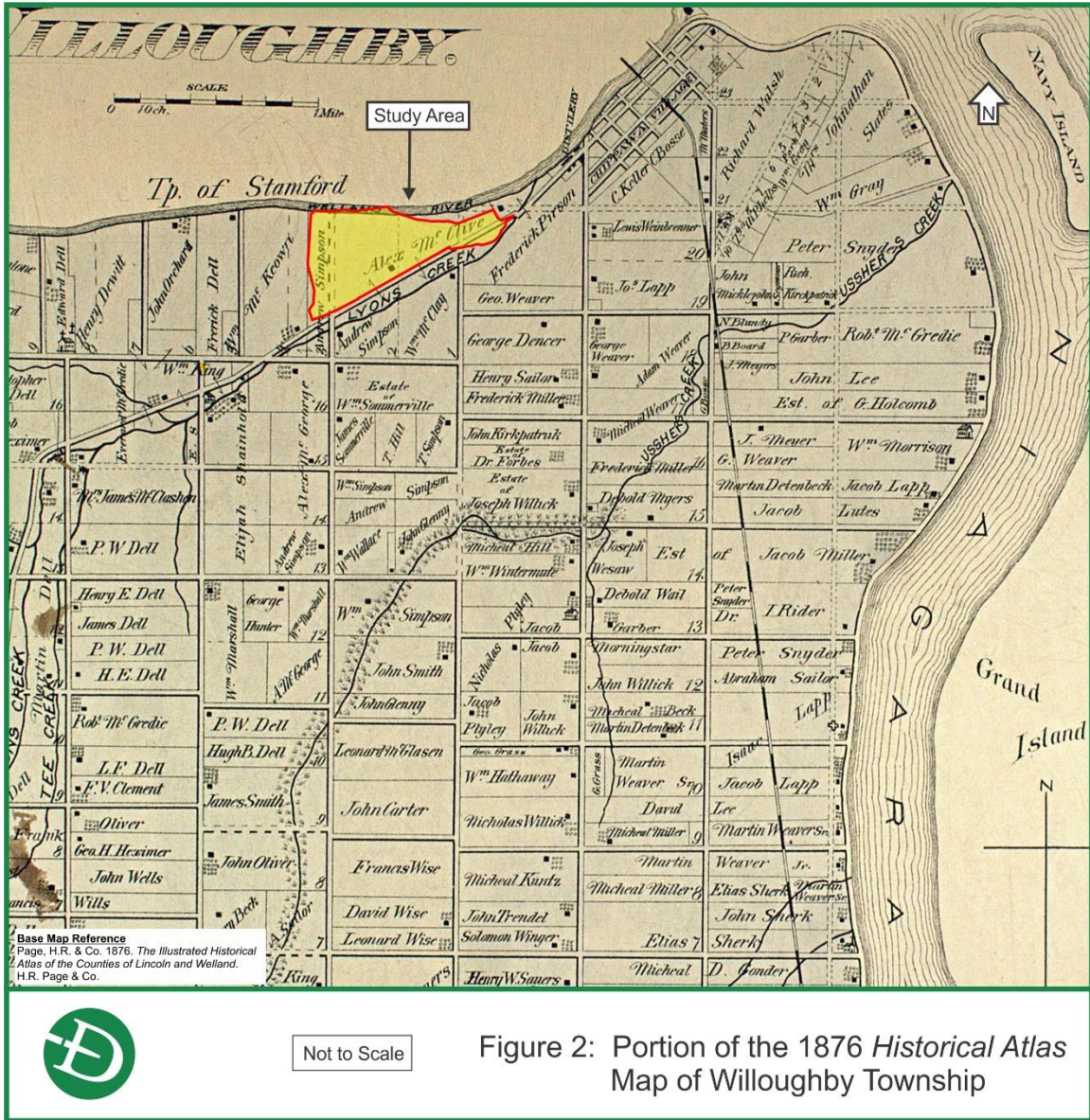
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