Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment

5324 Canborough Road,
(Formerly Part of Lot 13, Concession 1,
Geographic Township of Gainsborough, Lincoln County),
Now in the Township of West Lincoln, Regional Municipality of Niagara, Ontario

Prepared by:

AS&G Archaeological Consulting

16-Jul-24

MCM Archaeological Consulting License # P354 (Mr. Jason Seguin)
MCM P.I.F. # P354-0088-2024

ORIGINAL REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

AS&G Archaeological Consulting Inc. was contracted to conduct a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of 5324 Canborough Road, (Formerly Part of Lot 13, Concession 1, Geographic Township of Gainsborough, Lincoln County), Now in the Township of West Lincoln, Regional Municipality of Niagara, Ontario. The proposed development project was triggered by the *Planning Act* and the Archaeological Assessment was performed in advance of a severance application.

The property includes an existing dwelling with a wood deck, a gravel driveway, a garage workshop and grassed lawn areas. The property is roughly rectangular in shape and measures approximately 206 m north-south by 63 m east-west (~1.15 hectares in size). The property is bound on the north by Canborough Road (Regional Road No. 63), and by residential lands to the west, east and south.

The Stage 1 archaeological background study established there is potential for the recovery of archaeologically significant materials within the property. To determine if the archaeological potential classification of the property is relevant, a site inspection and desktop review of ground conditions was undertaken using contemporary satellite imagery and historical atlas maps.

The Stage 1 desktop review identified that portions of the property retain archaeological potential. **Therefore, the report recommends that further archaeological assessment of the property is required in the form of a Stage 2 archaeological assessment.**

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PROJECT PERSONNEL

Project Manager:	Mr. Jason Seqguin (P354)
Project Director:	Mr. Norbert Stanchly (R149)
Field Director:	Mr. Norbert Stanchly
Report Preparation:	Mr. Norbert Stanchly Mr. Pete Demarte (R1073)
Graphics:	Mr. Pete Demarte Mr. Norbert Stanchly

INTRODUCTION

The *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990 c. O.18, requires anyone wishing to carry out archaeological fieldwork in Ontario to have a license from the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM). All licensees are to file a report with the MCM containing details of the fieldwork that has been done for each project. Following standards and guidelines set out by the MCM is a condition of a licence to conduct archaeological fieldwork in Ontario. **AS&G Archaeological Consulting Inc. (AS&G)** confirms that this report meets ministry report requirements as set out in the *2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (MCM 2011) and is filed in fulfillment of the terms and conditions an archaeological license.

1.0 PROJECT CONTEXT

This section of the report will provide the context for the archaeological fieldwork, including the development context, the historical context, and the archaeological context.

1.1 Development Context

AS&G was contracted to conduct a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of 5324 Canborough Road, (Formerly Part of Lot 13, Concession 1, Geographic Township of Gainsborough, Lincoln County), Now in the Township of West Lincoln, Regional Municipality of Niagara, Ontario. The proposed development project was triggered by the *Planning Act* and the Archaeological Assessment was performed in advance of a severance application.

The property includes an existing dwelling with a wood deck, a gravel driveway, a garage workshop and grassed lawn areas. The property is roughly rectangular in shape and measures approximately 206 m north-south by 63 m east-west (~1.15 hectares in size). The property is bound on the north by Canborough Road (Regional Road No. 63), and by residential lands to the west, east and south.

1.2 Historical Context

Several sources were referenced to determine if features or characteristics indicating archaeological potential for Pre-Contact and Post-Contact resources exist within the property. These included contemporary satellite imagery and historical atlas maps.

1.3 Archaeological Context

1.3.1 Known Archaeological Sites

In Ontario, information concerning archaeological sites is stored in the Ontario Archaeological Sites Database (O.A.S.D.), an inventory of the documented archaeological record in Ontario. Summary information on the known archaeological sites in the vicinity of the property was obtained from the MCM site database (MCM 2024).

There are ten (10) known archaeological sites within a one-kilometre radius of the property, two (2) of which are located within 300 metres of the property limits (Table 1).

Table 1: Known Archaeological Sites within 1-Km of Property

Borden Number	Site Name	Time Period	Affinity	Site Type	Current Development Review Status
AgGv-136		Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	Findspot	No Further CHVI
AgGu-43*	Beaver Creek 1-3	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	Findspot	
AgGu-221	SE21-3				
AfGv-99*	Putnam Farm	Archaic; Post-Contact	Aboriginal; Euro-Canadian	Agricultural; Manufacturing	No Further CHVI
AfGv-150	NRWC 52	Archaic Late	Aboriginal	Scatter	Further CHVI
AfGv-146	SE3(1H)-5				
AfGv-132	SE3(1H)-2	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	Scatter	Further CHVI
AfGv-131	SE3(1H)-1	Archaic Late		Scatter	Further CHVI
AfGu-63	NRWC-50	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	Processing; Scatter	Further CHVI

Borden Number	Site Name	Time Period	Affinity	Site Type	Current Development Review Status
AfGu-62		Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	Scatter	Further CHVI

* Sites Located within 300 metres of the property limits.

The following is a brief description of the two (2) known archaeological site located within 300 metres of the property limits, based on the available information provided by the MCM archaeological sites database:

The Beaver Creek 1-3 (AgGu-43) Site

The Beaver Creek 1-3 (AgGu-43) Site is a Pre-Contact aboriginal findspot site. The site was first identified during a project carried out by the Museum of Indian Archaeology in August of 1988. The AgGu-43 site is located north of Canboro Road, south of Beaver Creek along the western edge of Wellandport in an agricultural field. The site consists of three isolated findspots. Locations 1 and 2 included utilized chert flakes and one fire-cracked rock within a 5 metre area, while Location 3 consisted of a single chert flake. There is no other information or reports available regarding this site in the MCM archaeological sites database.

The Putnam Farm (AfGv-99) Site

The Putnam Farm (AfGv-99) Site is a multi-component site with both Archaic Period and early Euro-Canadian cultural affiliations. The site was first identified in May 1999, by Jon Jouppien during a Stage 1-3 archaeological assessment consisting of a pedestrian survey and test unit excavations. The AfGv-99 site is located along the north shore of the Welland River, south of the former Putnam Farm farmhouse and approximately 1.6 km west of the Village of Wellandport in a former agricultural field. Approximately 488 artifacts were recovered from area spanning 100 x 40 metres. The aboriginal component of the site, consisting of 462 lithics (primary debitage) dates to approximately 4,500-3,000 BP, with an inferred date of 4,500 BP, while the early Euro-Canadian Post-Contact affiliation and artifact assemblage consisting of 26 glass, ceramic and metal fragments ranges from c.1850-1950, with an inferred date of c.1870s. The results of the assessment determined that the integrity of the site has been lost due to agricultural activities and looting in the area. There is no other information or reports available regarding this site in the MCM archaeological sites database.