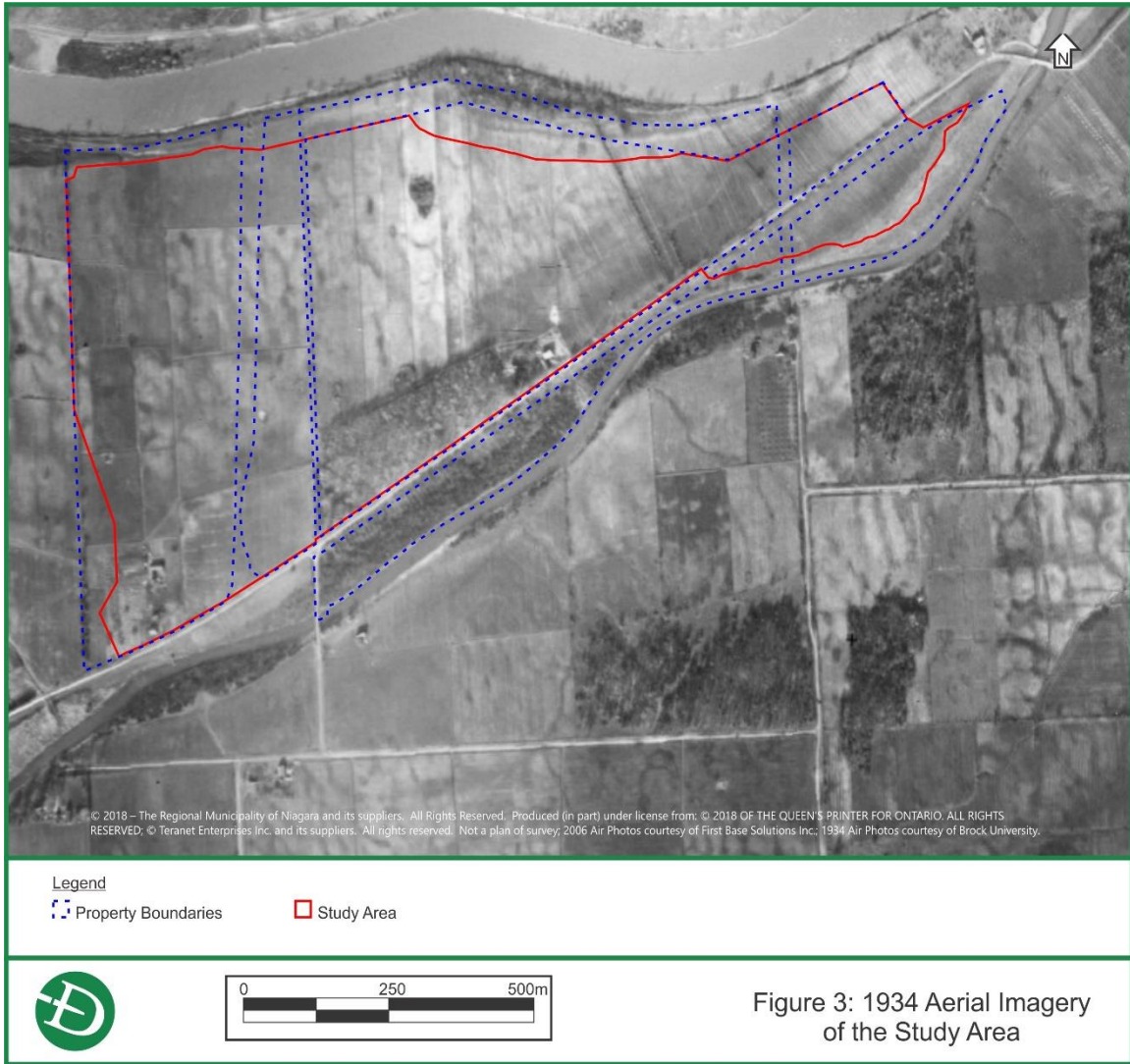
8.0 Maps



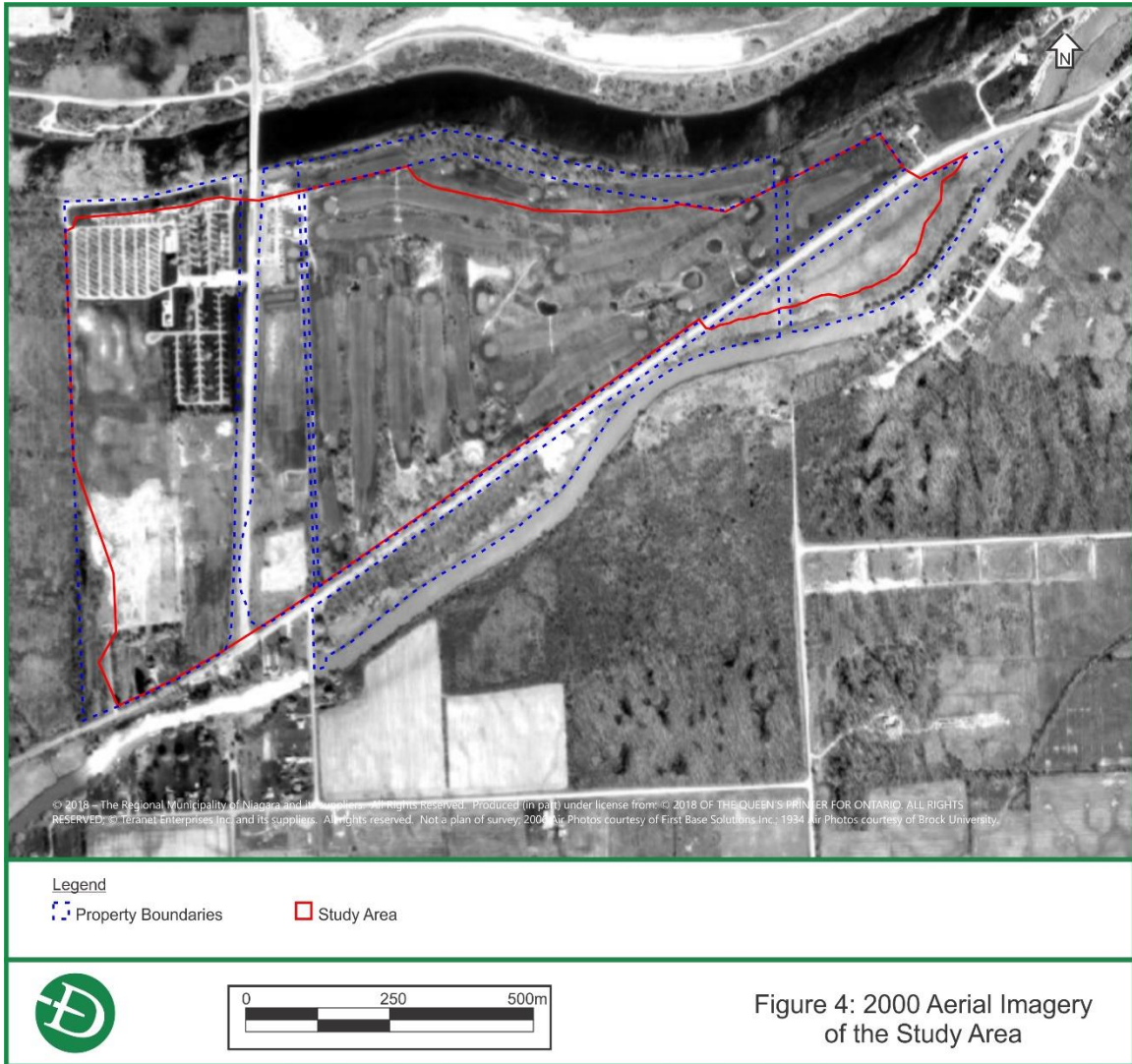
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