1.3.2 Environmental Conditions

The property is situated within the Haldimand Clay Plain physiographic region of southern Ontario (Chapman and Putnam 1984:156-159). The Haldimand Clay Plain is among the largest of the 53 defined physiographic regions in southern Ontario, comprising approximately 3,500 square kilometres. Generally, this region is flat and poorly drained, although it includes several distinctive landforms including dunes, cobble, clay, and sand beaches, limestone pavements, and backshore wetland basins. Soils within the subject property consist primarily of fine-textured glaciolacustrine deposits of silt and clay, minor and sand gravel.

The property includes an existing dwelling with a wood deck, a gravel driveway, a garage workshop and grassed lawn areas. The property is roughly rectangular in shape and measures approximately 206 m north-south by 63 m east-west (~1.15 hectares in size). The property is bound on the north by Canborough Road (Regional Road No. 63), and by residential lands to the west, east and south.

AS&G is unaware of any previous findings and recommendations relevant to the current stage of work with the exception of those discussed above. There are no unusual physical features that may have affected fieldwork strategy decisions or the identification of artifacts or cultural features. There is no additional archaeological information that may be relevant to understanding the choice of fieldwork techniques or the recommendations of this report.

2.0 BACKGROUND STUDY

A Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment is a systematic qualitative process executed to assess the archaeological potential of a property based on its historical use and its potential for early Euro-Canadian (early settler) and pre-contact Indigenous occupation. The objectives of a Stage 1 Background Study are: 1) to provide information about the property's geography, history, previous archaeological fieldwork and current land condition; 2) to evaluate in detail the property's archaeological potential, which will support recommendations for Stage 2 Property Assessment for all or parts of the property if warranted; and 3) to recommend appropriate strategies for Stage 2 property assessment if warranted.

This Stage 1 Background Study was conducted in accordance with the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists,* set out by the MCM (2011) pursuant to the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.0.18.

The scope of work for the Stage 1 Background Study consisted of the following tasks:

- **AS&G** requested a Project Information Number (PIF) from the MCM VIA PastPort.
- Contacted the MCM to determine if recorded archaeological sites exist in the vicinity (1-km radius) of the property, through a search of the Ontario Archaeological Sites Database maintained by the MCM.
- Contacted the MCM to determine if there are any known reports of previous archaeological fieldwork within a 50 m radius of the property.
- Conducted a desktop review of the property's physical setting to determine its potential for both historic and pre-contact human occupation, including its topography, hydrology, soils, and proximity to important resources and historical transportation routes and settlements.
- Reviewed the potential for historic period occupation as documented in historical atlases.
- Prepared a report of findings with recommendations regarding the need for further archaeological work if deemed necessary.

In Ontario, the framework for determining the presence of archaeological potential is taken from the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (MCM 2011, Sections 1.3.1 & 1.3.2). Characteristics indicating archaeological potential include the near-by presence of previously identified archaeological sites, primary and secondary water sources, features indicating past water sources, accessible or inaccessible shoreline, pockets of well-drained sandy soil, distinctive land formations that might have special or spiritual places (such as waterfalls, rock outcrops, caverns, mounds, promontories and their bases, as well as resource areas that include food or medicinal plants, or scarce raw materials), early Euro-Canadian industry, areas of early Euro-Canadian settlement, early historical transportation routes, properties listed on a municipal register or designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act* as a federal, provincial, or municipal historic landmark or site; as well as properties that local histories or informants have identified as important locations for historical events, activities, and/or occupations.

Archaeological potential can be determined not to be present for the entire property or a part of it when the area under consideration has been subjected 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 it may include quarrying, major landscaping involving grading below topsoil, building footprints, and sewage or infrastructure development. 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. When complete disturbance cannot be demonstrated in Stage 1, it will be necessary to undertake a Stage 2 Assessment.

The Background Study determined that the following features or characteristics indicate archaeological potential for the property:

- The property is located within an area of early Euro-Canadian settlement.
- The property is located in close proximity to historic transportation routes.
- The property is located in close to a primary water source (Welland River).
- There are ten (10) known archaeological sites within a one-kilometre radius of the property.
- There are two (2) of which are located within 300 metres of the property limits (Table 1).

2.1 Indigenous Settlement History

The property is situated in an area of Ontario that has a rich and diverse cultural history that extends back at least 11,000 years ago. To provide context for this report, the settlement history is summarized below.

2.1.1 Pre-Contact Indigenous Period

Drawn from Ellis and Ferris (1990), Table 2 provides a general outline of the pre- and post-contact cultural history of Northumberland County, Ontario. The Study Area is situated in an area of Ontario that has evidence of extended periods of human settlement, dating back at least 11,000 years.

Table 2: General Archaeological Chronology for South-Central Ontario

Period	Archeological/Material Culture	Date Range	Comments
PALEO			
Early	Gainey, Barnes, Crowfield, Fluted Points	11,000-10,500 BP	Big game hunters, i.e., caribou
Late	Holcombe, Hi-Lo, Lanceolate	10,500-9,500 BP	Paleo Point Technology
ARCHAIC			
Early	Bifurcate-base, Nettling, Side Notched	9,800-8,000 BP	Nomadic hunters/gathers
Middle	Stanley, Kirk, Brewerton, Laurentian	8,000-4,000 BP	Focused seasonal resource areas
Late	Lamoka, Genesee, Innes, Crawford Knoll	4,500-2,500 BP	Polished/ground stone tools
	Hind	3,000-2,600 BP	Burial ceremonialism
WOODLAND			
Early	Meadowood, Middlesex	2,800-2,000 BP	Introduction of pottery, elaborate burials
Middle	Princess Point, Saugeen, Point Peninsula	2,000-950 BP	Long-distance trade, burial mounds, horticulture
Late	Pickering, Uren, Middleport (Anishinabek/Iroquois), Algonkian-Wendat Alliance	950-300 BP	Emergence of agricultural villages Large, palisaded villages Trade, alliances, and warfare
HISTORIC			
	Huron, Neutral, Petun, Odawa, Ojibwa Six Nations Iroquois, Ojibwa, Mississauga	350 BP-Present	Mission villages and Reserves
	Euro-Canadian		European settlement

2.1.1.1 Paleo

Archaeological evidence demonstrates that people inhabited South-central Ontario just after the end of the Wisconsin Glacial Period, approximately 11,000 years ago. This early settlement period is known as the Paleo Period (Ellis and Deller 1990). Based upon current archaeological knowledge, Indigenous groups originally living south of the Great Lakes migrated to the area. The settlement patterns of Early Paleo peoples consisting of small bands, i.e., less than 35 individuals, maintained a seasonal pattern of mobility over vast territories. For example, the most studied groups appeared to migrate seasonally between Chatham, Ontario, to the Horseshoe Valley north of Barrie, Ontario (Ellis and Deller 1990).