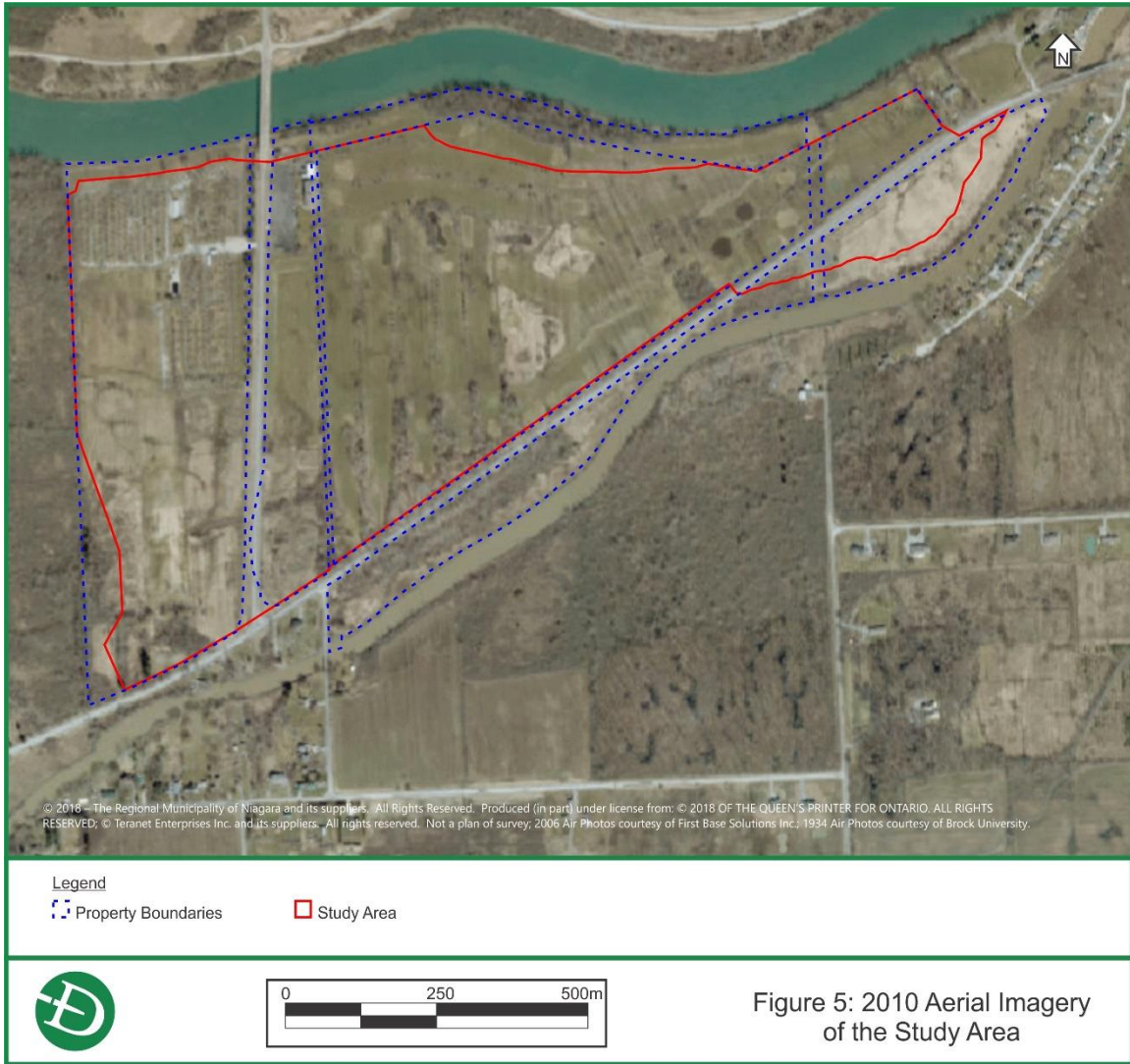