These Early Paleo sites are typically located in elevated locations, with well-drained loamy soils, with many known sites found on former beach ridges,

associated with glacial lakes (Ellis and Deller 1990). These sites were likely formed when they were occupied for short increments, over the course of many years, possibly as communal hunting camps. Their locations appear conducive to hunting migratory mammals, such as caribou (Ellis and Deller 1990).

During the Late Paleo Period (10,500-9,500 BP), the south-central Ontario environment started to become dominated by closed coniferous forests, with only some minor deciduous elements. The hunting landscape had also changed, as many of the large game species that had been hunted in the early part of the Paleo Period either migrated further north, or in some cases, had become extinct, i.e., mastodons and mammoths (Ellis and Deller 1990). Comparable to the early Paleo peoples, late Paleo peoples covered large territories as a response to seasonal resource fluctuations. In Ontario, Late Paleo Period inhabitation appears more frequently in the archaeological record, comparable to the Early Paleo Period. Thus, it has been suggested that migratory populations had increased in size (Ellis and Deller 1990).

2.1.1.2 Archaic Period

During the Early Archaic Period (9,800-8,000 BP), the jack and red pine forests that characterized the Late Paleo environment, were replaced by forests of white pine, with a few correlated deciduous trees (Ellis et al. 1990). Based on material culture, the Early Archaic Period is recognized by the shift to side and corner-notched projectile points (Ellis et al. 1990). Other notable innovations, include the introduction of ground stone tools such as celts and axes. These tools suggest that there was a woodworking industry. Additionally, the presence of these, often large and not easily portable tools, suggests that there may have been a reduction in seasonal movement. However, the current understanding of the Period suspects that population densities were still low, and seasonal territories were still large (Ellis et al. 1990).

During the Middle Archaic Period (8,000-4,000 BP), it is speculated that there was an increase in regional population growth, which precipitated a decrease in overall seasonal migration territory. Additionally, as a consequence of population growth, a shift in subsistence patterns occurred, as more people needed to be supported from the resources contained within the smaller area (Ellis et al 1990). Thus, the Middle Archaic is characterized by the diversification of toolkits and diets, with the introduction of net-sinkers and bannerstones, as well as stone tools specifically designed for the preparation of wild plant foods. The appearance of net-sinkers suggests that fishing was becoming an

important aspect of the subsistence economy. In contrast, bannerstones were carefully crafted ground stone devices that served as a counterbalance for *atlatls* or spear-throwers, used in hunting game (Ellis et al 1990).

Another characteristic of the Middle Archaic Period is an increased reliance on local, often poor-quality chert resources, for the manufacturing of projectile points. Unlike earlier periods, when nomadic groups occupied vast territories, at least once in their seasonal migration it was possible for them to visit a primary outcrop of high-quality chert. However, during the Middle Archaic Period, groups inhabited smaller territories, which usually did not contain a source of high-quality raw material, and were forced to use the locally sourced, poorer quality resources (Ellis et al. 1990). It was also during the latter part of the Middle Archaic Period, that long-distance trade routes began to develop, which spanned the northeastern part of the continent. For instance, copper tools, which were manufactured from a source located northwest of Lake Superior, were being widely traded (Ellis et al. 1990).

The trend towards a decreasing territory size and a broadening subsistence economy continued during the Late Archaic Period (4,500-2,500 BP). Similarly, archaeologically Late Archaic sites are more numerous than Early or Middle Archaic sites, which is correlated to an increasing population (Ellis et al. 1990). With the trend towards larger groups, the first cemeteries have also been dated to the Late Archaic Period. Prior to this, individuals were interred close to the location where they died. Furthermore, during the Late Archaic Period, if an individual died while away from their home territory, the bones would be kept until they could be placed in the group cemetery. Therefore, it is not unusual to find disarticulated skeletons, and/or skeletons lacking minor elements, i.e., fingers, toes and/or ribs (Ellis et al. 1990).

The appearance of cemeteries during the Late Archaic Period has been interpreted as a response to increased population densities. The increased populations also demonstrated evidence of regionalized variation in Late Archaic projectile point styles (Ellis et al. 1990). The differences were likely indicative of the different relationships the people had to the land and waters they inhabited. Additionally, trade networks established during the Middle Archaic continued to flourish. For instance, copper native to northern Ontario and marine shell artifacts from as far away as the Mid-Atlantic coast, are frequently encountered as grave goods. Other artifacts such as polished stone pipes and banded slate gorgets, also appear on Late Archaic sites. One of the more unusual and interesting of the Late Archaic artifacts is the *birdstone*. Birdstones are small, bird-like effigies usually manufactured from green banded slate (Ellis et al. 1990).

2.1.1.3 Woodland Period

For archaeologists, the Early Woodland Period (2,000-2,000 BP) is distinguished from the Late Archaic Period primarily by the addition of ceramic technology. The first pots were crudely constructed, had undecorated thick walls, and were friable. Spence et al. (1990) suggests they were used in the processing of nut oils, which required boiling crushed nut fragments in water and skimming off the oil. As these vessels were not easily portable, individual pots were likely not used for extended periods of time. Additionally, as there are many Early Woodland sites where no pottery was recovered, it has been suggested that these poorly constructed vessels were not utilized by all Early Woodland peoples (Spence et al. 1990).

Other than the limited use of ceramics, there were other subtle differences between the Late Archaic and the Early Woodland Periods. For example, 'pop-eyes', a protrusion from the side of the head, was added to birdstones. Similarly, a slight modification was made to the thin, well-made projectile points made during the Archaic Period, i.e. Early Woodland variants were side-notched rather than corner-notched (Spence et al. 1990). The trade networks which were established in the Middle and Late Archaic Periods, continued to flourish; however, there appeared to be a decrease in the trade of marine shell during the Early Woodland Period. Projectile points crafted from high quality American Midwest materials, began to be found on southwestern Ontario sites, dated towards the end of the Early Woodland Period (Spence et al. 1990).