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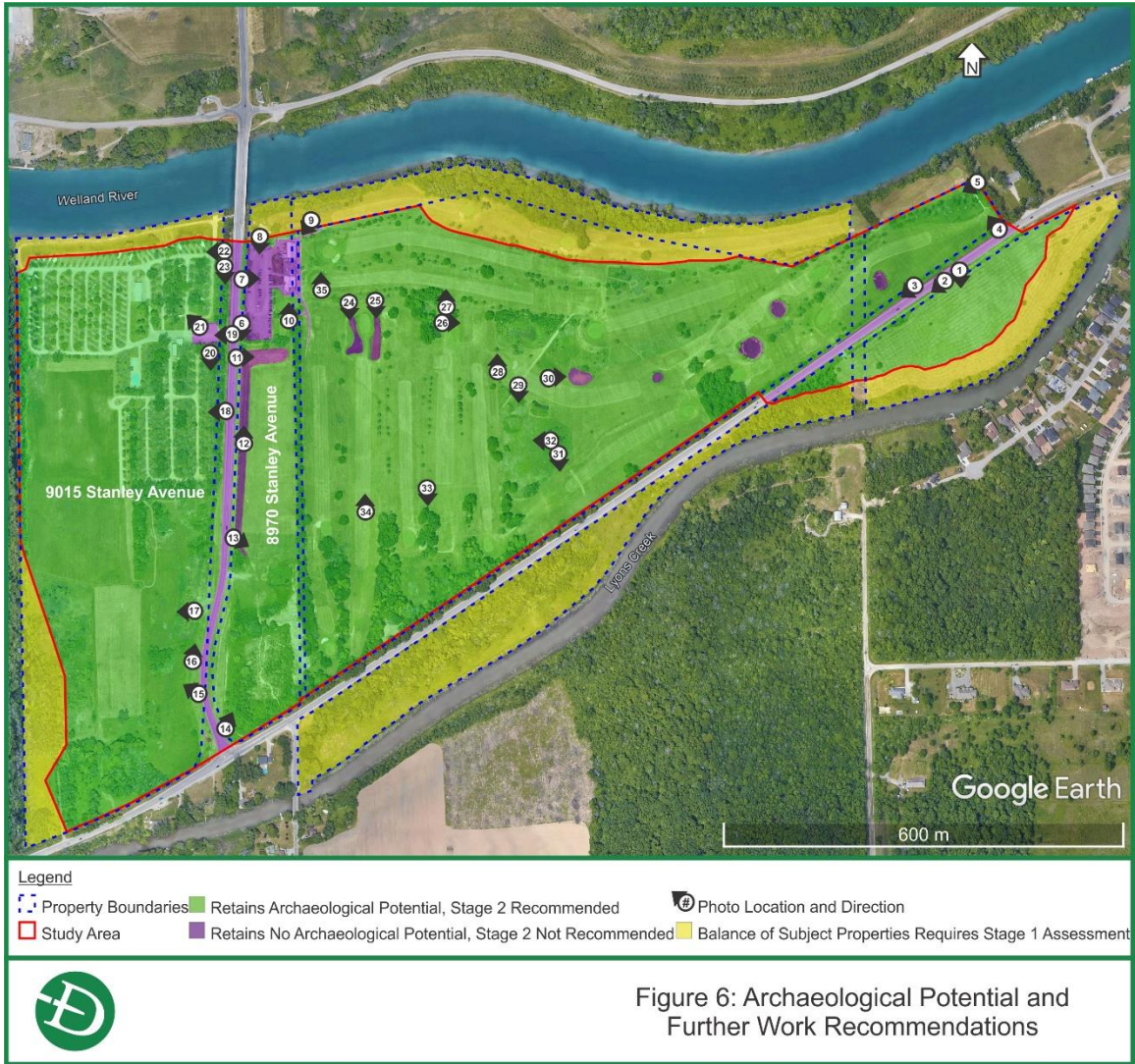