The Middle Woodland (2,000-950 BP) is characterized by rich, densely occupied sites, which are usually found bordering major rivers and lakes. While these locations were inhabited periodically by earlier peoples, Middle Woodland sites are significant as they represent long periods of continuous occupations, i.e., hundreds of years (Spence et al. 1990). The shift in settlement pattern created large deposits of artifacts, as the sites appear to have functioned as home bases that were occupied throughout the year. Numerous smaller Middle Woodland sites have been found inland, and likely functioned as specialized camps, for the exploitation of local resources (Spence et al. 1990).

The shift to a more sedentary lifestyle also resulted in a shift in subsistence patterns, comparable to the Early Woodland Period. Although they still relied on hunting and gathering, fish became a predominant diet staple, to meet their growing subsistence needs (Spence et al. 1990). Additionally, the people of the Middle Woodland relied more on ceramic technology, with many being heavily decorated with impressed designs covering the

entire exterior surface, and the upper portion of the interior of vessels (Spence at al. 1990).

Material culture changes that occurred in the early portion of the Late Woodland (950-300 BP), include the appearance of triangular projectile point styles, first seen with the Levanna form, and a change to more intricate design patterns on ceramics. Designs included cord-wrapped stick decorated ceramics, which were created using the paddle and anvil forming technique (Bursey 1995; Ferris and Spence 1995; Spence et al. 1990; Williamson 1990).

The Late Woodland Period is marked by an increasing reliance on corn (*Zea mays*) horticulture (Crawford et al. 1997; Fox 1990; Martin 2004; Smith 1990; Williamson 1990). Although corn was possibly introduced into southwestern Ontario from the American Midwest as early as 2,500 BP, it was not considered a dietary staple until at three to four hundred years later. From there, corn cultivation gradually spread into south-central and southeastern Ontario. Thus, the Late Woodland Period is widely accepted as the beginning of a reliance on agriculture, for subsistence. Researchers have suggested that a warming trend, which increased the number of frost-free days, was likely a catalyst for the spread of maize into southern Ontario (Stothers and Yarnell 1977). Additionally, sites have been identified in a wider variety of environments, including riverine, lacustrine and wetlands (Dieterman 2001).

In southern Ontario, the first agricultural villages have been dated to approximately 1,200 BP to 700 BP. These sites are typically found on elevated areas, with well-drained sandy soils. These early villages share many characteristics with Iroquoian settlements that were recorded at the time European contact, including longhouses and/or palisades (Dodd et al. 1990; Williamson 1990). However, the scale is much smaller, with early longhouses only averaging 12.4 m in length. Furthermore, the excavation and exposure of cultural features archaeologically indicate that there were possibly overlapping structures. This has been interpreted as evidence of long-term occupation, as it indicates that the structures were present long enough to require them to be re-built (Dodd et al. 1990; Williamson 1990).

Due to soil depletion resulting from farming, and the scarcity of easily accessible firewood, the Jesuits reported that the Huron moved their villages every 10-15 years (Pearce 2010). Since the more sedentary sites were occupied for considerably longer amounts of time, it is hypothesized that the Indigenous communities relied less heavily on corn. Furthermore, small seasonally occupied sites have been documented, which relate specifically to nut collection, deer procurement, and fishing activities. Thus,

the smaller demand on resources within close proximity to the settlement, coupled with the smaller reliance on crops, indicates that they maintained a considerably smaller population size (Pearce 2010).

Around 700-600 BP, the size of villages increased from approximately 0.6 hectares, to approximately 1 to 2 hectares. Correspondingly, the size of longhouses also significantly increased in size to an average of 30 m, with some longhouses being documented as 45 m in length (Dodd et al. 1990; Smith 1990). Although the increase in longhouse size can be explained by the significant increase in overall population within villages, other possible hypotheses include changes to the socio-political and economic structure of the communities (Dodd et al. 1990). For instance, Dodd et al. (1990) has suggested that several smaller communities may have merged to increase protection and defense from neighboring tribes. This hypothesis is supported by the presence of a few sites with up to seven rows of palisades, which indicates the potential need for strong protective measures (Dodd et al. 1990).

With the increase in population and village sizes, it is postulated that there was increased community planning and organization. Whereas longhouses were originally haphazardly placed, the increase in population required more organization. For instance, archaeologists have documented the organization of two or more discrete groups of parallel, tightly spaced longhouses on several sites. It has been hypothesized that the organization and grouping of different habitations may indicate the initial development of clans, a characteristic historically attributed to the Iroquoian peoples (Dodd et al. 1990).

Towards the end of the Late Woodland (approximately 600 BP), village sizes continued to increase, as did longhouse lengths i.e., an average length of 62 m. However, around approximately 500 BP, longhouse lengths become significantly shorter, with an average length of only 30 m (Lennox and Fitzgerald 1990). The significant decrease in the overall length of longhouses in a short amount of time, is not well understood; however, it has been hypothesized that it is directly correlated to introduction of European diseases, i.e., smallpox, which caused a steep reduction in Indigenous population sizes (Lennox and Fitzgerald 1990).

Even with the decrease in the length of longhouses, archaeologists have noted that some village populations continued to grow, with periodic expansions visually documented. With an increase in disease and subsequently a rise in warfare between communities, it is postulated that the expansion was the result of the amalgamation of smaller villages. These sites also appeared to be heavily fortified with many rows of wooden

palisades, again supporting the hypothesis that smaller villages united for defensive purposes (Anderson 2009).

2.2 Post-Contact Settlement History

2.2.1 Early Euro-Canadian History

At the end of the 17th and beginning of the 18th century, the dispersal of several Iroquoian-speaking peoples by the New York State Iroquois, coupled with the return of the Algonkian-speaking groups from Northern Ontario, formed the post-contact Indigenous occupation landscape of southern Ontario (Schmalz 1991). As European settlers encroached on traditional Indigenous territories, settlement sizes, populations, and material culture shifted. Despite this shift, there remains a continuity from ancient Indigenous groups to the communities written about in historical accounts (Ferris and Spence 2009). Thus, it should be noted that the Indigenous peoples of southern Ontario have deposited archaeologically significant resources throughout the province, demonstrating a shared traditional and continuing history, regardless of whether their presence is recorded in historic Euro-Canadian documents.

Lincoln County and Gainsborough Township History

In 1792, Lieutenant Governor John Graves Simcoe issued a proclamation dividing Upper Canada into nineteen counties. Lincoln County was one of the original nineteen (Lincoln County Council 1956). The townships were given the names of British towns in Lincoln County, England. Lincoln County was established though a Provincial Act in 1798, which stated that "the township of Clinton, Grimsby, Saltfleet, Barton, Ancaster, Glanford, Binbrook, Gainsborough and Caistor do form and constitute the first riding of the county of Lincoln..." (Lincoln County Council 1956).

People had already been living in Gainsborough (or Gainsboro) Township since the early 1780s, many of them Loyalists who left the United States during the Revolutionary War. John Dochstader was the first European settler to arrive in Gainsborough in 1783. Dochstader settled on Lots 1 and 2, along Concessions 1 and 2, although the township wasn't officially surveyed until 1789 by Augustus Jones (Lincoln County Council 1956). The surrounding land was settled in the following years by members of the Heaslip, Henry, Hodges, Reese, Comfort, Gee, and Hutt families, among others (Lincoln County Council 1956).

Schoolhouses were constructed near Gee Bridge and in St. Anns prior to 1800 and the first log church was constructed on Lot 13, Concession 6 in

1799. Settlement of Gainsborough Township was slower than others in the region due to its "inland" location (Lincoln County Council 1956). Despite the lack of infrastructure, several small communities developed in the 18th and 19th century which still survive today, including St. Anns, Wellandport, and Bismark. In general, land-use in Gainsborough Township remains largely agricultural.

In 1970, Gainsborough joined with the neighbouring townships of Caistor and South Grimsby to form the new township or municipality of West Lincoln in the newly formed Regional Municipality of Niagara.

2.3 Past Land Use of the Property

The property is located within Part of Historic Lot 13, Concession 1, Geographic Township of Gainsborough, Lincoln County, Ontario.

2.3.1 Historic Atlas Maps

Tremaine's 1862 Historical Atlas Map of the County of Lincoln, indicates that Lot 13, Concession 1 were owned by a "John Wilson", and does not depict any structures within the limits of the property.

According to the *Walker & Miles 1876 Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of York, Ontario*, indicates that Lot 13, Concession 1 were owned by a "Abram Henslip", and although it does not depict any structures or features within the limits of the property, the property is in close proximity to a former homestead and orchard.

In discussing 19th century mapping, it must be remembered that historical county atlases were produced primarily to identify factories, offices, residences, and landholdings of subscribers, and were funded by subscription fees. Landowners who did not subscribe were not always listed on the maps. As such, all structures were not necessarily depicted or placed accurately. Regardless of these limitations, the property depicted on these maps was illustrated directly adjacent to historical transportation routes.

2.3.2 Current Conditions

The property includes an existing dwelling with a wood deck, a gravel driveway, a garage workshop and grassed lawn areas. The property is roughly rectangular in shape and measures approximately 206 m north-south by 63 m east-west (~1.15 hectares in size). The property is bound on the north by Canborough Road (Regional Road No. 63), and by residential lands to the west, east and south.

In summary, the Stage 1 background study indicates that there is potential for the recovery of Pre-Contact or Post-Contact early Euro-Canadian archaeological resources within the property associated with the current development project.

An inventory of the documentary record generated is provided in Table 3.

Table 3: Inventory of the Documentary Record

Document Type	Description
Field Notes	• This report constitutes the field notes for this project
Maps	• The report figures represent all of the maps generated in the field.

3.0 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS

Section 1.3.1 of the *2011 MCM Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* outlines features and characteristics of a property which indicate archaeological potential. Based on the research outlined in the preceding sections of this report, these criteria are addressed as follows:

Previously identified archaeological sites: No previously identified archaeological sites are recorded in the MCM Archaeological Sites Database within the property limits, however there are 10 known sites within a one-kilometre radius of the property, and two located within 300 metres of the property limits.

Water sources: A primary water source (Welland River) is located within 300 metres of its limits.

Elevated topography: The property does not contain any examples of elevated topography.

Pockets of well-drained sandy soil: The soils of the property belong to the Bevelled Till Plains loam variety and are of excellent quality for farming.

Distinctive land formations: No distinctive land formations are identified within the property.

Resource areas: No resource areas are identified within the property.

Areas of early Euro-Canadian settlement: The property is within an area of early Euro-Canadian settlement.

Property that local histories or informants have identified with possible archaeological sites, historical events, activities, or occupations: We are not aware of any such property.

In summary, the archaeological potential of the property is supported by the following factors:

- The property is located within an area of early Euro-Canadian settlement.
- The property is located in close proximity to historic transportation routes.
- The property is located in close to a primary water source (Welland River).
- There are ten (10) known archaeological sites within a one-kilometre radius of the property.
- There are two (2) of which are located within 300 metres of the property limits (Table 1).

Section 1.3.2 of the 2011 MCM Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists outlines features that may indicate the removal or disturbance of archaeological potential. Such features may include quarrying, major landscaping involving grading below topsoil, building footprints, sewage and infrastructure development, etc.

According to the desktop study, portions of the property contain features which indicate the removal or disturbance of archaeological potential. These include the existing structures and gravel driveway. These areas must be subject to Stage 2 assessment to confirm disturbance to be excluded from further archaeological investigation.

The Stage 1 background study concluded that the property exhibits archaeological potential.

4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

The report makes recommendations only regarding archaeological matters.

The Stage 1 archaeological background study determined there is potential for the recovery of archaeologically significant materials within portions of the property proposed for development. **Therefore, the report recommends that further archaeological assessment of the property is required in the form of a Stage 2 archaeological assessment.**

5.0 ADVICE ON COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION

Section 7.5.9, Standard 1a
This report is submitted to the Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism 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 Citizenship and Multiculturalism, 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.

Section 7.5.9, Standard 1b
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*.

Section 7.5.9, Standard 1c
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*.

Section 7.5.9, Standard 1d

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.

Section 7.5.9, Standard 2

Not applicable.