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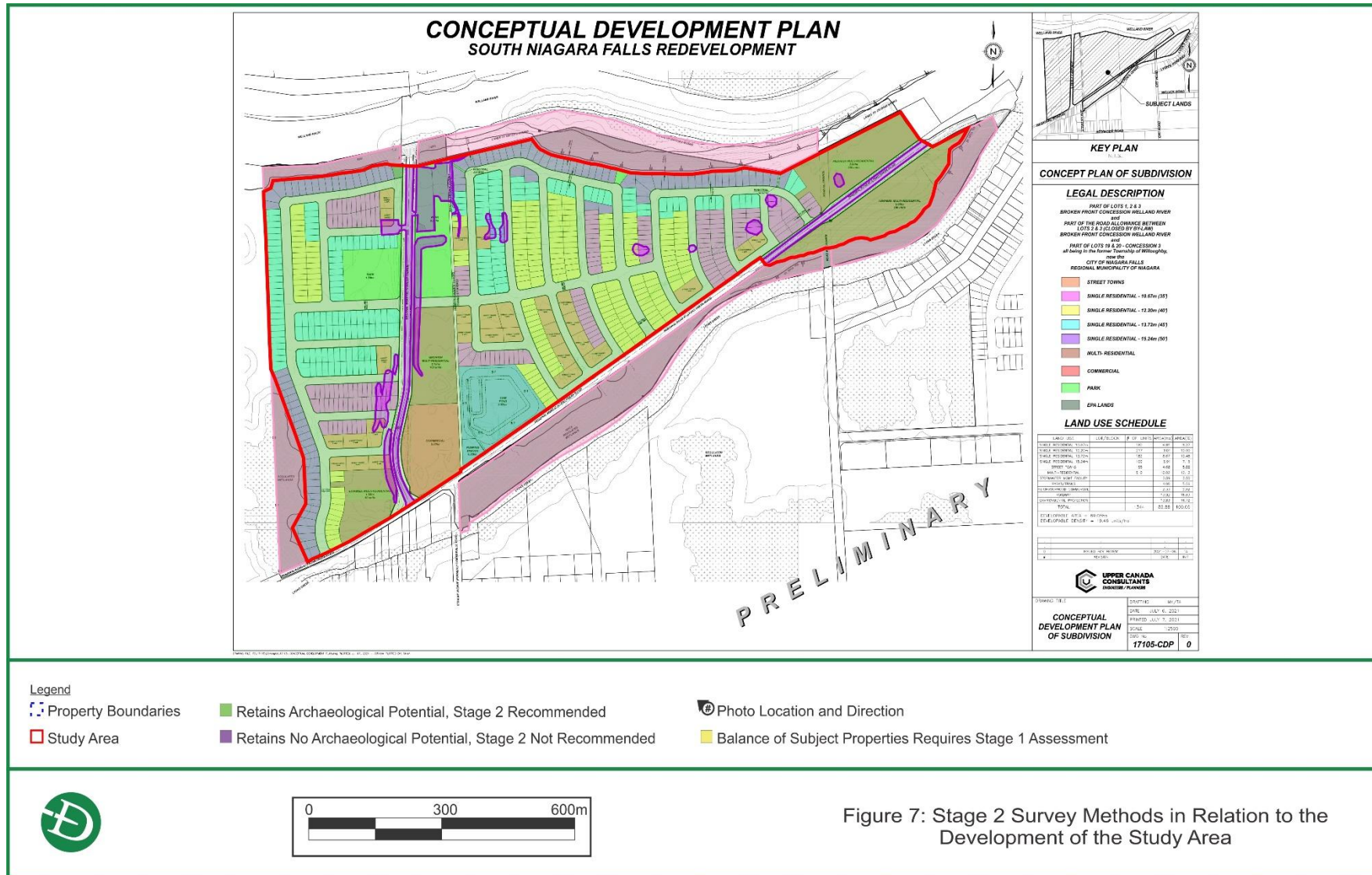
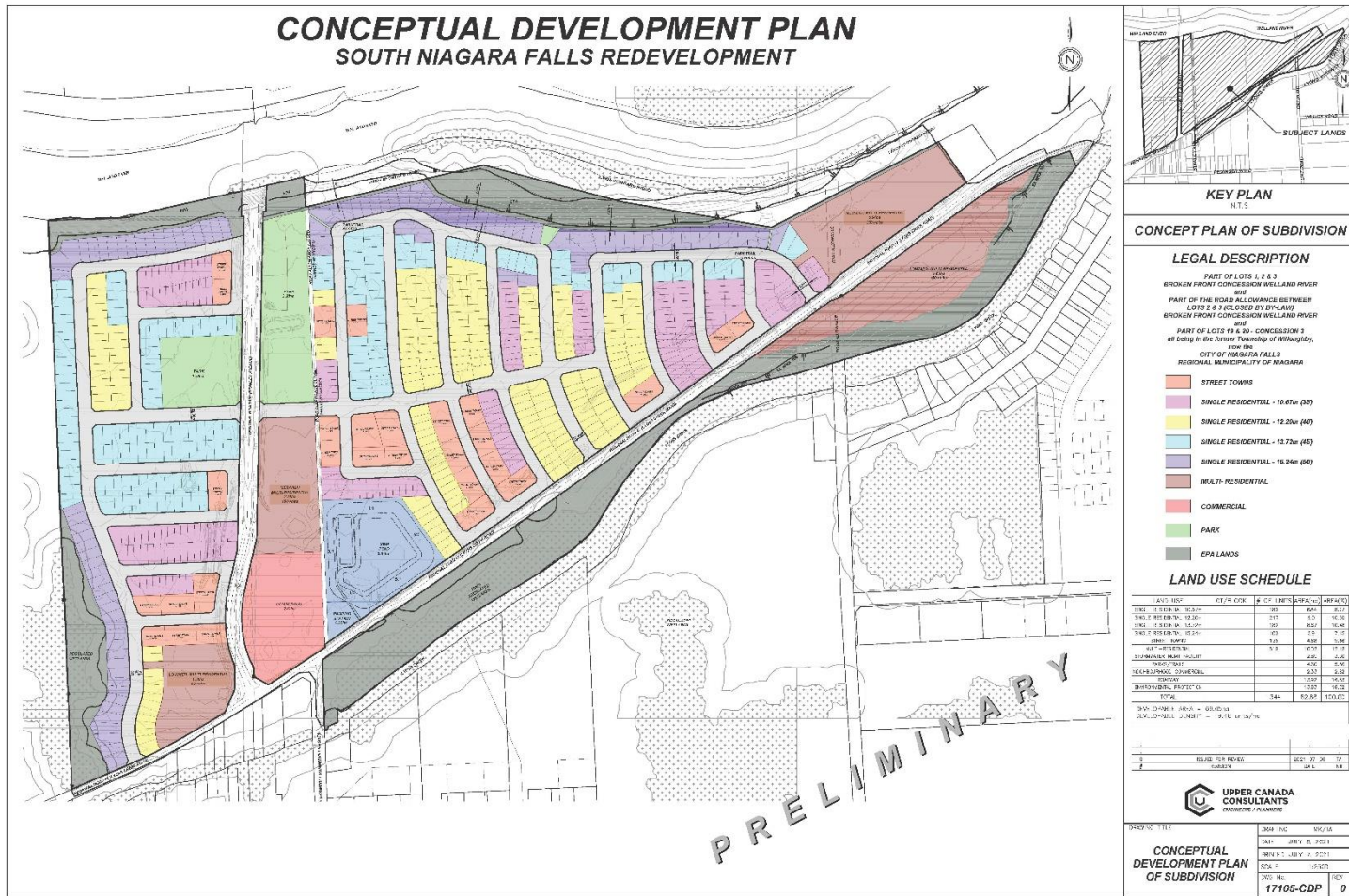