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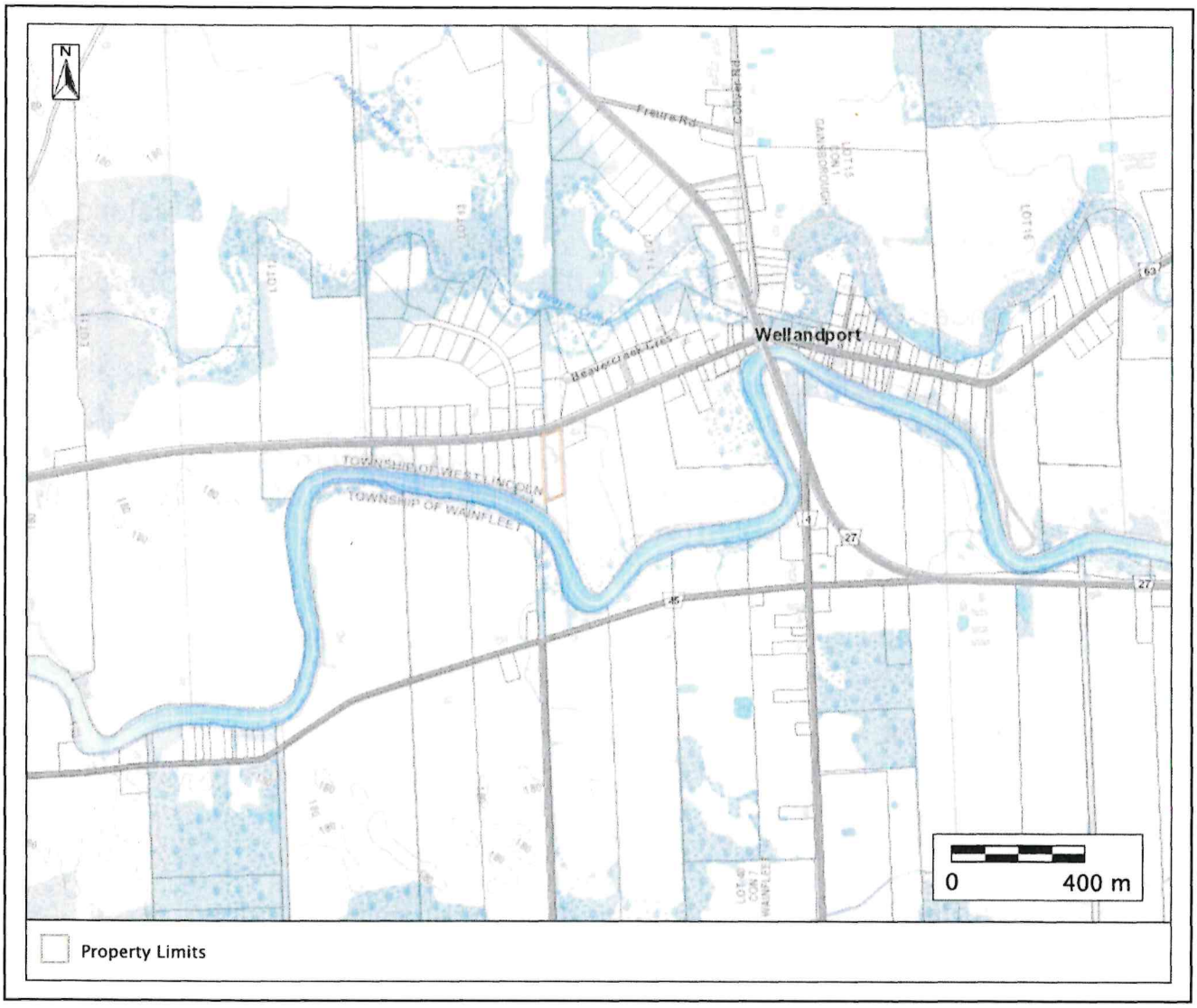
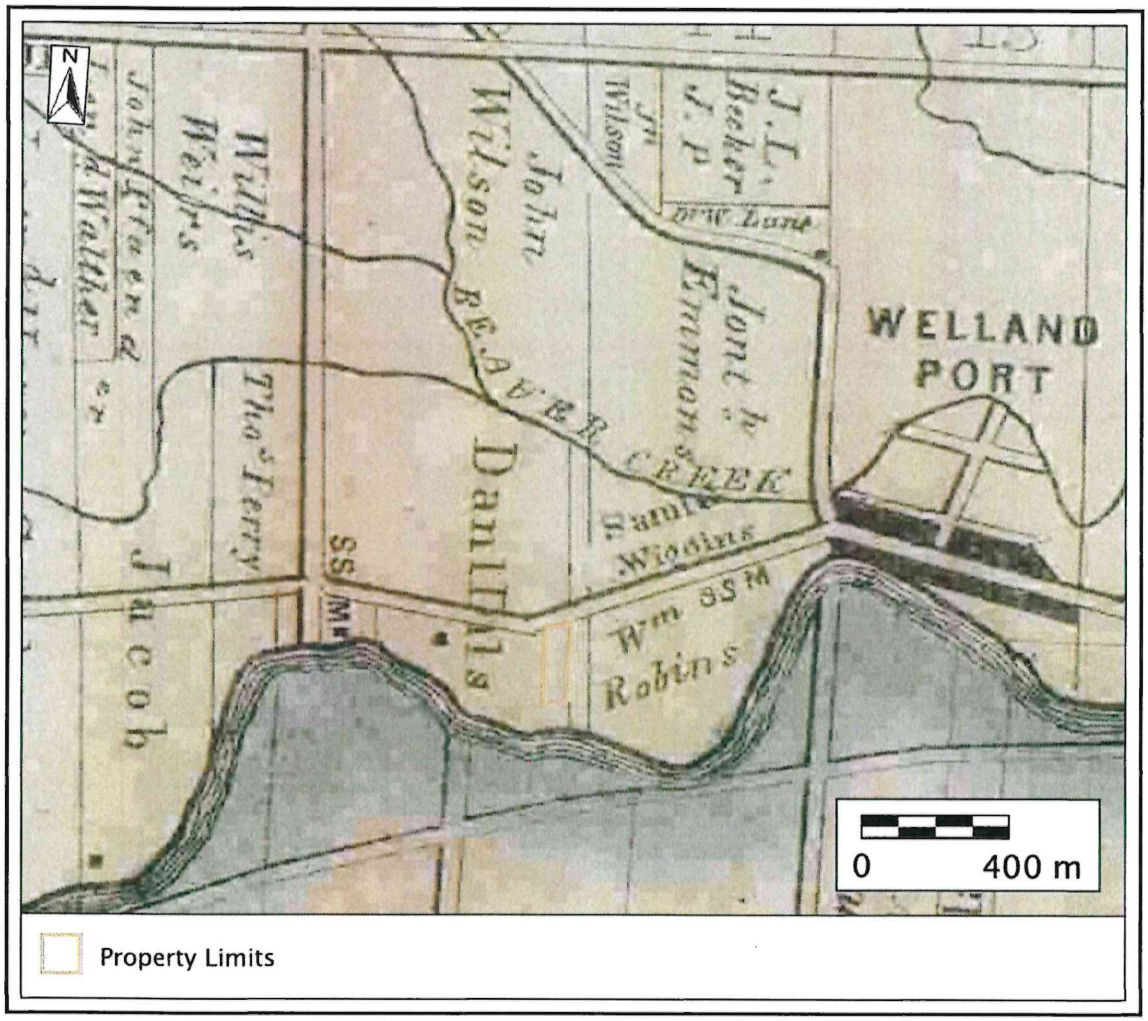
7.0 MAPS

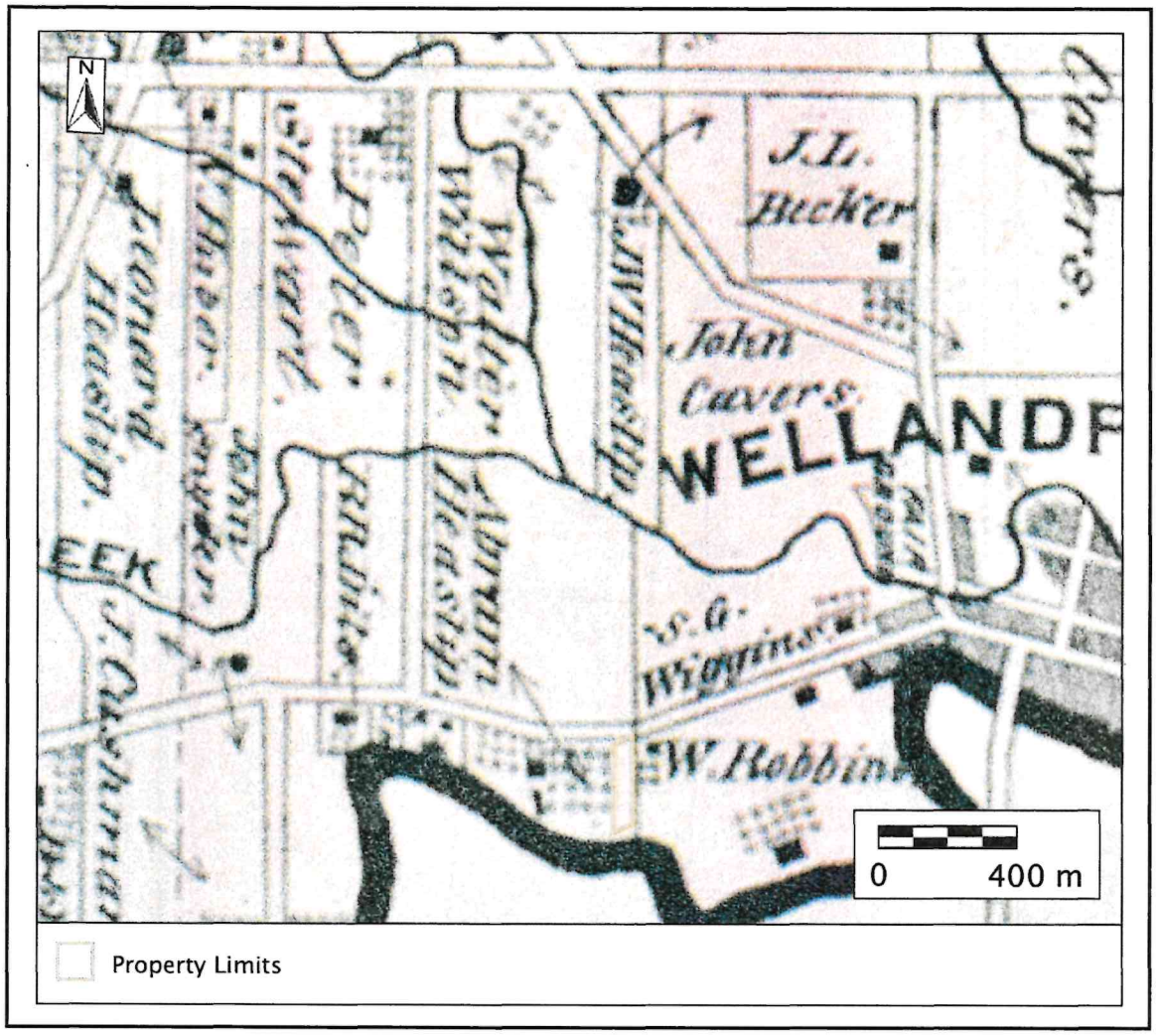


Map 1: General Location of Property Limits (MNRF 2024).