Figure 8: Development Map



9.0 Images

9.1 Photos

Photo 1: Grass ROW and Agricultural Field Retains Archaeological Potential, facing south



Photo 2: Grass ROW and Agricultural Field Retains Archaeological Potential; Asphalt Road and Gravel Shoulder Retains No Archaeological Potential, facing southwest



Photo 3: Grass ROW Retains Archaeological Potential; Asphalt Road and Gravel Shoulder Retains No Archaeological Potential, facing southwest



Photo 4: Overgrown Grass with Trees and Bushes Retains Archaeological Potential, facing northwest



Photo 5: Overgrown Grass with Trees and Bushes Retains Archaeological Potential, facing southwest



Photo 6: Grass ROW Retains Archaeological Potential; Asphalt Road and Gravel Shoulder Retains No Archaeological Potential, facing south



Photo 7: Structure and Gravel Parking Lot Retains No Archaeological Potential; Manicured Grass to the West of the Structure Retains Archaeological Potential, facing east



Photo 8: Structure and Gravel Parking Lot Retains No Archaeological Potential; Manicured Grass to the West of the Structure and Overgrown Grass North of the Structure Retains Archaeological Potential, facing south



Photo 9: Structure and Gravel Laneway Retains No Archaeological Potential; Overgrown Grass North and East of the Structure Retains Archaeological Potential, facing southwest



Photo 10: Structure Retains No Archaeological Potential; Manicured Grass Retains Archaeological Potential, facing



Photo 11: Overgrown Grass Retains Archaeological Potential; Artificial Berm (centre of photo) Retains No Archaeological Potential, facing east



Photo 12: Overgrown Grass Retains Archaeological Potential; Artificial Berm (left side of photo) Retains No Archaeological Potential, facing north



Photo 13: Overgrown Grass Retains Archaeological Potential, facing southeast



Photo 14: Overgrown Grass and Treed Areas Retain Archaeological Potential, facing northeast



Photo 15: Overgrown Grass Retains Archaeological Potential, facing northwest



Photo 16: Asphalt Road, Gravel Shoulder and Artificial Berm (left side of Photo) Retain no Archaeological Potential; Manicured Grass Retains Archaeological Potential, facing north



Photo 17: Overgrown Grass and Derelict Field Retains Archaeological Potential, facing west



Photo 18: Overgrown Grass and Treed Area Retains Archaeological Potential, facing west



Photo 19: Brick Laneway Retains No Archaeological Potential; Overgrown Grass and Treed Areas Retain Archaeological Potential, facing west



Photo 20: Overgrown Grass and Treed Areas Retain Archaeological Potential, facing south



Photo 21: Overgrown Grass and Treed Areas Retain Archaeological Potential, facing northwest



Photo 22: Overgrown Grass and Treed Areas Retain Archaeological Potential, facing west



Photo 23: Asphalt Road, Gravel Shoulder Retain no Archaeological Potential; Manicured Grass in ROW Retains Archaeological Potential, facing south



Photo 24: Pond Retains No Archaeological Potential, facing south



Photo 25: Pond Retains No Archaeological Potential, facing south



Photo 26: Overgrown Grass with Trees Throughout Retains Archaeological Potential, facing east



Photo 27: Overgrown Grass with Trees Throughout Retains Archaeological Potential, facing north



Photo 28: Overgrown Grass with Trees Throughout Retains Archaeological Potential, facing



Photo 29: Overgrown Grass with Trees Throughout Retains Archaeological Potential, facing south



Photo 30: Overgrown Grass with Trees Throughout Retains Archaeological Potential; Pond Retains No Archaeological Potential, facing east



Photo 31: Overgrown Grass with Trees Throughout Retains Archaeological Potential, facing south



Photo 32: Overgrown Grass with Trees Throughout Retains Archaeological Potential, facing west



**Photo 33: Overgrown Grass with Trees
Throughout Retains Archaeological
Potential, facing south**



**Photo 34: Overgrown Grass with Trees
Throughout Retains Archaeological
Potential, facing north**



**Photo 35: Overgrown Grass with Trees
Throughout Retains Archaeological
Potential, facing north**