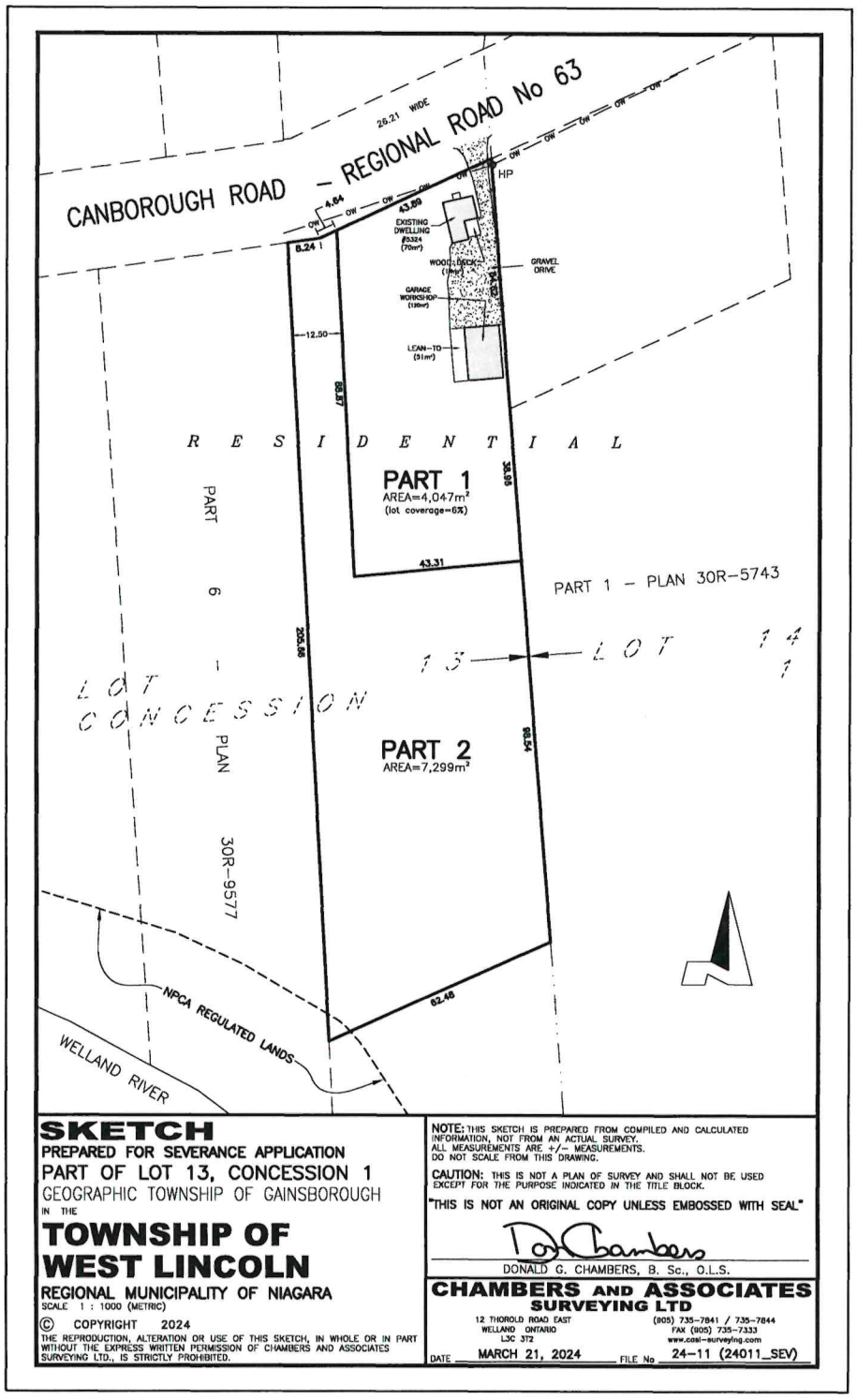
Map 2: Property Limits Overlaid on Recent Aerial Imagery (MNRF 2024).



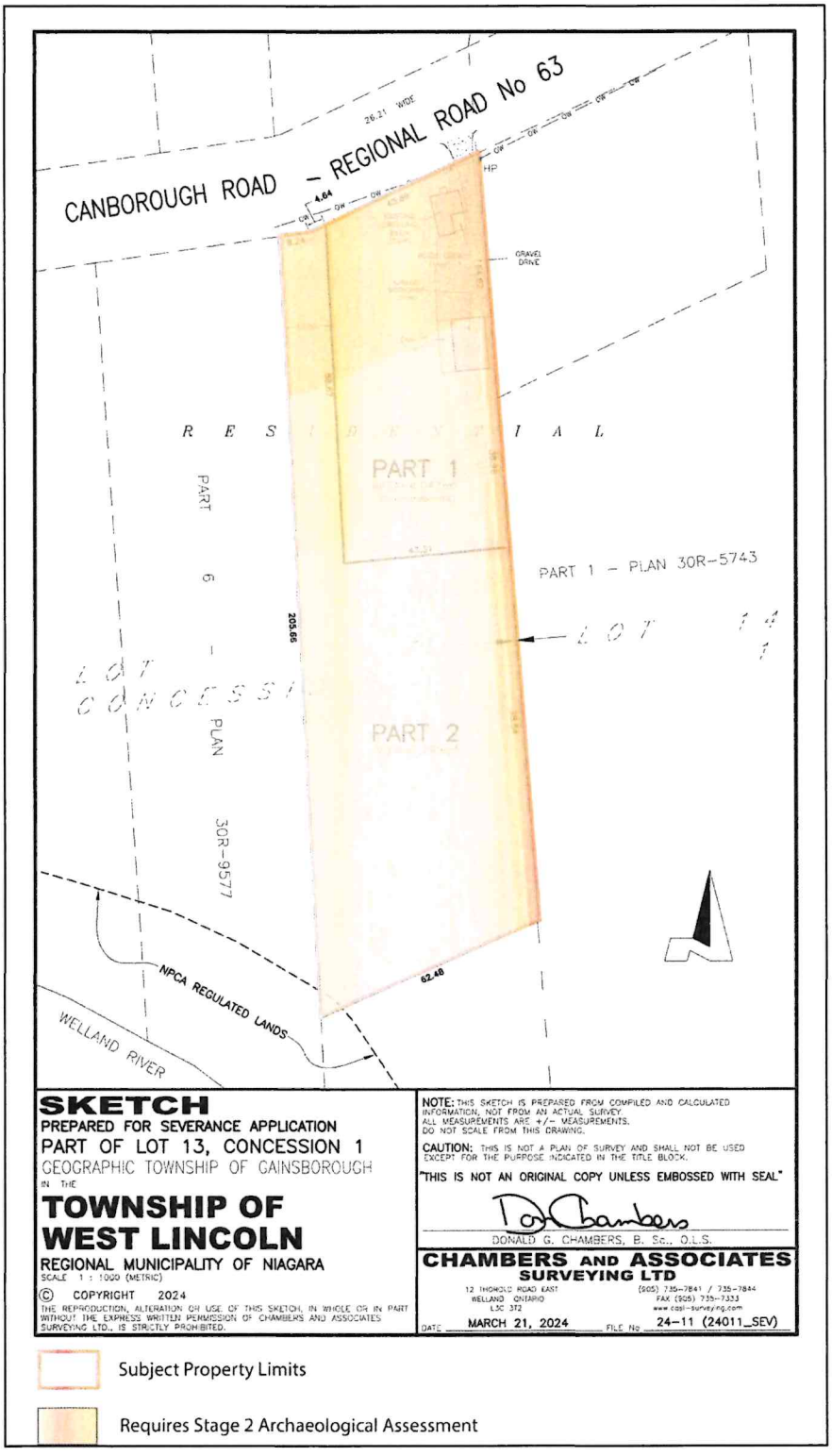
Map 3: Property Limits Overlaid on 1862 Historical Atlas Map (Tremaine 1862).



Map 4: Property Limits Overlaid on 1879 Historical Atlas Map (Walker & Miles 1879).



Map 5: Copy of Sketch Prepared for Severance Application.



Map 6: Results of the Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment.